

Dear Colleague

I wrote to you on 6 November in respect of the Universities' Superannuation Scheme (USS) and proposed industrial action (action short of strike action).

I am pleased to confirm that, following recent discussions between UCU and Universities UK (UUK), agreement has been reached to suspend the industrial action from 20 November until after the Joint Negotiating Committee (JNC) scheduled to take place on 15 January 2015.

UCU and UUK have agreed to a series of negotiating meetings between now and the scheduled JNC with the intention of reaching agreement on reforms to the USS scheme. UCU and UUK have confirmed their commitment to seeking a joint proposal for reform that offers an affordable, sustainable and attractive pension scheme for both current and future members.

I am pleased that the agreement to suspend industrial action at this early stage will ensure the student experience at Aberdeen is unaffected. We will continue to urge USS, through UUK, to take a more measured approach to the proposals and to demonstrate a commitment to maintaining the best possible pension benefit structure for the sector. I would also like to thank our local UCU representatives for the constructive dialogue that we continue to have on this matter.

Yours faithfully

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