

Open Forum 103 (1985) clip – Defend the OU Campaign

Contributors in clip: John Horlock

Clip transcript:

John Horlock:

The year since your conference last year, Madam President, has been a very momentous year for The Open University. I'd like to review it briefly, what's gone before, and then move on to 1985 and to the future.

In 1984, the university was very much under the searchlight of public attention, and this was for a variety of reasons. First of all, the grant that was announced for that year, and those indicated for 1985 and 1986, involved substantial reductions in funding, and as you know the university was faced with a very major financial crisis. We decided to protest strongly and publicly about this, and we organised ourselves to do so effectively. I want to say very clearly, Madam President, how much we have been helped by the Student Association. I'm sure that OUSA's actions to defend the OU had a very major impact on public opinion and that was very important to us.