

Notes of meeting

1 International/Brexit

Alex reported on meeting with one of the organisers of One Day Without Us (taking place on 20 February 2017). Branch agreed to keep a sympathetic eye on this campaign.

SW Region of UCU have put out a statement

<http://southwestregion.web.ucu.org.uk/2016/11/04/ucu-south-west-regional-committee-motion/>

Bryn Jones wants to inform branch about Bath4Europe. Agreed to suggest he attends meeting on 9 November.

Refugee scholarships: University continues to reject proposals. Agreed to work jointly with Amnesty to seek crowdfunding for a scholarship at the University.

2 Consultative ballot on national negotiations (closes 11 November)

Reminder to be sent to members that branch committee recommends a YES vote to both questions on this ballot.

3 Items from the JACNC

a. Casual contracts

Agreed to write to Richard Brooks asking for further details of changes the University is proposing and re-stating our formal reference for formal negotiations with the University to reach a collective agreement on the employment of staff on casual/hourly paid contracts. The University are continuing to stonewall on this.

b. Grade 6/7 progression

University is saying that any Grade 6 staff who think they should be Grade 7 should apply for regrading. Our agreement with the University says that staff appointed to Grade 6 have a normal expectation of progression to Grade 7. The University is also stalling on this. Agreed to restate our position and to discuss with Grade 6 members.

4 November 19th demonstration Unite for Education

Tickets are £5 and you can buy them via the Bath SU website at www.tinyurl.com/bathnov19

Bath SU have booked 2 coaches and UCU will share the costs. Agreed to sell tickets to our members and to run a stall on the Parade on at least two days next week and the week after.

5 Branch meeting 9 November

Chris confirmed that Mark Campbell (London Met UCU) will speak.

6 TU facilities Manvers St.

Anna has gone through the existing facilities agreement with the University to suggest changes to take account of the increasing number of places of work (especially Manvers St.) which need some kind of TU facilities for publicity and for member support. Agreed to forward to other TUs and to take to JUCNC.

7 Membership/recruitment

- a. New starters induction 8th November (Kim and Michael to cover)
- b. Recruitment week 21-25 November (Kim says Dave O' Toole coming from Regional office to do a stall in the Claverton Rooms on 25th November lunchtime). **Committee members please try to call by for 10 minutes or so**
- c. Stamp out casualization day of action 24 November. Agreed to use this as an opportunity to do some further work contacting people on casual teaching/research contracts.
Post-meeting note: there will be a working meeting to do things from 2-4 on 24th November in TU office.

8 Demonstration against NHS privatisation in Bath, Guildhall 5 pm 10 November

9 Meeting for branch pensions officers 17 November, London (JD can go)

10 **Rep training**, Exeter 22-24 November. No takers yet but it is not too late

11 UCU Equalities Conference 1-3 December Ditto

<https://www.ucu.org.uk/article/8428/Annual-equality-groups-conference-2016>

12 Branch AGM Wednesday 14th December 1.15 pm 8W2.30

Any reports from officers/committee members to be sent to HB by 30 November.

Call for nominations to posts / committee membership to be circulated to all members, and to include discussion of failures of governance following global coverage of the Vice Chancellor's salary and expenses.

Other items

1. In the news

- Number of EU students applying to UK universities drops by 9%
- Gender pay gap starts as soon as students graduate
- Government attempts silent U-turn on apprentices funding
- Vote of no confidence at City of Liverpool College

[Read more here.](#)

2. Senior management survey - help audit university management

[Please complete this new online 'senior management survey' \(SMS\)](#) [Opens new window](#) which aims to show to what extent higher education institutions are supporting academic staff to do their jobs effectively and mirrors the national student survey (NSS).

3. It's your UCU - getting active in the union, 14 December, London

If you would like to do your bit to help the union or would like to get more involved but don't have a lot of time then we would like to warmly welcome you to an event at our London HQ on 14 December 2016. [Many of you have already volunteered to act as a local contact for your workplace by clicking here.](#) Local contacts are members who are supportive of the union and are prepared to help in small but important ways such as letting colleagues know about UCU or just putting up a leaflet on the noticeboard. This event is an opportunity to find out more about the union, meet like-minded colleagues and learn about your rights at work and [you can find out more and register here.](#)

4. Research grant application writing course, 15 November, Sheffield

You are invited to attend one of our highly regarded CPD courses (free to UCU members) with Professor Andrew Derrington ([author of The Research Funding Toolkit](#) [Opens new window](#)) presenting [a one day practical workshop aimed at helping academics write better research grant applications.](#)

5. Build The Union week, 21 November

The more people who join UCU, the better able we are to stand up for members like you working in education. Please help us build membership in your workplace by supporting our [recruitment week from 21 November: reminding colleagues to join, talking to your local branch](#) about getting involved, and [liking our Facebook page](#) [Opens new window](#).

6. Transforming lives: showcasing the power of further education

As further education (FE) continues to face funding cuts and mergers, UCU has launched a campaign to highlight the importance of the sector and its power to change people's lives. In the coming months we will, with your help, be showing politicians and decision makers the human face of FE and asking them to give support to the remarkable and hardworking people who work in FE. **Please take a look at the stories collected in our Transforming Lives campaign and share the link with colleagues and friends. Opens new window**

7. Improving student finance information, advice and guidance

National Education Opportunities Network (NEON) and UCU are hosting an event next week Wednesday 2 November on student finance as part of our joint effort to examine and improve student finance information, advice and guidance. **Details and registration hereOpens new window.**

8. Equality conference: 1-3 December 2016

Full details of UCU annual equality conference can be found here.

9. Further education staff governors' conference: change with care?

This conference will provide the opportunity for staff governors to discuss how governing bodies can respond to change and how staff governors can play a full part in governing body discussions. **Friday 2 December 2016. Unison head office, London NW1 2AYOpens new window.**

10. Save Manchester Metropolitan University Cheshire campus

Please support the UCU campaign to save the Manchester Metropolitan University Cheshire campus from closure **by signing the petition here** or send a message of support to **J.Wilkinson@mmu.ac.uk**.

11. UCU LGBT+ research conference

A one-day conference, Equality Today? will take place in Manchester on Friday 9 June for