

UCU NEC elections: Vote Richard McEwan for UK-elected members (Further Education)

DEFEND EDUCATION, PENSIONS AND JOBS

I am asking you to support my re-election to the national executive. I have been active in UCU for the last six years in various roles including local recruitment and membership, as a branch secretary, as a London Region rep, on the young members steering group, and I am currently on the NEC.

Most recently I was elected Vice Chair of the Education Committee where we are organising a 'Defend Education' conference for March.

I originally decided to stand for the NEC after the all-out strike at Tower Hamlets College in 2009. We built a campaign with the community and struck for four weeks to defend jobs and education. We won an important local dispute that helped to turn the tide of confidence in our union.

The attacks we now face are enormous. The government's aim is to privatise the welfare state and in so doing reverse the gains of the last sixty years. In education this is driven by the HE White Paper and funding cuts across post-16. Raising tuition fees to £9,000 was a pre-condition to the creation of an education market.

Profit

The attack on our pensions and pay is the key to making post-16 education a lucrative source of profit. There is a similar process underway in health and welfare. We can and must stop this.

That's why the pension dispute is so important. We are being asked to pay more, get less and work longer. The



outcome of the dispute can shape the nature of all the other attacks we face and affect both the confidence of our local employers to attack jobs and conditions and our confidence to resist them.

Solidarity

We should take heart and be bold. The government is nasty, but it is also weak and can be stopped. Last year we saw an incredible level of solidarity and united action with UCU playing a leading role, from our first cross-sectoral strike last March and culminating in 2 million striking in November, a day we will all remember.

In my NEC role I have sought to be accountable, effective and energetic. Since my election I have worked with the successful Action for ESOL campaign and will continue to campaign against the destruction of adult education.

I initiated solidarity collections, visited branches, advised reps in branch building and those facing victimisation.

I helped initiate national petitions of support during the student protests. I supported the Ifl boycott and worked to ensure the union followed this through to victory.

I regularly write NEC reports to help ensure maximum participation and democracy in our union.

I think my experience and my contribution to UCU has been valuable and I ask you to re-elect me to serve another term.

*For UK-members (FE) please vote:
Richard McEwan 1, Umit Yildiz 2,
Steve Boyce 3, Jenny Sutton 4*

**Elections
run from
6 February to
1 March**

Biographical information

I teach full time advanced level Sociology and Politics, entry level literacy, as well as adult numeracy at Tower Hamlets College in East London.

I see the impact of austerity at the sharp end with students anxious about their futures in an area of high unemployment and poverty.

I'm an active campaigner in my community and feel a responsibility to defend it. As teachers we have a big role to play in defending education and creating a more equal society.

I am an active member of UCU Left

UCU Left recommends a vote for these candidates in the elections

Voting advice for National

General Secretary
Mark Campbell
London Metropolitan University

Vice President FE
Angie McConnell
Wigan & Leigh College

N. Ireland HE
Brian Kelly
Queens University Belfast

North East HE
Elizabeth Lawrence
Sheffield Hallam University
Gavin Reid
University of Leeds

Veronica Killen
Northumbria University

North East FE
Graham Mustin
Barnsley College
Umit Yildiz
Bradford College

London & the East HE
Mark Campbell
London Metropolitan University
Jane Hardy
University of Hertfordshire
Jim Wolfreys
Kings College London

London & the East FE
Mandy Brown
Lambeth College

Sean Vernell
City & Islington College

Wales HE
Liza van Zyl
Cardiff University

North West FE
Darren Bradshaw
Blackpool & the Fylde College

UK-elected members HE
Jane Hardy
University of Hertfordshire
Lesley McGorrigan
University of Leeds
Jelena Timotijevic
University of Brighton

UK-elected members FE
Steven Boyce
A4E Prisons Branch
Richard McEwan
Tower Hamlets College
Jenny Sutton
College of Haringey, Enfield & North East London
Umit Yildiz
Bradford College

Representatives of women members HE
Marion Hersh
University of Glasgow

Representatives of women members FE
Alison Lord
Tower Hamlets College
Jenny Sutton
College of Haringey, Enfield & North East London

Seats for casually employed members FE
Regine Pilling
Westminster Kingsway College

UCU Trustee
Alan Whitaker
Oxford & Cherwell Valley College

STV VOTING SYSTEM

To maximise votes for progressive candidates we ask you to do the following:

- Please use your votes to **first endorse all UCU Left candidates** and only after that use lower preferences for other progressive candidates in each relevant list
- Give your highest preferences in the UK-Elected list to UCU Left candidate(s) **from your region**

More at www.uculeft.org