

The University of Edinburgh and UCU joint statement on PhD students who undertake teaching as part of their scholarship

UCU has raised the issue of PhD students on University of Edinburgh (UoE) scholarships where teaching is a requirement of that scholarship. The University has confirmed that there is no mechanism for deduction from the scholarship for any teaching or tutorial activities which are not delivered. The University has also confirmed that, for the period of the UCU industrial action, those PhD students in this position who may withdraw their labour as part of the UCU action, will not face any action under the student code of conduct as a result of solely that activity.

The University and UCU together acknowledge that we want to review and enhance the position of such PhD tutors, and that this is unfinished business from the 2019 UCU – UoE collective agreement addressing casualisation in the University. We agree to work on these issues, to improve the position of PhD tutors delivering teaching as part of their scholarships, at the earliest opportunity.

26th February 2020