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1. Next Learning Rep Training

The next UCU learning rep training is scheduled for Wednesday 8 and Thursday 9 February plus Wednesday 4 April in Leeds.

The course will look at your role as a learning rep, your legal rights, current issues, UCU union policies, agreements on learning and skills, and how to extend the UCU organising agenda to build the branch around learning.

Who should attend?

New and existing UCU learning reps have a statutory right to attend within 6 months of appointment. The course is also open to branch officers. Every branch should have at least one learning rep.

At the end of this 3-day module you will have:

- discussed why issues relating to learning, training and professional development are trade union issues
- identified the role of the learning rep and rights of learning reps
- become more informed about learning & skills issues in the post compulsory education sector
- assessed your members learning needs
- explored what learning, skills and professional development opportunities exist within your college/university
- discussed equality issues around learning and how to deal with them

Click here for further information on Learning Rep Training:

http://www.ucu.org.uk/media/pdf/t/0/ULR_courses_all_regions_2011-12.pdf

2. Get Online @ Home

Refurbished computers for £95 are available to union learning representatives. These computers can help members overcome the cost as a barrier to getting connected.

Microsoft and partners have agreed that Union Learning Representatives are eligible to order up to a maximum of six refurbished computers.

To see the latest computer and internet connection offers visit or call:

- The Microsoft backed *Get Online @ Home* at:
<http://www.getonlineathome.org/>
- Remploy: Refurbished PCs with open source software, tel: 0845 026 8293
- PCXUK: Refurbished PCs with Win7, tel: 0845 644 6866.

3. Institute of Education: Module in Managing and Enhancing Work-Based Learning

This module is aimed at people in the private and public sector involved in work-based learning, whether they run accredited programmes of learning, offer mentoring or coaching and/or are interested in other types of learning. This new course is also part of the Institute of Education's MA Lifelong Learning. For further information contact Norman Lucas at n.lucas@ioe.ac.uk.

4. unionlearn's Climbing Frame Newsletter from unionlearn

Follow last edition's introduction to the Climbing Frame please find here:

<http://bit.ly/uP5uVV> a link to the October edition of the unionlearn's **Climbing Frame Newsletter**. Content includes:

- ***the matrix Standard*** – a unique quality framework for the effective delivery of information, advice and/or guidance on learning and work
- ***Climbing Frame Discussion Forums*** – have your say on the Climbing Frame
- ***Health Sector Learning Theme Pilots***
- ***the unionlearn 2011 ULR Survey***
- ***Learning Theme: Higher Learning***
- ***Climbing Frame Support Resources*** – key resources for using the Climbing Frame
- ***Frequently Asked Questions***

5. Dates for Your Diary

Employment Law Update, Monday 12 December, 1-4pm at Northern TUC, Commercial Union House, 39 Pilgrim Street, Newcastle. Contact Melanie Lowden at mlowden@tuc.org.uk to book a place.

Leicester Union Learning Reps Forum, Wednesday 14 December, 10am – 2pm, Vaughan College, St Nicholas Circle, Leicester LE1 4LB. For more details see here:

<http://www.unionlearn.org.uk/ulr/learn-4349-f0.cfm>

Wolverhampton Union Learning Rep Forum, Thursday 15 December, 10am – 1pm, The Workspace, All Saints Road, Wolverhampton WV2 1EL. For further details see here:

<http://www.unionlearn.org.uk/ulr/learn-4350-f0.cfm>

Lincoln Union Learning Forum, Monday 19 December, 10am – 1.00pm (followed by lunch), The Showroom, Tritton Road, Lincoln LN6 7QY. For more details click here: <http://www.unionlearn.org.uk/ulr/learn-4351-f0.cfm>.

Oxford ULRs Local Network, Wednesday 29 February 2012, 10.30am – 1.00pm, Ruskin College. See here: <http://www.unionlearn.org.uk/ulr/learn-4370-f0.cfm> for further details.

We like to hear more about your work, in which you support other trade union members to learn, and to publicise this via Learning Rep News. Please send details to dhendry@ucu.org.uk.