



AL HUSSEIN ABUTALEB

#1 for NUS Vice-President Welfare

Now more than ever we need an NUS leadership that fights to defend students against the greatest assault on our living standards in generations. Colossal student debt, savage cuts to public services and the withdrawal of vital student support such as the Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) are hitting the welfare of millions of students hard.

Alongside the massive cuts offensive, we are seeing disgusting attacks on international students and an ugly tide of racist scapegoating as Tory bigotry continues to rise.

As an international and disabled student who has been part of the NUS Black Students' Committee nationally and a leading activist on my campus, I have the experience to take forward the fight against the Tory-led coalition.

I will be an NUS Vice President Welfare that will lead an uncompromising fight to defend students – uniting and fighting to save the NHS, education and welfare services and to take on cuts, fees, racism, inequality and war.

Experience

- Sheffield University SU Black Students' Councillor 2011-13
- NUS Black Students' Committee (International Students' Representative) 2010-12
- Chair, Black Students' Committee Sheffield 2011-12
- Co-founder of the 'Fund Education Not War' campaign at Sheffield University
- Awarded NUS Black Students' Campaign 'Officer of the Year' 2009
- Chair, Sheffield Students' Unite Against Fascism society 2011-12
- One Sheffield Many Cultures Steering Committee 2011-12

Taking on the Tories - Defending students and fighting cuts to our welfare

The Tories' enormous assault on the welfare of millions of students needs to be fought head on. The NUS national #Demo2012 was a welcome, if long overdue contribution to the student fight-back. But this cannot be the end. We need to build a massive movement to fight the government's assault.

Elect me and I will:

- Organise a first term national demonstration against cuts, fees & student debt and to demand EMA is brought back
- Fight all cuts to education - working with trade unions and anti-cuts campaigns to build the movement
- Lead strong campaigns to defend welfare services on campus – from counselling services and healthcare to childcare provision facing the axe
- Mobilise students to save the NHS - no to cuts and privatisation
- Oppose all fees - drop student debt - for free education
- Argue for increased government investment in our education – funded through a reduction in military spending and progressive taxation
- Build a national campaign against privatisation of halls and campus facilities – we need safe, affordable housing
- Support student carers who lose out in the current system
- Continue the fight for a national living wage with no youth exemptions – no to poverty pay



Bring Back EMA!

The government's decision to scrap this support just two years ago was a vicious attack on the aspirations of some of the poorest young people in society – women and Black students have been particularly hit hard. NUS should not give up and accept defeat on this – we need to launch a serious campaign to Bring Back EMA to broaden access to education so the next generation have the chance to fulfil their potential.

Celebrate multiculturalism and diversity

Rise against racism and fascism

In order to minimise rising anger to the Tories' economic policies of slash and burn, politicians are seeking to divide and rule the 99% by scapegoating and blaming Black people, Muslims, immigrants and asylum seekers for the economic crisis caused by the bankers and the government's savage 'austerity' policies.

Alarming, this year we've seen fascists trying to gain a foothold on our campuses – from white supremacist posters to official Student Union newspaper printing interviewers with convicted Holocaust denier & leader of the fascist British National Party Nick Griffin.

The successful campaign led by the NUS Black Students' Officer with the support of anti-fascist organisations Unite Against Fascism and Searchlight to stop a fascist from speaking at Cambridge University within 24 hours shows the powerful potential of our movement to root out reaction and maintain safe spaces on our campuses.

As Vice-President Welfare I will:

- Support the NUS Anti-Racism and Anti-Fascism campaign – make challenging bigotry a priority
- Defend no platform for fascists in NUS and on our campuses
- Fight the discriminatory 'Prevent'

- agenda that targets Muslim students
- Work with Unite Against Fascism, Love Music Hate Racism and One Society Many Cultures to challenge racism and the far right
- Mobilise students to protest the fascist English Defence League in our communities
- Build the largest ever NUS Anti-Racism Anti-Fascism Conference
- Challenge all forms of racism, Islamophobia and anti-Semitism
- Say no to racist scapegoating – blame the bankers not the burka
- Campaign for an end to racist stop and search



Equality for all

As the economic crisis intensifies bigotry is flourishing and our campuses are not immune. As Vice-President Welfare I will prioritise high profile campaigns against sexism, racism, homophobia, disablism and all discrimination.

I stand for:

- A woman's right to choose on abortion and wearing religious dress
- Supporting the fight back against cuts to rape crisis centres
- Defending the NUS Liberation Campaigns' autonomy, representation and resources
- For inclusive campuses – from providing Halal and Kosher food, to ensuring there is sufficient prayer room facilities
- Working with LGBT rights organisations to combat the rising incidents of homophobic hate crime
- Reversal of the attacks on welfare benefits hitting disabled people and women hardest
- NUS to commit resources and support to unions running Black History Month, LGBT History Month, Disabled Students History Month and International Women's Day events and campaigns

Al Hussein is a fantastic Liberation campaigner with a strong record on his campus and nationally. He will lead an active and dynamic NUS that takes the fight to the Tories and their austerity agenda. Al Hussein is the only choice for VP Welfare.

Aaron Kiely, NUS Black Students' Officer

Standing up for international students

As an international student I have first hand experience of the discrimination suffered by the international student community. We are facing harsh visa restrictions, arbitrary cuts to the number of international students allowed to study in Britain and serious threats of deportation. The attacks on London Met's international students last term were disgraceful and fuelled by an ideologically racist agenda.

I'm standing for NUS Vice President Welfare to ensure that defending international students is a top priority for our national union. I will work with the International Students' Officer to drive forward campaigns to stop the discrimination international students are facing.

Welfare not warfare

The government should change its spending priorities and fund education, housing, healthcare instead of wasting billions of pounds on immoral wars and nuclear weapons. I played a leading role in establishing a Fund Education Not War campaign on my campus which has united students to demand that our university end its links with murderous arms companies.

I have a serious record of building the movement in solidarity with Palestine and I stand for an NUS that demands justice for Palestinians – an end to the illegal occupation and the siege on Gaza.

I am proud to support:

Vicki Baars for President | **Matt Stanley** for VP Further Education | **Shereen Prasad** for VP Soc & Cit | **Tomáš Evans** for VP Higher Education

If you would like this in an alternative format please contact me at: alhussein4welfare@gmail.com