

Disability exclusion is a political issue

Election runs from 1 February - 1 March

I am a disability activist with a lifelong record of trade union engagement. I have been on the Disabled Members Standing Committee for the last 2 years, and involved with UCU campaigns on disability issues, including the recent day of action and parliamentary meeting.

I approach all disability issues from a Social Model of disability perspective, and see disability exclusion as first and foremost a political issue.

As an autistic wheelchair user who is owner-training an assistance dog I have a wide range of interests, with an emphasis on the impact of open neoliberal changes within universities such as open plan office space and auto recording of lectures through technologies such as Panopto on disabled staff.

I see a direct link between issues of individual casework and wider campaigning issues.

As a union we need to support our members one to one when they face dismissal over disability issues, a lack of reasonable adjustment and discrimination in the workplace.

This feeds directly into our campaigning issues, and our



We need to support our members when they face discrimination in the workplace

campaigns to see these changes in law.

I fully support our campaigns to bring legal change to strengthen building regulations to force universities to have accessible premises, to enact reasonable adjustments within a time limited period, and a statutory right to disability leave.

This dual strategy of supporting members intensively and linking arising issues to national campaigns that challenge Tory austerity needs to encompass all areas of disability, including neurodiversity, mental health issues and less visible chronic and long term conditions.

As a union we need to campaign heavily on issues that cause

mental health problems to arise in the workplace and disable our members, focusing on working conditions and workload, to support our members to not have disabilities created and exacerbated by their employment.

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