

UCU NEC elections: Vote Allister Mactaggart

For UK-elected Further Education representative

Stop the cuts, defend Further Education

Election
runs from
1 to 26
February

I am a lecturer in art and design at Chesterfield College where I have been employed since 1997.

I have taken an active role in UCU/NATFHE throughout my teaching career and I currently hold the position of Branch Chair. I am active at a regional level and I have attended annual Congress on several occasions putting forward motions and amendments from our branch and regional committee.

I am also very active in casework in our branches seeking to defend members against the ever-increasing demands put upon us, as well as broadening these issues out into the wider political sphere.

I have lead a long campaign in respect of lesson observations which has resulted in a new non-graded observation policy with the link to capability being removed.

I am a firm advocate of further education and its role in our communities to provide much needed educational opportunities for young students and adults.

The attacks against our sector are now reaching a critical point with the government's post-16 review of education and training institutions.

Having starved colleges of adequate funding for years, the government now seeks to use the weakened positions many colleges find themselves in as a way of seeking to push through mergers and rationalisation, all of which will only make the situation worse for staff, students and our communities.

The government's desire for 'super



colleges' runs against the needs of our communities, and I believe that UCU's briefing on 'Resisting cuts and rationalisation' offers cogent arguments against the government's approach, but also provides alternative education proposals which would put students and their communities at its heart.

As a UCU left supporter, I will seek to defend FE against these attacks and to use our best efforts to put forward a positive alternative.

I have attended several UCU regional briefings in respect of the government's proposals and I represent my college branch, alongside UCU representatives from other colleges in our LEP area, in meetings with the FE Commissioner.

At special sector conferences I have argued that we need to be pro-active and not defensive. We should be proud of what we do in our communities.

As lecturers in FE we have an acute knowledge about how government policy adversely affects us, our students and our communities.

We also know what is required to

provide the education our students and communities deserve, as opposed to the restrictive vision of a two-tier education system the present government wishes to impose upon us.

If elected, I will campaign for:

- Secure contracts for all staff and against the increasing use of 'non-lecturer' roles in further education teaching and assessing teams;
- £1 per hour extra for all;
- Against the scapegoating of migrants;
- The defence of post-16 education against cuts and rationalisation, working, where possible, with other public sector unions;
- The rights of Trade Unions to defend their members against the unnecessary and pernicious Trade Union legislation.

Please vote:

Margot Hill 1, Sarah Foster 2,
Allister Mactaggart 3, Jim Thakoordin 4

STV voting system

Please note that all members can vote in the elections for Equality, Casually Employed members' and Trustees seats

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**

UCU Left is supporting the following candidates in the NEC elections

Vice-president FE
Mandy Brown

London & the East HE
Sean Wallis, Ioanna Ioannou, Rachel Cohen, Mark Campbell

London & the East FE
Sean Vernell, Julia Foster

North East FE
Lee Short

UK-elected FE
Margot Hill, Sarah Foster, Allister Mactaggart

UK-elected HE
Mark Campbell, Pura Ariza, Julie Hearn

Women members FE
Rhiannon Lockley, Elaine White

Women members HE
Sue Abbott, Saira Weiner

Black members
Dawn Livingston

FE members (casual vacancy)
Elaine White

For a lay leadership that will:

- Fight to defend post-16 education
- Defend members' pensions, pay and conditions
- Respect democratic mandates
- Seek to build a campaigning, member-led union

More election materials can be found at the UCU Left website: www.uculeft.org

Find out more: www.uculeft.org