

UCU Glasgow EGM

2 July 2026

12.30 – 2pm

Location: McIntyre Building Room 201 & Zoom

MINUTES

Chair: Duncan Lowther (*President*)

1. Welcome & Introductions
2. Minutes of last meetings – 25 March & 30 April, 2026 - approved
3. University Finances Update, Sayantan Ghosal (*Treasurer*), 12:30-12:45

UCUG Finance Working Group conducted an independent analysis of the University of Glasgow Finances. Encourage people to challenge the university's narrative justifying staff cuts. Austerity budgets have been ongoing for the last two years, in the context of a financial crisis in UKHE, but importantly this crisis is not evenly spread across the sector. The university has assured us that their finances are not under threat yet. They are claiming that in order to prevent their finances coming under threat in future that they are undertaking organisational changes. Forecast of PGT numbers aren't always accurate: actual numbers for 25/26 were revised upwards again, got £10million MORE in terms of PGT income than what was actually forecast. Nevertheless, UoG is setting up austerity budgets base on these inaccurate forecasts. Even if we accept that student numbers are going to go down, that does not necessarily mean that incomes will go down. We have to be cautious about treating numbers and income as synonymous. (*Slides attached to papers*)

How to Win – Vladimir Unkovski-Korica (*Organising Officer*)

Showcased similar situations that have arisen at different universities in Scotland and the UK. How do we fight back, what tactics can we use? Threat of strike action has been effective at staving off compulsory redundancies. We have a strong branch that has successfully fought an attack on our promotions system. Action does work but need to have a live ballot and mandate. (*Flyer attached to papers*)

4. Open discussion about university budget, 12:45-13:30

(Anonymised summary)

- Cuts will affect members differentially, can't let management divide us according to who is more or less affected by these cuts.
- Encourage new members to join the union.
- Cuts are already ongoing: School of Education is cutting 52 Associate Tutors
- UoG should uphold promises to Early Career Researchers – some fellows should be offered interview for continuing contracts
- Professional Services and PGRs are being targeted, happening across colleges
- Everyone here can raise these issues. Don't be afraid! Even if colleagues are not yet union members, they are open to our message, can be good recruitment. PDR, Staff Meetings – can raise it here.
- Agree with raising questions to Heads of School and College, but stripping of internal democracy makes it hard to ask questions, need to also consider safeguarding for union members to ask these questions
- Coordinate with other campus trade unions
- Rare opportunity to tell a different story about university finances. "Austerity FOMO"
- Collapse of HE sector, contrasted public support for NHS with lack of support for HE.
- Make clear to management that staff are the most important part of the university.

5. UCUG Committee motions, 13:30-14:00

- Amendment to Committee motion 1 – moved by Jenny Morrison, seconded by Richard Reeve: **APPROVED**
- Committee motion 1 – moved by Vladimir Unkovski-Korica, seconded by Chair: **APPROVED**
- Committee motion 2 – moved by Mariel Goulart, seconded by Chair: **APPROVED**
- Committee motion 3 – moved by Marion Hersh, seconded by Chair: **APPROVED**

6. AOB

Become a [caseworker](#), support caseworkers!

Redundancies of 52 Associate Tutors in Education – this is an ongoing issue that the branch needs to continue to support members on.

Propose an Anticasualisation survey to try to grasp the scale of cuts