

SCRUTINISED LONG MANIFESTOS - TT20 (2ND ELECTION)

CANDIDATES FOR PRESIDENT-ELECT

Amy Gregg (Ex-Treasurer, Exeter College) - Candidate for President-Elect - Long Manifesto

The Union has had significant setbacks in the last few years. I did not intend to run this term, but it is clear that the Union needs a President who has the experience and the capability to set it back on the right course. **The Union can do so much better, and the Union must do so much better.**

As an undergraduate, I was President of the Cambridge Union. During this time I ran a record-setting membership drive, managed a £100,000 budget, and hosted over thirty speakers including Stephen Fry, Quentin Blake and Moazzam Begg. After leaving Cambridge I was a trainee solicitor at a Magic Circle Law firm, and I now hold an offer for a pupillage to be a barrister. **I have real world experience which I can use to improve our Union as well.**

I previously served on committee for 7 terms. In this time I arranged 5 debates, including confirming 5/6 speakers for the Comedy debate. I ran Debates, Panels and Speaker events, confirmed multiple speakers and chaired the Union's largest committee. I also spent over 50 days of vacation working for the Union and made 3 winning paper speeches. As Treasurer I secured 29 debate Floor Prizes, 12 New Treasurer's Treats and coordinated sponsorship from a major Scholarship fund - ensuring transparency by publishing the audited accounts on the app. This demonstrates that I have the ability to run the Union, but it also made me realise: **the Union needs real change - change only an experienced President can bring.**

That's why I've worked to improve access to the Union. On top of running the Membership Drive, which promotes the Union to everyone, I reintroduced Women's Speaking Workshops, organised for state school students to visit a debate, and having been mandated by the Standing Committee to do so, began explorations of extending Access membership to Graduates. But there is still so much work to do, which is why I want to increase the reach of access memberships through a tiered system to **make the Union more affordable for all.**

The Union has a responsibility not only to its members, but to wider society. That's why I will ensure that the Union faces up to its history and works to platform marginalised voices. It must also act on its responsibility to support the welfare of and be welcoming to all its members - so **I will make substantial welfare and diversity training mandatory for all committee members and staff - and root out systemic prejudices through a zero tolerance policy.**

I also pledge:

- **Accountability:** *INVESTIGATE STAFF CONDUCT*
- **Outreach:** *YouTube Debate Tutorials, Schools' Debate Audience Spaces, State School Outreach, ESL Speaking Workshops*
- **Long Term Change:** *Bicentenary Fundraiser, Charitable Status, Alumni Network.*
- **Future:** *Careers and Networking Events, Environmental Sustainability.*
- **Facilities:** *Better Wifi, Laptops in the Bar. Sports Screenings, Better Food.*
- **Membership:** *Auditioned Debate Speeches, Speakers Suggestions, Collaboration with Student Societies.*
- **Events:** *Speaker Masterclasses, Opportunities to Meet Speakers, Livestreams, Live-Tweeting in Q&A*

I've delivered on Pledges before, I will again.

Jeremy Rose Bararia (Ex-Elected Member of Standing Committee, *Lady Margaret Hall*) - Candidate for President-Elect - Long Manifesto

Experience

- I have experienced structural racism over the course of my entire life. Mum told me: “You will have to work twice as hard as any of your classmates to get anywhere as far as them”, this has been true.
- I have lived in some of the lesser known areas of Oxfordshire since we moved to the UK from Kenya in 2006. I will always be grateful for the sacrifice of my parents.
- I attended a state comprehensive school with only a handful of Oxbridge admissions in its history. I was the only student in my year at sixth form with an interview at Oxford.
- When I first came to Oxford, I’d only seen the Union on YouTube videos and bought membership in Freshers’ Week.
- In Michaelmas 2019, I saw how the Society could treat fellow BIPOC members. This led to my resignation in protest, and I believed I’d be leaving for good.
- A lot has happened recently in the Black Lives Matter & Rhodes Must Fall movements recently, both globally and in Oxford. The Union has had increasingly frequent race scandals and to watch from the sidelines would make me complicit in issues that plague people like me on a daily basis. The current pandemic has allowed organisations to change drastically.
- If elected, I would be the first black President in over 20 years.
- I have worked 20 vac days, facilitated 20+ events including Chris Kamara and Theresa May, and worked the Union Ball.

Pledges

I pledge to:

- Hold an Independent Equality Audit: the Union has failed to implement substantial change despite frequent race scandals. I will work to dismantle structural racism within the Union, beyond a single Presidential Term.
- Ban Hack Messaging: the culture of hacking works to everyone's detriment.
- Remove Access Barriers: graduate Access Membership, remove nomination fees, and hold wider online hustings.
- Create a Better Disciplinary Process: involve more members in the complaints process, hold committee accountable for decisions, and devolve presidential power.
- Bring Structural Change: no more “blurred lines” of responsibility between staff and students; diversity training for all staff and conscious BIPOC hiring.
- Diversify Speakers: conscious commitment to BIPOC voices; internal committee to vet Term Card; issue awareness fundraising talks; themed discussions with prominent Oxford members; cover speaker childcare costs.
- Promote Introspection: prioritise BIPOC voices in improving the Union’s policy on anti-racism; accept Union’s role as part of the wider Oxford community: encourage difficult, global conversations about Oxford’s fraught history with race via debates, panels, and exhibitions.
- Engage Graduates: Build an alumni network and create Alumni Officer role; joint-host events with SBS; host graduate public speaking workshops.
- Amplify Student Voices: Floor Speeches put on YouTube; diversify Paper Speeches; give speaking rights to representatives of Oxford societies and engage them with Access Committee.

James Edward Price (Ex-Elected Member of Standing Committee, Worcester College) - Candidate for President-Elect - Long Manifesto

I left Oxford years ago, as all people should; *few should return*. Nevertheless, I am running because I think it's funny, and also because I would be better than anyone else. I have already stood for ***Parliament***, so won't feel the need to act like most union hacks **tiresomely** do. I've handled real budgets and managed teams of *actual* grownups *in* multiple jobs in the real world.

I've worked in Government as the Special Adviser to the Leader of the House of Lords, **as** well as a think tank, a political party and a charity, and now work *in* communications. This means I know how to run events and will be able to personally invite lots of interesting speakers, as well as the less interesting ones.

After the omnishambles you've recently had, you could do worse. The Price is right.

Joseph Mochhoury (Elected Member of Standing Committee, *St Hugh's College*) - Candidate for President-Elect - Long Manifesto

A UNION FOR ALL MEMBERS

Dear Members,

Allow me to introduce myself.

EXPERIENCED

I believe that in life everyone should be given an equal chance at something, **an equal shot**.

I am a **Law student** at Oxford. The reason why I chose to study law was to fight injustice. I've always been disgusted by the rise of free violence.

I am in my **first year of membership at the Union**. I am currently a member of the **Union's Standing Committee**, Library committee Delegate, and Bar Strategy Committee.

I joined the Union for debating. But I think everyone has their reasons. I've always loved exchanging ideas and thoughts with debating, and I am grateful to have met incredible people.

I ran for elections and got elected in March, creating the ASSEMBLE campaign, quoting **JFK** "*If we cannot now end our differences, at least we can help make the world safe for diversity*".

I worked **100%+ vacation day requirements**, inviting speakers for debates and events, including the **Refugee crisis debate**. I invited activists, business speakers, politicians, etc. As an example, I invited Daniel Sturridge this term.

On Friday the 5th June, I was proud to be part of an Emergency meeting of Standing committee called to publish a statement on behalf of the Union:
"We, as the leadership of the Union, must take action to make the Union an actively anti-racist space. The Union has always been a hugely influential forum for addressing the most pressing political and social issues and has a responsibility to use this power for good.

...

We are already making urgent changes, including:

Accessibility Consultation... Disciplinary Reform... Bicentenary Committee...

Establishing Presidential Office hours...

Above all, **racist hate speech is not welcome.**"

Actions speak louder than words. I want to make these changes a reality.

The Union must do better.

ACCOMPLISHED

I was elected the **BAME Rep** of my college's JCR.

I proposed several reformist Rules change of the Union's Rules, including a reform of nomination fees.

I helped raise **College Fundraising**.

I worked on a **State Schools' Cultural Outreach program** to increase access to culture in disadvantaged neighborhoods.

Back in Hilary term, I **successfully Challenged Standing committee and Opposed the motion "Buildings and Bar closing on Sundays"** (pre-Covid times).

DEDICATED to DEBATING

I **co-convened OXFORD SCHOOLS' REGIONAL ROUND 2020, facilitated OXFORD IV.**

I **facilitated a 2020 AFRICAN COUNTRIES HIGH SCHOOLS' TOURNAMENT** (South Africa, Botswana, Tanzania, Uganda, Kenya, Namibia, Zimbabwe).

I judged tournaments : **OXFORD IYCD, LEIDEN OPEN.**

I delivered **12 speeches.**

I won the last EMERGENCY DEBATE of Hilary.

I PLEDGE FOR :

- **REFORM : MORE DIVERSITY ; MEMBERSHIP drive OUTREACH.**
- **TRANSPARENCY : PRESIDENTIAL OPEN HOURS.**
- **INCLUSION : ACCESS MEMBERSHIP FOR INTERNATIONALS, GRADUATES.**
- **STRENGTHEN ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT.**
- **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT Report.**
- **LIVESTREAM Events.**
- **POLICE BRUTALITY PANEL.**
- **INCREASE DEBATING. SPEAK UP : MASTERCLASS.**

"I'm still asking you to believe – not in my ability to bring about change, but in yours. I believe in change because I believe in you" US President (2008-2016).

I rise.

I rise.