

# CAFAS Council for Academic Freedom and Academic Standards

**PATRONS:** Professors Geoffrey Alderman (Buckingham), Michelle Barrett (City), David Beetham,(Leeds), Jennifer Birkett (Birmingham), Noam Chomsky (MIT, USA), J B Deregowski (Aberdeen), Terry Eagleton (Lancaster), Reuben Hasson (York, Canada), David Howell (Manchester), Richard Hyman (LSE), J F Lamb (St Andrews), David McLellan (Kent), T J Reed (Oxford), Hilary Rose (Bradford), Steven Rose (Open), Phil Scraton (Queens, Belfast), Stan Smith (Nottingham Trent)

CAFAS welcomes widened access to further and higher education. But expansion without a corresponding increase in funding and the attempt to run education on commercial principles have led to standards being undermined and to staff who protest being victimised. Many are too demoralised, or too pressured by inadequate resources, to challenge the decline; others are fearful of redundancies or intimidated by the threat of victimisation.

CAFAS faces the fact that the British educational system is decaying. The Council will not collaborate with the pretence that this is not happening nor will it compromise on the right to say so. The principle of academic freedom enshrined in the Education Reform Act 1988 - that “academic staff have freedom within the law to question and test received wisdom and to put forward new ideas and controversial or unpopular opinions without placing themselves in jeopardy of losing their jobs” - is increasingly under attack, particularly when staff expose instances of corruption and shoddy standards.

**CAFAS \* campaigns against the decline in standards**

- \* defends individuals against victimisation**
- \* gives moral support**
- \* investigates malpractice and publishes findings**
- \* seeks to develop a support network with unions and other organisations**

Everyone who shares these objectives should join and persuade their local union branch or association to affiliate. Affiliations from students are welcome. For further information, contact the **Chair, John Fernandes**, 76 Bois Hall Road, Addlestone, KT15 2JN; [johnfernandes500@gmail.com](mailto:johnfernandes500@gmail.com); +44 7551 823361; +44 1932 845 071

**CAFAS website: [www.cafas.org.uk](http://www.cafas.org.uk)**

**Please photocopy this application for membership and distribute it among your colleagues. Cheques payable to CAFAS.**

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*Send to **Kirit Patel**, 19 Greenhill Road, Harrow, Middlesex HA1 1LD, [kiritone@live.co.uk](mailto:kiritone@live.co.uk), Tel: 02084115534*

Name.....Address.....  
.....Post Code.....Date.....  
Telephone..... e-mail.....Specialism.....  
I/we wish to join/affiliate to CAFAS and enclose a cheque for..... I wish to be active  
(£10 p.a for individual membership, £5 p.a for students and unwaged, £25 p.a for trade union affil.)

**Bankers Order *Send to Kirit Patel*, 19 Greenhill Road, Harrow, Middlesex HA1 1LD**

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