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|  | |  | | --- | | Dear colleague  In this week's campaign update:  **University of Leeds: no to the sackers’ charter** [Leeds UCU](https://list.mercury.ucu.org.uk/t/17845/62105/3815/1/) are campaigning against moves by management to make it easier to sack staff and the branch have entered into dispute over the university’s decision to change the statutes that cover grounds for dismissal. The branch are currently considering potential industrial action and you can send messages of support to [ucu@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:ucu@leeds.ac.uk).  **Further education teacher numbers falling**  The number of people training to teach in further education (FE) has dropped by more than a fifth in just one year. [A report](https://list.mercury.ucu.org.uk/t/17845/62105/3816/2/)from the Education and Training Foundation (ETF) showed a 22 per cent decrease in the number of learners studying initial teacher education (ITE) courses for further education between 2013-14 and 2014-15. [Speaking to the TES](https://list.mercury.ucu.org.uk/t/17845/62105/3817/3/), UCU head of further education Andrew Harden said: ‘To attract people into further education, the government needs to do a much better job of selling the sector. Unfortunately, massive cuts to the sector, attacks on pensions and falling real-terms wages have had exactly the opposite effect. ‘We have lost around 15,000 teachers since 2009 and if the government is serious about the role FE has to play in getting Britain match fit for Brexit and beyond, then it needs to deliver a more attractive role for current and potential staff, and help people to complete their studies.’  [See here for full update including:](https://list.mercury.ucu.org.uk/t/17845/62105/3818/4/?c73c8e04=Y2FtcGFpZ251cGRhdGU%3d&60bc612e=X2FsbC1tZW1iZXJz&560a3889=VUNVIGNhbXBhaWducyB1cGRhdGU6IDE3IE1hcmNoIDIwMTc%3d&x=73ce67ae)   * In the news * Defend jobs at Manchester Metropolitan University * Goldsmiths UCU put forward ‘the Gold Paper’ alternative * Legal corner: writing your will * Continuing professional development with UCU * March for Science – 22 April, London * Stand Up To Racism demonstrations tomorrow   Best wishes  Ed Bailey UCU acting head of campaigns | |