Universities UK (UUK) has announced today that Ronnie Bowie, Sally Bridgeland, and Chris Curry will join the Joint Expert Panel as Universities UK's nominations. The Joint Expert Panel has been set up in conjunction with the University and College Union (UCU) to examine the valuation of the Universities Superannuation Scheme (USS).

Ronnie Bowie is an experienced actuary, currently Partner (previously Senior Partner) at Hymans Robertson having joined the firm in 1980. Since August 2016 Ronnie has undertaken the role of Chair of Court at the University of Dundee.

Ronnie was President of the Faculty of Actuaries and was a driving force behind its merger with the Institute of Actuaries becoming the first President of the combined Institute and Faculty of Actuaries. He is Chair of the Royal Bank of Scotland Pension Scheme, Chair of the With Profits Committee of the Prudential Assurance Corporation, Chair of Byhiras Trust and a fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh.

Sally Bridgeland currently combines governance consultancy for Avida International with a number of non-executive and advisory roles including a non-executive directorship at insurer Royal London, at Impax Asset Management plc and Local Pensions Partnership (LPP) Limited, where she chairs its FCA regulated investment company. She is a trustee at both NEST Corporation and the Lloyds Bank pension schemes and at the Nuclear Liabilities Fund.

Sally was previously the Chief Executive Officer of BP Pension Trustees Limited. Before BP, Sally spent twenty years with Aon Hewitt (originally Bacon & Woodrow) working both as a pensions consultant and in the investment practice. Sally was the first lady Master of the Worshipful Company of Actuaries in 2016–17.
Chris Curry is the Director of the Pensions Policy Institute (PPI) with overall responsibility for leading and managing the PPI. At the PPI Chris has authored and presented a number of research reports analysing and other provision for retirement income. In 2017, Chris was one of the three co-chairs for the DWP Automatic Enrolment Review Advisory Group. The review looked at ensuring workplace pensions continue to meet the needs of individual savers, and employers, whilst remaining fair, affordable and sustainable for future generations.

Chris started his career as an Economic Adviser at the Department of Social Security (now the Department for Work and Pensions), before joining the ABI as Senior Economist.

The Joint Expert Panel was established as part of an agreement reached between UCU and UUK at Acas in March 2018, and will start its work shortly so that it can report back in September 2018. It will be chaired by Joanne Segars OBE and UCU have also nominated three members to sit on the panel.