

# UCU NEC elections: Vote Darren Tolliday

For NW Region member (Further Education)

## For a democratic, member-led, fighting union

Elections  
run from  
4 February to  
1 March

I am asking for your support for election to UCU's National Executive Committee. I am a local rep as well as a current NEC member and I believe the NEC should reflect the views of local union reps who are on the frontline in defence of our conditions and jobs.

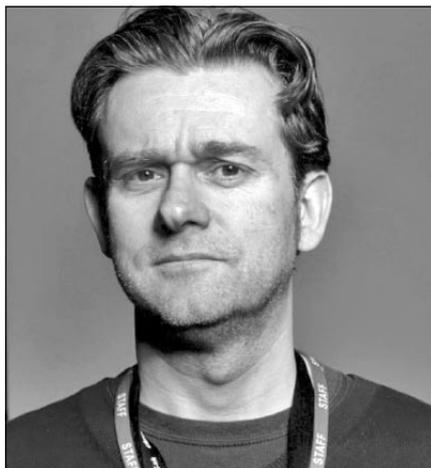
The Con-Dem government is committed to the privatisation of Further Education. To do this it is first stepping up its attacks on the staff who educate our youth and the local community.

In December's autumn budget statement the government signalled its intention to dismantle national pay bargaining and pay scales for schoolteachers and to introduce performance related pay. This shows their total lack of respect for the hard working staff within education. UCU must be at the forefront in supporting our sister teaching unions to defend their terms and conditions as well as our own. Only united action, including industrial action, will stop the Tories in their tracks.

At recent Further Education Committee meetings I have supported campaigning jointly over pay and workload. It is my belief that a consistent campaign with the option for strike action is what is needed to defend our ever-decreasing control of our work/life balance and improve on the recent derisory pay settlements.

Having been a branch secretary at Mid Cheshire College for nearly ten years I have gained an understanding of what branch members need and expect from their union reps. Members are entitled to clear communication and leadership from those they elect.

Over a 6-year period I was able to



increase membership by over 200% and raise the profile of NATFHE/UCU within the college. This was achieved by developing a working relationship with management, reporting back to members and gaining real improvements for lecturers. Also I recognized the importance of developing an effective branch committee, with reps focusing on health & safety issues and promoting a robust equality agenda.

I am committed to maintaining an effective regional committee bringing activists together to resist local principals who wish to downgrade terms and conditions and cut jobs.

On a national level I believe that a democratic, campaigning UCU is the best model for defending members' hard won rights and ensuring a better future for both students and our members. At last year's annual congress I supported the election of a Democracy Commission to look at the nature of our NEC and other structures

within the union. I felt it was right to debate first and change after and the majority of delegates took a similar view.

Further Education is being hit by the loss of EMA for young students, the damaging hike in tuition fees and the introduction of loans in FE, and a rampant drive for privatisation within both FE and HE. We need national action against the unrelenting increases in lecturers' workloads and the resulting stress this creates. The recent effective pay freeze and increased pension contributions have contributed to the demoralisation of teaching staff.

NEC members need to address these attacks, and increase our membership, by arguing for united union, which fights on all fronts to defend our members. As a supporter of UCU Left I believe in a democratic, accountable, member-led union in order to effectively defend pensions, pay, conditions and the future of education itself. If elected I will campaign for:

- Free Further Education for all
- A democratic & accountable NEC
- A reduction in staff workloads and opposition to punitive lesson observation procedures
- An end to marketization, fees and loans within both FE and HE sectors

Please vote Darren Tolliday 1 and Isabel Brotherston 2 for NW Region FE

I also urge you to vote for

- Liz Lawrence for Vice-President
- Gavin Reid for Honorary Treasurer

Liz's election blog is:

<http://lizlawrence4vp.wordpress.com>

### Please vote for the following candidates in the national officer and NEC elections

Vice-President  
**Elizabeth Lawrence**

Honorary Treasurer  
**Gavin Reid**

Honorary Secretary, Scotland  
**Carlo Morelli**

Disabled members  
**Rob Murthwaite**

Black members  
**Dawn Livingston**

LGBT members (HE)  
**Pura Ariza**

UK-elected HE  
**Paul Blackledge, Adrian Budd, Peter Dwyer, Jeff Fowler, Marion Hersh, Veronica Killen, Gavin Reid, Sean Wallis**

UK-elected FE  
**David Armstrong, Mandy Brown, Alison Lord, Loraine Monk**

Midlands FE  
**Alan Barker, Brian O'Sullivan**

North West HE  
**Eleni Michalopoulou, Jo McNeill**

North West FE  
**Darren Tolliday, Isabel Brotherston**

Midlands HE  
**Ron Mendel, Nicholas Cimini**

South HE  
**Patricia McManus, Ellen Seiss, Lesley Kane**

### 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; and
- Give your highest preferences in the UK-Elected list to UCU Left candidate(s) **from your region**

Find out more at [www.uculeft.org](http://www.uculeft.org)