



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

MEDIA RELEASE

**University staff defer full engagement in Croke Park
Agreement pending resolution of Compulsory
Redundancy issue**

22 January 2012

The National Executive of the Irish Federation of University Teachers (IFUT) has voted to instruct all its branches to defer negotiations on implementation of productivity concessions under the Croke Park Agreement, pending resolution of a serious dispute in Trinity College, Dublin over compulsory redundancies which IFUT says are a negation of one of the core elements of the national agreement.

Mike Jennings, General Secretary of IFUT, said that “last year IFUT members, with considerable reluctance, voted to endorse the Croke Park Agreement following detailed clarifications from the Department of Education as to how its provisions would apply in the university sector.

“One of the core guarantees given to us was that, in return for major extra productivity from our members, there would be no compulsory job losses. This guarantee has been reneged upon.”

Two Lecturers in TCD with long service have been made redundant and a long serving member of the Library staff has also been issued with notice of dismissal, Mike Jennings states.

“IFUT has agreed massive productivity concessions resulting in third-level colleges having the highest number of students ever in our history. At the same time we have now far fewer staff to teach them.

“In return for agreeing to substantial extra productivity and input, we were guaranteed no job losses and no further pay cuts on top of the substantial reductions already suffered by staff.

“The authorities in TCD have, in spectacular fashion, broken this agreement. No party to an agreement could be expected to continue

to honour it when the other party so blatantly welshes on their commitments.

“This dispute will, at IFUT’s request, now be investigated by the Labour Court in March. Until then, IFUT is putting its participation in Croke Park on hold,” Mike Jennings said.

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