

# Vote Joe Oliver #1 for block

(or I'll accept 2, 3 at a push)

Apart from vaulting ambition and being interested in power for the sake of it, I'm standing because I hope I can help officers and activists through tough times ahead. If elected I'll do my best to support students, visit Unions (if invited!) and cheer people up with cheap jokes.

## Policies Include:

**Widening Participation** – Last year saw the greatest setback to widening access to Universities since the TV remake of *Brideshead Revisited*. NUS should help Unions put Widening Participation at the centre of what they do, both forcing institutions to put their money where their mouth is, and making student volunteering central to outreach work.

**I'm dreaming of a White Paper** – When it finally appears we need to ensure it recognises the role of Students' Unions, extending what we can legally do. Ultra vires should be consigned to the Latin textbooks.

**International Students** – For many Students' Unions internationalisation is a foreign concept (not in a good way). Campaigning against daft visa changes showed me how vital it is we get more full time International Officers in HE Unions.

**Vote losing point** – Whilst waiting for the revolution, NUS unfortunately needs improved links with the Government to win the best deal for our members in a shoddy system. (Don't worry we can still bitch about them behind their backs).

**OMOV** – It sounds like a Russian play, but it's worth investigating if NUS Officers could be elected by One Member One Vote. If it's genuinely not possible we need to communicate the reasons better.

**Unblocking Block** – I don't think block works particularly (or at all) effectively at the moment. While there should be a place for political diversity, I think we need to radically review its *raison d'être* to be the best use of peoples' time, talent and T-shirts.

**Positive PR (Don't worry it's not about AV)** – I've an almost Mandelsonic obsession with the media. NUS could utilise it better to connect with our members, and communicate the value of Education to society.

I will also campaign for a proper replacement for EMA, to save AimHigher, and for the abolition of tuition fees.

(Sorry for cross-posting)



(At #demo2010)

In LOLadarity

NE(C) questions? Do get in touch: 07919 853586  
Follow me on twitter: @joe\_oliver  
Email me abuse: joe.oliver@sheffield.ac.uk

SHEFFIELD SAYS: "CUTS ARE NUTS" LOLILO

## Bitter Experience:

-Helped get over 800 Sheffield students to the National Demo, and locally did everything we could to defeat higher fees. You all called Nick Clegg a liar, but I did to his face (or both his faces)

-Having been an officer in an FE Union where tea-bags and milk took about 10% out of the budget, and in a HE Union which employs over 1000 staff, I understand the different challenges they can face

-Argued for faster feedback, better personal tutoring, and the best quality student experience through many a Sub-Committee of a University Sub-Committee

-I know the privilege, but the sometimes ridiculous stress of being an Officer and will do all I can to help



as seen on TV complaining



## Exciting Endorsements:

'I first knew Joe when we were FE students together in the Southwest. So he really needs to move on! But he would be a great block member and knows more about FE than anyone. Well apart from me. And all the other candidates actually from FE. But you get the idea...'

-Shane Chownen, NUS Vice President Further Education

'Working with Joe was better than I could possibly imagine! (Mind you I did have very low expectations)'

-Rachel Steyne, Womens' Officer, Sheffield Students' Union

'People reading this manifesto make some noise! You should all vote for Joe. Education just got less serious'

-Usman Ali, NUS Vice President Higher Education

'I trust Joe completely, as I would a sturdy condom, or a Student Union-endorsed taxi company'

-Ben Whittaker, NUS Vice-President Welfare

'As long as none of my fans see it, and it doesn't damage my credibility, I'm happy to support Joe'

-Radio 1 DJ and Dubstep pioneer Mary Anne Hobbs

'Joe is marvellous'

-Popular tweeter Stephen Fry [this quote may be extremely out of context]

'Joe is an inspiration and I would follow him anywhere (on twitter)'

-Ed Marsh, NUS Vice President Union Development

'Sssh!'

-Biddy Fisher, President, Chartered Institute of Library Professionals

## The Kiss of Death Endorsement:

'I will not spinelessly dither about supporting Joe. He is a highly credible candidate'

-Aaron Porter, NUS President [at time of going to press]



'You haven't always conducted debates with the decorum I might expect.'  
-The Right Honourable Nick Clegg, Deputy Prime Minister