

## **ANU LSS Education Portfolio Report 2020**

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The numerous challenges of 2020 have meant the Education portfolio has leaned more towards its advocacy side this year. Changes to assessment structures in all courses have created a number of education barriers. While these challenging times demand flexibility of everyone, an accessible, fair education is still every student's right. It is equally concerning to see funding cuts both from the Federal Government and from the university. Going forward, future VP Educations need to remain vigilant that cuts are not undermining the quality of education in the law school.

Repeated education concerns have included

- Lack of assessment feedback
- Change in assessment structure
- Lack of communication around course requirements

One of the key advantages the LSS has as opposed to our counterparts in ANUSA and PARSA is that firstly we operate across all degrees in the Law School and secondly have more resources. To this first point, this portfolio needs to build more connections in non-LLB degrees and we have seen pleasing engagement when we have run JD events. The Education portfolio has well developed functions in a non-advocacy setting (the pre-exam tutorials and the education speaker events) however future VP Educations should consider how our considerable resources can assist with advocacy and with measures to increase the equitability of education in our Law School. The LSS has a constitutionally enshrined commitment to equal opportunity and the Education portfolio must be vocal in centring this objective in the LSS's work.

This year, the shift to Zoom events saw our conventional events change in format. Our first education speaker event was delayed to semester 2. Our pre-exam tutorials were very successful. We saw increased support from the College of Law this year with the vast majority of course convenors supporting the tutorials. Additionally, the CoL CEC expressed their willingness for the LSS to use the college's communication channels to promote these going forward. It was pleasing to see very high engagement with all tutorials with 90 students attending the Torts tutorial and more than 40 students in all tutorials.