

From: Keith Brown
Sent: 18 February 2020 15:22
To: Adam Ozanne
Cc: President; E Astle; Patrick Hackett (REGISTRAR); Karen Heaton
Subject: Re: Reply from GTAs to the Dean of Humanities

Dear Adam,

Thank-you for your email and for sharing the thoughts of the UMUCU Executive Committee and GTA Committee on this issue.

Best wishes,

Keith

Sent from my iPad

On 17 Feb 2020, at 14:16, Adam Ozanne <adam.ozanne@manchester.ac.uk> wrote:

Dear Keith,

I write to you on behalf of the UMUCU Executive Committee and GTA Committee with regard to your February “Message from the Dean” in which you took issue with a recent article in the *Guardian* by Prof. Steve Jones:

<https://www.staffnet.manchester.ac.uk/humanities/about/news-and-events/staff-updates/the-deans-updates/>

Please find attached a response from UMUCU’s GTA Committee to your message and, in particular, your statement that GTA employment is “within fair and agreed terms and conditions and is beneficial to the students who earn additional income and gain valuable work experience”. As you will see, your comments about their precarious contracts are viewed by the GTAs – and I would add the UMUCU Executive Committee and many others in the University – as unhelpful, dismissive and disheartening, and an indication of how completely out of touch you are with those (unlike you and I) who are at the beginning of their academic careers.

We and our members, especially GTAs throughout the University, with whom we will share this correspondence, look forward to your reply.

Kind regards,

Adam

Dr Adam Ozanne
UMUCU Branch Secretary
University of Manchester
Manchester M13 9PL