

## Why as *Health Educators* you should join the UCU

As a member of the UCU you will be backed by the professional expertise of the largest union for lecturers in Britain.

We are the **only** union recognised by the higher education employers to **represent the interests of health educators at local and national level.**

You can join **both** your *professional body* and the UCU – **for a reduced fee.**

The UCU will cover you when you are in clinical practice as well as within the University.

We recognise that the NHS ethos is very strong for health educators, and this is understood by your UCU colleagues. At the same time the UCU wants to see health educators as full and equal members of the academic community and the UCU.

UCU is currently pressing for the specific interests of the health educators in talks on a new national contract for academics in the post-92 universities.

## How to join the UCU

Pick up a booklet from the SCR or join online at <http://www.ucu.org.uk/>

## Commonly Held Myths

*'My employer tells me that visiting students on placement is not teaching.'*

Of course it is and should be included within your teaching hour allowance.

*'It is impossible to take my leave when I want to. My manager tells me I have to find cover if I want my holiday.'*

You should not be in a position where you have to look about for holiday cover. The UCU could negotiate this and other workload issues you may have.

*'I am under a lot of stress at work a union cannot help me with this'*

Support is available at branch and local level. There is also a College and University Support Network (CUSN) providing free SUPPORT services specifically for all staff working in further and higher education.