



Higher Education

Our Ref: MJR/VT/HE/23/05

15th November 2005

**TO All Workplace Reps and Branches
Regional Officers responsible for HE for information
Sue Sharp NEC
Dave Trafford NEC**

Dear Colleagues

2006 Pay Claim

This letter is to advise members on the current position for a 2006 pay claim.

The JNCHES Academic Staff Sub Committee (ASSC) has submitted a pay claim on behalf of its members for 2006. This was not copied to the support staff unions sub committee, Professional Technical Administrative and Ancillary Staff (PTAAS), until after it had been sent to the employers association UCEA.

The senior officers of both academic and support unions have met informally, prior to submission of the academic claim, to discuss areas of concern following problems in the 2005 negotiations.

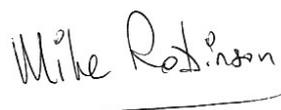
PTAAS unions have also met as a committee on the 31st October to consider a way forward. At that meeting all PTAAS unions acknowledged the 2005 negotiations were hampered by separate negotiations between UCEA, ASSC and PTAAS.

It was felt that PTAAS unions have a responsibility to consult with their own members about the formulation of the 2006 claim and should not simply follow the academic unions line. It was also felt that PTAAS unions, whilst consulting, should set out our reasonable expectations on pay as a "Letter of Expectation" so that UCEA were aware of PTAAS view on the principle of joint discussions and not simply meet with ASSC unions. A further matter that all PTAAS unions may need to consider, is whether to join ASSC unions in any joint campaign or action should the ASSC claim not be met.

Amicus as part of its pay formulation process will be considering these matters at the next Higher Education Industry Committee (HENIC) due to take place on the 8th December in London. Your workplace group is asked to consider the issues of the 2006 pay claim and advise your local HENIC delegate of local opinion so that HENIC can take these into account in formulating the 2006 claim.

It is hoped that following HENIC, Amicus will be able to adopt a clear strategy for the 2006 pay claim and further information can be sent to you after the HENIC meeting. The Letter of Expectation has now been sent to UCEA on behalf of PTAAS unions. A copy of the PTAAS letter and the ASSC pay claim are attached for your information.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Robinson". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Mike Robinson
National Officer
Higher Education