

VOTE SEAN VERNELL FOR A FIGHTING UNION

Whoever wins the next general election will not reverse the drive to marketise education. Our pay, jobs and conditions are under attack, as is our academic freedom.

It will be down to us and our collective strength as a trade union to defend post-16 education from these attacks.

However, saying what we are against will not be enough - we will also have to put forward an educational vision that ensures future generations enjoy the free and equal access to education that many of us have enjoyed.

The business model that has increasingly shaped education over the last 25 years has driven our colleges and universities on a downward spiral:

- Our professionalism and self-esteem have been eroded.
- The work/life balance is in tatters; stress-related illnesses have soared through increased workloads and bullying managers.
- Competition between universities/colleges has led to a race to the bottom with Principals/Vice Chancellors defending the "bottom line" as the priority.
- Our students face a lifetime of debt and narrowing educational provision.

The recession has provided employers in both sectors with the excuse to sack lecturers, researchers and academic-related staff and expand failed business-led models yet further.



With 1 million 16-24 year olds not in work or education, this is a national scandal. The government and employers complain that we cannot afford to keep up with the costs of Post 16 education, *but the money is there:*

- Billions stockpiled in F/HE reserves.
- Vice chancellors on £200,000+ and FE Principals awarding themselves salaries of up to £160,000 – 4 to 5 times higher than that of main grade lecturers.
- £500 billion spent on bailing out the bankers.
- £30 billion on wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, £90 billion on renewing Trident.

I would ensure that the union stands up for all its members, placing itself at the forefront of every local and national

campaign that defends our pay, jobs, pensions, conditions and organises to reclaim our colleges and universities. I believe we need:

- A national campaign, where possible organised jointly with other public sector unions, to defend jobs and services.
- To campaign for national agreements in Further and Adult Education to be automatically implemented.
- Parity of funding for FAE with schools.
- Democratisation of university and college governance
- Integration of equality issues into the bargaining process locally and nationally, such as encouraging the use of Equality Impact Assessments.
- To resist the rise of fascism and campaign against the scapegoating of minorities.
- To ensure all decisions taken by the national union are determined, shaped and supported by the regions and the branches/local associations.

Recent victories at Liverpool University and Tower Hamlets show us that taking action can win.

The support for such campaigns within the membership of UCU and the wider community has never been greater. We have the moral high ground in the defence of education and we need a leadership that is not afraid to rise to the challenges ahead.

Vote for UCU Left candidates in the Vice presidential & NEC elections

Voting advice for National

Vice President
Sean Vernell

GEOGRAPHICALLY ELECTED REGIONAL NEC SEATS:
London & East (Higher Education)
Mark Campbell
Jane Hardy
Jim Wolfreys

North East (Higher education)
Elizabeth Lawrence
Gavin Reid
Jeff Fowler

North East (Further Education)
Dave Gibson
Vanessa Maugham

CASUAL VACANCY (UK-wide HE)
Marion Hersh

UK-ELECTED MEMBERS: (Higher education)
Mark Campbell
Christine Vie
Sue Blackwell
Dominique Lauterburg

UK-ELECTED MEMBERS: (Further Education)
Richard McEwan
Craig Lewis
Mike Barton

EQUALITY SEATS: (Women Higher Education)
Veronica Killen
Marion Hersh

(Women Further Education)
Alison Lord

More info at www.uculeft.org

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**