

TUC Education Update



31 August 2017

TUC Education Update

Welcome to the August edition of TUC Education Update, our third mailing to union education officers this year. Update is aimed at TUC course co-ordinators, tutors, and everyone with an interest in union education and training.

Brand new from TUC Education

TUC Education has a new training offer in place for reps this autumn.

The offer is made up of classroom, blended and new online courses that bring contemporary technologies into classrooms and workplaces across the UK.

The new online Union Reps 1 course was launched earlier this year and can be accessed by reps as soon as they take office, where and when most convenient and from a mobile, tablet or PC.

New online Health and Safety Reps 1 and the Union Learning Reps 1 courses are also available, with Union Learning Reps 2 coming soon.

Experienced reps are telling us that the new online courses are very useful as a refresher for reps that have been in post for some time.

The new courses are available at www.tuceducation.org.uk/newonlinecourses

New online courses from TUC Education

Our four new online courses launch in 2017, freely available to all union reps. They're a great way to learn at your own pace, with short 5-minute sections combining essential guidance, the latest resources, quizzes, videos and more. You'll get support and have the chance to share your experiences with other reps in thriving online course discussions.

 Union Reps 1	 Health & Safety 1	 ULR 1	 ULR 2
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Learn where you want, when you want – on a smartphone, tablet, laptop or desktop computer. However you access the course you'll find it easy to track your progress and pick up right where you left off.

Sign up and find out more at:
www.tuceducation.org.uk/newonlinecourses

Also available via blended and classroom delivery:
www.tuceducation.org.uk/findacourse/

TUC

The TUC Education website also hosts the online course directory and online application process which allows reps to enter their details and apply directly for classroom, blended or online courses. Visit

<https://www.tuceducation.org.uk/findacourse> to access all courses and TUC resources.

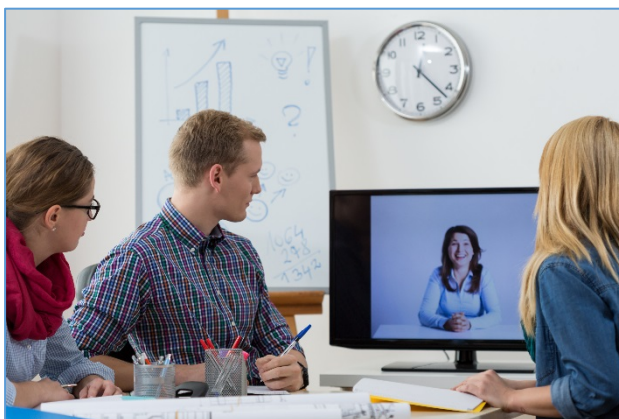
The site is also home to eNotes, a resource developed to help reps stay up to date on key workplace issues. Each eNote is a self-contained eLearning module that has a mixture of text, video and quizzes, lasting between 15 – 30 minutes. There are over 30 eNotes available on the site, the newest releases are:

- Trade Union Act
- Sexual Harassment

From representing members, to mentoring new reps or even contributing to policy working groups, eNotes are an up to date and invaluable resource.

For the full range of titles go to <https://www.tuceducation.org.uk/enotes>

TUC Education has added a series of webinars to the range of resources on offer to union reps.



Hugh Robertson, TUC Senior Policy Officer for Health and Safety, hosted a Tackling Stress in the Workplace live webinar in June. The recording is available on the TUC Education website at <https://www.tuceducation.org.uk/mod/page/view.php?id=72705>

Other webinars planned for this year include:

- Trade union membership on 7 September at 2.30 pm
- Occupational Cancer on 14 September at 2.30 pm
- Supporting midlife and older workers on 21 September at 2.30 pm
- Public sector pay on 28 September at 2.30 pm
- Health and Safety Wellbeing on 16 November at 2.30 pm.

To access our webinars, log in to <https://www.tuceducation.org.uk>

Women Officers' Summer School 2017

Every year the TUC runs a five day residential personal development course, for women trade union officers who work tirelessly in trade union offices across the UK.

This year Hannah Reed from TUC looked at the very latest in Employment Law developments and her involvement with countering the Trade Union Act, while Sue Ferns from Prospect talked about her extraordinary experiences as a woman in the trade union movement.

The highlight of the oversubscribed programme was a Parliamentary reception at the House of Commons where the women got to meet and ask questions to a number of women MPs.



Mingling with Melanie Onn MP



Angela Rayner MP meets the delegates of Women Officers' Summer School

Following a presentation on Employment and Equality Campaigns from the TUC's Natasha Owusu, attendees also explored high level campaign planning where they were able to identify how to relate their plan with their union's campaign plans more effectively.

Participants also had a public speaking masterclass with Dr Wanda Wyporska – who has been an official spokesperson for a number of organisations, including TUC. Wanda is now the Executive Director of the Equality Trust, but couldn't resist the invitation to share her knowledge with our WOSS 2017.

If you work for a trade union and would like to be considered for the programme next year, contact jlawrence@tuc.org.uk to be put on the waiting list.

Get ready for Macmillan's World's Biggest Coffee Morning

On 29th September 2017 people all over the UK will host their own Coffee Mornings with donations on the day being made to Macmillan. A staggering 750,000 people of working age in the UK are living with a cancer diagnosis - and more than 120,000 people are diagnosed with cancer each year.



How people respond to the diagnosis varies greatly. It affects them, their families and friends and often has a profound impact on their work colleagues.

Using the TUC Education/Macmillan Cancer Support eNote, "Cancer in the Workplace", you can learn more about the different types of cancer and their treatments and also discover

what legal rights people with cancer have and how union reps can support them.

Access the eNote at
www.tuceducation.org.uk/enotes

If you'd like to run a Macmillan World's Biggest Coffee Morning in your branch or workplace,



please use the following link to order your kit
<https://coffeeregister.macmillan.org.uk>

Interested in having a bespoke course (minimum 15 attendees)? Get in touch with one of the TUC Education Officers for more information.

Gender, Globalisation and Reducing Poverty course 2017

Ever thought about the profit margins on your overseas garments?

The Gender, Globalisation and Reducing Poverty course ran at South Thames College over three days in June 2017.

The course is designed to enable learners to explore how our behaviour in the developed world impacts globally on both gender and poverty. With a mixture of paid trade union officials and lay rep activists, the course builds on the untapped influence that UK activists and consumers can have on the global economy.



Zita Holbourne, poet, artist and union activist covered climate change and inequality, and shared her experiences with refugees at Calais as part of her presentation.



Zita Holbourne

Guest speaker Rosa Crawford from TUC looked at:

- International developments in respect of equality
- Influence and impact of the International Labour Organisation (ILO)
- Globalisation and Brexit
- TUC Aid (trade union development charity) and its work to support Bangladeshi women

trade unionists following the Rana Plaza factory collapse in 2013

Tutor Angie Birtill also arranged for Justice for Domestic Workers (J4DW) to spend an afternoon with the class. Their presentation about modern day and economic slavery was heart-rending as well as inspiring.

Two of their representatives gave their personal accounts of their journeys from seeking prosperity in their homelands to servitude, abuse, isolation and eventually escaping to freedom in the UK.

The officers and reps left the course with a desire to get more involved in their unions' international agendas and felt more equipped to analyse their own personal spending power.



Class of 2017

Gloria from Unison said "It was interesting to hear how much we really can do, just by asking the right questions!"

Interested in the Gender, Globalisation and Reducing Poverty course for yourself or your branch? Contact Angie Birtill at angie.birtill@south-thames.ac.uk to secure your place for next year

Unionlearn Supporting Learners Events 2017

Unionlearn has organised a series of Supporting Learners events across England this autumn.



Supporting Learners event – Birmingham 2017

The events are for Union Learning Reps both new and experienced, and for any other workplace reps & officers interested in union learning work, and will cover apprenticeships, mentoring, promoting learning at work, maths & English and the latest developments from TUC Education. Reps will have the opportunity to network too and share ideas and resources from their workplaces and unions. Lunch will be provided at all events.

Details are as follows:

Wed 4 October 2017
North West Region
Southport Theatre and Convention Centre,
Southport, PR9 0DZ

Thu 12 October 2017
Northern Region

County Hotel, Newcastle, NE1 5DF

Tue 17 October 2017
South West Region
Albemarle Centre, Taunton, TA1 1BA

Thu 2 November 2017
South East Region
UNISON Centre, Euston Road, NW1 2AY

Tue 21 November 2017
Midlands Region
CWU, Summer Lane, Birmingham, B19 3TH

Wed 29 November 2017
Yorks & Humber Region
Leeds City Museum, Millennium Square, Leeds,
LS2 8BH

To book your place go to the Unionlearn
website at
<https://www.unionlearn.org.uk/events>

For any other information about the events
please contact Andy at amoss@tuc.org.uk or
on 0117 947 0521

New Union Professionals courses

The autumn programme of the TUC Union
Professionals' Courses sees the launch of two
new courses.

Managing Budgets (20th and 21st September)
is a self-explanatory title for a course that looks
at this essential skill for trades union officers
and managers. Invaluable in managing projects
large or small, the ability to manage
budgets can help to get the most out of the
resources available.

The two-day course will help union
professionals to set, manage and plan budgets
and looks at

- The principles of managing a budget
- How to prepare a budget
- Simple techniques to keep you in control
- Avoiding overspend
- Predicting expenditure

An Introduction to Trade Union History (8th
November) is designed for trade union staff
who may not have much previous knowledge
or experience of the history of the
movement and will provide a solid starting
point to understand many of the reasons why
unions conduct their work in the way they do.



The Tolpuddle Martyrs

The course will look at

- the origins of the Trade union movement in Britain
- the major events that have shaped the movement
- the different models of trade unionism

Full details of both courses, including
course content, costs, dates and venue are
available on the TUC Education website [here](#) or
contact Martin Hegarty on 020 7467 1219 or
mhegarty@tuc.org.uk

Who to contact in TUC Education

Jackie Williams – TUC Education Manager
t 020 7467 1254
e jwilliams@tuc.org.uk

Julie Lawrence – Administrative support
t 020 7467 1251
e jlawrence@tuc.org.uk

Martin Hegarty – Education Officer
t 020 7467 1219
e mhegarty@tuc.org.uk

Sally-Ann Spring – Education Officer
t 020 7467 1238
e sspring@tuc.org.uk

Craig Hawkins – Online Learning Officer
t 020 7467 1333
e chawkins@tuc.org.uk

Anna Kalsi – Elearning Support Officer
t 020 7467 1342
e akalsi@tuc.org.uk

Ian Sheeler – Instructional Designer
t 020 7467 1367
e isheeler@tuc.org.uk

Holly Anderson – Digital Projects Support Officer
t 0207 467 1368
e handerson@tuc.org.uk

Marie Hughes – Education Officer Southern & Eastern and South West
t 0117 947 0521
e mhughes@tuc.org.uk

Tony Saunders – Education Officer North West and Northern
t 0151 236 7678
e tsaunders@tuc.org.uk

Adrian Toomey – Education Officer Yorkshire and the Humber and Midlands
t 0121 236 4454
e atoomey@tuc.org.uk

Julie Cook – National Officer Wales
t 02920 347010
e jcook@tuc.org.uk

Gus Grubb – Education Officer Scotland
t 0141 221 8545
e ggrubb@tuc.org.uk