

June 2023

Dear Recruiting Partner

UCU Marking and Assessment Boycott – UCL

As you will probably be aware, the University and Colleges Union (UCU) is currently carrying out a marking and assessment boycott (MAB) as action short of strike (ASOS) in response to the ongoing dispute over university sector pensions and working conditions. There is currently no declared end to the action as this will depend on negotiations with the Universities and Colleges Employers' Association and the resolution of the dispute. The Institute of Student Employers recently published some helpful information regarding this situation on their website: <https://insights.ise.org.uk/policy/blog-what-the-marking-boycott-means-for-employers-and-graduates/>

Our reason for contacting you is to raise your awareness of the implications for our students, who may require certain degree credentials to take up a position in your organisation. At UCL, we are doing everything we can to minimise the impact of the action on our students by enabling them to complete their studies and graduate. In some cases, however, there may be a delay, the extent to which depends on the individual circumstances of each students' grades received to date, grade weighting, and level of staff involvement in the MAB in the student's department.

We are, therefore, asking for your understanding and support for the students who may be affected through no fault of their own. As one of our valued recruiters, you already know the high calibre of UCL students and the value that they bring to the workplace. If you are intending to recruit a UCL student who has been affected by the MAB, we would appreciate your flexibility with regard to them being able to provide final degree classification. As soon as the marks become available, the student will be able to provide this to you.

If you have any questions relating to this, please email employers@ucl.ac.uk

We would like to thank you for your continued engagement with UCL and we look forward to working with you next academic year.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael Spence', written in a cursive style.

Michael Spence
President & Provost, UCL

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Karen Barnard', written in a cursive style.

Karen Barnard
Director, UCL Careers