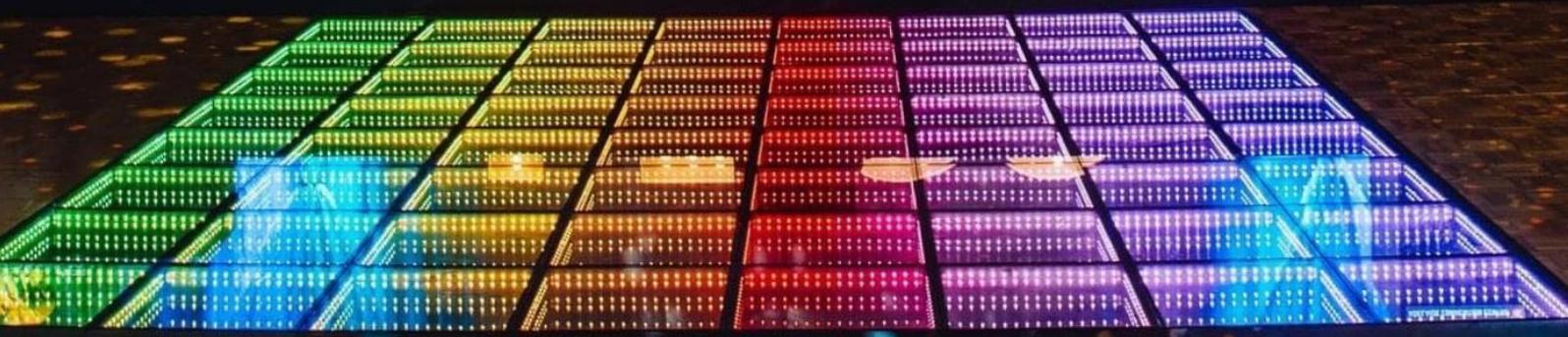


**ADELAIDE  
UNIVERSITY  
LAW STUDENTS'  
SOCIETY**



# **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING REPORT 2022**

**LB22**





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## **Acknowledgement of Country**

The AULSS would like to acknowledge that the land we meet on today is the traditional lands for the Kurna people and that we respect their spiritual relationship with their country. We also acknowledge the Kurna people as the traditional custodians of the Adelaide region and that their cultural and heritage beliefs are still as important to the living Kurna people today.

# President Report

**President:** Chelsea Chieng

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## Summary

*“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.” – Margaret Mead*

Now, the AULSS may not be ‘changing the world’, however, we *are* changing the Adelaide Law School. This year, the AULSS Committee members generously volunteered their time to run a record number of over 120 events and initiatives, including 12 from the Activities Portfolio, 19 from the Careers Portfolio, 22 from the Competitions Portfolio, 17 from the Education Portfolio, 20 from the Social Justice & Equity Portfolio (including 5 fundraisers), 26 from the President and Vice President and 4 Magazine Issues from the Hilarian. It is safe to say that none of these opportunities would be available to students if it weren’t for the altruistic efforts and dedication of the Committee. So, I would like to congratulate and sincerely thank my fellow Committee for all their hard-work, dedication, fantastic ideas and contribution to bettering the Law School and helping your fellow peers.

The AULSS has been a significant part of my life for the past 5 years and it has been an absolute honour to continue the legacy of the hard-working Committees I have worked with throughout my degree. In my first year of Law School in 2018, I was elected as the First Year Representative alongside Peter Tantalos (2021 President). As someone who entered the Law School without knowing anyone, the AULSS instantly stood out to me as a community of like-minded people. I always say that joining the AULSS was the best decision I ever made during University, as it opened me up to a world of networks, friendships, experiences and skills. I was then elected as an Activities Representative in 2019 and 2020, before becoming Director of Activities in 2021. It is safe to say that after 5 years of dedicating my time to the Committee and representing the students at the Adelaide Law School, I have become extremely passionate and proud of the work that the AULSS does.

I am forever grateful for the past presidents who inspired me with their passion and leadership, Alison Jones, Sophia Laparidis, Belal Salih and Peter Tantalos. I am also incredibly grateful for the mentorship I received from my previous Directors of Activities, Rachel Chalmers and Annabel Bramley. I am grateful for the Executive for their continuing support and commitment, and my incredible Vice President, Bella Mickan. I would also like to thank the Dean of Law, Professor Judith McNamara, who

joined the Adelaide Law School this year. Judith's passion and genuine interest in the students and the University has been incredibly inspiring, it has been an honour to work with her and I am extremely grateful for her continued support. I would also like to thank Michelle Brown from the St Raphael's coffee cart on campus. Michelle has been making Ligertwood a better (and more caffeinated place) for the past 7 years, and I would like to sincerely thank her for her generous discounts for the Law School Local program, for always bringing a smile to the law students faces, and for her support and friendship throughout my Presidency.

Finally, I wish to extend my deepest gratitude and appreciation to the students at the Adelaide Law School for trusting me to be their President. It has been a pleasure to witness the continued engagement and support from students, and that they trust the AULSS to represent their interests. I am honoured to have served as the President and I am forever grateful for the invaluable life lessons, memories, friendships and skills I have gained along the way.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chelsea Chieng', written in a cursive style.

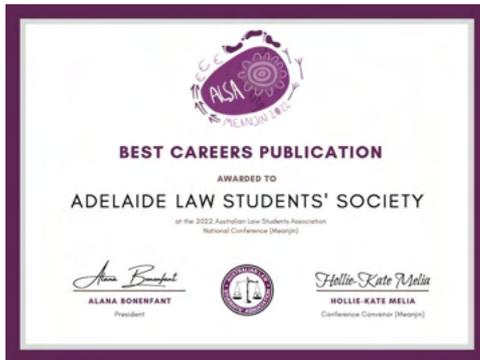
**Chelsea Chieng**  
President, AULSS 2022

## Australian Law Students' Association ('ALSA')

This was the first time the AULSS were able to send delegates and competitors to the ALSA Conference in person since 2019 (after 2 years of Zoom councils)!

Our affiliation with ALSA has long been recognised in the AULSS Constitution (clauses 2(b), 3(d) and 13(3)) and we pay an annual affiliation fee to be a Member Association of ALSA. ALSA is the national not-for-profit organisation which acts as the peak representative body for law students in Australia. Every year, the Member Associations across Australia and New Zealand send delegates to an Australian city for a week of Council, Competitions and Social Events ('Conference'). This year, Conference was held in Brisbane, Meanjin at the new Bond University campus! Conference is an excellent opportunity for Member Associations to network and build partnerships with other law societies and bring home new ideas to the table.

Conference also consists of the National Competitions, whereby clause 13(3) of our Constitution states that the prize for any AULSS member who wins a competition shall be the right to represent the AULSS at the next annual ALSA conference competitions. The AULSS proudly sent 7 competitor delegates with \$500.00 sponsorship for their travels. We were extremely successful in the 2022 National Competitions, taking home the prize for 'Best Competitions Delegation'! Congratulations to our delegates Annalise Delic and Madeleine McNeil who won the International Humanitarian Law Moot. Harry Passehl and Phoebe Gunn were semi-finalists in the ALSA Championship Moot. Alice McKay and Katia Safieddin were quarter finalists in the ALSA Negotiations Competition. Gian-Luca Stirling competed in the ALSA Witness Examination Competition and Madeleine McNeil won best oralist for the IHL Moot and the IHL Moot Grand Final.



Conference also gives Member Associations the opportunity to nominate for the Annual ALSA Awards, which recognise the outstanding work of individual student organisations around the country. Excitingly, the AULSS also won the award for 'Best Careers Publication' for our 2022 Careers and Clerkship Guide – congratulations to Anthony Luppino and the Careers Portfolio!

Bella and I attended Council this year as the AULSS delegates from 7 July to 12 July. This was a full-time week of knowledge-sharing and learning. We learnt about internal governance and committee management, preventing committee burnout, mental



health and well-being, enhancing competitions and volunteering, navigating out of COVID-19, disability and pride in the law. We also participated in the ALSA Elections and the ALSA AGM where we had voted on the next ALSA Committee. We created extensive ALSA Notes which will act as a valuable resource for future Committees and will aid in the expansion of the AULSS.

Since Bella and I have attended ALSA, we have introduced three significant positions to the AULSS Committee: (1) Queer Representative; (2) International Student Representative; and (3) Sponsorship Representative. We have also passed a Mental Health Policy for Committee members to ensure they have the ability to take time off when needed, and we have passed an action plan for preventing sexual harassment on campus and at AULSS events and initiatives which we look forward to implementing during the remainder of our term and seeing it be further expanded in future years.

### **Recommendation**

I am a big advocate for the value of ALSA and I hope to see the AULSS continue our relationship and commitment towards ALSA in future years. Whilst in previous years, the AULSS was able to cover the full cost of sending delegates to the Conference (consistent with the approach of the other Law Societies), as our financial situation had changed since COVID-19, the AULSS decided not to cover all the costs. I will note that there was significant Executive discussion, debate and at times disagreement over the amount of funding the AULSS contributed to ALSA costs. In the end, the Executive decided to provide a reimbursement of \$500 (initially only \$100) per delegate. This was important considering that it would cost delegates over approximately \$1,500.00 to travel to Brisbane for a week (including flights, accommodation, Ubers and other general travel expenses), as well as take time off of work. I am happy with this decision as ALSA is a fantastic once in a lifetime opportunity for students who have worked extremely hard to be eligible to attend. I recommend that next year's Committee re-evaluate the financial position of the AULSS and re-consider the amount of funding to provide to ensure ALSA is an opportunity that is *accessible* to *all* eligible delegates, whilst also ensuring the AULSS can feasibly afford it. Unfortunately, there were some AULSS competition winners who were hesitant to attend, and some that declined, with the high cost being a significant factor to their decision. This is something for next year's Committee to seriously consider.

The ALSA Notes that Bella and I compiled during Conference contain detailed suggestions and reasoning for future action. However, in short, some of the recommendations we obtained from the ALSA Conference are:

- Create email accounts that can be handed over at the end of your term, allowing the future Committee to have access to previous email correspondence and ensuring transparency of communications (note: we were one of the only LSS/A's that send emails using our student email addresses). This can be complemented with a formal Communications Policy which creates a requirement that emails CC in their Director etc.
- Take Committee communication off Facebook Messenger and switch to a work-appropriate platform (such as Microsoft Teams or Google Chat). This will ensure that there is appropriate divide between professional and personal communication.
- Investing more time and effort into obtaining sponsorship. We noticed that other LSS/A's bring in extremely large sponsorship, which is partly due to the structure of their Committees with more sponsorship representatives. Thus, we have created a new position on the Committee to allow further investment of time and resources into obtaining sponsorship. This will also help to alleviate workload burdens on the other Portfolios.
- Increase diversity and inclusion on the Committee to ensure the Society can adequately represent the interests of the student-body. Thus, we have included a Queer Representative to the Social Justice & Equity Portfolio and an International Student Representative to the Education Portfolio. These positions complement the Aboriginal Representative and Mature-Age Representative positions that we already have on the Committee.
- Implement a mental health leave policy to prevent Committee burnout and consider a 'closing period' during exams where Committee members are not required to check emails and instead focus on their studies. Thus, we passed a Mental Health Policy providing Committee members the option to take leave when needed to ensure the AULSS does not impede on mental well-being.
- Creating an expectation from previous competition winners that they help out and volunteer in future competitions, which would help alleviate our current struggle to get volunteers.
- Livestream seminars on Facebook (as an alternative to Zoom) which can increase engagement, accessibility and create a permanent record of the information provided.
- Implement greater advocacy and awareness surrounding issues of mental health, wellbeing and sexual harassment. Thus, we passed a Mental Health Policy and an action plan against sexual harassment.

## Uniform Clerkship Scheme

The Uniform Clerkship Scheme, with participation from the UniSA Law Students Association and the Flinders Law Students' Association, is designed to provide penultimate and final year South Australian law students with the opportunity to apply for multiple clerkship programs across a range of prestigious firms. The scheme provides students with the certainty of uniform application, interview and offer times across the participating firms. Further, the scheme provides firms with a large pool of high quality, driven and opportunistic applicants from across the three South Australian law schools; certainty that pools of applications will be received at a particular set time period; and firm advertising through the scheme across our social media platforms. Thus, the scheme is highly beneficial for both students and firms and this year we received fantastic feedback and engagement from both parties.



The scheme was again run throughout July to September this year. The 8 participating firms were:

- Dentons
- HWL Ebsworth
- Johnson Winter & Slattery
- Kain Lawyers
- Lynch Meyer
- Mellor Olsson
- MinterEllison
- Thomson Geer

The critical dates for the scheme were:

- Firms Open Applications: Monday 4 July 9am
- Firms Close Applications: Friday 29 July 5pm

- Firm Interviews Commence: Monday 8 August
- Offers Made by Firms: Monday 5 September 9am
- Offers Accepted by Firms: Wednesday 7 September 5pm

### **Recommendation**

Thomson Geer were initially hesitant to participate, due to the short-time frame between the dates for interviews commencing and offers being made. They expressed their concern that due to them being a 'larger, national firm' that they have more rounds of interviews, and it creates time-pressure for them to comply with the timeline. Kain Lawyers expressed a similar sentiment. Therefore, I would highly recommend that next year's Presidents considering adding an extra week in between those two dates, allowing for more firms to participate with less of a burden. It is, of course, in the students' best interest to have more participating firms.

Further, I organised the entire scheme alone, with no assistance from the Committee or the other Societies. This required the preparation to start at the very beginning of the year and meticulous record keeping of correspondence between many firms and numerous follow ups. It was a lot for one person. Thus, next year I would suggest the President seek further input from the other societies or look to delegate the workload.

### **Co-Option**

Throughout the year, I opened 4 rounds of co-option. The first round was in December 2021 at the beginning of my term to fill the vacant positions after the Election, where we welcomed 13 Committee members. The second round was then held in February 2022 where we added one extra Representative to the Communications and Competitions Portfolios based on demonstrated need for extra help by the respective Directors. The third round of co-option was held in the middle of the year to fill the vacancies from the members who left mid-year (e.g. due to Exchange). Our final round of co-option was in July after the Treasurer resigned, where we welcomed Kane McAskill to the Executive as the current Treasurer.

I would like to thank the 2019 Committee for introducing the formal co-option process under the Constitution. Throughout my 4 rounds of co-option, we experienced extremely strong engagement with high number of applications in each round. It is clear that students are fond of the anonymous and un-biased selection process. Whilst it is workload heavy on the President, especially when there are resignations back-to-back, it is worth it considering the ability to have de-identified co-option. It is also worth noting that as this was the first time in 2 years that students could go on Exchange, we had several Representatives resign mid-way through the year. I would like to thank them for their hard work during Semester 1.

## O-Week

This year, the AULSS ran our annual O'Week Clubsland stall in both Semesters 1 and 2 to welcome the first-year students to the University. This is a great way to welcome them to campus, introduce them to the Committee, inform them of our events coming up, plug our social media accounts and even sell some merchandise!

We gave an AULSS presentation at the induction lectures, where we provided a run-down of the AULSS Committee and the events and initiatives that we run. In Semester 1, we also hosted an informal meet and greet on the Liggy courtyard after the induction lecture with free coffees from Michelle's St Raphael's coffee cart and the University paid for some sweet treats. This was a great opportunity for the Committee members to meet the first-year students and for us to hand out Bryan's wonderful First Year Guide



The poster is blue with white and yellow text. At the top is the AULSS logo (scales of justice) and the text 'AULSS AULSS COMMITTEE 2022'. Below that, it asks 'WANT TO GET INVOLVED?' and lists three vacant positions: ONE Competitions representative, ONE Communications representative, and ONE Aboriginal representative. It includes a note to see the Facebook post and student email for application forms. The deadline is 'APPLICATIONS DUE FRIDAY 18TH FEBRUARY 7:00PM'. At the bottom, it says 'SEND YOUR APPLICATION TO: CHELSEA CHIENG president@aulss.org'.





## Student Surveys

Whilst the AULSS are independent from the Law School, I was pleased to continue the collaborative working relationship we have built with staff members over the years. The AULSS have a valuable platform and connection to students, which makes it useful for us to work with staff members on areas that are of benefit to students and their degree.

### *Advocacy Assessments Survey*

In December 2021 at the very beginning of my term, I started working with Kellie Toole, continuing her work with Peter Tantalos and the *Working Group into Advocacy Experience throughout the LLB*, with the aim of improving the quantity and quality of advocacy assessments in the LLB.

It had been recognised that law students were reaching final year subjects, which require an advocacy assessment component, having little or no prior advocacy experience. This survey aimed to collect students' feedback and opinions on the current advocacy assessments in the LLB. I am optimistic that the data gained from this survey will help contribute to providing more practical assessments that can prepare law students for practice.

## Graduate Outcomes Survey

Throughout the year I have worked with Professors Paul Babie, David Brown and ex-Dean of Law Christopher Symes to develop a database that will allow the AULSS and Adelaide Law School to know the percentage of each graduating class that has employment which requires legal expertise upon graduation. The survey asked respondents what year they expect to graduate from the LLB, what type of employment they will be entering after graduation, and whether they felt that Evidence and DRE prepared them for the industry (and if not, what could have been done better). We did two rounds of social media promotion during Semester 1 and 2 and I will also be promoting the survey at the final year Evidence lectures.

The data from this survey will be invaluable to the Adelaide Law School — in providing information to prospective students about the percentage of a graduating class that is employed — and to our own successors as ALS students, allowing those students to know what their options and opportunities are.

2. What type of employment will you be entering after graduation?

[More Details](#)

[Insights](#)

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Responses

Latest Responses

"Commercial law Graduate in KPMG program - SYD"

"Legal Profession"

"Legal Officer (Governmental Investigations) followed by a Supreme Court ..."

11 respondents (46%) answered **Law** for this question.

A word cloud visualization of responses for the question 'What type of employment will you be entering after graduation?'. The most prominent word is 'Law'. Other significant words include 'Graduate Solicitor', 'Law Graduate', 'Solicitor Role', 'Law Clerk', 'Commercial Law', 'Public', 'Private Practice', 'Court Associateship', 'Law career', 'aspects of law', 'Graduate law', 'Supreme', 'degree', 'law program', 'law firm', 'time', 'thesis topic', 'Legal', 'Solicitor', and 'Public Practice'.

3. Do you think Evidence and DRE prepared you for the industry? What could have been done better?

[More Details](#)

[Insights](#)

21

Responses

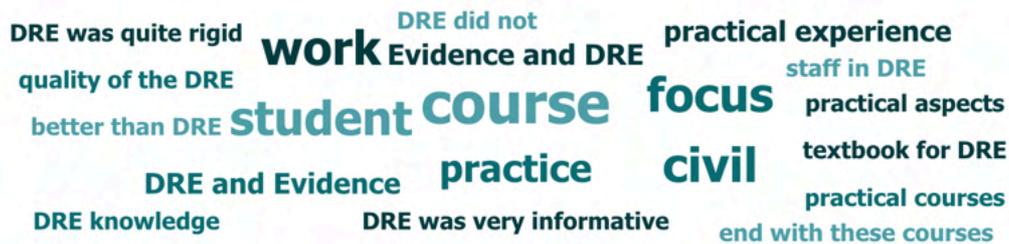
Latest Responses

"Evidence - yes DRE was quite rigid, lots of rules that often aren't followed ..."

"Have yet to do"

"Yes, however more practical experience would have been useful"

6 respondents (29%) answered **course** for this question.



### ***Proposed Relocation of Adelaide Law School Front Desk Survey***

Our most popular survey this year concerned the 'Proposed Relocation of the Adelaide Law School Front Desk', generating almost 300 responses in 2 days. 2022 was a monumental year for the Law School, as the University's Faculty of Arts, Business, Law and Economics merged to become the Faculty of ABLE. As part of this merger, the front desk in the Law School was removed and staff relocated to a centralised Student Support Hub in Level 1 of Nexus 10 for all Faculty of ABLE students.

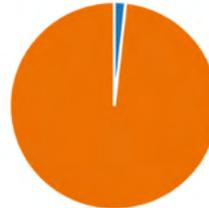
The AULSS gathered student feedback and allowed students to voice how they felt about this change. The response was overwhelmingly against the decision, with 98% of respondents saying they did not want the front desk to be relocated with many passionate explanations for their decision, most commonly referencing 'accessibility' and how helpful Alex Jones has been in their University experience. Whilst this data was provided to the University, the decision unfortunately remained, and the front desk was relocated. Nonetheless, I believe that this survey helped to allow students to voice their concerns, and also be informed of the decision before it was implemented.

1. Do you want the Law School front desk to be relocated to Nexus 10 to become a Faculty wide support hub? (0 point)

[More Details](#)

[Insights](#)

<span style="color: blue;">●</span> Yes	5
<span style="color: orange;">●</span> No	281



2. Please provide a short explanation for your answer to the above question (0 point)

[More Details](#)

[Insights](#)

**240**  
Responses

Latest Responses

*"Law is a difficult study area and requires quick and easy access to support.."*  
*"law is hard and often specific, people at the professions hub have never b..."*  
*"almost all law school functions are handled in the Ligertwood building an..."*

122 respondents (51%) answered **Law School** for this question. ...



3. On a scale of 1-10, how useful is the Law School front desk staff to you? (0 point)

[More Details](#)

[Insights](#)

**284**  
Responses

**9.27**  
Average Number

4. Are there disadvantages to the front office being located in the Ligertwood Building (0 point)

[More Details](#)

Yes 31  
No 254



5. Please provide a short explanation for your answer to the above question (0 point)

[More Details](#)

[Insights](#)

201  
Responses

Latest Responses

*"Odds are good you won't get support from someone who understands La..."*

*"no because no all law classes are generally held in the law school, there w..."*

*"Keeping it in the Ligertwood keeps the service accessible and best able to..."*

## Welcome International Students Event

On 5 April 2022, in collaboration with Bella Mickan (VP) and Bryan Lau (Director of Education), we hosted our very first event for International Students, to celebrate welcoming them back on campus after COVID-19.

Thank you to Cornelia Koch for reaching out and notifying us of the University grants available to welcome the International Students back to campus. The Executive decided that an informal event on campus would be optimal. We applied for the grant and were successful in obtaining \$500. Thank you to the Adelaide University Welcome Back Festival for kindly funding this event. We gathered in the Moot Court for free coffees from St Raphs and catering from Soul Origin. The beauty of this event was that it was open to all international students, not just those studying law, and it was also open to domestic students to ensure inclusivity and mingling.



At the event, we met a final year Law Student who stated that after 4 years in Law School, they had never met a fellow International Student until this event, which demonstrated the importance of events of this kind. Excitingly, we now have created a brand-new position on the Committee for an International Student Representative, and I look forward to seeing that Representative host similar events in the future.

## Interfaculty and Tri-Varsity Collaboration

Amidst the Faculty Merger, interfaculty collaboration was an inherently prominent theme this year. I am really pleased to see our interfaculty and tri-varsity collaboration continue to expand this year! We hosted various collaborations in 2022, including involving the engineering students into our cult-classic Suits & Scrubs party, now Suits, Scrubs & Spanners. We hosted our annual Tri-Varsity Careers Fair and Tri-Varsity Pub Crawl, with an increased focus on tri-varsity competitions! In celebration of the Faculty of ABE Merger, we also held our first ever Interfaculty event with the Adelaide Business Students' Society and Arts Students Association.

### *Tri-Society Blood Drive*

It was a pleasure to collaborate with the Adelaide Medical Students' Society (AMSS) and the Adelaide University Engineering Society (AUES) on the Tri-Society Blood Drive. This initiative was first introduced last year with great success, and we were really excited to run it again this year from 29 August to 7 October 2022. In collaboration with Lifeblood Australia, the three largest Societies at Adelaide University host a blood donation challenge with prizes up for grabs. We continued to the Facebook Group from last year to encourage donations through friendly competition, asking participants to take a selfie at their donation appointment, tag their respective Society and nominate their friends to donate as well! We then picked three random donors from each society every 1-2 weeks to win prizes, which included our own Society's merchandise, tickets to Suits, Scrubs & Spanners and vouchers kindly donated by YouX.



Engagement on the Group this year was strong overall, however, there was not much engagement from AULSS members, which was disappointing. The University were extremely supportive and helped us promote the initiative on TV screens all

throughout the University, on their newsletter and even set up a stall in the Hub for students to place their bets as to which Society they thought would win.

The end of the Drive conveniently coincided with our already planned Tri-Society social event, Suits, Scrubs & Spanners. Thus, we used this event as an unofficial celebration of the end of the Blood Drive! Congratulations to AMSS for coming in first place, and AUES for being a close runner up (I hope to see AULSS up their game next year!). I am extremely excited to announce that the Blood Drive won the award for the “Best Clubs Collaboration” at the YouX Presidents’ Dinner and Awards Night. I would like to thank the Presidents of AUES and AMSS for their friendship and support throughout the year, and the Blood Drive team for pulling off this incredible initiative. Overall, the donations from the Blood Drive saved 213 lives — not bad right!

### **Recommendation**

Our tri-varsity and interfaculty collaborations are always met with such enthusiasm from the students, and thus, I highly recommend that future Committees continue to foster and expand the collaborative relationship we have with other Societies, Faculties and Universities. After attending ALSA and getting to know the incredible representatives of LSS/A’s from around Australia, I think further interstate collaboration would be really exciting to see.

## **AULSS x John Bray Alumni Network (‘JBAN’) Mentorship Program**

The JBAN is the official alumni organisation for law graduates of the University of Adelaide and was established with the key objective of fostering ongoing professional development of law graduates through the provision of activities and services. As President, I sit on the JBAN Committee as the Undergraduate Representative.

Last year, Peter Tantalos (2021 President), in his capacity as the Undergraduate Representative, developed a brand-new initiative called the ‘JBAN Student Mentoring Program’. I had the pleasure of working with Peter and the JBAN Committee to implement the Mentoring Program, brought by the AULSS and JBAN.



This program, available to 2<sup>nd</sup>–5<sup>th</sup> year students enrolled in the LLB, is designed to complement the AULSS First Year Mentorship Program, completing our aim to provide students at each level of their degree with the opportunity to have a mentor which can guide them through their personal and professional journey in law school. This initiative aims to provide law students with:

- The opportunity to gain insight and knowledge about the legal profession;
- encouragement with legal studies and achieving personal goals;
- general guidance concerning career planning and preparations for life beyond University;
- support and strategies to build confidence in their abilities and establish pathways for self improvement and development; and
- the opportunity to observe and understand the broad areas of expertise within the legal profession and beyond.

Mentors are members of the Alumni Network, who have a broad array of skills, expertise and life experience from the legal and broader industry professions.

Once the Mentorship Program rules were agreed upon and finalised by the JBAN Committee (available on the AULSS Website), I sent out an all students email with a link to register expressions of interest to become a mentee in the program. The mentor expression of interest form was subsequently sent out to alumni members by JBAN in October and are currently still open at the time of writing this report.

I look forward to pairing the mentors and mentees after the AGM and seeing the initiative further flourish in future years! It is a fantastic concept that will be incredibly valuable to students across four year levels, and I would like to thank and congratulate Peter Tantalos for all his hard work in getting this initiative up and running. I would also like to thank Judge Katrina Bochner (JBAN President) and James Litt (previously the JBAN Director/Secretary and Senior Advancement Officer at the University) for their support of the program and their assistance in implementing it.

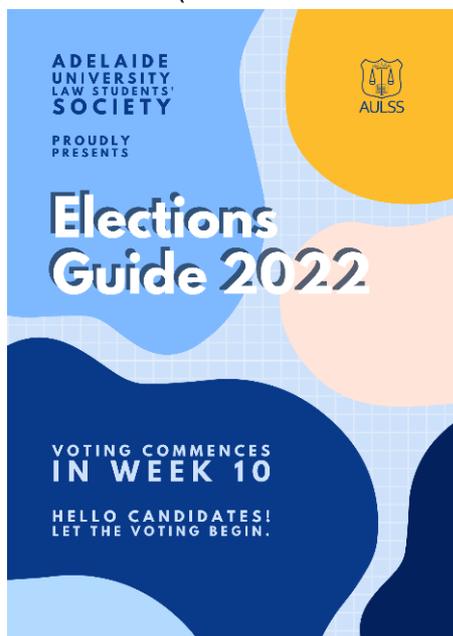


## 2022 Elections

I would like to thank Dr Francesco de Zwart for kindly agreeing to be the AULSS Returning Officer again this year.

Unfortunately, we experienced technical difficulties with the designated AULSS Returning Officer Gmail account which resulted in email applications being lost (despite checking all folders and filter options). Thus, we had to re-open nominations for one extra week and ask all applicants to re-submit to Franc's staff email.

At the time of writing this report, the Election Period is in full swing with voting taking place next week (Week 10, Semester 2). The Elections Guide outlines the full list of candidates (both contested and uncontested) as well as the vacant positions.



The positions that are contested at the elections this year are:

- Director of Competitions (1 position available, 2 applications received)
- Careers Representatives (5 positions available, 13 applications received)
- Competitions Representatives (6 positions available, 7 applications received)
- Education Representatives (2 positions available, 3 applications received)
- Queer Representative (1 position available, 2 applications received)
- International Student Representative (1 position available, 3 applications received)

It is exciting to see such high a high number of applications and that so many positions are contested. I am especially pleased to see interest in our new positions, Queer Representative and International Student Representative.

The positions that are vacant and open for future application in the co-option process are:

- ONE Director of Activities
- ONE Director of Social Justice & Equity
- TWO Communications Representatives
- ONE Aboriginal Representative
- ONE Mature Age Representative
- ONE Sponsorship Representative

I would like to congratulate those who have been elected unopposed for the 2023 Committee and I wish the contested nominees the best of luck in the Election.

### ***Recommendation***

For obvious reasons, I recommend that next year's Committee do not use the Returning Officer Gmail account. Alternative options may be explored, however, having students send their applications to Franc's email address worked well for us in the end.

There was confusion amongst students regarding the requirement to have 2 movers on the nomination, with some students having a typed name and not a signature, and others having non-law students move their nomination. I recommend amending the AULSS Election Rules to make this requirement clearer (and perhaps even adding more information on the nomination form itself).

I also recommend that next year's Elections Guide include an indication as to how many positions there are for each role (similar to the voting ballots) to again avoid any ambiguity. For example, stating for contested positions that there are 5 positions available etc.

### **Constitutional Amendments**

As I have foreshadowed earlier in my report, there were 4 major constitutional amendments that we successfully passed at our Special General Meeting ('SGM') on 12 September 2022. Our key priority at the SGM was to introduce amendments that increase the representation of the Committee through better diversity and inclusion.

### ***Queer Representative***

This role has been something the Committee has discussed over the years, however, has never been implemented formally. Whilst before the SGM, the Social Justice & Equity Portfolio ('SJ&E') had initiatives for LGBTQI+ students such as the Outlaws Facebook Group and specialised events, there was no constitutionally enshrined position on the Committee. This was always something I wanted to implement during my term. Further, attending ALSA reinforced the importance of such an amendment, as we were one of the only Committees without a position of the kind (note: some Committees even have an entire Queer Portfolio!). Excitingly, we have two passionate candidates running for the position in the 2022 Elections, and I am excited to see how the role evolves next year!

### ***International Student Representative***

After we hosted our 'Welcome International Students' event on campus, and having a number of International Students on the Committee, we wanted to implement a position on the Committee for International Students, especially considering that their needs and interests are often unique. Having this position enshrined in our Constitution will allow for more events and initiatives directed towards International Students, a voice on the Committee for important decision making, as well as greater inclusivity generally. I was really pleased to see 3 passionate nominations for this position in the 2022 Elections!

### ***Sponsorship Representative***

Our reasons for creating this position were twofold. First, several Directors expressed their concerns regarding the additional workload that sponsorship requirements and correspondence added to their usual Portfolio duties and responsibilities. Whilst Sponsorship constitutionally now falls under the Treasurer, the reality saw a lot of the work falling upon Directors. Second, when we attended ALSA, we were blown away by the other LSS/A's investment of resources into obtaining and maintaining sponsorship. This resulted in some Committees bringing in extremely high sponsorship, consequently increasing the quantity and quality of their events. Unfortunately, we did not receive any nominations for this position in the Elections, however, I am optimistic that it will be filled in the co-option process at the beginning of the 2022/2023 term. I am optimistic that this position will open up new opportunities for the AULSS in the future.

### ***Line of Succession***

After the resignation of the Treasurer in Semester 1, I took over all finance related responsibilities and duties until we co-opted Kane McAskill in Semester 2. However, I did not technically have those powers under the Constitution. Thus, we decided to add the provisions in clause 85 of the AULSS Constitution to allow the President or Vice President to temporarily fulfil the duties of either the President, Vice-President or Treasurer as required. The clause reads as follows:

#### **85 – Line of Succession**

- (1) If the President is incapacitated and unable to perform their duties, then the Vice-President shall perform the duties of the President until such time that the President may return to their duties.
- (2) If the President resigns, or is removed from office pursuant to clause 77, the Vice-President shall perform the duties of the President until the President vacancy has been filled.

- (3) If the Vice-President is incapacitated and unable to perform their duties, then the President shall perform the duties of the Vice-President until such time that the Vice-President may return to their duties.
- (4) If the Vice-President resigns, or is removed from office pursuant to clause 77, the President shall perform the duties of the Vice-President until the Vice-President vacancy has been filled.
- (5) If the Treasurer is unable to perform their duties, then the President shall perform the duties of the Treasurer until such time that the Treasurer may return to their duties.
- (6) If the Treasurer resigns, or is removed from office pursuant to clause 77, the President shall perform the duties of the Treasurer until the Treasurer vacancy has been filled.

### **Recommendation**

There was suggestion from the Executive that the same provision be added for other Executive Directors. We decided against including such provisions for several reasons. First, in the unlikely event all Directors resign at once and their duties and powers fall upon the President – this could cause undue burden on the President to ensure Constitutional compliance. Further, we felt at this first instance, the most important powers and duties that needed to be temporarily conferred in the event of resignation, removal or incapacitation, were those relating to the President (as the Chair of meetings etc), the Vice-President (as the public officer) and the Treasurer (relating to finance). The rest of the Directors' powers should be able to be picked up in good faith by other members without there being a lack of power under the Constitution. However, if any issues arise, I highly recommend that next year's Committee consider adding similar provisions for Directors if they deem it necessary.

### **Sexual Harassment in the Law School**

**CONTENT WARNING:** The AULSS understands that conversations around sexual harassment and sexual assault can be distressing for some members. Student Life Counselling Support is available through the University and is free, confidential, short term professional counselling support to currently enrolled students, to address issues that may be affecting their study and life.

Sadly, sexual harassment is an incredibly serious issue in University settings. The *National Student Safety Survey*, a report commissioned by Universities Australia released in March this year found that in the University context:

- one in 20 (4.5%) students had been sexually assaulted since starting university;

- one in two students (48%) had experienced sexual harassment at least once in their lifetime;
- one in six (16%) had been sexually harassed since starting their studies; and
- one in 12 (8.1%) had been sexually harassed in the preceding 12 months.

Further, the percentage of students that made formal complaints, or knew where to seek support, were equally concerning:

- One in 30 (3%) of students who were sexually harassed made a formal complaint to the University
- One in 20 (5.6%) of students who were sexually assaulted made a formal complaint to the University
- Only 1 in 6 (16%) sought support or assistance
- 1 in 2 (51%) knew nothing or very little about the formal reporting process for harassment.

### ***What can the AULSS do?***

As a student representative body for law students, we have a platform where we can help promote safe and respectful behaviour on campus and at our events, as well as helping to raise awareness of the support available.

Of course, the AULSS have a grievance policy which establishes a formal complaints process for students to complain, which is always available on the [AULSS website](#). This policy applies to all members of the AULSS (students), attendees of AULSS events, and AULSS committee members.

However, in light of the lack of formal reporting statistics, a complaints process ran by the AULSS is not always going to be effective — due to the unfortunate stigmas and fears surrounding speaking out. I have had several meetings with the Dean, Judith McNamara, about what the AULSS can do in these situations.

### ***A Useful Resource: University Reporting Portal***

There is information to support students in relation to allegations of sexual misconduct on the university's [Safer Campus Community](#). This includes the ability to anonymously make a report. There is an option to make a report either anonymously or including your own identity. You can also choose to either name or withhold the identity of the alleged offender. A third party, such as a Committee member, staff member or witness can also make an anonymous complaint, without revealing the identity of either the alleged victim or alleged offender.

The benefit of making a complaint is that it creates a record in case of any recurrence of the behaviour, whether experienced by the initial alleged victim or someone else. I have utilised this service as President, and it is accessible and only takes 1 minute to submit a complaint.

Further if a complainant chooses to disclose their identity, they will be contacted by someone from the University who is qualified to provide them with support (this is not a Law School staff member and is kept confidential).

## ***Recommendations***

I have spent a lot of time throughout my Presidency this year considering this issue and speaking to many staff members. I have found that the [End Rape on Campus Australia website](#) (EROC) is a useful resource for Universities and Student Societies.

At the 8<sup>th</sup> AULSS Committee Meeting on Monday 10 October, the Committee passed a motion to implement the following action, which [EROC recommends](#) for universities:

- Increase student awareness of the on-campus counselling services that are available) including posters on the backs of toilet doors and on our website!
- Provide Committee members with training on how to respond to disclosures with compassion, and very importantly, for managing vicarious trauma for student representatives.
- Make public acknowledgements re this issue (on the website, emails, social media and posters).
- In every Facebook event for social activities (especially those involving alcohol) the AULSS will make a post in the discussion stating that we expect attendees to practise safe and responsible drinking habits and to treat others with respect, that we do not condone misconduct, sexual harassment/assault or other inappropriate behaviour at AULSS events and notify students of the resources available (AULSS Grievance Policy and the University's Safer Campus website).

The other suggestions that were discussed in the meeting include:

- Creating codewords/safe words that can be used at events to signal that an attendee needs help or feels unsafe.
- Creating a specific web-page for the support services that are available.
- Including a segment in the First Year Guide concerning sexual harassment and the support services that are available.
- Having a 'sober officer' at AULSS events, or a burner phone for emergency contact.
- Establishing a warning system and a blacklist for events.

I highly recommend that next year's committee further consider these suggestions, continue this discussion about what the AULSS can do, and implement further

strategies to advocate for safety on campus and at our events, and provide students with the support and information necessary.

Below is a table of confidential resources and support services that are available free of charge in Australia. Please note, the items highlighted in yellow are provided by the University of Adelaide.

Support	Description	Website/Email	Phone/Email
<b>UoA: Student Life Counselling Support</b>	Counselling Support is available to students at the University of Adelaide to help them address concerns that impact their study and life. Available Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm	<a href="https://www.adelaide.edu.au/counselling/">https://www.adelaide.edu.au/counselling/</a>	08 8313 5663  <a href="mailto:counsellingcentre@adelaide.edu.au">counsellingcentre@adelaide.edu.au</a>
<b>UoA: University Crisis Line</b>	For after-hours crisis support service for University of Adelaide students: Monday to Friday 5pm to 9am, weekends and public holidays 24 hours	<a href="https://www.adelaide.edu.au/counselling/emergency-crisis">https://www.adelaide.edu.au/counselling/emergency-crisis</a>	Call <a href="tel:1300167654">1300 167 654</a> or text <a href="tel:+61488884197">+6148888 4197</a>
<b>UoA: Security</b>	Security is available 24 hours a day on all campuses.	<a href="https://www.adelaide.edu.au/infrastructure/services/security">https://www.adelaide.edu.au/infrastructure/services/security</a>	University Security emergency number: <b>8313 5444</b>
<b>UoA: Student Wellbeing Hub</b>	Our overall wellbeing comprises many aspects of our life. Explore, question, and consider how you might help someone else and yourself.	<a href="https://www.adelaide.edu.au/student/wellbeing/">https://www.adelaide.edu.au/student/wellbeing/</a>	
<b>UoA: Reporting Online - Safer Campus Community Website</b>	In response to the ICAC Public Statement released in August 2020, the University created a mailbox offering staff and students an additional pathway to report sexual assault and sexual harassment.	<a href="https://www.adelaide.edu.au/safer-campus-community/report-an-incident">https://www.adelaide.edu.au/safer-campus-community/report-an-incident</a>	Staff and students can access the mailbox by emailing <a href="mailto:complaints@adelaide.edu.au">complaints@adelaide.edu.au</a> .
<b>1800RESPECT</b>	Phone and online counselling for people impacted by sexual	<a href="https://1800respect.org.au">https://1800respect.org.au</a>	<a href="tel:1800737732">1800 737 732</a>

	assault, domestic or family violence and abuse, available 24/7.		
<b>Lifeline</b>	Phone and online confidential crisis support, available 24/7.	<a href="https://lifeline.org.au">https://lifeline.org.au</a>	13 11 14
<b>QLife</b>	Phone and online support and referral service for LGBTIQ+ people, available 3pm to midnight in your time zone.	<a href="https://qlife.org.au">https://qlife.org.au</a>	<a href="tel:1800184527">1800 184 527</a>
<b>MensLine Australia</b>	Phone and online counselling service for men, available 24/7.	<a href="https://mensline.org.au">https://mensline.org.au</a>	<a href="tel:1300789978">1300 78 99 78</a>
<b>Beyond Blue</b>	Phone and online mental health counselling and advice, available 24/7.	<a href="https://beyondblue.org.au">https://beyondblue.org.au</a>	<a href="tel:1300224636">1300 22 4636</a>
<b>Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS National)</b>	Translation service for non-English speakers, available 24/7.	<a href="https://www.tisnational.gov.au/en/Non-English-speakers">https://www.tisnational.gov.au/en/Non-English-speakers</a>	<a href="tel:131450">131 450</a>
<b>National Relay Service (NRS)</b>	Teletypewriter (TTS) service for Deaf people, available 24/7.		<a href="tel:133677">133 677</a> NRS SMS Relay: <a href="tel:0423677767">0423 677 767</a> NRS Chat: <a href="https://nrschat.nrscall.gov.au/">https://nrschat.nrscall.gov.au/</a>

## Navigating out of COVID-19

Whilst at the time of writing this report there are very few COVID-19 restrictions in place, and we consider this period as 'navigating out of the pandemic' or 'living with the virus', it is important to note that 2022 was nevertheless the worst year for COVID-19 cases in South Australia. As such, this brought on new challenges that we had not

previously faced in 2020 and 2021. Despite capacity restrictions easing in venues for our social events and classes coming back to campus, South Australia faced record high outbreaks this year. We observed several implications of these outbreaks, for example many students and staff were absent from classes due to having COVID-19 and there was overall lower engagement in some of our initiatives (as compared to 2021 where we experienced high engagement post-lockdown). Part of this could be due to many students being in COVID-19 isolation, as well as international travel opening up again and many students (and Committee members) leaving for exchange in the second half of the year. Further, we faced the new challenge of Committee members contracting COVID-19 and having to miss their own events that they spent months organising. It is promising to see now that the COVID-19 restrictions have eased, and we are entering the period of 'living with the virus'.

## **Conclusion**

I am incredibly honoured to have served as the AULSS President for 2022. I would like to sincerely thank everyone who has contributed to the AULSS or helped support the work that we do, including the Committee members, my fellow Executive, the students, our sponsors and the Law School staff.

I will fondly remember these 5 years on the AULSS Committee. Whilst it is bittersweet to close this chapter, I am looking forward to handing over to the capable hands of the 2023 Committee and to watch as the AULSS legacy continues, and as the Committee further expands.

Thank you,



**Chelsea Chieng**

President

6 October 2022

## Vice-President Report

**Vice-President:** Bella Mickan

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### Summary

It has been an honour to serve as this year's Vice-President of the Adelaide University Law Students' Society. Throughout my time studying at the University of Adelaide, I have always been blown away by the hard work that the AULSS puts in to serve their fellow Law Students. To then have had the opportunity to become the Vice-President, it has been a role I have not taken lightly. Having only served on the Committee as a Representative for one year prior to commencing this role, I knew this year would be a challenge. However, it was a challenge I was up for. I can safely say that serving as Vice-President has been the most rewarding thing I have done, and it is the highlight of my University experience. It is a memory I will cherish forever, and I consider myself very lucky to have had the opportunity to work amongst such a brilliant, hardworking and passionate cohort of Committee members.

Now, onto the important stuff. This year, the Committee played a key role in bringing Law Students back onto campus following the easing of COVID-19 restrictions in South Australia. As Vice-President, I ensured that: all our Committee Meetings were back in person; that Law School Local was bigger and better than ever so we could all get back to socialising without breaking the bank; and that we had the most fashionable merchandise for students to wear when they returned to campus. Simultaneously, however, I recognised the pressures that are associated with re-adjusting to normal life, and as such, it was crucial that this year's Committee emphasise the importance of mental health. Later in this report, I will explain the policy which I implemented which aims to prevent Committee burn-out and promote Committee well-being.

### 'Breaking the Ice'

I will briefly discuss some events that are necessary for the Vice-President to coordinate for the Committee to 'break the ice' with one another. Firstly, the AULSS 'Information Night' was initiated by the 2021 Vice-President. This is an informal introductory session, which allows Committee members to get to know each other. It is also a great opportunity to provide the Committee with information about the AULSS (including the AULSS history, key dates for the year and set roles and expectations for members). This was held before the year kicked off.

Following this, the Executive attended our 'Executive Planning Day' or 'Blueprint Day'. This was an opportunity for each Director to provide an outline of their plans for

the year ahead. These key dates were then placed into my Calendar, where I then sent calendar invitations out to each Executive member. This ensured that we had no event clashes and allowed us to keep on top of each other's events throughout the year. The same event was held in Semester 2 for Semester 2 events as it proved difficult to plan for an entire year.

Further, the Committee also met for an informal catch-up before the year began at the Uni Bar. This provided another opportunity for the Committee to get to know each other in a more relaxed setting. The Executive also met alone to do the same.

I suggest that these events continue to run in future years. It is imperative that the Committee work together and are all familiar with each other on a friendly basis. In saying that, I appreciate that many Committee members are friends with one another, and it is sometimes hard to separate a professional relationship from a friendship. It is extremely important when joining the Committee, especially the Executive, that when working with friends, to put on 'different hats' from time to time, to assist in separating the two relationships.

## **Meetings, Agenda, Reports and Minutes**

It falls to the Vice-President to organise all the meetings of the Committee. This includes General Committee Meetings, Executive Meetings, the Special General Meeting and the Annual General meeting. Relevant tasks include (amongst other things): calling the meeting; circulating all relevant documents; organising dinner for members; writing the agenda; liaising with members regarding apologies; compiling the reports; and writing the minutes. As recognised by previous Vice-Presidents, this role, therefore, is very administrative heavy and a lot of the day-to-day tasks take place behind the scenes.

### ***Committee Meetings***

The AULSS is constitutionally required to hold a total of eight Committee Meetings each term and two Special Meetings. We fulfilled our Constitutional requirements in doing so.

Whilst Committee Meetings are an opportunity to provide the Committee with updates from each portfolio which must be done in a robust and informative way, ultimately, these meetings do not need to go on for more than two hours. The AULSS has a long history of holding extremely long meetings, something which I thought was somewhat unnecessary. As such, when my term commenced, I discussed with the Executive my concerns and goals that this year's meetings do not drag on for any longer than necessary. Fortunately, the Executive was in complete agreement with this. As such, on average, our meetings ran for a little over one hour.

As Vice-President, it is my responsibility to organise food for each Committee meeting. Whilst we use AULSS funds for this, the AULSS recognises that to thank the Committee for all their hard work, spending an average of \$4 per Committee member on food is well within our budget. Pizza, from Pizza Hut and Dominos, whilst it may not be the healthiest dinner, is the only real cost-effective option.

As always, the Committee votes on which days meetings are held. For the last few years, Monday has always received the most votes, and this year was no exception. Meetings were held in Lecture Theatre 213, Ligertwood Building. It is crucial that this room is booked for every meeting well in advance of the University term commencing. Further, with COVID-19 restrictions basically ceasing, there is no need to have these meetings held on Zoom anymore. Attendance via Zoom, however, was permitted in certain circumstances, such as that of being sick.

The 2022 Committee meetings were held on the following dates:

#### Semester 1

- Week 2 - 7 March 2022
- Week 5 - 28 March 2022
- Week 8 - 2 May 2022
- Week 11 - 23 May 2022
- Week 13 - 6 June 2022

#### Semester 2

- Week 3 - 8 August 2022
- Week 6 - 29 August 2022
- Week 8 - 12 September 2022 (SGM)
- Week 10 - 10 October 2022
- Week 12 - 24 October 2022 (AGM)

Overall, the Committee attendance at these meetings was great. A full list of attendances can be located on the following page.

Each Committee Meeting's report, agenda and minutes were uploaded to the website for public viewing. I would like to thank our IT Representative, Thu, for always uploading these on time, meaning we were never in breach of the Constitution.

## 2022 Committee Meeting Attendance

Y = Present    VA = Valid Apology    IA = Invalid Apology    R = Resigned    C = Co-opted

Committee Members		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	SGM	8
Chelsea	Chieng	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Bella	Mickan	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Aryan	Banarjee	Y	Y	Y	Y	R	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Kane	McAskill	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Y	C	Y	Y	Y
Catherine	Chhour	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Shiv	Gandhi	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	IA
Katia	Saffiedin	Y	Y	VA	IA	Y	VA	Y	Y	Y
Olivia	Higgins	Y	Y	Y	Y	R	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Georgia	Chiswell	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Natalie	Nimon	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	C	Y	Y	Y	Y
Anthony	Luppino	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Lucas	Michaels	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Sofia	Tait	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Ben	McAdams	VA	Y	IA	R	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Winston	Li	VA	Y	VA	Y	Y	Y	Y	VA	Y
Kane	McAskill	Y	Y	VA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Jarrold	Eddy	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	C	Y	VA	Y	Y
Annie	Zhang	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Ruby	Stewart	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Henry	Allen	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Shunem	Josiah	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Kush	Goyal	Y	Y	Y	Y	R	N/A	N/A	N/A	Y
Ikhwan	Fazil	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Cerys	Davies	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Thu	Nguyen	Y	Y	VA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Amy	Lancaster	Y	Y	Y	Y	R	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Yurui	Jiang	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	C	Y	Y	Y	Y
Celena	Le	Y	Y	Y	Y	VA	Y	Y	Y	Y
Aiden	Wang	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	VA
Jessica	March	Y	Y	VA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Grace	Jin	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Nicholas	Reese	Y	Y	Y	R	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Patricia	Papathanasopoulos	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Emma	Colovic	Y	Y	IA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Isabella	Burgess	VA	Y	VA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Gloria	Li	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Kurt	Schenk	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Bhoomika	Trivedi	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	C	Y	Y	Y	Y
Bryan	Lau	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Felix	Eldridge	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Henry	Lewis	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Tony	Thu	Y	Y	Y	Y	VA	VA	Y	Y	Y
Gurjot	Singh	Y	C	Y	IA	Y	Y	VA	Y	Y
Kathryn	Jannes	Y	C	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Zachary	Carter	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Aditi	Tamhankar	Y	Y	VA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Paige	Cowles	Y	Y	VA	R	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Magenta	Stoba	Y	Y	VA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Caitlin	Arthur McGill	Y	Y	Y	Y	VA	Y	Y	VA	Y
Abbey	Amundson	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	C	Y	VA	Y	Y
Lin	Wang	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	C	Y	Y	Y	Y
Airlie	Windle	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	C	Y	Y	Y	Y

## ***Minutes***

Writing minutes are an enormous part of the Vice-President role. Whilst minutes in many other organisations and student societies consist of only the key points, the AULSS has a long-standing history of writing extensive minutes. They serve as almost a transcribe of every meeting. I do not think this is actually necessary and the meetings may as well be recorded if the purpose is to transcribe every word. Nevertheless, I was not willing to change AULSS precedent by making the minutes any shorter. I suggest future years investigate whether it is possible to shorten Committee meeting minutes. The Vice-President could, therefore, use this saved time to put into other initiatives which cannot currently be achieved due to the current administrative workload.

## ***Executive Meetings***

This year, we had a total of 11 Executive Meetings. These were usually held the Monday before a Committee Meeting. We also held Executive Meetings during University breaks including the Summer Holiday before the University term began. I believe that these Executive Meetings were implemented a few years ago. It was an excellent initiative as it allows the Executive to have tough discussions in private allowing for more robust conversation (although, of course, minutes are recorded in these meetings). It is extremely important that the Executive are united on issues and are to attend Committee Meetings having had already fleshed out the 'nitty gritty'.

As such, Executive Meetings ought to go ahead in future years. Executive Meetings also allow for shorter Committee Meetings. Long Committee Meetings serve no purpose and lead to burnout in the Committee. Although this means the Executive attend more and longer meetings, ultimately, the Executive understands that they are signing up for a big year (having likely already served on the Committee as a Representative). This line of thinking was arrived at by the Executive in one of our Executive meetings. As such, it was our goal to ensure that we use these Executive Meetings as an opportunity to shorten Committee Meetings. At the same time, however, I do not think Executive Meetings need to be held just for the sake of it. Prior to Executive Meetings, I would encourage the Vice-President to ask the Executive whether they have any important issues to raise and then decide the necessity of a meeting based on these needs.

## ***Special General Meeting ('SGM')***

The Special General Meeting was held on Monday 12 September 2022 where we made many amendments to our Constitution. Please refer to the President's Report, for an explanation of the amendments which were made. Three non-Committee members attended the SGM. It is encouraged that non-Committee members

continue to attend AULSS meetings in future years to share their thoughts, ideas and suggestions for a Society which they are a member of.

On Wednesday 14 September 2022, I submitted the new Constitution along with our SGM minutes to Consumer and Business Services ('CBS'). Due to COVID-19, CBS informed me that there was a large backlog of Constitutions waiting to be approved. As such, they estimated an 8-10 week wait for approval.

I would like to extend a huge thank you to Constitutional Wizard, Felix Eldridge, who will be serving as next year's Vice-President. Felix not only had many suggestions for the Constitutional, but he also assisted the Executive in drafting the new terms of the Constitution.

### ***Annual General Meeting ('AGM')***

Our AGM is being held on 24 October 2022, where these reports will be discussed in depth.

### **Public Office**

The AULSS is a registered incorporated association in South Australia. In this jurisdiction, incorporated associations are regulated by CBS. As such, the AULSS is required to have a Public Officer, which is the Vice-President. My duties with respect to this, amongst other things, is to ensure that its incorporated association adheres to (and upholds the obligations outlined by) the *Associations Incorporations Act 1985* (SA).

Relevant to the AULSS, this mainly entails the Vice-President lodging any changes to the AULSS Constitution. These changes were lodged on Wednesday 16 September 2022 after we held out Special General Meeting on 14 September 2022.

### ***Constitution***

Many changes were made to our Constitution which has been explained in the President's Report. Further, all amendments are available for public access on the AULSS Website. These can be located under 'Meeting Archives' – 'SGM' – 'SGM Report'. Essentially, we created three new positions, added a line of succession clause, and amended mere typographical errors. All suggested amendments were put to vote at our Special General Meeting and were passed unanimously.

The new Society Constitution reflecting the changes passed is yet to be approved by the CBS. As I explained above, I was informed that there is a large backlog and a wait time of 8-10 weeks. I will continue to be in correspondence with next year's

Committee as to the status of the Constitution (if the Constitution is not accepted during my remaining term).

## **Merchandise**

This year, I moved merchandise suppliers. Overall, this was not an easy decision, and any transition is time-consuming and stressful. Not only in the sense of sheer workload but also the emotional toll of leaving a supplier which the AULSS has worked with for many years. Ultimately, however, I believe it was the right decision for reasons I explain soon.

To summarise, 257 orders were placed, and \$21,202 worth of merchandise was sold, \$2,616.77 of which was the society's profit. All minimum orders were met. I introduced the following merchandise items: Sloppy Joe Crew Neck; Crop Crew Necks; Crop Hoodies; Tracksuit Pants; Puffer Vests; and Puffer Jackets. I continued the Rugby Jumper, Crew Neck and Hoodie range; however, I further expanded the colour range by adding over 10 new colours to the collection. I also added a personalisation option for students to personalise their items and a shipping option for those students who have graduated or are off campus.

Overall, the feedback received from this year's merchandise was overwhelmingly positive. Many students were fans of the new merchandise, and as the numbers reflect in the next few pages, the new range was extremely popular.

### ***2020 and 2021 Leftover Merchandise/Rugby Clearance***

In previous years, the AULSS has ordered a large amount of extra merchandise to store in the office. I believe the purpose for doing so was because a) it was cheaper to bulk buy merchandise and b) if students missed out on placing an order, they can still get their hands on some. As such, when I began my term, there were many large boxes of merchandise sitting in the office or Michelle's room. Michelle has kindly let the AULSS store some of our merchandise in her room, however, this is not practical. Only a handful of Committee members have access to this room so if we are not on campus, merchandise cannot be sold. As such, we had to store the majority of the merchandise in the AULSS office which took up a lot of room in an already small space.

Ultimately, we hardly sold any of this merchandise and they continue to sit in the office today. As such, we decided to have a 'Rugby Jumper Clearance' in Week 10 in order to get rid of it. Rather than usually being \$50 for a Navy Rugby or \$60 for the Stripped Rugby, they were sold for \$40 each or \$75 for two. At the time of writing this Report, I do not have access to the outcome of this sale. However, given that we only had a few sizes available in each Rugby (XL and XXL), I am not confident that much was sold.

Regardless, the point I make here is that it is impractical for the AULSS to buy extra merchandise every year. I strongly deter future Vice-Presidents from ordering extra merchandise, or at the most, only two or three pieces in each size. I opted not to order any extra this year. Rather, the merchandise was sold on a 'made to order basis' only. This worked well as we did not spend any more money than needed and we now have more space in the AULSS office. We also did not have to run the risk of students not buying these pieces and then having to hold another clearance where we ultimately lose money.

### **Ordering**

As soon as I began my term, I was in touch with the previous suppliers to organise merchandise. Unfortunately, however, due to COVID-19, their prices had increased significantly. I was contacted by a fellow law student who made me aware of a different supplier. Despite being loyal customers to the previous suppliers, when considering the increase in price, I agreed to meet with this new supplier. I was absolutely blown away by what they had to offer the AULSS, including a much cheaper price point. I also noticed that many other Adelaide University Clubs order through these suppliers, so I was confident that this would be a good move. In essence, the benefits of these suppliers are as follows:

**Cost-effective:** The AULSS aims to keep our initiatives affordable for all students. We were looking at a \$5-\$10 increase per item and we also would have made less than a \$1 profit (and maybe even a loss on some items). This is not sustainable as merchandise profits help support other portfolios that generally make a loss. Once doing the numbers with the Treasurer, we could not only save students money with these new suppliers but also make a profit.

**Pre-packaged:** The new suppliers package each order themselves. Previously, we would be given a box with all the merchandise on it and have to search through ourselves to hand out the relevant size, colour etc. Now, we only need to search through a box that is packaged in alphabetical order and look for a name. This makes our stall much easier for volunteers. Merchandising is already an incredibly stressful

task for the Committee throughout the year and any way that this can be made easier is beneficial.

**Current customers:** The suppliers had many Adelaide University-based clubs like the Engineer Society. They also supplied merchandise to many Adelaide University sporting clubs, Flinders Law and schools.

**Shipping:** A shipping option was made available for students who are unable to get to campus. Considering the number of queries that the AULSS has received from international students and old scholars looking to buy merch, this benefited them tremendously.

**Minimum orders:** The minimum orders were only 8 per design (e.g., 8 across any embroidery that is white). As such, we were able to make orders very easily.

**Personalisation:** Buyers could add a personalisation option to their order to embroider their name, for example, on the back of their jumpers.

**Colour range:** As the below photographs will show, they had an extensive colour range to choose from which did not affect minimum orders.

**Efficient:** Orders are all placed on their website. With this aspect of the merchandise, most of the work is, therefore, done on their end. In previous years, the Vice-President would have to set up an Eventbrite for students to place their orders. The Vice-President would then, collect all the money and orders, and place an order with the suppliers. This step was completely cut out with the new merchandise suppliers. This reduced constant communication between suppliers and me regarding how many orders had been placed etc. Further, because orders were placed on their website, students did not have to pay the additional booking fee that is required on Eventbrite.

After deliberation with the Executive, we decided to go ahead with these new suppliers who are called Nelson Teamwear. We also took the issue to the entire Committee who also agreed. Nelsons were delightful to work with and I would like to extend my thanks to Jarrod King who looked after the AULSS this year.

There were some initial costs associated with setting up the embroidery and website which totalled \$350. However, these were once-off fees, and we ultimately made a huge profit regardless.

## 2022 Merchandise Items

The final merchandise items, and their prices, are as follows:



AULSS STRIPE RUGBY \$60



AULSS NAVY BLUE RUGBY \$50



AULSS BLACK RUGBY \$50



AULSS SJ CREW - WHITE \$50



AULSS SJ CREW - GREY MARLE  
\$50



AULSS SUPPLY CREW - BLACK  
\$50



AULSS SJ CREW - BLACK \$50



AULSS SJ CREW - LILAC \$50



AULSS SJ CREW - NAVY BLUE  
\$50



AULSS SJ CREW - PINE GREEN  
\$50



AULSS SJ CREW - ROYAL BLUE  
\$50



AULSS SJ CREW - SKY BLUE \$50

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AULSS SUPPLY CREW - NAVY BLUE \$50



AULSS SUPPLY CREW - PINE GREEN \$50



AULSS SUPPLY CREW - PINK \$50



AULSS SJ CREW - SNOW MARLE \$50



AULSS SUPPLY CREW - RED \$50



AULSS SUPPLY CREW - ROYAL BLUE \$50



AULSS SUPPLY CREW - WHITE \$50



AULSS SUPPLY CREW - GREY MARLE \$50



AULSS CROP CREW - BLACK \$50



AULSS CROP CREW - GREY MARLE \$55



AULSS CROP HOODIE - BLACK \$55



AULSS CROP HOODIE - GREY MARLE \$55



AULSS HOODIE - BLACK \$55



AULSS HOODIE - BOTTLE \$55



AULSS HOODIE - GREY MARLE  
\$55



AULSS HOODIE - LILAC \$55



AULSS HOODIE - NAVY \$55



AULSS HOODIE - ROYAL BLUE  
\$55



AULSS HOODIE - SKY BLUE \$55



AULSS HOODIE - SNOW MARLE  
\$55



AULSS HOODIE - WHITE \$55



AULSS PUFFER JACKET - BLACK  
\$75



AULSS PUFFER JACKET - NAVY  
\$75



AULSS PUFFER VEST - BLACK \$60



AULSS PUFFER NAVY - BLACK  
\$60



AULSS TRACK PANTS - BLACK  
\$55



AULSS TRACK PANTS - GREY  
MARLE \$55

Many thanks to Annie Zhang for letting the AULSS continue using your design which you created in a previous Hoodie Competition. Her design was used across all the merchandise bar the Rugby Jumpers, Puffer Vests/Jackets and Tracksuit Pants.

### **Orders**

This Part serves to provide insight into the final merchandise orders that were placed in Semester 1 and Semester 2. This should hopefully help future Vice-Presidents in deciding which styles to go ahead with. Ultimately, however, due to having very small minimum orders to make, I suggest running with every design. It is no burden on the Vice-President to continue to put out every colour, item and style. That is, of course, if the AULSS decide to stay with these same suppliers.

### **Semester 1 Sales**

In the first drop, I put out rugby jumpers, crew necks and t-shirts. At the time of writing this report I, unfortunately, did not have a visual of the entire colour range put out. However, we put out similar colours to that of the crew necks. The design of the t-shirt was:



The total sales reached a massive **\$11,137** across **137 orders**, of which the association's portion was **\$1,740.34**. All minimum orders were met and 17 students opted for the postage option. The Sloppy Joe Crew Neck in Lilac and Pine, and Stripped Rugby Jumper were by far the most popular items.

<b>Merchandise Item</b>	<b>Items Sold</b>
AULSS SJ Crew - Grey Marle	2
AULSS SJ Crew - Lilac	23
AULSS SJ Crew - Navy	14
AULSS SJ Crew - Pine	33
AULSS SJ Crew - Royal	9
AULSS SJ Crew - Sky	6
AULSS SJ Crew - Snow Marle	15
AULSS SJ Crew - White	9
AULSS Stripe Rugby	20
AULSS Supply Crew - Black	3
AULSS Supply Crew - Grey Marle	2
AULSS Supply Crew - Navy	2
AULSS Supply Crew - Pine	10
AULSS Supply Crew - Pink	11
AULSS Supply Crew - Royal	3
AULSS Supply Crew - White	10
AULSS Tee - Black	10
AULSS Tee - Grey Marle	2
AULSS Tee - Navy	8
AULSS Tee - Royal	2
AULSS Tee - Sky	3
AULSS Tee - Snow Marle	8
AULSS Tee - White	4

### **Semester 2 Sales**

The total sales reached in Semester were **\$10,065**, across **120 orders**, of which the society's profit was **\$1,303.10**. Again, all minimum orders were met. The Lilac Hoodie and Crew Neck, the AULSS Stripped and Navy Rugby, were by far the most popular items in this drop.

<b>Merchandise Item</b>	<b>Items Sold</b>
AULSS Hoodie - Grey Marle	3
AULSS Hoodie - Lilac	11
AULSS Hoodie - Navy	8
AULSS Hoodie - Royal	1
AULSS Hoodie - Sky Blue	2
AULSS Hoodie - Snow Marle	3
AULSS Hoodie - White	1
AULSS Navy Rugby	15
AULSS Puffer Jacket - Black	2
AULSS Puffer Vest - Black	3
AULSS Puffer Vest - Navy	5
AULSS SJ Crew - Grey Marle	3
AULSS SJ Crew - Lilac	11
AULSS SJ Crew - Navy	7
AULSS SJ Crew - Pine	14
AULSS SJ Crew - Royal	9
AULSS SJ Crew - Sky	5
AULSS SJ Crew - Snow Marle	7
AULSS SJ Crew - White	6
AULSS Stripe Rugby	17
AULSS Supply Crew - Black	3
AULSS Supply Crew - Grey Marle	1
AULSS Supply Crew - Navy	2
AULSS Supply Crew - Pine	3
AULSS Supply Crew - Pink	3
AULSS Supply Crew - Red	1
AULSS Supply Crew - Royal	1
AULSS Supply Crew - White	1
AULSS Track Pants - Black	4
AULSS Track Pants - Grey Marle	2

### ***Distribution***

Unfortunately, there were a few hiccups in the Semester 1 drop by the sheer fact that this was our first run. Some designs were printed incorrectly, and some orders were also incorrect. There was also a one week delay due to no fault on behalf of Nelson's. Rather, manufacturers further along the supply chain were experiencing delays due to unforeseen circumstances. The second drop, however, was a huge success and no bumps were encountered.

In order to distribute merchandise, I organised a merchandise hand out stall in the Ligertwood Foyer. This merely involved Committee members handing students their orders. This process relies on volunteers. I note that this year there was a lack of enthusiasm within the Committee to volunteer at stalls generally. Nevertheless, Nelsons packaged the orders in alphabetical order, so it was relatively easy to distribute the merchandise. I suggest that Committee members continue to ask for ID at these stalls to ensure that the merchandise is getting handed to the correct person.

### ***Hoodie Competition***

I decided to part ways with the Hoodie Competition this year. My reasons are as follows. Clearly, holding the competition would mean that we couldn't open the merchandise portal until the competition was completed. The competition takes at least 3 weeks to complete. As such, there would be a delay in opening up the portal at the start of the Semester. Due to orders being delivered late in Semester 1, I was not willing to delay merchandise orders again, as some students were getting quite snappy at me for the delays.

Further, the closer it gets to the exam period and the end of the year, the more Committee members are stressed and busy. Therefore, getting volunteers to hand out merchandise during the exam period would likely prove difficult. Also, there would have been too much going on with merch in the sense of advertising and social media posts. Students may, therefore, be less engaged when the merchandise finally dropped. I wanted students to be really engaged as we were experimenting (and taking the risk) with new items (puffer jackets, vests etc.). Especially because these are pricier items, we could not take the risk of not meeting minimum orders.

Lastly, on consultation with the Executive, we decided that I had expanded the range enough and had put a lot of my time into changing suppliers. Instead, my time going forward was best spent on other initiatives that I did not have capacity to focus on during this period of changeover. Considering, however, that merchandise is now all set up and ready to go, this should not be as stressful or time-consuming moving forward. As such, I suggest bringing the Hoodie Competition back in future years.

### ***2020 and 2021 Leftover Merchandise***

As I explained above, we had a surplus of 2020 and 2021 merchandise items that needed to be sold. Apart from clothing items, this also included socks, keep-cups, beanies and hats. As such, these items were not available for purchase on Nelson's website, rather, students had to come to us. We sold quite a few socks so I recommend these go on sale again next year with Nelsons. I also suggest seeing

what other items Nelsons has to offer as they would serve as good 'add-ons' when students are placing their orders online.



## Law School Local ('LSL')

Law School Local is an initiative introduced by the AULSS Vice-President in 2017. It is the Society's discount card program where Adelaide University Law Students, in purchasing the card, obtain access to exclusive deals across Adelaide. This year, I aimed to transform Law School Local by getting as many venues as possible to participate in this initiative. Ultimately, this meant that as soon as my term started, I began contacting as many venues as I could. This occurred via email or cold calling. It also meant reaching out to friends and other Committee members to see if they had any contacts. Before getting into each deal, I would like to sincerely thank Mature Age Representative, Tony Tu for all he did to assist. He went above and beyond and ended up bringing over 10 venues to Law School. By way of example, last year a total of 15 venues participated. As such, Tony made it very easy for the 2022 AULSS Committee to reach record-high numbers.

Whilst Law School Local has never had this amount of deals before, the 2022 Committee, cannot take all the credit for our 'networking skills'. COVID-19 hit Law School Local hard over the past few years as many businesses had to stop operation, therefore, meaning they were unable to participate. As such, with restrictions easing in South Australia when my term started, I had a real opportunity to revamp Law School Local and engage with a lot of venues. Overall, I was blown away by the number of venues that were so excited and thankful to be part of our program. I would like to extend a huge thank you to all the businesses that participated this year. A full list of venues, and their kindly offered deals, can be found on the next page.

Cards were available for purchase all year round, however, we also had stalls specifically set up to sell them. At O'Week events, we bought along the cards for purchase. As there were many LSL cards left over from last year, I was able to use those and did not have to order any more. Rather, I printed off 'LSL 2022' stickers so venues could see the cards are current.

Overall, we sold 138 cards, meaning the AULSS took home \$1,380. Whilst this program is more about providing Law Students with exclusive deals and less about profit, I appreciate that the profit we receive from LSL goes towards other portfolios that make a loss. As such, it was excellent to be able to contribute to their portfolios in this way.

The President and I, Chelsea Cheing, also made a video to engage with students. Unfortunately, this video did not get executed until much too late in the Semester. As such, it wasn't as useful as it could be. In future years, I strongly suggest using our social media platforms to spread the word about LSL. The deals are beyond amazing, students just need to know about the program first.

### ***2022 Law School Local Deals:***

1. St Raphael's Coffee: \$1 off any hot and cold drinks
2. Optus (Rundle Mall Only): Up to 15% off on all accessories (T&Cs apply) and 10% off mobile plans
3. Doc Adams Bar & Tasting Shed: Deal 1: 10% off a glass of wine or beer; Deal 2: 15% off a bottle of wine; Deal 3: Wine tasting & Platter for 2 with a glass of wine each for \$29 (save \$20)
4. Sourc'd Wine Collective & Bar: Deal 1: 10% off a glass of wine, beer, or Sangria; Deal 2: 15% off a bottle of wine; Deal 3: Wine tasting & Platter for 2 with a glass of wine each for \$39 (save \$19)
5. Seven Stars: \$20 AULSS Meal Deal (any burger, schnitzel or salad plus a tap beer, soft drink, or house wine for \$20)
6. The Franklin Hotel: 'Buy one get one free' meal to the value of \$25
7. Bakery on O'Connell: 10% off pie warmer products (2 products pp)
8. Lion Arts Factory: Free entry before midnight and then \$10 express entry after midnight
9. Proof Bar: \$5 Peroni and house wines
10. Cocina Comida: 10% off of food
11. Duke of York Hotel: \$6 base spirits, \$6 house wines and \$7 house pints (available anytime)
12. Two Pot Screamer: \$10 Aperol Spritz; \$10 Margaritas (any time except Friday and Saturday after 7:00pm)
13. Argo On the Parade/Square: Food 10% off bill
14. Wholefoods by Argo: Food 10% off bill
15. The Fellow Barber: Barbers 15% off bill
16. Mr. Combs: Barbers 15% off bill
17. Monastery Coffee: Online 15% off bill
18. FT HIIT Somerton Park: Fitness 10% off membership
19. Fast Twitch Klemzig: Fitness 10% off membership
20. Bracegirdle's: 10% off all purchases
21. Leigh Street Luggage: 10% off food and beverage
22. Nevermind Bar: 10% off food and beverage
23. Capri Theatre: \$10 movie ticket

24. Yiasou George: Order tasting menu for 2 or more people and receive a free bottle of wine
25. The Stag: Purchase any large plate and receive a free core wine or beer
26. Anchovy Bandit: Order 'feed me' menu for 2 or more people and receive a free bottle of wine
27. Bottega Bandito: Receive a free small coffee with any sandwich purchased
28. Bowden Brewing: Get 20% off a beer paddle of your choice
29. Yo-Chi (Gouger St Only): 15% off
30. Italy Café Bar and Restaurant: Deal 1: Friday Lunch 10% off total bill; Deal 2: Weeknights: 1 drink off order (soft drink and wine); Deal 3: Weeknights: Spend over \$50pp and receive 15% off total bill
31. Goodlife Health Clubs (Payneham Only): 15% off
32. Caledonian Hotel: Every Thursday from 6pm till late in the beer garden only: \$7 tap beer/cider, \$6 house spirits, \$6 house wines, \$10 cocktails, \$10 schnitzel
33. Da Gianni Barbers: 10% discount

Thank you so much to these generous venues and I hope you continue to partner with the AULSS in future years. I encourage the AULSS to look after their LSL participators by holding AULSS-related events at their venues, such as Activities events, Education events like mature-age student catchups, and the Committee handover dinner.

## **The Office**

The cleanliness of the Office has always been a struggle for the AULSS. In recent years, a 'cleaning roster' was implemented where each portfolio takes its turn to clean the Office. I tried to enforce the roster this year, however, it was not a huge success. Understandably, an entire portfolio is not always at University on the same day of the week. Further, life is extremely busy, and these things do slip our minds. Instead, I tried to enforce a basic 'clean up after yourself' policy. Whilst the majority of the Committee I believe did do this; the Office would remain extremely messy from time to time. This has been an issue every other year, and I believe it is just a general issue that comes with a shared office. As such, Chelsea and I would tend to clean the Office ourselves, and occasionally ask the Executive to help for a few minutes prior to the Executive Meeting. I would like to thank Sofia and Patricia for often taking charge of cleaning up the Office.

The AULSS also has an open-door policy meaning that the Office is open for non-Committee members to access, so long as there is a Committee member present. They have access to all the coffee and other amenities the AULSS provides. The Office must be shut at all times if it is left unattended. In previous years, this has been difficult to enforce. However, this year, all Committee members complied with this and the office door was rarely left open when it was supposed to be shut.

## **Supplies**

This year, we finally got a working printer. The AULSS printer has been out of order for quite some time now, so thank you to the University of Adelaide Law School Clinical Legal Education for kindly donating this to us. To keep the printer working, it is the duty of the Vice-President to stock up the ink, filter and paper supplies. This is easily done at Officeworks. Further, coffee supplies must be kept stocked in the office, such as milk and coffee. As it is a lot of unnecessary work for the Vice-President to attend the shops every week for milk supplies, I suggest buying long life milk and it being stored in a cupboard in the Office.

## **AULSS Seminar**

The AULSS Seminar is basically an information night for non-Committee members to attend and gain insight into the workings of the AULSS Committee. This is held just before the nominations open for next year's Committee. It is an opportunity for students to hear about the responsibility and duties of each position. The feedback received from last year was that the information night went on for far too long. As such, it was our goal to keep it short and have it act more as an informal discussion or 'Q and A'. Although we achieved this, unfortunately, we only had very few non-Committee members attend. Nonetheless, all students who attended ended up running for positions which is encouraging. Despite the low turnout, I encourage this event to continue running as for those students who may feel somewhat out of the 'AULSS loop' it is a great opportunity to welcome these students and provide them with the relevant information as to each position. They can then make informed decisions as to whether they want to nominate.

I suggest that future years consider having this event run via Zoom in case students are unable to attend in person. Perhaps video recording the event too may be of benefit to students so this information can be available prior to Co-option. Or, even, making a video of some short clips which quickly summarise each position and their responsibilities. I appreciate that the AULSS can be quite intimidating for some students and gaining easy access to this information may serve to assist in breaking down the barriers between Committee members and non-Committee members.

## **Australian Law Students Association Conference**

Something that I have not discussed in my Report is the suggestions I have outside of the usual Vice-President role. These are mainly initiatives I gained insight into at the Australian Law Student Association ('ALSA') which I attended in July with President, Chelsea Chieng. Whilst Chelsea has already explained the key take-aways from ALSA, and subsequently what we implemented into the Committee, I wanted to briefly touch on my own initiative.

Throughout my term as Vice-President, I became increasingly aware of the emotional and mental toll that extra-curricular activities can have on a student's well-being and the AULSS Committee is no exception to this. Law students, as high achieving individuals, often put a great deal of pressure on themselves to do absolutely everything all at once. At ALSA, there was a sharp focus on mental health and well-being. I was lucky to become aware of the many great initiatives implemented by other Law Student Societies across Australia and I wish to share them here for future Committees to consider implementing.

### ***Chill-Leave Policy***

Deakin University Law Students' Society was kind enough to share their mental-health and wellbeing policy with myself and other ALSA attendees. Essentially, the Policy encourages Committee members to put their mental health first and aims to prevent Committee burn out. The crux of the policy is to provide Committee members with a 2 week break from Committee related duties. Hence, it acts as a 'chill-leave'.

I brought this to the Committee at one of our Committee Meetings. Whilst there was some hesitation that this may cause Committee members to abuse the policy, ultimately, it was unanimously decided that we would trial this. It operates on a good faith basis and there are mechanisms in place to avoid a member abusing the policy. Further, I spoke to the other Societies which have this policy in place, and they are yet to see a member taking advantage of it.

Our policy essentially allows a representative (not an Executive) to take 2 weeks off all AULSS duties. This means that they do not have to attend sponsored events, or Committee meetings, or reply to messages that are *not urgent*. The Vice-President co-ordinates the Chill Leave. The Committee member does not need to disclose reasons for taking the chill-leave, rather they just need to tell their Director and the Vice-President that they will be taking the leave. Members are encouraged to be mindful of their portfolio's busy periods and to organise their leave in advance. The Vice-President, on consultation with the Executive, retains the right to deny chill-leave policy in extraordinary circumstances. If it was so denied, then it would be postponed to a different date. The reason for this applying only to Representatives and not Directors/the Executive is because the Executive is aware of the responsibility they signed up for and if they were to take two weeks leave, then their duties would fall to other Executive members who already have a full workload. This was unanimously decided in an Executive Meeting. There are other terms stipulated within the policy, however, these are the main points.

I look forward to seeing how this plays out in the future. Of course, if this does not work, then the Committee of the time can easily pass a motion to get rid of the policy.

I do have high hopes, however, for its success based on Committee feedback and the Deakin University Law Student Societies feedback.

Furthermore, other Societies at ALSA informed me that during busy periods, such as before exams, they 'close the Committee' for a week. They distribute an email and make social media posts explaining that they will not be replying to messages or replying to student queries in the Office. Whilst I think this is a great idea as it promotes Committee well-being, this is something for future Committees to deliberate as to whether they could do so keeping in mind how many events the AULSS run.

### ***Communication***

I strongly encourage future Committees not to continue to use Facebook as the main platform for communication between Committee members. Currently, all AULSS internal communications occur on Facebook through group pages and group chats. Most other Societies use 'Google Chats' or 'Slack' to communicate. At ALSA, it was explained to me that Facebook is meant to be a safe space for personal activities and contacting friends. Opening your personal social media accounts should not be a stressful or an anxiety-inducing activity. As such, I strongly urge next year's Committee to look at what other platforms are out there and implement these as soon as the year begins.

### ***Secretary***

At ALSA, it became apparent that many Law Student Societies across Australia have Secretaries. Their role is to essentially deal with the administrative tasks of the Society and take the administrative burden off the Vice-President. The sheer administrative work that goes behind Committee Meetings (especially writing minutes) is extensive. I note that other Student Bodies also pay someone to write their minutes, and these minutes are not even a quarter of the length of the AULSS minutes. I suggest looking into adding a Secretary Role to the AULSS Committee and at the very least, looking into whether Committee Meetings minutes need to be as long as they currently are.

## Suggestions for 2023

I have alluded to each suggestion for the relevant initiative in my report above. As such I will provide my suggestions for the 2023 by way of key takeaways.

### Meetings

- Meetings: Meetings do not need to go on for any longer than 1.5 hours.
- Reports: Continue to tell the Executive that the Reports are due two days before they are to avoid being in breach of the Constitution due to late submissions.
- Executive Meetings: continue to have these the Monday before the Committee meeting. This saves time in Committee meetings as the Executive have already arrived at decisions and do not need to carry this out in front of the entire Committee. However, be open to cancelling an Executive Meeting if no one has anything of substance to discuss, do not hold meetings just for the sake of it (the term is busy enough). As such, operate on a 'needs basis' only.

### Merchandise

- Order with Nelson's Teamwear, it is all set up and ready to go.
- Do not order surplus amounts of merchandise, stick with the 'made to order' basis only.
- Continue to expand the colour range, without this, I do not think the sales would have been as high.
- Continue to expand the range, by way of colour and items. Nelson's are very accommodating with minimum orders, and the risk of these not being met is extremely low.
- Bring back the 'Hoodie Competition' initiative.
- Ask Nelson's to provide you with sample sizes during the ordering period so that students/teachers can try their sizes on.
- Due to staff feedback, do not categorise the merchandise drops as 'Summer' and 'Winter'. Rather, 'Semester 1' and 'Semester 2' is more appropriate as by the time the merchandise has arrived, these are no longer the relevant seasons.
- Whilst there has been a lot of positive feedback regarding the embroidery, consider switching it up as it has been used for quite some time now.

### Law School Local

- Reach out to as many venues as possible as soon as your term begins.
- In order to increase sales, social media is imperative. Therefore, increase social media engagement. For example, videos of some of the Committee members around the CBD using their LSL cards.

## **Committee Wellbeing**

- Make the Committee aware of the 'Chill-Leave' Policy.
- Consider a 'shut down' period where the Committee will not reply to emails, messages or take student queries during exam periods.
- Take communication off Facebook and onto another forum.

## **Secretary**

- Consider implementing a new position for 'Secretary', which is in line with other Australian Law Student Societies and takes the administrative burden off the Vice-President, allowing their time to be spent on other meaningful initiatives.

## **Organising the Committee**

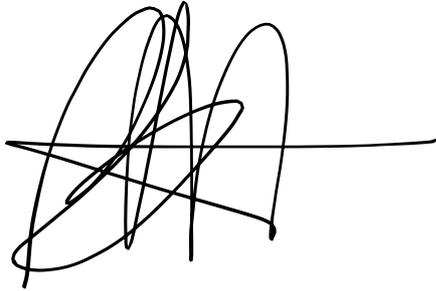
- Utilise the Calendar and put every single AULSS event in there.
- Invite the Executive to accept these events.
- This year, I sent out calendar invites to the entire Committee not only for Committee meetings, but also for important events like sponsored events. Talk with the Executive and ask them what events they have coming up that they would like to extend invitations to the entire Committee for.

## **Conclusion**

It has been my absolute pleasure to serve as the Vice-President of the Adelaide University Law Students' Society 2022 Committee. It has been a crazy, rewarding, emotional, challenging but remarkable year. I look forward to watching the Committee in future years from afar. This experience will always be the highlight of my Law School journey and I thank each and every student for allowing me to have this opportunity. I would also like to thank the amazing Committee of 2022 for all their hard work and for making my job so enjoyable. Seeing your beautiful faces at every Committee meeting was always the highlight of my week. Thank you also to last year's Vice-President, Annabel Bramley, for her assistance at the beginning of the year when I transitioned into this role.

Most importantly, I would like to extend my sincere thanks to the President, Chelsea Chieng. In the first few years at Law School, I was not very active in the social scene. Chelsea, however, encouraged me to join the Committee in my second to last year of University, and it truly changed my whole Law School experience. It was then that I found my place within the AULSS and my passion for extra-curricular and decided to run for Vice-President. Going from a Representative to the Vice-President was quite

the jump, and Chelsea guided and supported me throughout this whole term. I certainly could not have gotten through this year without her.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Bella Mikan', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

**Bella Mikan**  
Vice-President  
12 October 2022

## Treasurer's Report

**Treasurer:** Kane McAskill

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### Summary

I feel extraordinarily grateful to have been selected as the Treasurer for the remainder of 2022. Although short-lived, it has been an exceptional experience, and a privilege to be surrounded by such astute and hardworking people, and contribute to the AULSS in the capacity as Treasurer.

### Co-Option and Thanks to Previous Treasurer

I was co-opted as a result of the previous Treasurer, Aryan, resigning near the end of semester one. I want to confer my thanks and recognise Aryan's contributions to the AULSS during their time as Treasurer. Aryan effectively managed the AULSS's finances, implemented efficient processes for invoice management and, with the assistance of the Executive, raised a significant amount of revenue through our sponsorship programme this year. As a result of their contributions, we have been placed in a very healthy financial position.

### Finances of the Society

#### ***Financial Position and Financial Statements***

The AULSS has reported an unaudited profit of **\$36,987.86** for the 2021/22 Financial Year ('FY21/22').

Our financial reports (annexed to the end of this report) including both our income statement and balance sheet breakdown all income and expenses for FY21/22 contrasted with the previous year's figures.

As of 12 October 2022, the AULSS's bank accounts are:

<b>ACCOUNT</b>	<b>BALANCE</b>
Society Cheque Account (operating account)	\$19,570.43
Business Online Saver (interest-bearing account)	\$87,079.40
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$106,649.83</b>

I note that the financial year of AULSS falls within 1 July to 30 June the following year, as prescribed by the *Associations Incorporation Act 1985* (SA). This does not align with the Committee's operating calendar (i.e. December to November). Thus, this captures both the

second half of the previous Committee's activities in conjunction with the first half of the present Committee's activities.

### ***Profits & Expenses***

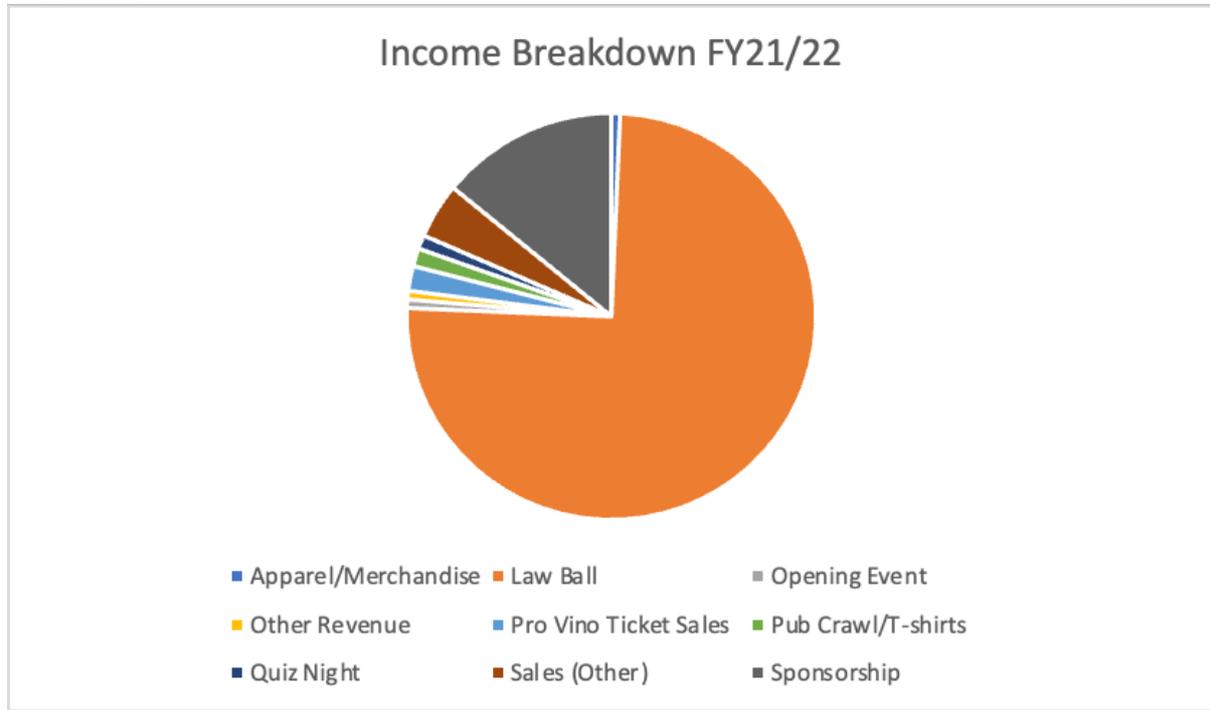
#### **FY 21/22 Revenue and Expenses:**

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>Variance</b>
<b>Revenue</b>	\$266,368.84	\$147,512.37	45%
<b>Expense</b>	\$229,380.98	\$156,949.63	32%
<b>Net</b>	\$36,987.86	(\$9,437.26)	

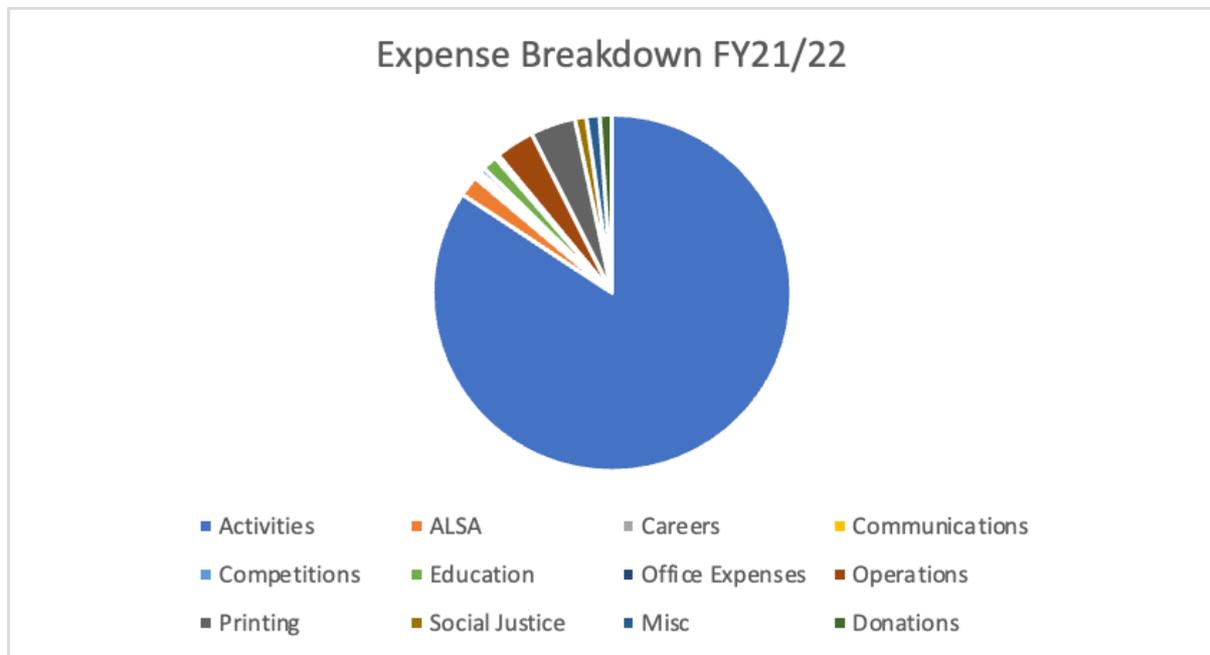
**Note:** We use a cash accounting system whereby transactions are recorded as and when they are paid or expensed. This can be distinguished from an accrual accounting system whereby items are recorded as they are incurred (that is, irrespective of whether money has been tendered). The above figures therefore do not account for expenses which were paid in semester 2 from events that took place in semester 1 (e.g. the settlement of the law ball account).

The increased net position for 2022 is attributed to an increase in sponsorship revenue and law ball revenue. Further, the 2022 financial year figures capture income made from Law Ball in semester 2 of last year.

## Revenue Breakdown



## Expense Breakdown



## Observations

It is evident from the above breakdowns that we heavily rely on the success of Law Ball. While we maintain substantive retained earnings, which can be utilised to hedge against any adverse risks in the form of reduced cash flows or extraneous unforeseeable events, we

should look to diversify income streams. For instance, by expanding sponsorship, introducing an online merchandise store, and increase prices where appropriate, etc.

### ***Budgeting***

As established last year, the current system of budgeting requires directors to create budgets for each event, making reference to the previous year's income and expenses from the relevant event. Budgets are then sent to the treasurer for approval. All budgets and actual figures are then reported at Committee meetings by the respective portfolio director. Concurrently, the Treasurer would create separate, overall budgets for each month of the year which would then be circulated to the rest of the Committee before each meeting. At present, there is no master budget capturing all projected income and expenses for all operations throughout the year.

As I will note in my recommendations, I strongly advise the incoming Treasurer to utilize a centralized structure for budgeting. The use of a centralized master budget is more consistent with strategic financial decision-making, good governance, and year-to-year performance tracking. Further, it affords transparency and capacity for the Committee to have a better understanding of how the AULSS's money is being spent.

The Treasurer should in the first instance create and assign a budget for each respective portfolio at the start of the year. This should then be discussed and approved by the Executive. Throughout the academic year it can be adapted where necessary and appropriate by directors.

Reporting of actual figures for each event should be submitted to the Treasurer, and then published by the Director's each Committee meeting. The Treasurer should publish a breakdown of each portfolio's expenditures and income allowing for questions from the Committee and any attending members.

### ***Accounting & GST***

The AULSS is registered for GST as an Incorporated Association. The AULSS has continued to work with Caveo Partners this year in maintaining true and accurate accounting records. Caveo Partners have assisted us with using Xero, lodging Business Activity Statements (BAS), and ensuring we are compliant with our GST obligations.

Please note that our Income Statement is GST exclusive. GST is shown as a liability on the Balance Sheet.

I confirm that the AULSS has adhered to its GST obligations to date.

### ***Donations***

During the 2021-2022 term, the AULSS made a number of donations equating to **\$3,472.00**. The table below breaks down this figure:

<b>No.</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Recipient</b>	<b>Amount</b>
1.	14 December 2021	Shine SA	\$1,580.00
2.	20 May 2022	Justice Net SA	\$1,892.00
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$3,472.00</b>

Further, with the establishment of the Social Justice Fund (SJF) last year, 5% of proceeds from all AULSS events will be donated to a charity of the AULSS' choice at the conclusion of the year. As per the above, \$1,580.00 was donated from the SJF to Shine SA.

As was highlighted in the 2021 Treasurer Report, and as is the same this year, the AULSS is in a healthy financial position. Accordingly, I encourage the incoming Executive and Committee to consider how we can expand the scope of our donations, particularly with respect to the textbook fund.

### ***Invoices & Invoice Tracker***

One of the key responsibilities of the Treasure is invoice management. An invoice tracker for managing and paying invoices was introduced this year. Quite simply, it is a spreadsheet that maintains all payments going out from the AULSS. This is effective, namely because it alleviates unnecessary administrative work, allows for efficient and prompt payment processing, and helps with accountability as it is transparent and accessible to all Committee members. It is important that if this system is to be utilized in the future, that all Committee members follow it.

I note that there were a few occasions where I had failed to tender payment for invoices which was a result of the existing process not being followed (e.g. not appending the relevant information to the invoice tracker) or it fell within the transitional period of gaining access to the bank accounts and thus a minor oversight by me.

I would like to take this opportunity to recognise our President, Chelsea, for her efforts in assuming the responsibilities of Treasurer during the interlude and ensuring prompt payment of all invoices and reimbursements.

As of the time of writing this report, all invoices and reimbursements are paid.

## **Sponsorship**

Sponsorship was very successful this year and as I understand it had been finalized by March. The sponsorship prospectus largely followed the same structure as in previous years, with some amendments to the pricing of particular items. We also continued to offer small discounts for large sponsors as a gesture of gratitude and good faith.

We offered a good variety of sponsorship items which received strong demand from all stakeholders that engaged us. However, I believe the packages and items could be refined and made clearer in terms of specific entitlements and inclusions, both for sponsors and Committee members engaging with stakeholders.

Sponsorship engagement continued to grow throughout the year and I am pleased to report that we had a total of 21 organizations engage with our sponsorship programme for 2022. Most notably, we introduced our first Property Law Competition, sponsored by Commercial & Legal (I will allow Celena to expand on this in her report).

At the time of writing this report, the AULSS has raised **\$39,555.95 (incl GST)** or **\$35,959.95 (excl GST)** respectively.

This is a testament to the hard work of Aryan, and Communications Director, Annie, as well as other members of the Executive who were involved in reaching out and engaging with stakeholders.

This is an increase of **\$5,770.00** or **14.59%** from 2021.

The AULSS would likely to thank our generous sponsors for 2022:

- Allens
- Allen & Overy
- Arnold Bloch Leibler (ABL)
- Ashurst
- Baker McKenzie
- Clayton Utz
- The College of Law
- Commercial & Legal (Legal Services) Pty Ltd
- Corrs Chambers Westgarth
- Cowell Clarke
- Gilbert + Tobin
- Herbert Smith Freehills
- HWL Ebsworth
- Johnston Winter & Slattery
- Kain Lawyers
- The Law Society of South Australia
- Leo Cussen Centre for Law
- LK
- Mellor Olsson Lawyers
- Minter Ellison
- Thomson Geer

Additionally, as Bella will note, we had terrific support this year for the AULSS Student Card. I want to recognise Bella's efforts as well as thank all the Committee members that went out and contacted small businesses or were able to leverage their connections in Adelaide to get so many businesses onboard.

### ***Introduction of Sponsorship Representative***

The Sponsorship Representative was established to manage all stakeholder and sponsorship engagement under the oversight of the Treasurer. Sponsorship is important both for the financial success of the AULSS as one of our major income streams, but also to further the purpose of the organisation by facilitating more expansive and impactful opportunities for students to engage in. Accordingly, building long-term relationships with key stakeholders is fundamental to the success of the AULSS and to fulfilling our purpose as an organisation. Further, it was clear that the burden of this responsibility was disadvantageous to the Treasurer, Director of Communications and Careers respectively. Therefore, it was concluded that this was a necessary next step in developing our team structure to accommodate the responsibility of stakeholder engagement. This is a very exciting and essential development for the AULSS, and I am confident that it will make the Executive more efficient, generate more engagement from stakeholders and ultimately help us better serve our members.

## **Recommendations 2022/2023**

### ***Preface***

Given my co-option, I have not had enough time to offer substantive recommendations for the incoming Treasurer and Committee. Aryan, our previous Treasurer for this year, has kindly provided some suggestions to improve decision-making processes and governance, and on how we can capitalise on revenue increasing opportunities. I have included these in addition to my own recommendations, which have been informed by my short experience as Treasurer here but also as a previous Treasurer for another organisation. I believe these recommendations will be very beneficial to the incoming Treasurer and the AULSS moving forward.

### **AULSS Card**

By and large, Executive and Committee members have used the card responsibly. However, there have been a few instances where Committee members have used the card for an unauthorized amount or have reutilised the card without further approval. This is not acceptable. Given the generally quick turnaround for reimbursements, payments transactions which require payments on the spot, should be paid by members themselves to be reimbursed as soon as possible as indicated on the invoice tracker. This ultimately ensures that unauthorized payments (particularly ones that exceed the agreed upon budget) are not a liability of the AULSS. By extension, it ensures our governance for payments is followed.

Thus, the AULSS card needs to be used with a high standard of integrity and requires authorisation from the Treasurer before use.

## **Textbook Fund**

As it stands, the AULSS could be diverting more of its retained earnings each year to the textbook fund. An increase, somewhere in the order of \$2,000 each semester, could provide a more benefit to multiple students instead of the existing \$500 (which would only cover one student's 4 text law textbooks. I hope the incoming Committee will give this some thought and look to direct more of our retained earnings to this initiative.

## **High Value Transactions**

At present, transactions over \$500 require Executive approval by way of circular resolution. However, transactions of unusually high value are not appropriately captured by the current procedure. Therefore, in order to effectively manage high value transactions that also require an assessment of multiple competing factors, and which do not fall within the ordinary course of the AULSS's activities, it is proposed that new cost thresholds are introduced to the circular resolution procedure for the approval of such transactions.

I would recommend that any transaction between \$500-\$2500 goes through a circular resolution procedure; any transaction between \$2500-\$5000 goes to an open Executive discussion and a confidential Executive vote; any transaction \$5000 and above goes to the Committee for discussion and a vote. This will exclude more regular transactions of this size such as those that fall within the AULSS's ordinary course of activities e.g. Law Ball and the like.

It is important that all views are considered in large scale transactions and that a proper assessment of the costs (considering current capital and future cash flows), benefits (both monetary and non-monetary), and whether it is consistent with and furthers the AULSS's purpose.

Ultimately, this revised procedure will ensure that we have appropriate checks and balances, and that the Executive maintains consistent governance with respect to the AULSS's funds.

## **POS - Square**

The AULSS periodically utilizes the Loyverse Point of Sale (POS) system or an excel spreadsheet to track sales using Albert for events or merchandise. An issue that arises is that we have to manually import data from this software into Xero to accurately track all data, and it is not the most intuitive user interface for our purposes (i.e. difficulty in usage and creating products et cetera).

Thus, I recommend, following consultation with our accountant, that we adopt Square Payments software as our POS for the foreseeable future. It is more efficient, easier to use

and directly interacts with Xero (our accounting software) which affords more effective record keeping. Further, there is no fee for using this service.

Square would be an ideal system for in-person merchandise sales and events we run throughout the year.

## **Farewell Albert**

As of December 31, the Albert service terminal provided by Commonwealth Bank of Australia (CBA) will be discontinued and will need to be replaced. CBA is introducing a new terminal called "Smart terminal" which will be available at a monthly rental fee of \$29.50, plus a 1.1% transaction fee. The new terminal does not possess any particularly novel advancements aside from some extra functionality which likely would be beyond our purposes. I would advise the Treasurer and Executive to consider alternative terminals before proceeding. Square is a good option to consider as it would integrate well with our new POS (as outlined above). Although it comes at an upfront cost of \$329 plus a higher fee of 1.6% per transaction.

## **Not-for-Profit (NFP) Status**

During my tenure, it became apparent that we are not designated as a Not-for-Profit (NFP) for tax purposes, despite meeting all the requirements. As such, I have been in discussions with a representative from Caveo Partners to organize our affairs for either self-assessing as an NFP or being endorsed as one by the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) and Australian Charitable and Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission (ACNC).

As an NFP, we would be entitled to a number of benefits, namely GST and other tax concessions. Further, we are able to represent ourselves as an NFP to stakeholders which will help us build better recognition, goodwill and engagement. This will of course occasion some additional obligations for reporting and transparency. It is my view that these additional obligations would be very minimal and are worth taking on in order to obtain the benefits.

Accordingly, I will continue to coordinate with Caveo Partners until handover in December, at which time I will allow the incoming Treasurer to take it from there.

## **Advisory Board**

Invariably Committee members will often refer questions/issues/matters to previous exec members. This is not uncommon for most student clubs. However, there is an opportunity to establish a more practical mechanism for utilizing the tacit knowledge and experience from previous Executive members. I thus propose formalizing this process by introducing an Advisory Board. For the sake of illustrating what it could look like, three to five Executive members from the previous year would sit on this board and convene either once a semester or term with the current year's Executive. Further, the Board could operate on an ad hoc basis for to advise and provide useful guidance particularly difficult and time-pressing matters.

There are of course weaknesses to this, most notably ensuring commitment from Executive members that elect to join, and whether it provide worthwhile utility to the incoming Executive. However, I believe it has real potential and could be very beneficial for the Committee.

I suggest that this idea be potentially considered and workshopped further by the incoming Committee.

## **GDLP Event**

As highlighted by Imogen Tonkin, the 2021 Treasurer, the GDLP Networking Night again posed some issues in relation to sponsorship pricing which warrant brief mention here.

GLDP providers who are not named sponsors of the event, may still attend, and in doing so acquire most of the same benefits as the sponsoring providers (with the exception of the named sponsor promotion). While I was very happy to have as many providers there as possible, it makes little commercial and practical sense to have a provider there for free, obtaining the same marketable benefits as the other providers who have paid to be there.

Accordingly, I recommend constructing a new cost model where all providers pay a minimum price to attend, and if they would like additional benefits, such as being the named sponsor, they can elect to purchase a package which entitles them to those benefits. I will leave this for the incoming Treasurer and Director of Education to work through.

## **Handover**

Something that was missing from my role is a toolkit that operates as a single source of truth when it comes to the responsibilities and key information relevant to the role. I have accordingly created a more substantive handover precedent, which I have colloquially named as the "Treasurer Bible". This document will contain all information from the previous year's handovers including contact details of key stakeholders (such as the accountants), financial governance and processes, risk management/strategy and lessons learned from previous Treasurers.

In essence, it will operate as a go-to guide and a more effective mechanism for maintaining the corporate memory of this role. Further, in the event that the Treasurer is to resign, whoever the officer is that assumes the responsibilities will be able to refer to this for all questions and concerns. I recommend this is continued by future Treasurers.

## **Fiscal-Year End Date**

Changing fiscal-year end dates can yield various benefits, namely to provide the opportunity to optimize financial reporting by coinciding the financial year with the Committee's operating calendar (or the academic year or end of the third quarter). This would ensure that financial reports reflect the income and expenses captured by the current Committee. It would also

mitigate skewed data by virtue of income and expenses captured in the latter half of the previous year. I would advise this is considered in the long-term as it might be a beneficial change. Consultation with our accountant should also be sought.

## Price Increases and Consumer Price Index (CPI)

It is no secret that the global economy is facing extraordinary macro-economic conditions at the moment with inflation at all-time highs – largely due to supply side inflationary factors and geopolitical tensions – met with aggressive monetary policy to tame it. Due to the delayed effect of monetary policy transmission, it is likely that we will not see any material differences to inflation within the next 6 months. The latest CPI report indicated an increase to 6.1% for the June quarter.<sup>1</sup>

Accordingly, to account for the inevitable increase in the cost of our activities, I would recommend the incoming Treasurer, in collaboration with the Executive, look at increasing our prices for sponsorship items in order to bring us into parity with Australian market prices.

## Conclusion

I would like to thank the Executive for warmly welcoming me into the role of Treasurer and making the transition seamless. While a short-lived journey, it has nonetheless been an invaluable experience and a pleasure working with the Executive and the broader Committee.

Chelsea and Bella, you have been absolutely delightful to work with and it has been inspiring to witness firsthand your work ethic and passion for the AULSS. Additionally, I want to thank the Executive for their dedication and leadership this year.

The AULSS is in a strong financial position, and I am very confident that the incoming Treasurer, Minnah, will fulfil the responsibilities of the role to a very high standard.

I wish the 2023 Committee all the best in their endeavours, and I look forward to seeing what you achieve.



**Kane McAskill**  
Treasurer, AULSS  
12 October 2022

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<sup>1</sup> 'Consumer Price Index, Australia', *Australian Bureau of Statistics* (Web Page, 12 October 2022) <<https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/economy/price-indexes-and-inflation/consumer-price-index-australia/latest-release>>.

# Activities Portfolio Report

**Director:** Catherine Chhour

**Representatives:** Katia Saffiedin, Shiv Gandhi, Olivia Higgins, Georgia Chiswell,  
Natalie Nimon

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## Summary

Activities 2022 has been an absolutely incredible ride! My wonderful team of girls and I have worked hard all year to bring law students with a range of fun and exciting events. I am incredibly proud of what we have been able to achieve. There is no doubt that we love what we do, and we have all had so much fun creating and attending our events!

I feel incredibly fortunate that we experienced little to no disruptions from covid restrictions, as experienced in previous years. This meant that we were able to bring the largest Law Ball ever back as a cocktail style event, and enjoy dancing and singing at ALL our events! We could definitely tell that people missed dancing, as the dancefloor is always hitting off at every event, whether that is Pro Vino, Quiz Night or Law Dinner etc.

A successful year of Activities would not be possible without my amazing reps who I am incredibly proud of – Georgia, Shiv, Olivia, Katia and Natalie. Also, thank you to Ruby for helping our portfolio with communications for every event. Most importantly, thank you to everyone who has continued to engage with our events!

## Opening Party

To kick start our exciting year of events for 2022, we had our Sue Me Opening Party at the Havelock Hotel! This event sold out in minutes with 200 attendees! We could tell law students were as keen as ever to party and socialise with everyone. Shiv did an amazing job running this event. The theme 'Euphoria' was also a hit, as people rocked up with glitter, sparkles, and stylish outfits. It was so good to see everyone having fun on the dancefloor, especially after covid restrictions, we were back better than ever! I would definitely recommend the Havey as a venue for future events, as we had full access to a large section of the venue, and it is always a crowd favourite.

## Photos



## Provino

We returned with our infamous Pro Vino wine tour, which was organised by the wonderful Olivia! The sunny day was spent sipping wine at Coriole Vineyards and Big Easy Radio. Both venues were absolutely beautiful, in particular, the Western Lawns at Coriole provided some picturesque views - perfect for those Instagram pictures. They also provided lovely cheese platters to enjoy with the wines. Big Easy Radio are always such a lovely and easy venue to work with. The colourful scheme, quirky décor, different chill out areas, and of course the dog, all brighten up the place. We always seem to be blessed with beautiful weather on Pro Vino, so it was great to see everyone soaking up the sun and relaxing over wine with friends.

Tickets were at \$73 + booking fee, which is to cover the coach, free drinks, subsidised drinks, DJ and photographer! I would recommend keeping prices low as usual for Pro

Vino and exploring the vast range of beautiful wineries and potentially gin distilleries that SA has to offer for future years!

## Photos



## Triversity Pub Crawl

We teamed up with the Uni SA Law Association and Flinders Law Students' Association for our grand Triversity Pub Crawl! Georgia did a great job working on this event in collaboration with the other unis. It was exciting to bring all law students of SA together for a big pub crawl! We engaged in a t-shirt design competition again, with the winning design being a Spiderman one – 'with great power comes great liability.' This year, we had a wide list of venues to hop to, including the Belgian, Distill,

Austral, Nevermind, Woolshed, Duke of York, Dog and Duck, Black Bull, Super Cali, Lion Arts Factory and of course, Zombies!

I think it was a great initiative collaborating with the other law societies, although Adelaide University law students do always make a larger presence!

### *Banner*





## Law Ball

Law Ball 2022 was an event that I worked very hard on and am very proud of. The theme was MAMMA MIA, which was the perfect excuse for Mamma Mia and ABBA to be played throughout the night! This year, due to footy fixtures been unknown, we could not hold it at the Adelaide Oval like in previous years. Instead, we hosted our biggest Law Ball ever with 1100 people at the Adelaide Convention Centre. This also worked well as I began planning Law Ball in December when there were still capacity and other covid restrictions, so the Convention Centre provided more flexibility given their wide range of spaces. The process of decorating the space to the Mamma Mia theme was very enjoyable, as we included large disco balls, lit up sequin backdrops, white ceiling drapes, hanging festoon lights, pink trees, and the unmissable LED dancefloor!

Overall, it was amazing to host such a large-scale event after previous Law Balls impacted by covid-restrictions. We were finally able to bring back a cocktail style event with standing up eating and drinking, no masks, no capacity restrictions, SINGING and DANCING! I feel incredibly fortunate that Law Ball 2022 was a largely successful night and hope that it lived up to everyone's expectations.

However, there were some damages (vomiting and broken glassware) following the event, which were not pleasant to deal with. I would recommend returning to the Adelaide Oval, given our good relationship established with them and their experience with hosting our infamous Law Balls!

I would like to thank my wonderful reps and Ruby for helping me with Law Ball tasks, and to Chelsea Chieng for supporting me throughout the process! It also wouldn't be possible without the continued engagement of all law students and the wider community as well, so thank you to everyone for making it happen.

*Poster Design*



*Photos*



## Stress Less Event

The Activities portfolio had fun collaborating with the Education portfolio for our 'Stress Less' event towards the end of semester 1. Georgia and Olivia worked with the first-year reps, Kathryn and Gurjot, to brighten up Liggy with free pastries, coffees and cuddles from Ellie the dog! Law Students love free stuff and deserve every chance to de-stress!

## End of Exams Party

To reward ourselves for finishing exams, we returned to West Oak for our End of Exams Party! Thank you to Katia for hosting this wonderful event. It was fantastic to get everyone together for a few drinks and to hit up the dancefloor after a tiring semester. Tickets were only \$10 each, and provided you with a free drink, access to drink specials and exclusive access to the beer garden where the party was hosted.

### Photos



## Back to School Merger Party

2022 was the year that the faculties merged, such that the Law School is now part of ABLE. Although we were sad to let go of Alex Jones and the Law faculty, we thought it would be a good idea to bring some joy in the form of a party! We hosted a Back-

to-School Party with the Business Society and Arts Association at the good old Uni Bar. It was nice that we were open to new ideas and initiatives.

## Photos



## Quiz Night

Quiz night this year was Hollywood themed and organised by the incredible Georgia! This classic event saw students dressed up in fun costumes, from the Great Gatsby, Star Wars and even Barbies who won best dressed! The beautiful Next Gen hosted our event again this year, and are an absolute dream to work with. Students were able to bring their own snacks and enjoy \$4 subsidised drinks at the bar! Thank you to Georgia for planning the event so well!

I would definitely recommend working with Next Gen again, as they are the perfect venue close to the city that offer BYO snacks and are super accommodating.

*Photos*



## Law Dinner

Law Dinner was a beautiful event, which we like to term 'the mini Law Ball.' Like last year, it was sponsored by the Law Society of South Australia and held at the InterContinental Hotel. Students enjoyed a 2-course seated dinner, open bar as usual and the buzzing dancefloor! The LED balloon table centrepieces were also a great idea to spice up the space on a budget.

Justin Stewart-Rattray, President of the Law Society of South Australia was invited as our guest speaker, and did an amazing job engaging the crowd by discussing the GDLP program briefly and his experiences transitioning from a student to lawyer.

Tickets were \$88 for a non-alcoholic ticket and \$98 for an alcoholic ticket. I would recommend keeping the two different ticket types, as it allows students who aren't planning on drinking to be encouraged to join in on the fun.

## Photos



## Suits, Scrubs and Spanners

This year, the Engineering Society are joining us for the biggest collaborative event ever! This will be an exciting event, as the three societies are known for their big events and engaging student body. From the makers of the AULSS Law Ball, Skulduggery and the Engineering Pub Crawl, comes 'Suits, Scrubs and Spanners!' We will be hosting over 600 students at Atlantis Lounge Bar, with the whole venue for the biggest mixer party. Tickets are \$12 and profits will be going towards Shine SA, a not-for-profit charity that support sexual health, relationship and wellbeing services. This event will also act as a celebration for the end of the Blood Drive between the three societies. Thank you to Shiv for working with the medicine and engineering

societies on this large collaborative event, which involved numerous meetings to make possible!

## Banner



## Stress Less Event

As always, we will return in week 12 of semester 2 with another stress less event to help law students de-stress leading up to the exam period.

## Closing Party

Our newly nominated rep, Natalie Nimon will be organising our Closing Party at a new venue this year – the Maid Hotel! We look forward to celebrating finishing another year of study and the final AULSS event of 2022!

## Suggestions for 2023

I have no doubt that Activities for 2023 will be another largely successful year. I hope that engagement with our events continue in the future, and I would love to see further increases in engagement across all our events. To boost engagement, I believe looking at new venues (even if it is slightly out of the CBD) and for Pro Vino – new wineries or gin distilleries, would work well to attract people! Keeping prices as low as possible (despite inflation) remains a goal across all our events. From a marketing perspective, I believe engaging banner and poster designs, and potentially reels as a form of event marketing would work well to get people interested!

## Conclusion

I am so proud of all the hard work and amazing events that my team has been able to achieve this year. The Activities Portfolio is such a fun portfolio to be in and I have enjoyed every second of being on it – from being a Representative for 2 years to Director this year. It has been a pleasure working with such passionate and incredible people who love what they do – planning exciting events and bringing people together. I am also grateful that we have such engaging students, especially with our annual Law Balls.

I am sad to say goodbye to Activities after 3 years, as it has definitely shaped my Law School experience and I have had so much fun, learnt a lot and most importantly, met lots of amazing people through it. Thank you all.



**Catherine Chhour**  
Director of Activities  
07 October 2022

## Careers Portfolio Report

**Director:** Anthony Luppino

**Representatives:** Ben McAdams (Semester 1), Jarod Eddy, Kane McAskil (Semester 1), Lucas Michaels, Sophie Tait and Winston Li

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### Summary

2022 was an extremely busy year for all involved in the Careers Portfolio. However, from day one, each member of the Portfolio did not shy away from putting in the hard work and dedication needed to achieve our set goals, and our success throughout 2022 is a testament to that. A total of seventeen events were held this year, ranging from our 2022 Careers & Clerkships Guide Launch Night to our 'How to Network' and 'How to Interview' Evenings with many industry professionals. Additionally, our Careers & Clerkships Guide won the 'Best Careers Publication' award at the Australian Law Students' Association National Conference in July which is an exceptional result.

Whilst planning the year in December 2021, I utilised my previous experience on the Careers Portfolio to reflect upon what went well, what did not, and what could be improved going forward into 2022. Whilst nineteen events were held in 2021, I felt that this was too many, and that a focus on fewer yet bigger events would yield a better result. However, my vision was not able to come to fruition due to our sponsorship commitments, with many organisations purchasing items from our Prospectus. Nevertheless, whilst I was slightly concerned as to how we would tackle all of the sponsorship items, including many 'Firm Presentation Evenings' and 'Seminars', with a lot of planning, organisation, hard work and resilience, I am proud to declare that we are set to fulfil all of our sponsorship items and obligations (I note that at the time of writing this report, we have two remaining events to be held over the next few weeks); this has not only resulted in significant revenue for the AULSS but also a great outcome for students, being able to hear from a vast variety of firms and organisations in addition to maximising their knowledge of the legal industry and profession as a whole.

This year has most definitely been the busiest of my life but perhaps also the year where I have learned the most. I have been able to refine and improve my own leadership skills, learning how to effectively manage a team and maximise both morale and productivity. Additionally, through having an optimal mix of skills and personalities within the Committee this year, this enabled each of us to learn from and complement one another, allowing for many amazing results to be achieved as a group.

I would like to extend a big thank you to the Executive for all of their guidance, assistance, knowledge and passion throughout the year; it has been a privilege getting to know and work with each of them. I would also like to extend a special

thank you to Annie Zhang for all of her hard work as our Portfolio's designated Communications Representative, always ensuring that the promotional material for our events was up to a world-class standard. Finally, I would like to extend a huge thank you to my entire team for all of their passion and dedication throughout the year; without each of them, the Careers Portfolio would not have been able to achieve the many amazing things that it did. Whilst I had always aspired to be a Director on the AULSS from the early years of my law school journey, each of my team members truly did make this an even more enjoyable experience than I could have possibly imagined. I am extremely grateful to have been given this wonderful experience and opportunity; everything that I have learned this year will most definitely assist me throughout my entire career and life in general.

It has been an absolute pleasure leading the Careers Portfolio in 2022 and being a part of the AULSS for the past three years – it is something that I will forever look fondly back upon.

## **Semester 1**

Semester 1 was extremely busy for the Careers Portfolio as it was the semester where we held the majority of our non-sponsored events, before we began to organise and fulfil our sponsorship items, as ordered per the AULSS Prospectus. The aim of the semester was to get students ready for clerkships, work experience and/or job applications; I am proud to say that we most definitely did our best to achieve this. Events such as the Triversity Law Fair and How to Network Evening in addition to our 2022 Careers & Clerkships Guide provided students with a wide range of knowledge, skills, tips, tricks and experiences that put them in good stead to prepare for and tackle job applications.

### ***Careers x Competitions Come and Try Day***

This event was held at 12pm on Saturday 5 March 2022 after its inauguration last year as a new initiative and collaboration between the Careers and Competitions Portfolios; it was most certainly an event that I felt was much-needed and extremely beneficial for students to attend. Taking on board feedback from 2021, the Director of Competitions, Celena Le, and I elected to expand the event, offering more slots and opportunities for students to try out various competitions. We pleasingly had 48 registrations which reflected students' strong interest in trying out competitions before potentially signing up later in the semester. We held a total of 4 workshops over 10 sessions, allowing students to learn more about and try our Client Interviewing, Mooting, Witness Examination and Negotiations competitions. Each workshop was run by a past winner of the competition along with a Competitions and Careers Representative, allowing students to gain knowledge from a variety of individuals.

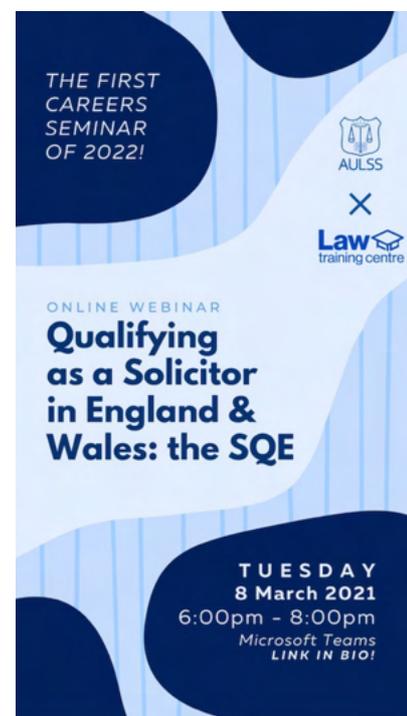
Each member of the Competitions Portfolio were therefore allocated to a particular competition and their respective sessions, providing an overview into the competition and allowing students to actively try it out. Members of the Careers Portfolio then went through the skills and competencies associated with each competition and how they would benefit students' future careers and pathways.

Due to the considerable amount of positive feedback received from students, I do recommend for this event to be continued in 2023 but believe that the Careers Portfolio's involvement must be reflected upon; once the skills were gone through by the Careers Representative in each workshop session, the Representative did not have much more to do. I would recommend for the next Director of Careers to have a think about this and potentially increase the Careers Portfolio's role in the event or potentially allow other portfolios to lend a hand to the Competitions Portfolio in undertaking it, perhaps as a collaboration between numerous or even all Portfolios; this would also allow the 2023 Careers Portfolio to allocate more time to other events should it need to.

### ***Law Training Centre Webinar – the SQE: Qualifying & Dual-Qualifying as a Solicitor and Barrister in England and Wales***

This was a brand-new event and was held at 6pm on Tuesday 8 March 2022 via Microsoft Teams. This followed discussions with the Law Training Centre in the UK early in the year who were keen to hold an event with our students. I was rather excited as I did not believe the Careers Portfolio had hosted an event with an organisation based entirely outside of Australia before, or at least not in recent years, thereby allowing students to obtain some international exposure and knowledge.

The event consisted of an informative session on the SQE (Solicitors Qualifying Examination) course in the UK and the process for qualifying or dual-qualifying as a Solicitor of England & Wales for students. Due to this being a new event, and it being held online, I had some concerns as to how many students would attend. However, approximately 45 students attended which was extremely pleasing.



Students were extremely privileged to hear from Suellen Glazer (Business & Partnerships Manager at the Law Training Centre) who holds an LLB, LLM Business Law, LLM Tax Law, Postgraduate Certificate in Higher Education (PGCHE) and is an admitted lawyer, and Rebecca Ogunmayun (Student Acquisitions Support Administration at the Law Training Centre) who holds a Business and Technology Education Council (BTEC) Diploma and LLB. Students appeared to be extremely engaged in the presentation, reflective of the many personalised questions asked at the end about practising in the UK and the process of doing so.

Going forward into 2023 and beyond, I believe the aim should be to continue to build up this working relationship with the Law Training Centre and to perhaps hold similar events in the future with other international organisations, offering students a wider range of perspectives and knowledge. I encourage the 2023 Director of Careers to reach out to the Law Training Centre as a sponsor for 2023 and also to other

international organisations, allowing for new professional relationships to be formed along with more opportunities being offered to students.

### ***How to Network Evening***

This event was held on Wednesday 16 March 2022 and was an excellent build-up to the Triversity Law Fair on 31 March 2022, ensuring that students of all year levels were adequately equipped with networking skills and were also less nervous about interacting with practitioners and professionals in general. The event consisted of a presentation on networking by Careers Education Officer, Fiona Brammy, specifically tailored to law students, who went through a variety of tips and tricks that would help the 35 student attendees improve their networking skills. Students then broke off into small groups with 'mentors', being students with a vast range of organisational and industry experience, to practice their networking skills; during this, students were also able to seek advice and constructive feedback from the mentors in an informal, non-judgemental setting. This also allowed first and second-year students to obtain advice from senior students.

Overall, lots of positive feedback was received about this event; it gave students greater confidence going into such a big setting with many industry professionals like the Triversity Law Fair. The small-group activity was also an excellent opportunity as it allowed students to ask questions that they may have felt embarrassed or nervous to ask in front of a big group, such as in the main session/presentation with all attendees.

Touching upon the concerns raised in 2021, I believe that more structure is still needed for the event; this may involve bringing in some additional industry professionals, or alternatively, seeking an organisation to potentially sponsor the event and in-turn provide speakers. As an idea, I also think that this event could potentially be merged with the How to Interview Evening into one single, bigger event, saving more time and resources whilst also potentially yielding a better result for students.

### ***2022 Triversity Law Fair***

Now in its fifth year, the annual Triversity Law Fair was held on Thursday 31 March 2022 from 11am to 2pm at the Adelaide Convention Centre. This event was primarily aimed at law students and graduates who were interested in obtaining a clerkship or graduate employment and was jointly organised by the Australian Association of Graduate Employers (AAGE), Adelaide University Law Students' Society (AULSS), Flinders Law Students' Association (FLSA) and the University of South Australia Law Students' Association (USALSA).

A total of 185 students attended the event with 96 of those being from the University of Adelaide. We were extremely fortunate to have the following 15 exhibitors at the event:

- Attorney-General's Department (SA)
- Commercial and Legal
- Dentons
- DMAW Lawyers

- ElectraNet
- HWL Ebsworth Lawyers
- Johnson Winter & Slattery
- Leo Cussen Centre for Law
- LK
- Lynch Meyer Lawyers
- MinterEllison
- Roma Mitchell Human Rights Volunteer Service
- The College of Law
- The Law Society of South Australia
- Thomson Geer

In preparation of the event and after meeting with the AAGE, USALSA and FLSA over Zoom early in 2022, it was decided that the AULSS would design the Triversity Fair poster and related marketing materials; this was done by our Director of Communications, Annie Zhang, and former Communications Representative, Amy Lancaster, who really brought to fruition the colour scheme and ideas that I had planned for the Careers Portfolio in 2022. For reference, the Triversity Fair poster is located to the right.

Furthermore, the same Memorandum of Understanding from 2021 was signed by the AULSS, FLSA and USALSA to ensure that the profits were split in the same manner as in 2021. This meant that 30% of the profit was split equally by the three Societies with the remaining 70% divided proportionately based

on student attendance of each of the Societies; this resulted in the AULSS receiving **\$4282.76** which is an increase of \$1303.76 from \$2979.00 in 2021. As planned and then discussed with the Executive beforehand, this revenue was put to good use, being the printing of 120 copies of our 2022 Careers & Clerkships Guide in May.

Students seemed to enjoy the event and having the opportunity to network with many firms and organisations all in one location, within a friendly environment. Going forward into 2023, quite a few exhibitors commented this year on the confined space that the event was held in at the Convention Centre and so perhaps this could be brought to the AAGE's attention by the next Director of Careers with the view of potentially booking a bigger space (although this would have to be weighed up against the additional costs in doing so). I would also recommend looking at additional ways of improving our University's attendance at the event as we had a



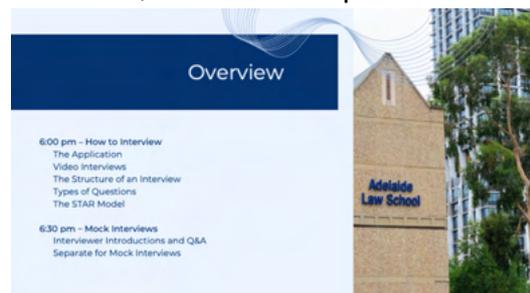
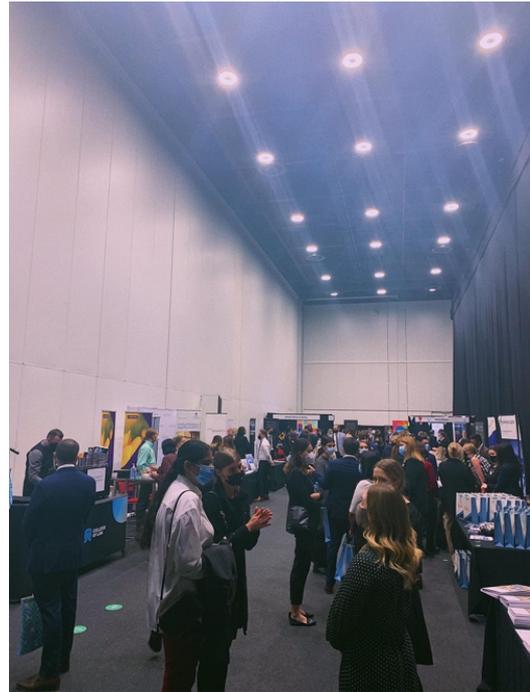
lower attendance this year than in 2021 (as did the two other Universities); perhaps new innovative marketing schemes or programs could be looked into and discussed with the incoming Director of Communications and/or Executive. Nevertheless, I believe everything ran quite smoothly at the event and that it is fair to say that it was an extraordinary success. I would like to extend a big thank you to everyone involved, including Ben Reeves and all representatives from the AAGE, FLSA and USALSA.

### ***How to Interview Evening and Mock Interviews***

This event was held at 6pm on Wednesday 27 April in the Ligertwood building. It was the first event that I delegated out to one of my Representatives, with Winston Li putting his hand up to organise and run it. The evening was aimed at providing students of all years with interviewing skills, including how to prepare for an interview, what questions to ask, and how to practice their responses, all before clerkship and graduate program applications opened.

The event began with a thorough presentation into interviewing by Winston Li, providing an overview into the interview process, the skills needed, and effective preparation and interviewing techniques, especially tailored to the Uniform Clerkship Scheme. This was then followed by the first 40 students who had registered being allocated a 1-on-1 'Mock Interview' for 10 minutes with an industry professional; it was excellent to see such an experienced and esteemed line-up of lawyers and HR professionals from firms, consisting of the following:

- Bernice Witkowski, P&D Manager at DMAW Lawyers;
- Julia Arena, Senior Associate at Andersons Solicitors;
- Kirsty Dunn, Chief People Officer at Thomson Geer;
- Olivia Sharman, HR Associate at Piper Alderman; and
- Pina Zito, HR Advisor at Cowell Clarke.



This event was truly an excellent opportunity for students to build up their existing skills whilst also having the opportunity to participate in a mock interview and practice with the individuals who might receive their future clerkship applications and/or hold their future interviews. Extremely positive feedback was received by all who attended the event, including the many students that were interviewed and each of our esteemed guests.

Although we tried to explore the possibility of allowing students to have multiple mock interviews instead of the one-per-student model adopted in 2021, due to the high number of registrations from students and our time constraints, we were unable to accommodate this; the event even ran slightly overtime with some interviews continuing past 9pm, highlighting how much students enjoyed it. I would most definitely recommend continuing this event in 2023. Although I had elected not to offer it as a sponsorship item within the AULSS Prospectus as I felt it would be best to have a variety of interviewers from numerous firms as opposed to potentially having multiple representatives from one single firm or organisation who sponsored the event, the next Director may feel differently and elect to offer this event as a sponsorship item/opportunity within the 2023 AULSS Prospectus.

### ***Allen & Overy Online Presentation Evening***

This online Presentation Evening by Allen & Overy was held on 3 May 2022 via Zoom, where approximately 60 students across a variety of Universities attended; this included a healthy attendance from University of Adelaide law students. Attendees were extremely fortunate to hear from numerous Allen & Overy representatives, including Minesh Patel (Partner), Megan Bruce (Assistant HR Manager) and multiple Summer Clerks (Danial Cornall, Saskia van Steensel and Zach Oakes). These representatives provided an overview into Allen & Overy, their summer clerkship opportunities, and an insight into each of their wonderful experiences there.

This was quite a popular event as reflected by the healthy attendance; perhaps this was due to the fact that Allen & Overy is an exceptional, global firm, and that students would be able to hear from a wide range of firm representatives. The good turnout also indicated to us that the 6-7pm timeslot would likely be the best to adopt for the remainder of our sponsored events throughout the year in order to maximise attendance and engagement. In terms of further boosting promotion for these types of events, perhaps we could consider posting more reminders within the actual Facebook event, as this generates notifications for those who have ticked 'going' or 'interested' but as mentioned earlier in the report, perhaps other additional marketing techniques are also needed.

### ***Herbert Smith Freehills Online Presentation Evening***

A few days after the Allen & Overy event, we held the Herbert Smith Freehills Presentation Evening; this online event was conducted via Zoom at 5:30pm with approximately 50 students attending. The event began with a presentation by Hong Le (Graduate Recruitment Consultant) who provided an introduction into Herbert Smith Freehills, their clerkship recruitment process, and what they look for in a CV and cover letter. Students were then given the opportunity to hear from 3 Herbert

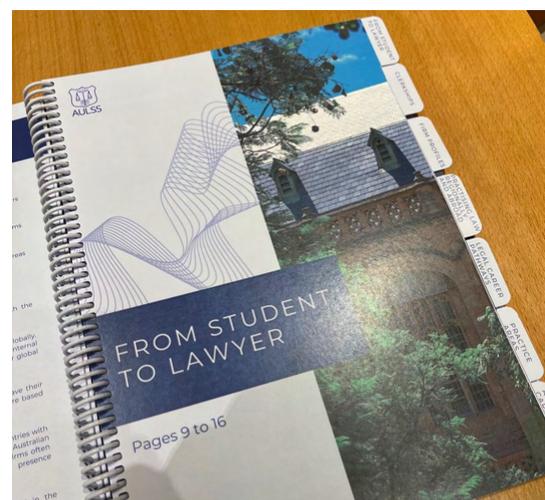
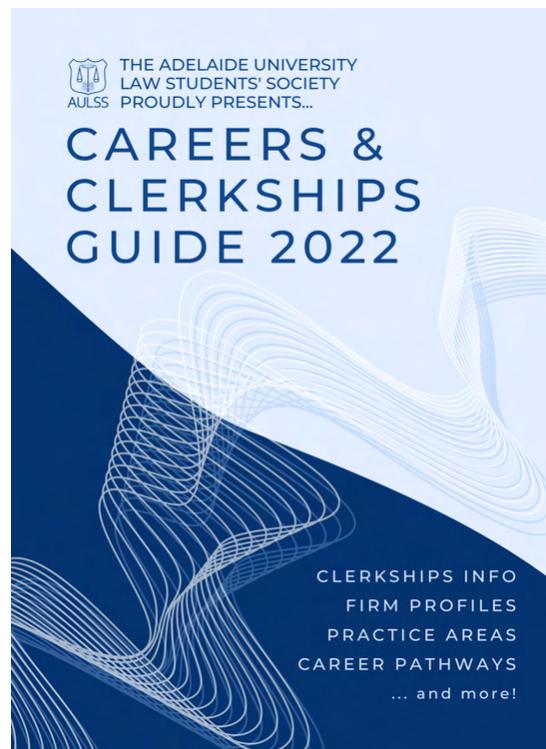
Smith Freehills Graduates, Henry Materne-Smith, Keagan Lee and Suzannah Hewson, all of whom were originally from Adelaide and then moved to Melbourne. This was followed by a short Q&A session to conclude the evening.

This event was a huge success where students greatly benefitted from hearing from past alumni who had moved from Adelaide to Melbourne and are now truly enjoying their time at Herbert Smith Freehills. It was great to host another event with one of Australia's top law firms, expanding outside of local firms and thus giving students a taste of interstate opportunities and knowledge. One of my aims this year was to hold as many events with interstate and international organisations as possible, which upon reflection, I most certainly feel came to fruition and is something that I would encourage future Careers Portfolios to consider.

### **2022 Careers & Clerkships Guide**

The 2022 Careers & Clerkships Guide was perhaps one of the biggest projects I have worked on in my entire life, but nonetheless also one of my proudest achievements. From the very beginning of my term as Director of Careers in December 2021, I formed a vision of how I wanted the Guide to look, with both professional yet modern graphics and colours being used throughout. From these ideas, the Director of Communications, Annie Yuan, and I were able to decide upon a proper colour palate, drawing upon my selection of a 'light blue' and 'white' as the primary colours, giving it a corporate feel, and also reflecting the AULSS colours.

As soon as my Representatives had been elected into their positions in late 2021, I allocated them a specific part of the 2021 Guide to read through and to then make any necessary changes or improvements to. Along with brainstorming ideas as a group throughout, this entire process resulted in many typos and inconsistencies from past years being uncovered and rectified in addition to a variety of new sections and parts being added in. I feel that this was a crucial process as it allowed each of my Representatives to add their own flair and implement their various ideas to their allocated sections which, whilst ensuring overall consistency and professionalism, resulted in an extremely improved and comprehensive 2022 Careers & Clerkships Guide. I felt this greatly enhanced the Guide from past editions, especially as I had noticed that some parts



in previous Guides had not been changed or updated for numerous years and were therefore in need of updating. I also feel that this Guide looks more visually appealing and is also easier to read than the 2021 edition, as also mirrored by general feedback received from students.

Moreover, whilst we were in the process of completing and finalising the content within the Guide, I was also liaising with our sponsors who had purchased an A3 or A4 advertisement in the Guide; this was in order to both obtain their advertisements and to also confirm that they were content with their 'Firm Profiles' which would accompany their A3 or A4 advertisement. We were extremely fortunate to have the following sponsors for the 2022 Careers & Clerkships Guide:

- Allens
- Arnold Bloch Leibler
- Ashurst
- Baker McKenzie
- Clayton Utz
- College of Law
- Corrs Chambers Westgarth
- Cowell Clarke
- Johnson Winter & Slattery
- Herbert Smith Freehills
- Leo Cussen
- LK
- MinterEllison
- Thomson Geer

Once the content was complete and the Guide had been proofread many times, I then held a meeting with Annie to discuss the overall design and visual aspects of the Guide. With the assistance of Careers Representative, Sophie Tait, and Communications Representative at the time, Amy Lancaster, Annie began designing and formatting each page within Canva, in addition to the page tabs for our hard-copy versions. I am extremely delighted with the final design; it is truly a testament to each of our designer's hard work and dedication. By way of recommendation for the 2023 Director of Careers, I suggest beginning work on the Guide as early as possible, as I did in December 2021, to ensure that it is completed on-time and to a high-standard whilst also mitigating the impact of any unexpected challenges or hindrances that may arise.

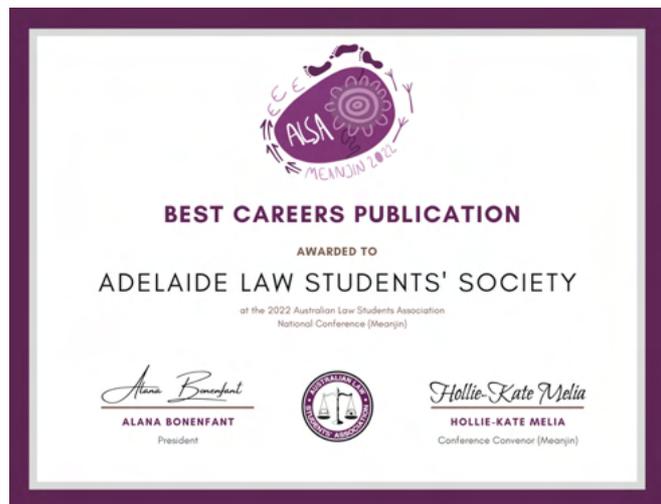
Moreover, once the final tweaks had been made to the formatting and appearance of the Guide, along with final approvals being sought from firms for their sections within the Guide, I then met up with Patrick Buying from Bowden Printing to discuss how many copies we would like to order and how the Guides would be printed. We decided to print and order 120 copies, which was 10 more than last year and based on feedback from the previous Director, felt like an appropriate number, with 7 overhanging tabs (allowing for easy navigation through the Guide) and a clear protective sleeve on the front, all ensuring that the Guide would look aesthetically pleasing, modern and professional.

As aforementioned, many changes were made to the 2022 Guide from the 2021 version, including:

- The Guide being increased from 92 pages in 2021 to 114 in 2022
- The Guide being designed and formatted to have more of a corporate feel
- Many new practitioner testimonials being obtained from a variety of notable individuals

- Contributor headshots being added in to accompany their testimonials
- 13 existing testimonials from as early as 2019 being updated
- 11 new testimonials being obtained
- 'The Day in the Life of a Law Clerk' sections from three clerks being added in
- An 'Other Firms' directory for our non-sponsors being added in (brought back from the 2020 Guide)
- The Key Opportunities sections for each year level being expanded
- A sample Resume and Cover Letter being added in
- Interview preparation and clerkship assistance information being added to and updated

Furthermore, after seeing the finalised and printed Guides in-person, I was extremely happy. I personally felt that this was one of the best Guides the AULSS had produced, being constantly improved from year-to-year into a publication that I would say is world-class. I would like to extend a huge thank you to everyone involved, from my entire team to Annie and Amy, for all of their assistance in formulating and producing this Guide – the final product is the culmination of five and a half months of hard work and is truly something special that I will forever look back upon and be extremely proud of. This was only furthered by the fact that our Guide won the '**Best Careers Publication**' award (pictured on the right) at the Australian Law Students' Association National Conference Closing Gala held in Brisbane (Meanjin) on 12 July 2022. This award that is incredibly sought after amongst all of the law school societies around Australia and also one that the AULSS had never previously won; this is an achievement that the entire AULSS and University of Adelaide should be extremely proud of.



Upon further reflection, I have also received many emails from a variety of individuals expressing their praise and commendation for the Guide, ranging from its content to appearance, and much more. As all of our hard copies have since been picked up by students, and the online version has received significant attention, it is clear that the 2022 Careers & Clerkships Guide has been a huge success.

### **2022 Careers & Clerkships Guide Launch Night**

On Thursday 12 May 2022, we held the Official Launch Night of our Careers & Clerkships Guide on Level 5 of the Ligertwood building where approximately 60 individuals attended the event, ranging from sponsors and contributors to students and academics. After a short speech and presentation by myself, attendees were given the opportunity to network with one another over some delicious food and refreshments; I therefore took on board the feedback received from the 2021 Director

of Careers, Leon Kasperski, which consisted of including a short presentation to explain the overall process in creating the Guide from start to finish.

By attending this event, students were also able to secure a hard copy of the Guide, of which were limited in number; the few remaining copies were distributed throughout the Ligertwood building and have now all been taken. Through all of the positive feedback received about the event, it is definitely fair to say that it was a huge success.

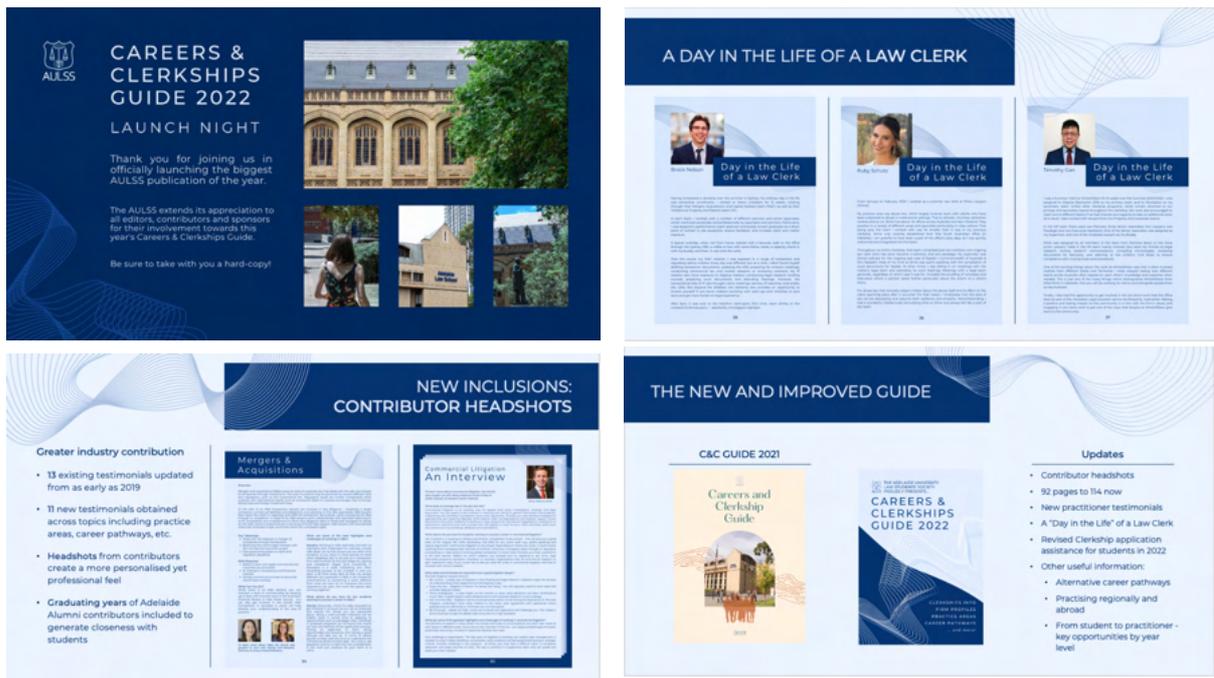
Furthermore, I chose to hold the event in a different location than in 2021 as I noted that many sponsors and students had difficulty in locating it last year; it was therefore moved to Level 5 of the Ligertwood Building. Based on discussions with others, this was an area that many students had not previously been to throughout their entire law school journey, including myself; to my knowledge, this was therefore the first AULSS event to be held there. As I received a vast array of positive feedback about the location, and it being an excellent, modern and spacious area, I would most definitely recommend holding the Launch Night on Level 5 of the Ligertwood building again in 2023, should the incoming Director of Careers choose to continue with the event.

Additionally, another recommendation I have for the incoming Director of Careers is to continue to further boost our promotion efforts and find ways to improve attendance at the event; whilst we had many of our contributors attend the event, many of the interstate firms were understandably unable to attend due to other commitments and events being held at the same time. I would therefore recommend contacting and checking in with them at least two or three months before the event to see if they are available to attend.

I would like to once again extend a big thank you to everyone involved in the formulation of the 2022 Careers & Clerkships Guide and the organisation of the Launch Night – the final results were truly exceptional. I would thoroughly encourage anyone who has not yet viewed or read the Guide to do so – it can be accessed within the 'Publications' section on the AULSS website.



Screenshots of the 2022 Careers & Clerkships Guide Launch Night PowerPoint:



**Careers x Education 'Headstart Seminar'**

This event was held on Thursday 19 May 2022 at 6pm and was a collaboration between the Careers and Education portfolios, held by Careers Representative at the time, Kane McAskill and Education Representative, Henry Allen. The seminar was aimed at first, second and third-year students, with the aim of introducing and showcasing various opportunities in order to help them build up the necessary skills and experience to best decide upon the most suitable career pathway for themselves. The seminar was also focused on helping students become 'job ready' through the various experiences and opportunities that were discussed, whether it be for casual retail roles, volunteering, internships or student leadership.

After a presentation by Kane and Henry, a Q&A session was held with a variety of student panellists including Bryan Lau (Paralegal at Thomson Geer), Annie Zhang (Law Clerk at Mark Gustavsson & Associates), Harry Yous (Law Clerk at DMAW Lawyers and Research Assistant at Murray Chambers), Helena Donald (Investment Analyst at Duxton Capital) and Celena Le (Law Clerk at HWL Ebsworth). The seminar most definitely delivered upon its intended aim and purpose by outlining numerous careers that students could consider pursuing, both inside and outside of law, the types of skills that they should look to develop, and the providing of valuable advice about how to do so.

Whilst there was a disappointingly low attendance, lots of positive feedback was received from those who did attend the event. Nevertheless, going forward for 2023, I would either recommend the adoption of a 12pm timeslot as was done in 2021 or holding the seminar on a Tuesday or Wednesday evening as opposed to a Thursday. Wherever possible and although I recognise this may be difficult at times, I do believe it is important to ensure that there are no other events occurring within the law school at the same time as an AULSS event as this has the potential to result in a lower

attendance. Nevertheless, it was an excellent event that I would recommend for the incoming Careers Portfolio to continue in 2023; I believe that students in first, second or third year greatly benefit from hearing from penultimate and final-year students who have obtained employment in diverse roles, both in and outside of law. However, a potential idea for the 2023 Director of Careers could be to have a mixture of students, as was done in 2021 and this year, along with professionals from non-legal industries speaking and sharing their various experiences. I also believe the event could be renamed from 'Headstart' seminar to perhaps something more closely related to diverse, non-legal career pathways or career readiness in general.

### ***MinterEllison Presentation Evening***

This event was held on the 24<sup>th</sup> of May in the Moot Court, where approximately 30 students attended. Students were extremely fortunate to hear from numerous MinterEllison representatives, including Clay Wohling (Partner), Sarah Pick (Senior Associate), Sharon Etherington (Talent Experience Lead), Sam Altschwager (Graduate Lawyer) and Tiasha Selvanayagam (Paralegal).

Through a Q&A style-format, these representatives provided an overview into MinterEllison, their clerkship opportunities, an insight into each of their past and current career experiences, along with insightful advice and information for students. It was an excellent event where all attendees really seemed inspired and excited to hear from the various representatives. I do believe going forward, for other firm seminars that we hold and as evidenced by this event, that we should try to ensure that a mix of senior and junior firm representatives are present. I feel that hearing from both a Partner, who typically has numerous decades of experience within the legal industry, and a Paralegal or Law Clerk who may be studying at the time, is extremely beneficial for students as it allows them to obtain a variety of diverse perspectives and viewpoints; this includes hearing from someone who may also be studying at the time and is balancing work and university commitments.

Overall, as with the other firm presentation evenings and seminars held, this was an excellent event and is one that I most definitely hope continues in 2023 and beyond.

### ***Clayton Utz Presentation Evening***

On the Thursday following the MinterEllison Presentation Evening (2 June 2022), we held the Clayton Utz Presentation Evening in our Moot Court where approximately 35 students attended. Students were extremely fortunate to hear from numerous Clayton Utz representatives, including Andrew Fry (Partner – Class of '05), Adele Ta (Lawyer) and Danielle Sandys (Graduate Resourcing Consultant).

The event began with an introduction into Clayton Utz and their various clerkship opportunities by Danielle, before moving to a Q&A session where students had the opportunity to hear from all three Clayton Utz representatives and also have their questions answered. I have only received extremely positive feedback about the event, showcasing how much of a success it truly was.

Since the impact of COVID-19 began in 2020, we have seen fewer interstate firms hold their events with us in-person, with many electing to hold them virtually via Zoom

or Microsoft Teams. However, this event is an excellent example of how, in my opinion, much more engaging it is for students to hear from one of the biggest national firms in-person; hearing from each of the representatives and their various experiences in a relatively informal and relaxed environment was truly a great experience. My recommendation for the incoming Director of Careers would therefore be to encourage and/or ensure that as many future firm seminars are held in-person. The fact that an interstate firm such as Clayton Utz came to Adelaide for the event also resonated well with students and led to greater overall engagement and enjoyment. Whilst online events are still great experiences, this was truly an extraordinary evening. I hope to see many more interstate firms hold in-person events with the AULSS in the future.

## **Semester 2**

### ***Mellor Olsson Office Tour and Q&A***

This event was held at 4:30pm on Tuesday 26 July 2022 at Mellor Olsson's Adelaide office with approximately 35 students attending. It consisted of an office tour and Q&A session with the following representatives from Mellor Olsson:

- Matt Dorman (Partner);
- Duncan Soang (Senior Associate); and
- Kirsty McGinlay (Solicitor and 2021 University of Adelaide Graduate).

These representatives provided an overview into Mellor Olsson and an insight into each of their wonderful experiences there. As with many of our other events, lots of positive feedback was received from attendees, but perhaps the most frequently mentioned point was how much students enjoyed attending an event at a law firm's offices, as opposed to our usual event location in the Moot Court. Students truly enjoyed seeing the layout of Mellor Olsson's offices and an overview into how they function, whilst everyone was still at work, performing their various work tasks. This event is therefore a clear indication that the Careers Portfolio and AULSS in general should seek to hold more events off-campus as this allows students to discover and learn more about the host organisation, obtain a practical picture of their operations, and discover what a potential career there may look like, whilst also boosting overall attendance and engagement. This would form one of my main recommendations for the incoming Director of Careers and Careers Portfolio.



### ***Kain Lawyers Seminar***

The Kain Lawyers Seminar was held on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> of August in the Ligertwood Moot Court with approximately 30 students attending. The seminar consisted of an interactive presentation and Q&A session by Kain Lawyers where students were extremely fortunate to hear from the following representatives:

- Brian Vuong (Director);
- Alyce Ricciardi (Director); and
- Taylor Moore (Lawyer).

The event was an excellent opportunity for students to learn about Mergers & Acquisitions and the various technical aspects involved in addition to the culture at Kain Lawyers and each of the representatives' positive experiences about their time there. It was an excellent event with many attendees appreciating the down-to-earth tone of the panellists, enabling students to remain engaged and obtain a wealth of knowledge.

By way of a recommendation for the incoming 2023 Director of Careers, after speaking with Kain Lawyers, we all believe it would be best to have this event sometime in Semester 1 before their clerkship applications close; I would therefore recommend for the incoming Director to contact Kain Lawyers early in Semester 1 to specifically discuss the event (in addition to any other Prospectus items with the assistance of the incoming Treasurer and Sponsorship Representative). Additionally, as I found Semester 1, and mainly the second-half of it, to be the busiest time of the year with two events even having to be held in the same week on one occasion, this may indicate that we need to cut a few events (eg. the How to Network Evening) or merge a few into one in order to accommodate more sponsored events. Nevertheless, this is ultimately dependent on the number of sponsored items the 2023 AULSS has to fulfil, organise and then execute, in addition to the choice of the incoming Director of Careers and the direction they wish to take.

### ***Associateships Seminar***

This event was held on Wednesday 24 August 2022 in the Ligertwood Moot Court and was organised by Careers Representatives, Winston Li and Jarod Eddy, with approximately 30 students attending. Students were extremely fortunate to hear from the following five Associates:

- Alexandra Beal – Associate to the Honourable Justice Blue in the Supreme Court of South Australia
- Natasha Slater – Associate to the Honourable Justice Kimber in the Supreme Court of South Australia
- Madeleine Perrett – Associate to Her Honour Judge Kudelka in the District Court of South Australia
- Ron Beevor – Associate to the Honourable Judge Parker in the Federal Circuit and Family Court of Australia
- Matthew Lindner - Associate to the Honourable Justice Charlesworth in the Federal Court of Australia

Additionally, students were given the opportunity to have their questions answered during a Q&A session with the various Associates. It was truly a great event and this is a big testament to Winston and Jarod who began preparations for it extremely early and as such, were able to secure a vast variety of Associates for it, in addition to producing an informative brochure for attendees to read and refer to throughout the seminar. Students appeared to really appreciate and benefit from this as they were able to compare the differences between the different Courts and their diverse application processes and requirements, obtaining valuable information that cannot truly be obtained elsewhere in such detail or depth. As the Associates were also fairly recent graduates of the University, this allowed students to obtain



useful advice and recommendations from them. As a whole and as in past years, this event was a huge success; I would recommend for it to be held again in 2023 if time permits.

### ***LK 'Working in Litigation' Seminar***

This event was held on Wednesday 31 August 2022 in Ligertwood Lecture Theatre 231 with approximately 20 students attending. Attendees were extremely fortunate to hear from two representatives from LK, Kristy Zander (Principal) and Lucy Caruana (Senior Associate) who discussed why they chose to specialise in litigation, what they find challenging and rewarding about their jobs, what life is really like as a litigator, and how students could pursue a career in litigation.

Whilst the event itself was excellent and thoroughly enjoyed by those who attended, it was quite disappointing to see such a low turnout. Whilst this could have been due to a number of factors, I believe the lesson to take from this is to ensure, where possible (which may be difficult at times) and as aforementioned, that there are no other events being held in the Law School at the same time; in this case, there was an AULSS Family Law Moot being held downstairs which required a number of volunteers, many of whom had originally planned to attend the LK seminar instead.

Nevertheless, the positives to take away from the event mainly revolve around how beneficial it was choosing a specific topic for the seminar, this being litigation, as it was quite different to the usual firm seminars held where the firm is mainly discussed. Based on the feedback received around the Law School, many students are interested in pursuing litigation as a future career path/area of practice in law and so found an event like this extremely worthwhile attending. I would therefore encourage the 2023 Director of Careers to ask firms about basing their events on a particular

topic, however I do also recognise that this will not always be appropriate for some events; in any case, it is ultimately up to the sponsor's discretion/choice. Although the attendance for this specific event was not overly great, it still went extremely well; Kristy and Lucy were excellent speakers who shared a lot of useful information about their career paths and various experiences whilst always encouraging questions from the audience. As with many other students who attended the event, I also gained a lot of useful knowledge from it.

### ***Thomson Geer Seminar***

At the time of writing this report, this event has not yet been held. However, it is scheduled for 6pm on Wednesday 12 October 2022 in the Ligertwood Moot Court, with numerous representatives from Thomson Geer set to attend and share their various experiences with attendees. The event will be organised and hosted by Careers Representatives, Sofia Tait and Lucas Michaels. As Thomson Geer is an extremely prestigious firm, with offices in numerous states, a good turnout is expected; the 6pm timeslot for events on Tuesdays and Wednesdays has also generally produced positive results all year.

As recommended with the Kain Lawyers seminar, it would perhaps be more beneficial for both the sponsor and students to have this event sometime in Semester 1, preferably after the mid-semester break, when Thomson Geer's clerkship applications are open. This would allow students to discover more about the firm and obtain some useful tips and tricks about what they should include in their application, which may in-turn, also result in a greater number of applications for the firm. Whilst this is recommended, I do recognise that it is a challenge having to organise and hold numerous events over a number of weeks, especially as many firms open their clerkship applications at the same time, and therefore request their events to be held around that period. Due to our time constraints, the only solution or recommendation to handle a situation like this is to plan ahead as best and early as possible, with a first-come-first-served basis for all organisations, as was done this year; the organisations who purchased sponsored items from the AULSS Prospectus and responded the quickest to my initial email at the start of the year to all of our Portfolio-related sponsors were able to lock-in the earlier time slots for their respective events.

### ***College of Law 'NewLaw Careers' Online Seminar***

As with the Thomson Geer Seminar, this event is yet to be held but is scheduled for 6pm on Wednesday 19 October 2022 via Zoom. This online seminar will focus on emerging 'NewLaw' careers which are different to the conventional practitioner career pathway. It will be presented by Terri Mottershead from the College of Law's Centre for Legal Innovation and will cover what 'NewLaw' careers are, the skills needed by students, the opportunities that are currently available, and how these skills also translate to in-house counsel roles.

Numerous months before this event is set to be held, the Director of Education, Bryan Lau, and I had an online meeting with Michelle Cafaro from the College of Law to discuss our respective events; this early meeting allowed for adequate planning and organisation to occur, also resulting in an interesting topic for the seminar being chosen. When I first heard about this proposed concept of 'NewLaw Careers', I was

immediately intrigued and thought it would be a great idea; I believe it is a great final event for our Portfolio as it is truly unique and different to all of the other seminars that we have held. As the world becomes increasingly innovative and new practice areas and ways of solving legal issues are developed, it is extremely important that both students and practitioners stay up to date with the times and as such, this event is an excellent idea.

A good turnout is expected for the event with many interested students attending; per Michelle's idea, the event will also be recorded, which has not been done with any of the other events held this year. I had elected not to record the other events as I felt it would enable and allow for more unfiltered, personal and engaging answers and dialogues to occur between the various guest speakers/panellists present and the audience; additionally, I recognise that some organisations and speakers do not wish for the event to be recorded.

Overall, I believe more events like this should be held in 2023 and beyond, discussing innovative topics that are likely to become increasingly relevant within the modern world and also appealing to many students.

## AULSS Job Opportunities Board

The AULSS Job Opportunities Board has had numerous changes made to its structure and format this year in order to make it both easier to navigate and also more professional. After discussions with the Director of Communications, Annie Yuan, we decided to change the format of the Job Opportunities Board from the previous tile system to a clearer, more concise list system, as can be seen on the right. However, the four categories of Legal Undergraduate, Legal Graduate, Non-Legal Undergraduate and Non-Legal Graduate were left unchanged as I felt these effectively allowed for students to be provided with a wide range of opportunities, both inside and also outside of the legal sector, in other industries.

**Job Opportunities Board**

This board is frequently updated by our team, but please note that available opportunities may be seasonal.

Check this page often for opportunities both legal and non-legal, undergraduate and graduate, as well as links to resources and seminars!

If you would like for a listing to be posted on this board, please email [careers@aulss.org](mailto:careers@aulss.org) to get in touch.

### Legal Undergraduate Opportunities

- [Assessment Officer - Attorney-General's Department](#) (CLOSING 10 OCTOBER 2022)
- [Casual Law Clerk - PGC Legal](#) (CLOSING 17 OCTOBER 2022)
- [Legal Assistant and Compliance Officer - Essential Beauty](#) (CLOSING 18 OCTOBER 2022)
- [Legal Assistant - General Insurance - Hall & Wilcox Lawyers](#)
- [Administrative Assistant - Nathan White Lawyers](#)
- [Work Experience - Nathan White Lawyers](#)
- [Law Clerk - Commercial & Legal](#)
- [Paralegal/Junior Analyst - ACCC](#)

### Non-Legal Graduate Opportunities

- [Graduate Role - YDR Chartered Loss Adjusters](#)
- [Audit Analyst \(Financial Audit\) - Graduate Register - Auditor-General's Department](#)
- [Business Graduate - LMS Energy](#)
- [People & Culture Graduate - Treasury Wine Estates](#)
- [Business Management Graduate Program - MM Electrical Merchandising](#)

Early on in my term as Director, I devised a roster system for my team in order to ensure that the Job Opportunities Board was updated at least every two to three weeks with a range of new postings; each Careers Representative were therefore allocated a specific update to undertake; this involved manually searching, reviewing and collating relevant opportunities for students from various employment websites

into a Word document which was then sent to our IT Representative, Thu Nguyen, for uploading onto the Board. I felt that this system worked extremely well as it allowed for the workload to be spread equally amongst the team and also ensure that the Board remained up-to-date with new advertisements. In addition to these lengthy updates, the careers.org email address was emailed many postings and opportunities throughout the year by a vast variety of organisations, almost on a weekly basis, which were all uploaded onto the Board in an extremely rapid timeframe.

Additionally, another notable addition to the Job Opportunities Board has been the recent implementation of a 'newsletter' for students to subscribe to; this will allow them to receive an email alert whenever the Board has been updated with new postings. In addition to stories being posted on the AULSS Facebook and Instagram pages whenever the Job Opportunities Board was updated, this newsletter directly addresses previous concerns raised that students were not recognising, or able to recognise, when and what on the Board had been updated; the newsletter will therefore ensure that interested students receive frequent updates and do not miss any new opportunities that are posted onto the Board.

As also raised by the 2021 Director of Careers, I do believe that the Job Opportunities Board's analytics could be utilised to obtain sponsorship for it due to the number of views and level of engagement it receives each week. I thoroughly encourage the incoming 2023 Director of Careers, Treasurer and Sponsorship Representative to advocate for sponsorship of the Board, and believe it should remain a notable item within the AULSS Prospectus.

Nevertheless, as a whole, I felt that the Job Opportunities Board was a huge success, with **4188 visits** being had since the beginning of 2022, and many students obtaining employment from the various opportunities advertised on it. The extremely positive feedback received signifies that the Job Opportunities Board will continue to be a very important resource for students in future years and is something that should continue to be built upon and improved each year.

I would like to extend a big thank you to our Director of Communications, Annie Yuan, our IT Representative, Thu Nguyen, and to my entire team for all of their hard work and assistance throughout the year in monitoring and updating the Job Opportunities Board; its huge success has truly been the product of hard work and dedication by all involved.

## **Suggestions for 2023**

In addition to the recommendations and suggestions made throughout this report, I also have the following suggestions for the incoming Careers Portfolio:

1. To carefully manage our time and ensure that our sponsorship commitments for the Portfolio are both realistic and achievable in order to effectively allow the Portfolio to plan its own events throughout the year. I found that as we had committed to a number of sponsored events (sponsored items per the AULSS Prospectus), we were only able to hold a limited number of our 'own' portfolio events that we had chosen; this was especially notable in Semester 2 where aside from sponsored events, we were only realistically able to hold our

Associateships Seminar, and not our Court Event as originally planned (which I recommend should be held in 2023). Whilst holding sponsored events is a tremendously high priority, it should be balanced with the Careers Portfolio's resources and the direction that the Director and Representatives wish to take. I therefore recommend for the incoming Director of Careers to meet with the incoming Treasurer and Sponsorship Representative to discuss potential sponsorship targets and to set realistic expectations, allowing for the 2023 Careers Portfolio event calendar to be adequately organised and managed.

2. To continue to build upon our existing partnerships with sponsors and to also reach out to other organisations with a view of hosting new, innovative events that align with students' interests; this includes furthering the AULSS's connection with local, interstate and international organisations (as was achieved this year through the Law Training Centre event had in semester 1), as I feel this has great potential going forward. I would also recommend for the incoming Careers Portfolio to conduct a poll via social media or an all-students email to discover what events, areas of interest or general ideas law students have for the Portfolio; this will allow for events to be held which cater to students' interests such as, for example, a Family Law or Public Law seminar.
3. For multiple events to be held at firms' or organisations' offices, or at locations external to the University; I believe this allows students to obtain a better picture into each of the host organisations, exploring real-life workplaces outside of the University campus and environment. This interest was evidenced by the strong attendance at the Mellor Olsson Office Tour + Q&A event held at Mellor Olsson's Adelaide offices on the 26<sup>th</sup> of July this year, and is something I recommend the incoming Careers Portfolio looks into and explores further.

## Conclusion

Overall, 2022 has been an extremely successful year for the Careers Portfolio, as evidenced through the holding of seventeen events, the making of new professional relationships with various organisations, and the winning of the 'Best Careers Publication' Award at the Australian Law Students' Association Awards in Brisbane. 2022 has most definitely been one of the most challenging yet rewarding years of my life, and whilst I can wholeheartedly state that I tried my absolute best, persevered and put in the required hard work throughout the entirety of my term as Director of Careers, I also owe this to all of the assistance and encouragement received from a variety of individuals.

Firstly, I would like to extend a big thank you to each of my team members this year, Ben McAdams, Jarod Eddy, Lucas Michaels, Kane McAskill, Sophie Tait and Winston Li, for all of their hard work, dedication and perseverance throughout 2022. Everything that has been done this year was completed to an extremely high standard and I could not be prouder. I hope this experience is something that they look back on and feel a sense of accomplishment and happiness about as what we have been able to achieve as a team is truly exceptional.

I would also like to thank Chelsea Chieng, Bella Mickan and the entire AULSS Executive for their assistance, guidance and unwavering support in navigating any challenges that arose throughout the year. Additionally, I would like to thank Annie Yuan, Amy Lancaster and the Communications Portfolio for their efforts in promoting each of our events and also their assistance with the 2022 Careers & Clerkships Guide; all of the promotional material and designs this year were outstanding.

Finally, I would like to extend a big thank you to the entire AULSS Committee for their exceptional passion, support and positivity throughout the year. I am also extremely grateful for their attendance at many of our events and all of the assistance that they provided. Each of them have truly made 2022 a very memorable year and one that I am extremely proud of.

As a whole, my role as Director of Careers has been an experience that I feel tremendously privileged to have undertaken and is something that I will never forget.

I hope that the success we have achieved this year provides a strong platform for the Careers Portfolio and entire AULSS going forward into the future.



**Anthony Luppino**  
Director of Careers  
6 October 2022

## Communications Portfolio Report

**Director:** Annie Yuan Zhang

**Representatives:** Amy Lancaster – Communications Representative (co-opted & resigned Semester 1)  
Cerys Davies – Hilarian Editor (co-opted Semester 1)  
Henry Allen – Communications Representative  
Ikhwan Fazli – Hilarian Editor (co-opted Semester 1)  
Kush Goyal – Hilarian Editor (resigned Semester 2)  
Ruby Stewart – Communications Representative  
Shunem Josiah – Communications Representative (co-opted Semester 1)  
Thu Nguyen – IT Representative  
Yurui Jiang – Hilarian Editor (co-opted Semester 1)

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### Summary

This year marked the third year of the Communications Portfolio running within the Adelaide University Law Students' Society (AULSS), and as the Director of an outstanding team, our combined efforts this year have continued the legacy left in previous years to further on the efforts of the engagement, marketing and outreach of the AULSS to the wider student body and beyond.

Built off of the exponential growth of the previous years, we continued to expand our portfolio's size and increased its output in marketing all of the events and posts for the other portfolios, actioning sponsorship items, designing award-winning guides, managing IT needs and producing the constitutionally mandated number of Hilarian magazines.

In 2022, we marketed 65 events (and counting). From law ball to Triversity fair, and including every single competition, careers presentation, education seminar and bake sale, we tirelessly generated content to reach the law student cohort.

We designed and posted over 250+ beautiful Instagram stories, and just as many Facebook stories. We published four editions of the Hilarian magazine, with submissions and content totalling to over 200 pages. We processed the most sponsorship entitlements to date.

We designed the Careers & Clerkship Guide for the Careers portfolio, and it won the best careers publication at ALSA. We also designed a stunning First Year Guide for the 2022 first year cohort that were all taken up in days.

There is no doubt when I say that the incredible quality and volume of work that my Portfolio undertook this year was owed to the collegiality and dedication of my team. For their tireless efforts in meeting deadlines (sometimes overnight), mitigating problems that arose and certain changes to plans, and for producing consistently outstanding content, I am very proud of every single one of them and grateful for their support.

As the goal is always constant improvement, I am confident that new ideas and fresh perspective will undoubtedly further the objectives of Communications in promoting accessibility to the AULSS, and as such, I encourage the incoming Director to build on what was achieved this year and tailor it to 2023.

## **Creative vision and design**

In contemplating the overarching themes and aesthetic for the AULSS, many things sprang to mind for the 2022 creative vision: energetic, abstract, colourful, accessible, tailored and consistent. In ensuring that there was a seamless transition from the 2021 aesthetic, I proposed for the content of 2022 to be even more eye-catching and engaging, in accordance with recent social media and marketing trends.

In discussion with the Directors, we selected certain colour palettes at the beginning of our terms, so that the designs for that portfolio would primarily consist of those specific colours. As this also occurred in 2021, the colours that we chose did not vary greatly, save for the Careers Portfolio who adopted a more corporate, modern and clean feel in contrast to the more earthy natural tones of the previous year.

Of course, a picture speaks a thousand words. As such, please see below for a collage of some (not all) of all of the amazing designs, photos and posts that my Portfolio has produced this year that demonstrates the creative vision for 2022 in action.

Design examples



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### ***Recommendations for 2023***

I recommend that a similar design theme be maintained for the sake of consistency and good foundational marketing, and that any variations be introduced gradually. It is a good idea to still allocate a separate colour scheme for each portfolio, and I would suggest that largely maintaining the same, or similar colour schemes (as set and labelled in Canva) as this year would be highly effective for 2023.

### **Task allocations and relationships with other portfolios**

At the start of the year, I held a meeting my Portfolio during the summer break to plan the year ahead. In taking a lesson from the year prior in terms of managing my representatives' workload and their input being central, I allocated Henry to assist with the Education Portfolio, Ruby with the Activities Portfolio, and later upon co-option, Shunem with the Competitions Portfolio and the Social Justice & Equity Portfolio. This was following the feedback and recommendation of the previous communications representatives on the workload, and my representatives provided feedback in that this allocation was acceptable. As to my responsibilities aside from overseeing my Portfolio, I tasked myself with assisting with all of the marketing needs for our President, Vice-President, Treasurer, as well for the Careers Portfolio. When Amy was later co-opted, she assisted with marketing several Careers events to alleviate my capacity. Upon her later resignation later in Semester 1, I assumed the responsibility of marketing the Careers events for the rest of the year.

Upon reflection, I believe that there should have been some reallocations for workflow, depending on how busy certain portfolios were. Previously, the Competitions Portfolio's marketing needs were quite insubstantial, and such were that of the Social Justice & Equity Portfolio, as both portfolios either had repetitive marketing needs with competitions, or less events held compared to that of other portfolios. However, by virtue of the hard work of these two portfolios in question, there were a lot more competitions introduced and events that were planned on shorter notice. As such, Shunem's workload was a lot more significant than what was projected, and as I often stepped in to assist. Other portfolios did not have quite as many events as their previous years did, and as such, I reallocated some ad hoc tasks to these representatives to even the workload.

### ***Communications Policy***

I will note here that last year, there was a certain Communications Policy proposed by Nicolas Rich, the 2021 Director of Communications. Though it was not officially released in 2021, I was provided with an initial draft of this policy at the beginning of my term late last year that could be further developed in 2022.

However, the policy was drafted to alleviate many of the issues specific to last year. Specifically, these primarily revolved around inconsistent marketing and design arising from Directors' dictating their own themes, onerous event marketing tasks being given the day that the event was required to be released, Communications representatives being asked to undertake tasks by Directors that were more appropriate to be given to their own portfolio, inadequate or excessive posts that dominated the Instagram grid, and miscommunication regarding the practical role of the Communications Portfolio relative to the functions of other portfolios.

Many of these issues were mitigated this year by team planning and internal resource development, along with ongoing and comprehensive discussions with the current Executive who then passed on the actionable points to their portfolios. Further, the introduction of the Comms x Portfolio documents directly aided towards the issues of late notice. As such, I chose not to further develop a Communications Policy and instead allocated time towards other initiatives which focused on higher output and provided my representatives with a clear written marketing process to equip them with handling requests.

### ***Recommendations for 2023***

I recommend allocating one representative to each portfolio, however I do not think that these allocations should be fixed. Instead, I recommend the approach that I adopted this year during peak busy periods where upon assessment of the representatives' respective workloads, the Director reallocates tasks based on capacity or steps in themselves to assist from time to time. Regarding a Communications Policy, should the need arise for certain responsibilities within the Portfolio to be more defined, then I recommend that a Communications Policy be brainstormed and implemented and regularly revisited and tailored to 2023's needs.

### **New initiatives**

#### ***AULSS Resource Bank***

Given that the AULSS has access to the entirety of Google's capabilities through its usage of Squarespace, I started building an online bank for all of our Communications Marketing and Event Plans (discussed below) along with all of the portraits that I had taken last year and this year of the committee and roaming shots of the law school and wider university. The intention of this resource bank was to provide various resources, photos, media and documents for the usage of the wider committee, which I have been provided with positive feedback in that representatives of other portfolios have relied upon the resource bank to source photos for their publications.

### ***Comms x [PORTFOLIO] Marketing and Event Plan documents***

These documents were developed at the start of the year based off of the working relationship I had built with the 2021 Director of Careers, Leon Kasperski. Last year as a communications representative, I had the pleasure of working with Leon to market all 22 or so of his portfolio's events. Due to the high volume and often time-stringent nature of these events, we found it helpful to communicate specific details within a shared document that set out in a table form the deadlines and designs required for a particular event. This alleviated the burden of overcommunicating, and it also provided a reference point for the both of us as the semester became busier.

I have emulated the idea and developed shared marketing and event plan documents between communications and every other portfolio that we support.

Through utilising these shared documents, I have found that they have been particularly effective this year for portfolios who have repetitive but high volume content to produce. For example, the Competitions Portfolio grand finals week require posts with specific detail that Celena Le, the Director of Competitions, and her representatives uploaded to the Comms x Comps google doc, that Shunem and I were then easily able to access and produce the content requested.

I note that my previous Director did recommend that the Communications Master Document be maintained, however due to the introduction of these new marketing and event plan documents, I did not proceed with maintaining a master document for several reasons.

Firstly, as Director of my Portfolio, having access and editing permissions for the marketing and event plan documents meant that I maintained a comprehensive view into everything that any portfolio or executive intended or needed from my representatives, that I could then tailor and put on notice the relevant portfolio.

Secondly, the primary utility of the Master Document alleviated any clashing of posts, where one Director would request something to be posted on the same timeslot as another director, and timeslots became 'booked' on a first-come-first-serve basis. This was not the same operationally this year, as the Executive were happy to leave the posting and time allocations to myself and my Portfolio, as we identified the peak hours of engagement for our various platforms. However, I understand that this may differ from year to year, and executive team to executive team.

### ***Recommendations for 2023***

My recommendations for our general platforms and the AULSS Resource Bank are as follows. As the university shifted from Google to Microsoft earlier this year, I saw that the constancy of keeping the IT needs of the AULSS external was effective in

mitigating extraneous transitions. I note that on occasion, both executive members and committee members have shared documents externally via their individual student OneDrive's. Given the storage and access of our AULSS Google drive, I strongly recommend that in future years, the AULSS can greater utilise its IT provisions so that everything is kept within a central location for ease of access and sharing.

Regarding the Comms x [Portfolio] documents and the previous Communications Master Document, I encourage that the incoming Director and future Directors to consider the dynamics of the Executive committee and what they hope to achieve for that year. After evaluating, the Master Document can be brought back alongside the Comms x [Portfolio] marketing and event plans, but I would not recommend that the latter documents be abandoned as they were often the sole measure to mitigate against last-minute requests and unmanageable demands for whatever reason.

## **Sponsorship**

Sponsorship this year has a substantial responsibility of mine, be it from assisting with the design of the Sponsorship Prospectus that went out to sponsors earlier this year, to actioning every single one of those entitlements that pertained to particular campaigns, posts, adverts, designs or profiles, or even designing their sponsored events. This is something that I did not anticipate being so substantial as an ongoing task this year, but it points to the fact that we have received a monumental amount of sponsorship this year, and the eagerness of firms and educational providers to partner with us to reach our students.

I am grateful to Aryan, our initial Treasurer for the year, for setting up the Sponsorship Tracker and Treasurer Tracker that kept a very clear and comprehensive record of all of the sponsorship entitlements and also indicated the progress and contact attempts with the contact person listed for each sponsor for each of their purchased entitlements. By varying the items by the nature (e.g. whether the sponsor has entitlements for an Instagram post or Facebook story, all-students email, etc) as well as the relevant portfolio in charge, these trackers existed as a centralised document that was easy to navigate. The process of actioning the sponsorship entitlements was then further facilitated by the work of Kane, our outgoing Treasurer, whose assistance in managing sponsor relationships and processing requests during the latter half of the year has been invaluable to supporting my role.

My feedback on this would be to reassess the burden of managing sponsors on my Portfolio, as I handled sponsorship for the entirety of the year with respect to contacting firms and processing their requests. As such, a lot of time was dedicated to making the initial introduction and following up with firms, however I am confident

that this issue would be alleviated by the introduction of a sponsorship representative next year.

### ***Recommendations for 2023***

I strongly recommend that the Director maintains a close working relationship with our sponsors and builds on what has been forged this year through my close working together with many of our valued sponsors. However, I am hopeful that the introduction of a sponsorship representative, a lot of the following-up work can be redirected so that the Director of Communications can dedicate more time to actioning the sponsorship entitlements, among other equally pressing duties.

Regarding the Sponsorship Prospectus, my recommendation to the Treasurer is seek advice from the Director of Communications in determining what sponsorship items are appropriate for what platform (e.g. you would not have sponsored firm posts on our Instagram grid in order to avoid oversaturation, but Instagram stories are permissible) and what should or should not be offered as part of the package.

## **Platforms and Engagement**

### ***Instagram***

Instagram has seen a much-needed content uplift, and I tasked myself this year with revitalising the grid with a lot more photos of law students having fun at events or competitors winning prizes, as opposed to allowing individual portfolios to market their events. This was a decision made by considering the feedback of the past and present executive committees, who agreed that we should reserve Instagram as a 'highlight reel' of the AULSS' events, and market events for individual portfolios on Facebook. My representatives and I also implemented a carousel format of photos, where many of our Activities portfolio event photos have been shared in a fun, modern and new way through posting carousels.

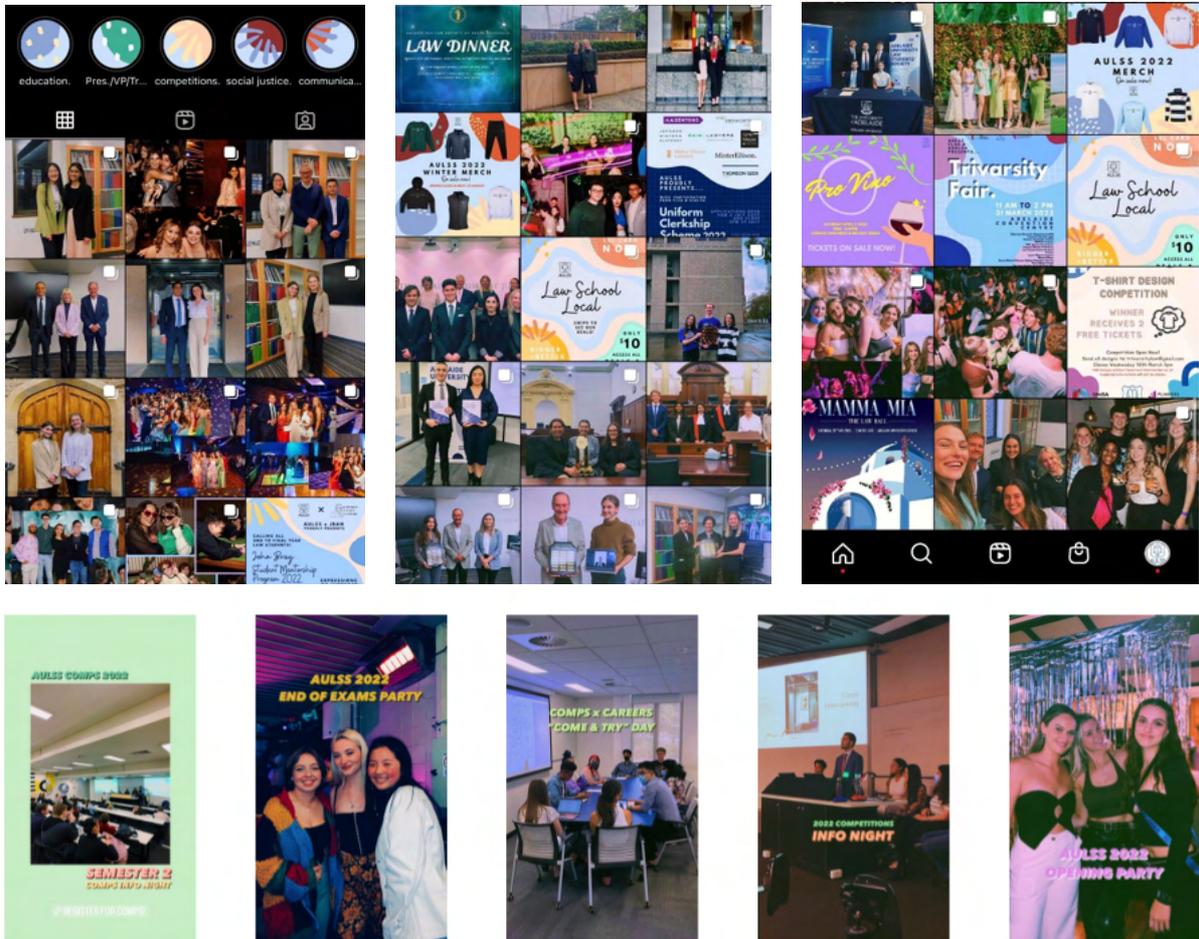
The feedback for our Instagram has been phenomenal, in that many of our followers remarked that there was a significant and welcomed change in the consistent vibrancy of all of our posts, especially in the Instagram stories saved to the @aulsstagram highlights.

On that note, the highlights for Instagram have been a main focus of mine for this year, as I have ensured consistency in uploading an Instagram story and corresponding Facebook story for every single educational or careers seminar, competitions grand final, Activities portfolio event, Social Justice & Equity fundraiser, and any other AULSS initiative that belonged on our highlights. By using colourful backgrounds and leveraging the utilities provided by Instagram, my representatives

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and I worked hard to pump out stories that were eye-catching and comprehensive to summarise the year that was.

Please see below screenshots of the Instagram grid to date (note: aesthetics and vibrancy), as well as a summary of all of our various Instagram stories:



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## ***Facebook***

Facebook has been relied upon as the central hub for all marketing and communication. Facebook is a good intermediary between Instagram and LinkedIn, where a lot of sponsors had accounts and would tag the AULSS in posts, and it was also the platform that most of our law students and followers relied upon in keeping up to date with the happenings of the AULSS. There is little to expand here, as Facebook has always been our dominant platform, but consistency with posting is key and even more so is scheduling during busy periods.

## ***LinkedIn***

In considering the recommendations of the previous Director in his report, I made it a mission to revive our LinkedIn account. This was aided by the fact that Aryan and I discussed to offer LinkedIn posts as a sponsorship item within the Sponsorship Prospectus, which was a popular item that firms used to advertise heavily during the South Australian Uniform Clerkship Scheme. Competitions grand final posts also offered a consistent stream of content, along with major achievements such as the publishing and launch of the AULSS Careers & Clerkships Guide 2022.

## ***Other notable platforms***

Regarding our internal platforms that we use to design posts and market events, Canva has been a lifesaver for every use possible. There is not a lot to elaborate on this, aside from warranting that the user friendliness of the platform makes the purchase of a subscription a worthwhile investment. Adobe, while still useful, may need to be revisited in terms of its criticalness to the portfolio – while the Hilarian team uses Adobe products, it appears that only InDesign is crucial but other products are not used often (aside from when I edit photos on Lightroom for committee portraits and Activities event photos from time to time). However, this does not mean that Adobe should be abandoned completely, but there may be room to scale back our subscription depending on the requirements for future years.

## ***Recommendations for 2023***

Regarding Instagram, I strongly recommend that Instagram be the platform where posts to the grid are made intentionally, and that filler content is not liberally posted, so as to maintain a perfect balance of promoting the AULSS' presence and preventing content oversaturation. Modern and catchy filters for slideshow posts and carousels will help the AULSS Instagram maintain its edge, and consistent posts on our stories will allow students to be updated but not overwhelmed with content during busy periods.

Regarding Facebook, Facebook Meta has undergone several interface updates this year, and the user friendliness of the Meta Business backend has varied at times. I

strongly recommend that all the Portfolio familiarises itself with the various posting functions and the limitations of scheduling, and I encourage the Director to continue with promoting comprehensively everything AULSS related on Facebook.

Regarding LinkedIn, I recommend that LinkedIn continues to be given the requisite amount of attention, as it is an important professional platform that many of our sponsors rely upon. As such, it is crucial that the AULSS further establishes a more prominent LinkedIn presence, whether that be through more frequent posts or through recaps of careers and education events on top of posts for our competitions.

## **AULSS IT**

### ***Sub-report by Thu Nguyen, IT Representative***

It is with great pleasure to have worked on the AULSS committee as the IT Representative this year. The main responsibility of this role has been updating and maintaining the AULSS website on SquareSpace and overseeing the AULSS emails. The main changes I have enacted have been of the ease-of-use variety to which I hope the future IT Representative will find makes their job easier.

The first task I assigned myself was creating a labelling system within the Google workspace account which controls all the emails the committee receives. Even though the Executive each have their own individual AULSS account email; in reality, all email addresses ending in @aulss.org are directed to one account.

The previous IT Representative emphasised how important it was to not read any emails that were not addressed to me. However, it can often be difficult to tell at a glance which emails belong to whom from just the subject line and the snippet of email contents. Thus, I expanded on our current filtering system by including a Google feature I was familiar with which was labelling. This allows those with access to the Google workspace account to see which emails belong to whom thanks to the power of colour-coding. I could also see when important emails were not being received by anyone in particular which was the case for many of the ALSA and YouX emails.

The next task was then the maintenance of the website. Despite the accessibility SquareSpace provides, as a student familiar with website coding, some of the features provided can actually be quite limiting. Yet even so I have been able to make changes to particular pages that I felt were difficult to parse. Namely, the Competitions page which originally had all the competitions listed with their descriptions and images of past winners all in a single page. As a user, it seemed difficult to read any information regarding a competition one was interested in without having to scroll down paragraph after paragraph. I thus used a JavaScript code to create tabs within the SquareSpace page to make finding the pertinent information

easier to access. However, the code and SquareSpace's interaction with it is quite messy and I will ensure that the next IT Representative understands the thought process behind it and how to update it in future. I will also inform and assist them with any other pages I feel still need to be modified.

Beyond that, I have also been the point of call to update the website per the Executive team's request. Over the year, I have mainly worked with our Vice-President to update our meetings, Law School Local and merchandise page; as well as our Careers director for the Job Opportunities Board. With regards to the latter, I introduced a mailing list initiative to the committee which I wanted to implement in 2022 but feel it may be better to do next year. SquareSpace has a very easy mailing feature that I believe the AULSS can utilise. If not a specific newsletter for new job listings then they could also work on a more all-inclusive newsletter for all committee activities such as the one introduced during the September mid-semester break.

I also wanted to mention that our Communications director Annie created a document to ensure that the Executive provides me with task and deadlines to prevent last-minute requests. However, this has not been used much as most Executives will simply email or message me. As I am characteristically quick to respond, I will ensure the new IT Representative implements a system that might better tailor to their work-life balance needs.

But overall, I am very satisfied with what I have achieved this year as the AULSS' IT Representative and have found great enjoyment with being on the committee so thank you for having me!

**Thu Nguyen**

IT Representative

## **Hilarian Magazine**

***Sub-report by Cerys Davies, Ikhwan Fazli & Yurui Jiang, Hilarian Editors***

As per sacrosanct tradition, the Hilarian Team this year has published three issues— with one more currently being edited at the time of writing this. This past year has been magnificent, with a continued trend of focusing more attention on the Hilarian social media pages for content creation. In particular, the biggest change this year has been the re-introduction of skits and satire headlines to the Facebook and Instagram pages— in addition to the conversion of Liggy Love Letters into a Facebook-centric confessions page to take advantage of the (sadly) now-dying Adelaide Uni Love Letters.

We would also like to extend a special thank you to our following subcommittee writers for their vital and amazing contributions to the Hilarian this year: Alexander Peter Albert Dorrington, Rafik Gayed, Belle Watts, Netra Ramkumar, Bhoomika Trivedi, Kanika Singla, Christina Akele, Michail Ivanov, William J Barker and Thomas Paul. We would also like to thank all the casual contributors that have submitted content to us. It has been an absolute delight to share the fantastic work and talents of our fellow law students with the rest of the Ligertwood community.

For future reference, these are the dates for when our issues were published this year:

- Issue 1: 1 May 2022
- Issue 2: 28 July 2022
- Issue 3: 25 August 2022
- Issue 4: 14 October 2022 (estimated)

Overall, our creative vision this year has been to incorporate more lifestyle-focused content into the Hilarian to appeal to more Law students. Based on the online and in-person feedback that we have received so far, we think that this shift has been successful in increasing student engagement. In particular, the inclusion of lifestyle-based prompt ideas in our advertising (instead of merely satire prompts) has encouraged more people to submit articles— which had the positive effect of ensuring that we always had upwards of 48 pages to work with for each issue.

We hope that next year's doubtlessly attractive, talented and funny editors will expand Liggy Confessions by having a regular schedule for posting, while also having more stringent guideline policies to prevent the issues that have affected other university confessions pages. We would also desire more active Instagram content creation, increased collaboration with other law school student magazines such as Sydney University's Amicus Courier, and (if possible) a transition to storing all Hilarian issues on the AULSS website as opposed to on Issuu.

## 2022 Hilarian Magazine front cover designs



Cerys

Davies, Ikhwan Fazli & Yurui Jiang (& Kush Goyal, in spirit)

### Hilarian Editors

### Conclusion

In passing on final remarks, I believe that this portfolio, being the youngest of all portfolios on the AULSS, can confidently anticipate further exponential growth in the following years as an integral function of the AULSS. We have been able to achieve so much to such a high standard in supporting the AULSS' many functions achieved through its other portfolios.

To my communications representatives in Henry, Ruby and Shunem, thank you for carrying out the creative vision for this year and for the sheer amount of content you have all created. Your receptiveness in all that you have done has been cause for much admiration, and I must commend you on the way that you have interacted with the Executive in assisting their portfolios, even when requests were made in the 11th hour. A special mention to Amy also, for her help earlier in the year with assisting me to market our sponsored firm seminars, which make up a considerable amount of our annual revenue.

To my Hilarian Editors in Cerys, Ikhwan, Kush and Yurui, thank you for all of your proactiveness and consistency, from the very start until the publication of your fourth issue. With unprecedented creative spirit, your collective enthusiasm has undeniably carried through in providing much-needed humour to the law student cohort and beyond.

To my IT representative Thu, thank you for being unfailing this year. Whether it was an urgent request or a remake of any webpage, you have handled it with efficiency and grace, in performing duties that I believe to be cornerstone to the running of the entire AULSS.

To the rest of the Executive team and the Committee, I appreciate your support of my Portfolio this year and for holding what we do in high regard. And finally, to our Adelaide Law School students, thank you for the opportunity to have served you all as Director this year – it has been my utmost privilege.

I eagerly anticipate all of the wondering things that the incoming committee will be sure to achieve, and I look forward to celebrating from afar.



**Annie Yuan Zhang**  
Director of Communications  
7 October 2022

## Competitions Portfolio Report

**Director:** Celena Le

**Representatives:** Aiden Zeyang Wang, Bhoomika Trivedi (Co-opted Semester 2), Emma Colovic, Gloria Li (Resigned Semester 1) Grace Jin, Isabella Burgess, Jessica March, Kurt Schenk (Co-opted Semester 1), Patricia Papathanasopoulos, Nicholas Reese (Resigned Semester 1).

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### Summary

In-line with tradition, I would like to begin the 2022 Competitions Portfolio Report with a quote.

"A bend in the road is not the end of the road, unless you fail to make the turn." — *Helen Keller*

The core skills required of the Competitions Portfolio include high organisational capacity, strong written and oral communication skills, a strong work ethic, a good sense of humour (particularly in the tough times) and adaptability.



As the 2022 Director of Competitions, I am grateful to have had the opportunity to lead a team of representatives who exemplified and practiced these skills every day. I extend my sincerest gratitude to all of my representatives this year. It has been an absolute pleasure working with all of you – there are simply no words to express my appreciation.

I am proud to summarise the activities of the portfolio as follows:

- The Competitions Portfolio ran three competitions information evenings over the course of both semesters.
- In collaboration with the 2022 Careers Portfolio, we held a Competitions Come and Try Day in Semester 1.

- For the first time, we ran two training / practice sessions for competitors advancing to external rounds in our inter-varsity competitions
- We introduced a Uniform Scoring Guide
- In collaboration with the 2022 Education Portfolio and the Asian-Australian Lawyers Association, we filmed an Advocacy Skills Video Series
- We organised and ran 51 competition rounds in 12 different competitions. This is the highest number of competitions that a Competitions Portfolio has ran in AULSS history.

This is a total of 56 events / initiatives, paired with countless hours sourcing judges and problem questions, organising volunteers, booking rooms, corresponding with competitors and problem-solving.

We began this year prioritising two main concepts, these being highly accessible but also high-quality competitions. In this, we wanted to have higher quality judges and problem questions, but also enough supports for junior competitors so that they felt comfortable giving competitions a go. These principles have guided our portfolio in all our decisions which I hope rings true in our actions and is reflected in this report.

## Semester 1 Competitions

### Co-Option

Constitutionally, the Competitions Portfolio comprises of six representatives. In handover from the previous Director of Competitions I was advised to co-opt two additional members as soon as possible. In 2021, the Competitions Portfolio did not co-opt two additional members until Semester 2. By co-opting additional representatives sooner rather than later, we are able to begin work earlier and do so as a complete and unified portfolio rather than catching up a student at a later date. Accordingly, when the President asked the Executive when they intended to open co-option, I advocated for opening co-option as early as possible. I am grateful that the Executive supported this and we opened co-option in January. I would strongly recommend that the incoming Director of Competitions take the same stance and advocate for the opening of co-option as soon as possible.

The next step was deciding how many representatives to co-opt. My pitch to the Executive was for an additional two representatives, noting the success that we had in Semester 2 2021 with eight representatives total. This pitch I made read as follows:

*“In 2021 the Competitions Portfolio began with 6 representatives in Semester One and grew to 8 representatives in Semester 2. Ultimately, it was found that we really required this in Semester One as it is a more busy, demanding semester as we manage the ALSA Competitions. The following are the two primary reasons for why I'd greatly appreciate the extra help in Semester 1.*

### *1. Managing Workload*

*The Competitions portfolio has a history of burning people out. The workload for running four large competitions in first semester cannot be understated and is constant. Managing judges, up to 40 competitors, volunteers, problem questions, complaints, score sheets every single week is a lot of work. By having a total of 8 it would mean that we could have 2 representatives for each competition which would significantly relieve the pressure of a singular person and myself as well.*

### *2. Increasing quality*

*Of course, I'll still be committing these hours and as will all of my reps, it will just mean that it is more manageable for everyone to ensure they're not burning out. I've already set expectations for my two reps, they know that a thankless slog is coming as is the nature of comps. Something really important to me as I know it'd be for all of you is making sure our reps are feeling good! I'm already putting in extra work to protect my reps from that with me constructing draw templates, email templates for pretty much everything to take on as much as I can so that it can be easier on them. Please be assured that this isn't a way of me trying to lessen the ultimate workload but also make room for other things as well."*

I was grateful to have full Executive support in the co-option of an additional two members. Unfortunately, a member of the team had to unexpectedly depart when she received an offer to transfer to another University. I am grateful, particularly to our President, for organising a swift second round of co-option to bring us to our final team of eight.

## ***Pre-Semester 1 Meeting***

On 7 January 2022, the Competitions Portfolio held its first meeting as a team of eight. In this, a series of decisions were made to depart from previous years' administration. These are discussed in further detail below.

### *Moving Novice Moot to Semester 1*

Mooting is an incredibly popular competition. Unfortunately, in the past we have only held one moot in Semester 1 – this being the Open Moot. While, as suggested by the name, this is open for all students, it is well understood amongst our cohort that Open Moot is not treated as an entry-level competition. Although unspoken, the Open Moot is often reserved for the best of the best, involving a well-experienced and highly-talented students. Noting that the purpose of the Open Moot is identifying a team to advance to ALSA, this is certainly a positive thing. However, if you're entering the university year looking to try your hand at mooting, you are left with little options. To

accommodate this and to engage a broader range of students at their most energised and motivated time of the year, we decided to move the Novice Moot to Semester 1. This also logically followed noting that our Semester 2 Competitions are more niche / specialised in nature. However, this had the risk of lessening the number of registrations in Open Moot. In discussion, we concluded that on the other hand, it gave Open Moot calibre students to compete against students at the same level, instead re-directing less experienced / skilled competitors to Novice Moot.

I would recommend that the incoming Competitions Portfolio continues to hold the Novice Moot in Semester 1 and synchronise the dates with the Open Moot for administrative ease.

#### *Diarising round dates*

In selecting which days we would conduct the competitions rounds; we continued the tradition of not holding competitions rounds on Monday and Friday nights. I would recommend that the incoming Competitions Portfolio maintain this structure but consider having rounds on Monday night if the number of competitions being held does so require.

We chose to schedule Witness Examination and Client Interviewing on the same night. This choice was due to the fact that these are the two competitions which require volunteers. Managing volunteers can be notoriously unpredictable, hence, we considered that it was appropriate to isolate the chaos to one day. In hindsight, it may have been beneficial to separate the days to maximise the number of volunteers that we could source due to availability (e.g. many people were not free on a Thursday).

Previously, moot rounds have been held, in-line with other competitions, weekly. This year we elected to have a fortnight between each round. We believed that this was an acknowledgment of the work required in mooting, in particular research, which can take a lot of time. On balance, while this did extend the timeline of the competition, it allowed for a higher standard of work and therefore moots. In discussion with competitors, we found that they were grateful for the extra week. I would recommend that the incoming Competitions Portfolio continues holding moots fortnightly rather than weekly.

#### *Assigning representatives to competitions*

Initially we had divided up the portfolio in the following way on the following basis:

- Negotiations – one representative. As a representative in 2021, I ran the Negotiations Competition. The workload was reasonable and I found it to be highly manageable for one representative.

- Client Interviewing and Witness Examination – two representatives for each competition. As each of these competitions require volunteers, I felt that it was appropriate for them to have two to manage this extra workload.
- Open Moot & Novice Moot – three representatives working as one team. Ideally, I would have assigned two representatives to each team. Students take mooting incredibly seriously which means more questions. Additionally, there is the extra workload of distributing written submissions on receipt.

However, we ultimately assigned two representatives for each competition. This was for the reason that a representative unexpectedly resigned when she was accepted to attend another University. In her absence while we were undergoing the co-option process, the two representatives found that they were well-managing the administrative load. Therefore, when we co-opted a new representative, he was assigned to Negotiations.

#### *Holding our Grand Finals in a Court*

A representative, Jessica March, suggested that it would be a great opportunity for students if we could hold our Grand Finals in a courtroom. This is in-line with our universities, as well as other competition bodies (e.g. those running mock trials or debating). In discussion, we agreed that holding Client Interviewing and Negotiations in a courtroom would not make sense with the format of the competition. However, we agreed that holding our Moots and Witness Examination in a courtroom would be appropriate. Mainly for scheduling reasons, noting that Witness Examination was diarised to fall on the same day as Client Interviewing but our Moots were to be held on the same day, we decided to pursue holding our Open Moot and Novice Moot at the Supreme Court of South Australia. On an administrative level, this involved contacting Chief Justice Kourakis' personal assistant and filling out a Courtroom Hire Form. I chose to request to hire Courtroom 1 and Courtroom 2 in the Supreme Court. This was for four reasons:

1. I was aware that the Chambers of the Justices we intended to ask to judge the Open and Novice Moots were closer to Courtroom 1 and Courtroom 2 – This was a strong reason for not seeking to hire a court in the Sir Samuel Way building as well
2. Both of these Courts have a larger viewing gallery than other Supreme Court courts and have yet to be modernised – I thought it would be exciting for students to moot in an older courtroom
3. These courts are easier to locate and provide instructions to as they are both located in the older part of the building that can be accessed directly from Gouger Street

4. On an administrative level, these courtrooms are across from one another allowing me to easily go between them to set-up and monitor each moot where required.

I would like to extend my thanks to Chief Justice Kourakis for allowing us to use Courtrooms 1 and 2, and waiving the courtroom hire fee.

I would recommend that the incoming Competitions Portfolio continues to hold mooting Grand Finals in the Supreme Court and seek to hold our Witness Examination Grand Final there as well.

### *Accessibility*

Following COVID-19 and some feedback last year, we decided to allow online attendance for competitions. This was allowed on a discretionary basis and competitors had to seek leave from myself to compete online. This was an option exercised mostly for students who were feeling unwell or had to isolate. Further, we allowed for the use of technology (e.g., computers) in competitions for disability-accessibility purposes. This, again, operated on a discretionary basis and competitors were required to seek leave from myself. I would strongly recommend that the 2023 Competitions Portfolio maintain these accessibility rules. I found that they did far more good than harm, and did not materially impact the running of a competition.

### *Creating a Uniform Scoring Guide*

Frequent feedback that we receive from competitors is with respect to scoring. Previously, scoring was largely discretionary. One week competitors would receive an 85 whereas the next they would receive a 72, with the standard of their performance not largely deviating. This is largely for the reason that while we give judges indicators on score sheets giving a range for what a number means, it appears that those go unread and there is a large discrepancy between what one judge may perceive as 8 verses what another may think. In order to combat this, we decided that we needed to develop a more in-depth guide on scoring. This is further discussed below.

### *Decreasing turnaround time*

In previous years, we have heard feedback from competitors that they want their results and scoresheets back faster. As a person who has competed in a many-a-competition in the past, I can understand this frustration. This year, we agreed to send out the rounds results and scoresheets on the same evening as the round. While it extended our evening, with some representatives being at University until close-to-midnight, we received great feedback from students with respect to this turnaround time.

For this meeting, I prepared a report-style summary prior to and after the meeting. I would recommend that the 2023 Director of Competitions undertake this same task for the first couple of meetings held by the portfolio. In the infancy of the portfolio, particularly with a young in-experienced portfolio, I believe that having meeting notes in writing is useful to refer to.

### ***Judge Sourcing***

To assist the portfolio, I created a How to Contact Judges checklist for them to access. I strongly suggest that the 2023 Competitions Portfolio continue to utilise checklists and templates to best maximise resources and to ensure that judges are not being double contacted. I also created an email template for representatives to use to ensure efficiency.

For our Semester 1 Competitions, we required approximately 65 judges across the semester. Minding that we are often not lucky on our first shot, the portfolio would have contacted up to 120 members of the profession to judge. Every year we have excellent judges and the usual process is contacting the same judges from the previous year and asking them to judge again. This logically follows considering they clearly have interest in judging, as well as the relative experience. However, we reached out to many professionals who had not had prior judging experience, but had attending the University of Adelaide – hopefully generating some good that would carry into their willingness to judge. We were grateful to see that many members of the profession were excited to judge students, in particular higher-ranking members of the profession (e.g. SCs and QCs).

We found that there was great value in going outside of our usual selection and received feedback from competitors who were, albeit afraid, but impressed by the high calibre of judges.

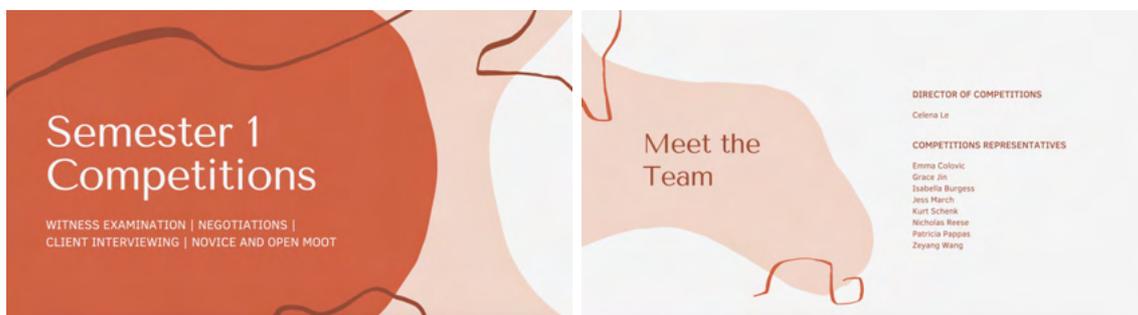
### ***Problem Question Sourcing***

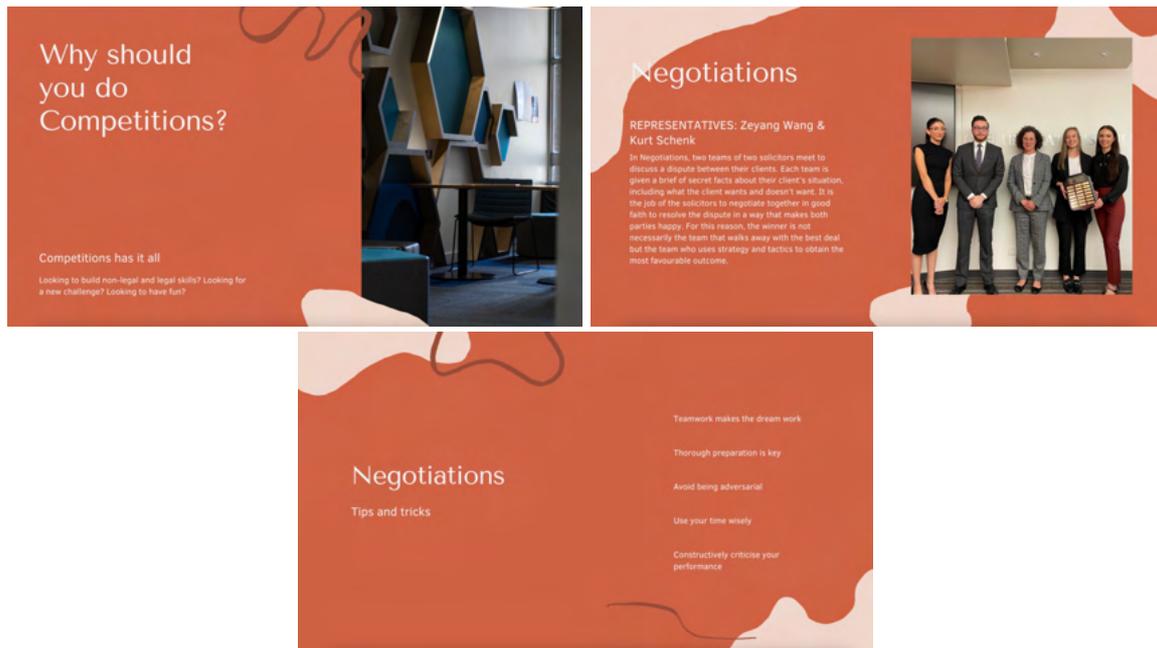
To access the ALSA Problem Bank, the portfolio must write and submit two original problem questions. The ALSA Problem Bank is, unfortunately, littered with errors and is quite limited in terms of sourcing quality problem questions. While the portfolio does not currently have the capacity to write problem question for each round, the portfolio was encouraged to have-a-go at writing the problem question for the Grand Final. In the future, it would be ideal to continue to reduce reliance on the ALSA Problem Bank.

## Semester 1 Competitions Information Evening

The Semester 1 Competitions Information Evening was held on Week 1, Wednesday, 2 March 2022. The format of the evening was follows:

- We began the evening by introducing the Competitions Portfolio. While this appears as a meaningless step, I do believe that there is extreme value in building rapport between competitors and the portfolio. Mistakes, complaints, and problems are inevitable. Through building a relationship with students, I believe that the portfolio benefits in the long-term (continued engagement) but also the short-term (grace when things go wrong).
- We continued by pitching by students should do competitions. As it is the beginning of the year and we are welcoming many new students, we believed it was valuable to 'sell' competitions to some extent.
- Each student heard what each competition was substantially. While the Competitions Director has spoken in the past, I believed in-line with my reflections with respect to rapport earlier, it was more valuable for the representatives to speak on the competitions that they were running. That way, students would be more familiar with their representatives, rather than just recognise their name in an email.
- Past winners from competitions volunteered their time to share valuable top tips and tricks for the competition.
- I spoke briefly about the registration process, highlighting that both team members had to register to have a successful registration – this step is often missed.





Thank you to Divya Narayan, Sofia Tait, Leon Kasperski and Nicolas Rich for donating their time to speak for students as past winners. Their insights were incredibly valuable.

### ***Competitions x Careers Come and Try Day***

Following the success of the 2021 Competitions and Careers Come and Try Day, we held the second Come and Try Day on Saturday, 5 March 2022.

We heard the feedback from last year where students wanted more time and an opportunity to try out every single competition. Accordingly, the day consisted of 4 x 50-minute sessions where students had the opportunity to try their hand at participating in each competition in a mini-way. Past winners walked participants through preparing for a competition (as in, going through a problem question) and then gave them the opportunity to try out a skill. The session times were as follows:

<b>Session 1</b>	12:00 - 12:50
<b>Session 2</b>	1:00 - 1:50
<b>Session 3</b>	2:00-2:50
<b>Session 4</b>	3:00-3:50

In each room we stationed a past winner, to run the session, two competitions representatives and one career representative, to assist. In terms of how each session was ran, we handed over administrative control to past winners. This logically followed considering that they would be much more well-versed at what would benefit students. To assist, the Competitions Portfolio selected four problem

questions used in the preliminary rounds of last years' competitions to be used on the day.

In future, I would recommend holding individual consultations with each past winner so that the incoming Directors of Competitions and Careers have more certainty on the day and can brief representatives, so that they may be more useful.

We opened registrations for the Come and Try Day on the same day as Competition Registrations. These registrations were closed on Friday, 4 March 2022 at close of business. Following the close of registrations, we allocated students to timeslots with the intention of having 8 students maximum per time slot (two students for each representative in the room). By 7.00pm on Friday, 4 March 2022, we sent allocations out to students. In future, it may be more beneficial to utilise a rostering registration system. For example, allowing students to sign up to a timeslot. This may increase engagement as students will have more control over when they attend, for which competitions, and will be able to sign up with their friends.

On the day, we were disappointed by the large number of no-shows and latecomers. However, it is unclear how to best avoid this. Despite this, we received positive feedback from those in attendance that the day was well worth-it and provided much needed guidance on a practical level.

I would like to extend my thanks to Amy Lancaster, Divya Narayan, Andrew Morrison, Ruby Schutz and Nicolas Rich for running the Come and Try Day.

### ***Semester 1 Competitions Registration***

Registrations for the Semester 1 Competitions opened immediately after the Semester 1 Competitions Information evening and remained open until close of business on Monday, 7 March 2022. While this is a short timeframe, this is the latest we can have registrations open minding that our first round of competitions (Preliminary Round 1 of Negotiations) is on the following Tuesday and the rules dictate that competitors receive materials one week prior to their round date.

The questions used for registration are as follows:

1. What is your full name and student ID? – This is asked because often students will go by different names than what is listed as their email address. Further, students may have the same name.
2. Are you registering for more than one competition – Yes/No
3. Which competition would you like to register in? – [Competitions]
4. If you are registering for two competitions, what is the second competition you would like to register in? – [Competitions]

5. In the event that your registration for a competition is unsuccessful, are you interested in registering for another competition? – Yes/No
6. If you are registering for an alternative in the vent of an unsuccessful competition, what is the alternative competition you would like to register in? – [Competitions]
7. If you are registering for a competition which requires a team, do you have a team organised? If your answer is no, we will team you up with another student who also does not have a team – Yes/No
8. If your answer was yes to the above question, please provide the following: Which competition are you registering a team for? What are the student ID numbers and full names of your teammates? – [Text]

We received a total of 111 competitor registrations for our Semester 1 competitions. Out of these 111 competitor registrations, 33 students registered for more than one competition.

For volunteering, we utilised the usual method of students signing up to be part of a volunteer pool who are called upon each week to volunteer. While we received a low number of registrations for volunteering, 11 registrations, I was grateful that the Executive supported my portfolio and volunteered themselves and encouraged their representatives to volunteer. Competitions would not have been possible without this support and I thank, in particular, Kush Goyal, Magenta Stoba, Bryan Lau and Aryan Banerjee for donating their time on multiple occasions to volunteer.

### *Client Interviewing*

Round	Date
Preliminary Round 1	Week 3, Thursday, 17 March 2022
Preliminary Round 2	Week 4, Thursday, 24 March 2022
Quarter Final	Week 5, Thursday, 31 March 2022
Semi-Final	Week 6, Thursday, 7 April 2022
Grand Final	Week 7, Thursday, 28 April 2022

I would like to extend my thanks to Grace Jin and Isabella Burgess for running Client Interviewing in Semester 1. We had a total of 40 registrations for Client Interviewing this year. I was grateful that this perfectly filled the 40 spaces that we had in this competition. Thankfully, there were no withdrawals.

Thank you to all the past winners and members of the legal profession who volunteered their time to judge the Client Interviewing competition in Semester 1,

including Leon Kasperski, Nadeesha Indigahawela, Andrew Morrison, Emily Denbigh, Tina Tran, Ruby Shutz, Rebecca Ross, Gavin Davis, Dr Beth Nosworthy and Judge Geoffrey Muecke.

Thank you also to the students who volunteered hours of their time to be 'clients.'

Congratulations to Eleanor Lewis and Ellen Pollard for winning the Client Interviewing Competition.



### ***LK Open Moot***

<b>Round</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Preliminary Round 1</b>	Week 4, Tuesday, 22 March 2022
<b>Preliminary Round 2</b>	Week 4, Wednesday, 23 March 2022
<b>Quarter Final</b>	Week 6, Wednesday, 6 April 2022
<b>Semi-Final</b>	Week 7, Wednesday, 27 April 2022
<b>Grand Final</b>	Week 9, Wednesday, 11 May 2022

I would like to extend my thanks to Patricia Papathanasopoulous and Nicholas Reese for running the LK Open Moot in Semester 1. We had a total of 17 registrations for the LK Open Moot this year. We, however, had two withdrawals from competitors who suffered from unforeseen circumstances.

Thank you to all the past winners and members of the legal profession who volunteered their time to judge the LK Open Moot in Semester 1, including Dimitria Tolis, Paul Sigar, Ian Thomas, Patrick Leader-Elliot, Paras Kontibas, Dr Rachael Gray QC, Chris Kummerow, Ben Doyle QC, Judge Heath Barklay, Judge Leisel Kudeleka, President Livesey, Justice Lovell and Chief Justice Kourakis.



Congratulations to Olivia Bradley, Rachel Neef and Riki Theodorakakos for winning the LK Open Moot.

### ***Novice Moot***

<b>Round</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Preliminary Round 1</b>	Week 4, Tuesday, 22 March 2022
<b>Preliminary Round 2</b>	Week 4, Wednesday, 23 March 2022
<b>Quarter Final</b>	Week 6, Wednesday, 6 April 2022

<b>Semi-Final</b>	Week 7, Wednesday, 27 April 2022
<b>Grand Final</b>	Week 9, Wednesday, 11 May 2022

I would like to extend my thanks to Patricia Papathanasopoulous and Nicholas Reese for running the Novice Moot in Semester 1. We had a total of 28 registrations for Novice Moot this year. However, out of the 28 competitors we have five withdrawals before the first round. It is notable that all of these competitors were first years. I believe that in future, if Novice Moot continues to be held in first Semester, it is important to communicate to First Years that they will have their opportunity in Semester 2, in the First Year Moot.

Thank you to all the past winners and members of the legal profession who volunteered their time to judge the Novice Moot in Semester 1, including Danielle Gilby, Joel Lisk, Lloyd Wicks, Anita Burraci, Despina Adamopoulos, Josephine Battiste, James Marcus, Thomas Duggan QC, Simon Ower QC, Justice Bleby and Justice David.



Congratulations to Olivia Walker for winning the Novice Moot.

## **Negotiations**

<b>Round</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Preliminary Round 1</b>	Week 3, Tuesday, 15 March 2022
<b>Preliminary Round 2</b>	Week 4, Tuesday, 22 March 2022
<b>Quarter Final</b>	Week 5, Tuesday, 29 March 2022
<b>Semi-Final</b>	Week 6, Tuesday, 5 April 2022
<b>Grand Final</b>	Week 7, Tuesday, 26 April 2022

I would like to extend my thanks to Aiden Zeyang Wang and Kurt Schenk for running the Negotiations Competition in Semester 1. We had a total of 42 registrations for Negotiations this year. This meant that two registrations were unsuccessful as we had a total of 40 spots in the competition.



Thank you to all the past winners and members of the legal profession who volunteered their time to judge the Negotiations Competition in Semester 1, including Joel Lisk, Sofia Tait, Amy Lancaster, Audrey Lian, Chris Kelly, Hugo Chapman, Joel

Grieger, Luke Curtale, Daniel Plunkett, Jessica Teoh, Cindy Chang and Judge Bochner.

Congratulations to Katie Cooper and Cate Lipsham for winning the Negotiations Competition.

### ***Witness Examination***

<b>Round</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Preliminary Round 1</b>	Week 3, Thursday, 17 March 2022
<b>Preliminary Round 2</b>	Week 4, Thursday, 24 March 2022
<b>Quarter Final</b>	Week 5, Thursday, 31 March 2022
<b>Semi-Final</b>	Week 6, Thursday, 7 April 2022
<b>Grand Final</b>	Week 7, Thursday, 28 April 2022

I would like to extend my thanks to Jessica March and Emma Colovic for running the Witness Examination Competition in Semester 1. We had a total of 16 registrations for Witness Examination this year. This mean that four registrations were unsuccessful as we have a total of 12 spots in the competition. Noting the popularity of the competition this year, it may be worthwhile opening up more spots in future. However, I will note that we had a number of no-shows / withdrawals. Hence, having the 'reserve' students was useful to fill these slots.

Thank you to all the past winners and members of the legal profession who volunteered their time to judge the Witness Examination Competition in Semester 1, including David Plater, Divya Narayan, Craig Fabbian, Kaela Dore, Azaara Peraketh, David Colovic, Matt Simpson and Judge Muecke. Thank you also to the students who volunteered hours of their time to be 'witnesses.'

Congratulations to Gian-Luca Stirling for winning the Witness Examination Competition.





### ***Red Cross International Humanitarian Law Moot***

While the AULSS Competitions Portfolio is not involved in the administration of the Red Cross International Humanitarian Law Moot and it is run through the law school, I would like to take the opportunity to congratulate Annalise Delic and Madeleine McNeil for winning the Red Cross IHL Moot this year.

### ***Phillip C. Jessup International Law Moot***

While the AULSS Competitions Portfolio is not involved in the administration of the Jessup Moot, I would like to take the opportunity to congratulate Lilly Slaughter, Shannon Cain, Madeleine McNeil, Nili McGrath and Sean Pettingill for placing 10<sup>th</sup> in the National Australian Rounds. A special congratulations to Madeleine McNeil for being in the Top 10 oralists in the competition.



### ***2022 ALSA Competitions***

Each year, the Australian Law Society Association holds a conference, at which national competitions are held. This year, the conference was held in-person in Brisbane. The AULSS invites the winners of their Semester 1 competitions to compete in ALSA on our behalf. I will defer to the President's report for further information with respect to the administration of the competition, and the Treasurer's report for further information with respect to costs.

Unfortunately, the winners of our Negotiations Competition, Open Moot and Client Interviewing Competition were unable to attend ALSA. In their place, we invited the runners-up to attend in their place. The runners-up teams for Negotiations and Open Moot were able to and did attend in the Grand Final winners' place. Unfortunately, the runners-up for Client Interviewing were unable to attend due to prior commitments. In light of the Executive's concerns with respect to budget, it was agreed that we would not invite the third place competitors to attend in the winners place and that invitations would be reserved for grand finalists.

Whilst at ALSA, it is my understanding that competitors faced a series of issues with the administration of ALSA. I would like to extend my thanks to our President and

Vice-President, who were in attendance in-person, who I understand provided support and advocated on the behalf of the competitors. In future, I would encourage the Executive to review support mechanisms that can be put in place to best support competitors and reduce administrative burdens on them.

I would like to offer my congratulations and thanks to our party of competitions delegates comprising of Alice McKay, Annalise Delic, Gian-Luca Stirling, Harry Passehl, Katia Safieddin, Maddie McNeil, and Phoebe Gunn. A special congratulations to Maddie and Annalise who ended up taking home the trophy as winners of the International Humanitarian Moot.



## **Semester 2 Competitions**

### ***Semester 2 Competitions Information Evening***

Following our Semester 1 Competitions Information Evening, I came away with a series of amendments to be made in the administration of our Semester 2 Competitions Information Evening. I found that students were after more practical advice, with respect to the exact expectations for the competition and how it is run, and key dates rather than being sold to compete in a competition. I found the competitions often sold themselves and it is not the role of the AULSS Competitions Portfolio to convince students to compete. Rather, it is to provide the opportunities.

Hence, we did not invite past winners or use time explaining what students stood to gain from competitions. Rather, we spent more time delving into exactly what was required at the preparation stage and what your average round night looked like. This went a lot quicker and was much more appropriate for our Semester 2 competitions which are more specialist in nature.



## Semester 2 Registrations

We received 85 registrations for our Semester 2 competitions. While this is a lower number, I do believe that this is reflective of the Semester 2 competitions being more specialised in nature. This is done on purpose to allow for a wider array of competitions across specific interest areas (e.g. a family law mediation, a criminal law moot etc).

For volunteer registrations, we utilised a rostering system rather than a pool system. Where we would usually create a Microsoft Form, as outlined above, instead we created a shared Microsoft Word document where students could sign up for timeslots on particular days. This created more certainty for volunteers – following feedback from Semester One – and more certainty for us as well. Again, I would like to thank the Executive and Committee for their support in filling volunteer spots.

## First Year Moot Q&A Session

A day prior to the release of the First Year Moot problem question, Jessica March (a well-experienced mooter) held a First Year Moot Q&A Session over Zoom. Last year, a Moot Q&A followed the Semester 2 Competitions Information Session. However, we felt that if the target audience for the Moot Q&A was first years, they may stand to benefit more from a smaller session. Additionally, this was only offered to students registered in the competition. While there was a low turn-out rate, I did receive feedback from the students in attendance that it was highly valuable. I would recommend that the incoming Competitions Portfolio run this again next year. It is incredibly low administrative workload and will save you time later in answering a million emails with questions from competitors.

### *Kain Lawyers Mergers & Acquisitions Competition*

Round	Date
Written Advice Due	Week 3, Thursday 11 August 2022
Oral Advice Round	Week 4, Thursday 18 August 2022
Negotiation Round	Week 5, Thursday 25 August 2022
Grand Final	Week 7, Thursday 8 September 2022

I would like to extend my thanks to Kurt Schenk for running the Kain Lawyers Mergers & Acquisitions Competition. This year, we had 20 registrations which formed 10 teams to compete this semester. We were grateful to have no withdrawals.

This year we received feedback from students who were confused as to what was expected of them with respect to written advice and oral advice rounds. I would like to extend my thanks to past winner Daniel Plunkett who agreed to let us distribute his written advice to registered competitors to give them an idea of how to structure their advice and exactly what was required. I consider that this ambiguity can be resolved through more detailed rules and continuing to distribute an example of the previous years' winner's written advice.

The Competitions Portfolio extends its gratitude to Kain Lawyers for being heavily involved in the administration of the competition. In particular, Brian Vuong who wrote each problem question and judged each round. Brian is incredibly involved and motivated to continue the relationship between Kain Lawyers and the AULSS. This year, we had discussions about moving the competition to the first semester rather than hold it in the second. From a firm perspective, I do believe that this logically follows. I consider that clerkship season is prior to Semester 2 and that Kain Lawyers would benefit from raising interest early. However, I do worry that we would see less registrations as students may opt to compete in the highly-popular Negotiations competition instead. I recommend that the next Director of Competitions reaches out to Kain Lawyers as soon as possible to discuss these options.

Congratulations to Katie Cooper and Cate Lipsham for winning the Kain Lawyers Mergers & Acquisitions Competition.



### ***Criminal Law Moot***

<b>Round</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Preliminary Round</b>	Week 4, Thursday, 18 August 2022
<b>Semi-Final</b>	Week 6, Thursday, 1 September 2022
<b>Grand Final</b>	Week 8, Thursday, 15 September 2022

I would like to extend my thanks to Emma Colovic and Isabella Burgess for running the Criminal Law Moot. This year, we had 17 registrations forming 8 teams to compete this semester.

Due to unforeseen circumstances, we were required to cut one preliminary round. However, this allowed us to put more administrative workforce into the three rounds. Including, sourcing three freshly written problem questions for the competitors. Thank you to David Plater and Olivia Bradley for writing the problem questions this year.

Thank you to all the past winners and members of the legal profession who volunteered their time to judge, including David Plater, Vaishnavi Rajaramanan, Brigid Symes, Kris Handshin KC and Judge Geoffrey Muecke.

Congratulations to Grace Jin and Ashwini Ravindran for winning the Criminal Law Moot.



### ***First Year Moot***

<b>Round</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Preliminary Round 1 &amp; 2</b>	Week 4, Saturday, 20 August 2022
<b>Semi-Final</b>	Week 6, Tuesday, 30 August 2022
<b>Grand Final</b>	Week 8, Tuesday, 13 September 2022

I would like to extend my thanks to Jessica March for running the First Year Moot.

Thank you to Olivia Bradley, Professor Andrew Stewart, Professor Dale Stephens and Dr Mark Giancaspro for writing the problem questions we used this semester. Traditionally, the First Year Moot uses Tort Law questions. However, this year it was decided that the First Year Moot would cover a range of different areas. While this presented an extra challenge, we consider that it was more beneficial to challenge students to undertake research rather than simply refer to their Semester 1 Tort Law notes. Additionally, this is fairer considering that First Years who are mid-year entry

would not have undertaken Tort Law in any case. I would strongly recommend that the incoming Competitions Portfolio continues to outsource problem questions outside of Tort Law.

In the preliminary round we received feedback from judges who were disappointed that the competitors did not afford them the appropriate amount of respect and formality. While we held a First Year Moot Q&A session and these elements are laid out in the Competitions Handbook, it may be beneficial in future for formalities (e.g. dressing professionally) to be stepped out in an email prior to the first round.

Thank you to all the past winners and members of the legal profession who volunteered their time to judge, including Olivia Bradley, Jack Eccleston, Eamonn Carpenter, Nicolas Rich, Nilli McGrath, Madeleine McNeil, Judge Geoffrey Muecke and Chief Justice Kourakis.

Congratulations to Evelyn Walker for winning the First Year Moot.



### ***Family Law Mediation***

<b>Round</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Preliminary Round</b>	Week 4, Wednesday, 17 August 2022
<b>Semi-Final</b>	Week 6, Wednesday, 31 August 2022
<b>Grand Final</b>	Week 8, Wednesday, 14 September 2022

I would like to extend my thanks to Grace Jin and Bhoomika Trivedi for creating and running the inaugural Family Law Mediation Competition. The amount of work that goes into constructing a competition in a format and subject area that has yet to be attempted by the Competitions Portfolio in years prior should not be underestimated. I am extremely impressed by the level of work and detail put into the administration of this competition.

As we moved our Novice Moot to Semester 2, we were able to make space for a brand-new competition. In discussions, we decided that we wanted a new format of competition in an area that we have not done previously. I sought advice from the Executive who identified that Family Law is a highly popular elective which often fills-up quickly. We agreed that due to the high popularity of Family Law, paired with the limited opportunities to gain experience in Family Law, it would be the appropriate area of law to dedicate a competition to.

From that point, the Competitions Portfolio needed to decide what format the competition would be in. We opted for mediation on the basis that negotiation-style competitions are highly popular, and we felt after discussion with Dr Gabrielle Golding and Anita Brunacci that mediation would be the most topic-appropriate format.

In order to translate a mediation into a competition, we consulted other commercial mediation competitions rules and scoresheets, as well as watched a series of videos of mediations. Time pending, I would recommend that the next portfolio, should they choose to hold this competition again, consult further with the profession with respect to the format of the competition. We were grateful to receive rolling feedback from our volunteer judges who were all excited to see Family Law represented within the AULSS.

Ultimately the following format was finalised:

A week prior to the rounds, teams will receive their problem questions consisting of common facts known to everyone, and further client expectations (which will determine your mediation strategy), the latter of which is unknown to the other party. From these facts, teams must submit a mediation plan two days before the mediation.

30 minutes before the mediation, competitors will receive further information from their volunteer client and may have to adapt their strategy. A portion of that 30 minutes can be spent with their teammate to discuss updating strategy, but also briefing their client. Teams will have 90 minutes to engage in a mediation, during which they can elect to have an optional five-minute break (without the other team or the mediator) or an optional five-minute caucus (with the mediator).

Thank you to the members of the legal profession who volunteered their time to judge, including Christopher Swan, Terese Wacyk, Isabella Venables, Bev Clark and Sarah Bell.

In future, I would recommend that the representatives in-charge of running the Family Law Mediation brief the judges, or create a brief for the judges, prior to the start of the mediation. As a university Competitions Portfolio translating real life scenarios into competitions formats, we are obviously limited to the extent of 'realism' we can incorporate into a competition. Understandably, this can be confusing for members of the profession, and it is likely they will not cast their minds to these sorts of considerations.

Thank you to Sarah Bell for writing the Grand Final problem question, and Grace and Bhoomika for writing the problem questions for the Preliminary and Semi-Final rounds.

Congratulations to Aeron Leyesa and Victoria Wong for winning our inaugural Family Law Mediation Competition.



### ***Tri-varsity Client Interviewing Competition (AULSS x FLSA x USALSA)***

<b>Round</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Preliminary Round 1</b>	Week 3, Wednesday, 10 August 2022
<b>Preliminary Round 2</b>	Week 4, Wednesday, 17 August 2022
<b>External Preliminary Round</b>	Week 7, Saturday, 3 September 2022
<b>External Grand Final</b>	Week 8, Wednesday, 7 September

I would like to extend my thanks to Patricia Papathanasopoulos for creating and running the inaugural Tri-varsity Client Interviewing Competition. I would also like to extend my thanks to FLSA and USALSA. The three universities have not collaborated at a competition level for some time which I do believe is a missed opportunity. In discussions with the Director of Competitions equivalent positioned individuals from the respective universities, I was pleased to see a great level of enthusiasm with respect to running future competitions together.

In our selection process, we mirrored the practice used in our Inter-varsity Negotiations Competition, in that we held a series of internal rounds where the team with the highest win-loss ratio advanced to the external rounds. Whilst I am aware there are different selection processes at other universities (e.g. by interview, whoever wins the Semester 1 competition) with a cohort as engaged as ours, I do believe that a fresh set of internal preliminary rounds is the fairest way which maximises accessibility.

Following the internal preliminary selection rounds, we ran a practice session where our advancing team were given an opportunity to trial a more difficult client interview. If there are

Thank you to all the past winners and members of the legal profession who volunteered their time to judge, including Nadeesha Indigahawela, Eva Bailey, Troy Roulstone, Claudia Santin, Eleanor Lewis, Anya Miller, Terese Wacyk, Dr Sam Kontra and Travis Shueard.

Thank you also to the students who volunteered their time to be clients.

Congratulations to Katie Cooper and Cate Lipsham for winning the inaugural Tri-varsity Client Interviewing Competition.



### ***Inter-varsity Negotiations (AULSS x SULS)***

<b>Round</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Preliminary Round 1 &amp; 2</b>	Week 3, Saturday, 13 August 2022
<b>External Preliminary Rounds (3 rounds)</b>	Week 8, Saturday, 10 September 2022
<b>External Grand Final</b>	Week 8, Sunday, 11 September 2022

I would like to extend my thanks to Aiden Zeyang Wang for running the Inter-varsity Negotiations Competition.

This is our third year collaborating with the Sydney University Law Society and we continue to be grateful to have the opportunity to build relationships interstate. I would recommend that the incoming Competitions Portfolio reaches out early in the mid-year break to begin planning strict deadlines and expectations with SULS.

This year, AULSS suggested that the competition be held in-person with either AULSS students travelling to Sydney or SULS students travelling to Adelaide. However, it was ultimately decided that this was outside of the capacity of the societies.

This year, we elected to hold both preliminary rounds on the same day. This choice was made as the external rounds require competitors to undertake three negotiations in one day. As you can expect, this is an incredibly tiring process and we felt that it

was appropriate for students to have experience preparing for and competing in an intensive fashion.

On the day of the internal rounds, we had a no-show requiring a competition representative to negotiate in their place. As such, we elected to decide which team advanced by average margin than W/L ratio. To mitigate any potential advantages/disadvantages the teams going against the competitions representative would have, we chose to use this alternative method.

I would like to thank Sofia Tait and Katia Safieddin for agreeing to coach the advancing teams. This year, we decided to have a training practice round where both advancing teams negotiated against one another over Zoom. This was with the intention to give teams experience negotiating over Zoom, which on a practical level is very different from negotiating in-person, but also giving coaches a chance to provide feedback to teams before the big day. I observed both teams negotiate in the preliminary external rounds, as well as in the internal rounds and the training round. There was a marked difference between the rounds and I encourage the incoming Competitions Portfolio to continue to have a training round prior to the externals.



Congratulations to Ashleigh De Silva and Ramith Waragoda, and Charlton Gunn and Rocco Ierace for winning the internal rounds and advancing to the external rounds.

### ***Commercial & Legal Property Law Competition***

<b>Round</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Registrations Open</b>	Week 8, Monday, 12 September 2022
<b>Registrations Close</b>	Week 8, Friday, 16 September 2022
<b>Problem Question Release</b>	Mid-semester break, Monday, 19 September 2022
<b>Written Advice due</b>	Mid-semester break, Monday, 26 September 2022
<b>Oral Advice Round</b>	Mid-semester break, Thursday, 30 September 2022

Whilst sourcing judges for Tri-varsity Client Interviewing, Commercial & Legal expressed an interest in sponsoring a short-term property law competition where the winners are offered a place in the Commercial & Legal clerkship program. I would like

to extend my thanks to Patricia Papathanasopoulos for assisting in running the Commercial & Legal Property Law Competition.

We based the structure off of the Mergers & Acquisitions format where students are given a problem question and write advice to a client, before orally presenting it to a "client" (a judge). As this format is less adversarial, we hoped it would be more accessible, and the simple format may allow it to be more tailored to a certain area of property law. Commercial & Legal advised that they wanted the competition to reflect real-life matters and the complications that arise unexpectedly during these matters. They wanted students to be able to demonstrate their written drafting skills, their ability to communicate their legal understanding in laymans terms and think on their feet when presented with unexpected queries or confounds. The following format was suggested and ultimately adapted:

### **STAGE 1: Contract Review & Written Advice**

- Students are acting for the purchaser of a property with a commercial tenancy. They are presented with: the scenario including an introduction to their client, the property for proposed purchase, the client's goals and expectations and some other details that may or may not be relevant to the matter, a standard form contract and some brief instructions and simple queries from the client.
- Students are to review the contract they have been presented and provide written advice to the client (max. 2 pages), identifying key issues, answering queries and drafting special conditions according to client requests.
- Commercial & Legal judges will review the responses from students and students who have correctly identified the key issues with the contract will advance to the client meeting stage of the competition.

### **STAGE 2: Client Meeting**

- During this stage, students will meet face to face with their client (a Commercial & Legal judge) and will be expected to go through the written advice they provided their client to demonstrate their ability to communicate legal concepts in laymans terms as well as their interpersonal skills.
- During the meeting, the client may request clarification on some aspects of the student's advice.
- After the student has presented their advice, the client will then introduce new (potentially confounding) information that will require the student to draw upon their understanding of the law, the scenario and the contract to manage.

Whilst it was initially intended to be a tri-varsity property law competition, the other South Australian universities did not have organisational capacity to assist. However, I felt that in order to add value to Commercial & Legal's sponsorship, also minding the relationships we have built with the other societies, that it would be beneficial if

we allowed all students from other universities. Ultimately, we had no registrations from the University of South Australia and one registration from Flinders University (who eventually withdrew). However, in the name of inclusivity I believe that in future if we held similar short-term competitions, future Competitions Portfolios should continue to build relationships with the other societies.

We received a lot of feedback from competitors. In future, I would recommend that the Competitions Portfolio encourage Commercial & Legal to open the competition to all students who have undertaken Property Law, rather than only fourth and final years. Additionally, I would encourage that the page limit for written advice be increased to allow more in-depth advice.

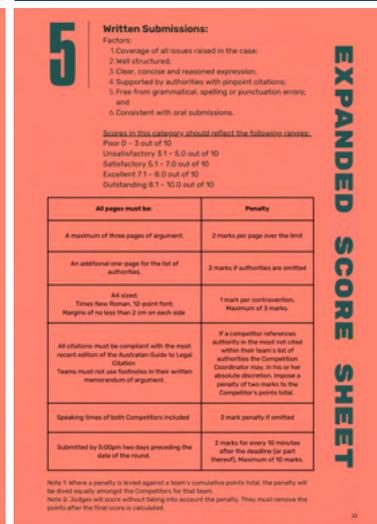
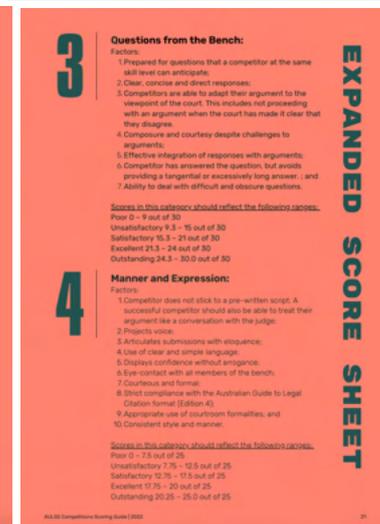
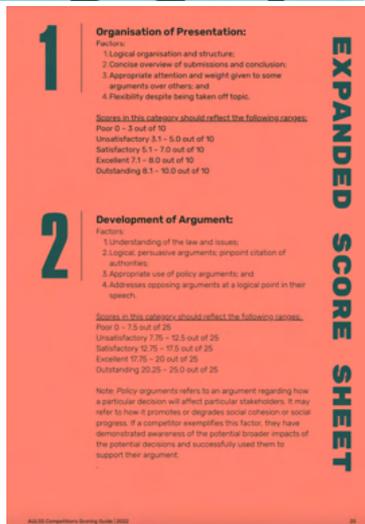
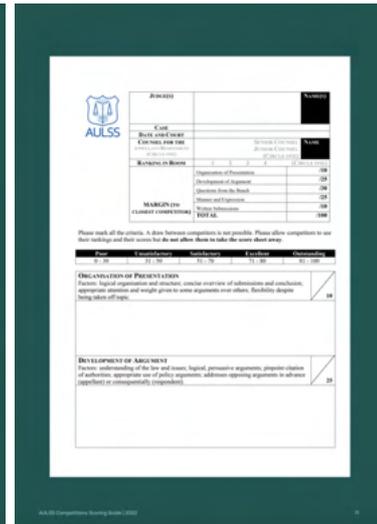
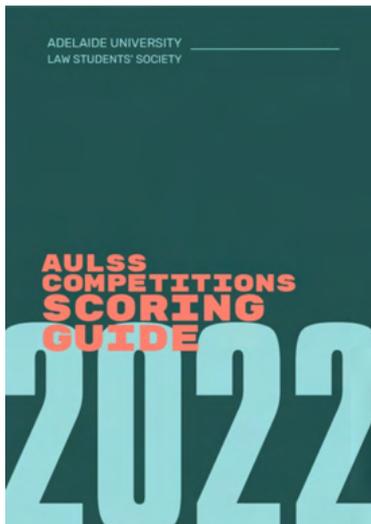
Congratulations to Annie Yuan and Aryan Banerjee for winning the inaugural Commercial & Legal Property Law Competition. Congratulations also to runners-up Isabella Burgess and Grace Jin, who were also offered a place in the Commercial & Legal clerkship program.



## **Other Competitions Portfolio Activities**

### ***Competitions Uniform Scoring Guide***

As seen below, the structure of our uniform scoring guide was first giving an example of an average score. We thought that the structure of beginning at a 7/10 and moving either way for poor or great performance would be appropriate. Next, we gave an indication of what a margin meant in terms of performance before expanding on what each section of the scoring sheet meant in more detail. It was our hope that this meant scores would have more meaning and allow students to track their progress throughout a competition.



This scoring guide was distributed not only to judges but also competitors. This way, they knew more clearly what was expected of them and what their scores meant in a more meaningful way. The result of this was clear in that we saw much closer margins and more consistent scores across all competitions. I encourage future portfolios to add to this guide and include other competitions.

### Competitions x Education Advocacy Video Series

While I will largely defer to the Education Portfolio Report, this year the Asian-Australian Lawyers Association and the AULSS collaborated to create an advocacy video series. The inspiration for this series came from Wired's 'Expert explains concept in 5 levels of difficulty' series. The intention was to showcase the importance of advocacy, the many different forms that advocacy takes (e.g. not just in the courtroom) and to encourage students to give advocacy a go.

Thank you to the Semester 1 Competitions winners who volunteered to film for this series. Thank you also to the legal professionals from AALA who volunteered their time to film for this series.

Ultimately, the Director of Education and myself agreed that it would make more sense if this video series released next year at the beginning of competitions season. We have mostly completed filming and trust that the incoming Education and Competitions portfolio will finish editing the videos.

## **External Competitions**

This year, we sent teams to compete in two external competitions interstate (excluding ALSA). These are the UTS LSS Inter-varsity Negotiations Competition in Sydney and the Sir Harry Gibbs Constitutional Moot in Melbourne.

I would like to extend my congratulations to Katia Saffieddin, Alice McKay, Shobha Nalonnil and Ahalya Kamineni who competed in the UTS LSS Inter-varsity Negotiations Competition.

I would like to extend my congratulations to Jessica March, Ashwini Ravindran and Madeleine McNeil who competed in the Sir Harry Gibbs Constitutional Moot and advanced to the Semi-Finals.



## **Recommendations for 2023**

I have made a series of recommendations throughout this report that I carry and affirm into this section of my report. Below, I detail further recommendations that the incoming Competitions Portfolio may wish to enact.

### ***Offering a singular timeslot for rounds***

As it stands, there are two timeslots for competitions in one night. One of these begins at 6.00pm and the other begins at approximately 7.30pm, albeit often late. In future, I would recommend that the Competitions Portfolio offers one timeslot beginning at 6.00pm. While this decreases flexibility for competitors, I believe that this will be highly beneficial for the wellbeing of the portfolio. I hope that the sheer amount of work that is demanded of the Competitions Portfolio, within highly constrained timeframes is clear. At times, Competitions Portfolio representatives and myself would not leave the university until 11.00pm at night. We trialled running a singular timeslot in Semester 2 and found that there was a stark difference, with us going home by 8.00pm at the latest, with no complaints from competitors. I would strongly

urge that the incoming Competitions Portfolio choose to prioritise the wellbeing of the portfolio wherever possible, I believe that this is an easy way to achieve just that.

### ***Volunteer sub-committee***

Constitutionally, portfolios are able to have as many sub-committees as they so please. I would strongly recommend that the 2023 Competitions Portfolio form a volunteer sub-committee to source and organise volunteers for our competitions. This would relieve a large administrative workload, particularly with respect to Witness Examination and Client Interviewing. If representatives did not have to manage volunteers, the portfolio could assign one representative to Witness Examination and one to Client Interviewing. This would mean that the portfolio could hypothetically hold one to two more competitions in Semester 1.

### ***Increasing sponsored events***

I think that our relationship with Kain Lawyers and Commercial & Legal are great precedents at showing what is possible. With the introduction of a Sponsorship Officer next year, I think that the Competitions Portfolio has the capacity to generate funds for the AULSS. Through engaging firms, in particular HR, for short-term competitions we could test students and assist them with hiring or clerkship programs. This would be particularly useful with mid-size to smaller firms.

### ***Competitions Handbook***

This year, we hoped to update the Competitions Handbook. We received countless amounts of feedback from students who wanted changes made to the handbook. I would recommend that the incoming portfolio updated the handbook as soon as they can or, similarly to us, they will run out of time and capacity. This may be a good project for over the summer to be released at the start of Semester 1. I would also greatly encourage that the incoming portfolio seek student engagement. We are lucky at the University of Adelaide to have an engaged competitions culture where students want their voices heard and they want to give back. Use it.

This year, I began the work by liaising with past winners and collating their top tips and testimonials, I look forward to seeing what the portfolio can achieve next year.

### ***End-of-season Competitions Evening***

Members of the Competitions Portfolio had the idea to hold an end of year competitions evening. At this evening, finalists from over the year would be invited for dinner and drinks. Awards would also be presented for, for instance, the highest average score, most wins, person who competed in the highest number of competitions. Unfortunately, we ran out of time to organise, advertise and host this

event. However, I think it is a fantastic idea that could hypothetically be funded by an increased number of sponsorships throughout the year.

### ***Consequences for withdrawal***

I would encourage that the incoming Competitions Portfolio finalise the elusive 'black-list' that we often speak of when students withdraw last minute and without good reason. Currently, who is on the blacklist relies on the collective memory of the portfolio. An effective way of formalising this may be incorporating Terms and Conditions into the registration form. An appropriate consequence of a blacklist is rather being barred from competing in future competitions, is that if the number of registrations exceeds the number of spots, you automatically go to the bottom of the list and have an unsuccessful registration. While we do want to encourage students to give things a go, and we understand that no matter how many times we say it students will not understand the amount of work required in a competition before they have to do it, the administrative burden of problem-solving last-minute withdrawals cannot be overlooked.

### ***Right of reply in the Open Moot***

Every moot team who comes back from ALSA has recommended to me that we implement a right of reply in our Open Moot so that when we send winners to ALSA, they are not blind-sided and have experience. I would strongly encourage next year's portfolio to incorporate the right of reply into the Open Moot. This would also give the competition a point of distinction from the Novice Moot on a format basis.

### ***Continuing to foster inter-varsity relationships***

The AULSS is thankful to have fostered a relationship with SULS and we are on our way to fostering stronger relationships with USALSA and FULS. I would encourage the incoming portfolio to reach out, at the beginning of the year, to other universities interstate to continue to build relationships. It's great for the Committee on a whole, but also a great opportunity for students to compete at different levels and meet different students.

### ***Increasing the size of the portfolio***

As discussed above, the AULSS Competitions Portfolio constitutionally has six representatives, and we often co-opt two more. I will give the incoming Director of Competitions the same advice – co-opt your additional two as quickly as you can. However, if we can co-opt more than two I believe that would be appropriate. There is always more work to be done in the Competitions Portfolio. More representatives only means more competitions options and higher quality competitions. By expanding the portfolio, we may be able to engage sponsors more, write our own problem questions, host an inter-varsity competition, the options are limitless. At

minimum, I would urge the next Director of Competitions to constitutionally change the size of the portfolio from six to eight. At this stage, the activities of the portfolio are not possible without at least eight representatives. I look forward to seeing what the portfolio could achieve with even more.

## **Conclusion**

As a final year law student, this will be my last year with the AULSS. I would like to thank the Committee, the Executive and our students for their support and encouragement this year. The work done by the Competitions Portfolio is often a thankless job. However, I have been warmly surprised by the generous goodwill showed to us by competitors – even when they're complaining. I have been grateful to get to know many students and them all the very best in their competitions future.

Finally, and once again, thank you to each member of my Competitions Portfolio. It has been an honour to work alongside and get to know you. I am incredibly proud of all your hard work. We did it.



**Celena Le**

Director of Competitions

07 October 2022

## Education Portfolio Report

**Director:** Bryan Lau

**Representatives:** Felix Eldridge and Henry Lewis (Education Representatives),  
Tony Tu (Mature Aged Representative, Co-Opted Semester 1),  
Kathryn Jannes and Gurjot Singh (First-Year Representatives).

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### Summary

In the past, the Education Portfolio was underutilised and often overlooked and unappreciated by many law students. This was change by the previous Education Portfolio before us, who left behind an amazing legacy in terms of creating a greater presence around the law school and running high quality seminars. This year, we intended to do the same. The Education Portfolio had two goals that we wanted to achieve:

- 1) to assist students by providing them with the necessary skills and materials for their educational needs; and
- 2) to broaden our target demographic to all year levels.

By the end of this year, the Education Portfolio would have published three guides, held a first-year election, created a new video series, and ran 12 events and a mentorship program. This is would not have been possible without the help of my amazing representatives. Throughout the year, we have had our ups and downs, however, I am so honoured and proud to have led such a passionate and wonderful team! I believe that the below quote represents the Education Portfolio's hard work, perseverance and dedication to serving our students.

"不经历风雨，怎么见彩虹？没有人能够随随便便成功。"

"Without experiencing the storm, how can you see the rainbow? No one can succeed easily."

- Jackie Chan

## First Year Guide

The First Year Guide, sponsored by LK, is an annual publication of the Education Portfolio and aims to summarise important aspects of the Law School, such as the AULSS, where students may access helpful services, upcoming events, and more! This year, we have decided to only print out 175 copies and distribute these to students who attend the Law School Induction Day. We were able to give out most of the copies to the students on Induction Day and had a couple of spare copies that were placed on the tables at the foyer for the public to read. The First Year Guide was also published on the AULSS website, which was promoted through my all-students email addressed to the first-year students.

Updates to the First Year Guide are as follows:

- Colour scheme of the guide to be more youthful;
- Information about Exchange Programs;
- Minor updates to first-year core subjects;

New additions to the First Year Guide included:

- First Year Election page;
- University Services;
- University Grading System;
- University Online Systems;
- University Health Support Systems; and
- University Academic Assistance.

The positive response we received was overwhelming, and I would like to thank my Education Representatives, Felix and Henry, for their hard work and assistance in helping to put this guide together!

## Suggestions

My suggestions for next year would be to stick to the same number of printed copies (175 copies) and continue to encourage students to view the guide in its online form. I would also like encourage the future Director to continue printing with Bowden Printing, as they have been extremely accommodating and professional when handling our orders.

Additionally, I would highly encourage the next Director, and to an extent, the next Portfolio, to start planning and writing the guide as soon as possible. This year, we started planning the guide as soon as our term started. It was because of this that we were able to meet our deadlines, especially since the Education Portfolio comprised of only three members (no Mature Age Representative) at the start of the term. I would also suggest the next Director to work closely with the Communications Director or

the allocated Communications Representative to design the First Year Guide. Without the guidance of Annie Yuan and Henry Allen, our Communications Director and Communication Representative respectively, we would not have been able to come up with an amazing design for the guide. As a final point, I will once again reiterate – start as early as possible!

## **AULSS First Year Mentorship Program**

Given how extremely popular this program was last year, the Education Portfolio has decided to run the AULSS First Year Mentorship Program again! The Mentorship Program aimed to match first-year students with a mentor in their third to final year of study, as a way of helping the first-year students in their transition into law school. We believe that this would be a wonderful way for first year students to be able to ask questions in a comfortable environment and to pick up some tips and tricks from their mentor – and if the program was a way of making friends with older students, we strongly welcomed that too!

Initially, I had reached out to Lex Salus to see if they would like to collaborate in this initiative. However, Lex Salus had declined the offer and advised that they will not be running or taking part in the Mentorship Program this year. While it was slightly disappointing that the collaboration did not happen, this also gave us the flexibility to run the program our way.

Similar to last year, we wanted the program to be very flexible and adaptable to the needs of both the mentees and the mentors. We followed the guidelines from last year and recommended each pairing to meet at least five times a semester for sessions as little as half an hour long. Students could also apply for the program anytime throughout the semester. We believed that this would be achievable for mentors, who were likely incredibly busy due to being in the later years of their degrees but was also a suitable number of sessions for first year students to develop a relationship with their mentor. Mentees were also strongly encouraged to reach out to their mentors for advice over email or through messaging platforms, if their mentors could not meet up often. To assist both mentors and mentees during their sessions, we also provided some suggestions from last year on what they may choose to focus on each session. The suggestions are set out in the screenshot below:



In semester one, we have received a total of 109 mentee applications and 55 mentor applications. Given the high volume of mentee applicants, we created a waitlist for the mentees. Mentees on the waitlist will be paired with a mentor on a first-come-first-serve basis, that is, the first mentee on the list will be paired as soon as a new mentor applies for the program.

In semester two, we received 11 mentee applications and 15 mentor applications. The low applications in semester two was expected as the mid-year intake comprised of a handful of students.

We have received really good feedback from both the mentors and the mentees! While I did not have the capacity to create and send out a survey, most of my in-person interactions with the mentors and mentees have been extremely positive. Many mentors have loved getting to know first year students through the Mentorship Program and some were passionate enough to take up as much as 5 mentees per semester! However, the best part of the program is the wonderful feedback from the first-year students. Many of them have expressed their gratitude towards the program as it has helped them smoothly transition into life at law school.

Conversely, there were several mentors who reached out to me to say that their assigned mentees have been unresponsive, which is the complete opposite problem that this program faced last year. I encouraged mentors to send follow up emails and to try and contact their mentees through social media. If their mentees were still unresponsive, then I would step in and send the mentees an email advising that their mentors will be repaired if they do not respond.

Despite these issues, this program is still one of the best initiatives run by the Education Portfolio!

### **Suggestions**

I would highly encourage the future Education Portfolio to continue this program next year. I would also advise contacting Lex Salus at the beginning of the year and recommend a collaboration between the two organisations, which may lessen the workload on the Portfolio.

My second suggestion for the future Director would be to organise a system that is easy to follow and delegate as much of the pairing work to your representatives as possible. The pairing process can be an extremely tedious and time-consuming work for the Director to handle alone. This year, I split the workload evenly between the representatives and myself, which took a lot of the workload off my shoulders and allowed me to focus on other aspects of the program. In terms of organising a system, I found that colour coding and having separate name lists for the mentors and mentees each made the pairing process quicker and efficient. Which is why I would suggest for future Director to follow a similar system.

Thirdly, to minimise issues if mentees not reaching out to mentees, I strongly suggest checking in with mentors and mentees during Week 6 of the semester to see how they are going with the program. To further minimise this issue, the future Director could include a small disclaimer in their emails to mentors and mentees which states that unresponsive applicants will be taken to have left the program. Additionally, it would be great if the future director could also send out a feedback survey to the mentors and mentees towards the end of semester 1.

Lastly, I would also encourage the future Director to consider running a small event at the end of each semester for all the mentors and mentees to say thank you for taking part in the program. While we could not run this event due to our jam-packed schedule, we believe that it would be a good way for all the mentors and mentees to mingle and meet each other.

## First Year Drinks Night

Date: 11 March 2022, 7.30pm

Venue: Atlantis Bar & Lounge, Garden Area

Cost: Free

This was one of our most popular events of the year! This year, we managed to book the garden area at Atlantis Bar and Lounge in order to maximise the number of first years we could have at the venue. Due to the Covid restrictions at the beginning of the year, we decided to cap the attendance limit to 150 people, which was the maximum number of people a venue was permitted to have for guests to dance. We believed that dancing was essential to hosting a successful First year Drinks Night and our decision was further supported by the fact that previous First Year Drinks Nights were cancelled because dancing was not allowed. While we managed to secure a dancing event, we hoped that we could accommodate more first-years as the tickets were nearly sold out within a day!

The staff at Atlantis Bar and Lounge were very accommodating and professional. They were kind enough to help us with the checking of IDs, providing wristbands, as well as checking for tickets at the door. They were also very helpful with the organisation of the of our bar tab and subsidised drinks for students, which allowed us to give out 100 free drinks cards to students (cost of \$750). There was also no room hire and they provided us with a DJ with no extra charge!

As I had previously mentioned, we had a maximum capacity of 150 people, with us reaching the registration limit within 2 days of the event being advertised. To ensure that the number of people attending the event was close to the registration number, we made a post on the First Year Facebook page advising students to transfer their tickets to another first year if they could no longer make it due to Covid or any other unforeseen circumstances. This proved to be successful as we had close to 150 students attending the event.

The Education Portfolio really enjoyed meeting all the first-year students and received great feedback from the attendees. I would like to thank my wonderful representatives for helping to organise and promote this event, as well as Annie Zhang for taking photos at the event.

### Suggestions

I would suggest the future Education Portfolio to use Atlantis Bar & Lounge as a venue for future First Year Drinks Night events. We have built a good rapport with the owner and the staff at Atlantis, and it is also a cheap venue as they do not charge any room hire.

## First Year Elections

Nomination Period Open: 07.03.22 (Monday Week 2)

Nomination Period Close: 14.03.22 (Monday Week 3)

Candidate Statements Published: 18.03.22 (Friday Week 3)

Voting (Online): 22.03.22 - 24.03.22 (Tuesday-Thursday Week 4)

Announcement of Results: 25.03.22 (Friday Week 4)

This year, we had an overwhelming number of candidates, with 23 applications! This is a slight increase from last year, which is a result of the passionate and enthusiastic attitude of this year's first year cohort. The high number of nominations is also a result of the Education Portfolio's hard work and passion towards helping the first-year students transition into law school. Students were required to write a candidate statement (not more than 150 words) to express their interest in the position, which we distributed to students in the form of a Candidate Guide through an all-students email.

As always, there were a couple of students who had nominated for the position that did not comply with the instructions provided in the all-students email. We had two candidates who went over the word limit by a significant margin. I decided to allow the two students to cut down their candidate statement to 150 words or less before the nomination period closed. However, one of the students was unresponsive and after multiple unsuccessful follow ups, I had to cut this student from the candidate statement. I believe that I was lenient in allowing the students to re-submit their candidate statements and felt that it was fair to disqualify the unresponsive student as it would be unfair to the other candidates who kept their candidate statements within the word limit.

Initially, we wanted to organise in-person voting in the Ligertwood. However, as Omnicron started getting worse, we decided to switch to online voting instead. To collect the votes, we used Microsoft Forms, and the link was later distributed to the first-year students. To ensure that the voter is eligible to vote, we used a similar system used by the Activities Portfolio when collecting information for Law Ball tickets. This includes asking students to upload a photo of their student ID card as well as taking a screenshot of their Access Adelaide enrolment screen. While this was a secure way of ensuring the eligibility of voters, we have received a few complaints from students that the voting process was tedious and too complex. This might also have led to the relatively low number of total votes in this election (46 votes).

The high number of candidates and the low number of voters also made counting the votes with the preferential system extremely difficult. Thankfully, one of my Education Representatives, Felix Eldridge, has experience counting preferential votes due to his involvement with student politics. It took us over three hours to finalise the votes! I

would like to thank Felix and Henry for their help with the counting process as well as the rest of the Education Portfolio for their assistance in the elections.

## **Suggestions**

I would suggest organising the First Year Elections as early as possible as it is usually held during the Education Portfolio's busiest time of the year. I would also suggest the future Education Portfolio to run an in-person voting booth as opposed to an online vote. If the future Education Portfolio chooses to do an in-person voting booth, I would recommend opening the booth from Tuesday to Thursday, as most students would be in the Ligertwood during those days. It might also be worth considering letting midyear entry first-year students run in the election.

## **First Year QnA + Study Tips**

Date: 23 March 2022, 6pm

Venue: Piper Alderman Moot Court

Cost: Free

This is the first event out of the series of Education Events set out for semester one. The organisation of this event was delegated to one of my Education representatives, Henry Lewis. Like last year, the event took the form of a panel style event, with Henry Lewis being the facilitator of questions. Our panellists consisted of Isabella Penna, Olivia Higgins and Bella Mickan.

We held this event in week 4 as we felt that this event would be useful to the first-year students early in the semester. Unfortunately, the turnout was much lower than anticipated with 3 first-year students attending the event, despite having 19 registrations. This low turnout was likely due to the fact that the event was held during First Year Election week. A lot of students may not have been aware of the event as the First Year Elections took the main priority. The low turnout may also be due to the fact that the event was not as heavily advertised as the other events. Although an all-students email outlining the education events was sent out prior to the First Year QnA, we could have better utilised our social media presence by posting about the event on Facebook/Instagram.

Nevertheless, the students who attended the First Year QnA asked great questions, to which our panellists had great answers to. This included questions about note-taking, readings, tips on studying for an exam, tips on meeting new people at law school, and many more.

I would like to thank Henry Lewis for organising such a great event as well as our panellists for their valuable insights.

### ***Suggestions***

Given the low turnout this year (as well as last year) for this event, I think it might be worth considering scrapping this event altogether. The First-Year Guide as well as our other educational seminars is sufficient to achieve the aim of this event.

## **Problem & Short Answer Questions 101**

Date: 30 March 2022, 12pm

Venue: Napier 209

Cost: Free

The aim of this event was to provide students with the necessary skills on answering problem questions as well as short answer questions. Despite the high registration numbers of 44 people, roughly 25 people attended the event, with a few students joining via zoom.

Like last year, our goal was to make the seminar as interactive and engaging as possible. This year, I collaborated with Celena Le (Competitions Director) to run this event together. We decided to split the seminar into two parts: problem questions and short answers. At the end of each part, Celena and I would provide printed copies of HD answers and Credit answers for the students to read. We then asked the students which they thought was the HD answer or the Credit answer. The aim of this exercise was to demonstrate the difference between an HD answer from a credit answer, so that students could apply the structure and layout of the HD answer into their assignments. I had obtained approval from the Dean before printing these answers out.

I would like to thank Celena for presenting at this event as well as my representatives for helping on the day of the event.

### ***Suggestions***

Given the positive feedback we have heard from the attendees, I believe that the next Education Director should continue to run this event with a similar structure next year. I would also recommend making the event as interactive as possible!

## **Legal Research & Referencing 101**

Date: 6 April 2022, 12pm

Venue: Napier 209

Cost: Free

This event was done in collaboration with Paula Everett, the wonderful Liaison Librarian for the ABLE Faculty. I have delegated this event to Felix, who has done a

wonderful job of liaising with Paula and organising the event in general. The aim of the event was to show the students the some of the common legal databases and how to utilise them efficiently. Paula also expressed her intention to focus a little more on AGLC referencing, as this was overlooked last year.

We had 23 people register for the event and the number of people who attended the event was close to that number. The structure of the seminar is the same as last year's - legal research presentation for the first 30 minutes and referencing presentation for the last 30 minutes. This year, Paula and Felix managed to run the presentation just under an hour, which was perfect given how the event always ran overtime in previous years.

I would like to thank Felix and Paula for running an amazing and insightful event!

### **Suggestions**

To the next Education Director, I would suggest continuing to run this event next year and keeping most of the formatting and structure the same.

### **Exam Prep 101**

Date: 18 May 2022, 12pm

Venue: Lecture Theatre 333

Cost: Free

This seminar was delegated to Felix. Our aim for this event was to provide students the right tools to tackle their exams. We had close to 30 people attending the event and had 35 registrations.

This year, we decided to change the format of this event from a presentation to a panel style event. This gave the event a more casual/informal tone that would not be achieved in a presentation style event. Our panellists include Annie Zhange (Communications Director) and Michaela Puntillo. Apart from the pre-made questions collated by Felix, the students were very engaging and asked really good questions to our panellists.

This event was also recorded on zoom so that we could upload the recording onto our website for the students to refer to in the future.

Overall, we have received very positive feedback and a majority of the students who attended found the event very useful.

Special thanks to Felix for organising another successful event, and a massive thank you to our panellists for taking the time to speak at this seminar.

### **Suggestions**

My suggestion to the future Education Portfolio is to run this event live in semester 1, have it recorded, and distribute the recording link to the students in semester 2. I found this to be more effective than running two live events in semester 1 and 2.

### **Mature Age Students Social Drinks night**

Date: 20 May 2022, 6pm

Venue: Leigh Street Luggage

Cost: Free

Our Mature Age Representative, Tony Tu, brought up the idea of hosting a Mature Age Students drinks night to meet some of the mature age students around the law school. He also decided to host it at one of our Law School Local sponsors, Leigh Street Luggage, to promote our sponsors and the Law School Local card. The aim of this event was to facilitate relationships within the law school, particularly mature age students. It was also a great opportunity for mature age students to provide feedback and insight into what they would like to see more from the AULSS.

Tony did a fantastic job of organising such a casual and fun event. We had 20 students registered with about 10 to 15 people rocking up at Leigh Street Luggage. I believe the event had successfully achieved its goal of forming new relationships within the mature age students as well as gaining constructive feedback from them.

Special thanks to Tony as well as our Law School Local sponsor, Leigh Street Luggage, for organising a wonderful event.

### **Suggestions**

I would suggest the future Mature Age representative to either stick with Leigh Street Luggage or choose a venue that is listed on the Law School Local. I believe that have a venue outside of university makes the event more relaxed and casual, and it is also a good change of scenery.

### **First Year Drinks Night 2.0**

Date: 5 August 2022, 7pm

Venue: Atlantis Bar and Lounge

Cost: \$5

Due to popular demand, our first-year representatives, Kathryn and Gurjot, decided to host another First Year Drinks Night in semester 2. This event, however, was neon-themed and we decided to charge students \$5 each as we felt that it was fair given how the previous First year Drinks Night was free for the students.

Initially, we had some difficulty liaising with Atlantis as the owner was recovering from a surgery at the time and had limited access to her email and phone. Despite this, Kathryn and Gurjot persisted and made sure that the venue was booked and secured. To accommodate to the neon theme, Kathryn purchased items such as glowsticks and neon light boxes to decorate the venue with. We were willing to spend a bit more on decorations because we were charging \$5 for each ticket. Our subsidized drinks tab was exactly the same as the first drinks night.

Unlike the first event, registrations for First Year Drinks Night 2.0 were slightly lower, with 119 registrations and roughly 80-90 people attending the event. I believe it is likely that some students found that a second drinks night was a little excessive and that they would not miss out on much having already attended the first drinks night.

I would like to thank Kathryn and Gurjot for their hard work and dedication to organising a wonderful event.

### **Suggestions**

For a second drinks night, I would recommend the future first-year representatives to watch their expenses and keep within the budget. If possible, try to find a way to keep the tickets free of charge while keeping expenses low.

### **Mature Age Students Morning Tea**

Date: 12 August 2022, 10am

Venue: Argos on the Square

Cost: Free

This is another initiative created by Tony. Tony wanted to have a non-alcoholic event for the mature age students and have decided to host a Morning Tea at Argos on the Square, another Law School Local sponsor. We have also decided to treat the attendees to a free coffee on arrival, in order to entice students to register for the event.

All in all, we had 9 students register for the event and had about 10 students who attended the event. The low turnout was expected as it was held on during the day on a weekday. However, the small numbers allowed for more engaging and intimate conversations between the mature age students.

I would like to thank Tony for organising yet another successful event.

### **Suggestions**

I believe the next Mature Age Representative should host another non-alcoholic event next year. I would also suggest choosing a venue that sponsors the Law School Local.

### **AULSS x AALA Drafting and Dumplings**

Date: 17 August 2022

Venue: Level 5 of the Ligertwood

Cost: Free

This is a new initiative created by the Education Portfolio this year. The Drafting and Dumplings seminar is a collaboration between the AULSS and the Asian Australian Lawyer's Association (AALA). Being an AALA member myself, I have been trying to find ways for the AULSS to collaborate with AALA. I then decided that the best way to collaborate, would be to run an educational event with a speaker from AALA.

The topic for this seminar is drafting contracts. I believed that this was the most suitable topic because it was held in semester two, which is when contract law is being taught. Having already done contract law, I felt that the actual course does not teach you the necessary skills and techniques that are needed to draft a contract properly. The speaker from AALA, Edwin Fah, agreed with me and wanted to give a presentation around that topic. Edwin gave a really engaging and insightful presentation as we had students asking good questions at the end of the event.

The 'dumplings' component of this event acted as a networking session, where we catered in dumplings and let the students mingle with the AALA representatives. We catered the dumplings from Dumpling City and they have been really accommodating and gracious enough to give us a small discount.

All in all, the event was a huge success with 41 registrations and attendees at the event. We have received positive feedback from the attendees and Edwin himself expressed his interest in running another seminar in the future.

I would like to thank the Education Portfolio as well as Edwin Fah and Audrey Lian from AALA for organising a successful event.

## **Suggestions**

I would highly recommend the next Education Director to continue collaborating with AALA to strengthen our relationship with them.

## **Post Graduate Seminar**

Date: 24 August 2022, 12pm

Venue: Lecture Theatre 231

Cost: Free

This seminar was delegated to Felix. The aim of this seminar was to outline the various opportunities for postgraduate studies offered by the Adelaide Law School, as well as some specific requirements of each avenue. Our fantastic panellist includes, Peta Spyrou, Lisa Maree and Mirnalini Dirghar.

Additionally, Felix and Gurjot created a Post graduate Guide which contains the information that was presented in the seminar. This guide has been published on the AULSS website.

Despite the various marketing in terms of a Facebook event, Facebook and Instagram stories, and an all students email, we had very low registration numbers. About 10 students attended the event, mostly from the committee. I believe this might be due to the fact that not many students are interested in continuing further studies as a post-graduate. Despite the low turnout, the event itself was insightful and engaging.

I would like to thank Felix and Gurjot for organising his event and the guide, as well as our wonderful panellist for contributing their time to this event.

## **Suggestions**

Despite the low turnout, I would suggest for the future Education Director to continue running this event as there will always be students who are interested in pursuing post graduate studies.

## **AULSS x Law Society of SA x College of Law GDLP Networking Night**

Date: 5 October 2022, 6pm

Venue: Level 5 of the Ligertwood

Cost: Free

The GDLP Networking Night, sponsored by the Law Society of SA and College of Law, is an excellent opportunity for students to explore the various pathways to

completing their Graduate Diploma of Legal Practice. In addition to the Law Society of SA and College of Law, Leo Cussen was also present in this event.

The event was a great success with 43 registrations and close to 35 people attending the event. The event was split into two components: Presentation component, and the networking component. In the first component, each provider will have 10 minutes each to present on their GDLP program. This added up to 30 minutes in total for the presentation component. The other 30 minutes was dedicated to a networking session between the students and the GDLP Providers.

We have received positive feedback from both the GDLP Providers and the attendees. The GDLP Providers were happy with the turnout and were satisfied with the layout of the venue.

Special thanks to all of the GDLP Providers as well as my Education Portfolio for helping to organise such a wonderful event.

### **Suggestions**

I would suggest the future Education Portfolio to try and host the GDLP Networking Night at Level 5 of the Ligertwood. This is because the venue for this event in previous years were all outside the law school, making it difficult for both the students and GDLP providers to find. I would recommend seeking consent from the Dean of the Law School first before decided to host the event at Level 5.

### **Education x Competitions Advocacy Video Series**

This is a new collaborative initiative between the Education Portfolio and the Competitions Portfolio. Celena and I wanted to create a video series that featured past competition winners as well as legal practitioners giving tips and advice on improving your advocacy skill. We believe that the goal of this series also fell in line with the law school's focus on implementing more advocacy-based assignments.

We have decided to create 4 videos in this series based on 4 different competitions: Client Interviewing, Mooting, Witness Examination and Negotiations. Currently, we have filmed most of our videos (except for one more past competition winner). As Celena and I have not had the capacity to complete this series, we have decided to publish the video series next year, just before the new competition season begins.

### **Suggestions**

I would highly suggest the upcoming Education Director to continue progressing this initiative forward with the future Competitions Director.

## Exam and Study Guide

This is a new guide that the Education portfolio has initiated. The aim is to compile the information presented in the semester one educational seminars into a guide for students to refer to. As the name suggests, the guide will contain tips and tricks to acing exams, effective note taking and studying techniques.

At the time of writing this report, both Henry and Kathryn are finalising the contents of this guide and we aim to publish this guide on 24 October 2022.

## Conclusion

I cannot emphasise enough how grateful I am for having such a wonderful Education Portfolio. We have had our good times and bad times, but in the end, we have achieved our goals for the year. Not only have we assisted the law students by providing them the skills and tools needed to support their education, but I believe our new initiatives have also broadened our target demographic to the later year students as well.

There were so many people who helped the Education Portfolio this year. Firstly, I would like to thank our assigned communications representative, Henry Allen, for assisting us with our marketing and guide designs. I would also like to thank my wonderful Executive for their wonderful support and willingness to collaborate with us. Especially our dear President, Chelsea Chieng, who was always there to give me guidance.

It has been a pleasure and an honour to be the Director of Education for 2022. I thoroughly enjoyed working with my representatives who are now my close friends, and I cannot wait to see what next year's Portfolio will achieve.



**Bryan Lau**

Director of Education

7 October 2022

## Social Justice and Equity Portfolio Report

**Director:** Zachary Carter

**Representatives:** Abbey Amundson (Aboriginal Representative), Aditi Tamhankar (Semester 1), Airlie Windle (Semester 2), Caitlin Arthur, Lin Wang (Semester 2), Magenta Stoba, Paige Cowles (Semester 1)

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### Summary

My predominant goal for Director of Social Justice & Equity (SJ&E) in 2022 was to continue the expansion of the Social Justice & Equity Portfolio. Coming into the role, I was of the opinion that the Portfolio has struggled in previous years to find its footing on the Committee. Due to the diverse and broad nature of the Portfolio, to address all its elements proves a difficult task. In 2021, the Portfolio committed to strengthening and refining its objective, demonstrated by an increase in education and social advocacy. I hoped to represent a similar objective in 2022 and continue developing and diversifying the foundation of the Portfolio. Our team continued with the tradition of SJ&E to hold seminars on topics of global importance, reinvent fundraising tactics, publish articles on social justice and support the well-being of students through AULSS Sports. The events and initiatives throughout the year have continued to strengthen the platform and foundation of SJ&E, providing a more diversified and well-rounded Portfolio. I hope that SJ&E only get bigger with future Directors continuing to expand and solidify the Portfolio's objective and operations.

### Fundraisers

A significant focus for the Portfolio was to organise fundraisers in support of charities and organisations. The majority of the Portfolio's efforts during the first semester, was to raise money to support the cause Walk for Justice. We held 4 different fundraisers for Walk For Justice over the course of 6 weeks during semester one. In semester two, we held 2 fundraisers for different causes, allowing for considerable donations to support charities and our own initiatives.

### Sundae Stand

The first fundraiser organised for Walk for Justice was an Ice-cream stall held on 24 of March. The idea came from Representative Caitlin, who took the responsibility to organise and run the event. With the collective support of the Portfolio, we sold ice cream on the Walter Young Gardens outside of Lower Napier from 1:00 AM to 3:00 PM. I chose to hold the fundraiser outside of Lower Napier in aims of maximising funds due to a high level of foot traffic. As many students from a range of facilities walk past the Gardens, I was confident the decision would pay off. We offered a range of toppings to encourage students to purchase an ice-cream, including Oreos, nuts, sprinkles, and chocolate sauce, spending a total of \$52.55 on supplies. At the end of the day, we had sold 75 ice-creams and made a profit of \$322.45.



### Sausage Sizzle

The second fundraiser for Walk for Justice was a Sausage Sizzle held on 28 April. Following the success of our first fundraiser, I decided to hold the fundraiser on the Walter Young Gardens again to maximise sales. I bought bread, sauce, onion and beef and vegetarian sausages from Coles, spending roughly \$30 on supplies. We set up on the lawn in the morning, working together as a Portfolio to cook and sell the sausages. We sold 75 sausages over the course of the day, making a profit of \$173.



## Bake Sale

On Wednesday 4 May at 11:00 AM, the Portfolio held a bake sale in Ligertwood. The bake sale was organised by Magenta who with the help of the Portfolio, baked a variety of sweet and savory treats. We decided to change the location for this fundraiser to see if a new location would be more successful. Holding the fundraiser at the Law School was a great decision in my opinion. The decision increased engagement from the law students and gave more recognition to the cause. The fundraiser was one of our more expensive ones, with the overhead cost price being \$90. Despite this, the fundraiser was quite successful making a profit of \$151.25.



## Ladies Night

At the beginning of the year, I was inspired to organise a new and engaging fundraiser. I came up with the idea of holding a fundraising dinner, where students could contribute to a good cause in a fun and social way. My initial idea was to organise a 'Ladies Night', where students would attend a night inclusive of cocktails and food served by handsome waiters in bow ties. I refined my vision and organised an exclusive banquet dinner at Golden Boy in their cellar bar. We ended up only selling 11 of the 20 tickets, meaning that to the event and to go forward differently

from how I had planned. By not selling enough tickets, we were unable to have the entire cellar and could not have the 'handsome waiters'.

While the event did not sell as many tickets as I would have hoped, we still managed to proceed with the event and raise a profit of \$220. Ladies' Night was held on Saturday 7 May at 7:00 PM at Golden Boy, taking up half of the cellar bar for the night. If the SJ&E Portfolio decides to hold a similar event in the future, I would suggest working in collaboration with the Activities Portfolio to maximise ticket sales. The AULSS' calendar year is always quite busy with only so much room for social events. In order to maximise student engagement, I would recommend working together to avoid overwhelming law students.

Another suggestion I will make is to choose a more affordable venue. While the food and atmosphere of Golden Boy made for a glamorous and exciting night, the venue's overhead costs were high. Of the \$60 ticket price, \$50 was required to cover the food allowing for only \$10 of every ticket to be donated to Walk for Justice. By cutting down on the cost to hold the event, the Portfolio will be able to maximise profits and make a more considerable donation for the cause.

### ***Springtime Fundraiser***

To fund the Portfolio's semester 2 initiative to provide free period products at the Law School, we held another bake sale on 14 of September in the Ligertwood Foyer. The fundraiser was organised by Lin and marketed as 'Welcome to Spring Sale'. The Portfolio and Committee helped support the fundraiser and sold a wide range of savory and sweet baked goods. Thanks to the amazing efforts from Lin and the Portfolio, the bake sale raised a total of \$607.30 making it the most successful fundraiser of the year. Lin and her supporters did an amazing job on the day to raise money for the initiative and represent the values of SJ&E.



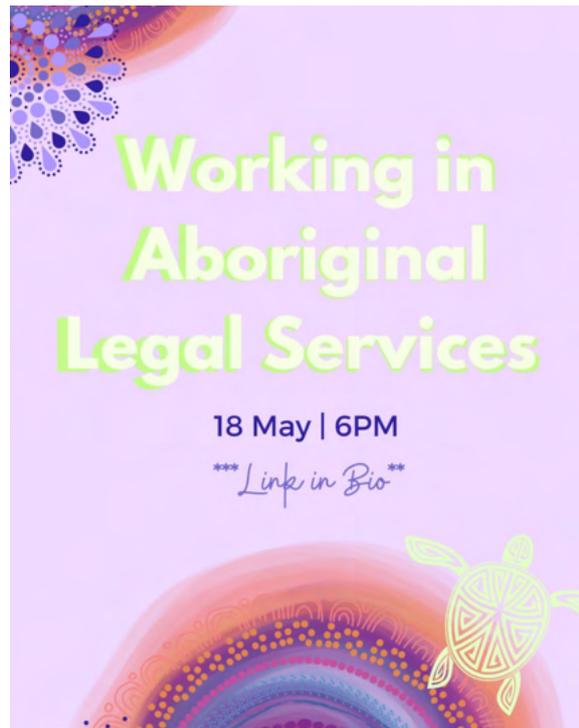
## **Seminars**

### ***Aboriginal Law Seminar***

On Wednesday 18 May, the Portfolio held its first seminar, 'Working in Aboriginal Legal Services'. I was pleased to welcome back for another AULSS seminar, Andrew Collett (AM) and Khatija Thomas, who both delivered presentations on Aboriginal law. Andrew has worked in Aboriginal Affairs for over 40 years, representing the interests of Aboriginal Peoples in a variety of cases including the Counsel for nine of the twelve

South Australian Aboriginal families represented before the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody and the Counsel acting for the claimants in Federal Court proceedings in the *De Rose Hill Native Title Claim*. Khatija and Andrew have known each other for many years through their work in the field, making for an engaging and light-hearted seminar on a difficult topic. Due to Khatija being unwell and Andrew having to go to an unforeseen meeting at 7:15, the seminar was held online via zoom.

Following the success from the Aboriginal Law seminar in 2021, I was keen to hold a similar event this year. For the 2022 Seminar, I thought it was important to focus more intently on Aboriginal Issues and the importance on 'Closing the Gap'. I believe shifting the focus from Native Title to the issues faced by Aboriginal Peoples under the law, helped provide the necessary education to encourage a career in the industry. Two questions were debated during the seminar, "why are targeted legal services and Native Title law important for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples?" and "how does the law currently support Aboriginal Peoples and how has it changed over the years?". Both Khatija and Andrew provided great insight into these areas providing for engaging and though provoking seminar.



Roughly 25 people attended the seminar online and I was pleased to receive very positive feedback. I was overjoyed to hear that following the seminar, a student who attended began volunteering at the ALRM. He told me how the seminar changed his perspective on Aboriginal affairs and motivated him to explore representing their interests in his career.

### ***Law Reform Panel: Sexual Harassment in the Legal Profession***

On 1 September, the Portfolio held a Law Reform Panel on Sexual Harassment in the Legal Profession. The panel was made up of legal professionals from a range of backgrounds, who discussed sexual harassment and the necessary law reform required to change the issue. We were pleased to welcome the Honourable Justice Hughes, Professor Margaret Castles, Professor Anne Hewitt, Marissa Mackie and Madeline Perret. The panel discussed the many facets which contribute to sexual harassment in the legal industry and the small things employees can do to support

themselves and others. This was one of my favourite events ran by the Portfolio in 2022. I thoroughly enjoyed learning from the extensive knowledge and experience of the panellists and the manner in which they handled the difficult topic.



The seminar was organised and ran by representative Magenta, who through her courageous and admirable efforts, pulled off an engaging and well-received event. Magenta was incredibly motivated in organising the panel, holding the attention of the audience through her charm and thought-provoking questions. Roughly 25 people attended the seminar providing for a rigorous Q&A in the last 20 minutes. Many attendees gave great feedback, telling me how the seminar influenced their perspective and encouraged them to reconsider what is unacceptable behaviour in the workplace.



### ***Volunteer Seminar***

This upcoming seminar will provide students with practical advice on volunteering in the legal industry. We are welcoming to the panel Jahanvi Bhadwaj (WLSSA), Stefani Swart (ALRM), Caitlin Arthur (Amnesty International) and Layan Saadeh (SLSC Lifesaving). The panellists will provide helpful information to students on their experience as volunteers and the benefit of volunteering. The seminar will also outline available pathways towards volunteering and its positive influence to building a legal career.

### ***WLSSA Seminar***

This upcoming seminar will be a collaboration between SJ&E and Women's Legal Services South Australia (WLSSA). The seminar will focus on gender inequality under the law and the disproportionate representation of women's issues. WLSSA will give a presentation on the operations of their organisation as well as the issues faced by women in accessing justice. WLSSA will also provide information on their volunteer program and the ways in which students can offer their support.

## **SJ&E Article Publications**

Throughout 2022, I was persistent to continue with the tradition of publishing articles on the AULSS website. The initiative began in 2021, to build body of work that would represent the values and aims of the portfolio and serve as a tangible record of the work. The articles consider social justice related issues, either long standing or those that sparked in media and social platforms and consider it from a legal perspective. In 2022, the Portfolio published 4 articles.

### ***The Connection Between Climate Change and Inequality***

The first Article published by the Portfolio was 'The Connection Between Climate Change and Inequality' written by Paige. The Article addressed the inability of developing nations to adequately respond to climate change and the disapproval from developed nations to do so. The Article reached the conclusion that more should be done to recognise the structural and economic barriers affecting the ability of poorer nations' to adopt sustainable practices, to produce better global practices to fight climate change.

### ***Small Acts of Social Justice in Society***

The next Article published by the Portfolio was 'Small Acts of Social Justice in Society' written by Caitlin. The Article focussed on simple and accessible ways that individuals can contribute to social justice and facilitate change. Caitlin decided to take a community focussed approach to provide practical advice for people wishing to improve the quality of life for disadvantaged people.

### ***The importance of diversity and inclusion in the legal profession***

The next Article was written by Lin on 'The importance of diversity and inclusion in the legal profession'. The Article addressed the importance of recognising diversity and outlined ways that legal professions facilitate ethnic and cultural inclusion. Lin reached the conclusion that recognising diversity improves the operations of a business, recognising the supporting inclusion promotes productivity and a positive work environment.

### ***Sexual Harassment in the Legal Profession***

Following the success of her Law Reform Panel, Magenta wrote an article 'Sexual Harassment in the Legal Profession'. The article focussed on the same topic, providing a credible analysis on unjust harassment faced by female legal professionals during their career. Magenta concluded the article by providing credible resources for individuals experiencing sexual harassment, to outline information and steps to

## Suggestions

My suggestion for the Articles for 2023 is to increase their awareness and engagement from law students. My original idea was to compile the Articles into a printed publication at the end of the year. I would recommend the Director of SJ&E to consider a similar idea,

As an idea to increase engagement with the law students, the Portfolio could hold a social justice article competition with winning submissions to be included in the publication. As a lot of the AULSS' publications are purely the work of Committee members, students might enjoy the ability to contribute to a published body of work.

## Walk for Justice

The Portfolio's focus for semester one was to raise money for Walk for Justice. Walk for Justice is the main fundraising event for JusticeNetSA, an organisation which provides free legal services to South Australians in need. JusticeNetSA partners with an extensive network of South Australian lawyers and law firms who assist with providing free legal services to disadvantaged South Australians, including those experiencing poverty, homelessness, disability, refugees and are self-represented in court.

To help make a positive contribution to the cause, I decided to open a Subcommittee for Social Justice. The decision was made to help encourage supporters for Walk For Justice and to assist with the organisation of fundraisers. The Subcommittee was responsible for assisting the Portfolio's in their mission to support JusticeNetSA's cause and participants to an active role in assisting with the fundraisers. The Portfolio welcomed 8 students to the Subcommittee for 2022, providing an admirable and supportive team to back our efforts.



On 17 May 2022, the AULSS team made up of 9 students represented the University of Adelaide in the walk. We met at the law school at 7:30 AM and headed to Adelaide Oval for the opening ceremony. The Portfolio raised money through 4 fundraisers (Sundae Stand, Sausage Sizzle, Bake Sale and Ladies Night), raising a total of \$946. In keeping with previous years, the AULSS generously matched the funds raised bringing the total to \$1,892. Thanks to the collaborative efforts of the Portfolio, Executive and Committee, the AULSS won the prize for highest donation made by a university team. We took home the University Shield and prize for a third consecutive year. The prize awarded for 2022 was a Torrens River BBQ Buoys ride for 10 people.



Unfortunately, I had difficulty making contact with JusticeNetSA and received the information that the Walk was proceeding very late minute. Due to the 2021 Walk not proceeding due to COVID-19, it was uncertain whether the 2022 Walk was going to happen. As a consequence, we had less time to organise fundraisers and encourage students to join the Walk. Nonetheless, the Portfolio banded together in aims to raise a considerable donation for the cause.

### **Suggestions**

To improve engagement and maximise the contribution for Walk For Justice, I recommend opening registrations earlier and focussing more advertising. In previous years the cause received higher levels of engagement from the Law School, welcoming roughly 40 walkers each year. Encouraging students to sign up for the

walk and to receive sponsorship would provide a larger donation, and lessen the work of the Portfolio to raise the funds.



## AULSS Sports

In 2022, the Portfolio continued the tradition of organising and encouraging student participation in AULSS Sports. I decided to continue working with ICA Stepney, which has been the chosen sporting organisation to host our sporting events in previous years. While students were responsible to pay their subs, the Executive made the decision to cover the costs of registration for teams registered at IC A.

The Portfolio also offered badminton at ARC Campbelltown, which did not require student registration or a commitment. We decided to introduce badminton, as players were not required to register for a season but could instead pay for a single game.

In semester one, Representative Paige took the initiative to organise the sporting opportunities for law students. We received 12 nominations for netball, allowing to create a Ladies Netball Team with 8 law students. Unfortunately, this meant that 4 students who registered were unable to participate in AULSS Sports for semester one. For badminton, we facilitated contact between the registered students, so they could take it upon themselves to organise a game. We were told that some students had been playing badminton although we are unsure as to how many. Badminton was a great initiative of the Portfolio to help students to meet new people and broaden their friendship circles.

In semester two, I organised registrations for Netball and Indoor Soccer at ICA and badminton at ARC. Registration opened on Monday 30 June and remained open for the span of two weeks. The longer registration period provided more registrations for semester 2. We were able to register two mixed netball teams with ICA for Monday and Tuesday nights.

## Sports Recommendations

I would highly recommend that the AULSS consider introducing a Sports Representative in the future. Due to the incredibly diverse and multifaceted nature of

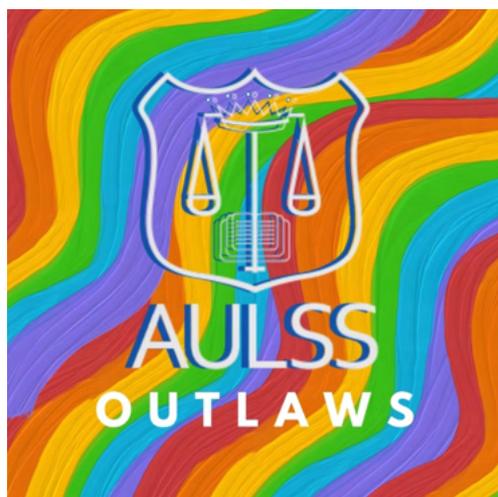
the SJ&E Portfolio, I do not believe it can give sporting opportunities enough attention. Many are unaware that it is the responsibility of SJ&E to organise AULSS Sports, leading to small efforts being made to support the program. By introducing a Representative who is passionate about sports, the AULSS can give more attention to program and better provide sporting opportunities for law students.

## MyMarathon

To encourage student well-being and fitness in collaboration with justice, I sought to find a fundraiser incorporating both fitness and social issues. I was excited to come across the fundraiser MyMarathon, which challenges participants to complete a marathon over the course of a month. MyMarathon, is organised by the Heart Foundation to raise the necessary funds to support lifesaving research on heart disease.

MyMarathon's unusual structure appealed to me as it is unlike most marathon and fitness challenges. Participants have the entire month of October to cover the distance of a marathon (42km) and may do so as they please by running or walking. The distance can be completed incrementally and does not have to be done in one go. The flexibility and approachable character of MyMarathon, led me to reach out and register a team for the AULSS.

8 law students registered for the fundraiser under the AULSS' team. Many students who did not register, supported the team through donations and sponsorship. As of 13 October, the team had raised \$898 and covered the distance of 115.60 km. With two weeks to go, the challenge as been a courageous effort from the AULSS team, helping to improve the lives of people with heart disease.



## OUTLAWS

Outlaws is a group that aims to provide for the LGBTQIA+ community at the Law School, by providing and encouraging a safe space for students with similar struggles and life experiences. The program was first introduced in 2019 and has since had difficulties receiving strong levels of student engagement. To give more recognition and support to OUTLAWS, I rebranded the program and put more effort into marketing the program and refining its objective.

At the start of the year, I emailed all law students trying to promote OUTLAWS and the Facebook page to try and reach the LGBTQIA+ community at the Law School. With the help of the Communications Portfolio, we created a new Facebook page and adopted different marketing strategies. I made the executive decision at the beginning of the year to move away from a private Facebook group to a public page. I did so to increase visibility and encourage engagement with the program. The benefit of a public page is it allows for a greater reach across the platform and the ability to interact with the AULSS' main Facebook page.



Since creating the new page, 78 people have liked and 85 people are following the page, which is a considerable improvement for engagement compared to the previous Facebook group which had 8 members. The welcome post reached 136 people and subsequent Facebook posts typically reached around 40-50 people. The only drawback of a page compared to a private group, is the potentially limiting effect on collaborate discussion. Although from what I observed in the 2021 OUTLAWS group, there was little to no interaction with the group anyway.

OUTLAWS was predominantly run by Magenta who was active on the page promoting and advocating for issues facing the queer community. She ensured to share different events of interest to LGBTQIA+ students, working to provide more awareness of the key issues. OUTLAWS held first meeting on Friday 1 April at 4:30 PM in the Rainbow Room, Union House. The meeting was the first event for Outlaws, in providing a safe space for LGBTQIA+ and ally law students. Unfortunately, only myself and Magenta attended the meeting, yet we were able to meet members of the Pride Club and inform them of our program.

### ***Law Reform Panel: LGBTQIA+***

Together with the University of Adelaide Pride Club, the Portfolio helped organise a panel on LGBTQIA+ law reform. The panel took place on 10 May 2022 on the George Duncan Memorial 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Magenta assisted the Pride Club in organising the panel, welcoming roughly 40 attendees and 5 panellists. Working with the Pride Club was very beneficial for advertisement and promotion. The Pride Club is well established at the University and its vast connections and support helped provide an engaged audience.

The panel discussed issues facing the LGBTQIA+ community and the legislative gaps impeding their rights. Topics of discussion included the history of LGBTQIA+ law reform, the legalisation of same-sex marriage, the Religious Discrimination Bill 2021 and transgender discrimination under law. What was clear to me and the audience by attending the seminar, is that little attention is given to recognising the rights of the LGBTQIA+ community and legislative reform is a slow and ineffectual process. The panel was perhaps my favourite ran by the Portfolio, due the eloquent discussion and level of audience engagement. The panel ran for 2 hours and managed to maintain the audience's attention for the entire duration, by way of its intellectual and stimulating conversation.

### ***Mary's Night***

One of my goals for OUTLAWS for 2022 was to organise an event at Mary's Poppins. Mary's Poppins is Adelaide's most popular LGBTQIA+ clubs and bar. The venue hosts various queer coded event nights and drag shows on the weekends. My vision for the event was to sell tickets granting students free entry, a free drink and access to a designated space for the night.

To my surprise, the venue was unwilling to offer any kind of function or deal for the AULSS to facilitate the event. We asked about the possibility of having a designated area for a couple of hours, or to open an hour early exclusively for law students. The only option they presented was to book a booth via their website which would coast around \$150 per person and only hold 8 people. In the end, they offered express entry for students who arrived before 10:00 PM, although they were still required to pay the entry fee.

I was very disappointed by this as Mary's Poppins is the only LGBTQIA+ event space in Adelaide capable of hosting an event like this. Without some kind of deal or actual event, I was not surprised to have around 5 law students attend. Further to this, I realised on the day that many had a major assignment due for the course Evidence the same night. Nonetheless, of the students who came along to Mary's Night had a great night and a similar event should be considered in the future.

## ***Queer Representative***

From the moment I came into the position of Director, I was adamant to introduce a Queer Representative to the AULSS. I quickly recognised the gap in representation and sought to better encapsulate the diversity of the Law School. According to members of the Committee, the idea is discussed most years but never acted on. By researching other Student Law Societies, I learned that the position existed in most of the Societies in the eastern states. The gap then became clearer to the Portfolio as well as the need for the position on the AULSS.

Introducing the role was important to me to diversify the AULSS and represent the interests and values of queer students. In my opinion, the minimal success and low student engagement of the OUTLAWS program, is due to the lack of queer representation on the Committee. The level attention given to OUTLAWS and queer issues has varied over the years, depending on who is the Director of SJ&E at the time. To avoid subpar recognition in future years, the introduction of a Queer Representative will ensure consistent recognition and representation.

I was pleased to see that my idea was supported by the Executive and by Magenta, who came to me with the same thought. Magenta took it upon herself to draft a proposal for the AULSS Constitution to be considered at the SGM and was a driving force for the position. Introducing a Queer Representative was supported by the entire Committee at the SGM, leading to the AULSS adopting the position and receiving two applications for the role for 2023.

## ***OUTLAWS Suggestions***

Despite the efforts of Magenta and I, OUTLAWS did not receive the desired engagement that we were aiming for. After adamant attempts at the beginning of the year to hold meetings and events, we were put off doing so due to low or no attendance. However disappointing, this was not surprising considering the previous years and I am confident substantial improvements were made this year. However, it is important to note that providing a program and support system for minority and disadvantaged communities is not always about engagement. Even reaching one person or impacting their well-being and comfortability in a positive way, is worth the hard work and effort.

By introducing a Queer Representative for 2023, both OUTLAWS and LGBTQIA+ issues can have more of a focus and role in the AULSS. I encourage the Queer Representative to continue with promoting and expanding OUTLAWS, building upon the foundation made this year. I have many ideas for improvement, which I hope to assist the Portfolio in implementing for 2023. Considering the success of the LGBTQIA+ Law Reform Panel, I encourage the Queer Representative to continue

working with the Pride Club and strengthening the positive relationship. While Mary's Night was largely unsuccessful, I believe that with more incentives and better marketing, law students will be more inclined to participate. Such an event would also benefit greatly, from the support of the Activities Portfolio to generate hype and excitement.

## **Free Period Products**

At the beginning of the year, I came up with the idea of creating an initiative to provide free period products at the law students. I wanted to do so to help alleviate period poverty (the lack of access to sanitary products, menstrual hygiene education and waste management) at the Law School. Due to focussing intently on Walk For Justice, I tabled the idea until I was approached by Magenta who had the same idea. Together, we began looking for organisations to work with and began thinking about how to fund the program.

I was referred to look into the organisation TABOO at the directed of Bella (Vice-President). TABOO is a fundraising organisation which sells sustainable organic period products to schools and workplaces at a competitive price. 100% of TABOO's net profit goes to OneGirl, a charity which provides comprehensive support to young girls in Sierra Leone and Uganda. I decided to proceed with TABOO, due to their considerable charitable work and sustainability. At my direction, the Executive purchased \$150 worth of product from TABOO of which the costs would be retained through a fundraiser.

The Portfolio organised the Springtime Fundraiser to cover the costs to support the initiative. I was incredibly proud of the efforts from Lin and the Portfolio to raise \$607.30, allowing to cover the purchased product with money remaining. Thanks to the funds raised from the Springtime Bakesale, the Portfolio has \$457.30 to continue supporting the program for 2023.

The program became operational in Term 4 of Semester 2. The products were placed in the women's bathroom on the ground floor, as well as the gender inclusive bathroom on level 2. I asked that the AULSS notify me or Magenta when the product gets low so we can maintain an ample supply in the bathroom.

For 2023, I recommend that the Portfolio and members of the AULSS continue monitoring the product in the bathroom and alert the Director when it is getting low. I also encourage the President and Director to continue the efforts of myself and Chelsea (Director), to obtain financial support from the Law School to support the program. It is a shared vision of myself, the Portfolio and the Executive, that we attain support from the Law School to ensure the longevity of providing access to period products. We hope in the future to purchase vending machines at the law school to

facilitate this access. Currently, this is beyond the ability of the AULSS without sponsorship or support from the Law School.

## Suggestions for 2023

Considering the political and social state of this country, I was blown away by the courage and support of the Adelaide Law cohort to facilitate change. I was so appreciative to learn that my work as Director and the work of the Portfolio, was not only supported by the Committee and the Law School but encouraged.

I am disappointed to say the least, that many ideas and work efforts did not come into fruition in 2023. To encapsulate the diverse and multifaceted nature of the SJ&E Portfolio is a difficult task to say the least. To advocate for social justice means to fight gender inequality, racial discrimination, transgender discrimination, climate change, sexual harassment, the suffering of refugees and developing nations, classism and the structural injustices faced by Aboriginal Peoples. The issues faced by Aboriginal Peoples include overrepresentation in prison systems, the highest number of deaths in custody in the world, over policing and police brutality, modern-day dispossession, unrepresentative legal bodies and lesser opportunities. Many of these issues and topics alone are enough to make up the entire work of a Portfolio to ensure they are heard. As such, I extend my apologies to the people and communities who have not been heard by the AULSS.

I encourage the 2023 Director of SJ&E to reach out to me, so we can work together to improve the Portfolio and give missed opportunities another chance. Of the most noteworthy events that did not eventuate include collaborations with the Honourable Attorney General Kyam Maher, the South Australian Abortion Alliance Coalition (SAAAC) and the Asian Australian Lawyers Association (AALA). Many plans could not progress due to conflicting schedules and circumstances beyond the ability of the AULSS. However, I am glad to have built solid relationships with these people and believe that the events can find a place within the Portfolio for 2023.

My final and most important suggestion for the AULSS and for the Portfolio moving forward, is to have a hard look at its a-political stance. To advocate for social justice and support disadvantaged communities beneath a conservative and restrictive structure, only acts to restrict change. The a-political mission statement of the AULSS not only acts to silence important issues but hinders inclusion. Social justice issues will always be political. The inability to discuss these issues in line with accepted human rights should be carefully analysed by the Committee. As legal professionals, we have a duty to represent the diverse backgrounds and interests of the Australian People and arguments will always stand to prohibit such a discussion. I recommend that the AULSS move away from its a-political stance or not hold the SJ&E Portfolio to this position. The decision would allow the AULSS to better advocate for social

justice and promote important issues, regardless of their controversy or political nature.

## **Conclusion**

Much of the work done by the SJ&E Portfolio is not only necessary but overdue. The barriers I faced in representing the interests of the Portfolio only reminded me of the need to structural change. As the gatekeepers to justice, we have an ethical obligation to facilitate change. If you find yourself on the Portfolio or on the AULSS, accept the duty you owe to your fellow Australians and strive towards developing inclusion and acceptance.

I would not have been able to implement any of my goals or initiatives without the amazing level of support from the Committee. Many of the efforts made by the Portfolio, felt like a reflection of a shared vision, made possible through the inspiration and administration I felt for my fellow members. I am incredibly grateful to Chelsea and Bella for their amazing support, to Annie and Shunem for their amazing designs and help, to the Executive and the Committee for their courageous efforts and to the individuals and organisation who assisted and attended the Portfolio's events. I hope to have made a substantial contribution to for social justice and to have represented the interests and values of the Law School and that my work contributed to change, both in and outside the law school.



**Zachary Carter**

Director of Social Justice & Equity

13 October 2022

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