

Bulletin

for EIS Representatives and Branch Secretaries

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education trade union



January 2020 www.eis.org.uk

**VALUE
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Time to Tackle Workload Campaign

The EIS 'Time to Tackle Workload' (TTTW) campaign is generating activity across schools and Local Associations.

Branches should be focused on ensuring that a whole school audit has been carried out in their school, and its conclusions acted upon. This approach has been followed in a number of schools already with tangible results for staff in those establishments. The process should be collaborative and collegiate. Outstanding additional in-service days should be used for this activity.

EIS Local Associations are currently training reps on our Time to Tackle Workload campaign and the underlying Empowered School system.

Action for Representatives: Please contact your Local Association for information on the Reps' training programme within your Local Association. Please contact your Organiser or Local Association Secretary for a branch meeting or to seek required support for the TTTW campaign.



Workload Survey

As part of the Time to Tackle Workload campaign, and to capture evidence on the wide range of issues which members have been raising, the EIS is conducting a membership survey looking into key areas such as workload, teaching experiences and wellbeing.

Owing to the breadth of issues that we are seeking views on, the survey itself will take around 15 minutes to complete, perhaps slightly longer should members wish to leave extended comments.

Action for Representatives: We would really appreciate your efforts in encouraging members to fill out the upcoming survey which will open on **Friday 24th January** and will be available on the EIS website.

ULA Pay Campaign Ballot

The EIS University Lecturers' Association (ULA) has launched a disaggregated statutory ballot on pay, asking members if they are willing to take strike action to secure a fair cost of living pay rise. The ballot opened on Wednesday 8th January and will run until Thursday, 31st January. Visit www.eis.org.uk/ULA/StatutoryBallot for more information.

Action for Branch Secretaries: Contact your Organiser to arrange a branch meeting with members for updates throughout the campaign and for support in encouraging members to vote.

Oppose the Privatisation of Shetland College

The EIS has concerns over the proposed merger of Shetland College, Train Shetland and NAFC, in particular, that the newly merged institution would be a private company as opposed to a public body like almost all other Scottish colleges.

With very few exceptions, Scottish colleges are democratically accountable public bodies (including subject to scrutiny by the Audit Commission) and Shetland's students and community deserve to be treated in the same way.

We are asking EIS members to call on the Scottish Government to reject the proposal that Shetland College is taken out of public control by signing the petition at www.eis.org.uk/FELA/ShetlandCollege

Action for Representatives and Branch Secretaries: Please encourage members to sign the petition.

GTCS Elections

Voting has opened in this year's elections to GTCS Council. It is crucial that members use their online vote to support all ten of the EIS endorsed candidates who are standing in this election at a time of increasing pressure in our schools, and in a period of culture change in Scottish Education as the Empowerment agenda unfolds.

With the interests of the majority of teachers in mind, members are being encouraged to use their votes to give the EIS endorsed candidates their full backing.

A small number of hard-copy booklets containing the EIS endorsed candidates' election statements, as well as guidance on how to vote on the GTCS website, are enclosed with this bulletin. Visit www.eis.org.uk/Keep-Informed/GTCSElections for more information. Voting closes on **Friday 7th February (12 noon)**.

Action for Representatives: Please ensure that the enclosed booklets containing GTCS election publicity are made available to members; advise that the information is fully accessible on the EIS website; and encourage online voting for all EIS endorsed candidates as listed in the election materials.

EIS Professional Learning Conference 2020

All members are invited to attend the EIS Professional Learning Conference in Glasgow on Saturday 29th February 2020.

The theme of this year's conference is School Empowerment, Teacher Agency and Wellbeing. Members will hear from Larry Flanagan, Education Scotland and other colleagues across the profession about how teachers at every level can play an active role in the empowerment agenda. Keynote and interactive seminar sessions will explore empowered schools in the context of the Workload Campaign, as well as teacher agency through curriculum leadership, pedagogy and assessment. Specialist content for FELA members and early-career teachers will also be included in the programme.

The event will take place at Trades Hall in Glasgow, 09:15 to 13:00 on Saturday 29th February. For more information and to register for this event please see the EIS website or email Natalie Carroll at NCarroll@eis.org.uk

EIS Page Scholarship 2020/2021

Application forms are now available for the 2020/2021 Page Scholarship to America being offered by the EIS in association with the English-Speaking Union.

Walter Hines Page (US Ambassador in London during the First World War) gave great encouragement to the founding of the English-Speaking Union in 1918.

The Scholarship is awarded annually to a teacher/lecturer in a Scottish school/college and is intended to promote the research and exchange of educational ideas in the field of communication between Britain and America. The successful Scholar travels to the USA to study a specific aspect of American education which interests her/him and which is relevant to her/his own professional responsibilities.

The value of the EIS Page Scholarship is £2,400 which gives the Scholar the opportunity to travel widely in the USA. Throughout the tour, the Scholar is the guest of the American Branches of the English-Speaking Union.

Besides being EIS members, applicants must also have taught for at least 5 years.

The closing date for submission of applications to the Education Department is **2 March 2020**.

Action for Representatives: Please make relevant teachers in your establishment aware of this opportunity. Requests for further details and application forms should be addressed to Leigh Meechan, EIS Education Department at 46 Moray Place, Edinburgh, EH3 6BH or e-mail: lmeechan@eis.org.uk

EIS H&S Reps' TUC Training

The 2020 programme of EIS Health & Safety Reps' Training Courses will run as follows:

Glasgow (City of Glasgow College – Riverside Campus) 20th-21st February 2020. Nomination return by Friday 31st January 2020.

Edinburgh (HQ Training Suite) – 14th-15th May 2020. Nomination return by Friday 24th April 2020.

Action for Representatives and Branch Secretaries: If you or another EIS H&S Rep at your school wish to attend a training course please contact your Local Association Secretary or FELA/ULA Branch Secretary. For further information please contact your EIS Organiser through www.eis.org.uk/Contacts/Organisers

EIS School Reps' TUC Training

The 2020 programme of EIS TUC School Reps' Training Courses will run as follows:

Glasgow (City of Glasgow College – Riverside Campus). Module 1: 5th-6th March. Module 2: 28th-29th May. Nomination return by Friday 14th February 2020.

Aviemore (Cairngorm Hotel). Module 1: 21st-22nd May. Module 2: 10th-11th September. Nomination return by Friday 1st May 2020.

Glasgow (City of Glasgow College – Riverside Campus). Module 1: 17th-18th September. Module 2: 19th-20th November. Nomination return by Friday 28th August 2020.

Action for Representatives: If you or another EIS representative at your school wish to attend one of these training courses then please contact your Local Association Secretary. If you wish further information regarding the course, please contact your Organiser.

EIS Organisers

The work of EIS Organisers focuses on the recruitment and retention of members and developing wider membership engagement with the union. Part of their role is also to support the EIS campaigning agenda; they help communicate key campaign and policy messages to members in their workplaces. Organisers are assisting L.A.s and schools in the current workload campaign and are available to help support you in your school.

Action for Representatives and Branch Secretaries: If you wish advice or support regarding engaging members in your school with the workload campaign please contact your EIS Organiser.

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