

# Put Black members and anti-racism at the centre of our union

I am a student counsellor in Hackney specialising in progression to further and higher education for those most disadvantaged in education.



I believe in campaigning for fully funded adult education provision that reverses decades of cuts across the country. I was a signatory of the #OurUCU statement at last year's UCU Congress.

## Equality for all

All equality areas need to be protected and fought for. In the era of austerity, with a Conservative Party that uses racism and Islamophobia to scapegoat immigrants, the growth of the far right poses a threat to all of us.

Trump, Grenfell, #metoo, and Windrush show we need strong united actions against austerity and racism.

## Equality campaigns

The magnificent industrial action in universities and colleges shows that a serious fightback can deliver. I want to establish UCU campaigns that promote the fact that workplace racism can be tackled by the membership collectively.

Too often Black members are left to challenge racism individually, by

overloaded case workers and proving a case is difficult without collective support from the union.

If elected I will support challenging employers directly for allowing policies that have a detrimental impact on all equality strands including Black members.

## A campaigning UCU

If elected I will

- Protect the working conditions and pay of UCU members
- Campaign to end precarious employment that disproportionately impacts on Black and Women and disabled members. Permanent contracts for all casualised staff. End excessive workloads.
- Work with all in order to end austerity and defend the whole of post 16 education, involve the community to participate in advancing a vision of reversing discrimination.
- Make sure Black members and anti-racist campaigns are central to the union.

If we are to address the challenges UCU faces, and defend educational access and progressive educational principles, we need to build strong branches and elect leaders who will fight to restore our pay and conditions, including a progressive Equality Charter to end unfair discrimination.

## Experience in the union

- UCU Branch Chair 2013 Hackney Adult and Continuing Education.
- Founder of NE London Save ESOL Campaign 2007, worked with MPs organising numerous parliamentary lobbies.
- Campaigner for Action for ESOL, Contributor to Action for ESOL Manifesto
- Chair Campaigning Alliance for Lifelong Learning (CALL) London 2008.
- Founding member of Black Members' Network London 2016
- London Regional Committee Equalities Representative 2015-present
- Equality Officer at my UCU branch for the last 3 years
- Supported members and attended UCU Equality Conferences
- Delegate to UCU Congress for the last 2 years
- UCU Black Members Standing Committee 2017-present
- Member of UCU Left

## 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

### 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 Chondrogianni  
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](http://uculeft.org)

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