

Zone Conferences 2011/12

Welfare Zone Conference

Sunday 23 October 2011 12:00 - Monday 24 October 2011 14:00

Adelphi, Liverpool

Introduction

Welfare is a dynamic and fluid policy area. Debates around housing, community relations, alcohol, drugs, crime, faith, student support, and caring responsibilities highlight just some of the many different areas that the campaign covers. This conference will give you the chance to consider these topics, and look at how students' unions around the country are campaigning on the welfare issues that affect their students. It also gives you the opportunity to consider where and how welfare campaigning and provision develops in the future.

Delegates will be able to sample all the zone has to offer and can choose which stream they would like to follow during the conference. The four streams are:

- **Housing** – how students and students' unions can shape their living experience
- **Money** – exploring the impact that cuts have on student finance and what you can do
- **Equality** – sessions looking at issues' disproportionate impact on particular groups, and how to champion our diverse membership
- **Health and services** – exploring the importance of support and health services to the student experience and facing the challenge of cuts.

Sessions Include

Launch of Hate Crime research | Get on the bus | Student carers | Making tenancy deposit protection work | Race for Equality | Assessing the value and impact of student support services | Save our nurseries |

Invited Organisations Include

Natasha Walter and Women Asylum Seekers | Together The Department for Communities and Local Government | AMOSSHE – The student services organization | Unipol Student Homes | Shelter | Equality Challenge Unit | Drinkaware

Who should go:

- **Officers:** Community, Welfare, Housing, Equality and Diversity, Liberation, Campaigns Participation
- **Staff:** General managers, Advisers, Policy officers, support staff
- **Students:** Active members who want to develop their skills to participate in campaign activity – offered at a discounted rate

The event will also include the report of the President, Welfare and Society & Citizenship Zones and the election of the new Zone Committee.

HE Zone Conference

Monday 24 October 2011 12:00 - Tuesday 25 October 2011 14:00

Liverpool

Introduction

The strength of the Higher Education Zone conference 2011 is its variety and this year is no different. The first day of the conference aims to provide an opportunity for education officers and presidents to learn and share knowledge and practice around key HE policy areas. These include topics such as student led teaching awards, liberating the curriculum and delivering widening participation. On the second day, officers will be able to use this knowledge to input into NUS' policy making process. This day also includes an accountability session for the National President and Vice President Higher Education and the opportunity for delegates to run for and vote in HE Zone committee elections. There will also be a wide range of notable keynote speakers, such as Becky Franics, Director of Education at the Royal Society for the Arts and Owen Jones, author of "Chavs: The demonisation of the working class".

Overall, this event will provide an excellent opportunity for students' unions to gain knowledge from sector experts and to shape the future of NUS.

Sessions Include

Student led teaching awards | Improving retention and academic support | Postgraduate IAG | Liberating the curriculum | Supporting placement students | debates around the winners and loser of the White Paper

Speakers & Presenters Include

Royal Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce (RSA) | Owen Jones, author | Million +

Who should go:

All those involved in students' unions with an interest in Higher Education

Officers: Academic Affairs, Education Officers, Presidents, Education & Welfare Officers

Staff: General Managers, CEOs, Membership Services Managers, Membership Engagement Managers,

Course Rep Coordinators, Research & Policy Staff

The Higher Education Zone Conference will discuss issues relating to these policy areas through workshops, seminars, discussions, key note speakers and presentations.

The event will also include the report of the President, and Higher Education Zone and the election of the new Zone Committee

Union and Student Development Zone Conference

Wednesday 26 October 2011 12:00 - Friday 28 October 2011 14:00

Liverpool

Introduction

WEDNESDAY PM | The specially extended Union Development Zone Conference will begin by looking at the broad context in which students' unions appear currently by focusing on three themes; (1) **employability and volunteering** (2) **activism and change makers** and (3) **Widening participation**. Each theme will feature a challenging plenary session with an option of four workshops to follow. Each of the four workshops will follow on from the main plenary by either sharing best practice, acting as an introduction to the topic, challenging students' unions to think in new ways or looking at further education specifically. From here, there will be a short session looking at what students' unions want in relation to each of the themes. That evening, we'll be looking at the NUS Social Innovation and Enterprise Fund where we give students' unions funding to develop new business ideas.

THURSDAY AM | The following morning, we'll take a closer look at how students' unions are responding to the current changes by listening to a guest speaker and then move into the democracy, accountability and policy making part of the day feeding in yesterday's ideas from the workshops. We'll also have some workshops on developing students' unions which will look at governance, strategy, finance and other important topics. Staff will have the opportunity to quiz the NUS Chief Executive on the current NUS Strategy and how it is being delivered.

STUDENT DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE THURSDAY PM & FRIDAY AM | Following lunch on Thursday, going overnight through until lunch on Friday, the 'student development conference' will break into four broad themes **developing sports and societies, developing student media, developing student fundraising and volunteering and lastly developing new and innovative ideas**. With some great keynote speakers and a variety of different workshops, you'll be able to engage in the areas that are most important to you and your Union. On the Thursday evening, we'll be engaging in some interesting activities surrounding sport and the Olympics.

Workshops Include

Employability | Olympic Legacy | International Issues in Student Politics | Activism | Inter-Faith | Good Governance | Student Volunteering | Young Entrepreneurs | Liberation and Student Development | Sport | Student Media | and more...

Speakers & Presenters Include

Leading Third Sector Speakers | Leading Public Sector Speakers | Leading Students' Union Speakers | Students' Union Staff | NUS Staff | NUS Officers | plus many more...

Who should go

- Students: students who want to engage more
- Student Officers: Presidents, Activities & Development Officers, Communications Officers, General Secretaries and Campaigns Officers, Student Media, RAG and Fundraising Officers.
- Staff: Chief Executives, General Managers, Membership Engagement/ Services Managers and staff responsible for employability, activism or widening participation.