

# SUSSEX UCU AND YOU

## WELCOME TO YOUR SUSSEX UCU NEWSLETTER

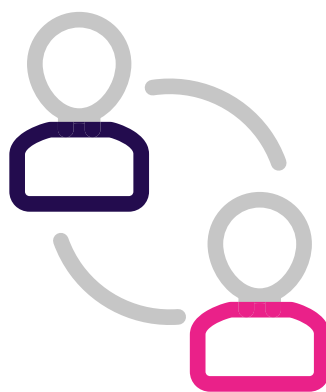
This newsletter shares with you the work that Sussex UCU is doing on behalf of members and for all staff and students at Sussex. If you have questions, comments or want to get involved, please get in touch!



### COUNCIL ELECTION CANDIDATE

Max Savage is a Professional Services staff member who is running for Council as a Crisis Justice Sussex candidate on a platform of protecting jobs, ensuring health and safety and fighting for transparency and accountability at the University of Sussex.

Max said, "I need your help to ensure that we win this election and give staff a strong voice on the University's highest governing body." You can follow Max on [Twitter](#), check out his [blog](#) and contact him with questions ([max.o.savage@gmail.com](mailto:max.o.savage@gmail.com)).



### NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE

Together with reps from Unison and Unite, UCU have been holding weekly Combined Joint Negotiating Committee (CJNC) meetings with the management since campus closed in March. We are in the process of putting notes of the meetings up on the Sussex UCU [website](#).

A summary of the last meeting, a Q&A with Kelly Coate (PVC Education) on Autumn Term teaching was recently emailed to members (16/6) along with a letter sent to Kelly Coate raising a series of questions and concerns about teaching planning.



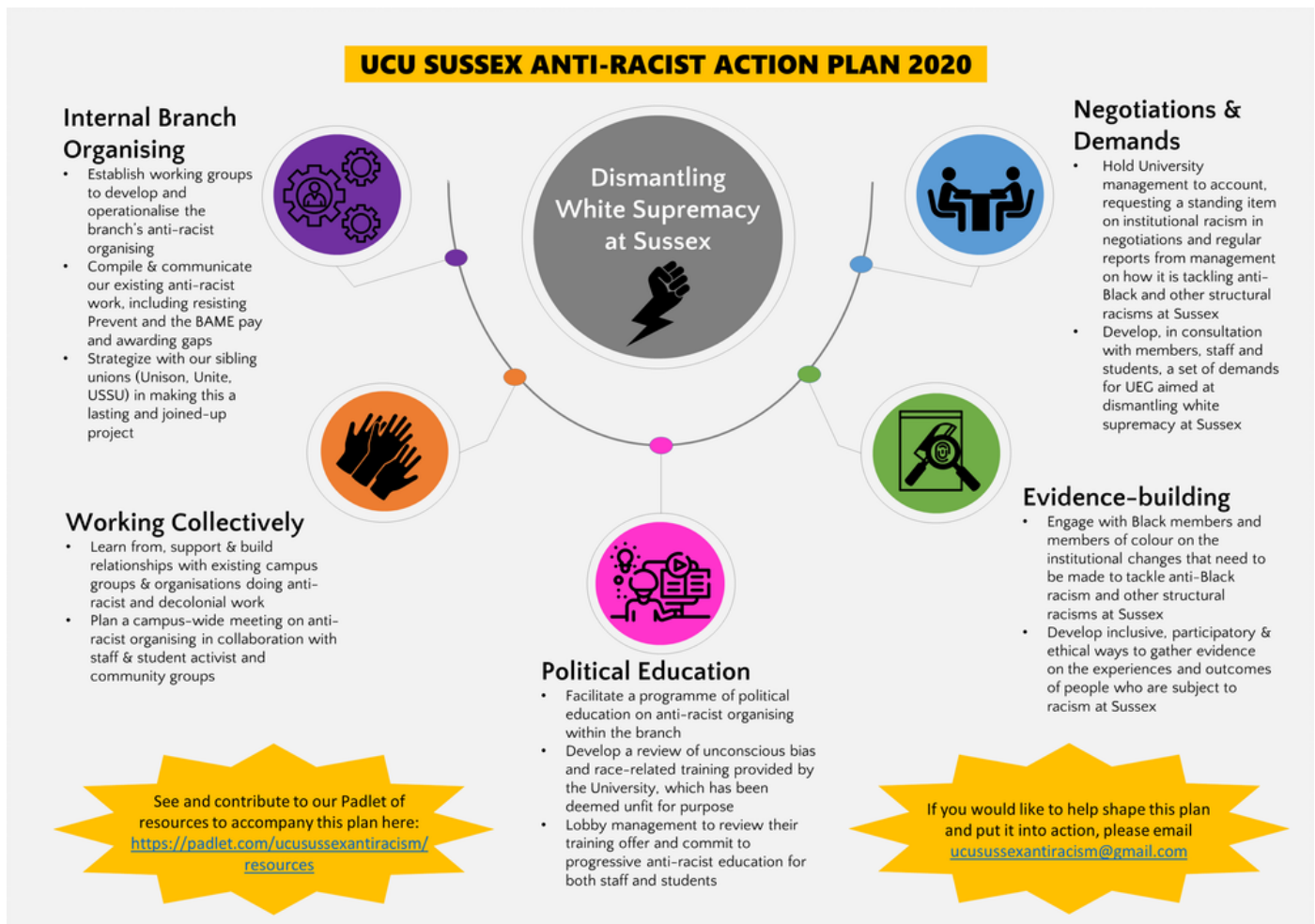
### PGR MATTERS

The University recently confirmed its intention to match-fund extensions for UKRI-funded PGRs, whilst announcing a hardship fund in lieu of funded extensions for other doctoral researchers at Sussex. The announcement comes despite calls from the PGR community for adequate and equitable support for all PGRs requiring extensions as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, and in the context of threats to doctoral tutor posts across the institution. An exceptional Doctoral Studies Committee meeting has been called by a member of UEG and will take place on Monday at 12pm.

If you have questions and concerns you want to raise with UCU, or if you would like to get more involved, please get in touch by email.

18 June 2020

# ANTI-RACIST ACTION PLAN



Following our branch meeting on anti-racist organising last week, a working group has formed to develop an action plan which is available as a [downloadable PDF](#). This plan represents a starting place for dismantling structures of white supremacy at Sussex. We see this as a broad collective project and would like to encourage UCU members, staff and students who have any suggestions to get involved as there is much for us to learn too.

We are particularly keen to hear from Black UCU members and members of colour in developing our plans as a branch. We appreciate that those not already involved in these conversations may be better positioned to lead and direct these projects based on their experiences and are keen to elevate your voices. We are in contact with colleagues in Unison, Unite and the BAME Staff Network, as well as Decolonise Sussex and USSU, setting in motion a collaborative approach to this work

Our initial activities will include the beginnings of our political education programme in anti-racist organising. Details coming soon.



# WHAT YOU CAN DO TO SUPPORT SUSSEX UCU WORK THIS WEEK



- Support our Crisis Justice Campaign on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).
- Sign and share the Crisis Justice [petition](#).
- Read our latest [blog posts](#).
- Email your [departmental rep](#) to get involved
- Become a UCU Health and Safety Rep
- Sign the [open letter](#) to the VC on racism at Sussex
- Follow Council Candidate Max Savage on [Twitter](#)
- Get in touch (below) if you have issues to raise to the union's attention.

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## KEEP IN TOUCH WITH YOUR UNION

- Email: [ucusussex@sussex.ac.uk](mailto:ucusussex@sussex.ac.uk)
- Website:  
<https://ucusussex.wixsite.com/ucusussex>
- Twitter: [@SussexUCU](https://twitter.com/SussexUCU)
- Exec and Reps List:  
<https://ucusussex.wixsite.com/ucusussex/contacts>
- Crisis Justice Campaign Twitter:  
[@CrisisJusticeSX](https://twitter.com/CrisisJusticeSX)

