

**Adelaide University Law Students’ Society Incorporated (AULSS)**

**Committee Meeting 2 - Minutes**

to be held at 6:00pm on Monday 27th March 2023 in Ligertwood 231

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| **1** | ***Meeting Open*** | **BL** |

Bryan opened the meeting at 6.05pm.

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| **2** | ***Acknowledgement of Country*** | **BL** |

Bryan reads out the acknowledgement of country.

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| **3** | ***Attendance***  | **BL** |

In person: Bryan Lau, Felix Eldridge, Henry Allen, Patricia Papathanasopoulos, Sophia Tait, Natalie Nimon, Hamish McNamara, Eton Williams, Christos (Lucas) Michaels, Leah Schlein, Zeyang (Aidan) Wang, Lydia Mel, Chloe Rungie, Emma Colovic, Henry Lewis, Cerys Davies, Kush Goyal, Alannah Begbie, Ruby Stewart, Xavier Mackie, Eleni Sarantou, Bhoomika Trivedi, Yurui (Rui) Jiang, Grace Jin, Kathryn Jannes, Chris Mary, Holly Saberton, Deeptanshu Sharma, Salma Mansurwala, Lili Caltabiano, Charlie Hayes, Angela Carlisle, Jennifer Lamb, Ikhwan Fazli Bin Adi Bokharee, Jessica March, Georgia Chiswell, Chye Hui (Samantha) Kuan, Aryaman Mehta, Isabella Burgess, Mihn Tran.

Online: Tony Tu, Minha (Minnah) Butt, Evelyn Walker, Jarrod Eddy.

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| **4** | ***Apologies***  | **BL** |

Valid apologies: Valentino Esposito

Absences: Harry Passehl

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| **5** | **Minutes of Previous Meeting** | **BL** |

**Motion:**

That the signed Committee minutes for the Committee Meeting dated 6th March 2023 be approved as a true and accurate record.

Moved: Hamish

Seconded: Patricia

Carried unanimously.

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| **6** | **President’s Report** | **BL** |

Bryan raises the draft updated grievance policy to the Committee for comment. He has drafted a proposal for the Executive to approve at their next meeting, which was based on feedback from the Law School and other sources. He briefly explains the purpose of each clause in the new policy.

**Motion:**

That the AULSS Committee commends, and recommends the Executive approve, the amended Grievance Policy.

Moved: Bryan

Seconded: Hamish

Carried unanimously.

Bryan provides an update about the Uniform clerkship scheme, noting that 10 firms have confirmed participation thus far and that he is waiting for Mellor Ollson and Botten Levinson, which if they confirm will mean 12 firms which is a big achievement. He adds that in his previous report he has written dates down for people to check.

**Motion:**

That the AULSS Committee approve the President’s Report.

Moved: Felix

Seconder: Georgia C

Carried unanimously.

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| **7** | **Vice-President’s Report** | **FE** |

Felix provides an update regarding what merchandise is on offer, encouraging people to purchase merchandise and the expectations about selling merchandise, going through the rough process of processing a transaction using the EFTPOS machine.

Felix also provides an update regarding the LSL card sales, encouraging people to purchase cards for the 34 and rising number of participating venues, noting that these will be happening soon, the first day of which will be alongside the SJE Sizzle for Justice BBQ fundraiser.

Felix announces that the Executive has been examining an official AULSS Volunteer Recognition program which will aim to reward Committee members who go above and beyond their regular duties. This program, with the exact rewards yet to be finalised, will keep track of the total number of hours of tasks performed that are outside the role of that Committee member. If the minimum threshold is surpassed, the Committee member will be entitled to claim this reward, which will be given alongside an award signed by the President.

Felix reminds Committee members to please clean up after themselves within the AULSS Office as it has become quite messy.

Felix reminds Committee members about the attendance requirements of the AULSS, noting the procedure of sending apologies for events and meetings. Felix specifically drew attention to the necessity of Committee members attending meetings of the Committee and informing him as Vice President prior to the meeting that they will not be attending and why, and that if the apology reason was not in line with the Constitution, then it would be referred to Bryan as President, whom will not be as lenient going forward past this meeting with discretionary apologies.

Lydia entered the room at 6.14pm

**Motion:**

That the AULSS Committee approve the Vice President’s Report.

Moved: Bryan

Seconded: Henry A

Carried unanimously.

Rui entered the room at 6.18pm

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| **8** | **Treasurer’s Report** | **MB** |

Minnah opens her report by discussing the AULSS’ financial position.

Regarding the Society’s equity, she notes that the AULSS has a lot of cash which we owned outright, but that amount of savings had decreased due to Covid.

As of last year, the AULSS had about $80,000 in the bank, with the Society slowly recovering financially but still needing to go further.

Minnah notes that currently finances are tracking along, but that income has fallen from previous years and expenses have risen. She adds that this is broadly consistent with the period in the year where a lot of expenses have been paid, but income, such as from Law Ball, has not been received, however the numbers are still lower than last year.

Minnah notes that with merchandise sales being down somewhat, this may be linked to lesser engagement, and that sponsorship from firms has stagnated. She notes that while there has been some bulk ordering of items, inflation has still increased the cost of items generally.

Minnah highlights that the largest increase in expenditure is for Law Ball, considering the booking fee for the DJ is much higher, the cost of the venue is higher, and all of this has been factored into the budget. Despite this, ticket prices are higher so the AULSS may be able to balance the books depending on how many tickets have been sold.

Minnah advises the Committee that she has advised the Executive that given the financial position from the AULSS, the Executive should be cautious about making extravagant expenses that are not necessary to the functioning of the AULSS.

Minnah notes that the AULSS really need to provide more value to sponsors of attending sponsored events and encourages people to attend these seminars to increase turnout. She posits that this is due to a downturn in engagement in the Law School and that the AULSS need to expand to different sponsors outside the legal field and consider what value the AULSS offer them.

Minnah notes that the AULSS did receive some money this morning as well, which means the AULSS might be able to outperform last year’s sponsorship numbers. Finally she notes that there are other issues of value to sponsors which the AULSS need to consider, such as for GDLP Networking Night where in previous years the only difference between the two tiers of sponsorship was naming rights.

**Motion:**

That the AULSS Committee approve the Treasurer’s Report.

Moved: Georgia

Seconded: Rui

Carried unanimously.

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| **9** | **Director of Activities’ Report** | **NN** |

Natalie informs the Committee that Pro Vino event went well, specifically thanking Georgia who was largely responsible for organising the event. She expressed relief that it did not rain and that they did not have to cancel the event because of this.

Natalie notes that ticket sales were not as high as expected and thus would not hit the minimum to fill up the busses that had been ordered. She and Georgia contacted them to reduce the total number of busses by 2 busses and reduced the total number of ticket sales to 101. Alarmingly, two people attended Pro Vino with fake, homemade wrist bands. These people will be blacklisted from Activities events in the future.

Natalie notes that the Trivarsity Pub Crawl, run by Kathryn, has had two rounds of ticket sales. Natalie wants to see more engagement with events, and encourages Committee members to like, and click going to the event, even if they are not attending the event. Regarding the associated T-Shirt design attached to the Pub Crawl event, she hope that there will be some good designs.

Regarding Law Ball, there have been 460 pre-registrations from Law students, which is a pleasing result. The first round of non Committee ticket sales will be this Wednesday.

Ruby requests that when the social media post for Law Ball is posted that evening, Committee members like or react to that post to boost engagement.

Natalie and Ruby suggest that the Committee comment on the post, encouraging them to spread rumours about the identity of the surprise guest artist who is performing at the Law Ball.

Natalie announces that regarding one of the award categories for Law Ball, specifically the Romeo and Juliet of Law School, the two people that end up being voted upon will be contacted in advance prior to being announced to obtain their consent so that two unwilling people will not be forced to accept the award with no prior notice. If no appropriate couples can be determined by poll that consent to this award, she will just put in a satirical submission. She encourages Committee members to vote for the awards.

Natalie praises Emma and Georgia for procuring various discounts attached to Law Ball, as well as organising the afterparty locations including Loverboy and Super Cali. She also acknowledges Ruby for her work promoting the event thus far.

Natalie states that there will be a rostering system for wristbanding and ticketing at Law Ball for Committee members, a schedule of shift times will be distributed prior to the event.

Natalie asks if members of the Committee would like to participate in pre-drinks prior to the start of Law Ball. In previous years, the AULSS has paid per head for people who were attending Law Ball to have pre-drinks. However, in previous years people will come very late and thus there may not be value in hosting said drinks this year unless there is interest for it. She asks the Committee if they would be interested in attending. The Committee is evenly split between those who have indicated they would be interested and those who do not.

Bhoomika leaves meeting at 6.37pm.

Rui asks what the pre-drinks package will include. Natalie responds that it will be wine, beer, but that mimosas will cost extra. She notes that because Adelaide Oval is so expensive, she will put out a poll later to gauge interest and use that to determine whether it is worthwhile paying for.

**Motion:**

That the AULSS Committee approve the Director of Activities’ Report.

Moved: Kathryn

Seconded: Emma

Carried unanimously.

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| **10** | **Director of Careers’ Report** | **ST** |

Sofia briefly acknowledges the upcoming events of the Careers Portfolio as listed in her report.

In particular, she notes that LK wants to sponsor a research seminar, likely during lunchtime which can be catered. Regarding the How to Interview Evening event, a Career Services staff member is presenting. The Kain Lawyer’s seminar has not been confirmed yet as it may be held in their offices, however it will be held in week 12.

Sofia briefly acknowledges the sponsored events attendance requirements within the draft attendance policy raised earlier by Felix. The largest change from the initial options of regulating sponsored event attendance is that the entire concept of a valid apology has been scrapped, and instead the threshold of required events has been lowered to two per semester instead. She advises that last year’s low turnout to sponsored events has adversely affected sponsorship from firms which highlights the necessity of people to come to sponsored events. She asks for an informal show of hands about who is comfortable with the 2 events per semester requirement. The majority of the room raises their hands.

Regarding the Trivarsity Law Fair, the AULSS checked in about 200 attendees overall. For comparison, last year the AULSS checked in about 160 which is a sizable increase.

**Motion:**

That the AULSS Committee approve the Director of Careers’ Report.

Moved: Jess

Seconded: Rui

Carried unanimously.

Jess leaves meeting at 6.45pm

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| **11** | **Director of Communications’ Report** | **HA** |

Henry notes that the AULSS must adapt to a post covid world. He states that across all three unis in SA there has been a drastic drop in interaction and engagement in comparison to last year, even for events that have been run almost identically to the previous years’ event, including at the same time, date and location. He concludes that this is not due to this year’s engagement being poor, but that last year’s engagement was especially high due to the pent up engagement restrained by covid which was released last year and now has relaxed significantly since then. He notes that there is now a generation of students who have primarily experienced online only events for several years and who may not be inclined to attend physical events run by the AULSS.

Henry reflects on the fact that the Communications portfolio is a newer portfolio and they will have to make serious changes to make the best of the challenges they are facing. The focus will be to get as much set up for semester 1 and the start of semester 2 as possible. Henry implores the Committee to engage with posts from the AULSS account to boost engagement.

Henry notes that the saturation rate of posts on AULSS social media seems to be three posts or stories per day and that the feedback received so far is that this is the upper limit which any further action within will be off-putting.

Henry believes that the current structures of a Communications representative embedded within each portfolio who will post whatever they are told to post by that portfolio or by its Director is not working, and wants to improve the level of synergy within the AULSS. He advises that there needs to be a system that is able to prevent unnecessary posts from being posted and more notice of what events need to be posted in order to better advertise those posts. He reaffirms that Directors should be the main avenues of communications for event deadlines.

Kush provides an update for the Hilarian, noting that there will be a couple of serious articles coming out, one about the Voice and one about artificial intelligence.

Henry asks for the Committee to brainstorm other ways to engage students. Suggestions from the Committee include sending out an email specifically titled ‘first years’ to better engage that cohort, putting up posts with scannable QR codes, and also posters around the law school, using the screens around the Law School to advertise events, running an AULSS TikTok, offering people a one-off discount, and attending first year lectures in person to advertise events directly to students.

**Motion:**

That the AULSS Committee approve the Director of Communications’ Report.

Moved: Mihn

Seconded: Grace

Carried unanimously.

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| **12** | **Director of Competitions’ Report** | **PP** |

Patricia thanks all people who have helped with competitions thus far, acknowledging that it is not an easy job, especially for the representatives who have been staying for long periods at night at uni.

Patricia notes that a few withdrawals have caused some chaos administratively, and this and lower than expected registration has led to the conversion of a number of the more preliminary rounds into de-facto finalist rounds. She praises the fantastic standards of competitors and states that the judges had very positive feedback.

Patricia notes that unfortunately the Law School has decided not to run a International Humanitarian Law Moot this year, so the AULSS will likely be running this competition itself instead. She asks if there are preferred times for this competition to be run this year. Several Committee members suggest the first or second week of term 2 would be the best time to run it due to the lack of assignments.

**Motion:**

That the AULSS Committee approve the Director of Competitions’ Report.

Moved: Rui

Seconded: Deeptanshu

Carried unanimously.

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| **13** | **Director of Social Justice and Equity’s Report** | **HM** |

As the Director of Education was not present but will be joining the meeting virtually soon, the Chair agrees to move to the Director of Social Justice & Equity’s report first.

Hamish briefly summarises the Kyam Maher event regarding the Voice to Parliament, noting that it has an exceptionally high attendance rate, citing that it was the highest engagement for an SJE event since the inception of SJE, and one of the most highly engaged posts within the AULSS other than traditional flagship events such as Law Ball. He credits some of this success to the topical nature of the discussion, and the use of non-AUSS social media to promote.

Regarding AULSS sport, a lot of sport is being covered this year. Regarding registrations, the AULSS will cover group registration while the individuals who participate will cover their individual fees.

Regarding Law School Local, the SJE portfolio will be allocated 10% of the revenue from LSL which will be directed to the Walk for Justice event.

Hamish adds that he will be running a sausage sizzle ‘Sizzle for Justice’ BBQ fundraiser this Wednesday, which will be held alongside the first day of the LSL sales. The timing of this including the 12-2 on Wednesday is due to this being the highest engagement period of the Law School.

Hamish notes that there will be a bake sale running the week after, also as a fundraiser, and this will have two separate stalls, one at Liggy and one within the Hub.

Tony Tu enters the meeting virtually at 7.13pm

In addition to this, Hamish informs the Committee that the SJE portfolio is considering a movie night, and that some SJE articles will appear in the Hilarian.

Holly asks the Committee what do people want to see for the movie if it goes ahead, offering movies such as Legally Blond, Mario Cart, Empire of Light, Mario Mamma, Air, or the Castle. Some of these could be hosted at the Capri Theatre, and some will have to be held elsewhere if chosen.

**Motion:**

That the AULSS Committee approve the Director of Social Justice & Equity’s Report.

Moved: Natalie

Seconded: Ruby

Carried unanimously.

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| **14** | **Director of Education’s Report** | **TT** |

Tony briefly outlines the events that the Education portfolio have run since the last Committee meeting and the upcoming events. He asks that the Committee attempt to attend as many as they can. He adds that the final ticket sales for the First Year Drinks was 117 tickets.

Tony informs the Committee that he has officially resigned from the AULSS Committee given his extensive workload and his unavoidable commitments interstate which were not known to him when he first nominated for the role and, wishes the Committee the best going forward, specifically thanking the Education portfolio.

The Committee notes its thanks and members clap in recognition of his work.

**Motion:**

That the AULSS Committee approve the Director of Education’s Report.

Moved: Kush

Seconded: Henry

Carried unanimously.

Bryan notes that, in the absence of the Director of Education and until the vacancy is filled through Co-Option for the role, there will be an absence of leadership within that portfolio which will adversely affect upcoming events.

As Bryan is a former Director of Education and already aware of the activities of the portfolio as he was in all portfolio group chats, it was suggested to him that he would be best placed to temporarily manage the portfolio.
 **Motion:**

That the AULSS Committee, until the vacant position of Director of Education is filled, authorises Bryan Lau to act as interim Director of Education and perform the Director’s functions.

Moved: Felix

Seconded: Henry

Carried unanimously.

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| **15** | **Other Business** | **BL** |

There was no other business raised.

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| **16** | ***Meeting Close*** | **BL** |

Bryan closed the meeting at 7.23pm.

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| **Notice**  |
| In accordance with clause 30 of the Constitution, notice of this meeting was circulated before the Committee Meeting, following consultation with the President. An agenda and related documents for this Committee Meeting were circulated on 24th March 2023.  |

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| **Quorum**  |
| In accordance with clause 22(1) of the Constitution, there being at least half of the current Committee plus one, including at least two members of the Executive, in attendance, quorum was present at the time the meeting opened.  |

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| **Chairperson**  |
| In accordance with clause 24(1) of the Constitution, the President acted as Chairperson.  |

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

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_Bryan Lau\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Position: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_President\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_28.04.23\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_