Financial Services

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10 February 2014

Our Ref: HRS01\_0214

**Confirmation of your Teachers Pension membership**

Dear Colleague

Pensions automatic enrolment is government legislation intended to get more people saving into a workplace pension scheme to provide for their retirement in addition to the state pension.

It means that the University is legally required to enrol all employees who are not already members (and meet the criteria listed below), into a workplace pension scheme. The law requires the University to do this for employees who:

* currently earn over £9,440 a year/£787 a month; (from April 2014 £10,000 a year/£833 a month)
* are aged 22 or over; and
* are under State Pension age.

**However, at Middlesex University, all academic staff are contractually entitled to be enrolled as a member of Teachers’ Pension (our workplace pension scheme) on their first day of service, if they are not already a member through their previous employer, whether or not they meet the above criteria. This means you will not be affected by the legislation, although we are required by law to write to you confirming this and advise you that no action needs to be taken.**

**Your Teachers pension scheme**

* Middlesex University and you will pay into a pension which you get when you reach the scheme’s pension age.
* The government will also contribute to your pension through tax relief. (Tax relief means that some of your money that would have gone to the government as tax goes into your pension instead.)
* Currently, the age at which members get their pension depends on there Normal Pension Age (NPA) and whether you'll have enough pensionable service to qualify for benefits. To find out more about when you qualify and benefits go to:

<https://www.teacherspensions.co.uk/members/> then click on ‘Teacher Planning Retirement’

* + On your payslip, your pension contributions are taken from your pay before deducting tax (but not National Insurance contributions). You only pay tax on what's left. So whether you pay tax at basic, higher or additional rate you get the full relief straightaway.
* The University makes a contribution towards your Pension in addition to your own contribution shown on your payslip.

You can pay extra contributions to increase your retirement benefits if you want. To find more on the ways you can do this, including buying Additional Pension on top of your normal Teachers’ Pension Scheme contributions go to:

<https://www.teacherspensions.co.uk/members/> then click on ‘Active Teacher’ > ‘Pay more to get more’

The Teachers Pension, My Pension Online Service is a secure website that lets you check and manage your pension online. You can access a personalised estimate of your retirement benefits based on your latest service and salary details.

To Login to My Pension Online or Register for My Pension Online, go to:

<https://www.teacherspensions.co.uk/members/> then click on ‘My Pension Online’ to Sign in or Register.

**I am pleased to confirm the Teachers Pension scheme is a qualifying pension scheme, which means it meets or exceeds the government’s standards.**

**Further information**

For information on pensions and saving for later life visit:

<https://www.gov.uk/workplace-pensions>

To find out further information on the Teachers Pension scheme go to:

<https://www.teacherspensions.co.uk/public/>

If you have any questions about your scheme, the best way for members to make contact with Teachers Pension is through the secure member area – My Pension Online or alternatively go to:

<https://www.teacherspensions.co.uk/public/> then click on ‘Contact us’

If you have any queries regarding your pay or pension contributions, please contact the Payroll Team in Financial Services on Email:payroll@mdx.ac.uk

Yours sincerely



David Woodcock

Financial Controller

Financial Services