

A brief guide to the UCU Elections, 2024

Our union holds elections every year, and 2024 is no different, but this year's elections are particularly important because you will be voting for the General Secretary, the Vice President and a trustee, as well as for members of the National Executive Committee. These are important positions in the union, so here is a brief explanation of the roles that are up for grabs:

- General Secretary (GS) - the General Secretary's role is to lead the union and manage its resources and staff. This is a very important role, the only elected role that comes with a salary, and lasts for 5 years before going up for re-election. The current GS is Dr Jo Grady.
- Vice-President (VP) – this is an unpaid role that lasts for 4 years. The Vice President will go on to become president of the union. During their time, they will chair the National Executive Committee.
- National Executive Committee (NEC) - this committee takes high-level decisions about the union's campaigns, industrial action and other strategic matters. Some NEC positions are elected by all members, some only by FE or HE members. Your election pack will only contain the ballot papers for the positions you can vote on.
- Trustee - UCU has five trustees. These trustees look after the union's property and money.

Important dates and info

- The elections begin on January 25th and end on March 1st
- All members eligible to vote will receive an election pack through the post.
- The pack will contain your ballot papers, election statements from the candidates and envelopes to post your ballot back.

There will be several candidates standing for each position, and you can vote for more than one. You will do this by ranking the candidates you prefer in order. This is called the single transferable vote system. It will be explained in more detail in your election pack.

It is vitally important that you vote in this election. We need the voices of FE members heard.

Written by David Hunter, chair of City College Norwich UCU and candidate for Vice-President. For more information about me visit my website davidforucuvp.wordpress.com