

Imperial College Union

NUS ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2008

A note by the President

Background

The job description of NUS (and ULU) delegates from the Union's constitution is shown below:

32. *Delegates elected to represent the Union to the National Union of Students (NUS) and the University of London Union (ULU) shall:*
- i. Attend all Union relevant meetings and represent the views of the Union to the NUS National Conference and the ULU Council.*
 - ii. Work with all other Union delegates to support motions that the Union Council believes further the aims, objects and policies of the Union.*
 - iii. Work with all other Union delegates to prevent motions that the Union Council believes work against the aims, objects and policies of the Union from being passed.*
 - iv. Be forbidden from joining any established political or religious faction.*
 - v. Where clarification is required on matters concerning 32.*

There are around 140 motions and amendments being presented to NUS National Conference in Blackpool later this month and final drafts and revisions have not yet been published. In the compositing session yesterday that essentially merged duplicate motions together and decided which amendments should be accepted.

All NUS delegates were invited to take part in the construction of appendix 1 which outlines provisional instructions for ICU's representatives to Annual Conference.

Motions and amendments

Are available online here <http://resource.nusonline.co.uk/media/resource/CD10.pdf>. The final motions document is not currently available as the final format of motions was only decided yesterday. It is clear from appendix 1 the reasoning of the NUS working group who have reviewed these recommendations and once the final motions document is released it will be clear what this Union will and will not support.

NUS Governance Review

This debate should be very clear cut and we have policy in support of the review as a lot of us are of the opinion that NUS's current democratic structures leave a lot to be desired.

Higher Education Funding

The composited motion on education funding has 12 amendments attached to it from across the political spectrum. Taking the amendments in turn it is clear what ones we will and will not support but the delegation will need to decide at the end of the discussion whether or not they would like to vote on the final motion as amended depending on how close it is to this Union's new policy on the topic.

Other issues

- We are against any motions which require the NUS to either affiliate to a campaigning group or to have a very costly National Demonstration at an inappropriate time.
- We are voting against any motion that does not relate to students as students on the grounds that it is a waste of the NUS's time and money leading campaigns over which it does not have an influence.

Imperial College Union Resolves

1. To instruct our NUS delegates to vote at NUS Conference in line with the mandates given in Appendix 1.