



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

MEDIA RELEASE

**Lecturers and researchers sign agreement
on co-operation**

21 April 2012

The Irish Federation of University Teachers has today (Saturday, 21 April) announced the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding with the Irish Research Staff Association.

The agreement is geared to ensure more effective representation for researchers on pay and conditions and to protect the rights of individual researchers.

It allows the entry of researchers into IFUT and the representation of researchers by the union particularly on industrial relations and contract issues. It also provides for IRSA participation through IFUT at European level, notably at the Higher Education Research Standing Committee of Education International.

Research sections are likely to be developed in IFUT in each institution where IFUT currently holds negotiating rights for academics. Researchers will be provided with representation on the Council of IFUT.

IRSA will maintain its distinctive structure and character as a representative network for researchers.

Welcoming the development, Mike Jennings, General Secretary of IFUT, said that third-level education would be the real winner as a result of the process.

“By combining our expertise and experience I am confident that the interests of lecturers and students, research and researchers will all benefit from a more comprehensive and co-ordinated approach to the many issues that face us at this time”, he said.

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