

# VOTE UCU LEFT - For a campaigning, member-led union

## Cecily Blyther for Casualised Members FE

I work at Petroc FE college in Northern Devon. In my 18 years here, **like many casualised staff, I have had a varied and interesting teaching experience.** I've taught Maths, Computing and English to students as young as 14, up to mature adults. I also teach Statistics on the Human Biosciences foundation degree, and provide additional learning support (ALS) to students studying a wide variety of subjects, including Theatre Studies, Music, Psychology, History, Law, Further Mathematics, Engineering, and the mainstream sciences.

My current work at Petroc has three components, each of which is claimed and paid differently: ALS Intervention Tutor, Mathematics and English Associate Lecturer, Associate Lecturer in Statistics.

I am currently UCU Branch Chair at Petroc, and am a member of the UCU's Disabled Members' Standing Committee. I served on the NEC and on the Anti-casualisation Committee from 2016 to 2023.

From my NEC service, **I understand the importance of the NEC's work in implementing decisions of Congress and Sector Conferences.** I appreciate the collegial discussion and the commitment to following our democratic structures.

My long experience has deepened my understanding of how crucial an issue casualisation is for UCU. For anyone who is casualised, this can often bring the misery of financial insecurity, poverty and associated stress and illness. **Not having a permanent job limits ability to plan career and personal life.**



**Casualisation is an issue for all UCU members.** Having a section of the membership in a vulnerable employment position weakens the bargaining situation of all union members. UCU is correct to identify casualisation as an important issue, which is inextricably linked with all other equality strands. Trade unions must demand that the Labour Government acts to outlaw zero-hours contracts and to bring in greater job security for all workers.

**In FE, UCU must work for a return to effective national bargaining and decent pay awards implemented in all FE colleges and for all members.** In all sectors, UCU members need manageable workloads, pay rises which keep up with inflation and secure pensions to provide a decent income in retirement.

VP, Trustee & NEC  
Elections run 27  
January - 3 March -  
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