

Minutes

UCU Glasgow General Meeting

Wednesday, 25 October 2023

12noon – 1.30pm, Online

Chair: Vladimir Unkovski-Korica

Minutes: Lina Nass

Present: over 50 UCU Glasgow members

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Minutes from the last meeting: [Minutes GM 20 September 2023](#)

Minutes from the last meeting were approved.

3. Matters Arising

Scott Hurrell reported that the branch is looking into voting software to better facilitate future voting during branch meetings.

The Committee is also looking for members to join it as Treasurer and Communications Officer.

4. USS Pensions dispute update

Marion Hersh, USS pensions negotiator gave an update on this dispute. After strike action over the past five years, the employer has now agreed to restore the benefits from 1 April 2024, with a flat rate payment to all members to make up for the loss since the cuts were imposed. Contributions will be reduced for employers, with UCU cautioning not to reduce them too much, to prevent future issues. There is still a resolution required at the joint negotiations committee, and members will have to remain vigilant for potential future cuts, but it's a great victory, and testament to what we can achieve together. Members should fill in employer consultation that was sent out in early October.

5. Pay and conditions dispute update

UCU is currently re-balloting in the pay and pensions dispute. Members are asked to get in touch to help with the Get The Vote Out effort.

6. Local motions (copied below)

Motion 1: Support for Professor Hakim Adi passed.

Motion 2: Support for Brighton and Highlands and Islands UCU against redundancies passed.

Motion 3: Support for City of Glasgow College against redundancies passed.

7. Other updates

Vladimir Unkovski-Korica updated the meeting that the University has been back in touch about proposals to the criteria from promotion to Senior Lecturer to Professor. A working group will be set up to look at promotion criteria – members who want to be involved should get in touch with UCU Glasgow Office. The branch has stopped similar changes in the past, as the University did not consult UCU before making these changes. Members raised issue about ‘grade inflation’, and equalities impact of changing promotion criteria, as it will adversely affect minorities.

8. AOB

STUC Disabled members’ Conference to take place in Clydebank, interested members should contact the UCU Scotland Office as soon as possible.

Motions

Motion 1: Support for Professor Hakim Adi

Proposer: Marion Hersh

Secunder: Maha Rafi Atal

UCU Glasgow notes:

1. The closure of the Masters by Research: History of Africa and the African Diaspora at the University of Chichester and the redundancy of its lead Professor Hakim Adi.

UCU Glasgow agrees to:

1. Write to Chichester vice chancellor to demand the reversal of these decisions.
2. Write to all branch members and encourage them to sign the petition in support of Professor Adi.
3. Donate £300 to the student-led crowdfunded legal fight against the University of Chichester.

Motion 2: Support for Brighton and Highlands and Islands UCU against redundancies

Proposer: Marion Hersh

Secunder:

UCUG notes:

1. The University of Brighton has been on strike for more than 100 days against redundancies.
2. The University of the Highlands and Islands is having six strike days against cuts and proposals to make about 44 members of staff redundant.

UCUG agrees to:

1. Donate £300 to Brighton UCU and £300 to University of the Highlands and Islands UCU.
2. Write to their vice chancellor and principal demanding they withdraw the proposed redundancies.
3. Send messages of solidarity to the two UCU branches.

Motion 3: Support for City of Glasgow College against redundancies

Proposer: Marion Hersh

Secunder:

UCU Glasgow notes:

1. City of Glasgow College has been on strike for about 70 days against redundancies.

UCUG agrees to:

1. Donate £300 to City of Glasgow College EIS
2. Write to their principal demanding they withdraw the proposed redundancies.
3. Send messages of solidarity to the EIS branch.
4. Encourage members to attend pickets at the college and organise to take them banner to at least one picket.