

To:
Professor Gavin Brown,
Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Education, University of Liverpool

Professor Warren Barr,
Head of Department, Liverpool Law School

Dear Professor Brown and Professor Barr,

EXTERNAL EXAMINER RESIGNATION

As external examiners at the School of Law and Social Justice, University of Liverpool we are writing to express our concern about, and disappointment in, the University's [advice to students](#) in respect of industrial action from November 25 - December 4, 2019.

We are especially concerned by the failure to assure students that it is entirely lawful to support an official picket at the same time as informing them that joining a picket per se is unlawful for non-Union members. We are also deeply concerned by the University's weaponisation of the UK's immigration system by failing to put into place systems for visa holding students to ensure that they can support action by not crossing a picket line, should that be their choice. Other institutions are putting in place appropriate systems for their protection, respectful of diversity of opinion and conscience across their university community.

We are conscious that universities rely on the modestly remunerated work and collegiality of external examiners to deliver their programmes. We are also grateful for, impressed by, and supportive of the excellent educational work undertaken by our colleagues in Liverpool. However, in the light of what we consider to be a combative and intimidatory approach to student support for industrial action, we cannot continue to support the University of Liverpool through the provision of our labour.

We thus hereby notify you of our resignation from our posts as external examiners at the University of Liverpool. In accordance with the terms and conditions of our appointments we provide you with three months notice, should you wish us to work it out. Our resignations will thus take effect from 25 February 2020. We expect to receive appropriate pro rata remuneration for work undertaken up until that date.

Yours sincerely

Prof Fiona de Londras, Birmingham Law School, University of Birmingham
Dr Natasa Mavronicola, Birmingham Law School, University of Birmingham
Dr Jed Meers, York Law School, University of York
Dr Yoriko Otomo, School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London
Prof Sally Sheldon, Kent Law School, University of Kent

Dr Celine Tan, School of Law, University of Warwick
Dr Anil Yilmaz Vastardis, School of Law, University of Essex