

UCU NEC elections: Vote Jo McNeill

for North West member (Higher Education)

Elections run from 4 February to 1 March

For a leadership that fights for its members

I have been a member of the UCU since I joined the University of Liverpool as an academic related employee in 2007.

Before that I was a member of NUS and also PCS when I worked for two years at the Home Office from 2003-05. I have been an active UCU committee member since 2008 and was elected Vice President of the Branch in September 2012. I am a member of the senior negotiating team and manage a large caseload and support UCULeft. I am currently employed as Fair Access in Admissions Manager at The University of Liverpool. I am also studying for my PhD.

Fighting for equality

I believe in equality across the board. I was a mature student who came into HE via an Access Course and have witnessed inequalities both as a student and as a member of staff. I have spent the past seven years working in Widening Participation and in Aimhigher.

The direction the HE sector in the UK is moving in is very clear and I



personally don't believe we should allow our education system to be decimated in the pursuit of a free market.

The implications for staff and students alike are vast. There is already an increased push into excessively monitoring performance and setting ever increasing targets.

Heavy workloads

My university and many others are going through savage restructures which see our members having the same, or in most cases, heavier workloads at lower grades, less pay, less privileges, slashed pensions... the list goes on.

Are we really meant to stand by and allow this to happen?

I could write forever about the issues we have to face, but I'm more concerned in how we fight to change this and to maintain the rights that trade unionists before us died for.

I am repeatedly annoyed by the UCU leadership who should be a conduit for the membership, they should not take the members' opinions and quash them with petty bureaucracy.

There was a European general strike on November 14th – the first in history – but our leadership did not even give it a mention on the website!

We need to operate as a trade union, listen to our members and fight on their behalf.

In the North West HE election for NEC seats please vote Jo McNeill 1 and Eleni Michalopoulou 2

Please also 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