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| [View online version](https://list.mercury.ucu.org.uk/read/archive?id=5555&mid=151504&e=mrandall%40glos%2eac%2euk&x=4db7251d)  |
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| Please do not reply directly to this email. Comments and queries should be forwarded to: campaigns@ucu.org.uk |
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| Dear colleagueIn this week's campaign update:**Higher education bill: peers defy government on Tef and degree awarding powers**This week, [in response to concerns raised by UCU](https://list.mercury.ucu.org.uk/t/17670/151504/3759/1/?c73c8e04=Y2FtcGFpZ251cGRhdGU%3d&60bc612e=X2FsbC1tZW1iZXJz&560a3889=VUNVIGNhbXBhaWducyB1cGRhdGU6IDEwIE1hcmNoIDIwMTc%3d&x=2a3c5c25), peers made a string of amendments to the higher education bill which block plans for Tef ratings, break the link between the Tef and tuition fees, and ensure new providers must meet improved quality standards before awarding their own degrees. UCU [thanked peers for listening to staff and students](https://list.mercury.ucu.org.uk/t/17670/151504/3792/2/?c73c8e04=Y2FtcGFpZ251cGRhdGU%3d&60bc612e=X2FsbC1tZW1iZXJz&560a3889=VUNVIGNhbXBhaWducyB1cGRhdGU6IDEwIE1hcmNoIDIwMTc%3d&x=dcfdbce2) despite vice-chancellors urging them to back the bill and, with your help, we will continue to campaign against the damage this bill will do to higher education.**Further education women transforming lives and communities** This week saw International Women’s Day and [the launch of a short film](https://list.mercury.ucu.org.uk/t/17670/151504/3765/3/)showcasing inspirational stories of women and further education. [The video](https://list.mercury.ucu.org.uk/t/17670/151504/3765/4/) showcases interviews with a range of teachers and learners describing how women have overcome barriers and changed their lives through further education and the crucial role colleges play in communities.[See here for full update including:](https://list.mercury.ucu.org.uk/t/17670/151504/3793/5/?c73c8e04=Y2FtcGFpZ251cGRhdGU%3d&60bc612e=X2FsbC1tZW1iZXJz&560a3889=VUNVIGNhbXBhaWducyB1cGRhdGU6IDEwIE1hcmNoIDIwMTc%3d&x=a9a1737a) * In the news
* Stamp out casual contracts – report on work
* University of Brighton UCU votes for action
* Refugee Action campaign
* Protest over A-levels cuts at Ealing College
* Show Culture Some Love: save the arts
* Free CPD courses for UCU members
* March against Racism, 18 March
* UCU LGBT+ research conference 2017
* Welsh baccalaureate

Best wishesEd BaileyUCU acting head of campaigns |

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