## 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!



#### **UCU LEVY**

Thanks to members who've given feedback on the levy proposals.

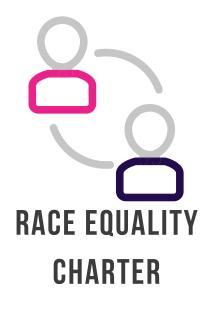
Members of our Exec will be attending a national UCU Branch Officers meeting to discuss the levy this Thursday at 7pm and we'll make sure all your points are covered. In addition our Treasurer will be attending a meeting with UCU Head of Finance on Monday to discuss ways to proceed.

Vicky Blake, who is the new President of UCU and Chair of the National Executive Committee, has written a <u>blog\_post</u> explaining the position. Jo Grady, the General Secretary, has also sent an <u>explanatory email\_to\_all\_members</u>.



<u>Private Eye</u> has spotted the McGettigan Report.

Meanwhile, UCU has been invited to present to Council on the context and the McGettigan Report in advance of their meeting on Friday (we won't be using the Eye's headline). This is an important meeting that will set the draft budget before the budget is again reviewed and confirmed in October. Let's hope they are listening to our concerns on workload, equalities, consultation, transparency, precarious contracts, DT/ ST hours, crisis management and more.



"The University's Race Equality Charter Self-Assessment Team have created three sub-groups (Student Experience, Staff Experience and Institutional Culture) to investigate these aspects of equality work at Sussex.

All members of staff are welcome to provide expressions of interest to join the sub-groups to Ilyas Nagdee by the end of the day on Friday 3 July.

For more information see <a href="http://www.sussex.ac.uk/staff/newsandevents/?id=52304">http://www.sussex.ac.uk/staff/newsandevents/?id=52304</a>





#### MAX SAVAGE FOR UNIVERSITY COUNCIL

Check out the <u>video interview</u> between Max Savage (Crisis Justice Sussex candidate in the current PS Council Election) and Paula Burr (Sussex Unite branch secretary and former Council member). Short extract below:



Paula: So what would your priorities be if you were elected?

Max: I think my priorities would be to ensure the Council recognises the contribution made by staff. Especially in Professional Services, we are the people day in, day out, whether in the student support unit, whether in the library, whether in schools, whether working as technicians, who deal with students on a day to day basis - we are the people who make the university work! I'd also be really keen to get independent Councillors to support a pay ratio. The top paid senior manager at Sussex currently earns about 17 times more than the lowest paid member of staff. I think this ratio shouldn't be more than 6 to 1. Our motto at the moment is about a university for a better future. And I think about a university in a better future should be one seeking to resolve income inequality. I'm also really, really keen to work with unions and work with staff groups. UCU recently published an amazing anti-racist action plan. I think it's so important in higher education to make sure we take these issues seriously and make sure that people who have been working on this in their spare time for years and years and years, people who have lived the experience are the people who should design and implement our strategies to combat racism in all its forms.

All PS staff should have received a voting email - if not please contact your local UCU rep. Voting closes 10 July.



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



- Support our Crisis Justice Campaign on <u>Twitter</u> and <u>Facebook</u>.
- Read our latest blog posts.
- Email your <u>departmental rep</u> to get involved
- Become a UCU Health and Safety Rep (includes facilities time)
- Follow Council Candidate Max Savage on <u>Twitter</u>
- Get in touch (below) if you have issues to raise to the union's attention.

### KEEP IN TOUCH WITH YOUR UNION

- Email: ucusussex@sussex.ac.uk
- Website: <a href="https://ucusussex.wixsite.com/ucusussex">https://ucusussex.wixsite.com/ucusussex</a>
- Twitter: <u>@SussexUCU</u>
- Exec and Reps List: <u>https://ucusussex.wixsite.com/ucusussex/contacts</u>
- Crisis Justice Campaign Twitter:
  @CrisisJusticeSX

