

Australian National University Law Students' Society



Agenda for Ordinary General Meeting

Date: 19 October 2024

Time: 5:36 PM

Location: Hybrid - ANU College of Law Moot Court and Zoom

Quorum: 20 members

Chair: Bita Mahani, Vice-President (Administration)

Attendees: Bita, Sam, Roshan, Venni, Alex Buyck, Crisangi, Jess S, Cyan, Ruby, Cian, Alex Bako, Mia B, Mei, Chith, Andries, Jasmine, Claire, Eloise, Emmy, Will J, Aisha, Jade, Olivia L, Chloe, Joe, Olivia M, Hannah B, Dominique, Oliver, Will C

Absent with apologies: Tom, Amanda, Mia H, Indah, Ally, Charli W, Charli DG, Saire

Agenda:

Open of Meeting (Bita Mahani):

Acknowledgement of Country (Bita Mahani)

1. **Standing Orders** (Bita Mahani)
2. **Portfolio Reports** (presented by each relevant member of the Executive):

- Reports delivered orally and supplemented by presentation slides
- Opportunity for questions after each portfolio

2.1. President (Cian Bowes)

2.2. Administration (Bitah Mahani)

2.3. Careers (Emmy Xie)

2.4. Competitions (Ruby Wong)

2.5. Education (Mia Hawke)

2.6. Equity (Alex Bako)

2.7. Events (Hugh Liu)

2.8. Social Justice (Mia Booth)

2.9. Sponsorships (Charli de Greenlaw)

Motion to accept all reports: 29 in favour, 2 abstaining

Moved by Chith

Seconded by Alex Bako

Passes 29

3. Finance Presentation (Sam Soar)

- Opportunity for questions

Motion to accept the finance presentation: 23 in favour, 5 abstaining

Moved by Andries

Seconded by Jasmine

Passes by 23

Close of Meeting (Bitah Mahani): 6:44pm

MINUTES

PRESIDENT

- Overall Reflections on the Year
 - Great to see engagement creeping up across the board with our various offerings
 - Particularly proud of the new initiatives this year
- ALSA
 - Great successes across the board for ANU
 - Australian Champions in both the Championship Moot and the Paper Presentation Competitions, alongside most teams making it to either the semi-finals or the quarter-finals.
 - ANU to co-host with UC next year
 - Two members of our current LSS Committee on next year's ALSA Committee.
- New Developments
 - Sir Harry Gibbs Constitutional Law Moot to be held and hosted by the ANU for 2025-2027
 - New Partnership with UN Society (both at ANU and UNSW) to kick off next year, with goal of collaborative intervaristy model UN competitions
 - ANU Law School relations
- Final Remarks
 - Really enjoyed observing and assisting the work of the various portfolios this year
 - Very proud of the cooperation and spirit within the LSS Committee
 - Excited to see the continued developments from next year's team

ADMINISTRATION

- Memberships and Publicity
 - 497 Active Members; publicity input form working well
- Market Day
 - Went well, less engagement than O-Week but expected
- Inter-Society Engagement
 - Helped the Samuel Griffith Society (Constitutional Law) advertise some of their events featuring Judges
 - Interest in collaboration from other societies
- Peppercorn
 - New edition released on A4 print
 - More engagement this year
- Elections
 - Ran smoothly, two uncontested positions, 35 nominations amongst 8 contested positions
 - Most contested election in years
 - Next year's executive:
 - President: Alex Bako
 - Vice-President (Administration): Jasmine Burton
 - Vice-President (Careers): Indah Jenkins

- Vice-President (Competitions): Eloise Rudge
- Vice-President (Education): Lolade Ogunbambi
- Vice-President (Equity): Mei Gethen
- Vice-President (Events): Angus Murray
- Vice-President (Finance): William Massey
- Vice-President (Social Justice): Venni Baliyan
- Vice-President (Sponsorship): Roshan Kewalram
- General trend: lots of first year applicants, some returning committee members, 50/50 incumbent executive nominating

CAREERS

- Sparke Helmore Firm Visit
 - Relatively good turnout
 - Good interactions & discussion
 - Received positive feedback
 - (Enjoyed yummy morning tea)
- Social Justice x Careers Panel
 - Great turnout! (20+ students)
 - Event ran smoothly
 - (Mia was way too good at moderating the event)
- Allens Careers Skills Workshop
 - Small & intimate discussion
 - Mostly first/second years who were beginning to look for work experience
 - Good engagement and the Q&A was highly interactive

COMPETITIONS

- Semester 2 Highlights:
 - o ALSA in Tassie -> Did amazingly
 - Won Championship Moot
 - Won Australian Paper Pres
 - Semi-finalists in IHL Moot + Spirit of the Comp
 - o Novice Competitions Launch BBQ -> Great success
 - o 2024 Competitions Guide -> Massive thanks to Jasmine Burton
 - o Ad hoc Comps funding committee + Google Form -> Good to discuss finances from an equity POV
 - o Ally's collab with College of Law for External Comps Awards
 - o Novice Competitions Pretty much complete

EDUCATION - presented by Bitu as Mia H was absent

- MOOTING1001 Event
 - Ran with Charli and Eloise, went really well (turnout of approx. 80), thank you to speakers
 - Will chat to Lola about making demo moot shorter if she decides to run event again though

- Students are so bloody hungry the food never lasts
- CEC and CSES
 - CSES meetings were cancelled for the remainder of the year
 - Conversations about exam resources have been a bit harder this sem because some key staff are on leave but I think progress was made and I've explained the approach to Lola so she can keep pushing
 - College changes obviously happening but impression is that law may be less impacted compared to others
- Tutorials
 - Directors are doing a great job
 - We've had a few delays with room bookings so hoping to have pubs done with temporary room bookings this weekend as the tutorials start next week
 - Less hesitation from convenors this time but never heard back from FAL despite multiple emails (last sems convenor didn't agree anyway so had lower hopes for FAL)
- PAL Collaboration
 - Still really great, we have been promoting each others work
 - They are going to do small study skills presentations at the start of each tutorial
 - Were willing to help with exam event if need be
 - Alicia Humphrey remaining PAL coordinator next year so relationship will likely continue
- Mock Exam
 - Next sunday in Melville Hall, as decided by committee <3
 - Won't print exams for fear it would be too expensive but will try and post available practice exams to event facebook page
 - Snacks afterwards are a possibility
- Stress Event???
- Have had a few chill email inquiries - don't think many come to the JD email
- Hopeful to have Exchange Resource finished by formal turnover but if not happy to finish it and give to Lola to 'publish'

EQUITY

- Semester 2 Highlights
 - International students mentoring program
 - 17 mentees and 8 mentors applied
 - Autonomous events
 - Queer* campfire, BIPOC brunch
 - Law Ball equity tickets
 - Received 22 applications
 - KWM Faces of Law Podcast
 - Shane Rattenbury and Nick Mann
- Coming Up
 - Equity Mixer: October 24th
 - International Students Lunch: October 25th

EVENTS - presented by Bitu as Hugh was absent

- Kicked off the semester with welcome back drinks at PJ's in the City.
- Had a very decent turnout - sold 57 tickets
- The bar tab started at \$750, decided to extend it to \$1000.
- Really nice to have everyone together before the semester properly started, good to see some familiar faces (a handful of law campers)
- Really happy with how law ball turned out, everything came together amazingly
- Upcoming events
 - Upon discussion with Aisha (Peppercorn EIC); moving the pubcrawl to sometime after exams.
 - This is due to skepticism with turn out (a lot of her team could not make the original date, 22nd of October; week 12 Tuesday).
 - JD End of Semester Drinks will be on next Friday 25th from 6-8pm

SOCIAL JUSTICE

- 3 major panels:
 - Legal Launchpad
 - LGBTQIA*+ Issues in the Law
 - Social Justice Careers Evening
- 2 podcasts:
 - Nick Mann (personal injury lawyer)
 - Shane Rattenbury (Attorney General)
- Social Justice Celebration Dinner
 - Held at Symposium and student speaker (Ben Yates) enabled it to be more accessible

SPONSORSHIP - presented by Bitu as Charli DG was absent

- All sponsorship packages followed relatively similar trend of 2023 packages.
- Lost only 1 general package sponsor and increased our ad hoc sponsors.
- Meetings over the year have shown interest in more one-on-one displays of firm business, i.e., catered lectures - a potential to add to the prospectus in 2025.
- Email blasts were on par in popularity to FB posts, appeared to be an increase from 2023.
- Working alongside other portfolios has been beneficial, sponsors have been well-engaged with the actual event runners (VPs) - should promote this practice in coming years.
- Sponsorship equipment relationships has been successful, may need to focus attention towards maintaining these relationships through director in 2025

No questions were raised regarding any reports

FINANCE PRESENTATION

- Getting more expensive to run things financially but income similar
- Need to make finance more lean; budget increases for some portfolios
- Still in a surplus; closeness caused by decision to wear ALSA costs, which won't be a problem next year since it's in CBR
- Might have to start digging into savings
- 157k now at 162k
- Waiting on tax return from ATO
- Budget breakdown
 - Admin largely on track; spent more on committee meetings; if we bought more merch, would have been over
 - ALSA large increase in spending this year but won't be an issue next year
 - Careers; clerkship night double budgeted price since Kambri increased prices; generally okay for more spending here
 - Competitions; significant underspend especially for competitor fund, maybe advertising more and policy guide
 - Education; on par with budget
 - Equity; underspent, reflects big increase in initiative allocation because of new positions, maybe spending more in the future can increase engagement
 - Social Justice; underspend, SJ did more events
 - Events; law ball overspend by \$500 which is quite good, worth discussing how much we spend on ad hoc drinks but these are good for engagement
 - Finance; unavoidable expenses, on par, BAS consistent, tax TBC
 - JD events; underspent but awaiting reimbursements
 - Peppercorn; more expensive but got \$2k more from fund, maybe increase fund in future but generally costing more to run than previous years
 - Sponsorships; no expenses
 - Miscellaneous; none yet; Law Revue accounted for elsewhere
- Almost all revenue from sponsorships
- 130k from sponsorships; issue is similar overall amount coming in but more expensive to run things
- Law ball more sales - raise in price due to raise in venue price; no committee discount; investigating other venues would be good
- Law camp - made more money than expected, more sales, becoming a more established event
- Merch - not much made
- Events generally made what we expected
- Will probably sit with a 10k profit at the end of the year, good but lower than usual
- Association Report
 - Note it's for 2023
 - Made 180k in 2023 and spent 135k
 - Numbers a bit off because we don't operate in same calendar years
 - Law ball still highest spending event
 - Sponsorship money starts coming in December and not much spending until uni starts

- Fiduciary / Directors' Duties - no issues identified

No questions were raised