

# UCU NEC elections: Vote Alan Barker

for UK-Elected member (Further Education)

Elections  
run from  
February  
3<sup>rd</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>

# FIGHT FOR DECENT PAY AND WORKLOADS

*and a campaigning, democratic union*

**I am Regional Secretary of the East Midlands Region of UCU and Branch Chair at New College Nottingham where I have worked for 7 years.**

I have also previously served on the National Executive Committee (NEC), to which I am seeking re-election, and have been a member of UCU Left since its formation.

There are several major issues on which I am basing my candidacy.

## Better pay

1. The campaign for better pay is partly subsumed in the battles we had over pensions since they can be thought of as deferred pay.

I am proud of the role I and others played in that campaign and also that I have consistently taken a position that we should oppose the austerity programme of the Tory Coalition.

This has included taking action with other unions but also leading the fight where necessary.

I am dismayed that the Further Education Committee failed to stick to its pay ballot mandate and call further strike action at its meeting in late January, and I believe that decision is a lost opportunity and should be reversed. A failure to fight on pay risks allowing our employers to think they can attack us on other fronts.

UCU has always stood for the principled defence of public education.

We simply cannot offer our students the quality education they deserve if staff feel undervalued.

Pay is a measure of the value society places on our skills and, when we consider that FE lecturers have lost 15% of our pay in five years, FE lecturers are seen as less valuable than other education professionals, despite the fact that we perform daily miracles with some of the most disadvantaged members of our society.

## Workloads

2. I wish to campaign against excessive workloads (and have done so over a number of years) for very similar reasons. We cannot deliver a quality curriculum while nothing is done to address the our crushing workloads which often lead to serious stress-related disorders.

A combination of poor pay, excessive workload and a culture of bullying undermines recruitment and retention in the sector and risks destroying the service we provide to the community. Unless this changes we could see the



beginning of the end of FE as a source for social good. UCU needs to fight hard for publicly responsible education run by professionals – i.e. people like you and me.

## The direction of our union

3. I am concerned about the direction our union is headed. There has been a drift (or deliberate matter of policy) that risks our union being transformed from a democratic, campaigning union to one that is simply a service for members when they want legal or careers related advice. I joined the former union and want it to stay that way. We are stronger when we campaign collectively over issues that affect us all.

I want a union that fights for the interests of its members and has the political weight to seriously challenge a government that acts against the interests of our members, our students and our communities. My record in every position I have held proves that I match those words with deeds. I am seeking your support in doing so as a representative on the NEC.

Vote Darren Tolliday 1, Alan Barker 2, Paul Pritchard 3, Allister Mactaggart 4, Margot Hill 5

Please also vote Loraine Monk for Vice President. Loraine's election blog is at: <http://lorainemonk4vp.wordpress.com>

## Please vote for these NEC candidates who are supported by UCU Left

We urge you to vote for the candidates in the order they appear below.

Vice President FE  
**Loraine Monk**

North East FE  
**Lee Short,**  
**Umit Yildiz**

North East HE  
**Paul Blackledge,**  
**Mike Lammiman,**  
**Jeff Fowler**

London and the East HE  
**Adrian Budd,**  
**Ioanna Ioannou,**  
**Sean Wallis**

Women members HE  
**Sue Abbott,**  
**Saira Weiner,**  
**Nadia Edmond**

Women members FE  
**Rhiannon Lockley,**  
**Margot Hill**

UK-elected HE:  
**Lesley McGorrigan,**  
**Jelena Timotijevic,**  
**Karen Evans,**  
**Andreas Bieler, Carlo Morelli, Eleni Michalopoulou,**  
**Paul Blackledge**

UK-elected FE:  
**Darren Tolliday,**  
**Alan Barker,**  
**Paul Pritchard,**  
**Allister Mactaggart,**  
**Margot Hill**

## 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**

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