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Unite Press Release

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Higher education unions reject derisory employers pay offer

Unions representing members in higher education have branded a marginally improved pay offer for 2012/13 as derisory.

The offer (increased from 0.5 percent to 0.8 percent) was immediately rejected by the joint negotiation committee in higher education consisting of Unite, EIS, GMB, UCU, Unison and the University Colleges Employers Association (UCEA).

The joint unions demanded the employers dramatically improve the offer and match 2012 RPI inflation. With inflation running at 3.5 percent, this pay offer represents a pay cut in real terms.

Unite national officer, Mike Robinson, said: ***“The latest offer represents a slap in the face for hard working university staff. It is an insult, especially when measured against the increase in university surpluses and increased income.***

“With our members already struggling with the rising cost of living and household bills soaring, this derisory offer represents a real terms pay cut.

“Unite members expect a decent pay settlement that ensures they are properly rewarded for their skill and commitment.”

Ends

For further information contact Ashraf Choudhury in the Unite Press Office on 020 3371 2061 or 07980 224761.

Notes to editors:

Unite is Britain and Ireland’s largest trade union with 1.5 million members working across all sectors of the economy. The general secretary is Len McCluskey.

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