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**FE fights back on pay and jobs**

More and more of our members in further education are saying 'enough is enough' and joining UCU’s campaign to fight back with a new wave of action aimed at shifting college employers on pay and to defend jobs. Many FE branches are [due to take strike action over the next month](https://list.mercury.ucu.org.uk/t/48393/151504/6101/1/?c73c8e04=Y2FtcGFpZ251cGRhdGU%3d&60bc612e=X2FsbC1tZW1iZXJz&560a3889=VGhlIEZyaWRheSBlbWFpbDogMDQgTWF5IDIwMTg%3d&x=e40da1a8) and beyond.

For too long FE has been treated as the 'poor relation' with many staff suffering spiralling workloads and stagnating pay. If you work in FE and are willing to share your story and help us show the crucial difference FE staff make to our communities, please get in touch here.

**Defend USS pensions: apply to be a JEP panelist**

Thanks to our campaign to defend the University Superannuation Scheme (USS), the employers’ proposal to introduce a fully defined contribution pension that would have costed the average UCU member £200,000 over the course of their retirement, is now off the table.

The next step is to establish a joint expert panel (JEP) to make an assessment of the current valuation and make recommendations for the future and if you’re interested in applying to be a JEP panellist [you can find out more here](https://list.mercury.ucu.org.uk/t/48393/151504/6074/2/?c73c8e04=Y2FtcGFpZ251cGRhdGU%3d&60bc612e=X2FsbC1tZW1iZXJz&560a3889=VGhlIEZyaWRheSBlbWFpbDogMDQgTWF5IDIwMTg%3d&x=0cedc34e).

[See here for the full update including:](https://list.mercury.ucu.org.uk/t/48393/151504/6102/3/?c73c8e04=Y2FtcGFpZ251cGRhdGU%3d&60bc612e=X2FsbC1tZW1iZXJz&560a3889=VGhlIEZyaWRheSBlbWFpbDogMDQgTWF5IDIwMTg%3d&x=b29023cb)

* In the news
* A new deal for working people - TUC march and rally
* Higher education (HE) pay
* TEF survey: have your say
* Oppose far-right London demo on 6 May

Best wishes

Justine Stephens
UCU head of campaigns