

# UCU NEC elections: vote Elio Di Muccio

For Midlands Higher Education

Election runs from  
1 February  
- 1 March

## For a stronger UCU to fight casualisation and privatisation

**O**ur employers are pursuing an aggressive strategy designed to undermine our professional status. Casualised employees such as myself experience this as normal.

HEI managements have found a way to work together to coordinate their exercise of power over employees nationwide.

They have demonstrated themselves to be insensitive to the damage caused to our lives by unrealistic ambitions of grandeur and an unhealthy compulsion to compete.

The safety of our members is under constant attack: working conditions are life-threatening and jobs are at risk.

If elected, I will work to ensure that a wedge is not driven between members with different categories and forms of employment. For example, closing and eventually abolishing the gender pay gap in HE is the key to making HEIs collegiate at the very least.

### Precarity

UCU recently secured an excellent record in studies of working conditions in Higher Education by exposing the extent of precarious labour in this sector.

Our union is leading in the analysis of conditions that are becoming emblematic experiences for workers in Britain.

By demonstrating how casualisation, gendered and racial discrimination have worked together to weaken the position of existing and prospective members, UCU has empowered us to make a real difference for workers across all sectors.

Now we need to follow through with the necessary action, including national industrial action, to reverse these detrimental trends and win secure working conditions for staff in Higher Education.

Sexism, racism and discrimination related to mental health and disability form the core of the management philosophy adopted by our employers.

### Stress

The imposition of stress is the mechanism through which management put this philosophy into practice.

I believe that equal pay audits, claims and persistent campaigning on stress are formidable weapons in our arsenal.

I am an hourly-paid teaching assistant in the Department of Political Science and International Studies at the University of Birmingham.

By promoting and assisting in the use of these weapons, I intend to foster solidarity and help place decision-making power where it belongs.

I support the UCU Left policy of democratisation and ensuring decision-making is in the hands of our members.

In this spirit, I consider myself to



be a grassroots campaigner, but I have considerable experience as a union officer as well.

I joined UCU in 2014 as soon as I was employed and I am now the Birmingham University branch secretary, as well as a delegate to the regional committee.

I am also the BUCU anti-casualisation officer and chair of the casualised and postgraduate staff working group.

I have been involved in negotiations over disputes and restructuring as an officer and caseworker.

I specialise on cases related to the issuing or renewal of contracts and have been active as a health and safety rep in the workplace.

I am currently coordinating a regional anti-casualisation campaign designed to raise awareness about gender, racial and stress-related discrimination.

By directly linking having a vibrant membership to the benefits of being in a trade union, it will also bolster UCU's recruitment efforts.

### 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

#### Trustees

Steve Cushion  
Laura Miles

#### General Secretary

Jo McNeill

#### Vice President HE

Carlo Morelli

#### Honorary

#### Treasurer

Paul Anderson

#### Midlands HE

Elio Di Muccio

#### Midlands FE

Rhiannon Lockley  
Safia Flissi

#### UK-elected

#### members FE

Mandy Brown  
Richard McEwan

#### UK-elected

#### members HE

Carlo Morelli  
Marion Hersh  
Phoebe Moore  
Ioanna Ioannou

#### South HE

Lesley Kane  
Mark Abel  
Marian Mayer

#### Representatives of LGBT members

Pura Ariza

#### 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 the UCU Left website: [uculeft.org](http://uculeft.org)

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