David Hollings- NUS Delegate

For students, against austerity, vote King’s Left!

I am a second year philosophy student. Whilst not on council last year, I was active in student politics around building for the November 21st NUS demonstration against fees and education cuts. I am firmly committed to an anti-austerity, anti-privatisation position. All universities are affected by cuts to services and fees mean that many of the poorest students simply cannot afford to study. These changes are being driven through by unelected, unaccountable management and the Coalition government. Last year KCLSU voted to remove the photo of Lord Carey from the window of the Strand Campus following his outrageous and bigoted comments around equal marriage. This was refused by management despite many students feeling highly uncomfortable with their college associating itself with someone holding such bigoted and reactionary views. At Sussex University, unaccountable management crushed an 8 week student occupation of a conference centre in protest against privatisation and outsourcing of services. The occupation was an isolated event and therefore comparatively easy for management to defeat but these same attacks are happening on every campus. We must therefore unite the fightback. Last year the NUS’s answer to cuts and fees was one march through mainly residential areas to a rally in a damp park in South London. This year we must do better. We need a union which is prepared to fight austerity both on campus and on a national level.

Where I stand:

- No to tuition fees.
- No to privatisation of campus services.
- Affordable healthcare for all students. No to NHS levy for international students.
- End to sexism, racism and homophobia. Support, uphold and strengthen the KCLSU Safe Space Policy.
- Support the Palestinian struggle for liberation. KCL should not have any contracts with companies complicit in Israeli occupation of Palestine.
- Support our teaching staff. No to course closures and redundancy. Fair pay for post-graduate teaching staff.
- For a union prepared to fight on all of these issues and others.

Education is a right for all, not a privilege for the rich