

# What's your union doing about: Intellectual Property

## The NTEU UQ Branch Bargaining Claim:

'That oral and audio-visual recordings of teaching content cannot be reused by the University for teaching purposes without the consent of the staff member who produced that content.'

## Why NTEU members are fighting for this

At UQ and other universities, management is increasingly creating and retaining recordings of the classes delivered by teaching staff. The recording of teaching content has become even more widespread with the shift towards online teaching since the start of the COVID pandemic.

This claim will give teaching staff greater control over recordings of their classes made by UQ. There are three reasons why the NTEU is fighting for this claim.

## This claim will protect job security.

At some universities, management is using class recordings to replace teaching staff. In 2021, QUT was exposed for using class recordings made by staff that it had sacked and even one staff member who had died. The NTEU claim will stop UQ being able to replace teaching staff with class recordings they've made in the past.



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## This claim will protect academic freedom.

It is a basic tenet of academic freedom that teaching staff have freedom to change and update their teaching content as they see fit. While university management may want to save money by recycling old class recordings, staff should be able to refuse such demands in order to maintain the quality and integrity of their teaching.

## This claim will protect educational quality.

Reused class recordings can worsen the learning experience for students because they can mean that, instead of students getting exposed to the latest ideas and research, they get saddled with to out-of-date and even inaccurate content. The widespread use of class recordings also reduces



valuable student opportunities for direct contact with their teachers and classmates. This claim will help ensure students learn cutting-edge ideas through close and regular interactions with their teachers and peers.

## Together we can advocate for a fairer workplace!

To find out more,  
contact the NTEU UQ Branch  
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Join the  
**NTEU Today**  
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