

# MINUTES

SYDNEY UNIVERSITY LAW SOCIETY INC. ABN 49 844 560 526

Minutes of Executive Meeting held on: 7/03/2024 Chair: Ben Cullen Minute taker: John Mentzines

Meeting opened: 7:07 pm

#### **Present:**

Priya Mehra	Vice President (Careers)
Ellie Mangharam	Vice President (Education)
Jessica Xu	Vice President (Social Justice)
John Mentzines	Secretary
Amante Abela	Treasurer
Mounica Akula	Social Director
Zara Paleologos	Social Director
Kiana Asgari	Competitions Director
Daniel Kim	Competitions Director
Charlie Hua	Sports Director
Ben Cullen	Campus Director
Phan Vu	International Student Officer
Jessica Pens	Women's Officer
Yoyo Chien	Design Director
Yuan Tran	Marketing Director
Stef Howes	First Nations Officer
Sara Wardak	Ethnocultural Officer
Sarah Huffman	Disabilities Officer

**Apologies:** Danielle Tweedale, Antonia Odegbaro, Kate Sinchilo, Kira Trahana, Juan Facundo Majul Fajardo

#### Absent:

Late Arrivals:

**Early Departures:** 



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#### **1 Welcome and Apologies**

The Chair welcomed attendees to the meeting and delivered an Acknowledgement of Country. Apologies were received from Danielle Tweedale, Antonia Odegbaro, Kate Sinchilo, Kira Trahana and Juan Facundo Majul Fajardo.

**Motion:** To accept the apologies received from Danielle Tweedale, Antonia Odegbaro, Kate Sinchilo, Kira Trahana and Juan Facundo Majul Fajardo for the Executive Meeting taking place on 7 March 2024.

Moved: Stef Howes Seconded: Sara Wardak The motion carried unanimously with zero abstentions.

#### 2 **Procedural Matters**

**Motion**: That the public minutes from the Executive Meeting held 25 February 2024 be approved as a correct and accurate record of the meeting.

Moved: Priya Mehra Seconded: Jessica Xu The motion carried unanimously with zero abstentions.

**Motion**: That the in camera minutes from the Executive Meeting held 25 February 2024 be approved as a correct and accurate record of the meeting.

Moved: Jess Xu Seconded: Priya Mehra The motion carried unanimously with zero abstentions.

#### 3 Capacity Check In & Chair of Next Week's Executive Meeting

Ben requested that every member of the Executive fill in the capacity check in.

Ben explained that the Executive would again choose who would chair next week's meeting. Amante was chosen as the chair of next week's meeting.

Motion: To appoint Amante Abela as the chair of the week 4 Executive Meeting. Moved: Zara Paleologos Seconded: Stef Howes The motion carried unanimously with zero abstentions.





#### 4 Shoutouts

Ben shouted out Stef and everyone else who helped out with the Welcome Back BBQ and cohort picnics.

Sara shouted out everyone who came to the Joint Law Societies Welcome Event on Monday.

Priya shouted out everyone who went to the Tipstaves & Associates Panel, as well as Daniel and Kiana for sitting on numerous committee interviews.

Stef shouted out Priya for organising the Tipstaves & Associates Panel.

Zara shouted out Charlie for organising the SULS v SUBS football game.

Kiana shouted out Ben for all the events that he has organised.

Mounica shouted out Zara for helping with committee interviews.

Kiana shouted out Daniel for the work he has done as Competitions Director and Daniel similarly shouted out Kiana for all of her work.

Everyone collectively shouted out Dani for all the work she has done as President.

#### 5 What's on this Week

Ben outlined all of the events that are occurring this week. Ben encouraged members of the Executive to attend the International Student Guide Launch and the Law School Basics Panel.

#### 6 Marketing

Yuan outlined the procedure that members of the Executive need to follow for submitting marketing requests this year. Yuan explained that there are two forms which can be used to submit a request, the first form is for both marketing and design whereas the second form is for marketing only. Yuan noted that there are deadlines in these forms and requested that members of the Executive stick to these deadlines. Yuan further explained the procedure that members of the Executive need to follow for uploading photos if they use the SULS camera.

#### 7 Administrative Matters

John explained that the proposed date for the SULS Annual General Meeting (AGM) was Thursday 18 April and he asked whether this date would suit the members of the Executive. Stef asked what the quorum for General Meetings was. John stated that he believed it was around twenty members and Ben explained that it was generally necessary for most members of the Executive to attend the AGM so that a quorum is present. Sarah asked if she could attend the AGM via Zoom. Ben and John answered that she could, and John emphasised that it was not





necessary for every single executive to attend the AGM if they are unable to. It was agreed that Thursday 18 April was a date that most members of the Executive could attend the AGM on.

John took down the names of the executives who would be attending the faculty morning tea on Tuesday.

John explained that SULS would again be holding a committee induction and welcome event this year, and that the suggested dates were Tuesday 19 March from 5pm – 7pm or Wednesday 20 March from 5pm – 7pm. Sarah explained that she had not received any applications for the Disabilities Committee. Ben suggested that she should extend applications. John offered to place an announcement about applications for the Disabilities Committee in the SULS Weekly and Yuan offered to do the same on SULS' social media accounts. It was agreed that the committee induction and welcome event would be held on Tuesday 19 March from 5pm – 7pm.

John outlined the requirements for members of the Executive to follow if they are organising a sponsored event.

Ben explained that it is necessary to submit a risk assessment form for a high risk event and that the USU wanted to meet with the SULS Executive to discuss high risk events. John outlined the times proposed by the USU to meet and it was agreed that the meeting would occur on Thursday 14 March at 1pm.

John explained that members of the Executive are able to sit on the new Constitutional Review Committee and he took down the names of the executives who wanted to sit on the committee.

#### 8 Socials

Mounica explained that under clause 64 of the SULS Constitution it was necessary to approve the discounted tickets for the members of the Executive who had been wellbeing officers at Welcome Back Party and JD Drinks. Zara explained that it was also necessary to approve the discounted tickets for the members of the Executive who would be attending the LLBI camp.

**Motion:** To approve the 50% discount in ticket price for any member of the Executive who attended Welcome Back Party as a wellbeing officer.

Moved: Zara Paleologos Seconded: Kiana Asgari The motion carried unanimously with zero abstentions.

**Motion:** To approve the 50% discount in ticket price for any member of the Executive who attended JD Drinks as a wellbeing officer.

Moved: Mounica Akula Seconded: Priya Mehra The motion carried unanimously with zero abstentions.

**Motion:** To approve a 50% discount in ticket price for any member of the Executive who will be attending the LLBI camp as a wellbeing officer.





Moved: Mounica Akula Seconded: Charlie Hua The motion carried unanimously with zero abstentions.

Mounica explained that Zara and herself have a list of the members of the Executive who have indicated that they are able to attend the LLBI camp and that people who have indicated that they may be able to attend need to make a decision in the next week. Zara explained that executives cannot drink as wellbeing officers and need to uphold good behaviour. Ben reminded everyone that they need to upload their qualification certificates to the USU website, in particular the sexual harassment module. Yoyo asked whether it was a problem that when she uploaded her certificates to the USU website they disappeared. Ben and John explained that this happens and that it is not a problem.

#### 9 SULS & USU Conflict Decision

John explained that the Executive at last week's meeting voted to endorse the option to exclude specific members of the SULS Executive from running for the USU board and that it was generally assumed that these positions would be the President, Secretary and Treasurer. John noted that it may be more consistent to include the Equity Officer in this list because they are also a bank signatory. Ben invited everyone to discuss the two options and asked whether people wanted an anonymous vote or simply a show of hands. No one requested an anonymous vote.

Ellie asked for an explanation of the options. John explained that the first option was to exclude the President, Secretary and Treasurer from running for the USU board, and the second option was identical except it also included the Equity Officer.

Kiana emphasised that members of the Executives who are going to run for the USU board or are even considering running for the USU board should abstain from the vote.

Ben asked if anyone had a conflict. No conflicts were disclosed.

Ben outlined the two options. Amante noted that the only role a bank signatory performs is approving payments from the accounts of the society. Sara explained that the Equity Officer is responsible for handling internal complaints and therefore has a significant governance role.

A vote was held. There were three votes for the first option, fourteen votes for the second option and one abstention.

Ben explained that a decision on how to implement the Executive's decision to exclude the President, Secretary, Treasurer and Equity Officer from running for the USU board would be tabled until next week's meeting. John explained that the options were to either include it in the SULS Constitution or Bylaws.





#### **10 Other Business**

Kiana asked everyone to vote on the approval of expenditure for Nuremberg flights. Kiana encouraged everyone to keep in mind that the coach of the team is no longer a student at the University of Sydney Law School, and that they are volunteering their time to assist the team.

Meeting closed: 7:58 pm