

RE ELECT ED MARSH

VICE PRESIDENT UNION DEVELOPMENT



Over the past year I have seen the potential of our national movement. I am proud that NUS has supported student unions to unlock the potential of students up and down the UK. This is why I am seeking re-election during a time of unprecedented challenges and opportunities. Now more than ever, our national movement needs clear leadership, clear vision and clear policies from NUS; building on our record of participation, engagement and activism. This year hasn't been the easiest to be a national officer, but I am emboldened and inspired by the spirit I've seen in student's first-hand. My passion for our national movement is stronger than it has ever been, and that's why I'm seeking re-election.

CREATING A GENERATION READY TO LEAD CHANGE

NUS must not be afraid to work with groups outside of the established structures. Unions and students say they want an NUS that they have greater access to, which is more rooted in what happens at your college or university.

Not every activist or cause fits neatly into a Constitution – and I don't want them to either. We shouldn't force people to battle bureaucracy just to get stuff done. We need space in our movement to truly allow activism to occur. Developing activists isn't a luxury, it is a central part of being a member of NUS. Its not an add-on, it is at the core of what we do.

PLEDGES

- **30 activist days, 30 cities, 10 weeks. Term One**
- **A national toolbox of campaign weapons, from e-petitions to physical resources, students look to NUS for practical support and we are going to offer it**
- **Connecting volunteers to support each other to become a national activist network**
- **Ring-fenced money for activism, for activist development, for activism in action and for supporting activism up and down the UK**

PROUD OF OUR STUDENTS' UNIONS

For NUS to support students' unions to deliver in the future, SUs need the tools to flourish, and to empower students locally. With challenging times ahead, students are going to demand more from the University, College & us.

We need to ensure students' unions are part of the fabric of learning, that their role in delivering the student experience is recognised and that they are always improving to deliver more. NUS must both champion and challenge students' unions.

- **Student Unions must be at the core of education, so we will fight to make sure they have clearly defined rights, not just to existence but to function**
- **Prospective students have a right to know how well their union is funded and supported before they even apply for their course**
- **Provide swift, specialist support for SUs who are struggling**



"I went to a General Meeting expecting to be put off - but then Ed spoke passionately, he said we need to take to the streets, he stirred the sense of injustice in me. What he was saying was my politics" Conor Pope, student, Goldsmiths

NUS

ACCESS ALL AREAS

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Students get involved for a variety of reasons, and with a variety of expectations. SUs need to capitalise on this to increase participation rates. NUS needs to champion the good work that SUs do in delivering a holistic student experience to ensure learners are well rounded

NUS must work to involve more student officers, student activities volunteers and engaged students in its structures. In student activities we must support both performance and widening participation.

PLEDGES

- **Student Activities conference in the Autumn, with a relevant agenda focused on involving all those who deliver locally**
- **A National Volunteer Accreditation Scheme in September 2011**
- **Increasing collaboration between student societies by providing a network of club and society execs so they can share best practice to improve**

"I was unjustly sacked following the National Demo, but Ed fought my case and I was reinstated" Dan Wrigley, President, Castle College Nottingham

MY RECORD

Prepared SUs to fight for their lives as this government questions our legitimacy

Took a lead in supporting SUs to put 50,000 at the NUS National Demo

Championed NUS on campuses, bringing Durham back into affiliation and fighting hard for every member

If you have any feedback on this manifesto or my campaign more generally, or would like this manifesto in an alternative format, get in touch 07800 601 376 ed.marsh@nus.org.uk Read more at bit.ly/ed4vpud

I mean it when I said that the strongest campaigns are those which are agile and flexible because they are based around a common agenda rather than one candidate. What I say here is not just what I will be doing over the next year, its what I want NUS to do for the next generation.

WORK BASED LEARNERS

Work-based learners face a democratic and representative deficit within the National Union. We need to give apprentices and work based learners a space to control their own representation & destiny.

The people facing the biggest challenges, hit hardest by cuts, with no local representation have been let down by NUS

We owe it to these people to be better.

PLEDES

- **Create a National Society for Apprentices, with buy-in from trade unions, employers, government, providers and accrediting institutions**
- **A new funding model for NUS which doesn't rely on further education affiliation fees. No FE union will pay more than £250 to affiliate whilst I'm Vice President**
- **National Work Based Learners Conference, with sister trade unions, and a fluid National Union**

MY POLITICS

I believe in equality & social justice, and the need for the state to fund public services to create a strong society. Education should act as a driving force for social mobility.

I am honest & transparent about who I am and what I believe. I am a member of the Labour Party, but in this election I stand as an independent - and I will always put students, SUs and the NUS first.

VOTE ED #1 in Newcastle