

From: Adam Ozanne

Sent: 17 March 2020 12:27

To: President

Cc: Patrick Hackett (REGISTRAR); Karen Heaton; Simon Merrywest; Peter Clayton; Vikki Goddard; David Swanson; Linda Davies; Caroline Martin; University and College Union; Unison Office; Kevin Gaskell-clow; Christopher Goodwin; Kenneth Drury

Subject: Student Experience Programme and WMIC Section 188s

Dear Nancy,

I am writing on behalf of all three campus trade unions – UMUCU, UNISON and UNITE – to urge the University to suspend the current Section 188 processes for the Student Experience Programme and Wolfson Molecular Imaging Centre.

All those involved may have caring responsibilities for vulnerable relatives or be vulnerable themselves. Given government advice regarding home-working and avoidance of face-to-face meetings, we cannot adequately represent our members, nor should HR and other University staff involved in the processes have to come in and attend consultation meetings or meet with at-risk staff who are desperately seeking information and advice. It is also well known that there is a link between physical health, anxiety and stress and, therefore, that continuing with the S188s may make it even more difficult for at-risk staff to weather this crisis.

At a time of enormous stress to all staff of the University, suspending the S188s would be a clear signal that the mental and physical health of staff is genuinely important to the University. We urge you to suspend both processes as a clear signal of goodwill – to the at-risk staff in particular but also more widely to all University staff.

These S188s are already a cause of great distress to the staff immediately at-risk but also their many colleagues who anticipate they will be affected by the next round of SEP redundancies. I fully understand you are under extreme time pressure but I hope for a prompt response and corresponding mention in your next President's update.

Kind regards,

Adam

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"Power and Neoclassical Economics: A Return to Political Economy in the Teaching of Economics", Palgrave Macmillan, 2016. Available from: <http://www.palgrave.com/gb/book/9781137553720>

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