

# James MCASH

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FOR NUS NEC  
(BLOCK OF 15)



“ Having McAsh on NEC would be great for NUS Scotland. He shares our politics and vision for education.”

**Gordon Maloney**  
NUS Scotland President

## This year on NEC

### I have:

- Stood up for the voices of local students against factionalising from the leadership – for example, insisting that NUS fight to stop the closure of ULU, and make NUS London genuinely democratic.
- Pushed NUS to support students in Birmingham, Sheffield, Sussex and London, who faced repression for expressing their right to protest.
- Supported left wing policy on issues like the HE strikes, open-borders, anti-racism and opposition to cuts.

“ McAsh always works to defend democracy and accountability. He's been brilliant on NEC this year. I don't always agree with him but disagreement is what we need on NEC.”

**Dom Anderson**  
NUS Vice-President Society and Citizenship

**This manifesto is available in other formats, just get in touch**

**Proudly standing as a NCAFC candidate, I am a socialist and a member of the Labour Party.**

## Why am I running?

The Block of 15 used to be the eyes and ears of NUS – on different campuses, supporting campaigns, and linking students to the national union. Now it is nothing more than a feeble scrutiny body.

This change to the role of Block signifies something bigger. NUS is on a tragic path towards irrelevance. Under the plastic banners of professionalism and modernisation, NUS risks losing its greatest strength: its status as the legitimate voice of students.

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- National Conference has become smaller, shorter and less politically diverse.
- NEC has been stripped of its executive function, meaning that important decisions are taken behind closed doors, accountable to no-one.
- Officers openly admit that they will happily ignore their policy mandates; making National Conference little more than a circus.

We need an NUS with students in the driving seat, where all decisions are taken democratically and officers are held properly accountable. Instead, NUS is retreating into the Westminster policy village, transforming itself from a union **of** students into an advocacy group **for** students.

“ McAsh has been a much-needed supporter of London unions on NEC this year.”

**Shelly Asquith**  
NUS London Chair