



IN COLLABORATION WITH

Deloitte.

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Heads of Press, Easter 2016

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Easter 2016 Termcard Release

We are hugely excited for this term's lineup - this is exactly what the Union stands for; providing members with rigorous and relevant debates fronted by globally recognised political leaders, journalists and CEOs. I am very proud of everything my team here has achieved.

- Charlotte Ivers, President

Debates and Forums

The term kicks off with our first debate on Thursday, '**This House Believes in Political Debate not Political Correctness**', featuring amongst others Dr Joanna Williams (education editor of *Spiked* magazine and author of *Academic Freedom in An Age of Conformity*) and David McRedmond (Former CEO of Ireland's largest commercial broadcaster TV3, and was previously CEO of WH Smith International Business). We expect the debate to be a lively one, examining such a topical issue so close to the Union's heart. We are also pleased to announce that we will be hosting a Non-Monogamy and Gender Panel Event with the UniCORNS (University of Cambridge Open Relationship and Non-monogamy Society) at the end of Week 1.

Our second debate of term, also in Week 1, is a special debate about the upcoming Referendum on the EU, titled '**This House Believes the UK is better off in the EU**'. We are thrilled to announce we will be hosting, among others, Lord Paddy Ashdown (former leader of the Liberal Democrats), Charlotte Vere (Executive Director of Conservatives IN), Stephen Parkinson (National Organiser of Vote Leave) and Nadhim Zahawi MP (Co-founder of YouGov).

Our Week 2 debate, '**This House Believes Humanitarian Intervention does more Harm than Good**', will tackle confused and changeable attitude of the West in relation to this issue, and will question whether humanitarian interventions can ever be a justified and necessary tool. We will be delighted to welcome Sir Christopher Meyer (former British Ambassador to the US and Germany), Lindsey Germany (Founding member of the 'Stop the War' coalition), and Catherine West (Shadow Foreign Minister), among others, to debate the subject.

For our Week 3 debate, '**This House Believes Masculinity is Damaging to Everyone**', we will be hosting, among others, Shon Faye (Gender, sexuality, mental health and LGBT politics writer for The Guardian and Vice), Mimi Turner (Marketing Director of Lad Bible) and Ruth Sutherland (CEO of Samaritans). In the last few years awareness has grown of the toxicity of gender-normative behaviour and ingrained misogyny across society; this debate will ask whether the overall impact of the societal image of masculinity is harmful, and whether or not it is as damaging to men as to everyone else. We are also delighted to announce that, building on last term's mental health debate, and in a term often regarded as synonymous with huge stresses on the Cambridge student population, we will be hosting a Forum with Student Minds Cambridge.



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In Week 4 we ask whether ‘**This House Would Rather Get a Life than a First**’, on the eve of most of our exams (but probably too late for the outcome to make any difference to our results either way). Cambridge students take on Cambridge graduates to discuss whether any of this is really worth it. Speaking are Ken Chen (ex-Cambridge dropout, comedian), Imogen Sebba (lives in her parent’s attic, got a 2.1), Finn McRedmond (3rd year Peterhouse classicist, apparently quite average) and Will Dalrymple (English 3rd year, 21 but looks 28) among others.

The term draws to a close with the May Week Presidential Debate, ‘**This House Believes that the Labour Party is over and it’s Time to go Home**’. The Union will host a stellar 6-person line-up with the motion proposed by the former Union Vice-President and current Chancellor of Birmingham University, Lord Karan Bilimoria, alongside leading journalists Toby Young (author of *How to Lose Friends and Alienate People*) and Dan Hodges (writer for the *Telegraph*, *Guardian* and *Times*). Opposing the motion will be the outgoing President, Charlotte Ivers, a third year History and Philosophy of Science student at Pembroke, Matt Forde (a comedian, radio presenter and former Labour adviser) and Isabel Hardman (Editor of the *The Spectator*’s ‘Coffee House’ blog, and columnist for the *Telegraph*) Our final forum of the term will be on **Autism and Talent**, with a discussion led by the outgoing president, hosted by Professor Simon Baron-Cohen, and featuring leading figures from the world of Science, Mathematics and the Arts, including Professor Ernő Rubik, inventor of the eponymous cube.

Speakers

The term kicks off its Speaker programme with a packed Week 1. Kicking off our line-up is **Diane von Furstenberg**, a Belgian-born American fashion designer best known for her iconic wrap dress, worn by millions of women including Michelle Obama, the Duchess of Cambridge and Oprah. She is the Chairman of the Council of Fashion Designers of America. In 2010, she established the DVF Awards to honour and provide grants for women who have displayed leadership and strength. In 2015, Time Magazine named her in the Time 100.

Later in Week 1, **Lord James Palumbo** will address our members. Lord James Palumbo, a Liberal Democrat peer and entrepreneur, is known for founding the Ministry of Sound nightclub in London, and expanding its operations to penetrate the global market. Ministry of Sound Recordings has sold over 55 million albums and is now the largest independent music company in the world, launching the careers of young producers and celebrating the greatest dancefloor anthems. Before the end of the week, we will also host **Nick Clegg**, ex-leader of the Liberal Democrats.

In Week 2, the Union will host **Rebecca Nicholson**, the current Editor in Chief of VICE UK, the global youth media company and industry leader for online video content. She oversees all UK editorial output across Vice.com. Having written for the Guardian in a number of roles, including Deputy Editor of the Guide, TV and Radio Editor and acting Arts Editor in the US, Rebecca has extensive experience in journalism, especially with online platforms.

We will conclude the week hosting **Sigourney Weaver**, an American actress known as the ‘Queen of Sci-Fi’ due to her appearances in Avatar, Ghostbusters, and the Alien films, in which she played protagonist Ellen Ripley, a role she will reprise in the new instalment of the franchise.

George Takei will follow in Week 3. George Takei is an actor, author and activist who is best known for his portrayal of Hikaru Sulu on the original series of Star Trek. A prolific gay rights campaigner, he has served as a spokesperson for the



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Human Rights Campaign's Coming Out Project, embarking on his own Equality Trek in 2006. Following him the same week, we will be hosting **Lord Allan Sugar**, business magnate and media personality most famous for his appearance on *The Apprentice*. He was knighted in 2000 for services to the Home Computer and Electronic Industry.

In Week 4, we are thrilled to announce we will be hosting **Rona Fairhead CBE**, the current Chair of the BBC trust and *Woman of the Future's* 'Woman of the Year 2015'.

We have a hugely exciting Week 5 planned for our members, opening with **Ade Adepitan MBE**, who has played wheelchair basketball for the UK at the European and World Championships, and played at the 2004 Paralympic Games in Athens. He was also Channel 4's main presenter for the 2012 London Paralympics.

Later that week, we will also be hosting **Heston Blumenthal OBE**, a British chef who shot to fame on shows such as *Heston's Mission Impossible* and *Heston's Fantastical Food*. He will be followed by Oscar-nominated, Golden Globe-winning actor **Stanley Tucci**, best known for *The Lovely Bones*, *The Hunger Games*, *Spotlight*, *Transformers*, *The Devil Wears Prada*, *Easy A*, and is currently filming for the upcoming live-action remake of *Beauty and the Beast*.

In Week 7, we will be hosting **Anders Fogh Rasmussen**, Prime Minister of Denmark from 2001 to 2009, the rotating President of the EU in 2002, and the Secretary General of NATO from 2009 to 2014. He previously served as Minister of Economic Affairs for Denmark and has authored several books about taxation and government structure. During his term as Prime Minister his government enacted tough measures on immigration and initially banned all tax increases.

Closing the term, at the end of Week 8, is **Ai Weiwei**, a Chinese contemporary artist and activist. His most notable design was the Beijing National Stadium, commonly known as the 'Bird's Nest', which was used as the centrepiece for the 2008 Beijing Olympics. As a political activist, Weiwei has been highly critical of the Chinese government, investigating government cover-ups and other highprofile corruption cases. He has paid a hefty price for his actions, being held without charge at Beijing Airport in 2011.

We would like to add that, as usual, we will be adding to this list throughout the term as speakers confirm.

Ents

The term kicks off with the **The Mays Anthology XXIV Pre-Launch** in Week 1. We're hugely excited about this prelaunch literary evening featuring special literary cocktails, live music, performers, and the unveiling of this year's guest editor. With Quentin Blake as last year's Guest Editor and The Mays featuring the early material of many of Oxbridge's most renowned writers, this is an evening you don't want to miss.

In Week 2, we'll be hosting **Speakeasy**, Cambridge's own sell-out poetry slam, which is returning for one night only this Easter Term – and this time it's taking over the Union Bar for a very special charity event. Later that week, we'll also be hosting the **RAG-Union Auction**, with John's May Ball tickets rumoured to be among the prizes to be won, auctioned off in support of Cambridge Rape Crisis Centre, Child Brain Injury Trust, Foodcycle Cambridge, Addenbrooke's



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Charitable Trust, Settle, Save The Children, Medecins Sans Frontieres, Children with Cancer UK, AntiSlavery International and Freedom From Torture.

In Week 4, we're hosting our annual **Eurovision Final** evening, this year in collaboration with CamFM.

Union Ents this term reach their climax at the Union Garden Party, held in the beautiful grounds of Sidney Sussex for the annual garden party on Saturday 11th June from 2-6pm. With an array of food and drink, from oysters to Pimm's, there is no better way to begin your weekend of May Week celebrations. Tickets available online at cus.org from the evening of Thursday 21st April.

Other exciting events this term include Puppy Therapy sessions and a Decolonising Spaces forum, with dates yet to be confirmed. We will also be continuing our weekly Yoga, Zumba, and Mindfulness sessions.

The term concludes with the **Cambridge Union Garden Party** on June 11th, in Week 8. We promise a Garden Party more extravagant than ever before.

Tickets will go on sale in Week 2.

SUMMARY

Debates

This house believes in political debate not political correctness

This house believes the UK is better off in the EU

This house believes humanitarian intervention does more harm than good

This house believes masculinity is damaging to everyone

This house would rather get a life than get a first

This house believes the Labour Party is over and it's time to go home

Women in Leadership

Speakers

Diane Von Furstenberg

Lord James Palumbo

Nick Clegg

Rebecca Nicholson

Sigourney Weaver

George Takei

Lord Alan Sugar

Rona Fairhead CBE

Ade Adepitan MBE

Heston Blumenthal OBE

Stanley Tucci

Anders Fogh Rasmussen

Ai Weiwei

**** END ****