

London Region News

A BULLETIN FOR MEMBERS IN LONDON REGION

JANUARY 2015

Welcome to the first of what we intend to be an occasional newsletter from your London Regional Office team. This edition focusses on information about the launch of a London environment network, which is an important activity for the Union. Future editions will deal with different themes and we would be grateful for any ideas or feedback that you may have.

These are challenging times in education, and the need for strong trade unions has never been greater. We very much appreciate your support in belonging to UCU, and would like to take this opportunity to ask you to help us by asking any of your colleagues who are not yet members of UCU to join – a link to access the membership form is in the box below right.

As you will be aware, UCU operates a branch-based democratic structure. The role of the regional office is to support your branch in negotiations, campaigns and representing members. The more involvement there is from members, the more active and representative the Union can be. If you are not already involved in your branch (and many thanks to you if you are), please consider making contact with your branch officers and giving them your support - we know they would be pleased to hear from you. If you need information about how to contact your branch, please get in touch and we would be happy to assist.

Our email address is <u>londonregion@ucu.org.uk</u>. We would be pleased to hear from you regarding any views you might have about this newsletter, or more generally about your Union.

Greg Barnett Barry Jones Una O'Brien London Regional Officials

Regional Committee 28th February 2015, 10am – 2pm

UCU Offices, Carlow Street, London NW1 7LH

Contact Esmilda Yates at eyates@ucu.org.uk

Not a member yet? Or know a colleague who is not yet a member?

Here's how to join:

http://join.ucu.org.uk

Launch of the London Region Environment Network

2015 will be a crucial year for sustainable development both inside and outside the education sector. That is why UCU is setting up networks to support branches who plan to promote sustainability and social justice issues. Following a successful launch in Yorkshire region we are now running one in London.

We have a chance to increase our profile by linking up with campaigns and initiatives in the lead up to the UN Paris Summit on Climate Change in December. Our increase in environment reps in the last few years tells us that it is an issue that attracts new activists.

If your branch has a rep then we would welcome their attendance at the meeting advertised below. If your branch does not have a rep, please consider coming along yourself, or try to identify someone who might be interested in attending. Hopefully we can inspire them to take the role on. What advice and support is there for environment reps? Where are the examples of good environmental management standards in the FHE sector in London? How can we get education for sustainability into the classroom? How can we get student and community engagement around issues of joint concern? What are the prospects of following the divestment from fossil fuels lead of Glasgow and Bedfordshire universities? What's happening in London on climate change campaigns? The answers to these questions will be discussed at the network meeting. If you are able to send a representative please contact Graham Petersen at <u>gpetersen@ucu.org.uk</u>

> London Region UCU Environment Rep Network Event Thursday, February 12th, 2015 from 10.30 – 12.30pm Room 3, UCU Head Office, Carlow Street, London NW1 7LH