

To: **Committee on Organisation, Recruitment and Education**

2 June 2016

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Dear Colleague

### **Young Professionals' Network Committee Update**

It has been a very busy period for the YPN Committee since the last CORE meeting. In early April the committee sent a delegation of four to the TUC's Young Workers' Conference - with Sharon Brown and Tom Sidwell, Prospect Organisers, in attendance as observers. The Prospect motion on heritage sector funding was moved by Debbie Stringer, YPN Chair, and received support from speakers from BECTU and PCS. The motion was carried by conference. However delegates voted to send a motion on fair pay for young workers to the TUC Congress in September.

The majority of the YPN Committee was able to attend National Conference in Bournemouth as part of their branch delegations and we also had a young member from CABI Branch as an observer. We organised an evening reception immediately after conference on day 1 which was very well attended by a good mix of delegates of all ages and experience. The discussion during the event was interesting and encouraging and everyone was very supportive. Attendees were asked to complete a questionnaire which the YPN committee will follow up on to offer support and assistance where requested.

The committee was pleased to note that Motion 65, submitted by the UKIPO Branch, which called upon the NEC to work with the YPN committee to explore how the voice of young members can be better heard within the union, was carried. There was disappointment, however, when Motion 74, submitted by the National Physical Laboratory branch, to formally increase the national YPN age limit to 35 years or under was guillotined.

The committee was also pleased to be invited to meet the Retired Members' Group delegation to discuss 'Intergenerational Fairness' and explore areas of common interest. The YPN reps welcomed this interaction and found it informative.

The YPN published a newsletter in April which covered current issues including; the TUC's Young Workers' Conference; EU Referendum; and YPN Rep Adam Rourke's visit to the European Parliament in Brussels as part of a Prospect delegation.

There are currently 13 established young professionals' networks across our branches and many more in the pipeline, including branches on the Harwell campus and the ADAS

Branch. According to our membership records as at 31<sup>st</sup> May, there are 5,819 members registered on the YPN.

### **Future Events**

Plans are in place for the next wave of recruitment events at the Freshers' Fairs of the University of Central Lancashire and Imperial College London where we will be promoting our Student Membership offer. We are also investigating the value of attending relevant careers events.

The Education & Children's Services Group (formerly Aspect) are attending the Manchester Childcare Expo on 17-18 June, which proved successful last year for graduate and student recruitment.

The Northern YPN Conference will take place in the Lake District on 8-9 September.

The next YPN committee meeting will take place on 3<sup>rd</sup> July and the main topic for discussion and planning will be the YPN Forum which is scheduled to take place in Manchester on 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> November.

Yours sincerely

**Sharon Brown**

Organiser – NORD Team