

LEEDS UNIVERSITY UNION

Election Manifestos

for the office of **UNION PRESIDENT**

Candidate's Name ROSA GREAVES

Candidate's Dept. LAW

Year of entry to Leeds
University 1970

Proposed by Keith Ginsburg

Seconded by Phillip Dolamore



Union positions held:—
1970 Department Staff/Student Committee
1971-73 Union Council
1971-72 Hall President
1971-73 Sub-committee on Halls of Residence
1972-73 JT Committee of Council & Senate on Student Accommodation
1972-73 Services Section Board
1972-73 Union Hostess

WHY TIME FOR CHANGE?

Just look at the facts! The system of Union government was designed for a much smaller University, but the University has changed... it has grown. Union structure is outdated, it has fallen into the hands of a clique, it has become undemocratic, unrepresentative.

We are in a situation where 150 can impose their wishes on 10,000 students. We need a change now in order to give ordinary students more say in the affairs of the Union.

From the experience I have had, I have learnt enough about the existing Union structure without becoming one of the elite.

In order to do the job well, a President must be efficient, consistent and have a sense of proportion and determination. Promises every candidate can make but they will all face the difficulty of implementing them because of the Union's undemocratic and unrepresentative structure. **PIECEMEAL REFORMS WILL NO LONGER DO.** If I am elected I guarantee a comprehensive study of the whole structure will be initiated and constructive proposals will be brought up by the next A.G.M. for your approval.

Similarly we must make sure we get value from the £5,000 which the Union contributes to

N.U.S. At the moment a minority dominates N.U.S. decision-making. The concept of a National Union is very important and so I would like to see elections for the Conference delegations subjected to open ballot.

Reform is also needed on a lower plane especially with regard to the admittance of non-students into the Union Building. The recent trend of violence to the porters and students by complete outsiders has become alarming and must be stopped. This can't go on uncontrolled especially on Saturdays or nights when there are bar extensions, where the presence of these trouble makers, e.g. Hell's Angels, cause a lot of disruption. For the safety of our visitors, guests, other Union cardholders, Union staff and ourselves, I thoroughly welcome the introduction of card checks at week-ends.

To carry the idea of personal safety further, the proposal of a Union bank has great potential. Not only would it be a much needed service for student members (e.g. society treasurers) but it would also facilitate greater protection for Union staff involved daily, with the transportation and handling of considerable amounts of money.

Finally we must endeavour to allocate money in a responsible manner, not only in taking into account the vast diversity of interests found within a community of 10,000 students, but also the fact that the Union faces serious financial difficulties.

IF THESE IDEAS COINCIDE WITH YOURS, I HOPE YOU WILL GIVE ME YOUR SUPPORT AND A CHANCE TO MAKE THIS UNION REPRESENTATIVE.

ROSA GREAVES

Candidate's Name NICOLA I. HAYES

Candidate's Dept. PSYCHOLOGY/
SOCIOLOGY

Year of entry to Leeds
University 1972

Proposed by David Pritchett

Seconded by Derek Wilson



Union positions held:— None.

I feel that there are too many people in this Union who have been around for four or five years and consequently think that they know how to run the place. From what I have observed a three year old could do better. Unfortunately I am not three years old but

with the support of the adage — a little knowledge is a dangerous thing — I feel I am in an ideal situation to stand for this position. I am a newcomer to this University. I know little as yet, but my mind is open to learn. Dismiss the bureaucrats; vote for me — at least I'm alive!

NICKY HAYES

Candidate's Name ANDREW JAROSZ

Candidate's Dept. ECONOMICS &
SOCIAL STUDIES

Year of entry to Leeds
University 1968

Proposed by Pete Reader

Seconded by Said Ibrahim



Union positions held:—

UNION SECRETARY 1971/72/73.

VOTING MEMBER of UNION COUNCIL 1970/71/72/73.

EDITOR OF UNION HANDBOOK 1971/72/73.

DISCIPLINARY TRIBUNAL 1971/72/73.

Member of: EXECUTIVE, ELECTIONS, L.S.E.B. ELECTIONS, CATERING, ATHLETICS, WELFARE, ACCOMMODATION Committees. BAR BOARD, SHOP BOARD, TRAVEL BOARD, PLAYHOUSE BUILDING COMMITTEE, and numerous Working Parties. UNIVERSITY STAFF/STUDENT VACATION STUDY, DEPARTMENTAL LIBRARIES, ACCOMMODATION, CATERING, U.B.A.C., UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS Committees. ECONOMICS STAFF/STUDENT COMMITTEE.

Delegate to 7 N.U.S. Conferences, and U.G.C. Meeting. Onetime 2/3 XI Soccer Player.

In the last five years — three spent on Union Council and two as Secretary — I have worked efficiently and have involved myself with every aspect of student life. I have followed ALL Union mandates and instructions, and I hope that my vast experience in Union, University and National affairs will give me the opportunity to serve you well as President, and involve more students at every stage of decision making. I have become exceedingly concerned with the gradual decline in participation in the Union. The Executive has become isolated from the majority of the membership, and many students now find Union affairs irrelevant. What is needed is a change of direction and a change of attitude. This is why I proposed the increase in Sabbaticals last year, and this year returned to the A.G.M. with the two tier system. The two Executive field officers in this system will do more to build up interest and participation within the student community. Executive officers must realise that their responsibilities lie outside the shell of the building, and must therefore be available in all parts of the campus and to all sections of our 10,000 strong membership.

To survive, the Union must recognise its three-fold purpose of SERVICES, EDUCATION and WELFARE. Until it can genuinely move in these directions it will wilfully neglect its purpose as a Union and become more of a glorified coffee bar.

SERVICES.—This is the area best catered for at present. I have worked within Executive to improve and expand these over the years. I negotiated week-end coaches to London, set up the ticket agency, extended Bar opening times, and did a lot of background work for the (imminent) Bookshop. I still believe that the Union and its Services should be open all

year to cater for Post-Graduates, Overseas Students, and those who remain in Leeds during Vacs.

EDUCATION.—I believe that the Union should play a vital role in the redetermination of the whole position of examinations, course content and teaching methods. Close links should be maintained with Staff/Student Committees and S.R.C.s, and the wealth of information which the Union possesses should be used to help the mass of our membership to a greater understanding of the issues involved.

WELFARE.—We have all tried and failed to encompass the members' growing welfare needs and we now require a full-time Welfare Officer. In Accommodation, the Union and the University (with their vast resources) must buy up property for cheap letting. The University should also price their premises according to square footage, services, and distance from the campus. Production of full information sheets and booklets, as well as the personal representation which I have conducted at tribunals must be increased and encouraged.

NATIONALLY.—We must use all available means, including the N.U.S., to press our claim to a fair grant (linked to a student cost index), oppose loans, gain meaningful representation, better facilities, reduce Overseas Students' fees, and oppose the proposed exclusion of students from Rent Rebates and Tax Credits.

INFORMATION.—The biggest problem with this place is the appalling lack of information and the poor accountability of officers. I promise to increase both the quality and quantity of information disseminated within the University. Members must know everything that their Executive is doing, and be aware of all the issues involved. I hope to expand the information sheet as I expanded the Union Handbook in order to enable all members to participate fully at meetings or in the U.C. referendum which I have introduced.

As a Socialist I will continue to work for greater involvement between the Union and the whole community. Involvement with all students, immigrants, Trade Unionists as well as businessmen is essential if we are to make a well balanced contribution to community life.

I feel that as an officer, representative and negotiator I have not let you down, and pledge myself to devolve the information and power hogged in Executive Office. I promise to work even harder than before, be available to members at all hours, and to use my experience and everything I have learned for the benefit of all.

ANDREW R. JAROSZ

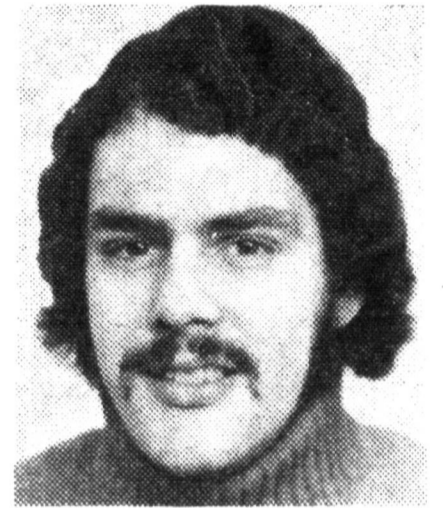
USE YOUR VOTE

Election Manifestos for the office of Union President

Candidate's Name **MARTIN LEWTON**
 Candidate's Dept. **POLITICS**
 Year of entry to Leeds
 University **1972**
 Proposed by **Fred Milson**
 Seconded by **Jill Adams**



Candidate's Name **MARTIN A. SCICLUNA**
 Candidate's Dept. **ECONOMICS**
 Year of entry to Leeds
 University **1970**
 Proposed by **Brian Macdonald**
 Seconded by **Rick Turner**



Union positions held:—

President, Swansea University Union (1971/72).

We are all experiencing a sustained Government attack on our living conditions and standard of education. The real value of our grants is declining and many of us are forced to live in bad accommodation and forced to accept cuts in our standard of living. The recent Government White Paper on Education threatens through such measures as the worsening of staff-student ratios to cause a deterioration in the standard of our education. This is occurring not because the Government are misguided but because they are attempting to make British capitalism more competitive in the world market at the expense of the majority of those they claim to represent.

To resist this attack and launch a counter-offensive we clearly need a **strong union**. But Leeds University Union is no more than a shell; few students know or care what it does because they do not see its relevance to the problems they face. The main priority of next year's President must be to actively involve the student members in the running of their union.

We need a strong union with **fighting socialist policies**.

1) **GRANTS**. It is vital that LUU actively participate in the National Grants Campaign. The decision against a rent strike last term was a disaster which has isolated us from virtually every other University

Union. The question must be raised again as must the question of a catering boycott. If NUS loses this fight then it will leave the door wide open for the Government to cut costs by introducing loans or ensuring that more students live at home.

2) **STUDENT-WORKER SOLIDARITY**. The attacks of the Government are not directed against students alone. If we are to break through the "freeze" then we must unite with those workers who are fighting back. Specifically we must aid campus workers in their struggle for better pay, hours and conditions.

3) **UNION AUTONOMY** must be defended against attacks from either Government or the University authorities and must be extended to remove the ultra vires restraint on our financial autonomy.

4) **DEGREE FACTORY**. The role of the University in processing students to fit into their allotted slots in the labour market should be challenged. This involves criticism of course content and opposition to assessment.

This manifesto deals with the political role of the President within the Union, (I have been Sabbatical President of Swansea University Union and have the administrative competence to do the job). I am a revolutionary socialist and a member of the International Socialists and challenge other candidates to openly state their policies and recognise the political nature of this campaign.

Union positions held:—

President Charles Morris Hall
 President Economics Soc.
 Union Council
 Executive Comm. — Treasurer of the Union
 Chairman Entertainments
 Sec. Bar Board
 Student Loans Comm.
 Various University Comm.

The prestige of the Union is undoubtedly at an all time low. The majority of the Union members have shown strongly on a number of issues that they no longer trust the Union, its policies or its officials. The blame for this undesirable state of affairs must be laid squarely at the door of the Union bureaucracy. To apportion blame is not enough. This disturbing situation with which the overwhelming majority of us are dissatisfied must be remedied.

EXTERNALLY, what is unfortunately happening at the present is that a faceless minority dictates to us what we ought to think and what our policies ought to be. This has to stop. Our Union must, and I hope will become, the vehicle of our members; the policies of our Union must reflect the wishes and desires of our members. Only when this happens can the President be an influential representative of the Union and consequently more weight will be added to our case when presented by him externally.

With the increasing growth of the University in numbers and area, the general atmosphere is becoming too impersonal. In the face of this trend the Union must ensure that its own bureaucracy, does not become so dominant that students requiring urgent help or assistance in vital fields such as accommodation and welfare feel that the Union also is no more

than an impersonal machine. This must be avoided at all costs.

Furthermore, the Union is not just the Union building. The President must never forget that Engineers, Medics, Dentists and people living in Halls of Residence and Flat Units, although some distance from the Union building, are an integral part of the Union and must therefore be represented. It is shameful that far too often these members are only considered when the Union collects their fees! The Union officials should stop abusing their authority by merely issuing written directives to these bodies. Instead they should step up efficient, and of prime importance, personal channels of communications to facilitate a genuine exchange of ideas and information.

The Union offers a wide range of services for its members. For these services to be continually improved and expanded, it is necessary for the Union to be in a healthy financial position. Obviously there is never enough money to satisfy everyone's needs. In the last year as Treasurer, I was faced with the problem of Union Sports Clubs and Societies struggling to make ends meet because the Union was not in a position to give them as much money as they required.

This situation will get worse unless a recent Union Council decision is reversed. This decision was to create a machinery to divert funds away from Clubs and Societies and all other Services and channel them into a separate account from which donations to outside Political bodies can be made. I strongly oppose this decision and I specifically ask you to give me a mandate to reverse this insane decision.

In conclusion, I assert that this Union is capable of being more useful to its members and a better Union for all of us. It will not become so by fancy constitutional changes, but only through a change in attitude of Union officials including the President.

TIMES OF POLLING

Polling will take place on Monday and Tuesday (12th and 13th February) at the following polling stations and at the times stated:

UNION BUILDING
 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

MEDICAL SCHOOL COMMON ROOM
 12 noon to 2 p.m.

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT
 12 noon to 2 p.m.

PARKINSON BUILDING
 12 noon to 2 p.m.

Candidate's Name **ANDY ZIELINSKI**
 Candidate's Dept. **TEXTILES**
 Year of entry to Leeds
 University **1970**
 Proposed by **G. P. Jones**
 Seconded by **V. Simborowski**



Union positions held:—

Union Council 1970-71; 71-72.
 Union Entertainments Committee 1970-71; 71-72.
 Textile Committee 1970-71.
 Textile Social Secretary 1971-72.
 Student Rep. on Senate Campaign Committee 1972.

FACT I—Leeds Univ. Union is the biggest in England.

FACT II—Purchasing power of grants down 25% since 1966.

Reason — Inability and apathy of Union "Leaders"

As elected representative and President of L.U.U., I shall ensure LEEDS has a coherent policy to support N.U.S. — to keep grants in line with cost of living, and return LEEDS to its formerly prominent position in the Student World.

I know I am the most suitable to achieve this aim — **VOTE — ANDY ZIELINSKI**.

USE YOUR VOTE