



University of Nottingham UCU
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February 19, 2018

Dear Friends

UCU at the University of Nottingham begins sustained strike action on Thursday 22nd February and we're asking for your solidarity in supporting our members through the strike by donating to our local hardship fund.

Why are we striking?

We're striking because our pensions are under attack. The latest proposals would mean a cut of up to 40% in the future value of our pensions, hitting younger and less secure members hardest.

And we're not alone in this. Across the public sector, we're seeing attacks on pensions, jobs and terms and conditions. Winning this battle would strengthen all of us.

14 days of strike action are planned in February and March. This sustained strike action is necessary because shorter strikes across the public sector haven't worked. We believe we can win this time because we have a strong mandate from members and the support of our students' union, and because a strike of this duration will have a significant impact on the work of the university.

Why do we need a hardship fund?

A long strike means a massive hit to wages. Some of us can afford to take that hit; others can't. We don't just represent well-paid lecturers; a lot of our members are administrators and researchers on much lower wages and, increasingly, casualization means that many others are on precarious short term or hourly paid contracts.

We've set up a local fund to help members who face real hardship as a result of taking strike action, prioritising those on the most precarious contracts. This won't replace their lost wages in full but it will

help with the basics. The branch has put in funds and we're asking our better paid members to contribute, but we need your help too.

How can you help?

- Donate to the hardship fund using these details:

Unity Trust Bank

UCU Nottingham LA63, Hardship Fund

Sort code 60 83 01

Account code 20346359

Please your organisation's name or your name as reference

Please also send us an email so we know who to thank and how to get in touch with you. If you can tweet that you've supported us too, that would be great: #USS #StrikeforUSS

- Visit the picket line (7am – 11am at the main entrances to the university on every day of the strike – 22nd, 23rd, 26th, 27th and 28th February; 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th March)
- Write to your MP and to Shearer West, the university's Vice Chancellor, to express your support for the strike

Thanks, as always, for your solidarity.

University of Nottingham UCU Branch Committee

