



Fringe meetings and social events

All events take place at the Congress venue, SEC (Scottish Event Campus)

Fringe meetings take place in the Loch Suite rooms on the ground floor (Alsh and Boisdale rooms) and first floor (Carron 2 & Dochart rooms). These rooms are well signed within the venue.

Friday 26 May (evening)

Get ahead - early registration.

Hall 1 16:30-19:00

Early registration will be available from 16:30-19:00, and delegates already in Glasgow are encouraged to register. Everyone attending Congress needs to register their arrival in order to receive their name badge, without which there is no entry to the Congress Hall. Voting cards, and a delegate bag will also be distributed at registration.

Introduction to Congress

Alsh 1 & 2 18:00-19:00

Chaired by Alan Barker, Chair of Congress Business Committee

Join members of the Congress Business Committee (CBC) for a friendly overview of Congress - including the role of CBC, and the procedures that operate when motions are debated and voted on. As we gather for the first in-person Congress since 2019, Janet Farrar, President and chair of Congress, will also take this opportunity to welcome delegates and set the tone for a constructive and inclusive event. Open to all delegates, particularly new delegates.

Welcome reception

Hall 1 19:00-20:00

Delegates are warmly invited to attend a welcome reception hosted by Glasgow Convention Bureau. This is an opportunity for members to relax and network over a glass of wine with a welcome on behalf of the Lord Provost of Glasgow, and from UCU President Janet Farrar.

Fringe meetings, Saturday 27 May, 13:00-14:00

Winning the Marking & Assessment Boycott

Alsh 1 & 2

Members in HE have been engaged in our first nationwide MAB for a number of years. This workshop will provide the opportunity for members to share practice and discuss ideas. Come prepared to listen, to share, and to develop a better understanding of how we win together.

Organising & bargaining for a new green deal

Boisdale 1

Join UCU's new Climate and Ecological Emergency Committee (CEEC) to find out how we're organising and bargaining for our future!

Speakers include:

- Maxine Looby, UCU VP, on how FE is leading the way with a Just Transition Commission for FE integrated into this year's national claim demands.
- University of Liverpool activists with updates on their inspiring local Green New Deal claim
- Lucy Burke, UCU HE Negotiator and host/producer of Green New Deal Media podcast.

Managerialism and metrics in post-school education: what are the implications for academic freedom and professional autonomy?

Dochart 1 & 2 (1st floor)

Managerialism and performance metrics such as Ofsted and the Research Excellence Framework have become all-pervasive throughout further and higher education. Come and hear about the impact of Ofsted inspections on professional autonomy of FE lecturers and how the 'digital university' is undermining freedoms to teach and research in higher education. What can UCU do nationally and locally to resist such trends?

Speakers include:

- Terence Karran and Chavan Kissoon (University of Lincoln)
- Julie Milner (Trafford College Group) & Julie Britain (The Manchester College)
- Chair: Maria Chondrogianni (UCU NEC and Chair of the Education Committee)

Prison Education: Surviving marketisation and organising for the future

Carron 2 (1st floor)

Delegates are invited to discuss UCU's vision for a different kind of prison education in the context of the failing for-profit commissioning model and the new Prison Education Service contract. There will also be the opportunity hear how Novus UCU fought back and won on pay and terms and conditions as well as how UCU is organising and winning for members in prison education.

Saturday 27 May, 18:00-19:00

Rising together: UCU Campaigns reception:

Hall 1

Delegates are invited to our annual Congress drinks reception hosted by UCU campaigns. Speeches will be kept to a minimum, with the emphasis on coming together to socialise and reflect on a momentous year of campaigning across the education sectors we represent. Like you, we're proud to be UCU: so, come along and meet new activists, renew old acquaintances and relax after a busy day of Congress business.

Fringe meetings, Sunday 28 May, 13:00-14:00

Winning for casualised members

Alsh 1 and 2

This meeting is an opportunity for UCU's Anti-Casualisation Committee to share some of the successes that members and branches have been achieving in the fight against casualisation at a local level.

We need to recognise and celebrate the wins that have been achieved locally. This will be a chance to look at some of those deals in more detail and discuss what organising and campaign tactics have worked.

We have invited speakers from Sheffield Hallam, Bath, the OU, Petroc College and an outsourced provider.

We look forward to welcoming all colleagues who have an interest in the fight against casualisation.

Equally well: tackling health inequalities for fairer workplaces

Boisdale 1

Those in marginalised communities often experience poorer health outcomes, while some groups struggle to access healthcare at all. A lack of support and understanding from employers can exacerbate these health inequalities and create unnecessary barriers to work. From securing reasonable adjustments to enhanced sick leave policies and better understanding of mental health issues, there are numerous ways that UCU branches can support improved access to both work and healthcare. Come along to discuss how we can work together to create fairer, healthier workplaces for all.

Building solidarity with the Palestinian people

(Carron 2 1st floor)

Come and hear about the challenges facing Palestinian teachers and students and discuss how UCU members can provide support. The fringe will include a report of a recent UCU delegation to Palestine and will be an opportunity for delegates to find out about how to get involved in the broader UK solidarity movement.

Speakers include:

- Dr Jo Grady, UCU General Secretary
- Alya Zoabi, Lawyer, activist and PhD student at the University of Exeter
- Louise Regan, Vice-Chair, Palestine Solidarity Campaign & NEU National Officer
- Chair: Janet Farrar, UCU President

Burnt out: organising for safer workloads

Dochart 1 & 2 (1st floor)

Staff across post-16 education are burnt out due to excessive workload demands, long working hours and increasing pace and intensity of work. Delegates attending the fringe will hear about UCU's workload campaign and will hear directly from a branch who have been developing this campaign approach and have made significant progress due to union pressure. Delegates will have an opportunity to ask questions and engage in discussion around this important issue.

Sunday 28 May, from 19:30

Congress dinner with drinks reception

Congress dinner be at the Crown Plaza (Argyll Suite) Congress Road, Glasgow, G3 8T.

The Crown Plaza is next to the Congress venue, SEC, Glasgow.

Drinks will be served from 19:30. Delegates will be invited to move into the dining room from approximately 20:15. A disco will follow.

*Note: Delegates must register in advance for this event and were asked to do so as part of their registration for Congress. Please bring your dinner ticket with you. **If you have booked to attend but no longer wish to do so, please contact Sue Bajwa at the Congress registration desk.***