

University of Bath UCU Branch Committee

18th December 2014 12.30 1E3.6

Minutes

In attendance: Michael Carley (chair), Hedley Bashforth, Tim Barrett, Cynthia Spencer, Chris Roche, David Skidmore, Keir Mobbs, Mark Baldwin

Apologies: James Davenport, Katy Jordan, Harry Pitts, Hartmut Logemann

At the start of the meeting MC said that Marie Morley's family have asked for donations in her memory to be made to Medecins Sans Frontieres, Dorothy House and the NSPCC. Agreed to donate £200.

1 Matters arising from AGM

Backfill: agreed that MC and HB meet with HR to discuss arrangements for 2015.

H & S reps: agreed that all branch committee members be notified to HR as health and safety reps.

Department contacts: agreed to seek consent for list of departmental contacts to be publicised.

2 USS dispute

Assessment boycott has been suspended until 16 January to allow further negotiations with employers. Branch committee to meet 16 January (details to follow) to organise resumption of boycott if called on to do so.

FOI request (to Bath University for copy of the university's response to consultation by UUK on proposed changes to USS) has been refused and this confirmed by University Secretary on review. HB to raise concern about refusal with the Information Commissioner.

3 Casework co-ordination meetings

There will be a meeting on 8th January 11-12 am (room to be advised) for those involved in casework. There will be a monthly co-ordination meeting and any members interested in taking on a casework role should contact Cynthia Spencer. We need two or three new caseworkers and will provide training and support for any members who take on this role. You will also be entitled to paid time to do this work.

4 **Living Wage campaign**

Following the lobby of University Council on 27th November, UNISON are bringing forward plans to step up the campaign to make sure that everybody who is employed by the University of Bath is paid at a rate at least at the level of the Living Wage (£7.85 ph).

5 **JUCNC and JACNC**

Members of Unite and UNISON joined the meeting for this discussion

JUCNC meets 7th January 2.15 (pre-meeting 1.15). 2 of MC/HB/CR to attend.

Holiday pay. HR informed the TUs at the November meeting of the JUCNC that the university would pay any arrears of holiday pay due to hourly paid workers who were paid at the incorrect rate prior to October 1st 2014. No further information has been received about how or when this will be done. CR to follow up with HR.

Meeting with HR:: Grievance Policy follow-up with TUs

Friday, January 23, 2015

Time: 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm

Students' Union President, has requested that the Students' Union is also included in any discussions with the Trade Unions on pay supplement. All three TUs agree that it is important to continue dialogue with the SU on questions of pay for students who are also paid staff of the university, SU is not recognised by the University for the purposes of negotiation and bargaining. Students who are employed by the university should be encouraged to join the appropriate TU, and SU officers will be asked to run a joint recruitment campaign with TUs to encourage students to do that. KS and TB to meet with SU officers.

JACNC next meeting with HR to discuss contracts for hourly paid staff will be 6th January 12.30 (pre-meeting 11.30). Catriona Scott will attend from Regional Office and MC/CR HB to attend the meeting.

6 **Items from head office**

Annual meeting for staff on casualised contracts to be held in London on 13 February 2015. Members who want to attend should contact CR, HP or KM. Travel expenses will be covered.

From the Cradle to the Grave: Defend Public Education

National conference in defence of public education London 7th February

Members who want to attend should contact HB.

7 **UCU SW Region**

There is a vacancy for a branch delegate to the South West Region of UCU which meets ¾ times a year in Exeter (normally Saturday). Contact HB or MC for details.

SWIRE

South West Industrial Relations Exchange provides a forum for UCU branches to update on specific topics and exchange information. The next meeting on Friday 9th January 11- 3.30 at the Exeter UCU office will include a briefing on negotiating reasonable adjustments for members with chronic illness. There will also be updates on the USS pension dispute.

