



*Our newsletter is free to all members.
If you're reading this and you've not yet
joined, why not strengthen our union and
join today?*

University of Brighton Branch Newsletter

April 2017

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It's been very busy here lately, so this month's newsletter is shorter than I would have liked, but we hope members will read it and let us know what they think.

As always, we're happy to receive feedback—good or bad, and if you want to contribute to future issues then please let us know.

Ivan Bonsell, Branch Secretary

NEC Elections

We've mentioned this before, but this is a final reminder that we'd really like all our members to vote in this election. If you've received a ballot paper and not yet returned it, please make sure you do by the deadline of **Friday 28th April**.

If you've not had a ballot paper, (and you've been a member for more than a couple of weeks) it's a problem which we want you to fix, because it means that UNISON's details of where you live are incorrect or out of date.

You can fix this by letting us know, or by calling the dedicated helpline on **0800 857 857**, but you must do this before the end of **Tuesday 25th April** to be able to get a ballot paper and vote.

Which candidates you vote for is entirely up to you in a secret postal ballot, but our Branch nominated the following candidates:

Higher Education: ***Kath Owen*** and ***Sandy Nicoll***.

They stand for:

- *A fighting and democratic union*
- *Active campaigning branches*
- *A decent pay rise*
- *No to privatisation and outsourcing*
- *Defend migrant staff, students & refugees*
- *Free education*



NEC Elections

We also nominated the following candidates:

Jacqui Berry, Diana Leach and Dan Sartin for South East Regional Seats

Josie Runswick for the Young Members' Seat

April Ashley for a Black Members' Female Seat

Hugo Pierre for the Black Members' Male Seat

Roger Lewis for a Disabled Members' Seat

We want the NEC to reflect the views of all our members, so please make sure you use your vote!



Members of our branch campaigning for rights for all EU nationals.

More information and guidance here: www.unison.org.uk/content/uploads/2016/09/24055.pdf

UCU Dispute

At the time of writing, UCU members are due to strike as part of their campaign in opposition to redundancies, changes to hourly-paid lecturer contracts and suspension of academic promotions.

As we've said before, we totally support the right of trade unionists to do whatever they democratically decide in order to defend their terms and conditions, so we fully support UCU.

We need to be clear that UNISON is not in dispute over these issues and therefore, our members should work as usual, but friendly support and encouragement on the picket lines will always be welcome.

We will be raising the issues thrown up by the dispute at our CIG meeting with senior managers later this week. Please let us know if you have any questions.

UoB 2017-18 pay negotiations latest— the initial 1.2% offer has been increased to 1.5%, but it's still below inflation and well short of what our members are demanding , so we've told them to think again. More next time....