

# DAY OF ACTION IN DEFENCE OF EDUCATION

**Wednesday 5 May - in Brighton  
City College, University of  
Sussex, University of Brighton**

**STRIKE DEMONSTRATE RALLY!**

**On Wednesday 5 May thousands of lecturers in further and higher and adult education will be on strike. In London alone, there will be 11 FE colleges affected and three universities, Kings College, University College London (UCL) and Westminster. Here in Brighton, the lecturers and academic-related staff will be on strike at the University of Sussex. At the University of Brighton and in City College, staff and students will be demonstrating in defence of education.**

## **Why is this happening?**

Higher education has been hit with a series of funding cuts that now total close to £1bn, while further education has been told to make savings of £340m in the next academic year. Funding cuts have now gone from tough words from party leaders for their sound-bites ahead of an election to the stark reality of people losing jobs, potential students missing out on education, and existing students facing larger classes and less access to tutors and to services.

All of this, we must remember, is to pay for the deficits created by the bankers' crisis, and for the wars in Afghanistan and in Iraq, adventures to which the majority in the country is opposed.

Sally Hunt, the General Secretary of the lecturers' union (the UCU), condemned the cuts: 'UCU believes in the power of education to make a real difference to peoples' lives. This is not the time to be slashing funding, cutting jobs and reducing access to education. UCU members on strike at Sussex and elsewhere are fighting to save jobs and defend education and we are very proud of the stand they are taking'.

**To all students and staff at universities and colleges in the Sussex area and all local people and trade unionists who do not believe that education should be sacrificed for the bankers or for the cost of the wars...**

## **JOIN US on WEDNESDAY 5 MAY!**

- Visit the UCU picket lines at the University of Sussex at any time during the day of the 5th to bring solidarity greetings.
- Join UCU members and students from City College, and the Universities of Brighton and Sussex, on the demonstration through Brighton (Wednesday afternoon 5 May) at 4.30 from The Level on the Lewes Road to The Old Ship Hotel on the seafront.
- Whether you are staff, student or a member of the public, come to the UCU rally in The Old Ship Hotel by Ship Street from 5.30-8.00 (5 May).

**Chair:** Jelena Timotijevic (UCU Brighton)

### **Speakers to include:**

**Alastair Hunter** (National President, UCU); **Paul Cecil** and **Jim Guild** (Chair and Secretary of UCU at the University of Sussex); **Tom Wills** (President) and **Syed Bokhiri** from the University of Sussex Students' Union; members of the University of Brighton Students' Union; **Sue Tribe** (Adult and Continuing Education, Brighton); **Tom Hickey** (University of Brighton and National Executive, UCU); **Micheal O'Connell** and **Alison Kelly** (Brighton City College); **Michael Moran** (Regional Official, UCU)...

... and prospective Parliamentary candidates who have been invited to give their views on the education cuts!

**UCU**  
University and College Union