

Urgent Enterprise Bargaining Update - Time for Members to Have Your Say

Another bargaining meeting yesterday between JCU management and Unions resulted in a disappointing outcome with no final agreement able to be reached between the parties.

The outstanding issues that we see require resolution include:

1. Low Wages Offer

There was unfortunately no movement from management with respect to their wages offer which stands at:

- 1.5% payable 30 September 2017;
- 1.5% payable 30 September 2018;
- 1.6% payable 30 September 2019; and
- 2% payable 30 September 2020.

The Agreement will not expire until 30 June, 2021 making this a 5-year Agreement with only a 6.6% pay increase over that time. This is lower than inflation and compares poorly to the 10% wage increase over 5 years recently offered at another University in Queensland.

Your union has also suggested that a further increase be payable in 2021 to avoid unnecessary delays to future pay increase but this was also rejected by management.

2. Christmas Closure

Management continue to insist that they will enshrine Christmas closure in the Agreement which will direct staff to take either annual leave, long service leave, leave in advance or leave without pay for the closure period. Staff will require sign-off by the DVC to work over that period.

Your ASU-Together bargaining team have strongly advocated that this position diminishes further the low wages offer and the university should continue to grant the 3 days pay over this period consistent with custom and practise over many, many years.

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3. Long Service Leave

An outstanding issue has been the ability of management to be able to refuse a staff members application to take Long Service Leave even with the giving of 6 months notice.

This is clearly unreasonable and has not been resolved in bargaining.

Whilst we acknowledge that there has been some progress made around Superannuation for fixed term employees, job security and change management unfortunately the matters remaining continue to be important issues for our members and we need you to have your say about next steps.

What we need you to do:

We have requested that management provide us with time for our members to consider the outstanding issues so you can determine whether this deal is acceptable to you or not.

Please respond to this email with your feedback and indicate whether:

1. We should accept the offer; or
2. Reject the offer and continue to bargain and campaign for a better offer for members.

We need urgent feedback from members so please respond with your views ASAP to:
together@universities.com.au

Please feel free to share this email with our Professional and Technical staff members within your work area.

Your ASU-Together Bargaining team representatives are Irene Monro and John Newitt.

YOUR ENTERPRISE AGREEMENT – YOUR SAY



JOIN ONLINE TODAY AT: www.together.org.au/join/