



**STOP  
PRIVATISATION**

# **EMERGENCY GENERAL MEETING**

**‘Why UCU opposes  
privatisation in HE  
and what we can  
do to stop it’**

**Speaker: Bob Langridge, Secretary, Oxford Brookes UCU  
Thursday 28 February 12.30-2.30  
Room 2N2.4.16 (Social Sciences Research Centre)**

[www.ucu.org.uk/stoprivatisation](http://www.ucu.org.uk/stoprivatisation)

# INTO out of ESSEX

## STOP PRIVATISATION IN HIGHER EDUCATION

At this moment, the university is negotiating with a private company, INTO, to set up a 'joint venture' that will recruit international students to the university. The proposals with INTO will involve new buildings, including teaching space and 500-bed student accommodation. It is unclear how many INTO staff will be employed, who will control teaching in the joint venture and what role will be played by the current International Academy.

UCU opposes these joint ventures because:

- ▶ Where INTO have been allowed to set up joint ventures before, the company has tried to transfer existing staff onto inferior contracts.
- ▶ Staff directly employed by INTO report lower pay rates, refusal of access to USS and inferior contracts. They also do not have trade union recognition.
- ▶ Staff at INTO ventures have reported that profit is put before quality in the pressure to get more students into the university. This means more work for everyone to preserve educational standards.
- ▶ INTO appear to be more interested in a quick and lucrative land deal than providing an educational service. Essex University would be placing a valuable resource in the hands of a profit-oriented private company. This could threaten university finances and, ultimately jobs.

A decision on INTO is imminent. If this privatisation deal is allowed to go ahead, it will affect the entire university.

### What can I do?

Find out more and make your voice heard: come to the emergency general meeting on 28 February. See details below.

### What else can we do?

- ▶ Make sure your colleagues know about this issue. Pass this information on.
- ▶ If you're not a member of UCU, join now at: [joinonline.ucu.org.uk](http://joinonline.ucu.org.uk)
- ▶ Find out more about why UCU is campaigning against privatisation in HE at: [www.ucu.org.uk/stopprivatisation](http://www.ucu.org.uk/stopprivatisation)

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