



Media, Communications &
Cultural Studies Association

Professor Frances Corner, Warden
Goldsmiths University of London

Dinah Caine, Chair of Governing Council
Goldsmiths University of London

18th July 2022

Dear Prof Frances Corner and Dinah Caine,

HOD and DHOD of Department of Media, Communications and Cultural Studies

I write on behalf of the Executive Committee of this national subject association, MeCCSA, which represents the interests of academic staff and students in its fields in UK Higher Education.

We have heard with alarm and dismay of the extraordinary actions of the College in relation to the Head and Deputy Head of the Department of Media, Communications and Cultural Studies. Our understanding is that this is in response to their efforts to inform students, as should be their responsibility, of the possible consequences of current industrial action.

We are not a trade union, but we do have a duty to consider the needs and interest of students and academic staff in the fields we represent. The individuals concerned in this matter are highly respected figures in their field, as is the Department as a whole. The apparent over-reaction, and indeed utterly inappropriate response, of the College to the actions of these esteemed professionals is one that undoubtedly has already significantly damaged the previously outstanding reputation of the College in the eyes of many colleagues nationally and internationally, and by extension, the field. After discussing the matter with my Executive Committee, I would urge you to re-consider and reverse the action taken, and to seek to ensure that the field is taught and supported fully by all relevant staff in the College.

Yours Sincerely,

Prof Einar Thorsen
Chair of MeCCSA