



Clodagh Prior
Pro-Secretary of the 332nd
Session
Candidate for Honorary
Secretary of the 333rd Session.

Hello there! I'm Clodagh, I'm a Senior Freshman Law student, and I would love nothing more than to be your Secretary for the next session of this amazing society. Chamber debates are the bread and butter of The Phil, and I have truly loved being a part of organising them this year. This love along with my **track record**, **understanding** of the role, and **ability to lead a team** makes me **someone who the Phil can trust to** put on a weekly event of a really high standard.

Motions

- *Balanced Motions*: Chamber debates are amazing because they allow people to speak on something that they feel strongly about. I think it's so important that the motions we set allow people to speak passionately but are also **heated, thought-provoking and informative**, as well as being **balanced**, so that no one side has a harder case to prove.
- *Shared ownership*: It isn't just Team Sec's term card, it's **everyone's**. I will ensure that council and extraordinaries are involved in the process of setting of and execution of motions. I will work with the librarian to set up an **extraordinaries email group**, and seek out as many motion suggestions as possible. A **monthly bulletin** will also be sent out to keep council and extraordinaries up to date on what Team Sec has been up to.
- *Integrating Nuance*: As Pro-Sec this year, I set motions like **THBT LGBT Community Should Embrace Stereotypes**. The Mental Health Discussion was also something that I pushed for, and as Secretary, I will aim to ensure that **important conversations** like these mentioned take place.
- *Topical Motions*: Having a **flexible and topical term** card is key to ensuring that we have a year of amazing debates, and sometimes that's hard to do when the motions are set months in advance. I will have **one flexible week per term** that is responsive to current issues, be it at a parochial level e.g. an SU referendum, or a big international news story.

Collaborations

- *Experience*: I will approach other societies for **at least 60%** of our debates. I have worked with a large range of societies and bodies from DUGES and Fashion Soc to Welfare, and will **use this experience** to collaborate with an even wider range of societies.
- *Confidence*: I want to make sure that atypical GMB students feel confident enough to speak in The Chamber. I think that the best way to ensure that this happens is through collaborating with a wide variety of different societies and student bodies across campus. I will organise **workshops that take place outside of the GMB** in order to make as many students as possible more confident at public speaking.
- *External collabs*: I want to make sure that we collaborate with **societies that we have never worked with before**, such as DU General Science Society and GenSoc. I will **brainstorm** with such societies **before setting the term card** so I know what is topical and what science students are interested in, as well as asking them for guest suggestions. I will make sure to have **at least one Science debate per term**, if not more.

Guests

- *Outreach and Confirmation*- This year, as **Pro-Secretary**, I sent out dozens of emails to guests. I have a **100% response rate** for the emails I send out, and have developed a highly effective inviting approach. I singlehandedly confirmed **half of the Hilary Term guests**, and nearly a quarter of the guests overall this year. I have dealt with agents and secretaries, and have built up a large bank of contact details that we can use for future reference. As Secretary, I want to **build on that bank of institutional knowledge** and contacts, and **leverage existing relationships** that we have with guests.
- *Guests I Will Deliver* - I want the people we have speaking in the chamber to come from a wide variety of different backgrounds. As such, I want to **increase the number of** guests we have speaking in the Chamber to **at least 50** this year. I already have **Bressie** confirmed as a guest for 333.
- *Social Proof* - I will implement a **recommendation system** when emailing guests. This means that every time a guest is confirmed, as an expert in their field, they will be asked for recommendations for other guest speakers. Once a recommendation is given, I will then ask for an **introduction** in order to establish a crucial link with the guest. This way, we ensure that we have guests in the top of their field speaking each week.
- *Inclusion* - I want to ensure that extraordinaries are as included as possible in the process of inviting guests. This is where the monthly bulletin and email group are really important. Additionally, I will establish **office hours** to be available at set times during the summer and throughout the year for people to come and give me their ideas and thoughts on the guests and term card.

Women

- *My aim*: It's so important to me that **women's voices are heard** in the chamber. I will strive to make sure that women feel that **The Phil Chamber is a safe and comfortable place** for them to speak in.
- *Optics*: It was my idea to have only women sitting at the table at the all-women debate this year. I also chaired that debate, and found it so empowering to sit a table with such amazing women - I will make sure that **debates like this take place each term**.
- *The Eliz*: Such amazing work was done with the Eliz this year, and I would love to continue it. I want to bring back the **Eliz Series**, and have a wide range of inspiring women speak in order to encourage other female students to do so.
- *Retention*: I will **work closely with the VP and Debates Convenor** to come up with strategies in order to ensure that female students who sign up to speak at competitions feel similarly comfortable signing up to speak in the chamber.

Other Ideas

- *Sponsorship*: Sponsorship can be worked into so many aspects of chamber debates, from sponsorship for the debate as a whole to leaving **pens with our sponsor's logo** on every chair. I will work closely with the Treasurer to make sure every sponsorship opportunity is exploited.
- *Maidens*: I want the Chamber to be a welcome place for all Freshers. I will organise **Chamber workshops** specifically catered for Freshers with the Vice President, and will also seek to ensure that the Maidens' motion for each week is tied in with whichever Chamber debate is happening that week.
- *Pros*: I will have **training days** with my pros to ensure they have the necessary guest inviting skills.



Phinally... Thank you so much for taking the time to read my manifesto. I hope that you can see that I have the motivation, knowledge, experience, and passion that makes me the best person for the job.

Please vote for me for Secretary of the 333rd Session of the Phil.