

Bye-Law 13: NUS Conference Delegation

Background

Each year the Union offers the opportunity to elect delegates to Conferences of the National Union of Students.

- 13.1 NUS requires that unions register a delegation that includes at least 50% women.
- 13.2 The Union's delegation to NUS Conference is led by a 'lead delegate' who serves as the delegation leader and votes at the NUS Annual General Meeting.

Process

- 13.3 NUS will inform the Union of the number of delegates that the Union is entitled to send to Conference each year.
- 13.4 The Union's number of self-defining women places will be 50% of the Union's total NUS National Conference delegation (rounded down).

Count

- 13.5 The election shall be conducted in accordance with the standard election bye laws, save that:
 - a) the nominations process will include a process for self-definition of woman status;
 - b) all candidates will be provided with the opportunity to opt in to stand to be the lead delegate.
- 13.6 The count for NUS Delegates will be conducted as follows:
 - 13.6.1 Three separate counts will be run, using the same ballot papers.
 - 13.6.2 The first count will elect the lead delegate. All candidates who did not opt in to be the lead delegate will be eliminated, and whichever of the remaining candidates reaches the quota will be elected lead delegate.
 - 13.6.3 The second count will elect our self-defining women delegates. In this count all candidates who are not self-defining women will be excluded, and whichever of the

remaining candidates reach the quota will be elected as NUS delegates.

13.6.4 Where the delegation leader is a woman this calculation will be amended appropriately.

13.6.5 When counting, any preferences expressed for the excluded candidates will be passed over, so that votes are only reallocated to candidates eligible for the relevant places.

13.6.6 The final count will elect the remaining NUS delegates. All candidates who have already been elected will be eliminated and their preferences redistributed, and whichever of the remaining candidates reach the quota will be elected as NUS delegates.

Failure

13.7 Where the required number of Women is not elected through this method a by election will be held. Where this also results in a failure to elect the correct number of women, an application will be made by the Returning Officer to the NUS Democratic Procedures Committee for an exemption.

Other Elections

13.7 This bye law details the procedures for the election of delegates to the National Conference. These principles of "fair representation" will also be used by the Returning Officer for other conferences where there are multiple delegates.

Delegate Voting Rules

13.8 A committee should be formed consisting of all delegates, the chair of the DPC, the chair of SOC and two elected councillors in which the way delegates must vote are decided in line with existing union policy. If there is an overlap of the holders of the positions stated above another member of the committee should be elected by the wider committee.

13.8.1 All delegates are required to vote with Union Policy.

13.9 The entire UEA delegation to NUS LGBT+ Conference will always be directly elected in a manner determined by the

LGBT+ Liberation Society. The LGBT+ Officer (Open Place) and LGBT+ Officer (Transgender and Non-Binary Place) will not have any automatic right to a delegate place.

13.9.1 All NUS LGBT+ Conference delegates are required to vote in line with policy passed by the LGBT+ Liberation Society, unless that policy mandate contradicts a manifesto pledge that a delegate has explicitly made.