

For a genuinely member-led union

Election runs from 25 January -1 March

I have been a member of UCU for the last 12 years and have worked as a university lecturer, a museum educator, and a researcher in Greek archaeology at the University of Liverpool. My current job involves supporting researchers to make meaningful social change with their research.

I played an active role organising pickets, protests and online rallies during Liverpool's successful fight against redundancies in 2021, which used daily online meetings to build a strong, democratic and member-led branch. I am keen to use this experience to increase member and branch participation in decision making processes across the union – especially when we are in dispute – through BDMs and strike committees.

As a member of UCU Left, I am committed to a genuinely member-led, fighting union that challenges the priorities of the market and campaigns for an education system where the needs of students and staff come first. For too long, we have watched our workloads go up and mental health go down amid an epidemic of casualisation and pay inequality. I am proud of UCU's work in promoting equality, which is absolutely a trade union responsibility, and have taken an active role by helping to organise protests against racism and transphobia, and more recently

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Joint Branch Secretary for the University of Liverpool UCU. Previously been President, Campaigns Officer and Anti-Casualisation Officer in the branch. I participate regularly in regional meetings and have been the Equalities Officer for LGBT+ members. Previously, I was a Rep and the Chair of Unite/Amicus for 18 years. I am now a member of UCU NEC and the ROCC and Education Subcommittees.

solidarity with Palestine, on campus and in the Northwest. I support the work of the union's standing committees, which can and should

give voice to our more marginalised members.

With the UCU Solidarity Movement, which I helped to set up in 2020, I have worked hard to build solidarity between UCU branches (in HE, FE and the prisons) to fight effectively over job cuts, casualisation and the increasing marketisation of post-16 education. This rank-and-file activists' network has subsequently become a vital route to building support for disputes across the different sectors of the union.

I am glad to be a member of a union that fights back, and I support the continuing campaigns on pay, pay equality, workloads and casualisation, and will fight to defend TPS pensions. Our employers are complicit in the marketisation of post-16 education, which surrenders academic freedom and integrity, views staff as expendable, and treats students as sources of income. They have not listened to our concerns, and only industrial action can turn things around. Building a democratic, members-led union that is willing to take up these challenges is my priority in standing for election to the NEC.

For more information about the UCU Left platform and candidates
<https://uculeft.org/ucu-elections-2024>