WHY ARE WE STILL ON STRIKE?

Talks about the USS Pension Scheme, facilitated by ACAS, are starting on 5 March in central London.

***These talks are taking place*** ***because of the intense pressure caused by the strike action.***

Every day the pressure builds from students, staff, politicians and university managers to find a reasonable solution.

Without this pressure, UUK will have no reason to negotiate. Instead they will revert to the original proposal to end the defined benefits scheme.

WHAT’S AT STAKE?

* A move to ‘defined contributions’ means your pension is a gamble. The final amount you receive depends on the state of your investment at the point of retirement
* You could lose 20-40% of future pension entitlement
* The ‘deficit’ used to justify the costs is not a real one. The valuation workings have not been released in full, but we know there are bizarre calculations—such as assuming university staff will receive 4.4% pay rises each year.
* USS pensions will be significantly worse than the pensions for school teachers and staff in post-92 institutions.
* **HELP US** by writing to your MP, find your MP at this address: <https://www.ucu.org.uk/USS-emailyourMP>
* **HELP US** by writing to the VC, Mr. Horrock's email address can be found on the staff directory at [https://msds.open.ac.uk/staffdirectory](https://msds.open.ac.uk/staffdirectory/)

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