



**Policy Proposal title:** UCU Strike Action 2022

**Name of proposer:** Harrison Cohen (President)

**Contact details of proposer:** harrison.cohen@roehampton.ac.uk

**Has this proposal been submitted via RSU Ideas?** No

**Roehampton Students' Union Council notes:**

- The UCU strike action concerns two disputes: university staff pay and working conditions. 70,000 university staff members across the UK are due to strike on the 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, and 30<sup>th</sup> November 2022.
- NUS UK is standing in solidarity with the UCU and striking university staff.
- This will be the fifth consecutive year that government cuts to education and workers' rights have resulted in strike action across the UK (Source: NUS UK).
- RSU is bound by the Charities Act (2006) to ensure that its resources and efforts are used for the benefit of our members under our charitable objectives; the SU is required to represent students as students.

**Roehampton Students' Union Council believes:**

- The UCU has a basic, democratic right to take industrial action when negotiations with their employers have failed and they have a democratic mandate from their membership.
- The UCU's strike action is not a staff vs student issue, but a joint staff-student concern, as university staff working conditions are inextricably linked with the student learning experience.
- That all university staff members are entitled to fair pay and fair working conditions, including a manageable workload.

**Roehampton Students' Union Council resolves:**

- RSU will engage in work immediately to ensure that all students understand strike action and the impact it may have on their learning.
- RSU Officers will seek clear guidance from the University, the OfS and the OIA in relation to student consumer rights during strike action, communicate this clearly to students.
- RSU will publicise Digital Rep to encourage students to complain if any teaching and learning promised is not delivered or made up for and will take all student feedback (anonymized) regarding strike action onto relevant bodies.
- RSU will work to ensure all students, regardless of their opinion on strike action, are welcomed in RSU and feel safe and confident accessing RSU services.
- RSU Officers join the NUS UK in standing in solidarity with UCU and striking staff.