

REIMAGINE THE UNIVERSITY

24TH - 26TH NOVEMBER 2010.

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS AIMED AT THE REIMAGINATION OF THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

Starting with the national walkout on the 24th, a series of workshops, lectures, events and 'interventions' are going to be happening across Leeds - at the Music and Art Colleges, the MET, and the University of Leeds.

For a long time the university has been undergoing a process of privatisation. Universities are now run as businesses, with students as consumers and lecturers as creators of products - knowledge has become a commodity that can be bought and sold. The overwhelming purpose of the university has become to train docile workers to perform functions within a capitalist system, to contribute to the enrichment of the few rather than the collective social improvement of all.

The recent Spending Review and Browne Review takes this process to a whole new level- proposing a removal of the cap on fees which will create an even more hierarchical edu-

cation system, reducing research funding, and raising fees to an estimated £9,000 a year. All this results in students taking on more debt for a hollowed-out education, lecturers being forced to carry out 'economies exercises' and staff working longer and harder hours for less money.

It is clear that the university system is bankrupt and in need of profound change, but no-one can see an alternative, a solution, a way out. We need to resist the threatened cuts and the ongoing onslaught on education - but we also need a transformation.

As workers and students at different places within the university system, we are putting on this event to facilitate the process of reimagining higher education. We don't have all the answers, but we have many ideas and are sure that there are many more out there. We will explore how universities can become a place where creative and critical thought is fostered, where partici-

pants teach what inspires them, learn what they are passionate about, and strive to create a more equitable and sustainable world, not simply for jobs and profit.

How could we transform the university, how could students and lecturers learn differently through more creative, critical and empowering processes, is it even possible to transform the university without transforming the society in which it is embedded?

All these events have been organized autonomously in a decentralised manner by students and staff from across the higher education institutions of Leeds. We look to challenge the state of education, it's role in society, and the capitalist crisis, whilst acting on our desire to create a different world.

We don't want to defend the university, we want to transform it!

JOIN THE WALK-OUT! - WED 11AM

A national student walkout on Wednesday 24th! Leave your classes at 11am, & meet outside LUU. Bring banners & noise-makers for a march into town!

FOR FULL WORKSHOP DETAILS

VISIT: WWW.REALLYOPENUNIVERSITY.ORG

EVERYDAY: CENTRAL SPACE: LUU Lobby - Flashmob, Films, T-Shirts, Put on an event, Posters, and general info point!

REALLY OPEN ART EXHIBITION: EB Library - All day, everyday, outside EB Library. Add your own art from Wednesday 24th.

DECIMAL CLOCK: Creative Interventions throughout the week. Find out more at the Central Space

ONGOING ZINE PRODUCTION: LUU Lobby - Typewriter lab - rant, reflect, share thoughts and ideas, we provide the space...

**W
24TH**

Opening event w/ Mikael Arfur - 3-5pm

Roger Stevens LT 22

The Really Open University & Mikael Arfur open the 'Reimagine the University' event! Join us

Gainful Unemployment - 5.30-7.30pm

Packhorse Pub, Upstairs

A skills share workshop exploring practical suggestions for using our talents outside of the workplace, especially as we face the highest graduate unemployment rates in recent history.

There's Power in a Union 6pm

ARC Mt. Room 2

It is time to reject the divide-and-rule techniques in the workplace. We need united and effective unionism in education, without it there can be no reimagined university.

Calais: S'Informer - 6pm

Peanut Gallery, LUU

Films and talks about asylum.

Beyond Commodified Education - 6-8pm

Broadcasting House CCBPA312

Discussing alternatives both to our current universities and education in general.

**T
25TH**

Student-Led Learning - 10-12am

ARC Meeting Room 2

An opportunity for students to present their research and ideas to each other. Got something to say? Say it here!

Student as Producer - 2-3pm

ARC Meeting Room 2

A presentation and discussion about how the University of Lincoln is reinventing its curriculum following radical and critical pedagogical forms.

Popular Education with Trapeze - 3-4pm

ARC Mt. Room 2

This workshop will look at the origins and some of the tools and techniques of popular education and how they can be used to transform our university.

Non-Violent Direct Action Workshop - 4.30-7.30pm

ARC Mt. Room 2

A skill share session aimed at those who believe in people power and those who are not willing to be trampled all over by the government.

Pecha Kucha - 5-7pm

Geography Lecture Theatre

Pecha Kucha is Japanese for chatter. In this event each participant will have 6 minutes 40 seconds (20 seconds per slide for 20 Powerpoint slides) to talk on a topic of their choice.

Graffiti Stenciling - 6pm

Meet at Central Space

From Bristol to Buenos Aires stencil graffiti has been used to subvert mechanisms of control and communicate ideas through an unauthorised medium. Learn how to create stencils and explore ways they can be used.

Leeds Against Cuts Public Meeting - 7pm

Leeds Civic Hall

City-wide meeting for resisting cuts in Leeds. Includes feedback from today's UCU conference.

Film: Universities in Transformation - 8-10pm

Peanut Gallery, LUU

A series of films and discussions about students and staff seeking to transform their universities across the world.

**F
26TH**

Italian Wave - 11-12pm

ARC Mt. Room 2

In this session we will hear a report from recent education struggles in Italy. What commonalities and what differences do they have with struggles here in England? What can we learn from them?

Logic of Occupation - 2-3pm

ARC Mt. Room 2

We will be exploring the political importance of seizing space and reclaiming it for our own ends. What sort of possibilities do occupations open up for both resistive and affirmative politics?

Pedagogies of Resistance - 3-4pm

Parkinson B.08

This workshop explores the role of education in shaping the anti-capitalist politics of three Latin America social movements. We ask what these experiences mean in a time when our own education is in crisis.

University of Utopia - 3-5pm

Parkinson B.09

The University of Utopia invites you to join their institution and develop the university as a social form, transforming the 'knowledge society' into the 'knowing society.' We will discuss what this means and how we'll do it.

Counter Mapping - 4-6pm

Geography 141

By counter-mapping the university, we hope to depict, where we are (especially in light of the recent cuts and Browne Review), where we came from, and where we wish to go, putting ourselves on the map, and imagining our way out...

Off with the REF! - 5-7pm

Geography Lecture Theatre

This panel and participatory discussion explores how metric systems have been responsible for creating a condition of 'academic unfreedom', where teaching and research have come to be dominated by the market.

'Science: Myth and Reality' - TBC

Leeds Met

We will question dominant 'scientific' assumptions about nature and the modern world, focusing on the assertions that technology is seamlessly connected to science and that science can 'disprove' religious or political ideas.

Where next for the transformation? - TBC

TBC

At the close of the 'Reimagine the Uni' event, we must come together to explore where next for the transformation of the university?

How do we work together to create a different future?

**REIMAGINE
THE
UNIVERSITY.
PROGRAMME OF EVENTS**



**PROGRAMME OF EVENTS FOR 3 DAYS OF
CREATIVE RESISTANCE. INCLUDING WORKSHOPS,
LECTURES, DISCUSSIONS,
FILMS AND OTHER INTERVENTIONS.**

24TH - 26TH NOVEMBER

**FOR MORE INFORMATION COME TO THE WELCOME
DESK IN THE LEEDS UNI UNION, OR VISIT,
WWW.REALLYOPENUNIVERSITY.ORG**