

To: s.spier@kingston.ac.uk, KU-Secretariat@kingston.ac.uk

Dear Professor Steven Spier and Kingston University Governors,

I am a [*please delete as appropriate*: current student, prospective student, alumnus, honorary degree holder, external examiner, local resident, supporter etc.] of Kingston University.

I am writing to express my serious concerns about at Kingston University, in particular the suspension of recruitment to BA Politics, Human Rights, International Relations courses, proposals to cut all remaining History staff, proposed reductions of Media & Communications, Film Studies and Politics staff, and proposed cuts to IT staff – with the threat of compulsory redundancies in these areas.

I am worried about the damage these cuts to subjects and staff will do to Kingston University's reputation as an institution which enables a diverse student body, including many first generation students, to choose from a broad range of courses, including arts, humanities and social sciences. I believe that the opportunity to study these subjects should not be restricted to those who study at elite Russell Group universities.

I am concerned that the student experience will be seriously undermined by the reduction of staff and the loss of both disciplinary specialisms and interdisciplinary teaching, as well as the cutback of vital IT support. Along with the impact on diversity of expertise and provision in teaching and learning, I am also concerned about damage these cuts would have on the diversity and quality of research at Kingston, and the university's partnerships and projects with a range of local, national and international organisations.

I am disturbed that plans about future provision are being drawn up under the threat of compulsory redundancies, and concerned for the impact on the health and wellbeing of the staff affected. I am deeply worried about the potential impact of these cuts on a significant minority of ethnic minority staff in the targeted areas of the university. I urge you to immediately withdraw the threat of compulsory redundancies, reinstate BA Politics, Human Rights, and International Relations courses and convene open discussions with campus unions and other stakeholders around the future of Kingston University.

Yours sincerely,

Please personalise this letter to make it more effective. In addition to the draft text above, these are some additional points you may wish to include:
[*please delete and edit as you wish*]

In particular, I am concerned that Kingston may be harming its ability to:

- offer a wide range of courses, including innovative pathway combinations.
- maintain a sufficiently high ratio of staff to students, that will ensure adequate contact hours, time for supervision and sufficient time for high quality pastoral care.
- introduce Foundation students to a wide range of disciplines and specialisms and encourage them to transfer to undergraduate courses at Kingston
- assure prospective postgraduate research students that the disciplinary expertise of supervisors from their subject areas will not be withdrawn from the university
- provide students with the skills of critical thinking and analysis sought after by employers
- maintain a diverse staff body

