

## University Change Maker Candidate Statements

### **Apoorv Kumar Arya: AP for PG**

Hi all, Lets cut it short and be straight forward, Cardiff is ranked 122nd Globally now the question is why not first!! I want Cardiff to be on the top whether its academics, sports, environment or fun. Vote with the slogan "AP for PG" and I guarantee you will get you want...

### **Chau Uong (Cindy): Time for change! Be the change! Our time is now! Vote for Cindy**

In recent years there have been many conflicts in interests between students and the university which raise questions about how to improve better relationship between them. As a University Change Maker, I believe I can be responsible and enthusiastic who seriously listen and consider any issues from students keeping in mind that I need to be fair and reasonable in proposing the issues to the university knowing that the university itself has its own obligations. With experiences being a Politic student representative as well as member of the student council, I believe that I can help to encourage students to actively suggest and propose their ideas as well as cooperating with the university in order to develop benefits for both parties. This is a challenge as well as an opportunity for me to contribute my effort for better development in order to help students their university times to the fullest.

### **Claire Travers: 'An Experienced Speaker, for your Voice'**

The new ministry of change needs old faces. As the system evolves to be more complex, experience could not be more crucial. And this is why I believe I am the strongest candidate to be your change maker. I have sat on Student Council as a part time officer for the last two years and have passed half a dozen motions successfully. Most notably I passed 'Positive About Discrimination' policy and gained official Zero Tolerance status from NUS. I have also been elected by the student body to represent you at a national level three times, in both national conference and welsh conference, saving policy lapses that would have lost Cardiff support for various valuable services. I take my job as your representative seriously and if elected I promise to be as transparent as possible. I'm friendly and approachable so don't hesitate to ask any questions. And please VOTE!

### **Edward Mason: For a campaigning Union that fights for you**

As a students' union, it's important that whilst we build good and friendly ties with the university, that this not turn into an unwillingness to stand up for students at every possible opportunity, and criticising and protesting university policy when necessary. Whether on issues of fair exam timetabling, tutor and lecturer feedback on essays and coursework, or treatment of international students, the Union should be engaging with the University to fight for students on every relevant issue, and if elected I would help ensure that.

We should also speak out publicly on national student issues, if only to try and ensure that issues affecting students elsewhere (e.g. international students at London Met facing a crisis over their eligibility to continue studying in the UK) don't trickle down to affect students here at Cardiff.

**Emma Carragher: For better feedback: Against higher fees**

I want to see a Union that keeps up the pressure on making sure every student gets decent feedback on their work, as well as continuing the national campaign against fees and cuts to our universities. I'm Emma, currently a student rep for the social sciences department. We get a lot done, but I know not every student staff panel is successful – we need more contact with our reps throughout the year and advise them on what to do with lazy lecturers or bad feedback.

I believe that education is a right, not a privilege and that our degrees and the tax we pay later on in life make university good for the economy and wider society. We have to continue sending strong messages to the NUS and our politicians, making sure tuition fees stays high on the agenda for the next election.

**Glenn Page: A better union can't wait**

Waiting for Manifesto...

**Jess Hall: We Can Make Change - No Matter How Strange!**

I am in my 3rd and final year of University, studying Psychology and have been involved with societies such as Act One Drama society and Lacrosse/Swimming throughout my time at Cardiff. I have a keen interest in performing which has assisted me in becoming confident in regards to public speaking and portraying ideas clearly to an audience.

Although I don't have considerable experience in student politics, I participated in my school's debating society and was given the position of Vice House Captain, which presented me with the responsibility of organising events and outings for my House.

Because I am interested in Public Relations, I hope find out more about the processes of how students' ideas are portrayed within the University and Union counsels. If I am elected I will aim to bridge the gap between students and the representation system, and vocalise students' suggestions for change clearly and confidently.

**Lowri Thomas: the right choice for the students' voice.**

Hi, I'm Lowri and I study City and Regional Planning. I want to be part of the committee to make a real change to our university. You should vote for me because I have already had experience with 'Peer Support', an organisation linked with Child Line, and consider myself a good listener who is willing to take a range of ideas and opinions on board. I have been a Team Leader, Resources Manager and Head of Communication in the past, so feel I can balance leadership skills with being easily approachable and down-to-earth. To me, no suggestion is too small: I will take my role as committee member seriously and make sure every voice is heard. I am a typical student, get along with anyone, and believe I will be able to represent the views of a wide variety of people by being *the right choice for the students' voice*.

**Luyi Deng: Vote for me to make your voice heard!**

As an Ambassador of Cardiff University and a course Rep, I have a good knowledge of the University, some ideas to change the union for the better in the benefits of all local and international students and a wide relationship with other universities, as well as strong intention and passion to collect ideas from all the students and discuss these ideas with others officers. I apply for the role, because I am enthusiastic to gain insight into the working of the Union, especially as an international student. My goal is to help those who are interested in participating to make their voices heard, especially international students. If I am lucky to be elected, I will stick to my promise and do my best to encourage and assist others to get involved in the Union.

**Sebastian Jones: Active; Green; Progressive**

I will be a Change Maker concerned with improving this university now and for the future; getting greener and ensuring that the union and university can continue to support students will make this a nicer, more sustainable place. I am a Philosophy undergraduate student with an interest in the issues of environmentalism, social equality and the well-roundedness of education. Whilst I am passionate about and involved in student politics and campaigning at a street-level, I remain fully non-partisan. My experience also includes working on the committee of my canoe club, where I helped to organise and oversee events, as well as representing the special interests of the youth of the club. I will bring a progressive stance to the role of Change Maker and work with students, on behalf of students.

**Tomas Evans: The Market. It's there to be beaten.**

As an EXPERIENCED CAMPAIGNER, I have organised local/national campaigns against education cuts, racism and sexism. As a Course Rep I ENGAGE with the issues facing students. Now's not the time to sit back – I'll be out there talking to students, working for an SU that represents its members and stands up for their interests. The "market" orientated Wales's Further and Higher Education Bill will jeopardise access to quality education: contact hours will decline and courses/modules will be cut as funding shrinks and university places are capped. I'll work with the Education Officer to inform students about important education issues. But there's no get out clause. The SU has to stand up for students and build for the NUS demo. Most importantly, I will ensure that you have the facts and can make the decisions. I will ensure that we reach out to students. When many are involved – there is power in the union!