

# SYDNEY UNIVERSITY LAW SOCIETY INC. ABN 49 844 560 526

Minutes of Executive Meeting held on: 27/02/2023

Chair: **Naz Sharifi**Minute taker: **Julia Lim** 

Meeting opened: 9:06pm

#### **Present:**

Naz Sharifi President

Arasa Hardie Vice President (Education)
Vaughan Marega Vice President (Careers)

Charmaine Lui Vice President (Social Justice)

Julia Lim Secretary

Vivien Lu Sponsorship Director

Niveditha Sethumadhavan Socials Director
Priya Mehra Socials Director
Kaela Goldsmith Campus Director
Nick Leavenworth Sports Director

Charis Chiu Publications Director

Lea Nguyen International Student Officer

Maeve Cairns Equity Officer

Andrew WS Disabilities Officer
Emily Wooding First Nations Officer
Brianna Ho Women's Officer
Rohan Shankar Queer Officer

Miesha Binta Noor Ethnocultural Officer
Annika Lee Marketing Director
Alice Shan Design Director

**Apologies:** 

Christine Aung Competitions Director
Danielle Tweedale Competitions Director

Mahmoud Al Rifai Treasurer



## **MINUTES**

## 1 Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed attendees to the meeting and delivered an Acknowledgement of Country. Apologies were received from Christine and Dani.

**Motion:** That the apologies received from Christine Aung, Danielle Tweedale and Mahmoud Al Rifai be accepted for the Executive Meeting being held on 27 February 2023.

Moved: Julia Lim Seconded: Naz Sharifi

The motion was carried unanimously with zero abstentions.

#### 2 Procedural matters

**Motion**: That the public minutes from the Executive Meeting held 20 February 2023 be approved as a correct and accurate record of the meeting.

Moved: Naz Sharifi Seconded: Arasa Hardie

The motion was carried unanimously with zero abstentions.

**Motion**: That the in camera minutes from the Executive Meeting held 20 February 2023 be approved as a correct and accurate record of the meeting, but maintaining that the minutes themselves will remain in camera and confidential.

Moved: Niveditha Sethumadhavan

Seconded: Naz Sharifi

The motion was carried unanimously with zero abstentions.

## 3 Last week updates/shoutouts

- Christine shouted out Julia and Annika for being on top of marketing and the newsletter.
- Naz shouted out the whole executive for their incredible work for a wonderful start to the semester.
- Brianna shouted out Alice and Annika for their designs and marketing work.
- Arasa shouted out everyone for their help with the First Year Crash Course event today.
- Vaughan shouted out Priya and Niv for their work with the Welcome Back Party.
- Annika shouted out Nick for his photography at the First Year Crash Course today.
- Niv shouted out Priya for being a wonderful fellow Social Director, and Dani and Brianna for being the Safety Officers at the event as well. Niv also shouted out Naz, Vaughan, Julia and Nick for attending and ensuring they were supported. Niv also shouted out Alice for her design work.
- Lea shouted out Charis for her help with the International Student Guide and for helping her with communicating with a sponsor.
- Julia shouted out Arasa for his work in preparing for the First Year Crash Course.
- Andrew shouted out Maeve, Julia and Naz for their support in navigating a very busy period.
- Nick shouted out Maeve for her work with the textbook scheme to support students.



#### 4 What's on this week

**Mon:** Intro to Comps Week (Mon - Thurs) **Tues:** Witness Examinations (3:30 - 5:00 pm)

**Wed:** Mooting (5:30 pm - 8:00 pm)

Thurs: Negotiations (3:30 pm - 5:00 pm); Intro to Comps Drinks; Intervarsity Disabilities Network

Meeting (5:30pm)

## 5 Portfolio updates

Maeve asked the executives to check Slack for instructions regarding the Equity Textbook Scheme, to ensure the system is adhered to.

Andrew mentioned that any executives with capacity can reach out to him to discuss and arrange Google forms.

Julia flagged that Weekly announcements no longer need to be placed in alphabetical order by executives, and asked for those who are interested in doing the Weekly greeting to reach out. Julia gave Kaela a belated shoutout for doing the greeting for this week's edition.

Brianna explained she is working with Naz to bring sanitary products to the Law School, and asked any executives who have time to assist to please reach out.

Alice reminded executives about the 2-week turnaround period for designs especially during this busy period, and that the Design team would then try their best to get out quality designs.

Vaughan mentioned that the Tipstaves and Associates Panel is happening on Monday 6 March, and that any volunteers would be appreciated. Vaughan also explained he is open to executives voicing any ideas about clerkship presentations this year, and that he may open a form for this. Vaughan also thanked Alice and Annika for their recent work.

Emily provided an update on speaking to Faculty about running an educational campaign regarding The Voice, and asked executives to contact her if they have any ideas or would like to help out.

Niv mentioned that JD Drinks tickets will be released this week for the event which is taking place next week. Niv also spoke about LLB I Camp updates which are incoming.

Julia also mentioned on behalf of Dani and Christine that they are still on the lookout for Intro to Mooting program mentors, and asked executives who are or know confident mooters to please apply via the SULS Comps Linktree.



## 6 Sponsorship tracker

Vivien explained how it is time to start speaking to sponsors, and asked any key deadlines to be noted in the document as soon as possible. Naz also highlighted the need to follow up on the QR codes for feedback forms and to update attendance. Vivien also asked for any photos taken at recent events to please be shared with her.

## 7 Office cleaning roster & reminders

Julia explained how she had written out a checklist which would be printed and placed in the SULS Office as a reminder for the week's cleaning executives. Julia went through the checklist and asked that executives check through again when in doubt, to ensure the space is kept clean.

Naz confirmed that Tuesday executives have been assigned to clean this week per the roster, and reiterated the importance of constantly communicating with other executives whether in terms of event support, office hours or otherwise.

#### 8 ALSA Proposal

Andrew noted a conflict as the current Disabilities Officer for ALSA. Naz noted that the event will be taking place from 14 to 16 March this year in Melbourne, and that specific costs would be going through the voting sheet per usual. Naz noted that up to 4 councillors are allowed to attend per the Constitution, but that SULS does not necessarily need to send all of them.

Naz mentioned that she had a fruitful conversation recently with ALSA's Vice President and will have one soon with the President regarding ALSA and SULS' relationship, particularly in terms of how SULS can both give and benefit from ALSA affiliation.

#### 9 USYD Law Societies Exec Mixer

Naz explained that she had recently spoken to the SEALS, KLUS and CLSS Presidents, and emphasised that SULS is looking to close the gaps with these societies through collaboration with executives and keeping each other in the loop. Naz proposed that we have an Exec Mixer to mingle and hear about their ideas for the year, and mentioned the Presidents had indicated that they are open to this idea.

Julia explained that particularly through previous KLUS involvement, she has noticed this gap between societies and how some members may be hesitant to attend SULS events or to get involved otherwise. Julia emphasised that SULS also should reach out more actively to the other law societies for collaboration and inviting them to events.

Naz agreed and said she would present some date and time options soon for the mixer. Naz asked that any executives who have time also attend Wednesday's event being held between SEALS, KLUS and CLSS at Courtyard.



## 10 Accessibility - Bylaws & Welcome Back Party Feedback

Julia explained she had been recently contacted by the 2022 Disabilities Officer, Grace Wallman, who wished to pass on some feedback in particular regarding accessibility at the Welcome Back Party. Julia rehashed the relevant bylaws under the SULS Events Accessibility Guidelines, per the Accessibility Policy. Julia mentioned that care packages had been discussed with Naz, which could include the provision of earplugs or sanitary items.

Julia noted some of Grace's suggestions to improve, which included being mindful of the venue having a quiet space, earplugs being available, avoiding excessively loud music volumes or steep stairs, and having accessible entrances and bathrooms.

Andrew noted that he had not attended the event, but reiterated how steep stairs should be avoided. Andrew explained that as <u>NSW does not abide by the National Construction Code</u>, ensuring that there are accessible bathrooms and avoiding steep stairs falls upon event organisers. Andrew encouraged the executives to review the bylaws and pinned messages in Slack, and welcomed requests for a bylaw walkthrough.

Andrew discussed how he would be happy for the earplugs or other sensory item costs to come from the Disabilities portfolio budget, which he would discuss with Naz and Mahmoud.

Naz noted that although some venue contracts must be followed through on when we are contractually bound, we could all look to improve based on these suggestions.

#### 11 Off-Campus Clerkship Presentations

Vaughan asked the executives to share any thoughts or concerns regarding clerkship presentations potentially being held at firm offices for greater collaboration and engagement.

Vaughan noted that a Zoom option would be made available in any case to ensure that those who cannot attend in-person can watch the recordings. Vaughan said that he was wondering whether presentations could also be held outside work hours to allow working students to attend.

Niveditha and Charmaine explained that they liked the idea of in-person presentations particularly in terms of networking, but Charmaine flagged that holding them at firm offices may reduce general accessibility.

Nick raised that burnout may be worth considering, as students may feel overwhelmed with consecutive presentations particularly if they are held off-campus.

Naz agreed and said we could consider expanding upon clerkship presentations such as through varying times. Naz flagged that those who live far from campus or have work and classes the next morning may hesitate to attend evening off-campus presentations.



Nick mentioned that students would feel pressured to attend in-person and network, meaning that alternatives other than Zoom may need to be considered as well. Vivien agreed and suggested that presentations be spaced out before and after May as well if possible.

Vaughan said he is definitely open to being more flexible with the presentations this year, such as through holding earlier events.

## 12 Academic & Faculty Board Papers

Julia explained that Chanel Tattler, who is a Business School Faculty Board and Academic Board member, had reached out asking if SULS was interested in providing perspective and insights on the board papers prior to meetings being held each month. Julia confirmed that she had checked about confidentiality and had permission to share the next meeting's papers with the executive, and that this would be sent through Slack for anyone who was interested in reviewing and sharing thoughts.

Andrew asked whether the Law Faculty Board student roles were filled, as if unfilled this would mean there is a lack of student input in discussion. Miesha said that she was unsure about the Law Faculty specifically, but that there are students like herself who are not allocated to a faculty.

Naz noted that the Student Staff Consultative Forum is coming up and that all executives should have received an invitation.

#### 13 Disabilities Portfolio Discussion (In Camera)

Motion: That the meeting move in camera.

Moved: Naz Sharifi

Seconded: Nick Leavenworth

The motion was carried unanimously with zero abstentions.

[In camera discussion]

**Motion**: That the meeting move out of camera.

Moved: Naz Sharifi Seconded: Andrew Shim

The motion was carried unanimously with zero abstentions.

#### 14 Other Business

No other business was raised.

Meeting closed: 10:24pm