

Dear Mary,

I understand that you have spoken to my manager, Lesley Slater, about the Silver award for FE Lecturer of the Year, 2016.

I am very grateful to Pearson, as well as my colleagues, managers and students for the time spent on the nomination and discussing my role and work. I have mixed feelings about being nominated in the first place, as many of my colleagues here at Hackney College are amazing, and are equally deserving of awards!

I am sorry to say that I cannot accept the award. You may know that I am an active trade union representative. My union, UCU is actually campaigning against some of Pearson's activities; we are affiliated to Education International, and are supporting their [Tell Pearson Campaign](#).

I am opposed to the involvement of the private sector in the provision of education at every level, and disagree with the idea propagated by Pearson and similar organisations that privatisation best increases the efficiency and effectiveness of public service education delivery.

I believe that the involvement of for-profit organisations can only damage education. My main concern is that privatisation narrows the principles of and reasons for education to those which only suit commercialism. In addition, I worry about inclusiveness, as well as the decline in accountability, quality, conditions for staff, and the capacity of the state and all its stakeholders to influence education policy.

Many thanks again, and I am genuinely sorry that Hackney Community College will miss out on the opportunity to celebrate a Pearson's Award this year. Hopefully my managers will nominate one of my fantastic colleagues in 2017!

Best wishes,

Rose