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**'This letter should probably not have been sent'. Universities minister, Jo Johnson**  
  
After a [Tory MP wrote to universities](https://list.mercury.ucu.org.uk/t/33043/151504/4869/1/) demanding to find out who was lecturing on Brexit, Sally Hunt [sets out why this has the 'whiff of McCarthyism' here](https://list.mercury.ucu.org.uk/t/33043/151504/4854/2/?c73c8e04=Y2FtcGFpZ251cGRhdGU%3d&60bc612e=X2FsbC1tZW1iZXJz&560a3889=VGhlIEZyaWRheSBlbWFpbDogMjcgT2N0b2JlciAyMDE3&x=d009b1bc).  
  
**Further education pay: find out how much your principal earns**  
  
As recent media coverage has highlighted the disparity between vice-chancellor and university staff salaries, further education members can now check how much your principal earns and how it compares to the average college lecturer [using our Rate For The Job online tool here](https://list.mercury.ucu.org.uk/t/33043/151504/3764/3/?c73c8e04=Y2FtcGFpZ251cGRhdGU%3d&60bc612e=X2FsbC1tZW1iZXJz&560a3889=VGhlIEZyaWRheSBlbWFpbDogMjcgT2N0b2JlciAyMDE3&x=eb5c5911). Pay for college staff has been falling behind inflation for 8 years and is now 23.3% lower in real terms than it was in 2009. [See more on our FE England pay campaign here.](https://list.mercury.ucu.org.uk/t/33043/151504/4017/4/?c73c8e04=Y2FtcGFpZ251cGRhdGU%3d&60bc612e=X2FsbC1tZW1iZXJz&560a3889=VGhlIEZyaWRheSBlbWFpbDogMjcgT2N0b2JlciAyMDE3&x=c8417654)  
  
[See here for full update including:](https://list.mercury.ucu.org.uk/t/33043/151504/4870/5/?c73c8e04=Y2FtcGFpZ251cGRhdGU%3d&60bc612e=X2FsbC1tZW1iZXJz&560a3889=VGhlIEZyaWRheSBlbWFpbDogMjcgT2N0b2JlciAyMDE3&x=36de5519)   
  
1. In the news  
2. Fairer access to university  
3. Wales further education news  
4. Justice now: make it right for Palestine, 4 November  
5. Do you work in adult education?

Best wishes

Justine Stephens  
UCU head of campaigns