



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

**MEDIA RELEASE**

**IFUT disputes contention that Department of Education has  
'lost patience' with the Federation**

6 March 2011

The Irish Federation of University Teachers (IFUT) has received no ultimatum from the Department of Education threatening pay cuts unless the Croke Park Agreement is accepted, the Federation confirmed this week.

Commenting on a report in *The Irish Times* on 4 March last, IFUT General Secretary, Mike Jennings, said there is no evidence whatever to support suggestions that the Department of Education has 'lost patience' with the Federation.

"IFUT has received no phone call, text, fax, email or any other communication from the Department or any University to indicate dissatisfaction with our engagement in the negotiating process. Rather, it has been IFUT that has expressed unease at the 'slow bicycle race' nature of the process and it would appear that other vested interests have adopted an approach of 'getting their retaliation in first'," Mike Jennings said.

"In addition, IFUT wishes to clarify that it has not expressed criticism of NUIG proposals, as suggested in the article. The proposals that IFUT criticised, which would include a longer academic working year and changes in academic freedom, were actually those of the Irish Universities Association," Mike Jennings said.

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