

UCU Committee 2 September 2013

Apologies: James Davenport

2013 National negotiations

Noted that the informal consultation about strike action to support the national claim closes on Wednesday 4th. The branch will send two delegates (Hedley Bashforth and Marie Morley) to the national briefing in London on 12th September)

National HE officer Michael MacNeil will speak at a branch meeting at the university on 23rd September.

Zero hours contracts

UCU have made FOI requests to all universities asking for information about the use of zero hours contracts. The indications are that Bath is one of the main users of zero hours contracts and this will be highlighted in national publicity.

PGCE

Committee received an update on the proposed closure of the PGCE course. This will lead to 9 redundancies and a non-viable Department of Education. Branch officers will be accompanied by Regional officer at a meeting with the Deputy VC on 2nd September, where we will reiterate our opposition to the proposal. Committee members will meet with members in the Department of Education on 5th September.

Campaign materials will be made available during this week.

BUCS

UCU, UNISON and Unite held a well attended joint meeting for staff affected by proposed changes to terms and conditions of employment of staff in BUCS. In view of the large number of unresolved issues, especially in the new 'user services' section, unions are asking for an extension to the consultation process. This request has so far been turned down. The consultation process is due to end on 12 September. Unions will submit a joint response by that date. Agreed to meet with members in BUCS immediately after this.

UKOLN

Following the redundancies in UKOLN we have raised a number of concerns about the redeployment process and these will be addressed at a meeting with HR later this week.

Car parking

Above inflation increases to car parking charges were discussed. Agreed to contact Ian Walker (UCU rep on Transport Working Group) for more information.

European Investment Bank

The university has received a £65 million loan from the bank. Some concerns expressed about the risks involved in taking out such a large loan.

Tolpuddle 2014

Agreed to bring forward proposals to work with Campaign for Public University to provide a series of talks/lectures at the annual TUC event at Tolpuddle in July 2014.

Next meeting

Week beginning 16 September - date to be advised