

# Adelaide University Law Students' Society Inc.

## Minutes: Committee Meeting



**Date:** Monday 14 September 2020

**Meeting Opened:** 06:34 pm

**Meeting Closed:** 07:43 pm

**Location:** Via Zoom and In Person

**Meeting called by:** Behshid Golshani

**Minutes taken by:** Behshid Golshani

### Present (34):

1. Belal Salih\*
2. Behshid Golshani\*
3. Isaac Trumble^
4. Chelsea Chieng^
5. Catherine Chhour^
6. Izzy Blacketer\*
7. Andrew Baker^
8. Charlton Gunn^
9. Divya Narayan^
10. Leon Kasperski^
11. Anthony Luppino^
12. Annabel Bamley\*
13. Christiana Michaels^
14. Lachlan Blake^
15. Hugo Chapman^
16. Annie Yuan^
17. Daniel Shizas
18. Nadeesha Indigahawela^
19. Nicolas Rich^
20. Lilly Maslin^
21. Kellie Elmes^
22. Brooke Washusen^
23. Peter Tantalos\*
24. Imogen Tonkin^
25. Meghan Prefontaine^
26. Oliver Hales^
27. Bryan Lau^
28. India Whitton^
29. Elliette Kirkbride\*
30. Sofia Arlotta^
31. Tash Slater^
32. Alexander Arthur^
33. Felix Eldridge

\*Member of the AULSS Executive

^Members of the Committee

### Valid apologies (4):

1. Sandro Pikula^
2. Rachel Chalmers\*

3. Cecilia Tran-Pham^
4. Alexander Alex^
5. Rachel Neef\*
6. Mason Bierlein^
- 7.

**Invalid apologies (0):**

34. Steph Nomikos^

**Not present without notice (1):**

**Notice**

In accordance with clause 20 and 29 of the Constitution, notice of this meeting was circulated and uploaded before the Committee Meeting, following consultation with the President on Monday 17 August 2020.

An agenda and related documents for this Committee Meeting were circulated on Friday 21 August 2020.

**Quorum**

In accordance with clause 21(1) of the Constitution, there being at least half of the current Committee plus one in attendance (including at least two members of the Executive), quorum was present at the time the meeting opened.

**Chairperson**

In accordance with clause 23(1) of the Constitution, the President acted as Chairperson.

## Agenda Items

### Item: Statement of Acknowledgement of Country

**Presented by** Belal Salih

**Discussion** The Adelaide University Law Students' Society (AULSS) would like to acknowledge that the land we meet on today is the traditional lands of the Kaurna people and that we respect their spiritual relationship with their Country. We also acknowledge the Kaurna people as the traditional custodians of the Adelaide region and that their cultural and heritage beliefs are still as important to the living Kaurna people today.

## Agenda Items – Executive Reports

### Item: 2020 Proposed Constitutional Amendments

**Presented by** Belal Salih

**Discussion** **Amendment 1<sup>1</sup>:**

- Moved by Belal
- Seconded by Behshid
- VOTING: Everyone in favour

**Amendment 2:**

- Moved by Belal
- Seconded by Behshid
- VOTING: Everyone in favour

**Amendment 3:**

- Moved by Belal
- Seconded by Behshid
- VOTING: Everyone in favour

**Amendment 4:**

- Moved by Belal
- Seconded by Behshid
- Annabel: Is there a reason subsection (d) says 'relationships with accounting firms?'. Isn't that a better fit for Treasurer.
- Belal: Yes good pickup. We will add the second part to duties of a treasurer and keep the public officer still for the new VP.
- Belal: Keeps us in line with other committees, gives the ability to also expand law school local if needed.
- Isabelle: Where is the document with the amendments?
- Annabel: On the website.
- VOTING: Everyone in favour.

**Amendment 5:**

- Moved by Belal
- Seconded by Behshid
- VOTING: Everyone in favour.

**Amendment 6:**

- Belal: So that the new director of careers is able to focus on providing a lot of careers resources for students and more wide ranging seminars

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<sup>1</sup> See Appendix 1 - Proposed Constitutional Amendments for a complete list.

- Moved by Belal
- Seconded by Behshid
- VOTING: Everyone in favour

#### **Amendment 7:**

- Belal: Read together with amendment number 8, the role of equity and wellbeing officer is being absorbed by the social justice portfolio. This is for efficiency reasons and in order to focus efforts more narrowly on where they need to be.
- The AULSS is not trying to disregard at all [equity and wellbeing] within our community and society, just moving it to a more efficient route.
- Moved by Belal
- Seconded by Behshid
- VOTING: Everyone in favour.

#### **Amendment 8:**

- Alex Arthur: Is it [equity and wellbeing officer] now turned into a liaison role between Lex Salus and the AULSS?
- Isabella: That is the main reason why we took out subsection 44(b) from the officer of wellbeing and equity. [We] left to the director each year how they want to organise their portfolio and the activities they want to do.
- Alex Arthur: When they do delegate, we would need to liaise with how. I had issues with it.
- Divya: Is there going to be an external counsel to help with the wellbeing or left to the director to figure out?
- Belal: Lex Salus and student care [are there] to help out
- Alex Arthur: Law students have different issues to other [students], lots of psychological issues.
- Behshid: I think it goes beyond psychological, also to Divya, there is lots of support from the President and Vice President and also ALSA, who do really good things.
- Alex Arthur: [What is the] definition of wellbeing?
- Belal: I think it is a general definition.
- Annabel: It is an all encompassing definition of wellbeing.
- Felix: Does this change the role of equity and wellbeing officer between now and election?
- Behshid: No they do not. These new roles will be introduced at the next elections.
- Annabel: Any reason why is it just those two, will this be adding more university support services? e.g. disability support service [to the portfolio].
- Belal: including so would cover everything. We could say including it but not limited to?
- Moved by Belal
- Seconded by Behshid
- VOTING: Everyone in favour.

**Amendment 9:**

- Moved by Belal
- Seconded by Behshid
- VOTING: Everyone in favour.

**Amendment 10:**

- Amendments 10-14 concern efficiency of the society, expanding the number of representatives in portfolios, those expanded numbers will be co-opted after the next election so this makes things more efficient, better planning allowed for directors.
- Moved by Belal
- Seconded by Behshid
- VOTING: Everyone in favour.

**Amendment 11:**

- Izzy: Are we changing it in every motion, the name of the portfolio?
- Belal: We also passed a motion for the changing of every reference to the C&S portfolio, we will make sure this is done in the new version.
- Moved by Belal
- Seconded by Behshid
- Abstaining: Hugo
- VOTING: Everyone else in favour.

**Amendment 12:**

- Belal: Having more people means we can take part in more limited term competitions, comps have always been popular
- Moved by Belal
- Seconded by Behshid
- VOTING: Everyone in favour.

**Amendment 13:**

- To include the previous officer in the new Social Justice Representative
- Moved by Belal
- Seconded by Behshid
- VOTING: Everyone in favour.

**Amendment 14:**

- Belal: Comms can do so much more and there is a lot of potential for work that comms can do
- Annabel: Right now we are only able to achieve the basic level, there was so much more we wanted to do but had no resources to do it.

This is one of the most important things we could do so having more resources in [communications] allows every portfolio to shine.

- Imogen: Those [reps] in addition to IT Rep?
- Belal: Yes
- Moved by Belal
- Seconded by Behshid
- VOTING: Everyone in favour.

**Amendment 15:**

- Moved by Belal
- Seconded by Behshid
- VOTING: Everyone in favour.

**Amendment 16:**

- Belal: In the past couple of years we have had unfilled exec positions, at the beginning of a committees term, which has made planning and handover really hard, engagement has also been lower with applications over the summer.
- No one from the current committee will make a decision, it will be the future exec making the decision.
- Behshid: (\*Explaining timeline, earlier engagement and higher engagement\*)
- Moved by Belal
- Seconded by Behshid
- VOTING: Everyone in favour.

**Amendment 17:**

- Moved by Belal
- Seconded by Behshid
- VOTING: Everyone in favour.

**Amendment 18:**

- Peter: This amendment is adding a power under the Director of Education and the addition of a clause under the co-option clause of the constitution.
- The co-option clause is that the Director of Education, as a last resort and if they are absolutely unable to run the First Year election [in it's usual format], like we couldn't this year, would be able to follow a co-option style process.
- Behshid: Can we add an act of god clause after "cannot be held"
- Brooke: Is it better to have an election than to co-opt?
- Peter: We only had an election because Alex Jones did it as a favour. I don't think that is reasonable to ask of him to do every year.
- Imogen: Clarifying that we passed changes in clause 41 already?

## Appendix 1 - 2020 Proposed Constitutional Amendments

Guide: In the 'Proposed Amendment to Text' column, the black text represents the current section of the constitution, cross through means removal of the selected words and blue text means new texts to be inserted.

No.	Clause	Purpose of Change	Proposed Amendment to Text
1	50(e)	Amend the wording of Indigenous Representative to inclusive terminology by removing any abbreviations.	<i>(e) to act as the official liaison between the Society and the Adelaide Law School <del>ATSI</del> Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander co-ordinator.</i>
2	41(d)	Specify the duties of the Director of Education to include governing of the First Year election process.	<i>(c) <del>and;</del> (d) to govern the First Year election process; and</i>
3	21(4)	Amend the wording of this section to give future Committees the option of holding General Meetings electronically if necessary to do so.  <i>Note: Under usual circumstances, General Meetings are only held in person. Choosing to have an electronic attendance option will only be available at the discretion of the President.</i>	<i>(4) At the discretion of the President, attendance by technology may be permitted at a Committee, <del>meeting of-Executive or General meeting (but not a General Meeting of the Society)</del> for the purposes of reaching quorum.</i>
4	40	Amend the role of the Vice-President to only include secretarial duties.  <i>Note: This amendment should be read with Amendment 5 regarding the introduction of a Treasurer position.</i>	<b>40 – The Vice-President</b>  <i>The Vice-President shall have the following powers and duties:</i>  <i>(a) to maintain proper records of the Society for all its affairs;</i>  <i>(b) to take minutes of meetings, to ensure that notice of meetings is validly given, and, where appropriate, to arrange the preparation of agendas, reports, papers and</i>

		<p><i>other documentation relevant to the meetings called;</i></p> <p><del>(c) to control, and authorise the control of, and to issue, or authorise the issue of receipts for all monies and finances of the Society in accordance with this Constitution;</del></p> <p><del>(d) to take reasonable steps to ensure that such accounting records are kept so as to correctly record and explain the financial transaction and financial position of the Society;</del></p> <p><del>(e) to prepare and submit a balanced account to Members at the Annual General Meeting;</del></p> <p><del>(f) to prepare and submit a balanced account to the Committee at each Committee meeting unless the Committee does not require such an account;</del></p> <p><b>(c) to ensure compliance with the processes outlined in this Constitution as well as any other relevant laws of the Commonwealth or State;</b></p> <p><b>(d) to be the Public Officer of the Society and to manage the Society's relationship with any accounting firms;</b></p> <p><b>(e) to organise and facilitate the selling and distribution of AULSS branded merchandise, unless the Executive agrees by ordinary resolution not to offer AULSS branded merchandise; and</b></p> <p><b>(f) to maintain and promote AULSS Law School Local Card deals, unless the Executive agrees by ordinary resolution not to offer Law School Local Cards.</b></p>
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<p><b>5</b></p> <p>Insert new 41 Clause</p> <p>Part 5 Heading: 41 - The Treasurer</p> <p>Insert 16(c): The Treasurer</p> <p>38(3)(c)</p>	<p>Introduce the Treasurer position as part of the Executive.</p> <p><i>Note: This amendment should be read with Amendment 4 regarding the splitting of the Vice President role. This amendment should also be read with Amendment 6 regarding the amending of the Director of Careers position.</i></p>	<p><b>41 – The Treasurer</b></p> <p><i>The Treasurer shall have the following powers and duties:</i></p> <p>(a) <i>to control, and authorise the control of, and to issue, or authorise the issue of receipts for all monies and finances of the Society in accordance with this Constitution;</i></p> <p>(b) <i>to take reasonable steps to ensure that such accounting records are kept so as to correctly record and explain the financial transaction and financial position of the Society;</i></p> <p>(c) <i>to prepare and submit a balanced account to Members at the Annual General Meeting;</i></p> <p>(d) <i>to prepare and submit a balanced account to the Committee at each Committee meeting unless the Committee does not require such an account;</i></p> <p>(e) <i>to manage the Society’s relationship with any accounting firms;</i></p> <p>(f) <i>to maintain existing sponsorship agreements and to negotiate their renewal when appropriate; and</i></p> <p>(g) <i>to seek to secure further sponsorship where possible for the Society from both the legal profession, other professions and the wider community;</i></p> <p>38(3)(c) - <i>a balanced account for that financial year as prepared by the Treasurer.</i></p>
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<p><b>6</b></p>	<p>42 15(2)(c)  Part 5 Title - 42 - Director of Careers  16(d)</p>	<p>Amend the duties of the Careers and Sponsorship Director to remove 'sponsorship duties'.</p> <p><i>Note: This amendment should be read together with amendment 5 regarding moving the sponsorship duties to the proposed Treasurer position.</i></p>	<p><b>42—Director of Careers and Sponsorship</b></p> <p><i>The Director of Careers and Sponsorship shall have the following powers and duties:</i></p> <p><i>(a) to organise presentations from local and interstate firms regarding legal careers, clerkships and other law-related employment;</i></p> <p><i>(b) to organise and provide information regarding alternative careers for law graduates;</i></p> <p><i>(c) to publish an annual Careers Guide, detailing such information and other relevant knowledge regarding careers for law graduates;</i></p> <p><i>(d) to organise the annual Careers Fair or any successor or substitute events; and</i></p> <p><del><i>(e) to maintain existing sponsorship agreements and to negotiate their renewal when appropriate; and</i></del></p> <p><del><i>(f) to seek to secure further sponsorship where possible for the Society from both the legal profession, other professions and the wider community; and</i></del></p> <p><del><i>(g) to direct the Careers and Sponsorship Representatives.</i></del></p> <p><b>16(d) the Director of Careers and Sponsorship;</b></p>
<p><b>7</b></p>	<p>15(2)(f)  49</p>	<p>Remove the role of Equity and Wellbeing Officer.</p> <p><i>Note: This amendment should be read with amendment 8 regarding the expansion of the Social Justice portfolio to include these duties.</i></p>	<p><del><i>15(2)(f): an Equity and Wellbeing Officer</i></del></p> <p><b>49—Equity and Wellbeing Officer</b></p> <p><del><i>The Equity and Wellbeing Officer shall have the following powers and duties:</i></del></p>

			<p><i>(a) to listen and respond to student complaints with respect to issues of discrimination;</i></p> <p><i>(b) to actively contribute to the maintenance and improvement of the wellbeing of members, both physically and mentally;</i></p> <p><i>(c) to ensure the Society complies with the University's 'Respect. Now. Always.' Policy and any successor policy against harassment;</i></p> <p><i>(d) to manage and oversee the Society's relationship with relevant bodies and initiatives including Lex Salus;</i></p> <p><i>(e) to facilitate, organise and encourage participation in AULSS Sports unless the Executive agrees by ordinary resolution not to offer AULSS Sports; and</i></p> <p><i>(f) to report to the Director of Social Justice.</i></p>
8	16(g) 44	<p>Amalgamate the role of the Equity and Wellbeing Officer into the Social Justice Portfolio. Amend the name of the Social Justice portfolio to 'Social Justice and Equity'.</p> <p><i>Note: This amendment should be read with amendment 7 regarding the removal of an Equity and Wellbeing Officer. This amendment should also be read with amendment 12 regarding increasing the number of Social Justice Representatives.</i></p>	<p><b>44 – Director of Social Justice and Equity</b></p> <p><i>The Director of Social Justice and Equity shall have the following powers and duties:</i></p> <p><i>(a) to listen and respond to student complaints with respect to issues of discrimination;</i></p> <p><i>(b) to actively contribute to the maintenance and improvement of the wellbeing of members, both physically and mentally;</i></p> <p><i>(c) to ensure the Society complies with the University's 'Respect. Now. Always.'</i></p>

			<p><i>Policy and any successor policy against harassment;</i></p> <p><i>(d) to organise events relating to issues of social justice and equity, and to advance members' knowledge of issues facing the legal and wider community; and</i></p> <p><i>(e) to manage and oversee the Society's relationship with relevant bodies and initiatives including Lex Salus and Student Care;</i></p> <p><i>(f) to facilitate, organise and encourage participation in AULSS Sports unless the Executive agrees by ordinary resolution not to offer AULSS Sports; and</i></p> <p><i>(g) to direct the Social Justice Representatives and the Indigenous Representative.</i></p> <p><i>16(g) - Director of Social Justice and Equity;</i></p>
9	4	<p>Insert a definition for 'Student Care'</p> <p><i>Note: This amendment should be read together with amendment 8 regarding the expansion of the Social Justice and Equity Portfolio.</i></p>	<p><b>4—Interpretation</b></p> <p><b>Student Care</b> means the Student Care services as provided by the Adelaide University Union.</p>
10	15(2)(b)	Expand the Activities portfolio.	15(2)(b): up to <del>three</del> four Activities Representatives;
11	15(2)(c)	Expand the Careers portfolio.	15(2)(c): up to <del>three</del> five Careers Representatives;
12	15(2)(d)	Expand the Competitions portfolio.	15(2)(d): up to <del>four</del> six Competitions Representatives;

13	15(2)(e)	Expand the Social Justice and Equity portfolio.	<i>15(2)(e): up to <del>three</del> four Social Justice and Equity Representatives;</i>
14	15(2)(i)	Expand the Communications portfolio.	<i>15(2)(i): a <del>Communications</del> Representative up to three Communications Representatives;</i>
15	18(5)	Fix grammatical errors.	<i>18(5): The Committee may co-opt members such that the Committee constraints up to, but not more than <del>6</del> six members in addition to the those holding positions listed in clause 15 and 16, at any given time.</i>
16	18(7)	New clause: To allow an earlier co-option of vacant Executive positions of the incoming Executive.	<p><i>18(7):</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>(a) After the conclusion of the election process as outlined in Part 7, and before the conclusion of the current term, the Executive may approve, by special resolution, the call for applications of the vacant incoming Executive only.</i></li> <li><i>(b) Within a reasonable time of the approval under clause 18(2)(a), the incumbent President shall publicise the call for applications on all authorised communication forums.</i></li> <li><i>(c) Applications shall be submitted to the President. The deadline for applications must be no earlier than 10 calendar days after the publication of the call for applications.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>(i) In no circumstances may this deadline be any later than 30</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul>

			<p style="text-align: right;"><i>November of that calendar year.</i></p> <p>(d) <i>The incumbent President shall confidentially collate and de-identify the applications received. For this clause 18, an application shall be considered de-identified if it does not contain the applicant's name, photograph, student number, age, gender or postcode.</i></p> <p>(e) <i>The de-identified applications shall be circulated by the incumbent President amongst the incoming Executive, who shall keep the applications confidential. The incoming Executive shall co-opt the successful applicant by ordinary resolution after the start of the next term. The reasons shall be provided in the incoming President's report tabled at the next Committee meeting after the vacancy has been filled.</i></p> <p>(f) <i>The requirements under clauses 18(3) and 18(4) apply to clause 18(7).</i></p>
17	4	<p>Change the applicable AULSS email domain from 'aulss.org.au' to 'aulss.org', as the former is no longer in use.</p>	<p><b>4— Interpretation</b></p> <p><b>AULSS website</b> means the website connected to the <del>aulss.org.au</del> and aulss.org domains;</p> <p><b>Committee email</b> means the email address associated with the domain <del>aulss.org.au</del> that distributes emails to the Committee as a whole;</p>

- Belal: Yes
  - Andrew: Why with the education portfolio and not the executive and president?
  - Peter: Usually the education portfolio independently conducts the elections so it would make sense for the education portfolio to run this co-option election.
  - Annabel: Why is it drafted that president is Director of education?
  - Peter: It is for drafting purposes, to adapt the co-option process to the Director of Education
  - Andrew, Meaghan and Alex Arthur left at 19:26
  - Behshid and Belal: (\*Talked the committee through the suggested amendment\*)
  - Moved by Belal
  - Seconded by Behshid:
  - VOTING: Everyone in favour.
- 
- Annabel: As a reminder, please do come to the law ball meeting.

**Meeting closed at 07:43 pm ACST**

Signed by the member who presided at this meeting pursuant to s 51(1)(b)(ii) of the *Associations Incorporation Act 1985 (SA)*:

Name: Behshid Golshani

Position: Vice President/Public Officer

Signature: B. Golshani

Date: 04/02/21

Name: Belal Serlihi

Position: President

Signature: [Signature]

Date: 04/02/21