



York St John University

Branch Newsletter

Jul/Aug 2016

Branch Secretary Needed

The York St John branch of UNISON needs a branch secretary. It is a role that would bring you into contact with a wide range of people at the university. The job involves keeping records, ensuring that branch meetings go to plan and that the committee keeps in touch with its members and the region and center.

If you think you might be able to help with this role approach any one listed in the meet the team section to find out more.

You would be well supported by the other committee members and it can be a very satisfying role. §

Ballot over strike action

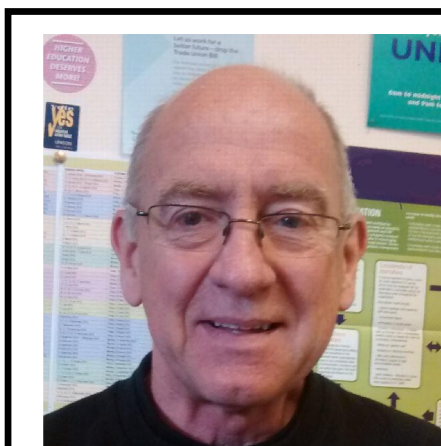
UNISON members in higher education are to be balloted on whether they wish to take strike action over their employers' pay offer, which would see most staff receive a 1.1% increase.

The union's higher education service group executive will be calling on members to reject the offer and take strike action to get the employers to improve it.

This follows the results of a consultation with members in which more than two thirds of those who responded voted to reject the offer.

According to UNISON "Staff deserve to receive fair pay for delivering world-class services to students – compare the 1.1% offer for most staff with the average increase of 6.1% for vice chancellors last year".

The ballot will take place during the summer and UNISON will be calling on members to join the campaign to seek a fair pay deal for all.§



Meet Keith Vasey

Keith originally comes from Scarborough. He did an apprenticeship with H Pickup, a mechanical and electrical services company, established for over 100 years. He started his five year apprenticeship in 1969 to become a Heating and plumbing Engineer, and he now works in Maintenance at York St John University.

He now lives in Wiggington and has worked at York St John for 20 years. He is a Workplace rep and has helped many, many members in his years in this role.§

What Do Trade Unions do?

Unions train and organise workplace representatives who help union members with the problems they face at work.

Reps provide support and advice and campaign for better conditions and pay.

- Unions have brought significant changes to society, including:
- a national minimum wage;
- improved worker safety;
- improving living standards by reducing the number of hours in the working week.
- improved parental leave;
- equality legislation;
- better protection of migrant workers and a reduction in exploitation;
- minimum holiday and sickness entitlements.

Unions have also made thousands of local agreements on issues affecting individual workplaces §

Member benefits

As well as representation at work, and a voice in local and national negotiations, UNISON members can benefit from a range of services, including:

- Legal representation inside and outside work,
- Good deals on car, home or pet insurance,
- Savings on holidays and travel insurance,
- Educational and training opportunities,



- And much more...

How to Join

There are three simple ways to join UNISON and get essential cover wherever you work.

1. Join securely online
2. Call 0800 171 2193
3. Return a paper form

RETIRED?
STAY IN
UNISON



Meet the team

These are your key contacts if you need advice or have any concerns or suggestions. UNISON prides itself on being "your friend at work", and we need to know what you are thinking if we are going to represent your views in the University.

Chair: Dave Thompson (Maintenance, x6668)

Deputy Chair: Hazel Eldred (Registry, x6926)

Treasurer: Jo Ripley (Registry, x6670)

General enquiries: unison@yorks.ac.uk

Health and Safety: Dave Thompson (Maintenance, x6668)

Rebekah Dale: Equality and Diversity (Admissions x6970)

Communications: Marcus Green (ILS, x6367)

Workplace reps: Sally Rollinson (Grounds, x6508)

Simon Davis (Grounds, x6508)

Keith Vasey (Maintenance, x6668)