

IT IS YOUR LEGAL RIGHT TO BE A MEMBER OF A TRADE UNION IN THE UK

Your employer will not know that you have joined a trade union and it is against the law for you to be discriminated against because you are a member of a trade union.

UCU, (University and College Union), is a trade union that is legally recognised by the University of Stirling, through a formal recognition agreement.

WELCOME TO YOUR FUTURE WITH UCU!

In a world where work is constantly evolving, having a strong, supportive community by your side is more important than ever. UCU is not just about representation in disputes or negotiations; it is about building a brighter future for all our members, across every corner of the UK.

Inside this leaflet you will see 10 reasons why joining UCU means taking a powerful step towards professional growth, better working conditions, and a network that stands by you, every step of the way.

JOIN US TODAY!

To join us, use either the QR code, below, or visit www.ucu.org.uk join and follow the instructions. It is quick and easy to join. You may feel too pressurized, too busy or too isolated to tackle problems alone. You may feel bullied or have too heavy a workload. Together we can achieve real change for the better.



UCU Registered Office: Carlow Street, London, NW17LH

www.ucu.org.uk

UCU General Secretary: Jo Grady



FREE MEMBERSHIP FOR ALL PhD TEACHING STUDENTS!

**DO YOU KNOW WHAT A UK UNION
DOES, AND HOW IMPORTANT
MEMBERSHIP CAN BE TO YOU,
NOW, AND IN THE FUTURE?**

WHAT IS A UK UNION AND WHO CAN JOIN?

A UK union is an organisation that can be joined by members of staff in any workplace, in order to be supported in countless different ways throughout their working lives. There are unions for each type of work, and the University and College Union (UCU) can be joined by, and will represent, academic and professional/academic-related staff.

As a PhD teaching student, you are eligible to join, free of charge for a 12 month period, colleagues who are lecturers, teachers, trainers, instructors, researchers, administrators, computer specialists or librarians, (Grade 6 and above), who are already members of our UCU Union. Postgraduate Research students, who do not teach, are also eligible for full membership in a 'Postgraduate Researcher membership' category, which is not free of charge but is charged at the lowest membership rate. They are eligible to participate in all levels of UCU democracy and to receive all benefits that student members cannot receive. However, they are not eligible to take part in industrial action ballots.

1 Collective bargaining power:
together means a stronger voice

2 Free training: empower your
career; unlock your potential

3 Championing Health & Safety:
your safety is our priority

4 A community of support:
a network of friends and allies

5 Equality and respect for all:
everyone is treated with respect

6 Caseworkers here to help you:
volunteers offer support

7 Legal assistance when required:
advice offered to members

8 Navigating change together:
your rights are protected

9 Our success stories:
real change, real impact

10

**REASONS
WHY IT WILL
HELP YOUR
CAREER
WHEN
YOU JOIN
UCU**



WHAT DOES UCU DO, AND WHY WOULD IT BE AN ADVANTAGE TO JOIN US?

What is important to you at work?

**Job satisfaction? A safe workplace? Professional development?
Job security? Fair treatment? Fair pay? A reasonable pension?**

If you are missing any of the above, then:

Join us in UCU today - it takes less than 10 minutes

Unions are here to help you throughout your career because you never know when you may need support, advice or someone to campaign on your behalf, for better pay or working conditions. If you are **not** a member, you **will not be able** to benefit from the services that we can offer you.

UCU is the nationally recognised body representing over 120,000 professionals in Higher and Further Education roles across the UK. Because of our collective action, we have recently **won our pensions back**. Here, at Stirling, we are the recognised union for academic and related staff on grades 6 and above. We work with the employer to negotiate workplace policies and to represent the voice of the staff. Our caseworkers are always available to listen to any problems you may have in the workplace.

Empower yourself with the support, resources and community you deserve. Together, we can build a better working world. We are here for you, every step of the way.

THERE'S STRENGTH IN NUMBERS 10