



BALLOT FOR POSITION OF TUI VICE-PRESIDENT CANDIDATE PROFILE

FEBRUARY 2025

www.tui.ie

TEACHERS' UNION OF IRELAND / AONTAS MÚINTEOIRÍ ÉIREANN

LAURA CONHEADY

I am a Construction Studies and Graphics teacher, with experience in schools from Clare to Carlow, teaching both Second Level and PLC students. I am seeking your vote for the office of Vice-President.

I will engage with members to address the disparity in the new entrant single public pension scheme. I have organised successful information sessions and formed a group to drive momentum on this issue. It is crucial to lobby for improvements in pension inadequacies, not only within the TUI, but also with the ICTU.

I will give a strong voice to the collective concerns of our members across all sectors. I aim to amplify your voice from classrooms, centres, workshops and lecture halls, advocating for your needs and priorities.

Priorities:

Second Level:

- Reduce the Pupil/Teacher ratio.
- Pause Senior Cycle Redevelopment, negotiate on AAC's and advocate for professional time.
- Incentivise teachers to return from abroad – incremental credit.
- Campaign to decrease whole school Croke Park hours and reduce S&S hours from 43 to 37.

Adult Ed., Youthreach, AEOA, BTEI, tutors, and all other grades in FET:

- Represent the breadth of grades throughout the FET pillar and improve members' terms and conditions.
- Continue to support adult educators/tutors.
- Demand progress on the Youthreach claim in the WRC, starting with a nationally agreed calendar to align more closely with second level.
- Ensure ETBI, SOLAS, and the Department re-establish the FET Stakeholders' forum.

Third Level:

- Assist in creating a cohesive, properly resourced sector while recognising the unique identity of TUs/IoTs.
- Implement the Cush Report consistently and comprehensively.
- Engage researchers and provide a voice for them within the union and sector.
- Promote apprenticeship programs, continue sitting on the Apprenticeship Working Party, and address skills shortages and calendar issues.

Local Experience:

- TUI WPC member, Branch Officer, ETB staff representative & Area representative.
- Represented colleagues at Second Level, Post Leaving Cert, Youthreach, VTOS, BTEI, and in Adult Ed and FET.
- Represented TUI members in grievance procedures, contractual disputes, competency and disciplinary procedures, attaining augmentation for members with part-time hours, completing Ward applications, successfully appealing posts, and securing CIDs.
- Achieved and delivered on the arbitration for the Environmental Allowance for teachers in Portlaoise Prison (2024-26 pay agreement).

National Experience:

- Chair of TUI FE Sub-Committee
- Member of Finance Sub-Committee.
- TUI AEOA Liaison and TUI AONTAS Liaison.
- Representing members at Department and SOLAS meetings, the Biennial ICTU Conference 2023 and to the Oireachtas.



Ballot material will be posted out to all centres on Monday, 24th February 2025.

Completed ballot papers must be returned to auditors Deloitte by 5pm, Friday, 21st March 2025.