

“We won’t support a pay cut for university staff”: CPSU NSW

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Community and Public Sector Union (CPSU NSW) Branch Assistant Secretary, Troy Wright, has written to university Vice Chancellors advising them the union will oppose any plans to cut professional staff pay rates.

The move comes in response to industry level discussions as the sector scrambles to address a dramatic decline in international student numbers and revenue.

“We’re obviously going to work constructively with our public universities, as they reposition themselves in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic.”

“I think, frankly, we’re all appalled by the inadequacy of the Federal Government’s response, given the importance of the tertiary education sector to the economy.”

“In saying that, we are concerned with some aspects of the industry conversation and we’ve said that before universities go down the route of changing enterprise agreements and mass redundancies, they must look for savings in non-essential expenditure like capital projects, travel costs, executive bonuses and contingent labour,”

“In relation to the discussions currently occurring at a sector level, we have said we’re unlikely to support any proposal that allows universities to force employees into part-time employment, and we’ll actively oppose any attempt to reduce existing professional staff rates of pay,” Troy said.

For further information, contact the CPSU NSW on 1300 772 679.

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