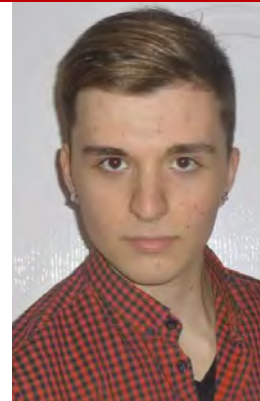


## **Communist Students For The Block Of 15!**

**Robert Eagleton, a member of Communist Students and Hands off the People of Iran, is standing for the NUS Block of 15. This is his election manifesto.**



The remodelling of higher education institutions in the UK, in order to meet the direct interests of the capitalist class, has been underway for some time and has ultimately culminated in: the introduction of extortionate tuition fees, the commodification of education, and the transformation of the student into a customer. Capital driven remodelling has been accompanied, and enforced, with attacks on the right to protest on campus. The aim of the government and educational managers is to 'de-politicise' the campus, ensuring a higher education which is safe for business.

Unfortunately, over the past few years, the NUS leadership has stooped to new lows of political cowardice with the union abdicating its responsibility to mobilise students in resisting the on-going HE reforms. Unlike the NUS bureaucracy we do not believe the challenges facing students will be remedied by the magic elixir which is the NUS Extra Card and unlike the more "radical" elements in the student movement we do not pedal the myth that simply building one protest after another we will realise our demands. Mass revolutionary political consciousness amongst students is crucial.

The student movement must be oriented towards the working class, the only class capable of overthrowing capitalism and liberating humanity, and must be committed to the emancipation of mankind from the domination of capital. Only a student movement armed with revolutionary working class politics can properly combat the remodelling of higher education in the interests of capital. The fight for a free and democratic education is necessarily bound up with the struggle for a different social order. Education, like all spheres of life, does not have to be subject to the dictates of profit and can be democratised to the benefit of human freedom.

Communists demand:

### **Free education**

- Abolish tuition fees.
- A living grant based on what students actually need to live full and rounded. life; not what capital says it can afford.
- Support and pay for students who are parents.