

Chair's Report

ARPS Annual Meeting, 16 March 2023

1. Last year's annual meeting (online)

Last year's annual meeting brought forward a number of motions which the committee have been working towards in the past year.

Careers Services: informing students and supporting the low carbon economy

A statement is now on our website supporting the work of People and Planet and giving examples of ways in which Careers Services have been engaging with their work. The statement can be found here –

<https://www.ucu.org.uk/article/12829/UCU-motion-backs-Fossil-Free-Careers-campaign>

Relationships with other unions

- ARPS committee have agreed to prepare and publish case studies of good practice where it exists.
- ARPS committee have recommended that HEC should contact Unison, Unite and GMB to propose the establishment of a Working Group to look at how co-operation could happen and to produce guidelines for branches wishing to collaborate more closely with unions in their own workplaces.

HESA data

- Committee have recommended that UCU works with UCEA, if possible, and other unions on a joint letter as to urge the inclusion of ARPS data in the mandatory data collection as this process is reviewed.

Downgrading and casualisation

- ARPS committee will analyse existing data from surveys, produce a written report using this data, highlighting any gaps and produce guidance materials to support branches locally.
- ARPS committee will distribute this report to branches with recommendations that this data can be used to pursue the [model claim on the UCU website](#).
- The Committee have been working on training course about Job Evaluation systems and how these can be used to tackle downgrading of roles. We hope to announce the first date for this course at the Annual Meeting.

2. Comms Strategy

The committee have been working on a new comms strategy and an ARPS Wordpress site to complement the existing pages on the UCU website. This includes a blog and up to date information about the committee and latest actions.

3. Open meetings and the ARPS list

We have held two open meetings for ARPS staff nationally, to encourage members to share ideas and experiences with each other. These stem from branch open meetings which happen at several branches (that we are aware of) Both online meetings have been well attended and provoked lively discussion and exchange of ideas around issues that affect many members across the country. The Committee hope that these can be continued at regular intervals. We have been trying to encourage members to make use of the ARPS list to connect with other members and this work is ongoing.