

First batch of letters in support –

Dear UCU colleagues at Nottingham Trent University,

It is appalling that the authorities at NTU have taken the decision to try to derecognise the union that represents and negotiates for staff in higher and further education nationally. If this is allowed to stand we can all be sure that the attacks on teaching staff at NTU will come raining down.

As a UCU member in Oxford, I am aware that this is a battle that we must win nationally in every centre of higher and further education. We cannot allow individual universities or CFEs to get picked off otherwise the deeply undemocratic policy of derecognising nationally established unions will continue to spread.

You can count on my support. This attack must be strangled at birth!

In solidarity,

Dr Phil Walden
Ruskin College
Oxford

=====

To all my former colleagues at Nottingham Trent – I know relations with management were not best but to derecognise the union is unforgiveable and not how any university management who values its academic staff should respond.

.....I know that the union will have acted professionally and properly throughout as it has done ever since Brian and Colin were in charge and it is deeply disappointing that senior management have become so intransigent – if it cannot work with reasonable people such as yourselves and other colleagues then that speaks volumes

The fact that the University will not allow an academic staff representative on the Governing Board again shows the contempt in which they hold academic staff and to ignore the provisions of a jointly agreed recognition agreement further confirms that.

You have my absolute support and it is so disappointing that such a good university is being seriously undermined in this way – I shall also be writing to the Vice Chancellor

Dr Kim Stevenson
Senior Lecturer in Law
School of Law and Social Science
University of Plymouth
Drake Circus
PL4 8AA
01752 585834

=====
To Nottingham Trent UCU

Let us know if there is anything you need. We have a West Midlands UCU banner ready to march around the campus when needed.

John Fletcher, Chair, West Midlands Region UCU and President, Aston LA, UCU
Dr John P. Fletcher Tel: (44) 121 204 3389 (direct line)
Chemical Engineering and Applied Chemistry (CEAC),
School of Engineering and Applied Science (SEAS),
Aston University, Aston Triangle, BIRMINGHAM B4 7ET U.K.
CEAC Web site <http://www.ceac.aston.ac.uk/> FAX: (44) 121 204 3679

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Dear Colleague,

I have just signed and sent off my petition in support of UCU at Nottingham Trent University. I have been an AUT/UCU member for over 20 years since I see no other mechanism for employees to be represented. Sadly, the time of a spirit of partnership and goodwill in higher education has long gone; it is now a cutthroat 'business'. Government is taking a short term view on education, long term the social fabric of this country will suffer. Apart from these obvious observations, may I ask you whether there is scope to take the justified UCU grievances to Court by invoking some European legislation. I am not a lawyer. All I know is that the approach taken by Nottingham Trent University would be illegal in Germany as there workers are legally entitled to be represented by a union. (Legality aside, the prospect of moral outrage would prevent employers even to contemplate such ideas. If necessary, the Constitutional Court would enforce the Law and no employer would entertain an idea similar to what we see here.) I know that there is in general reservation in Britain towards more European integration but, dare I say, employee rights there are more secure, in particular in Germany (the country I come from and which I am familiar with).

Thank you for listening.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Attila Csenki
School of Informatics
University of Bradford
Bradford BD7 1DP
Colleagues

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The decision taken by the management of Nottingham Trent University with regard to UCU recognition sets a disturbing precedent. It is very much to be hoped that a more considered and appropriate course of action will prevail eventually, and the local branch members are to be applauded for their stand against derecognition of the Union.

Richard Arnold
University of Oxford

Tel: 01865 286828

Dear Notts Trent University

I was dismayed to hear that the University has terminated recognition of the UCU. I am one of the "silent majority", and I rarely get round to actually taking action - but in this case even I can see that there needs to be Union representation for employees. And this attempt to marginalise unions is very much an attack on those who work at the university.

I am sure that many people like me around the other universities in UK will be outraged at what has happened today, and will want to support you in your difficult time.

Best wishes, *Pamela*

Pamela Stanworth
IT Teacher
Oxford University Computing Services

It seems that this is in total negation of the freedom of thought and the right to sustain the rights of employees to membership of a body that both protects individual employment rights and the highest possible standards of professional integrity.

For someone like myself who comes from a working class background and whose father fought for the rights of fellow workers and for the right to the highest standards of education for all this is an insult to everything that so many have fought for for so many years.

.....

Ann Walker Senior Teaching Fellow University of Essex

Ann L Walker

Programme Leader MA TESOL
International Academy
University of Essex

To all my colleagues at Nottingham Trent,

I write in support of your fight to maintain one of the most essential human rights of a civilised society - the right to union membership. Your management are lining themselves up on a spectrum of dictators in this world, and that is wholly unacceptable.

--

With best wishes
Susan C. Triesman
Director of Drama
University of Strathclyde Drama Centre
The Ramshorn Theatre
98 Ingram Street
Glasgow G1 1ES

0141 - 552 3489

The action of NTU is disgraceful and contrary to natural justice. Greylisting is needed, and we must be prepared to take stronger measures when necessary.

Best wishes,
John Bennett
Open University

I am outraged at the way Nottingham Trent are treating the UCU. We now need solidarity amongst UCU members everywhere to oppose this shameful treatment. We need this to support the local UCU at Nottingham Trent but we also need it for us all, as other institutions may well try to do the same.

Nicky Davis
Senior Lecturer and UCU member
Keele University

I was extremely shocked and dismayed to hear of the actions of your University employers. What a retrograde step, by a supposedly enlightened Institution! As Branch Officer of the local UCU branch here at the RAC, I will do what I can to publicise these events, and propose that my branch at least symbolically expresses our support for your resistance to this unprecedented action. Your fight is of course the fight of everyone in this Union, and indeed the union movement as a whole. Rest assured that we are all behind you.

Yours fraternally
Bob Taylor
Senior Lecturer in HRM
Programme Manager, Business Management Degree
Link Tutor, Foundation Degree (collaborative), Business Management
Royal Agricultural College
Stroud Road
Cirencester
Glos
GL7 6JS

We are right behind you all at Nottingham Trent. This is an outrageous situation and the managers should not think that just because it is the summer vacation that they can get away with withdrawing recognition.

Regards
Marion Tattersall
University of Sheffield Library

Hang on in there - we are right behind you! What you do matters to all of us.

Very best wishes for a successful outcome!

LES PETRIE
Head of Art & Design Education

University of Wales Newport
Prifysgol Cymru Casnewydd
School of Education
Ysgol Addysg
Caerleon Campus
Campws Caerleon
Lodge Road
Heol y Porthdy
Caerleon
Caerllion
Newport
Casnewydd
NP18 3QT

Tel: 01633 432205

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Dear Colleagues

UCU members at the University of Nottingham are outraged at the de-recognition of UCU by NTU Management. Nottingham LA offer you as much support as you need at this difficult time.

Best wishes
Pat Hulme
Committee Member & Treasurer
UCU
Tel: 0115 9515405

I wish to express my support for UCU colleagues at Nottingham Trent, and to express my hope that the university's governing body has the integrity to ensure that the existing Recognition & Procedures Agreement is honoured until such time as a new agreement is negotiated with the university.

Regards, Joel

Joel Petrie
Academic Staff Governor
Liverpool Community College
Duke St
82 Tradewinds Square
Liverpool L1 5BG

Your stand on this key issue is very much appreciated. Thank you and good luck

Regards Audrey Isherwood
Runshaw College Leyland, Kancs

As a trade unionist throughout my working life I am horrified by this move on the part of the university management but not, to be honest, totally surprised. I was very active in BIFU/UNIFI during my two decades in the finance industry and, as an executive member, was unfortunately involved in similar disputes which occurred at intervals. I assume that the UCU local branch will continue to function and do what it can to represent members both until the end of the notice period and beyond but wish you the very best of luck for what will be a very difficult time for all concerned. Unfortunately, the reduction in social awareness of employment vulnerability that revolves around trade union membership may hamper you in some ways as I have just gasped in astonishment on reading the announcement and colleagues asked what was the matter. For one (a postgrad), there was the assumption that employers did not have the legal right to de-recognise and not have a trade union in place but, when I explained that, the person

could not immediately see what effect that might have on both existing and future staff. The other colleague in the room (an early career academic) showed a disinterested face on the union recognition rights as a principle but, when the fact that a nationally agreed pay spine may no longer apply within an institution which did not recognise a national union was pointed out, together with the potential reductions in pay that could result, the interest antenna popped up again. I would guess this is an 'information window' that will apply to your institution too.

Diane Roberts
Keele University

On behalf of the UCU Branch at the University of Winchester, we wish you all the best in your fight against oppressive management at NTU. Members here are in full support of NTU Branch members in their struggle.

Mick Jardine

Dear Colleagues,
It goes without saying that you have my full support in resisting this attack on us all. As a member of the NEC I will do whatever I can to help.

Best wishes,
Philip Burgess.

Dear Colleagues at Nottingham,

We wouldn't have made it through the past six months without the support of members outside Keele. Sending you the warmest note of encouragement and support in your dispute.

Liz Parsons
School of Economic and Management Studies
Keele University

Colleagues,

Shocked to hear today of your situation and send you my support and good wishes. This implication are so obviously an issue for the entire union that it is essential you are given full support by the rest of UCU at every level. I shall raise this at our next branch meetings (we have two branches at Leeds Met) and will be asking the branch to support you in whatever ways we can and to call on the Executive to give you fullest backing.

In Solidarity

John Taylor (UCU Rep)

Leeds Metropolitan University

Replacing unions with 'consultation' procedures run by management is out of the question. Current events at Nottingham Trent just go to show how important trade unions' continued work is in defending staffs interests. Best of luck with your continued negotiations.

Rosalind Cavaghan
Edinburgh

I am dismayed by the attempts to derecognise UCU at Nottingham Trent. If the management continue upon this course it will send out the worst possible message regarding the University. A strong trade union is essential to protect workers rights, terms and conditions but it has an equally important role to play in safeguarding the wellbeing and safety of all stakeholders concerned, such as students and members of the public. If these plans are realised, I believe all members of UCU and the academic community as a whole would avoid engaging in any type of activity with Nottingham Trent. Surely that is not what the management desire in taking this action but it will be a natural consequence.

To my fellow members of UCU, you do not stand alone in this fight.

Best wishes
J Mundh
University of Leeds

Colleagues

You must not let your management get away with this infringement of your rights. You have my full support.

Dr. Fred Dobson
Department of Engineering Materials
University of Sheffield
Mappin St
Sheffield
S1 3JD
Tel: (0)114.222.6000
Mobile: 07909.963274

Dear Colleagues,

I was surprised and shocked to hear the news about your University and the heavy handed way in which management has derecognised UCU. I am sure there will be nation wide support from UCU colleagues to all of you working at Nottingham Trent and I would like to pass on my support, solidarity and hope that this dispute will be solved in your favour as quickly as possible.

Good luck with any action you are planning to take and I am sure that UCU and the wider trade union movement will give you their full support.

Your in solidarity,
Sue Chubb (Client Services)
Subject Librarian for Education, Counselling and Psychology
University of Bristol

Tel: 0117-3314308 Education and Counselling - Education Library
Tel: 0117-9288032 Psychology - Arts and Social Sciences Library

Dear colleagues,

As Branch Secretary of the UCU Branch at Runshaw College, Lancashire, we send messages of support for your campaign. It is deplorable that the University are attempting to subvert the democratic process here in this way. We hope for a positive resolution to this situation for you.

Best wishes
Joan Barnes

Dear Nottingham colleagues

At Keele University we know the value of union solidarity. We support your struggle for the right to represent your members.

Mike Ironside
Chair of UCU SEMS/CHPM Action Committee
Keele University
Tel. 01782 583604

This email is in support of your campaign to re-instate UCU at Nottingham Trent University

Jill Arnold
Senior Lecturer in Psychology
School of Social Sciences
Nottingham Trent University
Burton Street
Nottingham NG1 4BU
Tel: 01158485549

I've heard of this particular 'ruse' by public sector employers before. Some few years ago, I heard of a local authority who offered a (small) financial incentive to employees if they took membership of the 'staff association' rather than the appropriate trade union

(NALGO at the time - would now be UNISON).

(Mr) Christopher West
University of Liverpool UCU

Good luck!

Simon Duncan
Professor in Comparative Social Policy
Social Sciences and Humanities
University of Bradford
Bradford BD7 1DP, UK

Hi,
Just to say I am appalled at the de-recognition. Somebody in the university management must be very right-wing and very scared of unions. Hope you succeed in embarrassing/pressurizing them back to the negotiating table.

Regards,
Rachel Shanks.
PhD student
Scottish Teachers for a New Era
School of Education, MacRobert Building
King's College, University of Aberdeen
Aberdeen AB24 5UA
Tel: 01224 274692

Hi Everone at UCU Nottingham. Keep up the battle for recognition and rights and for a better deal for UCU members. Remember collectively we are the many, they are the few! An attack on one is an attack on all!

With best wishes, Barry Ewart,
University of Leeds.

Please be assured of the complete support of the Sussex University branch of UCU in your recognition battle with Nottingham Trent University. Keep strong, keep fighting, and keep us informed of whatever it is you need to win this fight!

Jim Guild
Branch Sec, Sussex UCU, and NEC member
Head of Scholarships and Bursaries Office, Sussex House, University of
Sussex, Falmer, Brighton, BN1 9RH
Telephone: 01273 606755 ext 3819; Direct Line 01273 873819
Fax: 01273 678545

Dear Colleagues,

I am appalled that any University would cease to recognise a Union which has always shown a commitment to talk and negotiate to resolve issues with local management. UCU is now a powerful and very representative body of the academic and academic related community, so this just seems a foolhardy stance which can only harm ...

I hope the decision can be reversed soon.

Regards
John Sheard
Faculty IT Support Team
Room 269, School of EE Engineering
Faculty of Engineering
University of Leeds
Tel 0113 343 2030
Fax 0113 343 2032

A disgraceful act by management who obviously do not value their staff.

Will Patterson
University of Leeds

To UCU Branch officers at Nottingham Trent

Please pass on our support to your members. We also faced de-recognition some years ago but fought it with the support of the members and the Regional Official at the time.

Roy Bentley Branch Chair
Ruth Burch Branch Sec
Oxford and Cherwell Valley College
Oxford

Stand firm, a 'consultation & information forum' is NOT acceptable . UCU must support you in this & as a branch officer at Kendal FE college, I certainly do. The status quo must continue until a suitable negotiated agreement is in place. The timing is interesting isn't it, just when everyone is off for the summer break.

Good luck
Judith Eland
UCU Branch Secretary
Kendal FE College

Dear Colleagues

We are appalled at the decision by Nottingham Trent University (NTU) management to de-recognise the UCU, the union for college lecturers, researchers and academic related staff. Instead of a democratic trade union in the hands of members, staff are being told to participate in a "consultative forum" under management control - the type of "trade union" favoured by dictatorships the world over.

We do not doubt that the attack on UCU is simultaneously an attack on the principle of an effective and independent voice for staff, and thus their academic freedom, in addition to being a harbinger of future cuts in jobs and terms and conditions.

We believe, therefore, that NTU presents a prima facie case for greylisting, which we urge UCU to investigate with all speed. We pledge our utmost support for NTU UCU and call on NTU management to step back from the abyss and reverse this clumsy and damaging attack.

UCL UCU Executive Committee

Sean Wallis
branch secretary, UCL UCU
020 7679 3120 (int. 33120)

Dear Colleagues at Nottingham Trent

Wishing you all the best in your campaign to oppose the de-recognition.

In solidarity

Dr Miranda Mason
Henry Moore Research Fellow
School of Fine Art, History of Art and Cultural Studies
University of Leeds
Leeds LS2 9JT
UK
T: 00 44 113 343 5268
F: 00 44 113 245 1977

I was shocked and disgusted to read about what is happening.....Please fight this attack with all your might. I see it as not just an attack on you, but on all lecturers, UCU members and trade union members in general. I am with you one hundred per cent. Good luck!

veseye

Please send a message of support to our colleagues at Nottingham on my behalf.

L Patry

I fully support your fight with the management at Nottingham Trent in the face of their quite disgraceful move to have UCU derecognised.

All the best.
Rob Carter
University of Southampton

An attack on the UCU is an attack on the basic Rights of all University staff in this country.

Sue O'Connell

Dear Colleagues

I am very disappointed to hear about the goings-on at the other university in Nottingham. This sort of action by the management needs to be opposed vigorously and I wish you well in doing this.

Best wishes,
Dr Richard Field
Associate Professor in Biogeography, School of Geography, University of Nottingham, NG7 2RD, UK
tel: +44 (0) 115 8466146 (internal: 66146), fax: +44 (0) 115 9515249

UCU colleagues across the country will be supporting you in fighting the outrageous actions of your university. It's important for us all that you succeed - stay firm !

Terry Hoad
President, Oxford UCU
St Peter's College
Oxford
OX1 2DL

Tel/Fax (Oxford UCU Office): +44 1865 288472
Tel/Fax (Direct Line): +44 1865 278888
Mobile: +44 7899 937455

Dear colleagues,

This is shocking news; please keep up the fight & know that at universities throughout the country we'll be supporting you 100%.

Hazel Marsh
UEA
Hazel.Marsh

Dear Colleagues at Nottingham Trent University,

The behaviour of managers at Nottingham Trent University has been disgraceful, outrageous and thoroughly unethical. It threatens to completely undermine higher education across the UK. You have my full support in your efforts to fight against their actions.

Yours in solidarity,
Betts Fetherston
Senior Lecturer
Co-Director of Undergraduate Studies
Department of Peace Studies
University of Bradford
Bradford, West Yorkshire BD7 1DP UK
Tel: +44(0)1274 235176/234188

I stand in support of colleagues protesting against the effacement by Nottingham Trent University of their rights to organise and represent themselves through their union .

Dr. Mary Corcoran
Lecturer in Criminology
School of Criminology, Education, Sociology and Social Work
Keele University
Staffordshire
ST5 5BG, UK
Tel: 00 44 (0)1782 583104

You have my support.
Anna

Anna Buehring
Principal Lecturer
Programmes Coordinator (BITMS)
Manchester Metropolitan University Business School
Aytoun Building
Aytoun Street
Manchester M1 3GH
Tel: +44 (0)161 247 4605
Fax: +44 (0)161 247 6317

It's not just the managers elsewhere who are watching the situation at Nottingham Trent carefully but also many members of staff at institutions up and down the U.K.. Our colleagues at Nottingham Trent are not forgotten, and we very much hope that concerted union action

will bring about the same positive outcome as was recently celebrated elsewhere. Best wishes to you all.

Bill Webster

Dr W T Webster
University of Edinburgh
German Section
School of Literatures, Languages & Cultures
David Hume Tower
George Square

I wish you all the very best for your campaign. We had a similar situation at London Met recently but we were able to resolve it by staying absolutely resolute. Our campaign was helped by the support of other UCU members around the country, and I've no doubt that you will get the same support.

Once one lot of management gets their way & forcibly replaces properly elected representatives with toothless puppets, they will all try to follow suit.

Hang in there!

Jenny Le Peuple, Senior Lecturer, HCI

Dept of Computing, Communications Technology & Mathematics
London Metropolitan University
31 Jewry St
London
EC3N 2EY

020 7320 1357

I would like to add my support to colleagues at Nottingham Trent, and request that the governors of Nottingham Trent University use their good offices to ensure that the existing Recognition & Procedures Agreement is honoured until such time as a new agreement is negotiated with Nottingham Trent University UCU in good faith.

Dr Pauline Sangster
Senior Lecturer
School of Education
University of Edinburgh
Holyrood Road
Edinburgh EH8 8AQ
Scotland

Tel: 0131 651 6415

Fax: 0131 651 6409

I am writing to express my support for colleagues at Nottingham Trent University's in their opposition to the formal termination of UCU recognition by the Nottingham Trent management.

Yours,

James Dickins
Prof. of Arabic
School of Languages
University of Salford
Maxwell Building
Greater Manchester
M4 4WT
United Kingdom

You have my full support with our campaign.

Best wishes,

Dr. James LaCourse
Lecturer in Veterinary Parasitology
Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine
Pembroke Place
Liverpool
L3 5QA
U.K.
Tel: +44 (0) 151-705 3142
Mobile: 07731 870 386

Be strong and stay united!
j.r.anchor

Dear Colleagues

This is to express my disgust at the recent decision of Nottingham Trent University to de-recognise UCU. This is an ominous action which has serious implications not only for all higher education teachers, but more widely for trade unionism and civil liberties in the UK. It therefore needs to be fought by all means at our disposal. You have my full support.

Alvaro de Miranda
Principal Lecturer
School of Social Sciences, Media and Cultural Studies
University of East London
University Way
London E16 2RD
Tel: 020 8223 7696

You have my full support against the brutal management style at Nottingham Trent.

Best wishes,

Professor Raphael Salkie, Acting Head of School,
643335
School of Language, Literature and Communication,
643337
University of Brighton
600900
Falmer, Brighton, BN1 9PH
England.

Tel: (+44) 01273

Tel: (+44) 01273

Tel: (+44) 01273

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This behaviour by the managers should be against the law. We need strong unions to protect workers, including academics, against exploitation. Best of luck and let's hope the managers see sense soon!

With very best wishes from Winchester University!

Sarah Goode

The LA Committee at Nottingham University is most concerned to hear of the outrageous behaviour of the management at NTU in unilaterally and abruptly terminating the recognition agreement.

The Committee is unanimous in offering every support and encouragement to our friends and colleagues at Nottingham Trent and has circulated details to all its members urging them to sign the online petition.

Best wishes

Chris Middleton, President

on behalf of the Committee

This unprecedented action calls for an immediate response. Greylisting seems the obvious first step in the face of such bullying.

Dr Rachel Fyson
Centre for Social Work, School of Sociology & Social Policy
University of Nottingham NG7 2RD
Tel: 0115 951 5226 (direct line)

Dear UCU members at Nottingham Trent,

I was alarmed to be informed of this development at your university. I have signed your on-line petition - and have requested other members here to do likewise. We wish you well in handling this problem.

Best wishes

Peter Annesley
UCU Branch Secretary,
Department of Computing,
University of Gloucestershire,
The Park,
Cheltenham GL50 2RH

tel: 01242-714254

Hi stop faffing around - recognise the UCU !

Des

Dear UCU Notts Trent,

On behalf of my branch let me extend solidarity in union's campaign for your recognition battle.

We had a good campaign around the Harlow strife, we sent money in the £100's for strikers and sent a delegation to lobby Bill Rammell MP.

Our committee will raise this with the branch, to make it part of our pay fight and to offer practical support.

Solidarity

Richard McEwan
Branch Secretary
Tower Hamlets College
Poplar Branch
London
07983 909 084
0207 510 7839

Dear colleagues at NTU,

Please accept solidarity greetings from Docklands Branch UCU, University of East London.

We stand with you in opposing de-recognition. We note the cynicism of management in making its latest move as we start the summer vacation. Please let us know what forms of practical solidarity you require.

Good luck.

Phil Marfleet
Secretary, UCU Docklands, University of East London

Hi Colleagues,

Just to let the branch know that you have my support -and hopefully our branch at Lincoln will do whatever we can.

As some of you may know, NTU appears to be at the 'sharp end' of a Midlands battle over the future of union recognition.

We might also want to alert all members in the region to these attacks?

BEST WISHES, Dave, K.

On behalf of the branch committee of Strathclyde UCU I would like to send you our support and solidarity in your fight against your management's unilateral decision to derecognise the local UCU. This is not just your fight but affects all UCU members. Unilateral breaking of agreements is unacceptable. We wish you all the best in the campaign.

Chris

Chris Moore

On behalf of Strathclyde UCU

Senior Lecturer

Department of Human Resource Management, University of Strathclyde
T: +44(0141)5483564

Wish you every success in your worthy campaign.
Silvano

Good Luck to all

Please don't allow this attack on worker democracy to go unchallenged.

The sign of bad management is bullying. Look's like that is what you are up against.

Phil Shirley Union Member W.K.C.

.....; I hope that the campaign for continuing trade union recognition succeeds – for your sake and for the sake of the institution itself.

Thank you.

Michael

Michael Wilkinson
Deputy Administrator (Finance)
Department of Physiology Anatomy and Genetics
Le Gros Clark Building
South Parks Road
OXFORD
OX1 3QX

phone 01865 272457
FAX 01865272420

I am horrified to hear this news, and offer my solidarity to colleagues at Nottingham Trent. The University and College Union needs to pull out all the stops (including blacklisting) now, to force Nottingham Trent University re-recognize UCU. An injury to one is an injury to all.

Dr Kaihsu Tai
University of Oxford local association of UCU

I'm outraged at this move. If it succeeds it will be a signal for university administrations across the country. All University Teachers should support the union in resisting this.

Dr Robert Knight
Senior Lecturer in International History
Tel. Secretary: +44 (0)1509 222991
Tel. Direct: +44 (0)1509 222999
Fax: +44 (0)1509 223917
Dept. of Politics, International Relations and European Studies
Loughborough University
Loughborough
Leics.
LE11 3TU

"We the undersigned request that the governors of Nottingham Trent University use their good offices to ensure that the existing Recognition & Procedures Agreement is honoured until such time as a new agreement is negotiated with Nottingham Trent University UCU in good faith."

Dr Helen Swift
MA Pathway Leader
School of Education and Professional Development
The University of Huddersfield
Queensgate, Huddersfield HD1 3DH

Tel: 01484 478203 (direct)
Fax: 01484 478206 (direct)

Absolutely ... this is intolerable. We should all be outraged and fully supportive of this sort of action . It strikes right at the basics of unionism. If we don't fight this, we may as well give up.

Robert Duncan
Southgate College
High St
Southgate
London N14 6BS
02088666521

Keep strong; believe in the support you get. It is an old fight over old ground and the same adversaries with just a different face.

I shouldn't be shocked but I am, though change from HEI to market driven corporation is near complete in most Universities. I am near retirement and have benefited from a lifetime of union membership, Unison and, more recently, UCU. But I'll be happy to contribute to any fighting fund to contest this serious attack on worker's rights.

regards,
Dave Thomas
IT Services
Loughborough

Dear Colleagues at Nottingham Trent - It was with great dismay that I heard of the derecognition of the UCU by your employer. I will forward the petition request to everyone I can. It is essential that the UCU nationally unites to support your fight against this outrage - otherwise many of the rest of us can only look forward to the same. I wish you much solidarity in this fight, and will be keeping in touch with the campaign to restore UCU recognition and participating as much as I can.

In solidarity
Helen Colley

Dr Helen Colley
Senior Research Fellow
Education and Social Research Institute

Manchester Metropolitan University
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Didsbury
Manchester M20 2RR, UK
Tel: +44 (0)161-247 2306
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Hello fellow workers

My thoughts are with you as you try to make the management structure at your work place see sense.

As your campaign develops try not to personalise the issues, instead try to keep your colleagues together to show management how strong you are on this big issue and then justice will prevail.

I know my words might sound pretentious (me being in London & you up North) but you are on the front line struggling for your future and possibly UCU members up & down the country.

When you win this issue of course go out & celebrate, but don't rub management noises in it, but show them that being in a recognised union people can & should work fairly together in FE for the benefit for all not just the chosen few.

Regards

Angus J Pickthall

Good luck in your 'struggle for recognition' at NTU.

Tony Burns

I would just like to offer a word of support to those involved in the worthy battle against an unworthy administration. Good luck.

Mac

As a former East Midlands regional member I wish to send my strongest support to Nottingham Trent UCU members over this attack on union rights and hope you are successful in your campaign.

Saskia Heasman

Hi folks,

I hope management will realise this is not acceptable. Best of luck,

Dr. Paddy Pomeroy

NERC Sea Mammal Research Unit
Gatty Marine Laboratory
University of St. Andrews
KY16 8LB
Tel. 01334 463061 Fax. 01334 462632

Dear colleagues

This is a very serious development and I believe that if we in Higher Education do not put the full force of our collective opposition to such a move by your University behind you we will all reap a dreadful harvest, similar to the one that grossly and adversely affected our colleagues in Further Education a few years ago. Our own employers will, I am sure, be watching developments very carefully. As an individual member of UCU you certainly have my full support in opposing such an attack on your trade union rights. I would hope that, likewise, individual members and branches up and down the country will put their full weight behind your struggle to overturn this unilateral management decision and restore your basic trade union rights.

Best wishes

Dr Jack Fawbert
Senior Lecturer Sociology/Criminology
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Dear Colleagues

As the attacks on education professionals and union members continue, it is vital that you resist this assault on your professionalism and your working rights. Best of luck with the campaign.

Mark Jackson
Lecturer
Southgate College

I would like to offer the full support of Barnsley College UCU to our fellow union members at Nottingham Trent. The move to derecognise the union is outrageous and is an attack on us all. We support whatever action you take to force the management to reject this attack. We are confident that the whole union will rally to your support because the old trade union adage 'An Injury To One Is An Injury To All' clearly applies in this case.

Yours,
Dave Gibson(secretary)

Greetings from the University of York.

I am sorry to hear that the management of Nottingham Trent has derecognized UCU at the university. This is a scandalous attack on a trade union, one which threatens us all. Please stand up to the management of the university, taking industrial action if necessary. You have our support.

In solidarity
Malcolm Law
Member of local executive, UCU, University of York

I hope that NTU recognise the UCU as the effective representation of the academic staff. The current policy of willfully ignoring the collective representation is completely unacceptable and the attempted erosion of rights and representation will be challenged.

Dr Malcolm James Cook

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