

EDUCATION
EDUCATION
EDUCATION



SHORT-TERM CUTS **LONG-TERM DAMAGE**

Higher education is a powerful engine to drive the UK economy back into growth and expansion, contributing to a skilled and motivated workforce.

Education does not stop at the school gates, yet the government announced £600 million long-term cuts in higher education last autumn and an additional £135 million cuts this year.

Staff are vital to delivering high-quality higher education. Decent pay and conditions are paramount in keeping and recruiting quality staff.

A decade ago the Bett report showed that higher education pay had fallen way behind – and UNISON vowed we would catch up.

We negotiated new pay structures and national pay awards that have made up for the shortfalls. However, in 2009/10 union members accepted a lower pay offer than we would have liked, recognising recent pay increases, the wider recession and reductions in HE funding.

Cutting jobs and pay will only drive vital workers into other sectors of the economy.

While government calls for a “need to exercise discipline” and a “sustainable position on pensions”, staff in HE face inflation (the Retail Price Index) above 3% in 2010.

We want to see a decent pay award in 2010 and will defend our HE members facing cuts, job losses and pay restraint. This could mean we may have to consider industrial action to defend jobs and pay in 2010. We will be working with the other HE unions to achieve our goals.

Stand firm against these destructive proposals and send a clear message that we believe in HE.

Get involved in the pay campaign at:
unison.org.uk/education/higher/campaigns.asp.

**Join online today at
unison.org.uk/join or
call 0845 355 0845**



UNISON campaigning
for a fairer society

unison.org.uk/million