



The QTU Fightback team extends its gratitude to our supporters, volunteers, and donors for their contributions to the campaign. **The result for Fightback, winning between 38 - 44% across the three positions, is a huge triumph for Fightback.** Although we did not emerge victorious in this election, QTU Fightback candidates view it as the beginning of a movement advocating for base wage rises above inflation and genuine workload reductions. We are immensely proud of our achievement and the work that our supporters have put in. The connections established with members during this campaign will undoubtedly benefit our union in the future.

Fightback ran a grassroots campaign centred on meeting and speaking with members. We distributed over 15,000 leaflets to over 200 schools and, in a novel approach to union elections, doorknocked over 900 teachers. Through this we were able to speak to hundreds of members about their grievances and to share with them our vision of a fighting union. While the conversations were varied, the common theme among them was that members were drowning in workload, the cost-of-living crisis has been biting hard, and members want the union to fight back.

That thousands of teachers have voted to support Fightback's platform is an absolute vindication of our campaign and demands, and demonstrates that there is appetite for an explicit strategy for militancy in our union.

We would like to take a moment to acknowledge Madonna Johanson, an unsuccessful candidate who ran for the Honorary VP position. While not a QTU Fightback candidate, she conducted an honourable campaign that made her TAFE and school members colleagues proud. The detailed breakdown of the election results below reflects that the Fightback message resonated with a large number of members:

President: Ollie Amerena – 2,592 out of 6,705 – **38.7%**

Vice-President: Tim Arnot – 2,558 out of 6,676 - **38.3%**

Honorary Vice-President: Bec Barrigos – 2,343 first preference votes out of 6,675

After preference flows from Madonna Johanson – 2,746 out of 6,190 – **44.4%**

We urge QTU Fightback supporters to remain informed and engaged in democratic processes at all levels that shape the future of our union. Our next step as QTU Fightback is to ensure that our voices are heard and our supporters are organised to use the democratic structures to influence the direction of our union. Fightback was always more than a presidential campaign. With a cost-of-living crisis and a massive crisis in teaching, we need to rebuild a militant rank-and-file movement that looks to our industrial power to win our demands.

In solidarity,

Ollie Amerena, Tim Arnot and Bec Barrigos