Electoral Officials

James Matthews
Balliol College
Returning Officer

DEPUTY RETURNING OFFICERS

Nicholas Jovanovic, Ex-RO
St Peter’s

George Penny, Ex-RO
The Queen’s

Liam Farhan, Ex-RO, Ex-ERO
Jesus

Joseph Simons, Ex-RO
St John’s

Lucy Millen, Ex-RO
Pembroke

Lachlann Hinley
Magdalen

Dominic Brind, Ex-RO
St John’s

William Hoorn
Merton

Electoral Malpractice

Electoral malpractice includes, but is not limited to, the following activities:

- Making false or misleading claims intended to influence the election
- Bribery · Intimidation · Distributing physical campaign material
- Using a vehicle to convey members to the Poll · Campaigning using any University e-mail system · Creating websites or promotional videos · Claiming to represent or be supported by any political, racial or religious group · Candidates marking manifesto booklets
- Hindering the Returning Officer or their Deputies · Unauthorised access or attempted access to another’s personal electronic files
- Making false or misleading claims intended to influence the election
- Bribery · Intimidation · Distributing physical campaign material

To see a complete list, please consult Rule 33, www.oxford-union.org or the Returning Officer.

Any breach of this rule or complaint regarding the conduct of a candidate in the election should be reported to the Returning Officer, at the Oxford Union.

If you have any queries about the election, please contact ro@oxford-union.org

Oxford Union Elections

Poll Date: Friday, 19 June 2020

Where to Vote
POLLING takes place via the Mi-Vote system. Voters registered with the Returning Officer will receive a link to vote, which will be permitted from 9.30am to 8.30pm precisely.

How to Vote
Simply number your preferences against each candidate from 1, 2, 3, 4, and so on until you have finished expressing your preferences between the candidates. Expressing later preferences in no way harms your earlier preferences.

Candidates’ Claims in Manifestos

The Returning Officer has ensured to the best of their ability that all claims made in manifestos are true; they advise, however, that Members acquaint themselves with the commonly used terms below in order that they are not misled. Members may wish to consider other similar words used as holding the same meanings and draw inferences from the fact that a candidate has been unable to make the most substantial kinds of claims.

Stronger claims

- Raised / Secured – the candidate must prove primary responsibility for the production or negotiation of a contractual arrangement, to claim to have raised/secured funds or partnerships.
- Brought – the candidate must prove that a speaker visited the Society as a direct result of their involvement.
- Confirmed – the candidate must prove primary responsibility for a speaker accepting an invitation to visit on a mutually agreed date, or the candidate has drawn up an as yet unsigned contract, following agreement from involved parties on its contents, which is set to be signed in due course.
- Organised – the candidate must prove their primary control of an event’s inception and its development. Where primary control is shared comparably with another member, co-organised shall be used.
- Responsible for / Led / Ran – the candidate must prove primary responsibility for the content of claim.
- Arranged – the candidate must prove a substantial degree of control of an event and its development, but not the contribution to inception that any organised claim requires.

Weaker Claims

- Assisted / Helped to – modifiers used where there is sufficient proof that a candidate contributed substantively, but insufficient to prove that they have the necessary level of contribution or control for the stronger claim.
- Interest from – where there is insufficient evidence for a stronger negotiating claim, but there has been clear interest received to their invitation or proposition.
- Invited / Contacted – proof has been provided.
- Supervised / Oversight / Co-ordinated – proof has been provided for a lower level of involvement in an event or project suitable for these claims.
- Facilitated / Assisted / Worked – proof has been provided that a candidate contributed significantly to an event, usually but not necessarily the logistics or hospitality.
- Weaker claims will be used often in manifestos even by good candidates: usually only candidates for Office will be able regularly to make “stronger claims”. The distinction is nonetheless worth making.
- Candidates’ own spelling, punctuation, grammar and formatting errors have not been corrected in manifestos.

James Matthews
Balliol College
Returning Officer

Candidates’ Claims in Manifestos

allowing members to judge the relative merits of manifestos

Want to get involved next term?
Email ro@oxford-union.org to find out about becoming a Deputy Returning Officer or Returning Officer’s Assistant.

Candidates’ Claims in Manifestos

allowing members to judge the relative merits of manifestos

The Returning Officer has ensured to the best of their ability that all claims made in manifestos are true; they advise, however, that Members acquaint themselves with the commonly used terms below in order that they are not misled. Members may wish to consider other similar words used as holding the same meanings and draw inferences from the fact that a candidate has been unable to make the most substantial kinds of claims.

Stronger claims

- Raised / Secured – the candidate must prove primary responsibility for the production or negotiation of a contractual arrangement, to claim to have raised/secured funds or partnerships.
- Brought – the candidate must prove that a speaker visited the Society as a direct result of their involvement.
- Confirmed – the candidate must prove primary responsibility for a speaker accepting an invitation to visit on a mutually agreed date, or the candidate has drawn up an as yet unsigned contract, following agreement from involved parties on its contents, which is set to be signed in due course.
- Organised – the candidate must prove their primary control of an event’s inception and its development. Where primary control is shared comparably with another member, co-organised shall be used.
- Responsible for / Led / Ran – the candidate must prove primary responsibility for the content of claim.
- Arranged – the candidate must prove a substantial degree of control of an event and its development, but not the contribution to inception that any organised claim requires.

Weaker Claims

- Assisted / Helped to – modifiers used where there is sufficient proof that a candidate contributed substantively, but insufficient to prove that they have the necessary level of contribution or control for the stronger claim.
- Interest from – where there is insufficient evidence for a stronger negotiating claim, but there has been clear interest received to their invitation or proposition.
- Invited / Contacted – proof has been provided.
- Supervised / Oversight / Co-ordinated – proof has been provided for a lower level of involvement in an event or project suitable for these claims.
- Facilitated / Assisted / Worked – proof has been provided that a candidate contributed significantly to an event, usually but not necessarily the logistics or hospitality.
- Weaker claims will be used often in manifestos even by good candidates: usually only candidates for Office will be able regularly to make “stronger claims”. The distinction is nonetheless worth making.
- Candidates’ own spelling, punctuation, grammar and formatting errors have not been corrected in manifestos.
CANDIDATES FOR PRESIDENT, HILARY 2021
with overall responsibility for the Society and for arranging its debates

AMY GREGG
EXETER COLLEGE, EX-TREASURER

The Union is failing; I have the experience to set it on a better path.
Only Ex-Officer Candidate - Served as Treasurer in HT19.
• 7 TERMS ON COMMITTEE BEFORE THIS YEAR.
• Secured 29 Debate Floor Prizes and 12 New Treasurer’s Treats.
• Facilitated 20+ Events: Worked every HT18 DEBATE.
• Arranged Catholic, Feminism, Oxfbridge, Private Schools Debates.
• Ran Oxford Union Membership Drive: Helped Raise £415,000.
...All more than any other Candidate
• Hosted 30+ Speakers as President of Cambridge Union.
• Confirmed Multiple Speakers including Peter Singer, Jon Snow.
• Coordinated Sponsorship from Major Scholarship Fund.
• Judged 6 Debating Competitions.
• Reintroduced Women’s Public Speaking Workshops.
• Published Audited Accounts on The App.
• Organised Debate Visit for State School Students.
I pledge
• Investigate Staff Conduct.
• Platform Marginalised Voices.
• Alumni Network.
• Welfare, Diversity Training.
...and more.
I’ve Delivered on Pledges Before, I will again.

JAMES EDWARD PRICE
WORCESTER COLLEGE, EX-STANDING COMMITTEE

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.

JEREMY ROSE BARARIA
LADY MARGARET HALL, EX-STANDING COMMITTEE

As a black British man born in Kenya, I resigned from the Union’s Committee in MT19 to protest the racial injustices forced upon my fellow black and African members. I can no longer sit back whilst the Union is plagued by structural racism. If elected, my first steps will be to commission an independent equality audit and an immediate ban on hack messaging.
I have the experience to drive forward change. Within the Union, I view my most significant contributions as helping to arrange a debate on economic inequality and promoting the Union internationally with ‘Demystifying Oxford and Debating Workshops.’ I also helped raise over £400,000 in the Membership Drive and over £7,000 in sponsorship deals. I have worked to eliminate disease in Western Kenya, have served as JCR Treasurer, and was the Oxford Alpha Fund Bootcamp pitch winner.

JOSEPH MOCHHOURY
ST HUGH’S COLLEGE, STANDING COMMITTEE

A UNION FOR ALL MEMBERS
EXPERIENCED
• JCR BAME REP.
• Member of STANDING COMMITTEE, LIBRARY COMMITTEE, BAR STRATEGY COMMITTEE.
• LAW STUDENT. Former intern French National Assembly.
• WORKED 160+ VACATION DAY REQUIREMENT.
• INVITED 67 SPEAKERS: ACTIVISTS, BUSINESS, POLITICS, SPORTS, ...
ACCOMPLISHED
• PROPOSED REFORMIST RULES CHANGE.
• HELDED RAISE - COLLEGE FUNDRAISING.
• ASSISTED STATE SCHOOLS’ CULTURAL OUTREACH.
• ONLY PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE TO HAVE AND SUCCESSFULLY CHALLENGED STANDING COMMITTEE IN HILARY 2020 and OPPOSED THE MOTION “Buildings and Bar closing on Sundays”.
DEDICATED to DEBATING
• HELPED ARRANGE REFUGEE DEBATE.
• CO-CONVENED OXFORD SCHOOLS’ ROUND.
• FACILITATED OXFORD IV.
• FACILITATED AFRICAN COUNTRIES HIGH SCHOOLS’ TOURNAMENT (South Africa, Botswana, Tanzania, Uganda, Kenya, Namibia).
• EMERGENCY DEBATE WINNER.
• DELIVERED 12 SPEECHES.
PLEDGES
• MORE DIVERSITY: MEMBERSHIP Drive OUTREACH.
• TRANSPARENCY: PRESIDENTIAL OPEN HOURS.
• STRENGTHEN ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT.
• ACCESS MEMBERSHIP: INTERNATIONALS, GRADUATES.
• ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT Report.
• POLICE BRUTALITY PANEL.
• SPEAK UP : MASTERCLASS.

Want to get involved next term?

To run for election in the Society, you must make a certain number of qualifying speeches within the public debates either in the Emergency, Floor, or After Debate. Nominations open at 9.30am, Friday 5th Week, and close at 3pm on the following Friday. If you would like to get involved with the administration of the Society without running for election, you can participate in the running of the Elections as a Deputy Returning Officer by applying in writing to the President by 3pm on Monday of 2nd Week. If you have any questions about running in elections, or you need impartial advice, please feel free to contact the Returning Officer (ro@oxford-union.org).

ELECTORAL MALPRACTICE WILL NOT BE TOLERATED - RULE 33 EXISTS FOR A REASON.