

STRIKES FOR USS BEGIN!



University of Warwick Day one picket line with sterling student support!

Members at the Universities of Aston, Keele and Warwick have embarked upon an unprecedented 14 day strike against cuts to their pensions. The picket lines at all three universities were supported by both regional office staff, branch members, regional members and students in all cases. This solidarity has been replicated across all 64 striking pre-92 universities across the county with rallies and marches taking place. Already this show of strength and solidarity has led to several Vice Chancellors calling for a return to the negotiating table, and this number is growing on a daily basis. The pressure must be maintained to strengthen UCU's position.

Show your solidarity with our strikers by supporting your local pickets. You can make a donation to the UCU Strike Hardship fund <https://www.ucu.org.uk/fightingfund> as there are a lot of casualised and low paid workers disproportionately affected.

It is vital that a solid stance is maintained to keep up the pressure and get employers back round the negotiating table! See <https://www.ucu.org.uk/strikeforuss> and Information for those affected by the strikes: [Why we're taking action over USS](#)

Uni Warwick USS picket line pictures



Warwick Student Support

It's not too late! Universities UK can still commit to meaningful negotiations over pensions and [end the strike action.](#)

You can join UCU at www.ucu.org.uk/join

Aston and Keele Picket Lines



**ALL OUT FOR USS
STRIKE TO DEFEND YOUR PENSION**

OTHER NEWS

UCU TRAINING COURSES

All courses take place at Birmingham Alpha Tower Office.
Click on the link to apply except for the Caseworker Course)

Equality reps: 7-8 March 2018, Birmingham

This course is aimed at new Equality reps or those in the branch who wish to further their knowledge around equality.

Rep 2: Representing UCU members, 14-16 March 2018, Birmingham

This second module of Reps training will help you develop the skills you need to support members who are facing difficulties at work.

H&S 2: Organising and bargaining for health and safety, 21-23 March 2018, Birmingham

This 3-day course forms the second part of an 6-day training programme consisting of 2 modules.

Rep 1: UCU reps induction, 25-27 April 2018, Birmingham

This 3-day course is aimed at new reps/caseworkers and activists who will be undertaking this role in the near future. Existing reps who have not attended training before are also encouraged to attend.

Caseworker Training Course, 20 June 2018

One day course which is self explanatory. Contact Jenette Estridge to register on jestridge@ucu.org.uk

Introduction to pensions, 4-5 July 2018, Birmingham

This two-day course is for reps who are or will be involved in offering support to members with pension enquiries.

OTHER DIARY DATES

SANDWELL COLLEGE STRIKE

28 February and 1 March 2018

NATIONAL DAY OF ACTION AGAINST WORKPLACE RACISM

28 February 2018

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

8 March 2018

DID YOU KNOW?

UCU are offering free* membership to staff working in further education not on lecturing contracts but part of the teaching and assessing team, such as instructor, assessor, trainer, teaching assistant or progression coach and for research students who teach in HE.

*Free membership includes access to all the benefits of full membership: help if you have a problem at work; a legal scheme provided by specialist employment lawyers covering employment rights, personal injury and police enquiries.

It is provided for a maximum of four years from registration. Free membership is provided on the basis that you inform UCU promptly when your circumstances change and you secure a job in FE if you are appointed to the teaching staff (or in HE of one year or more contract duration).

Amend your membership record online at: <https://members.ucu.org.uk/> or call: 0333 207 0719.