

UCU NEC elections: VOTE GAVIN REID

for North East (Higher Education)

The Government has embarked on a savage process of privatising our universities. The scandals that have rocked the American for-profit sector, one that spends more on advertising than it does on staff, appear only to spur Willetts on in his race to the bottom.

The current period will therefore define what our union is about and how it operates – roll over and invest in ‘member services’ or use our available resources to fight back where we can. We must defend our pensions, pay and working conditions across the full spectrum of our membership.

Focus

It would be a mistake to focus exclusively on pensions; this will likely lead to defeat over the Government white paper.

Furthermore, the HE sector has suffered the worst pay settlements in the whole of the public sector during the current recession.

The fact that since 2004 we have had to take industrial action to secure every pay increase, when this has not happened in much of the rest of the economy, suggests a collective failure of the Vice-Chancellors towards their staff, this we must reverse.

Pillars

Universities must be the pillars of any democratic society, yet many VCs are



now engaged in shedding jobs even resorting to compulsory redundancy.

There is further strong evidence that the UK is falling behind other European countries in its obligations to defend academic freedom.

I believe UCU should be campaigning for the reintroduction of tenure and collegial governance structures as defined by UNESCO. Academic tenure is the only defence against closure and redundancy.

Business

As our universities are turned into businesses and run on traditional business lines, they are being set up to fail like businesses.

The UCU must be at the forefront of promoting a new vision for higher education – to reclaim our universities from the Tories.

Vote

Elizabeth Lawrence 1

Gavin Reid 2

Veronica Killen 3

Jeff Fowler 4

Biographical information including service to the union

I first joined AUT in 1996. Over the past decade I have been Joint Secretary, twice Vice-President, President, Past President, and I am currently again President of the University of Leeds LA.

Elections run from 6 February to 1 March

- I have been a member of the UCU National Executive Committee since 2007
- Chair, Education Committee (2010, 2011)
- Vice-Chair, Education Committee (2007-09)
- Vice-Chair Pre-92, Higher Education Committee (2010)
- National pay negotiator (2009-present)
- Member of the Legal Support Review Panel (2009, 2011)

I am a Senior Lecturer at the University of Leeds. Currently, I am Director of Student Education in the School of Chemistry. I have research interests in femtosecond spectroscopy and biophysical chemistry.

I am or have recently been an elected member of the University Senate, Learning & Teaching Board and Council.

I am a member of UCU Left and not of any political party.

We recommend a vote for these UCU Left candidates in the elections

Voting advice for National

General Secretary

Mark Campbell
London Metropolitan University

Vice President FE

Angie McConnell
Wigan & Leigh College

N. Ireland HE

Brian Kelly
Queens University Belfast

North East HE

Elizabeth Lawrence
Sheffield Hallam University
Gavin Reid
University of Leeds

Veronica Killen
Northumbria University

North East FE

Graham Mustin
Barnsley College
Umit Yildiz
Bradford College

London & the East HE

Mark Campbell
London Metropolitan University
Jane Hardy
University of Hertfordshire
Jim Wolfreys
Kings College London

London & the East FE

Mandy Brown
Lambeth College

Sean Vernell
City & Islington College

Wales HE

Liza van Zyl
Cardiff University

North West FE

Darren Bradshaw
Blackpool & the Fylde College

UK-elected members HE

Jane Hardy
University of Hertfordshire
Lesley McGorrigan
University of Leeds
Jelena Timotijevic
University of Brighton

UK-elected members FE

Steven Boyce
A4E Prisons Branch
Richard McEwan
Tower Hamlets College
Jenny Sutton
College of Haringey, Enfield & North East London
Umit Yildiz
Bradford College

Representatives of women members HE

Marion Hersh
University of Glasgow

Representatives of women members FE

Alison Lord
Tower Hamlets College
Jenny Sutton
College of Haringey, Enfield & North East London

Seats for casually employed members FE

Regine Pilling
Westminster Kingsway College

UCU Trustee

Alan Whitaker
Oxford & Cherwell Valley College

STV VOTING SYSTEM

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**

More at www.uculeft.org