



Four Fights negotiators' update 11 March

UCU Four Fights negotiators met with UCEA again on Tuesday 10 March following further correspondence between UCU and UCEA over wording of proposals that we believe, if presented in conjunction with an improved offer on pay, could soon have the potential to resolve this dispute. At the 10 March meeting there was continued important progress on the three pay-related grounds of this dispute, but UCEA continues to prevaricate on the connected issue of pay.

Pay erosion exacerbates the effects of pay inequality, casualisation, and excessive workload, and consistently drives further generational pay inequality.

UCU have consistently negotiated in good faith, and we have moved within our agreed negotiating position (see our 5 March statement here: https://www.ucu.org.uk/media/10761/Negotiators-statement-on-four-fights-talks-5-Mar-20/pdf/ucu_negotiatorsstatement_5mar20.pdf).

We are at a crucial juncture in this dispute. As members prepare to return to work on disciplined action short of strike, and with re-ballots for further action on the way, it is time for VCs to move. It is time for VCs to act by making an improved offer to members on pay, alongside a clear and meaningful commitment to working with trade unions at a local level to raise the bar on working conditions. We need and deserve deeds, not just words.