

# Marion Hersh

## For Action on Climate Justice, Equality and Pensions

Election runs  
from 26  
January-  
1 March

### *UCU NEC elections: Vote Marion Hersh for UK-Elected HE*

I'm passionately committed to (higher) education. My vision is a free, publicly-funded and accessible system that values the contributions of BAME, women, non-binary, Disabled, LGBT+ people and encourages awkward questions. I teach students not serve clients and campaign against marketisation and commodification. I oppose REF and TEF. I promote academic freedom in teaching and research and oppose its misuse as a pretext to undermine the rights of minority groups, most recently trans people and Palestinians. HE and knowledge generation must be open to all to transform society for the better.

### **Defend USS & Restore Benefits**

As a USS negotiator I've been instrumental in the transformation in UCU. I have campaigned to protect members' interests, particularly those of lowest paid, and against moves to defined contributions. As Deepa and I have proposed, we need to restore benefits asap, not wait another year. My work has resulted in the ethical/sustainability section of the negotiators' report and led to USS making its website and



communications more accessible. I'll continue to campaign for USS to have a strong ethical investment policy.

### **Action to Win on USS and Four Fights**

On HEC I supported industrial action in November and further indefinite action, with other unions where possible, to fully restore our pensions and get decent pay, job security and reasonable workloads for all. I support increasing strike pay to remove financial barriers to action.

### **Activist and Campaigner**

Lifelong anti-racist, anti-fascist, anti-war campaigner, campaigner for social justice. Inequality, discrimination and oppression, both within and beyond HE, anger me. I campaign actively, promote collective approaches to equality and anti-casualisation. I try to

generalise from my individual cases to campaigns for policy changes in my institution and throughout HE. Solidarity and support are essential to active trade-unionism. I continue to support campaigns against unsafe working conditions, job losses, department closures, victimisation, casualisation - Liverpool, Queen Mary, Dundee ... I'm active in the Trade Union Climate-Change Network and campaigns to support refugees. My proposals to NEC led to the Fund the Future campaign and to HEC to the Five Tests for a safe return to campus. I've got my institution to use non-binary-aware language in Senate standing orders and take seriously making on-line teaching accessible to disabled staff.

### **Biographical info**

- Senior Lecturer, Biomedical Engineering, Glasgow University
- NEC 2007-2009, 2010-2012, 2013-2017, 2018-23
- Equality Committee 2007-2009, 2010-2012, 2013-2017
- UCU Scotland Equality Officer 2018-2019
- UCU Scotland Executive 2007-2011, 2013-2015, 2017-2019
- USS negotiator/alternate 2011-12, 2013-23
- Commissions on Rule 13, Effective Industrial Action
- Glasgow Committee 1990-2023

For more information about the UCU Left platform and candidates [click here](#).