

UPDATE 14 – Action edges closer

Action to protect CSIRO working conditions and rights looming

Following strong feedback from Staff Association membership meetings around the country, the battle to protect CSIRO working conditions and rights will escalate with moves to apply for a Protected Action Ballot edging a step closer.

Negotiations for a new enterprise agreement at CSIRO – eleven formal meetings over eight months – have effectively stalled with management's support for the Government's unworkable bargaining policy proving the major stumbling block.

CSIRO Chief Executive refuses to intervene

Given the impasse, over 1,400 CSIRO staff recently signed a pledge calling on Chief Executive Dr Larry Marshall to reject the policy which mandates cuts to working conditions and rights. While acknowledging the 'challenging times' facing CSIRO, Dr Marshall has regrettably indicated that management will continue to implement the Government's regressive bargaining agenda.

Negotiations going nowhere

The current agreement nominally expired last August and CSIRO senior management have had the Staff Association claim for fourteen months. Despite this, management admit they are nowhere near offering a new agreement to staff or even tabling a pay offer at negotiations. However management have repeatedly confirmed their stance to cut a large range of rights and working conditions, in keeping with the Government's bargaining policy.

Staff are angry and frustrated

Staff Association members recently met in a series of national membership meetings to consider the bargaining impasse, the restrictive role of the Government's bargaining policy, and the ongoing failure of senior management to stand up for CSIRO staff.

Members also considered the action currently being taken by CPSU members in other parts of the Australian Public Sector to bust the bargaining impasse. Across the country, Staff Association members called for an escalation of the campaign to protect working conditions and rights by proceeding towards a Protected Action Ballot.

Campaign to escalate

After considering all the feedback from membership meetings and negotiation representatives, CSIRO Staff Association Section Council has called on Section Secretary Sam Popovski to prepare an application for a Protected Action Ballot.

The application, like other CPSU applications covering many agencies across the Australian Public Sector, will then need to be lodged with the Fair Work Commission.

Next Steps

Members will be updated with next steps and timeframes. Importantly, only union members can participate in the Protected Action Ballot and only union members would be protected when taking any action.

In coming months, the campaign to protect working conditions and rights will escalate not just in CSIRO, but with workers across the Australian Public Sector.

Join to have your say

If you believe that CSIRO working conditions and rights are worth protecting, join the Staff Association today. By joining, you will get a vote on the Protected Action Ballot and be able to participate in the campaign. Complete the form overleaf and email to csstaff@cpsu.org.au or call (03) 8620 6348 for more information.



APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

I apply for membership of the CSIRO Staff Association (a section of the CPSU) and declare that the information provided is true and correct and agree that if admitted, I will abide by the Constitution and Rules of the Union.

CSIRO IDENT: _____ **DR/MR/MRS/MS/MISS (Circle one)** **FIRST NAME:** _____

SURNAME: _____ **D.O.B:** _____ **M/F** _____

FLAGSHIP: _____ **LOCATION:** _____

CSOF LVL/STEP: _____ **TENURE (Indefinite or Specified):** _____ **FULL or PART TIME (Circle one)** _____

HOME ADDRESS: _____

POSTAL ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL: _____

PH (Mob): _____ **(Work):** _____ **(Home):** _____

SIGNATURE: _____ **DATE:** _____

Please complete the next section of the form, then hand to your delegate, fax to (03) 8620 6347, email to csstaff@cpsu.org.au or post reply paid to: CSIRO Staff Association, Reply Paid 66490, MELBOURNE VIC 3000

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

To be financial, a member must have paid all subscriptions and all other amounts owed within 30 days of becoming due. In order to resign from the union, a member must give 2 weeks notice, in writing, to the union.

Privacy Statement: The CPSU uses members' personal information for membership management and services. Any personal information collected will only be used for this or a directly related purpose. In that context, we may contact you at a later date. Your personal information will not be disclosed to anyone or any organisation outside of the CPSU unless you consent or we are required to do so by law. You can access our privacy policy and any information we hold about you by calling 1300 137 636 8am to 8pm (AEST) Monday to Friday.

AUTHORISATION FOR PAYROLL DEDUCTION

TO: THE CSIRO PAY OFFICER

Please credit 0.55% of my salary to MEMBERS AND EDUCATION CREDIT UNION (MECU)/LABORATORY CREDIT UNION (LCU) from the first available pay period after receipt of this authority. This is in addition to previous authorities for deductions to MECU/LCU and should remain in force until further notice.

The amount to be deducted and credited to MECU/LCU may be varied from time to time and the amount of variation shall be as certified and advised to you by MECU/LCU.

CSIRO IDENT: _____ **FIRST NAME:** _____ **SURNAME:** _____

D.O.B: _____ **EMAIL:** _____

CSOF LVL/STEP: _____ **LOCATION:** _____

SIGNATURE: _____ **DATE:** _____