

# Support UCU members on strike to defend jobs, pay and pensions in Higher Education

We strongly oppose the **ConDem cuts** to Higher Education, the drastic **increase in tuition fees** of up to £9000 as well as the related **further marketisation of education** including attempts by the government to re-direct funding to research areas which are perceived to make a short-term economic impact.

Why we are taking industrial action:

- the **failure of the employers to engage with UCU in a meaningful way** about the planned changes to the USS pension scheme;
- the changes to the pension scheme will result in a two-tier system in which the **final salary scheme will be closed to new members of staff**;
- as a result of these changes there will be a reduction in benefits despite **USS being in robust health**.

We are also opposed to:

- the **proposed cut in salaries** and further **erosion of working conditions**;
- the **cuts to the teaching budget** which we believe could have a detrimental impact on education;
- the **dramatic increase in tuition fees** which is in effect transferring the cost of education to the students;
- the **cuts to the EMA** – a vital lifeline to many students who otherwise wouldn't continue with education;

**Protect your pension, job and pay: join us.**

**Do not go into the university on these days.**

**Let us fight together for the right of universal access to Further and Higher Education!**

On **Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March**, UCU members from **Nottingham University** will be on strike on these issues.

On **Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> March**, UCU members from **all FE and HE institutions in Nottingham** and across the country will be on strike together.

**PUBLIC RALLY  
THURSDAY 24<sup>th</sup> MARCH  
11am onward  
OLD MARKET SQUARE  
NOTTINGHAM CITY CENTRE**

On **Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> March** the TUC is holding a national demonstration in London – **March for the Alternative: jobs, growth, justice**.

This demonstration will be a major focus for opposition to Government spending cuts. Everyone, education workers, students, young people, service users, pensioners should be on this march.

**Transport is organised from Nottingham – contact the UCU office.**