



**Oifig an Aire Oideachais agus Scileanna**  
Office of the Minister for Education and Skills

Mike Jennings  
General Secretary  
IFUT  
11 Merrion Square  
Dublin 2

15 April 2013

Dear Mike,

Further to our recent conversation, I am writing to formally express my regret at being unable to attend your Annual Conference on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April, as I had previously agreed to.

I have a political commitment in Portugal, which prevents me from being at your Conference.

However, I have arranged for Minister Pat Rabbitte to address your Conference on my behalf. Pat, as you know, is a senior member of this Government, and I will personally brief him in advance of the Conference.

I do realise that your members would prefer a direct engagement with the Minister for Education and Skills. I would therefore like to suggest that I would be happy to meet with your Executive on a mutually agreed date, to discuss the matters which will arise at your Conference, along with any other issues of concern to the IFUT membership.

You may wish to contact Neil Ward at 085 713 4159 to discuss possible timings for such a meeting. In the meantime, I wish you all the best with your Conference.

Yours sincerely,

Ruairi Quinn, TD

Minister for Education and Skills