

Five reasons for not joining UCU

1

They're a bunch of militant lefties Members' opinions cover the political spectrum. They are employed at all levels – like you, most are ordinary people trying to make a living.

2

I can't afford it There are reduced rates for those who don't work full time – it is less than £5 per month for those earning £5,000–£9,999 and £2.58 if you earn less than £5,000. Tax relief can be claimed for subscriptions too. If you need union support the cost of membership is a small price to pay. UCU wins thousands of pounds for members every year for issues including wrongly calculated pay, reinstatement of employment and pensions.

3

It's not relevant to me You may be bullied at work, become the subject of a disciplinary procedure, have a serious complaint made against you or be faced with changes to your terms and conditions of employment. As the voice of your profession, UCU represents members' views to government and professional organisations

4

It's easier not to People sometimes come to us after a problem has begun. We will always be glad to have them in the union but often it is too late to do anything meaningful for them.

5

I can look after myself Most of the time we can handle everyday working life. Then out of the blue a problem can strike which needs specialist help. UCU can provide this help, but only if you are a member. Locally and nationally, campaigns are only successful with a strong membership – and the more members we have, the stronger we are. Together we can make a difference.

Seven good reasons for joining UCU

1

Support at an individual level We support individuals with disputes about pay and conditions, disciplinary hearings, grievances and performance and capability reviews.

2

Representation at SMT and Directorate level Branch representatives meet regularly with senior managers to discuss matters of mutual concern and interest.

3

Being in the know Members are regularly updated on the issues that matter. From branch briefings and meetings to emails from the general secretary.

4

Access to union legal support in cases where problems cannot be settled at a local level. If needed, UCU has specialist solicitors available to help you.

5

Access to counselling and financial support through Recourse which is open to all UCU members who need support. For more information: www.ucu.org.uk/index.cfm?articleid=2189

6

A voice at national level We are the voice of the profession – representing members' views to government and professional bodies. We negotiate your pay and conditions and defend your pension. Collective action can be highly successful as evidenced by the successful campaign against compulsory paid membership of the Institute for Learning. Everyone benefits from union activity.

7

Access to UCUPlus which provides discounted insurance and tax advice as well as Accident Aid and other services. These are available at: www.ucu.org.uk/index.cfm?articleid=2196

UCU

Join online today at: join.ucu.org.uk