

Council
12th December 2011

Imperial College Union
A Request to debate whether to Support the UCU Campaign for fairer pensions
A Paper by ICU President – Scott Heath

Background

1. The Universities and Colleges Union is currently engaged in a campaign to ensure a fair deal for their pensions. They will be joining us in council to discuss their stance.
2. As a Union we can see many arguments for supporting UCU and for not supporting UCU. A list that is not exhaustive is below:

Arguments to Supporting

1. Many of the members of this Union will pursue academic careers. It is in their interest that we help them have a fair pension deal.
2. We appreciate our lecturers and academic staff. It will be a large boost to them to see that the Student Body supports their lecturers.

Arguments against Supporting

1. The actions of UCU, such as striking, may negatively affect the education of students at Imperial College.
2. Many of our members will not pursue academic careers.
3. It is possible that higher contributions to pensions will lead to higher fees in Higher Education.

Resolves

The Union must decide whether to support UCU, not to support UCU or to conditionally support UCU.