



July Council 2019 Minutes

Minutes for ALSA ANU GDLP July Council 2019

Held at the Victorian Bar (Owen Dixon Chambers)

9 July 2019

In attendance

Australian Law Students' Association Committee (Erin Ritchie, Margaret Cai, Sophia Rasch, Amanda Guruge, Claire Marron, Georgina Due, Amy Shao, William Vu, Alison Jones, Madeleine Goodsir, Briony Whyte, Thomas Boyle)

Adelaide University Law Students' Society

Australian National University Law Students' Society

Blackstone Society

Bond University Law Students' Association

Canberra Law Students' Society

Central Queensland University Law Society

Curtin Student Law Society

Deakin Law Students' Society

Deakin Law Students' Society (Geelong)

Flinders Law Students' Association

Griffith University Law Society (Nathan)

Griffith University Law Students' Association Inc (Gold Coast)

La Trobe University Law Students' Association

MacKillop Law Students' Society (ACU Sydney)

Monash Law Students' Society

Macquarie University Law Society



Murdoch Student Law Society
Notre Dame Sydney Law Society
Notre Dame Law Students' Society (Fremantle)
Queensland University of Technology Society Inc.
South Cross University Law Student Society
South Cross University Law Association
South Cross University Law Club
St Patricks' Law Students' Society
Sydney University Law Society
Tasmanian University Law Society
University of Queensland Law Society Inc.
University of Newcastle Law Students' Association
University of New England Law Students' Society (arrived at 11.39am)
University of New South Wales Law Society
University of Southern Queensland Law Society
University of the Sunshine Coast Law Students' Association
University of Technology Sydney Law Students' Society
University of Wollongong Law Students' Society
Western Sydney Law Students' Association Inc.

Proxy votes

No proxy votes



July Council 2019 Minutes
Held at the Victorian Bar, Melbourne

Annual General Meeting

Annual General Meeting opened 11:35am

79 votes in the room

That all Australian Law Students and International Law Students be granted speaking rights

Moved by Erin Ritchie (ALSA)

Seconded by Margaret Cai (ALSA)

In favour: All

Opposed: NA

Abstentions: NA

Motion to ratify Erin Ritchie's appointment as the President of ALSA for the remainder of the 2018/19 tenure

Moved by Margaret Cai (ALSA)

Seconded by Maddie Goodsir (ALSA)

In favour: All

Opposed: NA

Abstentions: NA

Finance Report presented by Amanda Guruge

Amanda presented the Finance report and outlined that the budget was done on an accruals basis. The key items from the budget are sponsorship, conference



accommodation and events, and affiliation fees. An increase in accounting fees reflected the need to do two sets of reporting this year.

There is part of the budget set for scholarships and grants. Members of the Council discussed the process for applications and suggested there was need to clarify or make it less complicated. This flowed into a discussion about the financial processes and policies ALSA has in place. ALSA will look to refine its financial approvals and budget process.

That Council accept all committee and executive reports

Moved by Erin Ritchie (ALSA)

Seconded by Margaret Cai (ALSA)

In favour: All

Opposed: NA

Abstentions: NA

That Council replace the existing Constitution with the proposed draft

Noting that the membership stipulated in clause 5.1. has been later confirmed by LegalVision to be inconsistent with the Corporations Act 2001, and therefore if the motion is passed, clause 1.4(b) comes into effect ("to the extent that a rule in this Constitution is inconsistent with the Act then this Constitution is taken to be amended so that it is consistent with that Act").

Moved by Margaret Cai (ALSA)

Seconded by Erin Ritchie (ALSA)

The documents with the constitutional changes were circulated ahead of Council – with both the clean version and a schedule of the changes. This Constitution was



worked on by LegalVision on a pro bono basis. There is one change to note from the previously circulated version.

Following notice of the motion, ALSA further consulted LegalVision, who assisted with the new Constitution, and clarified that the class of membership to include 'all Australian law students' would not be consistent with the Corporations Act.

In favour: All

Opposed: NA

Abstentions: NA

Motion to amend Bylaw 5 – Council and Conference to reflect a move from September Council to December Council (based on provisions of the new Constitution)

Moved by Margaret Cai (ALSA)

Seconded by Erin Ritchie (ALSA)

In favour: 66

Opposed: 10

Abstentions: 3

Meeting Adjourned at 12:10 PM returning at 13:08 PM

AGM Elections

Erin (ALSA) - Candidates have 3 minutes to speak. Alison will be keeping time as she is not running for a position. Another relevant point is that if you will not be a law student next year we will need to have a vote reaching 75% approval to allow them to



stand, Once that vote passes they may stand and make their speeches. There are 3 positions open to the floor, I have left this to the end to allow people to decide if they would like to stand. Please be very clear about the number of votes you hold.

President

Margaret Cai

Margaret spoke about ALSA being at a crossroads this year. She noted that there are great internal improvements and mechanisms (looking at a committee restructure, potential engagement of a business consultant) for ALSA to focus on. She sees the President's role moving forward to be focused on external and advocacy.

Result: Margaret Cai elected

Vice-President Administration

Claire Marron (75% acquired)

Claire spoke about ALSA's need for continuity in the Administration portfolio. She says there need to be a reflection on the structures of ALSA and support systems in place for Conference competitions.

William Vu (75% acquired)

Will spoke about the need for transparency and communication in the Administration portfolio. One of his priorities would be to ensure efficient and effective handover. He noted that Competitions, Conference and Council has grown every year but the committee hasn't changed. He identified that capacity sharing will be an important consideration.

Result: William Vu elected



Vice-President (Finance)

Amanda Guruge (75% acquired)

Amanda spoke about renominating for VPF position. This year was a 'catch-up' year, and she sees next year as being the time to effect of change. She said that she intends to create a handover that includes accounting principles and other relevant information for VPFs to come.

Grame Thompson

Grame spoke about his experience in running businesses and working with organisations. He stressed the importance of having good governance and policy documents.

Aaron Payne

Aaron spoke about running on two key platforms: advocacy and internal governance. He noted that he sees the VPF position as the one he is in the best place to add value, given his experience in financial portfolios in other NFPs and incorporated associations.

Result: Aaron Payne elected

Vice-President (Education)

Madeleine Goodsir

Maddie spoke about it being an exciting time for ALSA. Her platform was one on advocacy and policy – advocating on mental health and wellbeing, legal education (structures and jobs), and bullying and harassment in the workplace.

Result: Madeleine Goodsir elected



IT Officer

Amy Shao

Amy spoke about the IT position ensuring that ALSA is as efficient as it can be. She has spent this term taking inventive steps and streamlining processes. She intends to sit down with the new committee and plan how to address their pain points.

Result: Amy Shao elected

Marketing Officer

Lily Shen

Lily spoke about the important role marketing plays in any committee. She has had vast experience working on 4 ANU student societies and has developed a diverse skillset relevant to refreshing ALSA's image and complimenting ALSA's move towards a new direction.

Result: Lily Shen elected

Sponsorship Officer

Jack Bristed (75% achieved)

Jack spoke about the work that ALSA's sponsorship portfolio has done this year and acknowledged the developments this year. He noted that sponsorship is not just about money but about developing relationships.

Result: Jack Bristed elected

Students and Community Education Officer



Michael Brown

Michael spoke about the unique circumstances he brings to the table – he is a mature-aged student, an online student and from a RRRB university. He is interested in using his difference to value add to the education portfolio.

Result: Michael Brown elected

Meeting Adjourned at 13:05 PM returning at 13:16 PM

Careers Officer

Sophia Laparidis

Nominated by Fraser (Curtin LS) and Bill (Flinders LSA) (75% received)

Sophia spoke about being drawn to this Council's social justice platform – her interests for this role would be to continue the Mental Health and Wellbeing and promote non-corporate careers in each state.

Tanisha Watts

Nominated by Jamie (Griffith GC LSA) and Nicholas (St Patrick's LSS) (75% received)

Tanisha spoke about the way she has organised and championed diversity events that focus on all cross sections of our society. She saw the education role as occupying an important place in the advocacy sphere.

Nicholas Tsekouras

Nominated by Sophie (UNE LSS) and Tom (Deakin LSS Burwood)

Nick spoke about his excitement to work under the new advocacy focus of Maddie. He noted that he had been involved heavily in the advocacy space in his own LSS' presidency tenure.

Result: Nicholas Tsekouras elected



Competitions Officer

Sophie Pruum (UQ)

Nominated by Jack (QUTLS) And Jeremy (SULS)

Sophie spoke about her passion for competitions and running a competitions program. She has been involved in her society's competitions' program for the last three years – she intends to establish a clear set of model rules in her tenure.

Result: Sophie Pruum

Higher Education Officer

Fraser Nguyen

Nominated by Danny (MSLS) and Belal (AULSS)

Fraser spoke about his intention to better represent the interests of students. He considers that one of the biggest issues that has potential to effect legal education is the issue of trimesters and the way university has structured it differently.

Matthew Harris

Nominated by Ben (UTS LSS) and Jeremy (SULS)

Matt spoke about his support for Maddie's approach to the education portfolio. His interests for the role are to address: the rise of trimester systems, the new Priestly 11, and online learning.

Bill Jones (Flinders) (75% received)

Nominated Laura (UNLSA) and Tiffany (UNLSA)

Bill spoke about running for the position because he supported Marge and Maddie's vision for change – he noted the tangible difference from this Council, compared to



the other one he attended two years ago. His interest for the role concern SSAF and the Priestly 11.

Result: Matthew Harris elected.

Annual General Council Meeting closed: 16:34 PM.