

Education Minister should insist on management dialogue with staff to resolve Angela's dispute, says IFUT

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The Minister for Education should insist that management at NUIG and St Angela's College of education, Sligo open a dialogue with staff to resolve tomorrow's strike by members of the Teachers' Union of Ireland in St Angela's over the forthcoming merger with NUI Galway, Mike Jennings, General Secretary of the Irish Federation of University Teachers (IFUT) said today.

St Angela's is due to be fully merged with NUIG by the end of March, however the authorities in both colleges have refused to discuss protection of terms and conditions and other key staff concerns with staff. This has led to tomorrow's strike being called by their union, the TUI.

"It is shocking that no representation has been afforded to St Angela's staff. As a union representing academic staff in NUIG, it is of the outmost concern that our academic colleagues in St Angela's are being treated in such a cavalier and off-hand manner. Legitimate questions relating to their transfer of terms of employment should be discussed and addressed as an automatic part of the merger process," Mike Jennings said.

"Given that the administrations in both colleges appear determined to refuse to enter dialogue, I am calling on the Minister for Education to immediately intervene to insist that staff concerns are listened to and resolved as a matter of urgency," he said.

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