

# For UCU NEC elections...

# VOTE UCU LEFT CANDIDATES FOR A FIGHTING, DEMOCRATIC UNION

**G**ordon Brown has found £55 billion to bail out Northern Rock. Billions more are wasted on the bloody occupations in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Yet the market is allowed to let rip through further and higher education and UCU members face rising workloads, bullying managements and mounting stress. FE lecturers face a pay cut from the AoC's below inflation offer. HE members face a threat from UCEA to the whole future of national bargaining.

Lecturers and academic staff are the first line of defence for the progressive principles the UCU stands for. These principles are under attack throughout our education system.

**UCU Left is fighting for a democratic, campaigning union in further and higher education.**

We oppose the subordination of education and educational institutions to the market.

UCU members have considerable power as we showed in the fight over pay in HE in 2006: We need to organise

ourselves to wield that power in the interests of our members, our students and our communities.

## In last year's NEC elections UCU Left candidates did well. What have we done since?

- Organised a fight in FE against the below inflation pay offer by the AoC.
- Fought for the calling of the successful FE delegate pay conference to decide policy.
- Co-ordinated a joint fight on pay with the NUT, opening the possibility of a cross-education pay strike on 24 April.
- Helped build the campaign to defend ESOL, forcing a retreat by New Labour. Now we need the same for EQL!
- Helped produce the FE Manifesto, a Defence of Adult Education, and the UCU Activists Guide for members.

- Supported self-organised Equality groups and campaigning structures in UCU.
- Pushed for a national conference on fighting the market in education, now set for May.
- Sought to build accountability of NEC reps regular through regular reports to members.
- Fought to maintain national bargaining, single table bargaining, and our union's right to take independent action in HE.
- UCU Left supporters have been central to local struggles, at London Met, Manchester City College, RNIB Redhill, Dundee University and have fought to win backing for the fight by UCU at Keele University against redundancies.

## And now?

- The fight is on to defend national bargaining in HE. Let's ensure the final year of the pay deal is honoured and let's organise industrial action if the employers renege on it.
- Vote Yes for action on FE pay, working jointly with NUT to defend FE and schools.
- Let's make sure the restructuring of UCU means more accountability and a campaigning union.

**These are all reasons why we urge you to vote for UCU Left candidates in the NEC elections**

## WHAT WE STAND FOR

- \* A democratic union committed to fighting to improve members' pay and conditions
- \* A union that gives solidarity to other workers in struggle
- \* An end to the marketisation of education: No cuts, closures or privatisation of departments and services.
- \* An end to the divisive Research Assessment Exercise (RAE) in the HE sector
- \* Free education: abolition of tuition fees, restoration of student grants
- \* The repeal of Tory anti-union legislation which has been maintained by New Labour
- \* Opposition to Islamophobia and racism on campus
- \* Zero tolerance of all forms of discrimination and bullying

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