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**Fight to save USS: vote YES for action**   
  
The fight to save USS pensions continues in the face of [intransigence from the employers](https://list.mercury.ucu.org.uk/t/36690/151504/5212/1/?c73c8e04=Y2FtcGFpZ251cGRhdGU%3d&60bc612e=X2FsbC1tZW1iZXJz&560a3889=VGhlIEZyaWRheSBlbWFpbDogMTUgRGVjZW1iZXIgMjAxNw%3d%3d&x=44ca2919)who have refused to withdraw their threat to pull out of talks after their ‘deadline’ of 18 December. Please vote now if you have yet to do so or [request a replacement ballot if you’ve lost it](https://list.mercury.ucu.org.uk/t/36690/151504/5073/2/?c73c8e04=Y2FtcGFpZ251cGRhdGU%3d&60bc612e=X2FsbC1tZW1iZXJz&560a3889=VGhlIEZyaWRheSBlbWFpbDogMTUgRGVjZW1iZXIgMjAxNw%3d%3d&x=427314e8). We have produced an [FAQ on the dispute here](https://list.mercury.ucu.org.uk/t/36690/151504/5213/3/?c73c8e04=Y2FtcGFpZ251cGRhdGU%3d&60bc612e=X2FsbC1tZW1iZXJz&560a3889=VGhlIEZyaWRheSBlbWFpbDogMTUgRGVjZW1iZXIgMjAxNw%3d%3d&x=724a75d5). Read [Sally Hunt's latest article](https://list.mercury.ucu.org.uk/t/36690/151504/5218/4/) on why slashing staff pensions while vice-chancellors' pay is sky high, leaves a nasty taste in the mouth.  
  
Please also email your MP to highlight the USS pension dispute. You can [contact them via the UCU website](https://list.mercury.ucu.org.uk/t/36690/151504/5214/5/?c73c8e04=Y2FtcGFpZ251cGRhdGU%3d&60bc612e=X2FsbC1tZW1iZXJz&560a3889=VGhlIEZyaWRheSBlbWFpbDogMTUgRGVjZW1iZXIgMjAxNw%3d%3d&x=46c35193). Please encourage your MP to [sign a parliamentary motion on USS](https://list.mercury.ucu.org.uk/t/36690/151504/5215/6/), write to universities minister Jo Johnson on your behalf and to contact their local vice-chancellor.  
  
**Further education: principals’ pay under scrutiny**  
  
UCU has called for greater transparency on senior management pay following [news that 71 college leaders earn over £150,000 a year](https://list.mercury.ucu.org.uk/t/36690/151504/5216/7/). Commenting on FE Week’s analysis of DfE accounts, Sally Hunt said ‘While staff pay is being eroded and colleges are struggling to recruit because of low pay, these pay awards show it’s one rule for staff and another for those at the top.’ UCU is campaigning for better pay and better jobs in FE and you can [read more and watch our video here.](https://list.mercury.ucu.org.uk/t/36690/151504/4017/8/?c73c8e04=Y2FtcGFpZ251cGRhdGU%3d&60bc612e=X2FsbC1tZW1iZXJz&560a3889=VGhlIEZyaWRheSBlbWFpbDogMTUgRGVjZW1iZXIgMjAxNw%3d%3d&x=fd8cbb4a)   
  
[Click here for the full update including:](https://list.mercury.ucu.org.uk/t/36690/151504/5217/9/?c73c8e04=Y2FtcGFpZ251cGRhdGU%3d&60bc612e=X2FsbC1tZW1iZXJz&560a3889=VGhlIEZyaWRheSBlbWFpbDogMTUgRGVjZW1iZXIgMjAxNw%3d%3d&x=d630a790)   
  
1. In the news  
2. Bradford College UCU branch calls for radical overhaul of governance  
3. Overworked and under paid: further education in Wales  
4. Calling academic-related professional staff  
5. Regulatory framework in higher education  
  
Best wishes  
  
Justine Stephens  
UCU head of campaigns