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| ucu_colour**­**NEWSLETTER**Bulletin for UCU members at North East Surrey College of Technology**Autumn 2018 |  |

# National Lobby of Parliament on Pay and Funding

As we all know, colleges are important – to their students, their staff and their local communities. But for too long the vital work they do has been overlooked and underfunded. This situation is not sustainable and ultimately impacts on college students and staff, businesses, communities and the wider economy.
That is why trade unions, students and colleges are coming together to call for better funding and fair pay for further education colleges.  Come and join us for national action in London on Wednesday 17 October. The day will include:
**March for further education**
Assemble 12.15pm Waterloo Place, SW1Y 4
March will depart 12.45pm from Waterloo Place, finishing at Parliament Square.
**#loveourcolleges rally**
Join us from 1.30 – 2.30pm in Parliament Square to hear from a range of speakers about why we #loveourcolleges and want the government to invest more in further education.
**Mass lobby of Parliament**
Visit your MP in Parliament on the day and ask them to #loveourcolleges and support fair funding and better pay in further education. Please contact your MP as soon as possible to arrange a meeting - contact your MP via [https://www.writetothem.com/](https://l.facebook.com/l.php?u=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.writetothem.com%2F&h=AT33mkSuxiymSVeYQt8eUfQVDSNouoVjumFZ2qsrtEBYv3DFi2pdxqYr75YIubNOnftUZZ8u2h55qNPvmYvpN4eDQanAS7ysPLHgn-g0bK8P_TAkVEYAxv57d2SVv0kaJC4).
The national action is being supported by: UCU, the Association of Colleges, UNISON, the National Education Union, Unite, GMB, the National Union of Students, the Association of School and College Lecturers and the TUC. See: [Facebook event page](https://list.mercury.ucu.org.uk/t/56769/7557873/6661/9/)



Meet Your UCU Regional Official: Monday 15th October

Michael Moran, your UCU Regional Official, will be meeting the Principal on Monday 15th October and will be available for meetings and discussions all day either on or off campus. Please contact Michael to arrange to meet him: mmoran@ucu.org.uk

If you can’t meet that day but want to tell Michael about an issue or problem please get in touch. We hope to organise a follow up meeting for all interested members and non-members in the very near future.

Pay ballot at 110 colleges

Although your branch is not involved in the pay ballot, this affects us all. The claim is for a 5% pay increase.

As you will be aware:

pay has fallen by at least 25% against inflation since 2009;

FE teachers are paid on average £7,000 less per annum than school teachers;

Pay and insecure contracts are key barriers to staff recruitment and retention.

Government must urgently increase funding. With the support of students and colleges we can get a fairer deal.

Can you raise UCU’s profile at your college?

Your branch is looking for members to distribute UCU leaflets and put up posters.

We also needs reps and health and safety reps so that you can have a collective voice at North East Surrey College of Technology.

UCU provides rep training courses and paid time off is available to attend and to carry out rep duties. Please see: [www.ucu.org.uk/training](http://www.ucu.org.uk/training)

If interested in helping your union in any way or for more information please contact UCU Regional Official Michael Moran mmoran@ucu.org.uk

Help to build UCU

If you do one thing for your union this year please ask a colleague to join us. It is really important that your branch continues to grow so that any issues can be addressed collectively.

If you would like a few printed copies of this newsletter and some leaflets to distribute please email UCU National Organiser Ronnie Kershaw rkershaw@ucu.org.uk

Free UCU Membership

Not on a teaching contract but part of the teaching team? Join UCU for free if you are an assessor, trainer, teaching assistant etc., and get the full benefits.

[www.ucu.org.uk/free](http://www.ucu.org.uk/free)

Rate For The Job – salary comparison site updated

* compare your salary with the average at your institution
* find out the gender pay gap for your job type
* compare your employer with other similar institutions
* check your principal’s pay and perks

See: [www.ucu.org.uk/rateforthejob](http://www.ucu.org.uk/rateforthejob)

UCU Membership Benefits

1. Every day our trained local representatives, backed by full-time UCU officials, help to resolve hundreds of problems
2. Our legal scheme covers employment rights, personal injury (including traffic accidents to and from work which weren’t your fault) and police enquiries.  Personal injury claims are free and members get 100% of any compensation won.
3. Counselling and well-being support via the Education Support Partnership
4. Free professional development courses and resources incl. voice care:  <http://cpd.web.ucu.org.uk/>
5. The voice of the profession – we raise your issues with ministers and MPs, and campaign nationally and locally.

Claim tax relief on your subs: [www.ucu.org.uk/taxrelief](http://www.ucu.org.uk/taxrelief)

To join: [www.ucu.org.uk/join](http://www.ucu.org.uk/join) ***Your UCU region can ONLY represent you on issues that occur after you join – join us today.***

Membership Rise

UCU membership has risen by 15% in the past 12 months. Join your union today. [www.ucu.org.uk/join](http://www.ucu.org.uk/join)