

UCU Executive Committee, Date, Room Time Minutes (status draft)

Attendance

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

1 Apologies

No apologies received.

2 Minutes from last meeting

Minutes from the last committee meeting and the September special meeting were approved.

3 VC's open house

Will now take place on 5th November. This event will require structured questions on a range of issues e.g. Equality, research terms and conditions – besides the predictable issues of PSR, academic

role profiles etc.

Action: all to consider questions for the next committee meeting, the day before the Open House.

4 INTO update

KS, AL, JS, RL, CF and AM have all been involved in meeting with staff at INTO and this has converted into 13 new members. 10 attended a meeting on Friday 3rd October.

It will require continued pressure to get regional or national UCU officers involved in gaining either voluntary recognition or recognition by ballot to enable them to set up their own branch and receive official recognition from INTO. This would be a significant achievement for a private college.

5 PSR update

There is little to update on. David Bolton's final PSR update was published at the end of September with little concrete information.

At Cass, it is thought plans will be published at the end of October and will propose reductions at higher grades but raising of some roles to 5 to address some disparities.

It is rumoured that the deficit will entail further cost cuts after PSR – of up to 10%.

It is no longer clear who is steering PSR with individual schools making proposals outside of the steering group. Some restructures are occurring outside of the PSR e.g. International Office.

6 Senate

The PSR, and the lack of a previously-requested an update on progress, was raised by several members of Senate to vexation of senior management.

RC and CF attended Senate for the first time.

7 USS ballot

Closes Monday 20th October.

Action: RC to compile a short collection of messages from the mailing lists for information for members.

Action: MP to send out.

A branch meeting was proposed if a speaker could be confirmed.

Action: MP to confirm with Greg Barnett.

Action: MP and JS to organise branch meeting for Friday 10th October 1pm.

8 ACAS meeting

Latest proposed date is 15th December, suggested by the university.

The VC has agreed to meet with the unions although cannot attend on the 16th October, the previous slot for ACAS. City unions will go ahead with a meeting with UCU, UNISON and Unite officials on 16th Oct.

There remain no scheduled dates for JCNB as no chair has been appointed.

Action: MP to write to HR requesting dates for 2014-15 JCNB meetings.

Committee agreed that an all-staff meeting should be called to discuss current issues, after the meeting with regional officials on 16th Oct.

9 FE strike and national demo

FE college staff strike on 14th October over the 1% pay offer for 2014-15 and the fact that the 2013-14 pay claim is unresolved.

Action: MP to send calendar invite for supporting City and Islington's picket line.

The TUC hold a national "Britain needs a pay rise" demonstration and rally on Saturday 18th October. The main start is Victoria Embankment forming up from 11am and the short route forms up at St James Street (Green Park Station) from 11.30am.

Action: KS to order a pack of promotional posters.

Action: KS to email members details of the march. A City contingent to form up at the short start meeting point.

10 Anti-casualisation day of action, 5th November

To target hourly-paid visiting lecturers and researchers on fixed-term funding.

JS reported there are around 700 HPVLs at City and 100 researchers. The day will need to include events to attract both groups.

Action: MP to form a working group to organise events.

Publicising the day:

JS reported there is no openly available list of staff let alone of VLs. A list of VLs to be requested at the HR informal meeting. If not possible, UCU's right to email all staff will be claimed.

Action: all to send MP any lists of research staff or VLs.

11 Recruitment

Recent recruitment stall was successful with potential for 5-6 new members and discussions with students over the role of trade unions and UCU specifically.

As highlighted at last committee, a thorough recruitment drive is required with emails to all staff followed up with personal visits. This needs to be within the next 4-6 weeks.

Action: MP to continue AL's work collating lists of staff.

12 Andrew Lack

The committee noted with appreciation the contribution of Andrew Lack to the members of the branch over the years.

Changes to the committee:

AS has resigned from the committee.

MP was elected Secretary.

OF was elected Assistant Secretary.

Hayley McBain joined the committee as an Ordinary Member.

13 Any other business

LC to attend HR informal as RC can no longer attend this in future having been elected to Senate.

Action: MP to add Matters for Informal Meeting to each committee agenda.