



EDUCATION SECTOR

Our Ref: MJR/VT/HE/ 30/09

15th December 2009

To Workplace Reps and Branches

Dear Colleague

2009 Pay and related items

Following a recommendation by the New JNCHES negotiators and the Unite Education Sector Conference to accept the final pay offer of 0.5% a ballot was organised in all Unite HE workplaces using our network of union representatives. The offer also included an agreed job security and redundancy avoidance Digest specially prepared by ACAS for the HE sector.

The provisional result covering the vast majority of Unite organised UK Higher Education Institutions was counted today by Mike Baxter Unite National Committee member for West Midlands who acted as teller and adjudicator. The result is provisional as one institution have requested a days extension due to absence of the local rep in order to send in their result. I am satisfied however that the result will not be materially affected by the late return but it will be included in the eventual figures reported to the union.

The result declared is

Those wishing to accept the offer

84%

Those wishing to reject the offer

14%

Notified abstentions

1%

It is worth pointing out that only three higher education institutions overall rejected the offer. The vast majority voted to accept.

I shall now formally write to UCEA on behalf of Unite and accept their offer.

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For your information Unison had already accepted the offer on pay some time ago. UCU's national committee voted this week to "note" the offer, in effect accepting the outcome. GMB are still balloting. EIS based in Scotland, the only other union involved, have so far rejected the offer and have had dispute level talks with UCEA at which I was invited as an observer. No breakthrough in the talks occurred and a further discussion is being arranged later this week.

I have noted some of the comments by email on the reluctance of many low paid members to accept the low offer. I can assure you that for 2010 Unite is already warning the Employers Association more must be done to protect low paid members in high inflationary times.

Thank you to everyone that assisted in getting the ballot results back to my office.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Robinson".

Mike Robinson
National Officer
Education