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UCU's Further Education Committee met on Friday 12 September to consider the results of the FE England member consultation on the 2014/15 final pay offer. The result of the consultation was that 85% of members who participated in the e-ballot voted to reject the 1% offer. The FEC noted that the 2013/14 claim continued to be unresolved and therefore supported further strike action to secure an improved offer in continuance of our ongoing 2013/14 dispute.

FEC members received reports from UCU officials which included industrial and political advice on issues surrounding the options for taking industrial action and the legality of action. Following significant discussion regarding the level of turnout in the member consultation and of all available options, FEC voted in favour of calling on FE members in England to take strike action on 14 October 2014 in further pursuit of UCU's 2013/14 pay claim.

UNISON's local government members will also be striking on 14 October with other public sector unions likely to be joining the action too. This will provide an opportunity for coordinated regional rallies and demonstrations.

The FEC Officers were also tasked by FEC to develop a campaign of targeted escalating strike action with branches to be selected in consultation with branch and regional officers from among those with the highest paid Principals or those with highest recent increases.

At least two branches per region are to be targeted with details to be brought to the next FEC on 17 October for action to be taken in November. Decisions about strike pay and collections relating to this proposed action will need to be made by the National Officers at UCU's National Executive Committee.

Further campaigning including a national lobby on pay and in defence of Further and Adult Education and dates for another round of national strike action will be determined when FEC next meets on 17 October.

Supported practitioner-led action research projects; October 2014 to July 2015

Do you have a good research idea but need some support and some thinking time to make it happen?

The Education and Training Foundation is creating opportunities to give practitioners the time and space to reflect, experiment, apply, and also generate their own, evidence, in order to improve their and their colleagues' practice and ultimately outcomes for learners.

The Education and Training Foundation are offering opportunities to practitioners wishing to undertake a supported action research project during the academic year 2014-15. For more information see:

<http://www.et-foundation.co.uk/supporting/research/practitioner-research-support/>