

Vote Mary Prescott No. 1 for NEC

Mary has a track record of being an outstanding advocate for FE in the regions which the NEC desperately needs. That's why I'm backing Mary for the block.
- Shane Chowen
VPFE



National Demo 2010

Mary is an excellent student representative and has been hard-working, enthusiastic and reliable. She is knowledgeable about the issues and has experience in navigating the opportunities and challenges in Welsh FE. Mary would be an excellent representative on the block!

- Michaela Neild
Deputy President of NUS Wales

NUS Made Accessible

I will work to ensure that NUS is made more accessible to FE students. FE makes up roughly 80% of NUS membership, but events are often inaccessible due to complex procedures and a lack of support. On top of this, it is often a bit more difficult for FE students to attend due to safeguarding issues and financial hardship. In order for FE delegates to be able to properly represent students, NUS events need to be broken down, with more targeted support available.

Regions Exist Too!

If elected I will be a strong voice on the NEC that demands more support for regions and will provide insight into how FE works in Wales.

There is a distinct lack of knowledge about how the systems in regions differ and the issues those students face. We cannot allow this to continue.

HE and FE in Unity

If elected I will work to develop stronger links between FE and HE. With just a small amount of support from nearby HE unions, FE unions can be strengthened - from looking at their structures and procedures, to getting HFTs to NUS events; FE unions can learn a bit from them and develop as strong campaigning organisations.

Education Cuts

If elected I will continue the fight against the brutal cuts threatening to deprive people of their right to education. The cuts being made to vital support systems are outrageous and the alternatives offered are pathetic. DLSF will NEVER be enough to replace EMA. EMA has been saved in Wales and Scotland - there is no reason it can't be saved in England.

An Experienced FE Voice

I attended the EMA lobby and spoke to 9 MPs (including the Under Secretary of State for Wales) about how vital EMA is for students and why it should not be scrapped.

I persuaded students to attend the National Demo and was horrified to hear it being called "the tuition fees march". This is insulting to FE students who were there fighting against cuts to education; it's yet another example of FE being overshadowed by HE and this is not a fair representation of NUS membership.

I have visited other FE unions to offer them my support and spoken to students at Coleg Harlech about affiliating to NUS.

I have been to nearby HEIs to learn from their unions in order to strengthen my union and pass information to other FE unions.

I have strengthened Coleg Gwent SU's democratic structures and am currently campaigning for a trustee board and increased funding so we can become more autonomous. We have held our first AGM and now students are included heavily in our structures. I have broken down barriers preventing us from having liberations officers and now we have posts filled (e.g. BME Students' Officer) that are vital to ensuring equality.

I have also ensured that student consultation is mandatory at my FEI with student representation on a number of boards and groups that impact students (e.g. Equality and Diversity). I have created new groups for students so they can tell senior staff at my FEI directly what they think of certain provision and have ensured that their voices are heard and acted on.

Positions Held

Date:

Post:

2010 - 2011	Sabbatical President of Coleg Gwent SU (First Full Time FE Sabbatical Officer in Wales)
2010 - 2011	NUS Wales NEC
2009 - 2011	NUS Wales Women's Committee
2009 - 2010	President (Crosskeys Campus)
2009 - 2010	Overall Chair of Coleg Gwent SU
2008 - 2009	Entertainments Officer

Yngor UCMC
S Wales Council



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