

# UCU NEC elections: Vote Saira Weiner

For Women members (Higher Education)

# DEFEND PAY, DEFEND EQUALITY

Elections  
run from  
February  
3<sup>rd</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>

**We need a democratic, diverse and fighting union that listens to its members but also offers a strong lead.**

UCU needs to be dynamic, defending individual members vigorously and collectively where possible against bullying, victimisation, and casualisation while building mass campaigns to defend our pensions, defend Equality and protect our conditions of service.

We know the extent to which women are being disproportionately affected by the austerity assault we have suffered in recent years.

UCU must stand up for a vision of education which puts Equality at its heart and protects academic freedom and equal access.

## Rounded

Our education system should be about offering people a well-rounded, diverse high-quality syllabus not about the best way to extract the maximum profit at the highest margins to line the pockets of private institutions and individuals.

If we fight we can win, as we saw at Liverpool University a few months ago, and this means standing together in unity across our sector and in solidarity with other workers.

I am a supporter of UCU Left, an active socialist and a member of Unite Against Fascism as well as a campaigner against austerity.

We need an NEC which is fit for purpose if we are to rise to the tasks ahead of us, one which will work with

other unions within education and the wider movement for us to stand a better chance of achieving these aims.

It is clear that people join a union that stands up to employers and the government when they undermine education and our pay, pensions and conditions.

We saw this when thousands joined UCU during 2011 in the run up to the great public sector pensions strike of 30 November.

We should have had a national fightback over pay and pensions last year but our leadership dragged their feet.

Thankfully last year we started to take on our increasingly wealthy employers and show we have the potential to stop them.

## Mandate

The decision in December to de-escalate our strike action over pay was not only a failure to implement a democratic mandate but also served to weaken our action.

We need to resist attempts by our employers to defeat our action through making punitive deductions. When this is threatened I believe we must step up our action and stop this bullying in its tracks.

We need to call strike dates that aim to



co-ordinate with other University unions, an assessment boycott with immediate effect to ease our members' workloads, and to organise collectively with students to defend public education.

To do this we need a leadership which is prepared to lead the fight. Now more than ever is the time to say enough is enough:

- Defend Equality
- No more wage cuts,
- No more privatisation and market ethos in education
- No more attacks on our pension scheme,
- No more increased workloads,
- Yes to a fighting democratic union.

### Biographical information, including service to the union

I have been a trade union member as long as I have been in work. As a schoolteacher I held various NUT representative positions at local level. While working as an associate lecturer at Manchester Metropolitan University I joined UCU but continued my NUT membership due to the precarious nature of that employment.

On appointment to Liverpool John Moores University as Senior Lecturer in Education & Early Years, I was elected co-convenor of the IM Marsh campus as a UCU Left supporter.

Please vote Sue Abbott 1, Saira Wener 2, Nadia Edmond 3

Please also vote Loraine Monk for Vice President

Lorraine's election blog is at:  
<http://lorainemonk4vp.wordpress.com>

national

## Please vote for these NEC candidates who are supported by UCU Left

*We urge you to vote for the candidates in the order they appear below.*

Vice President FE  
**Loraine Monk**

North East FE  
**Umit Yildiz,**  
**Lee Short**

North East HE  
**Paul Blackledge,**  
**Mike Lammiman,**  
**Jeff Fowler**

London and the East HE  
**Sean Wallis,**  
**Adrian Budd,**  
**Ioanna Ioannou**

Women members HE  
**Sue Abbott,**  
**Saira Weiner,**  
**Nadia Edmond**

Women members FE  
**Margot Hill,**  
**Rhiannon Lockley**

UK-elected HE:  
**Lesley McGorrigan,**  
**Jelena Timotijevic,**  
**Carlo Morelli,**  
**Karen Evans,**  
**Andreas Bieler,**  
**Eleni Michalopoulou,**  
**Paul Blackledge**

UK-elected FE:  
**Darren Tolliday,**  
**Alan Barker,**  
**Paul Pritchard,**  
**Allister Mactaggart,**  
**Margot Hill**

## 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**

Find out more at [www.uculeft.org](http://www.uculeft.org)