

University's use of strike deductions

Dear Vice-Chancellor,

Members of the University and College Union (UCU) have been forced to engage in industrial action to safeguard their pay and conditions, with a very significant escalation announced for February and March. In the past, Cardiff University has kept pay deductions from striking staff for themselves rather than paying it out to students who actually suffered the disruption to their education while being charged full fees. This cannot continue, especially with the scale of disruption that is expected over the coming months.

Additionally, the cost-of-living crisis has had a severe effect on students. According to one recent survey commissioned by UUK, over three quarters of students now think *rising costs may affect how well they do in their studies*, for example. In this context, two things follow:

- 1) students can no longer afford to pay the university without receiving the full benefit of uninterrupted education, and
- 2) the cost-of-living crisis now makes it urgent that the university starts payments to students immediately funds appropriated by Cardiff University via strike deductions are considerable and available for pay-outs.

For these reasons, Cardiff Students' Union, with the support of Cardiff UCU, urgently request that payments to students who have their courses disrupted in the current industrial dispute (since November 2022) are now made without delay and that the university transparently account for how the funds appropriated through staff strike deductions are used.

We urgently look forward to your response.

Kind regards,

The Sabbatical Officer Team 22/23, Cardiff Students' Union

To note: this letter will be publicly available to ensure our members are aware that actions are being taken.

