

UCU Executive Committee, 01 June 2015, AG05, 1300-1430
Minutes (status draft)

Attendance

Member	02/09/2014	26/09/2014	07/10/2014	04/11/2014	02/12/2014	06/01/2015	03/02/2015	03/03/2015	14/04/2015	15/05/2015	01/06/2015
Keith Simpson (KS)	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	A
Chris Flood (CF)	P			P	A	A	P	P	P	A	P
John Saunders (JS)	P	P	P	A	P	P	P	A	P	A	P
Swetha Bobba (SB)	P	P	P	A		P	A		P	A	P
Andrew Lack (AL)	P	P	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Greg Wellington (GW)	P	P	P	A	P	A	A	P	P	P	P
Morris Pamplin (MP)	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Rebecca Lewis (RL)	A	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Suzanne Reece (SR)								-	-	-	-
Jon Eilenberg (JE)			P			P	A	P	P		A
Aljosha Schapals (AS)		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Olivia Fox (OF)	A	A	P	P	P	P	P	A	A	P	A
Rachel Cohen (RC)	P	A	P	P	P	P	P	P	A	A	P
Alison Macfarlane (AM)	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Leon Cuthbertson (LC)	P		P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Chantal Hill (CH)	P	A		P	A	A	A	P	A	A	P
Grietje Baars (GB)	A		P	A							
Hayley McBain								A	A		A

1 Apologies

Apologies received from KS, OF, HM, JE.

2 Minutes of last meeting

These were approved. Matters arising:

- Unite produced a document regarding the role of the unions and summarising the recognition agreement for line managers. This is to go to the informal meeting with HR, and ratified at June JCNB.

- Comms to UCU members. Agreement to start more regular comms to members highlighting the committee's work monthly, and publicising the drop in sessions.

Action: MP to start a monthly round-up of recent work for blog posts and an email digest.

3 AGM 2015 and committee nominations

Nominations: Before the meeting 4 posts had been nominated and seconded.

Agreement was reached on which posts committee members wished to stand for.

Actions: JS to secure a nomination for Health and Safety Officer

CF and RL to secure nominations for Vice President

CH to enquire with Martin Chivers re. Standing for Equality Officer

AGM: RC and CH agreed to do flyering as people enter the meeting.

MP and GW to sign members in and issue voting cards/membership forms

JS requested a more formal structure to the open discussion at the AGM following last year at which several resolutions were raised at the meeting without prior notice.

Action: MP to email membership with a reminder re. AGM and requesting submission of motions/resolutions by Friday 5pm.

4 UCU Congress 2015 Report

MP and RC attended. A fuller report will follow on the blog. Business of the HE Sector Conference was unfortunately curtailed by overrunning debate and several motions critical of NEC were not moved due to lack of time. However two important areas of discussion included pay, pensions, and annual increments. Conference voted in favour of motions to reject performance-related pay and attacks on the National Framework Agreement; to challenge the methods used to calculate the USS deficit; and a recommendation to reject the 2015 pay offer (among many others, see <http://www.ucu.org.uk/index.cfm?articleid=7524>).

Action: MP and RC to prepare a report for the blog.

5 ARQM update

Following implementation of ARQM, a call for feedback from members, and discussion at Senate, KS, RC, CF and MP met with John Fothergill and Peter Brooks in May to voice concerns and share academic staff feedback on ARQM with a further meeting to be arranged to move forward on how the review will be conducted and drafting of an appeals process.

RC noticed that this issue has galvanised academics. Caution was noted on the way senior management is likely to engage on this issue and the potential wide-ranging impact of ARQM – its impact on promotions, appraisals etc. which fall outside the remit of Research and Enterprise.

6 HR/TUs informal meeting

MP, CF and RL to attend. Items for discussion: Unite's documents produced following ACAS; follow

up on Bullying and Harassment meeting; use of Unitemps for research staff (see Any Other Business).

7 Cass School Meeting 3rd June and Recruitment Opportunities

LC advised of a Cass all-staff meeting at Bunhill Row on 3rd June, as an opportunity to recruit. RC and GW can attend.

Action: MP and RC to comment on the text for a leaflet drafted by LC, for distribution at the meeting.

GW to organise further recruitment stalls in late summer – late August/early September.

MP has ordered a zip banner for such events.

8 Upcoming events

June 20th People's Assembly Demo to be publicised further at the AGM.

Action: MP to send a reminder email to members one week before the demo.

London Met and Lewisham and Southwark College are on strike 4th June.

UCU Lobbies Parliament on 16th June at 2pm in Parliament Square. **(NB not 19th June as mentioned at the meeting.)**

Action: MP and CF to attend Lewisham and Southwark College strike on 4th June.

MP to draft letters of support to the college and to London Met.

9 July Committee Meeting

MP queried whether there is usually a committee meeting in July; this was confirmed.

Action: MP to convene for Tuesday 7th July.

10 Any other Business

LC added the National Gallery strike over Candy Udwin's dismissal to the list of industrial action for City UCU to support.

AM raised the issue of a recent case in which Unitemps was used to recruit for an academic research post.

Action: to be raised at HR informal.

SB raised the issue of postgraduate students being paid in three instalments for a year's work and that this incurs increased tax deductions.

MP was glad to inform the committee that SB is standing as Research Students' Rep for 2015-16.

Action: SB and JS to meet to discuss taking forward SB's case as a test case.