



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

PRESS RELEASE

**NUI abolition a case of ‘decisions
without policy’, says IFUT**

22 January 2010

The sudden announcement by the Minister for Education, Mr Batt O’Keefe, TD, of the abolition of the National University of Ireland (NUI) has been described as the latest example of ‘decisions without policy’ by the Minister, Mr Mike Jennings, General Secretary of the Irish Federation of University Teachers (IFUT) has said.

“The announcement occurred without due consultation and with a total lack of regard for the concerns of NUI staff, graduates and current students.

“No assessment has been carried out on the impact the proposed abolition will have on the national and international status of NUI degrees and courses. This is all the more unacceptable given that the Minister has pre-empted the work of the Higher Education Strategy Group.

“The decision also raises questions over the future of the three Senators elected by NUI graduates and how the NUI Seanad seats will be filled in future,” he said.

Mr Jennings has called on the Minister, at a minimum, to enter into consultations with all stakeholders to clarify and resolve the issues outlined above before proceeding further with his proposal.

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