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| |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  |   **JEP report on review of USS pensions published**  The joint expert panel (JEP) set up to independently review valuation of the Universities Superannuation Scheme (USS) has delivered its [first report which you can read here.](https://list.mercury.ucu.org.uk/t/56773/151504/6672/1/?c73c8e04=Y2FtcGFpZ251cGRhdGU%3d&60bc612e=X2FsbC1tZW1iZXJz&560a3889=VGhlIEZyaWRheSBlbWFpbDogMTQgU2VwdGVtYmVyIDIwMTg%3d&x=81934e4d) Many UCU members contributed to the report and the union would like to thank everyone who submitted evidence. Writing to members Sally Hunt said: “the agreement to set up the JEP to look independently at the valuation was won on the back of great sacrifice by UCU members, both professionally and financially. We still have work to do but I want to thank you again for your help in getting us to this point.”  **Vote Vote Vote! Have your say on pay**  Thousands of UCU members in [further education in England](https://list.mercury.ucu.org.uk/t/56773/151504/6673/2/?c73c8e04=Y2FtcGFpZ251cGRhdGU%3d&60bc612e=X2FsbC1tZW1iZXJz&560a3889=VGhlIEZyaWRheSBlbWFpbDogMTQgU2VwdGVtYmVyIDIwMTg%3d&x=a9b0c799) and [higher education institutions](https://list.mercury.ucu.org.uk/t/56773/151504/6595/3/?c73c8e04=Y2FtcGFpZ251cGRhdGU%3d&60bc612e=X2FsbC1tZW1iZXJz&560a3889=VGhlIEZyaWRheSBlbWFpbDogMTQgU2VwdGVtYmVyIDIwMTg%3d&x=413019c7) are currently being balloted on respective pay offers and we urge you to vote and have your say on pay. Remember the law says UCU needs at least a 50% turnout in ballots to take action, so if you think education staff deserve a decent pay deal then please vote for it.   Joining them will be colleagues in further education in Wales as ballots open on pay and workload from 24 September (more details in full bulletin below).   **TUC 150th anniversary Congress**  UCU's general secretary and current TUC president[Sally Hunt had the honour of opening the 150th TUC Congress in Manchester](https://list.mercury.ucu.org.uk/t/56773/151504/6675/4/). Unions were back in the city to celebrate where the movement was born in 1868. Sally's opening address took delegates through a history of the trade union movement and finished with [a tribute to the Bryant and May match girls.](https://list.mercury.ucu.org.uk/t/56773/151504/6676/5/) UCU delegates spoke in a number of debates across the four-day conference and [a full review of the event can be found here.](https://list.mercury.ucu.org.uk/t/56773/151504/6677/6/?c73c8e04=Y2FtcGFpZ251cGRhdGU%3d&60bc612e=X2FsbC1tZW1iZXJz&560a3889=VGhlIEZyaWRheSBlbWFpbDogMTQgU2VwdGVtYmVyIDIwMTg%3d&x=bc9bd1b5)  [See here for the full update including:](https://list.mercury.ucu.org.uk/t/56773/151504/6674/7/?c73c8e04=Y2FtcGFpZ251cGRhdGU%3d&60bc612e=X2FsbC1tZW1iZXJz&560a3889=VGhlIEZyaWRheSBlbWFpbDogMTQgU2VwdGVtYmVyIDIwMTg%3d&x=ed437f40)   * In the news * National lobby of parliament for FE England funding * TUC’s 150th anniversary Congress * FE Wales strike ballots announced over pay and workload * Equality conference 2018 * One day special congress, 18 October, Manchester * Rethinking Participation: annual conference on English, maths and ESOL   Best  Justine Stephens UCU head of campaigns | | |  |