

HE: FIGHT ALONGSIDE NUT

As shown by the successful strike action last week, members are motivated and committed. In almost every instance, the gender pay gap and casualisation were what generated energy on the picket line. These must remain at the forefront of the action.

UCU HE Sector Conference yesterday voted for a strong pay campaign after a long and complex debate. Sector Conference clearly asserted the need for both a political and industrial campaign.

An emergency motion including strike action with the NUT on 5 or 6 of July was supported by 100 members, but very narrowly missed the two thirds majority needed to get onto the agenda.

The proposals for one day strike action in June or July (with branches invited to propose dates), the move to a setting, marking and assessment boycott and rolling strikes to support the boycott in the autumn were agreed, as were motions that reaffirmed the importance of ASOS.



Proposed dates

To maximise activity and visibility over the summer UCU Left is proposing that members in England and Wales should take action on 5 or 6 July with NUT (date tbc). This will involve branches proposing this to HQ and coordinating within their regions.

* If branches have already proposed

a date it is not too late to request to change. Or, if for local reasons branches want to stick to the current date, we encourage members to organise demonstrative action on the 5 or 6 July.

* We also propose that members in Scotland, where EIS is the main teaching union, organise a national day of strike action with a rally at the Scottish Parliament. EIS teachers may also be balloting and, if the process is sufficiently advanced, their first strike date would be a good date for Scottish action.



We recognise that in many institutions there will be little to disrupt in July and it will therefore be important to develop creative coordinated actions (regional teach-ins, demonstrations, visual protests) and to work with other unions from across the education sector, making the argument that we are fighting for education from the Cradle to the Grave.

However the plans still contains some unspecified elements. It has identified the summer for a series of actions but has not included a single date in the Autumn for our action to begin. We know the Autumn Term is when our action will have the greatest impact. The summer action must be a prelude to a clearly identified plan for escalating industrial action.



FE: AN ALTERNATIVE VISION

UCU Further Education conference yesterday agreed to launch a serious national campaign:

- * to oppose Government plans to reduce the number of colleges as part of area reviews
- * to put forward an alternative vision that defends further and adult education, with colleges at the heart of every community.

National ballot

UCU FE also voted for a national ballot if employers (AoC) refuse our demands for:

- * £1 extra per hour for all
- * Closing the gender pay gap
- * Ending casualisation
- * A living wage.



We leave UCU congress with a unanimous decision and united in pursuit of a campaign to defend education and pay.

Now we have to go out and build the campaign.

United action

We have a chance now to unite the whole of UCU's 100,000 members in action to defend post-16 education, and to unite with the wider movement including the NUT, who are balloting against academics in the autumn.

A lot of important policy was passed on many issues facing members on issues including Prevent, casualisation, equality, and other issues facing us and our students.

A full UCU left report of FE conference will be out in the next couple of days and available on the website for you to share with members.

Convoy to Calais Saturday 18 June



Who and where – Trade Unionists for Calais, TU4Calais, is a group of union members from UCU, NUT, PCS and other unions from round the country including London, Birmingham, Wakefield and Leeds.

What we Do: TU4Calais work together with Stand Up to Racism to:

- build solidarity with refugees in Calais, Dunkerque and the surrounding camps
- support teachers and volunteers to go across to Calais and volunteer in the schools on camps and in the distribution centres
- collect donations and take over to Calais for distribution via Care4Calais
- put political pressure on the British and French governments to open the borders and let the refugees in



CONTACT US

- At our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/tu4calais/
- On our website :www.standuptoracism.org.uk/category/tu4calais/tu4calaisblog/
- For UCU members: Please speak to Mandy Brown or email at mandybrowncow@yahoo.com

Stand Up to Racism fringe meeting

REFUGEES WELCOME HERE



NO TO ISLAMOPHOBIA AND ANTISEMITISM

**Friday 3 June,
12 noon**
Pullman Hotel
Kings Dock,
L3 4FP



Speakers:

**Weyman
Bennett and
Sabby Dhalu**

Co-convenors of
Stand Up To Racism

Dan T Lewis
Labour councillor,
Sefton council

**Mandy
Brown**
UCU NEC and
Trade Unionists 4 Calais

**Malia
Bouattia**
NUS President Elect

Chaired by:

Dave Muritu
UCU Equalities committee
vice chair