

Education for Social Change

The role of trade unions in addressing sustainable environmental development

ETUCE Conference 23 April 2021 Marianne Quick, Bargaining & Negotiations Official <u>mquick@ucu.org.uk</u>

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FORW

CLE

climate

action

Key aspects of UCU's work 2019-2021



Building capacity for collective bargaining within workplaces UCU's Green New Deal for Colleges and Universities

Developing broader awareness of climate justice and education for sustainable development UCU's Free Member Continuing Professional Development Courses

Developing capacity and awareness via social dialogue and campaigning UCU's campaign tool for Climate-Themed Learning Weeks Working with other unions and political lobbying around linking up the industrial and education strategies in the UK



Collective Bargaining: UCU & SOS-UK Green New Deal for colleges & universities

The green new deal (GND) brings together policy set by both UCU and National Union of Students within a negotiating and bargaining framework.

- A crucial element of UCU's climate change policy has been building alliances with student organisations and their campaigns.
- Students Organising for Sustainability (SOS-UK)
- The 'green new deal for colleges and universities' which we have developed together will see our members and our students coordinating with each other to seek urgent and meaningful changes from our institutions.







Collective bargaining within workplaces Green New Deal Model Claim Toolkit

- 1. Declaring a climate emergency
- 2. Industrial relations (time off)
- 3. Embedding climate education into the curriculum
- 4. Energy and carbon management (including travel policies)
- 5. Ethical investment and banking
- 6. Food and land use

and

NEW for COP-26 Campaign: Decarbonise & Decolonise 2030



MONITOR AND REVIEW

Has the employer met your claim in full? • Review and then relaunch the claim. ● If there has been failure to agree consider escalation to a formal collective dispute.



PREPARING AND PROGRESSING A GREEN NEW DEAL **IN YOUR**

WORKPLACE



STEP UP THE PRESSURE

You need to avoid green-wash from the employer so build leverage for your campaign: ● Increase social media posts. • Take part in joint action with student groups, eg school strikes. ● Write to local MPs. • Write to governors/counsel/senate



NEGOTIATE AND PUBLICISE CLAIM

Now publicise your claim widely: ● Write an open letter and a blog. ● Post on social media ● Circulate a newsletter • Put up UCU's Climate is a Trade Union Issue poster • Design your own campaign materials. • Review progress of negotiations.





Preparing and Progressing a Green New Deal in your workplace

Remember, at every step, advice and support is available from your regional office and from UCU national Campaigns, and Bargaining & Negotiation teams.



Is anyone leading on this issue for the branch? ● Have they attended green reps training? • Put Green New Deal on the branch committee agenda. ● Review your institution position on the climate emergency.





DECIDE PRIORITIES

Discuss GND priorities at a branch meeting. • Liaise with other trade unions + student groups. • Convene a joint action group, survey the membership and conduct an environmental audit of your institution.



SUBMIT YOUR CLAIM



Submit your green agenda claim in a formal letter to your employer. ● Request a date for a meeting and/or put on JNC agenda. ● Set a timeframe for a response.



Developing broader awareness of climate justice & education for sustainable development

Introduction to sustainability

Decarbonise and decolonise 2030: meeting the UN's SDGs UCU Free Training for Members: Climate

& Sustainability

Continuing Professional Development Embedding climate education into the curriculum

How to run a climate-themed learning week





The psychology of climate change

Climate learning ideas

What role does psychology have to play in climate

change?

Posted in Social sciences, Other ideas



The 'tragedy of the commons' Is climate change caused by a failure to cooperate? Is collective action the solution?

Posted in Other ideas



Climate-themed Learning Week

Lots of great ideas and lesson plans can be found at:

https://ctlw.web.ucu.org.uk/category/climate-learning-ideas

Why isn't Dr Who Vegan? The Doctor exhibits compassion to all creatures, across space and across history. Except



What is ic' climate change? What are the change?



'anthropogen ethics of climate

Posted in Social sciences



Economics

IDEAS

Natural sciences

Social sciences



The role of trade unions in addressing sustainable environmental development

the delicious

ones.



UCU We will be the the future The future WE choose (

UCU has been developing policy and building alliances to address climate change

€-1958·

1895

CO, levels

for over 10 years. We have created a huge network of green reps and pushed tertiory education employers and pension funds to divest from fossil fuels and other environmentally damaging industries. Radical action on the climate is needed now - not just to secure a future for the entire planet but to win justice for people in the global south whose lives are already drastically offected by climate change. Our 2020 wall chart presents a snapshot of climate activism and the solidarity we will need to build across barders to achieve climate justice. THIS is the future we choose.

Geochemist Charles Kileling

outlines ways to record.

Dr. Jo Grady, UCU General Secretary

c10.000 years ago

After the last glacial retreat the Holocene epoch started. This is the period when the climate has been relatively stable

1273

A decree was passed in England prohibiting the burning of sea cool because of pollution concerns

late 18 Century

Revolution - the burning of coal powers the industrialisation of the UK

€-1860s

The so-colled Greenhouse Effect analogy stuck. Later hish scientist John Tundoll explores the idea further

Jean-Baptiste Joseph Fourier

discovery of the greenhouse effect.

1768-1830) is generally created with the

lames lovelock (1919-) is best known for

larly Mclachlan (1962-) o UCU member

and Director of Tunidall Monchester. They

proposing the Gala hypothesis, seeing the Earth

produce world-class agenda-setting research on

energy systems, carbon budgets and pathways.

Swedish chemist Svonte Airhenius colculates that if CO₂ levels were habed global temperatures cauld decrease by about SIC



• 1970

22nd 1970

1988

• 1997

World Earth Doy Was first celebrated on April

1988 United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate

Change (IPCC) established

Implementation of the Kuoto Protocol, Russid and USB don't sign





This year marks the start of the ten hottest years in the

2008

UK Climate Change Act - The UK was the first country to set legally binding targets for reductions in greenhouse das emissions

2015

(COP) in Paris established the goot of limiting global warming to 15°C

the COP, a "Climate Strike" was organised in over 100 countries; over \$0,000 people participated

2018

2019

Almost 75% of new electricity capacity was renewable

UCU move Climate Stoppage motion to TUC Annual Congress in support of school strikers. On 20 September workers join school climate strikers for solidarity action

> Sharan Burrow 1954-1 is the Ceneral Secretary of the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) of Trade Unions. The ITUC's first woman General. Secretary, she has established action on climate change as a key part of the organisation's strategy

Climate Change is a Trade Union Issue

University and College Universite DOUG provides between an established network of reprior and seembers on driverse througe Use have an established network of Deen Specific Profile the driver detroided contact, established and and a of an environmentation of the second sec
International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) comparynce a global Intel an bohall of to 207 million members www.ituc-estary/sectorment
The Lacins Riberroldve Corporate Plan sepresented find oberropia by the trade union meaning to develop a part that Lance begind defending the section provide Lacine meaning laces plans segurity (Mary - of - the - to care plan).
The Western dispute in 2009, were one of the list could term of uncertained environments of uncertained to be a support a to be a of uncertained to be an and to be an another the official get being to change

Just transition

of Transition is a social justice term that advocates that work he socially disacher/seged, and communities do not suffer advecse consequences from policies to deal with climate change. Putting p

#Build back better

river in both cases, there has been a refusal to listen to scientists, to the academic community, or to the wider communities of people who are most affected.

Green New Deal A science is the Great agreed between the state and representatives of workers, can ensure a subbleable and viable 21° century according leased on five principles. December/sing the economy Reduction of social on-Indid a pacifient uncleive Creation of rollings of tecore capera laba

bet to know ... the future

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Mindee, UKSCN True Der Brinde

Wangari Maathai 1940-2011 used her scientific understanding to launch the Green Belt Tovement in Keruja, that linked environmental has so for planted 51 million plus trees, and

breta Thurberg (2003-) believes humanity is facing an existential crisis because of global warming, and holds the current generation of adults responsible for creating the problem. Sive has led a series of school strikes that have been

Naomi Klein (1970-) is a writer and social She encouraged Trade Union and Occupul movements to join forces, saying the financial unrestrained corporate greed

Christiana Figueres (1966-) was appointed Executive Secretary of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change in 2010, six months after the failed COPIS in Copenhagen Subsequently, she worked to rebuild the global cimate change negatiating process

Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (1969-1 16 o US Democratic Party Congresswoman for New York 14 the Bronx & Queens, She introduced her hist piece of legislation, the Green New Deal in 2019. Her plans call for implementing the "social costof carbon" to address climate change, and in the process, create jobs and boost the economy

Paroline Lucas (1960-) the Green Porty MP and climate comparaner helped set up the Green New Deal Group in 2008 putting forward new, or even alons

Alan Dalton 1946-20031 was an environmental comparigner for the British Society for Social Responsibility in Science (BSSR5). He helped set up a new grassroots safety magazine, Hazards Bulletin, created as unions for the first time users given legal rights to participate in workplace safety

-2020 & beyond

CALL TO ACTION: It is time to

organise and fight for a green

group. Audit your workplace.

uture - today. Set up an action

Bargain for a Green New Deat

UCU launches its Green

New Deal claim for Cal-

seges and Universities

with SOS-UK

YOU can stop this

the Earth we can have

On 30 November, the first day of

Extinction Rebellion push the issue of climate catastrophe to the centre of political debate through non violent

civil disobedience actions

Uffi Conference of the Parties



Call to Action – COP 26

- Collaborating with international and UK educational unions towards organising a Climate-themed month of teaching and campaign activity leading up to COP-26.
- Profiling the importance of embedding climate justice and climate action across the curriculum.
- Demanding that our schools, colleges and universities act to embed those changes as a matter of urgency.
- Decarbonise & Decolonise 2030: Campaign and Model Claim





Summary

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Education TUs have a unique role to play in addressing sustainable environmental development

- Any strategy has to involve students/pupils
- Bargaining and negotiating advice to branches to help realise change within schools, colleges and universities
- Political education via free courses for our own members/affiliates in which we emphasise climate justice
- Work with industrial trade unions/political lobbying to ensure that educational strategy is in line with industrial strategies and 'Just Transition' references climate justice and equality issues
- Provide campaign and resource support for climate themed learning activities within schools, colleges and universities and bring in local communities





Resources

- UCU's Green New Deal Bargaining Guides UCU Green new deal
- Climate Themed Learning Week Resources <u>Climate Learning</u> <u>Week (ucu.org.uk)</u>
- Future we choose wall chart <u>UCU The future we choose</u>
- SOS-UK <u>Students Organising for Sustainability UK (SOS-UK)</u> (unioncloud.org)
- SOS-International -<u>Home | Students Organizing for Sustainability</u>
 <u>International (sos.earth)</u>
- COP 26 Coalition <u>COP26 COP26 Coalition</u>

