

Tuesday 25 April 2017

Talks with EIS to resolve dispute continue at ACAS

Commenting on the ACAS talks between the Colleges Scotland Employers' Association and the EIS to try and end the current industrial dispute, a spokesperson for the Colleges Scotland Employers' Association said:

“Today marked the first day of talks at ACAS to help resolve the current dispute with the EIS over pay and conditions. The engagement by the EIS is welcome as there is a clear need for the EIS to show willingness to compromise and end the threat of strike action.

“The EIS needs to show a willingness to compromise. They are striking to get more money for less work, when the deal put on the table by employers is not only fair but beneficial as it equates to an average pay rise of 9% for lecturers over the next two years.

“The only thing standing between lecturers and an average pay rise of 9%, is the EIS’s insistence on 66 days holiday and a teaching working week of just 21 hours. The employers have already agreed the pay rise and proposed a generous package that would provide 56 days holiday and 24 hours class contact with the facility to timetable up to 26 hours in any eight week period, which members of the public will regard as a very good deal indeed.

“In the end, the EIS are calling a strike because they want more holidays and fewer working hours, and that is simply not realistic. Industrial action is wholly unnecessary and disruptive for students in the run up to exam time, and we are extremely disappointed that the EIS has chosen to take its members down the route of strikes when talks are still ongoing.

“While no agreement has been reached today, we are happy to engage ACAS and the EIS further and will continue to take part in talks in the hope that a resolution can be found.”

ENDS

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Notes:

| | Annual Leave | Class Contact |
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| EIS position | 66 days per annum | 21 hours class contact with the facility to timetable up to 24 hours for CPD/Quality activities or exceptional short term cover. In any four week period class contact will not exceed 92 hours and in any 8 consecutive teaching period week the average weekly class contact will not exceed 23 hours. 840 hours per annum. |
| Employers' position | 56 days per annum | 24 hours class contact with the facility to timetable up to 26 hours in any eight week period to cover short term absence |

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| | | cover, fluctuating market demand and undertaking internal verification. 880 hours per annum. |
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