

## **UCU requests statutory recognition from CU Coventry**

Last Friday, UCU formally wrote to your management at CU Coventry seeking recognition under Schedule A1 of the Employment Relations Act 1992. Under this legislation, your employer now has to reply within 10 working days after which we have the option of applying to the Central Arbitration Committee and asking them to grant recognition.

We were able to do this because of the fantastic support shown for our petition by staff all over CU Coventry. We got support from every grade, every level and across every department, including support staff. There is no doubt that staff at CU Coventry want collective bargaining, not a pointless management-organised talking shop. Staff want to be taken seriously, listened to and negotiated with.

We're now a very big step closer to winning that recognition and beginning to negotiate with your employer on the issues that matter to you.

Thanks to everyone who has joined us and supported us so far.

### **What happens next? Open UCU meeting for all CU Coventry staff - Thursday 1 February, 1-2 pm, William Morris Room 331**

Come and hear more about what happens next, what we have to do collectively to win recognition and build a strong union and hear what recognition has done for other staff like you.

This meeting is open to all staff at CU Coventry so come along and be part of our growing union and our winning campaign.

### **Join the University and College Union**

If you've supported our petition but you're not yet a member, take the next step and join us today. Our subs are matched to your earnings and you can claim tax relief up to the value of 2/3rds of what you pay. So you get most of what you pay in back!

Here's how to join: <http://join.ucu.org.uk>

## **CU Coventry's 'no frills' model in the news**

CU Coventry has been in the news recently and not in a good way. The Guardian printed a letter from Sally Hunt, UCU's general secretary highlighting its working practices and these were also featured in a couple of Coventry Observer articles.

We know how hard you work for your students. We also know that CU Coventry could be a better provider if it was a better place to work. Please help us to persuade your management by filling in our survey, which you can find online here: <http://yoursay.ucu.org.uk/s3/CU-Coventry-and-you>

### **What a difference recognition makes**

UCU is winning recognition right across the Coventry University Group and its associated companies. We recently won recognition at CU Services Ltd and Coventry ONCAMPUS.

Union recognition makes a real difference. For example, at the Sheffield International Study Centre, staff came together to campaign for a union and won the right to be represented by UCU. Since then they have negotiated a workload agreement and are now negotiating an agreement on workloads. This is helping to make a workplace where staff feel listened to and their well-being is protected.

Here's what one UCU member had to say: "Management has been forced to listen to and communicate with staff since we gained Union recognition. It might not be acknowledged readily but even management has to recognise there have been positive outcomes which overall is producing a more humane approach to staff welfare and wellbeing." This is what can be won at CU Coventry.

### **Reasons to join UCU**

#### **Expert advice**

When UCU members have a problem at work, they don't face it alone. They seek the union's expert advice for free.

#### **By your side**

When UCU members are involved in a disciplinary or grievance hearing, they don't face it alone. Our case workers sit alongside and represent them.

#### **Collective strength**

When UCU members want better pay or working conditions they don't have to go and argue for it alone. They work together, collectively to win and they negotiate with employers using their collective strength.

#### **Free professional development**

When UCU members want to get more out of their job they use our career enhancing Continuing Professional Development programme. While non-members pay £200 a course, UCU members get them free.

<http://join.ucu.org.uk>