

UCU NEC elections: vote Allister Mactaggart for Midlands FE

Fight to safeguard adult and further education

I am standing for the Midlands FE seat because I believe it is important that the interests of FE members across this wide region are fully represented at a national level.

I have worked as a lecturer at Chesterfield College, where I teach media, since 1997, and I have been an active union member throughout my teaching career. My various roles within the union include the following:

- Departmental rep over many years.
- Branch Chair, and have been elected into this position, or that of Vice Chair, since 2010.
- Branch delegate to Chesterfield and District TUC where I have served on the Executive Committee since 2016.
- Delegate to East Midlands Regional Committee over several years, and Regional Secretary since 2017.
- UCU Congress delegate over several years where I have spoken on a number of motions and amendments on behalf of my branch and region.

I have been active in many campaigns within my college, including a sustained and successful one to remove graded lesson observations.

I also deal with a large amount of casework which has provided me with opportunities to develop skills in negotiation in an effort to resolve issues locally.

Caseworking has involved dealing



with many issues of Equality and Health and Safety. However, such work by itself cannot resolve the major problems the sector face.

Further and Adult education continues to be severely underfunded and we can all see the negative impact this has upon staff, students and the communities we serve.

The empty rhetoric by the current government that austerity has ended rings hollow in a sector where college funding will have been cut by around 30% between 2009 and 2019.

However, now is not the time to be pessimistic but to realise that we can pursue actions to work towards the betterment of our sector.

As a supporter of UCU Left I believe a democratic, member-led union which actively campaigns for our sector is essential.

The success in November 2018

of UCU branches in negotiating an historic deal on the 2018/19 pay claim with the Capital City College Group in London demonstrates that positive changes can be made and that resolute action to safeguard further and adult education can have an affirmative impact.

Similarly, the Love Our Colleges campaign was a most encouraging example of joint action across the sector to make the case for fair funding.

FE provision must contribute to widening participation in education and advancing social equality.

I would encourage all members to use their vote in these important elections.

I will use my best endeavours to represent the interests of FE members across the Midlands at a national level.

Election
runs from
1 February
- 1 March

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 HE
Jo McNeill

Honorary Treasurer
Paul Anderson

Midlands HE
Kirsten Forkert
Nick Hardy

Midlands FE
Allister Mactaggart

South HE
Deepa Govindarajan
Driver
Lesley Kane
Marian Mayer
Jaya John John

North West HE
Anthony O'Hanlon
Saira Weiner

North West FE
Carol Cody
Honorary Secretary
UCU Scotland
Marion Hersh

President
UCU Scotland
Carlo Morelli

North East HE
Bruce Baker
UK-elected HE
Maria Chondrogiani
Marion Hersh
Carlo Morelli
Jo Grady

UK-elected FE
Richard McEwan
Saleem Rashid

Disabled members HE
Ciara Doyle

Black members
Naina Kent
Dave Muritu

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: uculeft.org

Find out more: uculeft.org