**Dave Titley | #DirectorDave**

As Chair of the Trustee Board at The University of West London’s Students’ Union, I lead and oversaw the creation of a new strategy, and at the same time helped shape the new strategy for the University of West London as one of its Governors. Being in this Unique position I was able to ensure that Tackling the BME attainment gap, and improving Student employability was at the very top of both strategies. We fuelled our strategies using a Robust evidence base developed by listening to our students’ needs and wants to influence an innovated future at UWL. By forming a partnership with our board and theirs, we were able to create a shared vison for our Institution and ultimately for our students. This collaborative working with our membership is a value that I will certainly take to the NUS UK Board and I aim to create a shared vision for our National Union, making it not just sustainable, but a thriving organisation that puts the hearts and minds of our Unions at the core of its work.

The NUS UK board is currently facing a financial crisis. With the slow death of NUS Extra and the ever-looming threat of disaffiliations, the security and sustainability of NUS’ finances is far from stable. Whilst the political side of NUS is also divided and disillusioned, the NUS UK Board must ensure that the business is making enough money not only to ensure NUS’ future, but to ensure that we have enough funds to support our Unions that are changing lives on a daily basis.

During my time as chair of UWLSU, I ensured that we recruited trustees that specialise in business development so we had the knowledge and guidance to be able to develop our own and able to sustainably support the political work of the union. That should be the priority of any Board of any Charity and that will be the priority that I will take to NUS UK.

**Supporting our FTO’s**

Although there may be political disagreement amongst the leadership of NUS, there is no doubt that every one of them is determined to make a difference. Imagine the difference they would be able to make if they were properly supported. For too long the dysfunctional structures in NUS has hindered the potential of what our FTO’s can achieve. It is ultimately the responsibility of the trustee board to ensure that the organisation has structures in place in order to succeed. Electing me as Director will do exactly that.