

Suggested conference proposals

Policy area
What is the issue conference is looking at?
International Students
Which Students' Unions have been involved in proposing?
The University of Law Students' Union
What's the issue and how does it affect students?
- New Government Work Visa Rules - High costs of tuition fees and visa costs that international students have to pay - International undergraduate tuition fees vary from £11,400 - £38,000. The average cost is estimated to be around £22,200 per year. Source: https://study-uk.britishcouncil.org/moving-uk/cost-studying - International students are paying more than double for the same service that home students are getting. - International students boost the economy by £42 billion https://www.hepi.ac.uk/2023/05/16/international-students-boost-uk-economy-by-41-9-billion/ - Universities of all sizes expect to rely more on international fee income in the coming years. Many universities are assuming numbers of UK undergraduates will also increase. https://www.hepi.ac.uk/2023/05/16/international-students-boost-uk-economy-by-41-9-billion/
What changes would we like to see in society to change this?
- Government adopting a more friendly tone towards international students. - Government changing rules on international students bringing dependents. - International students voices being heard in government decision making panels/committees - Changes in UK funding model to reduce reliance on International student income. - Government consulting with NUS on decisions impacting International students - Governments reducing the income threshold needed for jobs that sponsor international students. - More Widening Participation funding and grants to ensure we can bring more bright international students into our university who are not rich.
What action could NUS, students and SUs take to work on this?
- Lobby against harsh government tone/policies for international students - NUS campaign which showcases the brilliant work international students have been doing - International Student Voice committee filled with International sabbatical officers in SUs feeding into NUS strategy and policy. - Part-time or Full-time NUS International Student Officer. Note from Liberation Steering Committee: international students' representation in NUS is being put to conferences as part of reform proposals, which would take precedence if both policies passed.
Debate guide
What are the distinct areas that conference will need to debate specifically and vote on as amendments?
Amendment area 1 proposed by
Amendment 2 etc etc
DPC recommendation

<i>State whether DPC think this looks to be one area or perhaps will need splitting by conference into separate proposals</i>
Impact Assessment
How does it impact FE students / Apprentices?
How does it impact on International Students, Postgraduate Students, Part Time and Mature Students?
How does it impact on black ¹ , disabled, LGBT+, trans and women students?
Does this apply across the UK or specifically in England, Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland? Is the response needed different in different parts of the UK
Is there a particular impact or response for small and specialist institutions?

¹ 1. NUS uses 'Black' as an inclusive term to refer to people of African, Arab, Asian and Caribbean descent and those who self-define as Black. Work to propose an alternative at Liberation Conference 2024 is currently underway.