

A member of TEU since 2005, I was motivated to become Victoria branch's academic co-president five years ago after a colleague was treated unfairly by senior leadership and encountering growing challenges to academic freedoms. Fairness and freedoms continue to motivate me.

I am the branch Co-president with Katy Miller but stepping away from the role for the next 12 months (starting 5th August, 2018) while I am on Research & Study Leave at U. California – Berkeley. Nonetheless, while away I will be compiling and editing the branch newsletter. I would also, very much like to continue my work on the IPC. This will mean that I will have to remotely attend the first two meetings of 2019 but am reassured that this is not an impediment to engaging fully with the role.

Before 2005, I worked for seven years in temporary research positions in USA, UK, South Africa and Australia after my PhD at Massey University (1998). I met my wife, Edy MacDonald, while working for the San Diego Zoological Society and, bravely, she agreed that an academic job for me in New Zealand could mean a better life for both of us. Edy has worked at the Wellington Zoo, Te Papa Tongarewa, and is now Manager of the social science team at the Department of Conservation. Together, we have two girls Anneles Jeanette (9) and Zoerita Jacks (5) and live in Karori, Wellington. Our extended families are in Canterbury (NZ) and California.

During the first two years after each child was born Edy and I were both able to negotiate part-time status with our employers and so share in childcare. The policies and legislation that make it possible for people to also 'invest' their time and energy in their families are important to me. Protecting and growing such 'rights of family and community' is a critical role for unions and another of my motivations.

During my time as co-president I have worked in particular to ensure that (1) staff are represented in university decision-making, (2) academic freedoms are exercised and, therefore, protected, and (3) general staff achieve claims to address the growing disparity in incomes.

I have worked with branch organiser, Nicki Wilford, and my co-presidents and executive to keep a calendar of special (e.g., living wage) and routine (VC, HR and executive meetings) events that stimulate membership and maintain a presence and dialogue with the employer. I been a part of the team, with Nanette Cormack, negotiating collective agreements and engaging with membership to protect remuneration and conditions.

I am practiced in informing myself, working collectively in evaluating, debating and developing policy and strategy, and communicating for change. I'd like to contribute more, and could contribute more to TEU beyond my own branch. I'd also like my work in the branch to benefit from a national perspective and the experience of other branches. And so, I'd like to accept this nomination to the IPC and hope my interest is supported.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Wayne L". The signature is fluid and cursive, written on a light-colored background.

Wayne Linklater