

UCU NEC elections: Vote Sean Vernell

For London and the East representative (FE)

No to austerity: Defend education for all

Election
runs from
1 to 26
February

Further and Adult education is under attack. 28% cuts in Adult Education last year and a government-initiated area review designed to force fewer 'more efficient' colleges means we're set for a battle for the very survival of the sector.

The government's proposals will not address the concerns of the almost one million 16-24 year olds who have no work, education or training, or the 15% of 16-65 year olds who have no qualifications whatsoever.

They will lead to the loss of thousands of teaching posts and declining course provision.

We will end up with a group of 'super colleges' out of touch with the needs of their students.

The curriculum will be narrowed at the expense of theory-based vocational education and academic courses for those who wish to continue to university.

As thousands are made redundant those remaining will face workloads spiralling out of control.

Over 3 million people attend Further and Adult education colleges. One of the areas that we are most proud of is ESOL provision.

Yet the Tory government first patronises migrant communities by calling on them to 'integrate' and then cuts ESOL funding slashing tens of thousands of student places.

I am proud to be a member of UCU London Region. We have been at the forefront of campaigning against the government's attacks.

I have been a part of organising three lobbies of Parliament, several lobbies of BIS and a 1500 strong demonstration in defence of the sector.



I am standing for the NEC to represent London and East Region as I believe we must use our union's resources to defeat the government's attacks on second chance education.

To do this we need stronger campaigning branches and national action to defeat the government's austerity agenda.

We need to build a movement to defend further and adult education.

I will seek to ensure the union campaigns nationally for:

- The defence of post-16 education jointly with other public sector unions.
- Increased funding for Further and Adult education.
- A workload agreement.
- £1 per hour extra for all.
- Against the scapegoating of migrants.
- All national union decisions to be determined, shaped and supported by regions and branches.

Vote Sean Vernell 1, Julia Roberts 2

Biographical information

I teach GCSE English at City and Islington College. I am a founder member of UCU Left.

Publications:

The Manifesto for Further Education 2007
Further and Adult Education: responding to a new social and economic climate 2008
Defending the Welfare state - the case for public services for all 2010.
Trade Unions and the fight against austerity 2012
Fight the anti-union laws - no to austerity Yes to workers organisation 2015

I have served as:

- Branch Secretary of City and Islington College 2003-07 and Coordinating Secretary since 2007.
- A member of the Executive committee of London Regional Council since 2003 and a London Region NEC member from 2007-14, during which time I was national Vice-Chair of the Further Education Committee.
- I have also served on various NEC sub-committees, as the UCU observer to NUT national executive 2008-11, and delegate to UCU's Annual Congress since 2005.
- TUC delegate from 2007-14.

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