

Imperial College Union  
**Nominees for Union Court**  
*A Note by the President*

## **Introduction**

Nominees for Union Court have been passed Executive Committee and are now to be voted on by Union Council. I have asked each nominee to write a short manifesto explaining why they want to stand for Court.

Court has 9 members: 5 full members, 3 life members and one member of staff. Currently only 2 life member positions are filled.

The term for Full and Life Members is one year and three years respectively.

## **Nominees**

**Name:** Andy Heeps

**Position:** Life Member

**Manifesto:** I was the first medical student to be elected President of Imperial College Union in 1997, and came at a time of great upheaval for the College and Union. I was made an honorary Life Member in 1998. Returning to undergraduate studies until 2003, I led the first 'No2NUS' campaign in 2002, a position that I'm pleased to see the Union has come back to! I secured the Beit basements for the Union in 1998 and remained a member of the ICU Council, becoming its Chair in 2002. I always appreciated the quiet advice and support of our equivalent of the ICU Court.

I'm a specialty registrar in obstetrics and gynaecology rotating around all of Imperial's teaching hospitals, and as such come into contact with Imperial undergraduates and postgraduates every day.

Imperial College Union took up such a large part of my life at university, and gave me so many skills that I have been able to take forward into my working life. I never thought I'd stand for an ICU election again, but I'd like to give something back, and membership of the ICU Court would let me use that desire and experience again.

**Name:** Rahul Mudannayake

**Position:** Full Member (Medicine)

**Manifesto:** I have been involved with the Union over the last 4 years, in a variety of roles including casual senior bar-steward, senior steward, and pub-quiz master, totalling about 20 hours per week. This time spent at the union has given me a thorough student's understanding of the Union's constitution. As an undergraduate I studied philosophy at the University of Vermont, taking many classes on justice in political philosophy, and can firmly attest my love for Bentham and Kant. In my opinion, a system such as the constitution that governs the Union's variety of bodies and teams, do require a check and balance, that the Union Court will provide. I am applying for a student member position in the Union Court because I firmly believe that I can bring a set of just and sensible values to add to the already valuable ICU.

**Name:** Jaimie Henry

**Position:** Full Member (Medicine)

**Manifesto:** The main area from which I draw experience for this role is my two terms as a Student Trustee, which has given me an invaluable insight into Union Operations. During this tenure I have scrutinized Union decisions and heard opinions from the Court, which I have followed with great interest.

Additionally I have performed Club and Society roles, including Chairing two large, successful societies from which I have gained grass-roots experience of the Union.

I have a personal interest in law and judicial decision making, which has been augmented by a recent medico-legal based Specialist Study Module during my course. I have now spent four years at the college, and I am keen to take up this opportunity to further assist the union in my final years at Imperial College. If appointed to the position, I feel that I would be able to bring the dual weight of my experience accrued over these years both as a student and a volunteer officer of the Union.

Above all, I continue to be an active student of Imperial College and am keen to ensure that representations to the court are heard fairly, respectfully and expeditiously in service of the student body.

**Name:** Leslie Uzan

**Position:** Full Member (Natural Sciences)

**Manifesto:** Having always had a keen interest in all sorts of administrative and regulatory matters, it would be an honour for me to be part of the Union Court. On many occasions I have held positions of responsibility and been a member of several committees. As a result this has taught me impartial and equitable decision making. Furthermore, being a naturally curious and inquisitive person, I have attended trials at my local Magistrates Court. Following on from this I have also taken part in a mock trial, which has shown me the importance of being composed and keeping emotions aside when making significant decisions. My first year at Imperial has reinforced my ability to manage time effectively, thus meaning that I would be able to devote a notable amount of time to the Court. Lastly, I know that I have yet a lot to learn about the dynamics and operations of the Union, but I am eager to learn and would very much look forward to contributing to the smooth running of the Union.

**Name:** Thomas Cosnahan

**Position:** Full Member (Engineering)

**Manifesto:** I am a first year student, reading Materials Science and Engineering (3yr BEng). I have enjoyed all the pressures and pleasures of being a new student. Since joining I have helped to run several events in my halls, Wilson House, with the Christian Union and have, with great enjoyment, attended weekly practice and tournaments with the Imperial discDoctors. Outside of Imperial College I have become a member of St Barnabas Church Kensington, and they have encouraged me to join the Parochial Church Council (PCC) there. Not dissimilar to the ICU Court, the PCC has to ensure the rules and regulation of the church are upheld and that future projects fit the Church's spirit. As a PCC we are also in charge of the finances and are Charity Trustees. This sense of responsibility is something I really enjoy. It is something I had missed for the first couple of terms at Imperial. As Head Boy at my previous school, not having meetings every week seemed to dull down my study. That is a motivation for wanting to join this body. I also want to get involved with my university, in places I can make a difference.