

CPSU NSW slams UOW “push poll rort”

The Community and Public Sector Union (CPSU NSW) has slammed the University of Wollongong for employing “dirty tactics” in an effort to skew the university’s options survey towards vicious pay cuts and big job losses.

The UOW staff poll released today asks staff to select one of three options, all involving pay cuts or job losses.

The UOW branches of both the CPSU NSW and the NTEU have rejected the university’s proposals and have called on staff to vote for Option 3 (status quo) and push instead for a negotiated outcome.

In response to the position jointly adopted by the campus unions, the university has tweaked the online poll to insist staff indicate a second preference in order to submit a valid vote.

Vicki Dodd, Chair of the UOW Branch of the CPSU NSW, labelled the decision “deplorable” and “nothing more than an attempt to rort the outcome”.

“This survey has no credibility, none,” she said. “Universities around the country are looking at ways to mitigate the financial pressure brought on by the pandemic and restrictions on international student travel.

“We understand that, and staff and the unions are willing to work constructively with UOW to find solutions. Remember, it’s UOW’s staff who have earned our university its place in the top one per cent of universities in the world. Where would we be without their contribution?”

“We’re calling on the Vice Chancellor to stop the farce. Stop the chest-beating. Stop the fear-mongering. Sit down with staff and their unions, and talk.

“Let’s behave like adults.”

For more information, contact the CPSU NSW on 1300 772 679 or nelson@psa.asn.au

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