



**Cónaidhm Éireannach na Múinteoirí Ollscoile
Irish Federation of University Teachers**

PRESS RELEASE

**IFUT responds to *The Irish Times* Survey
on Salaries in Education**

9 November 2010

In response to today's story in *The Irish Times* on salaries in third-level education, the Irish Federation of University Teachers (IFUT) says that of the more than 20,000 people that work in Higher Education, fewer than one third of 1% (0.3%) earn more than €150,000.

Spread across the education sector as a whole (95,554 full-time staff), there are a mere six people out of every 10,000 earning more than €150,000.

The cases shown, of a small number of very highly paid staff, confirm issues raised by IFUT in 2008: that there were undisclosed pay arrangements for small numbers of senior personnel in the universities. At the time, IFUT condemned the decision by the HEA not to disclose the details of exceptionally high salaries paid to certain senior personnel in six of the seven universities under its remit, a situation exposed by IFUT only through Freedom of Information legislation.

In fact, the *Irish Times* statistics show there is no other sector of Irish society with such a low number of high earners. One has only to think of the number of those earning more than €150,000 in banking, financial services, industry, the health service and so on.

IFUT General Secretary, Mike Jennings said: "Looking at the list at the top 100 earners, one cannot help but be struck by the almost total absence of frontline educators. The list is almost exclusively made up of administrators, bureaucrats and managers.

"Imagine the frustration that will be felt by Assistant Lecturers (starting salary €33,623) or College Lecturers (€48,306) at the allegation that they are "high flyers."

“Such staff have already taken earnings cuts of approximately 20% while the numbers of students they teach has reached the highest levels in Irish history: up 15% in the past two years alone.

“Clearly anyone who aspires to be rich should not be looking for a job in education,” Mike Jennings said.

- ENDS -

For further information on this media release, please contact:

Mike Jennings,
General Secretary,
Irish Federation of University Teachers,
11 Merrion Square,
Dublin 2.
Tel: (01) 661 0910
(087) 677 6747
E-mail: GeneralSecretary@ifut.ie

John Gallagher,
John Gallagher Consulting.
Tel: (087) 936 9888