

Committee Title	Student Voice					
Date of Meeting	10 February 2020					
Item Number and Title/Subject	Motion Proposal for NUS Scotland Conference – Emotional Support Animals					
Paper Presenter	Jonnie England, Vice Chair of Student Voice					
Brief Summary of Issues/Topic	<p><i>Members of NUS may submit policy proposal for consideration at NUS Scotland Conference. Submissions are done by Students Association/Unions and should go through their democratic bodies for approval before submitting. Thus I would like to submit the following proposal for consideration.</i></p> <p><u>Emotional Support Animals</u></p> <p>Context</p> <p>In the UK, people with specific “seen” disabilities are allowed to be accompanied by support animals, such as hearing and guide dogs. However, there exists no such provision for people with unseen disabilities, such as diabetes, anxiety/depression, epilepsy, or autism.</p> <p>In the USA, which stands miles behind in care for unseen illnesses, they have implemented a system that allows disabled people to be allowed a companion that helps either manage their condition or has been trained to lessen the impact of symptoms. The animals are allowed access into a wide variety of places that could be a source of stress for a disabled person, such as aircraft, businesses, and hotels.</p> <p>NUS Scotland Believes</p> <p>As this is a matter of healthcare, and Health has been devolved to Holyrood, NUS Scotland should push the Scottish Government to adopt a law that helps fund and properly regulate emotional support animals, and to also widen the current allowances that institutions and businesses have for assistance animals. We are in a unique position to both push for change to government and to push for change across the academic sector, as up to 1 in 5 of people in Scotland have a disability.</p> <p>Sources:</p> <p>https://www.assisteddogs.org.uk/law/</p> <p>https://www.transportation.gov/individuals/aviation-consumer-protection/service-animals-including-emotional-support-animals</p> <p>https://www.nusconnect.org.uk/invisibility</p>					
Recommendation(s)	Information		Discussion		Approval	X

	<p>Any member can ask a question by raising their voting card and being recognised by the Chair to speak.</p> <p>Student Voice are asked to approve the motion proposal for submission to NUS Scotland Conference</p>					
Who have you consulted when developing the paper?	<p>Vice President SCEBE Student Voice Team Leader</p>					
Staff/Student Protocol	Yes		No	X	N/A	
Will any decision approved directly affect the work of staff?						
<p>Should the paper be submitted to any other committee following its consideration/approval at this meeting?</p> <p>If yes, please state the committee and proposed date of submission.</p>	<p>Executive Committee</p>					