National Bargaining News

March 2020

News from the national negotiators

2020-21 National Pay Claim

The FELA National Executive met last week and agreed to submit our National Pay Claim for 2020-21 to Colleges Scotland.

The National Pay Claim for session 2020-21 is for a **consolidated flat-rated pay rise of £1,950 on** all National Salary Scale points for unpromoted and promoted lecturers, effective from 1st Septemb er 2020.

We meet with Colleges Scotland, who represent colleges across Scotland, next week to hear their response to this claim. We will provide an update from that meeting which takes place on Thursday 12th March in Stirling.

Why are we submitting this claim?

FE lecturers are #StillWorthIt.

FELA members continue each year to make a **huge contribu**tion in delivering hiqh quality Further Education to students across the length and breadth of Scotland.

FELA members are regularly called upon to do **more for less**. We should not see our pay **eroded by inflation**. That's why the claim is for a cost of living increase **maintaining the value** of our pay last set in April 2019 It is no surprise that Scottish Government Pay Policy for 2020 -21 sits at a **basic pay increase of 3% for workers earning under £80,000**. FELA members have never felt under so much pressure with workload, and while a fair pay award will not seriously compensate them for the huge amount of work which they carry out, at least this will provide some recognition that they are #StillWorthIt.

Look out for our update next week.



Professional Recognition

A key outcome of national bargaining has been the move toward sector-wide professional registration for lecturers with GTCS.

Detailed updates on the project will be made available through the joint ezine (the first edition was issued in December 2019 available <u>here</u> if you missed it.

EIS FELA welcomes the move towards professional recognition for college lecturers and we are deeply concerned by moves in Forth Valley, Fife and West Lothian Colleges to undermine both educational standards and collective bargaining by introducing 'instructor' posts.

Make no mistake—these are lecturer posts for less money, less prep time and no professional recognition. This can only damage the quality of vocational and skills-based education in Scotland's colleges.

We will not accept a second class college sector and we send our full solidarity to colleagues pursuing disputes in these colleges. Follow our campaign on Twitter via @EISfela and #StillWorthIt and at www.facebook.com/ honourthedeal

Look out for local Branch Meetings too!