

# WHY YOU SHOULD BE A UCU MEMBER

**UCU members are lecturers, academics, trainers, instructors, researchers, administrators, managers, computer staff, librarians and postgraduates in universities and colleges. UCU members also teach in prisons, adult education and training organisations.**

## **UCU Peace of mind at work**

- Education is an amazing and immensely rewarding profession, but these are insecure and worrying times. At some point in your career, you are likely to have a problem in your workplace.
- When you join UCU you are joining a union of professionals like yourself who can rest easier in the knowledge that they will not face their problems alone.
- UCU members can get representation and support from trained UCU representatives and full-time officials as well as expert legal advice. Last year, UCU's legal services won more than £7 million in settlements for members treated unfairly at work.

## **UCU You're better off with us**

- UCU exists to improve the working lives of its members in post-secondary education. We are recognised by employers in colleges and universities and we negotiate what you are paid, how your pension scheme works and the terms and conditions of your job at local and national levels.
- Our strength comes from you and the 110,000 other members who have chosen to join UCU. When you join us, you add your voice to ours and make us stronger, better able to win improvements for our members. UCU also fights hard to defend its members' jobs. You are better off with us.
- We also work hard to provide benefits that enhance the lives of our members in work and out of it. If you are injured at work, if you need advice over your pension or more general financial guidance, whether you are looking for good travel or home insurance deals or if

you need one-to-one counselling for work-based stress, the support we provide through our partnerships with Endsleigh, Aviva and Recourse is second to none.

## **UCU A professional union**

- As a union of professionals, UCU supports its members in their professional lives and careers.
- UCU negotiates with employers locally and nationally to improve access to professional development and support proper career structures.
- We also provide our own resources to help steer our members through their careers, especially those at the beginning of their professional lives. Every UCU member gets a copy of our Early Careers Guide, as well as access to our own growing range of professional development courses. Every member also gets discounted access to the *Journal of Further and Higher Education*.

## **UCU A national voice for the profession**

- UCU is a nationally respected voice, speaking up for staff in colleges and universities, working for our members.
- We are an effective campaigning union, winning the ear of those in power on the issues affecting our members, from pensions and privatisation to equality and safety in the workplace.
- As a union affiliated to the TUC, we are also part of a 6 million-strong wider movement speaking up for working people.

## **UCU An active community**

- When you make the decision to join UCU you become part of an active community of professionals supporting each other.
- Every member who becomes active in our union makes it stronger, whether it's getting involved in our campaigns, attending your branch meeting, volunteering to help your local branch committee, training to become a representative or standing for election.
- We are a vibrant, active democratic community committed to improving the lives of our members at work. Get involved and help make us even more effective.

**JOINING UCU COULDN'T BE EASIER!**

**JOIN ONLINE AT:**

**<https://join.ucu.org.uk>**

**UCU**  
University and College Union