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**Trade union rights: UCU wins recognition at Coventry**We’re delighted to announce that an agreement has been reached with Coventry University Group that UCU will be recognised to negotiate for staff. The agreement means that UCU will be recognised to negotiate on pay and other key terms and conditions for academic staff at CU Coventry, CU Scarborough and CU London. The parties have agreed [a joint statement which you can read in our press release here](https://list.mercury.ucu.org.uk/t/49445/62105/6217/1/?c73c8e04=Y2FtcGFpZ251cGRhdGU%3d&60bc612e=X2FsbC1tZW1iZXJz&560a3889=VGhlIEZyaWRheSBlbWFpbDogMTggTWF5IDIwMTg%3d&x=d7281649). A very big thank you to the thousands of members who have supported this campaign from the start.UCU believes trade union rights are human rights and that’s why we’re [calling on the government to guarantee international staff the right to strike](https://list.mercury.ucu.org.uk/t/49445/62105/6151/2/). Already over 900 of you have contacted your MP to help defend migrant workers’ right to strike without fear of deportation – please [use our online tool to join them](https://list.mercury.ucu.org.uk/t/49445/62105/6179/3/?c73c8e04=Y2FtcGFpZ251cGRhdGU%3d&60bc612e=X2FsbC1tZW1iZXJz&560a3889=VGhlIEZyaWRheSBlbWFpbDogMTggTWF5IDIwMTg%3d&x=069cde38).**FE fights back**More and more college staff are saying ‘enough is enough’ and joining our [FE fights back](https://list.mercury.ucu.org.uk/t/49445/62105/6101/4/?c73c8e04=Y2FtcGFpZ251cGRhdGU%3d&60bc612e=X2FsbC1tZW1iZXJz&560a3889=VGhlIEZyaWRheSBlbWFpbDogMTggTWF5IDIwMTg%3d&x=34ee2d86) campaign and you can help by [sharing this short video](https://list.mercury.ucu.org.uk/t/49445/62105/6224/5/) calling for a better deal. This week:* Sandwell College members [celebrated a sector leading pay deal](https://list.mercury.ucu.org.uk/t/49445/62105/6209/6/?c73c8e04=Y2FtcGFpZ251cGRhdGU%3d&60bc612e=X2FsbC1tZW1iZXJz&560a3889=VGhlIEZyaWRheSBlbWFpbDogMTggTWF5IDIwMTg%3d&x=78c3ca9b) worth 6.25% and called off planned strike action,
* Members at Epping Forest College joined those in Tower Hamlets and Hackney [taking strike action over pay](https://list.mercury.ucu.org.uk/t/49445/62105/6225/7/?c73c8e04=Y2FtcGFpZ251cGRhdGU%3d&60bc612e=X2FsbC1tZW1iZXJz&560a3889=VGhlIEZyaWRheSBlbWFpbDogMTggTWF5IDIwMTg%3d&x=b6bdf88e),
* Hull College Group staff [took two days strike action](https://list.mercury.ucu.org.uk/t/49445/62105/6226/8/?c73c8e04=Y2FtcGFpZ251cGRhdGU%3d&60bc612e=X2FsbC1tZW1iZXJz&560a3889=VGhlIEZyaWRheSBlbWFpbDogMTggTWF5IDIwMTg%3d&x=2b260102) against attempts to slash hundreds of jobs

[See here for the full update including:](https://list.mercury.ucu.org.uk/t/49445/62105/6227/9/?c73c8e04=Y2FtcGFpZ251cGRhdGU%3d&60bc612e=X2FsbC1tZW1iZXJz&560a3889=VGhlIEZyaWRheSBlbWFpbDogMTggTWF5IDIwMTg%3d&x=a86b37da) * In the news
* Higher education: pay, security, workloads, and the gender pay gap
* Palestine: education, occupation and liberation
* Government call for your views on further education
* TEF survey: have your say
* Can you pack a rucksack for Calais?

Best wishesJustine StephensUCU head of campaigns |

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