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**Vote now to save USS pension: support for our campaign builds**  
  
If you work in a university covered by USS pensions [you should by now have received a ballot paper to vote](https://list.mercury.ucu.org.uk/t/36369/151504/5098/1/?c73c8e04=Y2FtcGFpZ251cGRhdGU%3d&60bc612e=X2FsbC1tZW1iZXJz&560a3889=VGhlIEZyaWRheSBlbWFpbDogMDggRGVjZW1iZXIgMjAxNw%3d%3d&x=27eb3f5c). Please vote and send your ballot back in the envelope provided. [You can order a replacement here](https://list.mercury.ucu.org.uk/t/36369/151504/5073/2/?c73c8e04=Y2FtcGFpZ251cGRhdGU%3d&60bc612e=X2FsbC1tZW1iZXJz&560a3889=VGhlIEZyaWRheSBlbWFpbDogMDggRGVjZW1iZXIgMjAxNw%3d%3d&x=84942c0a).  
  
Support for our campaign grew this week as shadow education secretary Angela Rayner raised concerns over attacks on the USS scheme. [She said in her stateme](https://list.mercury.ucu.org.uk/t/36369/151504/5151/3/?c73c8e04=Y2FtcGFpZ251cGRhdGU%3d&60bc612e=X2FsbC1tZW1iZXJz&560a3889=VGhlIEZyaWRheSBlbWFpbDogMDggRGVjZW1iZXIgMjAxNw%3d%3d&x=8d2656a9)nt she wanted ‘our brilliant university staff to stay in UK higher education’ and that plans to slash pensions could lead to ‘a brain drain that the UK can ill afford’.  
  
Meanwhile [the National Union of Students (NUS) called on university leaders to negotiate with UCU](https://list.mercury.ucu.org.uk/t/36369/151504/5152/4/?c73c8e04=Y2FtcGFpZ251cGRhdGU%3d&60bc612e=X2FsbC1tZW1iZXJz&560a3889=VGhlIEZyaWRheSBlbWFpbDogMDggRGVjZW1iZXIgMjAxNw%3d%3d&x=b00091bf) to end the dispute and said students benefitted from properly paid staff who would receive fair pensions in retirement.  
  
**Further education England: it’s time for change**   
  
With some FE branches now preparing for potential action in the new year it’s a good time to help publicise our campaign for better pay and pay in your college workplace. [Please download and distribute posters and leaflets and show our campaign video to colleagues.](https://list.mercury.ucu.org.uk/t/36369/151504/4017/5/?c73c8e04=Y2FtcGFpZ251cGRhdGU%3d&60bc612e=X2FsbC1tZW1iZXJz&560a3889=VGhlIEZyaWRheSBlbWFpbDogMDggRGVjZW1iZXIgMjAxNw%3d%3d&x=5ceac2e3)   
  
[Click here for the full update including:](https://list.mercury.ucu.org.uk/t/36369/151504/5153/6/?c73c8e04=Y2FtcGFpZ251cGRhdGU%3d&60bc612e=X2FsbC1tZW1iZXJz&560a3889=VGhlIEZyaWRheSBlbWFpbDogMDggRGVjZW1iZXIgMjAxNw%3d%3d&x=31cb9a8e)   
  
1. In the news  
2. Vice-chancellors’ pay and perks scandal continues  
3. Wales further education: overworked and under-paid  
4. UCU wins £1m pay-out for former Ulster University staff  
5. Supporting academics at risk  
6. University of Brighton UCU fight off redundancies threat  
7. May They Stay – day of solidarity with EU colleagues  
  
Best wishes  
  
Justine Stephens  
UCU head of campaigns