

Mark Swards

#1 Block of 15



When we stand together, we can achieve so much. I'm standing for block to help NUS lead a movement that delivers for every student.

"Mark has been a fantastic officer this year and would be brilliant on the NEC. His plans to prioritise Access, postgrads and union support are just what is needed. He has got my first preference!" Sean Ruston, Education Officer, Warwick and Chair, Aldwych Group

Postgraduate study is still out of reach for many students completing their undergraduate study. As more professions demand postgraduate qualifications, it's simply isn't fair that some students are denied access on their ability to pay, despite their academic potential.

Post grad funding

Campaign to ensure access agreements take into account access to postgraduate study. It shouldn't stop at the undergraduate level!

If I'm elected I will...

As the expectations of students rise in line with fees, Student Unions should be given more support by their institutions and work in partnership to meet those expectations.

Work to liaise between Students' Unions and NUS to support the creation of student charters that will enable institutions to best meet students' expectations.

Assist the PGI committee to make the case for contextual admissions and a national bursary scheme for postgrads.

Union support

If I'm elected I will...

Our biggest challenge has to be about fighting for those set to be priced out of an education. It's absolutely right that NUS should be at the forefront of work to widen participation in education, ensuring the most 'selective' institutions don't get away with pricing students out.

Develop and share best practice of how to identify where your institution falls short on meeting student expectations and how to work with them to plug the gaps.

Access

If I'm elected I will...

Link up institutions looking to improve their access work with those that have a good track record.

Make sure that officers have the tools and knowledge to scrutinise their University's access agreements.

Ensure that Unions everywhere have the resources to work with their Uni to deliver summer schools and sessions that encourage those from non-traditional backgrounds to attend HE.

My experience:

- Communications & Internal Affairs Officer at Leeds University Union
- Vice Chair of the Aldwych group

My achievements:

- Convinced the University to publicly declare no-confidence in govt
- Secured and delivered £200K extra funds from the university to improve student life and WP
- Oversaw the largest student election ever with 9616 votes.
- Put widening participation at the top of Leeds University Unions' agenda
- Biggest ever jobs fair to LUU

Make your mark...

Vote Mark Swards #1.