

A union for the 99%

VOTE JAMIE WOODCOCK

#1 for Vice-President Society and Citizenship

- We are the 99% – build a mass movement against austerity
- Victory to the Arab revolutions – No to imperialist intervention
- Don't let Cameron divide us – stand united against bigotry and fascism
- Free all political prisoners – Defend the Right to Protest

We are the 99%

From Occupy Wall Street to the 15 million-strong “Indignados” movement in Spain, students and young people have been at the forefront of fighting against austerity and an economic system run in the interest of a tiny elite.

I am proud to have set up general assemblies at Goldsmiths which together brought students and staff to help organise the mass strike on 30 November. I was central to organising departmental committees which mobilised 300 students and striking staff on the day.

If elected I will bring the spirit of these mass movements, that have challenged the austerity politics of the 1%, into our national union. More than ever we need a candidate who has the political experience, self-assurance and determination to bring the lessons of these movements into our union and the student's movement as a whole.

Our union is at its best when it fights against injustice, exploitation and oppression on campus, in the local communities and a global level. I will seek to build mass movement



against austerity by involving students in campaigns to defend the NHS, pensions, against the dehumanising workfare programmes as well as cuts and privatisation to housing. We need a union for the 99%.

Free all political prisoners – Defend the Right to Protest

Although the Tories' weakness has been exposed by opposition to the NHS and Higher Education Bills, we are also witnessing the worrying trend of students and activists being persecuted by the state for protesting to defend their education and the welfare state.

At Birmingham University, management have issued a twelve months long injunction on occupational-style protests. At SOAS, police beat up and arrested students when Universities Minister David Willetts came to campus.

By threatening the use of rubber bullets and water cannons ahead of the November 9 education demonstration the state and the police tried to break the unity of the student movement.

Had NUS given its full support to the demonstration, the police would have thought twice about issuing such threats.

**Build a mass movement against austerity
Vote for a union for the 99%**

- Jamil Keating #1 for Vice-President Further Education
- Jamie Woodcock #1 for Vice-President Society & Citizenship

Our union should defend our right to protest by calling national demonstrations which show the power and strength of our movement.

Ever since being a student at Manchester I have taken a lead in organising delegations and coaches to marches. At the high point of the student mobilisations I stewarded twelve coaches and raised up to £2000 alongside others when the union did not provide sufficient funds.

It is shocking that to see fellow students behind bars. Our slogan must be: an injury to one is an injury to all. If elected I will take the initiative to free all the political prisoners from our movement.

No to racism, fascism and islamophobia

Over the last academic year racists have tried to publish Islamophobic cartoons in our student papers across the country. At an LSE-organised skiing trip a Jewish student had his nose broken when he raised his concerns about a Nazi-drinking game that was being played. In Birkbeck College, we even saw the fascist Anti-Democratic League try to organise meetings.

Racism and fascism are a real threat in times of economic crisis. Students have always been at the forefront of fighting against racism and discrimination on campus and the wider community.

Throughout my time at Manchester University I organised delegations of students to and from Manchester University and the local FE colleges against the English Defence League (EDL). As a resident of Tower Hamlets I helped to organise the demonstration against the EDL which saw these vile racists marginalised.

Wherever the EDL try to march, our Union must be at the forefront of defending our Muslim brothers and sisters. I will make sure our anti-racist and anti-fascist work is at the centre of our campaigning activity.

Victory to the Arab revolutions – Solidarity forever

Students from Cairo to Chile have managed to kick out their Principals and, in some cases, run their colleges alongside staff and lecturers. Our union needs to be the organisation which puts itself at the centre of publicising and building concrete solidarity with these struggles.

Most importantly, this means continuing the fight for Palestinian liberation. Ever since I walked out of school to join the demonstration against the Iraq war in 2003, I have been an anti-war and pro-Palestine campaigner.

As a member of Action Palestine (2007-2011) I was a leading activist in the Manchester occupation in defence of Gaza, which lasted 31 days.

This occupation had an important message: if we fight, we can win! We won scholarships and the university's ethical investment policy was amended to implement Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) initiatives.

Unlike our union's flip-flopping on the question of Palestine my former union was one of the first SUs to win BDS policy as well as twinning with An Najah University in Palestine.



Jamie and Jamil leading a walkout of students in Manchester last year

Why we're supporting Jamie

Jamie is a tireless anti-fascist who played a massive role in the successful mobilization against the racist English Defence League in his local community in Tower Hamlets.

His principled politics in opposing racists and fascists will make him indispensable to our national Union in the coming year. Vote Jamie #1 for VP Society and Citizenship.

Vicki Baars
LGBT Officer (Womens Place)

Jamie Woodcock is no doubt the most qualified candidate for VP Society and Citizenship.

He is a committed activist with a strong history of campaigning.

From the cuts to Palestine, women's liberation to anti-fascism; Jamie has been at the forefront of the student movement.

He is exactly what the NUS needs at a time of abhorrent tuition fee hikes and a ruthless Tory Government. I am proud to endorse him for this position.

Amena Amer
LSE Education Officer

Jamie has been a dedicated political activist for a number of years. I first met him in 2009 when Manchester students occupied for 31 days in solidarity with Gaza. Since then he has been at the forefront of campaigning against imperialism, war and oppression.

Sean Rillo Raczka
ULU President-elect

I coordinated action alongside Jamie on our respective campuses at the height of the student's movement, which shows his ability to work on a cross campus and national level.

We need a NUS led by those with the experience and the backbone to defy the government and reverse the policies which are destroying education and our society. Jamie has both.

Nathan Bolton,
Essex SU (President-elect)

Jamie is a candidate of the 99% for the 99%. His political dedication and insight are unparalleled in the student movement.

With massive challenges ahead we need a candidate who is at the pulse of the different movements. If you want a NUS that stands up to injustice, oppression and exploitation make sure to vote Jamie #1.

Mark Bergfeld
NUS NEC