

Joint University/UCU Committee

22/10 A meeting of the Joint University/UCU Committee was held on Wednesday 18 May 2022 at 10.30 remotely, via Microsoft Teams.

Present:

Sally Pellow, President of Reading UCU [*Chair*]

Dr Ian Bland, UCU Representative

Dr David Field, UCU Representative

Moray McAulay, UCU Regional Official

Claire Rolstone, Interim

- not been reinstated, despite the recommendation to do so. UCU recognised how beneficial the Campus Jobs scheme was for students.
- A freezing of tuition fees for the next three years. The Vice Chancellor advised that this was effectively a

which had also been reflected in conversations with members. UCU acknowledged that the University was already working on a number of associated areas (such as workloads etc.) but considered that there was more work still to be done. Another aspect also influencing this demoralisation was suggested to be the rise in inflation; it was confirmed that UCU had their own hardship fund as well as a fund to support those on strike action.

- UCU had been receiving queries in relation to returning to work and there appeared to be a lack of understanding regarding the difference between flexible and smart working, and the balance between home and office-based working. The Interim Director of HR advised that a review of smart working arrangements would be undertaken and they were keen to receive feedback from both staff and managers. It was clarified that the amount of time spent on campus was role-dependant and, while this was being addressed within aniedhe ai8

Action: President of Reading UCU

Items brought forward by the University

This item was covered elsewhere in the meeting.

Items brought forward by Reading UCU

This item was covered elsewhere in the meeting.

Routine items

22/16 Matters from the Staffing Committee

The Committee received a report from the most recent Staffing Committee, held in February. The following comments were noted in relation to this:

- UCU commented that they would expect to be involved in a number of the discussions which had taken place at the last Staffing Committee and queried why UCU was not represented there. The Vice Chancellor clarified that Staffing Committee was a purely advisory committee; however, they agreed to discuss with the Chief Strategy Officer & University Secretary whether it would be beneficial for UCU representation to be included on the membership.

Action: Vice Chancellor

- UCU expressed their willingness to participate in further discussions regarding recruitment challenges, including the use of marketing supplements and other potenti hi