



- ★ **Pro-equality** – including an unequivocal support for trans and gender-queer people.
- ★ **Anti-colonial and anti-racist** – education’s structures and curricula must be decolonised.
- ★ **Against the hostile environment and borders** – these degrade working and learning conditions for all of us.
- ★ **Pro-democracy** – we promote non-hierarchical decision-making in UCU, and democratic governance in post-16 education.
- ★ **Pro-transparency** – we are committed to transparent decision-making in our union.
- ★ **For education as a public good** – further and higher education should be free and equally accessible to all. We’re convinced that colleges and universities can be part of the solution to the social, economic and ecological challenges of the 21st century.
- ★ **Pro-solidarity** – our struggles are connected to and intersect with others.
- ★ **Pro-strike action** – the collective withdrawal of our labour is our strongest weapon – however, to be effective, strikes must be wielded alongside other tools as part of a coherent strategy.
- ★ **Pro-organising** – the bigger our union, the more inclusive our union, the more powerful we are!
- ★ **For imagination and critical hope** – both are essential for our struggles to resonate with others and to harness the creativity, anger and joy of all our members, if we are to win!

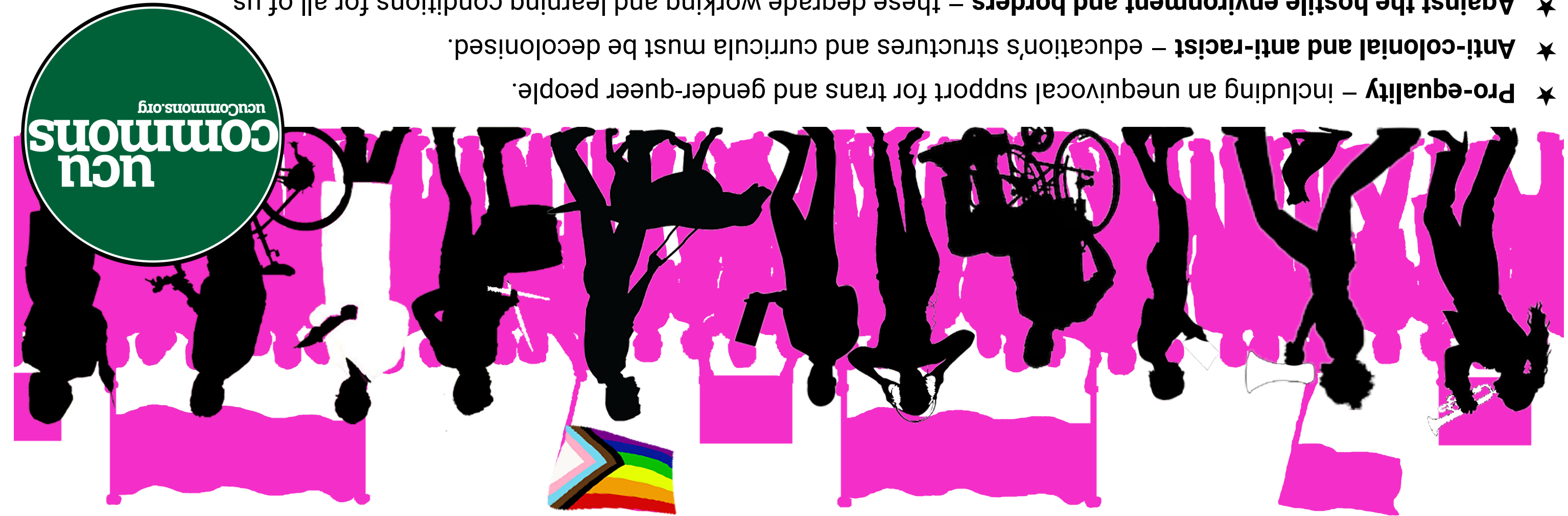
UCU Commons was launched in January 2021 by UCU members – academics, researchers and professional services staff, both precarious and ‘secure’ – working in higher education. Whilst our membership currently remains university based, we would love to welcome new members from further education.

UCU Commons members are all active as organisers and activists within our branches. Many of us have experience of political organising and activism outside of our workplaces, in social movements and political parties. We are committed to opening spaces within UCU for political, strategic and tactical discussions: our main contribution here is our regular blog.

We are also active in UCU’s national structures, such as equalities conferences, annual Congress, various other conferences and our union’s national executive committee (NEC) – where we have consistently argued that UCU take a strong stance on student number controls. Our recommended candidates for the current NEC elections (voting closes March 1) are overleaf.



Emma Battell Lowman, UCU Commons’ candidate for vice-president.

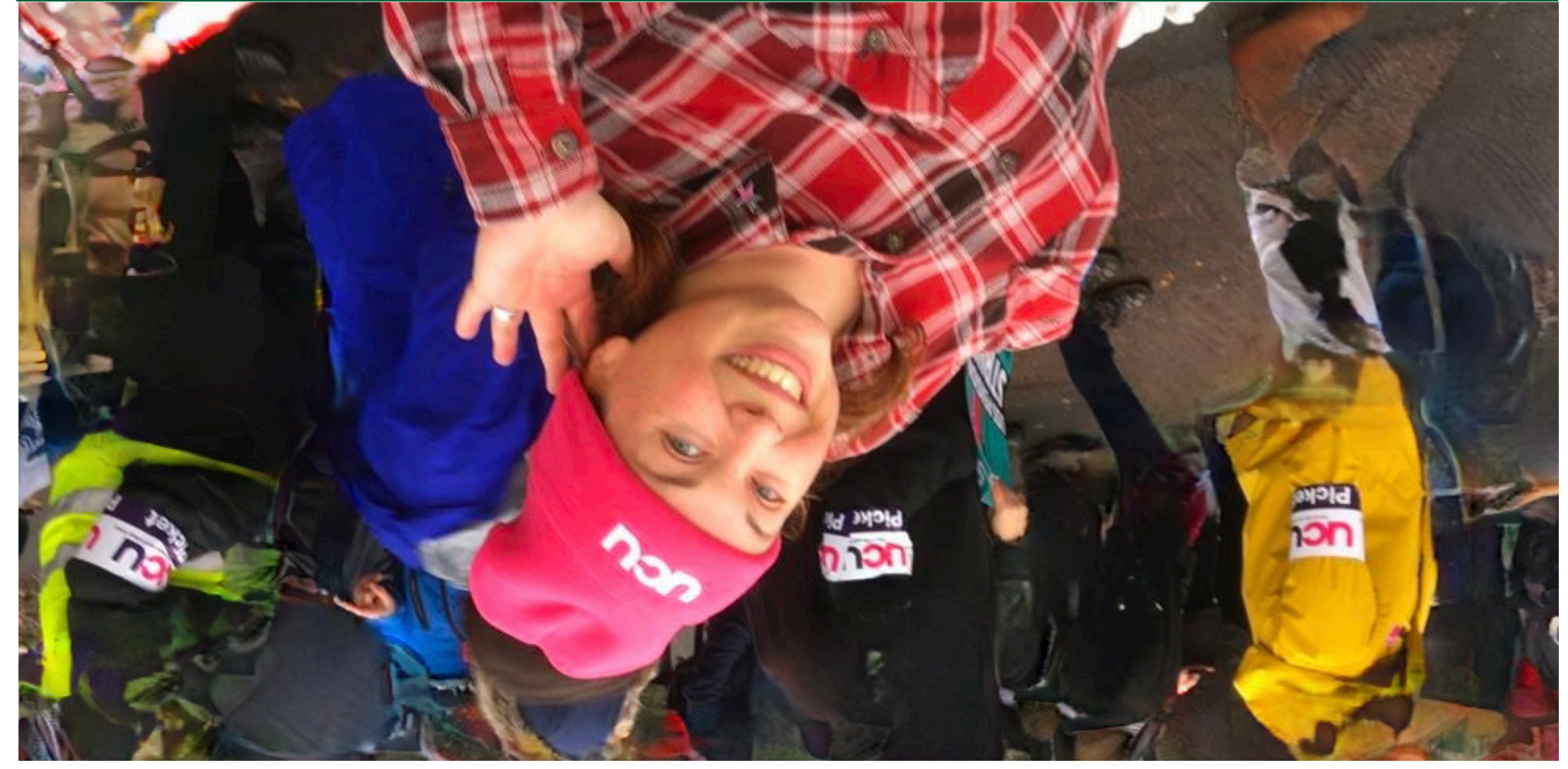


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Officer and NEC elections 2023 – UCU Commons candidates

Vice President
Dr Emma Battell Lowman
(University of Leicester)

President, UCU Scotland
Dr Christopher O'Donnell
(University of the West of Scotland)

Honorary Treasurer
Dr David Harvie
(University of Leeds)

Honorary Secretary, UCU Scotland
Dr Christopher O'Donnell
(University of the West of Scotland)

*Geographically-elected members
of NEC – Midlands – HE*

Dr Emma Battell Lowman
(University of Leicester)

Francis Clarke
(University of Birmingham)

Caroline Proctor
(University of Warwick)

*UK-elected members
of NEC – HE*

Rebecca Harrison
(Open University)

Francis Clarke
(University of Birmingham)
[academic related]

Dr Christopher O'Donnell
(University of the West of Scotland)
[post-92]

*Geographically-elected members
of NEC – South – HE*

Rebecca Harrison
(Open University)

Representatives of disabled members

Bijan Parsia
(University of Manchester)

Representatives of LGBT+ members

Mark Pendleton
(University of Sheffield)

Representatives of migrant members

Vivek Thuppil
(Bangor University)

Representatives of casually-employed members

Matilda Fitzmaurice
(Newcastle University)

Additionally, we recommend voting for the following two candidates, who are not members of UCU Commons:

*Geographically-elected members
of NEC – North West – HE*

Lucy Burke
(Manchester Metropolitan University)

Representatives of Black members

Dr Jak Peake
(University of Essex)

For more information about our candidates, visit ucuCommons.org

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(University of Essex)

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Representatives of casually-employed members
(Newcastle University)

Matilda Fitzmaurice
(Newcastle University)

Representatives of migrant members
(Bangor University)

Vivek Thuppil
(Bangor University)

*Geographically-elected members
of NEC – South – HE*

Rebecca Harrison
(Open University)

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Mark Pendleton
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[academic related]

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(University of Birmingham)
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Dr Christopher O'Donnell
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