

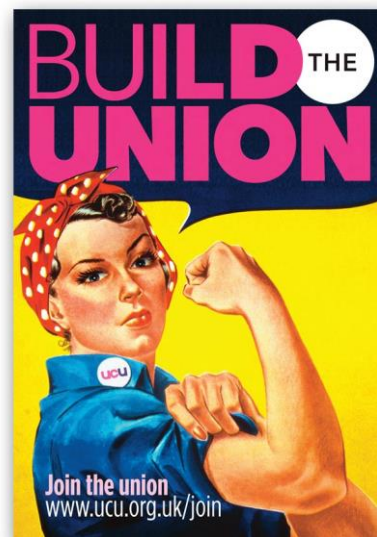
## UCU – the union for prison educators

UCU is the largest post-school union in the World. We are proud to represent members in higher, further, adult and prison education.

To join and eligibility: [www.ucu.org.uk/join](http://www.ucu.org.uk/join)  
Also see: [UCU - UCU member benefits](#)

The more members we have, the more we can achieve.

During **Build The Union** month please pass on this newsletter and ask colleagues to join UCU.



## Your Pay Campaign

MKC UCU members have overwhelmingly voted YES to accept a pay increase of 8.5% for staff earning under £43,000pa and 6.5% for staff earning above that. This is a great achievement and will go some way towards addressing the impact that years of pay stagnation and high inflation have had on your salary.

The pay agreement also includes a commitment to review finances after quarters 2 and 3 with the aim of awarding a further one-off lump sum to staff; and a commitment to reviewing pay scales and working towards a more equitable and consistent pay framework. Work is ongoing on the issue of gate time, which was part of 2022 and 2023's pay claims, and we hope to have a formalised arrangement soon.

## Your Union: Making A Difference

Your UCU branch gives you a strong local collective voice to tackle the issues that matter to you. The progress we have made on the pay campaign is testament to the strength of your branch, and to be even stronger we need more people joining UCU and getting involved. Contact your branch for more details and how you can help:

- Branch Chair: Frances Wilson, HMP Garth, frances.wilsonucu@gmail.com
- Vice-Chair: Victor Machado, HMP Long Lartin, victorcostamachado@gmail.com

Prison education will continue to face challenges such as excessive workloads, and we need everyone on board to tackle them collectively. In **Build the Union** month, we are asking members to 'map' their workplace – more information here:

<https://www.ucu.org.uk/article/13127/Build-the-Union-Month>

## UCU Prison Education in the media

UCU continues to campaign nationally to return prison education to the Department for Education and develop a national contract for prison educators. Some of our work on the New Fair Deal for pensions was covered in FE Week: <https://tinyurl.com/prisonpensions>

## Reasons To Join UCU

Your collective voice locally - your reps raise members' issues with management

Local reps, backed by full-time officials, help members with problems at work

Nationally UCU has over 120,000 members and is the voice of your profession. We want to see: higher pay, agreements to tackle excessive workloads, insecure contracts and equality pay gaps; and decent pensions.

Our legal scheme covers employment rights and free personal injury claims

Counselling, support and financial assistance through Education Support

Subscription rates are banded according to how much you earn. Claim tax relief and reduce the cost.

If you aren't yet a member, join UCU today: [www.ucu.org.uk/join](http://www.ucu.org.uk/join)

For more membership benefits: [www.ucu.org.uk/ucuplus](http://www.ucu.org.uk/ucuplus)

Claim income tax relief and reduce the cost of your subs: [UCU - Tax relief on subscriptions](#)

If you are already a member of another trade union please just recycle this newsletter

## CPD

UCU offers a range of CPD courses which are free for members.

These include: tackling the climate crisis; equality and diversity; excessive workload; and casualisation

For more details email Glen Pickard [gpickard@ucu.org.uk](mailto:gpickard@ucu.org.uk)

## More Reps Needed

You could become a rep, health and safety rep (this role covers excessive workload and stress), equality rep or environment rep. Or become a contact and raise UCU's profile. Paid time off, rep training and support is provided to carry out union duties. Please contact your UCU rep to discuss. Have a look at the training courses here: [www.ucu.org.uk/training](http://www.ucu.org.uk/training)