

Australian National University  
Law Students' Society



Minutes for Committee Meeting

**Date:** 12/3/17

**Time:** 6.42pm

**Location:** LSS Common Room

**Present:** Anna, Victoria, Laksshini, Maddison, Brigid, Kate, Katherine, Eden, Felicity, Kathy, Sheng, Joe, Julia, Belinda, Ashish, Max, Matt, Suchara, Angela, Rocky, Hugo, Bryce, Tony, Shani, Jess

**Absent with Apologies:** Lucy, Mickey, Sarah

**Absent without Apologies:** Em, Bede

- **President Report:**

- Social media flooding of LSS stuff
  - Exec discussed and made decision to split Facebook pages
- Rosters for all events
  - Attacking the diffusion of responsibility
  - Little feedback when we've put out a call for help at events
  - Issues – raise them with Anna and Bryce
  - Kate: people put in their own availability
  - Julia: do it like O-Week schedule
- Wellbeing
  - Exec who haven't done it are doing MH/FA training in the break
  - MH Week in Week 10 of Semester 1
    - Pre-emptive rather than a Band-aid solution
- FY Officers will be here next meeting

- **Administration Report:**

- FY Officer elections
    - 18 candidates
  - Appointing the second Careers Director once the position exists on Tuesday night post-SGM
  - Not much else going on for Admin
  - Peppercorn – please send in any submissions if you want to write/encourage your friends etc.
- **Finance Report:**
- Not too much
  - If you are spending – check with Sheng
  - Budget isn't how much you can "spend" – it's how much we've factored in
- **Careers Report:**
- Thank you for: Strategy& and Careers Guide/Fair
  - Clerkship is on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> May (Week 10)
  - Alternative careers event in transnational law in week 11/12
  - Firm visits starting up again next week
- **Competitions Report:**
- Thank you: BBQ and workshop
    - Good feedback
  - Jess has started on Allen & Overy private law moot
  - Comps start this week
  - Roster for client interview – message Matt if you can't make those times
- **Education Report:**
- Delays with Electives Guide – it's out now! Yay!
    - On website!
  - JD Forum
    - Tentatively scheduled on 27<sup>th</sup>
    - Waiting on panellists
  - ALSA Report will be posted tonight at some point
    - A lot is portfolio specific – look in your own time
    - Handover and election process
      - 4 week shadow period for Exec
      - More in depth and practical handover
      - One day handover isn't enough
      - Previous VP has to sign off on competency – controversial
      - Appointing more positions rather than elections
    - ISD
      - Lots of LSS' have one and it's something we're missing
        - They are under an equity portfolio or combined with another position
      - ANU has a lot of international students – but are not really present at lots of our events
      - Discussion of where they fit structurally – education generally
    - Equity portfolio

- Want to implement at ANU
  - Led by VP – doesn't replace SJ VP
    - Portfolio: SJ officer, ISD, disability, wellbeing officers etc.
    - More niche positions
  - Broader scope of directors and target specific areas
  - Role of Equity VP is to ensure events and decisions are as equitable as possible
  - Exec and committee discipline
    - Important that they are available before and during term
    - Needs to be enforced – behaviour and fulfilling position
  - Indigenous students' issues
    - Hard – each LSS differs on amount of Indigenous students
    - Must avoid tokenism
    - Appointing a non-indigenous person as an indigenous officer – controversial
  - Implement sexual harassment policy for LSS events
    - Is broad university policy sufficient?
    - Ensuring the fact that the policy is known and implemented at each LSS event
  - ASLA questions etc. – bring as an agenda item for next committee meeting
  - Most decisions will be made by the committee, not the exec
- **Events Report:**
- Law Ball
    - Katherine and Fel meeting at QT on Friday
    - Save the date will be going out early
  - Neverest
    - Not many EOIs
    - Get people keen!
  - Lunchtime sports
    - We lost last week but that's okay
    - This week 12pm on Willows – please come!
  - Student/staff cocktail mixer
    - Tentative date – Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May as end of MH week
- **Social Justice Report:**
- Cambodia applications quite low – only 12 people have applied as of tonight
    - Hoping it's a last-minute thing
    - Putting up status tonight
    - Please post and get your friends keen!
    - Closes night of Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup>
  - WIL Breakfast
    - Deposit has been made
    - August 19<sup>th</sup> confirmed
  - Speaker series cancelled for this term
  - Suggestions for an SJ Dinner speaker
  - Elk & Pea as a potential venue

- **Social Justice Homelessness Initiative Proposal (presented by Angela Chen on behalf of the Social Justice portfolio)**
  - o Local community issues
  - o Canberra has the second highest homeless rate in the country
  - o 2 components – practical and educational
  - o Issue of scope
    - Should it be just homeless people, or should it be extended to “vulnerable” people?
  - o Kate:
    - Should be called a “community project”
    - There is a wait list for night patrol because it is so popular
    - Clemente would be hard
    - Blue Door would be easier because it’s every day
    - Youth programs for 6-12 year olds or 9-15 year olds – once a month activities on the weekends
  - o Brigid:
    - Everyone would need a WWVP
    - Free for volunteers – good to get it locked down as to who we’re doing it with
  - o Anna:
    - Devil’s advocate – people will ask what the connection is to the LSS and where their money is going/the SJ portfolio’s attention
    - Remember that we are the LSS
    - Street Law
      - Outside the scope of Clinical programs
  - o Max:
    - If you expand away from homelessness, and direct more towards community legal centres then that’s probably more direct
  - o Eden:
    - Cambodia is different – more hands-on approach to SJ that isn’t being offered by the LSS, but facilitated
    - Community engagement is good and pushing people to get involved
    - Sleep-out on the lawns would be really cool
    - Partner with other societies?
    - Practical legal work – direct it to the pre-existing community legal program
  - o Shani:
    - Go to a community legal centre which needs the most need
  - o Brigid:
    - Who needs help about keeping track of their volunteers – needs to be regular
  - o Bryce:
    - Community legal program run last year, but something we’re looking into
    - Concur with Anna re Devil’s Advocate
    - We should focus on the niche we can fill as law students – Parts 3 and 4 should receive more attention, and 1 and 2 should fit into what already exists
    - Agree with Shani – shouldn’t channel our efforts into somewhere which doesn’t need the support
    - Sleep-out wouldn’t be hard to organise
  - o Lakshini:
    - Try and place the emphasis on educating people on their rights

- Suchara:
  - Fits well within the tier system
  - Check with ANU that it doesn't clash with their sleep-out
- Angela:
  - From discussion, sounds like we will start small and it can grow
- Sheng:
  - Need to make link between law and homelessness very clear
- Maddison:
  - Where does the research/legal submissions go?
- Duplications:
  - Max:
    - ANU Volunteering society – does all of 1 and 2
  - Maddison:
    - Contact C&S council and flag to see the initiatives which clash
    - Bryce will chase up with Secretary of C&S council
- **Any other business arising:**
  - Community sponsorship – anyone know of any womenswear shops please tell Sheng!
  - Comps – Wit Ex character briefs will be sent out before the comp so you have time to prepare/make up a back story

**Meeting close: 7.34pm**