

Motion: Introduce an Elected Part-Time Trans Officer

Proposer: Sarah George, LGBT+ Officer

Students' Union UCL notes:

1. A person's gender identity may not conform to the gender and/or sex they were assigned at birth
2. The trans identity can include (but is not limited to) transgender, non-binary and genderqueer identities
3. That 48% of trans people under the age of 26 have attempted suicide¹
4. That one in six (15%) of trans university students have dropped out or seriously considered dropping out of higher education in the last year²
5. That trans students are twice as likely as LGB+ students to have experienced harrasment (22% vs 9%), threats or intimidation (13.5% vs 6%) and physical assault on campus (5% vs 2%)³
6. That NUS now has an autonomous Trans Campaign and a full time Trans Officer
7. Many students' unions across the country have part time Trans Officers, including Sheffield Hallam, Kings College London, Manchester, Bristol, SOAS and Sussex

Students' Union UCL believes:

1. That while the last few years has brought some progress for LGB+ rights, the same cannot be said for the trans community.
2. Trans students are underrepresented within LGBT+ spaces, so trans issues are often misrepresented or not fully considered.
3. Trans people face specific discrimination and oppression that is different and separate to issues facing the LGB+ community.
4. Having an LGBT+ Officer is insufficient for trans representation as a cisgender officer cannot be expected to speak on behalf of and represent trans students.
5. Trans students have the right to organise autonomously and represent themselves. This is central to liberation campaigns.
6. That while it is important that trans students have their own voice to campaign on issues specific to them, the entire LGBT+ community should still be able to organise under the LGBT+ umbrella.

Students' Union UCL resolves:

¹ RaRE Research Report,

http://www.queerfutures.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/04/RARE_Research_Report_PACE_2015.pdf

² Stonewall Trans Report,

https://www.stonewall.org.uk/sites/default/files/lgbt_in_britain_-_trans_report_final.pdf

³ NUS report: 'Education Beyond The Straight and Narrow', 2014

<https://www.nus.org.uk/Global/lgbt-research.pdf>

1. To change Bye-Law 3, Section 5.d.iv.2 from “The Convenor shall be the LGBT+ Officer.” to “The co-Convenors shall be the LGBQ+ Officer and the Trans Officer.”
2. To add to Bye-Law 5, Section 5.a “x. Trans Officer”
3. To change Bye-Law 9, Section 14.k.i from “LGBT+ Officer” to “LGBQ+ Officer”.
4. To change Bye-Law 9, Section 14.k.i.2 from “Be responsible for representing the interests of LGBT+ Members within the Union, UCL and beyond.” to “Be responsible for representing the interests of LGBQ+ Members within the Union, UCL and beyond.”
5. To change Bye-Law 9, Section 14.k.i.3 from “Coordinate campaigns related to issues relevant to LGBT+ Members” to “Coordinate campaigns related to issues relevant to LGBQ+ Members”
6. To change Bye-Law 9, Section 14.k.i.4 from “Liaise with external organisations such as the NUS on issues relevant to LGBT+ Members.” to “Liaise with external organisations such as the NUS on issues relevant to LGBQ+ Members.”
7. To change Bye-Law 9, Section 14.k.i.5 from “Be the Convenor of the LGBT+ Students’ Section” to “Be a co-Convenor of the LGBT+ Students’ Section”.
8. To add to Bye-Law 9, Section 14:

u. Trans Officer

- i. The Trans Officer shall:
 1. Self-define as Trans
 2. Be responsible for representing the interests of Trans Members within the Union, UCL and beyond.
 3. Coordinate campaigns related to issues relevant to Trans Members.
 4. Liaise with external organisations such as the NUS on issues relevant to Trans Members.
 5. Be a co-Convenor of the LGBT+ Students' Section.
 6. Sit on Union Executive Committee.

Students’ Union UCL mandates:

1. The Democracy, Operations and Community Officer to ensure Resolves 1-8 is carried out for the 2018/2019 academic year