

Oxford UCU Branch Rule Change

Passed at the AGM on 9th July 2024

Amend Oxford UCU Local Rules to increase the number of elected committee posts

This is a proposed change to paragraph 8.1 of the Branch/LA Local Rules. The proposal is to increase the number of elected committee posts by (i) making current ordinary members with an associated role into officers, and (ii) introducing a new officer role of Campaigns Officer.

Once amended, paragraph 8.1 would therefore read:

Members will be elected to the following officer roles within the LA: The President, The VicePresident, The Treasurer, The Honorary Secretary, The Casework Coordinator, The Oxford & District TUC Rep, The Membership and Recruitment Officer, The Equality Officer, The Health and Safety Officer, The Anti-Casualisation Officer, The Communications Officer, The Academic-Related Professional Staff Officer, The Environment Officer, The Pensions Officer, The SGBVH (sexual and gender-based violence and harassment) Officer, The Campaigns Officer. These positions will be declared elected annually at the annual general meeting from members of the LA in accordance with rule 9.

Rationale:

The Oxford UCU's maximum number of elected committee members currently includes: 8 officers, 8 ordinary members, and 3 co-opted members. This corresponds to a total of 19 elected positions. Some of the ordinary members focus on a specific area of branch activity. This number of committee posts was set several years ago, when the branch had a smaller size. For comparison, some of the other branches of similar size have the following number of elected committee posts (broken down as officers+ordinary+co-opted posts): Sheffield UCU = 28 (17+6+5), Liverpool UCU = 27 (14+8+5), Leeds UCU = 28 (10+14+4), Cardiff UCU = 34 (21+7+6), Bristol UCU = 21 (7+12+2), and Birmingham UCU = 44 (18+20+6). By increasing the number of officer roles (up to 16, see above) and maintaining the current number of ordinary members (up to 8, see rule 7.3) and co-opted members (up to 3, see rule 7.3), the total number of elected committee posts would increase from 19 to 27, which is more in line with other branches. Moreover, the proposed Rule Change would also increase the number of officers that focus on a specific area of branch activity, consistently with several other branches. Finally, this Rule Change also proposes to introduce a new post of Campaigns Officer, to facilitate implementation of policies focusing on local campaigns that are supported by the Branch/LA, as well as engagement with national campaigns supported by the Branch/LA and/or by UCU nationally.