

PROPOSAL FOR CAMPUS NATIONAL ORGANISER AND DISCUSSION
AROUND
NATIONAL CAMPUS CONTACT AND COORDINATION

Why we need national campus contact and coordination.

- (i). It was identified that within the End Conscription Campaign the campus branches were playing a more and more important role and that this was becoming more and more distinct from the town branches due to the specific nature of the campus constituency.
- (ii). That it would enhance the building of weaker branches.
- (iii). That it would develop more within the campuses the idea that they were part of a national campaign. Also that the possibility was greater within the campuses rather than the towns as they tended nationally to be more homogeneous than the national town branches.
- (iv). That there was much more space on campus in terms of relative immunity from repression and this meant that there would be an increasing focus on the campuses as a vital area of work.
- (v). Campuses have the time, resources and skills to develop a greater theoretical and conceptual understanding and consciousness that occurs in the town branches. Campuses therefore become important areas where activists can be trained and then feed out into the broader white community either as ECC activists or other organisations.
- (vi). That it would facilitate the passing of resources, media, ideas and increase the possibility for national campus campaigns.

Possible arguments against increased campus contact and coordination

- (i). It could lead to the fractionalisation of the national nature of ECC leading to a distancing of relations between town and campus branches on a regional and national level.

Discussion around various forms of National Campus Contact and Coordination

- (i) Using national student gatherings such as NUSAS festival and congress to allow some form of ECC campus gathering and discussion forum.

It was felt that this was a very good idea judging from the success of the recent gathering but that campuses needed to prepare and discuss allot more before attending such a gathering to achieve the full benefit. There was also the need to continue to consult with NUSAS similar to that around the festival.

- (ii). Developing formal contact nationally at sub-group level.

It was felt that at national gatherings there should be time set aside for sub-group discussions but that sub-group level contact otherwise should be coordinated through a central person to ensure security.

- (iii). The suggestion of making an annual video were each campus would present their years activities and membership through the use of a video.

It was felt that five different campus videos would not cement national contact but if campuses had the energy to do it as a separate project it was great.

(iv). The idea of the regular circulation of reports and assessments by each campus to all the other branches.

It was felt that this too was a good idea but that it must be done regularly and could consist of one facet of national campus coordination.

(v). The idea of national campus gatherings.

It was proposed that there should be about three gatherings a year and that two of these should 'piggy-back' the NUSAS gatherings. The size of these gatherings would not be restricted but there would be important emphasis on preparation, similar to that before NC. The meeting would run either before the NUSAS gathering or just afterwards so as not to clash with any of the NUSAS programme. A third meeting would be held some time in January as a planning meeting for Orientation week and the first half of the year as well as playing some leadership training function.

(vi). Utilising NC more as a campus meeting forum.

From past experience at NCs it was felt that it was very difficult to try and fit in more items on the agenda as it was always so full. What was suggested was that if a specific issue arose that campuses felt they needed to discuss the possibility should be there to build on an extra day for campus discussion before NC and that Adele in her phone around should assess the need.

Motivation for a campus organiser

Through out the above discussion it was increasingly identified that there was a real need for a national organiser to have the portfolio of campus organiser. It was felt that this went beyond the role of the second national organiser and that they should be seen as two different issues and as for the first time the campuses had developed into a specific identity it was important to have a person who would be in tune with it.

Role of the campus organiser.

(i). Building and developing weaker campuses.

(ii). Facilitating the exchange of skills, ideas resources and running skills workshops.

(iii). Organising national gatherings.

(iv). Coordinating national campaigns and national campus work.

(v). Facilitating links with other national campus organisations especially NUSAS and SANSCO on a national and regional basis.

(vi). Working in new areas of tertiary education such as Technicons, Colleges of Education.

(vii). Work with the national secretary in coordination.

It is hoped that all regions and campuses will be able to have discussed this proposal before next NC. If the go ahead has been given before next

NC then branches should bring motivations for individuals suitable for the post to next NC.

Also if there are any problems around the clarity of this proposal and report then either speak to your local campus NC rep or contact Adele.

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