

## **UCU Conference - Defend Public Education – Programme**

**Chair: Tom Wilson, Director of unionlearn**

**From 10.15am Registration and coffee**

**10.45am** Introduction

**11.00am** Keynote speaker: Professor Ken Spours, Institute of Education

*The coalition government's attack on public education: the nature of the threat and the implications for the future*

**11.30am** Cat Smith, Chair of Next Generation Labour

*Post-16 education: lifelong learning or wasted lives?*

**12.00 noon** The White Paper on Higher education

Professor John Holmwood, Campaign for the Public University

*The impoverishment of university education and the alternative vision*

**12.45pm Lunch**

**1.45pm** Campaigning for education: an inspiring example

*Articulating the cause and changing the debate: speakers from the Action for ESOL campaign (Melanie Cooke, King's College and Jennie Turner, Greenwich Community College)*

**2.00pm** Discussion groups: *towards a manifesto for public education*

**3.00pm** Panel and plenary discussion

Panel: Toni Pearce (NUS Vice-President, Further Education); Helen Hill (Principal Officer, Secondary at NUT); Ceri Williams (retiring Principal of Mary Ward Adult Education Centre); Joanna de Groot (UCU Education Committee)

**4.00pm** Summing up: Tom Hickey, Chair of UCU Recruitment, Organisation and Campaigning Committee

**4.15pm Close**