



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

PRESS RELEASE

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**Budget displays a ‘cut, cut, cut’ approach to
education, says IFUT**

The Government’s approach to education funding in today’s Budget has been described as one of “cut, cut and cut again” by Mike Jennings, the General Secretary of the Irish Federation of University Teachers (IFUT).

“Cut the pay of an already demoralised staff, cut staff numbers to the bone and cut the funds needed to replace creakingly inadequate infrastructure – that seems to be the Government’s only mantra.

“Not alone are wages being cut on reduced staff numbers at a time when ever-greater numbers of young people are seeking to better their employment opportunities through third-level education, the Government is ominously planning further cuts through what they term ‘non-pay efficiencies’”, Mr Jennings said.

“This Budget is a disastrous abandonment of our Higher Education system at a time when more young people than ever desperately depend on it as a route out of recession and a jobless hopeless future.

“It reveals just how shallow the Government’s commitment really is to education and to promoting the educational qualifications necessary for the next generation of our young people to rebuild this economy,” Mike Jennings said.

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