



SYDNEY UNIVERSITY LAW SOCIETY INC.
ABN 49 844 560 526

Minutes of Executive Meeting held on 5/09/2022

Chair: Ben Hines

Minute taker: Eden McSheffrey

Meeting opened: **9:07pm**

Present:

Ben Hines	President
Irene Ma	Vice President (Education)
Thrishank Chintamaneni	Vice President (Careers)
Naz Sharifi	Vice President (Social Justice)
Julia Tran	Treasurer
Eden McSheffrey	Secretary
Kelly Ma	Sponsorship Director
Harriet Walker	Competitions Director
Grace Wong	Socials Director
Vivienne Davies	Socials Director
Adam Schaffer	Sports Director
Michelle Chim	International Student Officer
Yijun Cui	Equity Officer
Grace Wallman	Disabilities Officer
Elizabeth Nutting	Women's Officer
Edward Ford	Queer Officer
Nishta Gupta	Ethnocultural Officer
Julia Lim	Marketing Director
Justine Hu	Design Director

Absent:

Apologies: Maja Vasic, Ariana Haghighi, Onor Nottle, Grace Wallman

Late:

Early Departures:



MINUTES

1 Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed attendees to the meeting and Eden delivered an Acknowledgement of Country.

Motion: That Maja Vasic, Ariana Haghighi, Onor Nottle, and Grace Wallman's apologies be accepted.

Moved: Thrishank Chintamaneni

Seconded: Harriet Walker

The motion was carried unanimously with zero absentions.

No conflicts of interest were declared at the outset of the meeting.

2 Procedural matters

Motion: That the minutes from the Executive Meeting held 29 August 2022 be approved as a correct and accurate record of the meeting.

Moved: Adam Schaffer

Seconded: Thrishank Chintamaneni

The motion was carried unanimously.

3 Last week updates/shoutouts

- Ben Shouted out Thrishank, Irene, Naz, Ed, Maja, Julia L, for their assistance in setting up and running the Alumni Speaker Series and for handling the situation well.

4 What's on this week

- a. **Mon:** Candidate Information Evening
- b. **Tues:** Redfern Legal Centre x SULS International students volunteering program
- c. **Wed:** Interfaculty Sport: Futsal
- d. **Thurs:**
- e. **Fri:**
- f. **Mon:** DFAT x SULS Careers in Intelligence and Security event

5 Portfolio updates

Irene noted re unit outline hard copies that her committee member Arasa Hardie prepared a survey and sent to get everyone's opinion which now has 120 responses and is almost ready to present to the faculty. Irene asked for everyone to share the link around. She also noted that a podcast her committee members created called Voir Dire.

6 Law Ball Voting

Vivienne discussed the DJ, Photography, and the band playing at law ball options. She addressed previously expressed concerns about some options. Ben suggested that we look through some photos of different options so we can have a more informed opinion. Vivienne asked that this be



done by 9pm on Tue 6 September. There was also a discussion about the Jazz Band and free attendance. It was explained that this is factored into the price of the band.

Eden noted that when it comes to free or discounted tickets we do need a two thirds Exec majority vote per the Constitution s 64 and that this needs to be done for our safety officers.

Motion: That the Executive approves discounted tickets for Safety Officers on duty at Law Ball.

Moved: Eden McSheffrey

Seconded: Yijun Cui

The motion was carried unanimously with zero absentions.

7 SULLS Election 2022

Ben noted that given the Electoral information session occurred today, he reiterated that given it is likely a number of executives will be involved in the election that everyone remember to keep it amicable and not use their positions to advantage anyone in the election which is unconstitutional.

8 Malcolm Turnbull Event

Ben discussed the Malcom Turnbull Event. He noted that as an Executive - regardless of individual views of the event - we did not approve of the harassment or intimidation of SULLS members. He suggested that we have to acknowledge this harassment of our members and asked the executive for their thoughts.

Naz asked about reporting the conduct and asked if we have come to an agreement on this. Irene initially noted that she was going to talk to the Student Registrar or potentially Joanne Wright but she felt it was better we had a broader conversation on this first.

Ben noted two considerations: the people in SULLS that did this and people part of the broader university who did this. Naz noted that she was worried about the safety and vibe of SULLS events if the people who protested are there - noting some people might not feel as safe in those spaces given they were screamed at by these people.

Irene suggested that we shouldn't have two different approaches to students who are law students versus non law students. She mentioned for example the Joe Hockey incident and her broader concerns about people crashing student events. She said there was no peaceful or respectful debate and she is worried about this growing trend and safety of her friends working on SULLS.

Ben noted that people feeling unsafe or harassed is something which we should have a discussion about. By the difference between law students he meant internal mechanisms and then the more external university mechanisms.

Edward noted the SULLS account got messages from members saying they were made uncomfortable and even though this might not be representative of everyone it shows that some



members were concerned and we have to address that. Edward noted that it made the space extremely inaccessible as well.

Ben suggested we discuss the internal and external repercussions next week in the interests of time. Ben asked the Executive on their thoughts on SULLS issuing a statement.

Michelle said she thought SULLS needs to address this - speaking for international students - she mentioned lots of people came to Australia to study because the society is quite open and free to discuss political opinions, but noted that during the event it makes us feel like we aren't safe to express our opinion anymore and this is disappointing.

Naz agreed. She also pointed out that we need to provide resources to these people in the audience who might need mental health support given it was quite confronting. She said as SULLS, we need to validate and acknowledge that and ensure that future events are safer.

Adam agreed wholeheartedly with what Naz said and emphasised that its important to reach out to members who have been affected and provide them with resources and give them the opportunity to make a formal complaint to the Executive.

Irene agreed with Michelle, Naz and Adam. She noted a lot of the time people on campus believe their conduct has no consequences and that these actions impact our members and we should make sure they know a channel is open for them and that SULLS is here to support them. She also noted we have fiduciary duties as directors of SULLS.

Ben noted three main areas form the discussion: one, specifics of the event; two, what happened to our members; and three, resources for people. He suggested it can be done by a secret ballot so no one is publically aligned if they feel uncomfortable.

A majority of the executive approved a secret ballot.

Motion: That the Executive issue a statement.
The motion was carried.

9 Other Business

Meeting closed: **10:09pm**