



SYDNEY UNIVERSITY LAW SOCIETY INC.  
ABN 49 844 560 526

Minutes of Executive Meeting held on **22/08/2022**

Chair: Ben Hines

Minute taker: Eden McSheffrey

Meeting opened: **6:13pm**

## **Present:**

|                        |                                 |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>Ben Hines</b>       | President                       |
| <b>Irene Ma</b>        | Vice President (Education)      |
| <b>Naz Sharifi</b>     | Vice President (Social Justice) |
| <b>Julia Tran</b>      | Treasurer                       |
| <b>Eden McSheffrey</b> | Secretary                       |
| <b>Harriet Walker</b>  | Competitions Director           |
| <b>Vivienne Davies</b> | Socials Director                |
| <b>Onor Nottle</b>     | Campus Director                 |
| <b>Adam Schaffer</b>   | Sports Director                 |
| <b>Michelle Chim</b>   | International Student Officer   |
| <b>Yijun Cui</b>       | Equity Officer                  |
| <b>Grace Wallman</b>   | Disabilities Officer            |
| <b>Edward Ford</b>     | Queer Officer                   |
| <b>Nishta Gupta</b>    | Ethnocultural Officer           |
| <b>Julia Lim</b>       | Marketing Director              |

**Absent:** Kelly Ma, Grace Wong

**Apologies:** Maja Vasic, Ariana Haghighi,  
Elizabeth Nutting, Thrishank Chintamaneni,  
Justine Hu

**Late:**

**Early Departures:**



## MINUTES

### 1 Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed attendees to the meeting and Grace Wallman delivered an Acknowledgement of Country. An apology was received from Maja Vasic, Ariana Haghighi, Thrishank Chintamaneni, Elizabeth Nutting and Justine Hu.

**Motion:** That Maja Vasic, Ariana Haghighi, Thrishank Chintamaneni, Elizabeth Nutting, and Justine Hu's apologies be accepted.

Moved: Adam Schaffer

Seconded: Julia Lim

The motion was carried unanimously with zero abstentions.

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

### 2 Procedural matters

**Motion:** That the public minutes from the Executive Meeting held 15 August 2022 be approved as a correct and accurate record of the meeting.

Moved: Naz Sharifi

Seconded: Julia Lim

The motion was carried unanimously.

**Motion:** That the in camera minutes from the Executive Meeting held 15 August 2022 be approved as a correct and accurate record of the meeting and that the content of those minutes remains in camera.

Moved: Naz Sharifi

Seconded: Adam Schaffer

The motion was carried unanimously.

### 3 Last week updates/shoutouts

- Naz shouted out Vivienne for having her work published!
- Ben shouted out Onor for the welcome back drinks event.

### 4 What's on this week

- a. **Mon:** Prelim Round 1 (all week)
- b. **Tues:**
- c. **Wed:** Interfaculty Sport: Volleyball
- d. **Thurs:**
- e. **Fri:**
- f. **Sat:** SALS Disabilities Mentoring Launch
- g. **Sun:** Intervarsity Sports Gala Day
- h. **Mon:**



**5 Portfolio updates**

Ed noted that the signups for the queer moot opened last week and encouraged attendance.

Julia L discussed purchasing a new banner with the executive.

**6 Merch Survey**

Adam distributed a survey on merch to the Executive.

**7 PASS Program Discussion**

Irene noted that there is no PASS program this semester and mentioned that at the SSCF, the dean promised there would be codesign and also guaranteed there would be a new program taking off this semester. However, this has not happened. Irene asked for the Executive's suggestions on what we can do about this.

Ben said he was not against looking at expanding SULS' peer to peer tutoring programs but recognised there could be an issue with funding. Edward asked if the Law school would pay for this and Ben suggested that it was unlikely. Eden noted that this would be another instance of SULS picking up a burden which should be incumbent on the Law School if we were to try and replicate the program, echoing the concerns about not being able to pay or train students to run a replacement program.

Irene noted that there was no consultation about the discontinuation of the program in the first place. She agreed that SULS doesn't have the capacity financially or student-wise to set up a program like PASS. She also emphasised the potential issues which could arise with contract cheating and academic integrity.

Grace Wa., agreed with Irene that it would be difficult for SULS to take on the burden of running a program. She noted it was hard to talk to Faculty and secure a change and that therefore it might be better to take the broader view of collectively engaging students in the law school.

There was a discussion about potential discrepancies in the SSCF minutes with particulars about what the law school promised.

Ben noted that the replacement program would still likely be a peer-to-peer model and the program they are aiming for seems much more close to Law School Basics sessions.

Irene noted that she still continually gets a lot of questions about PASS.

Grace Wa. suggested the SSCF might not be the best forum to effect change and that we would need to engage the broader student base. Ben agreed.

**8 Simple Extension Update**

Irene updated the Executive on the new system for simple extensions. She noted that simple extensions are now centrally organised and no longer within the discretion of the coordinator -



they are automatically guaranteed for five days but this only applies to assignments which are 10+ days long.

Irene emphasised that the concern is that a majority of law school assignments are not longer than 3 days.

Grace Wa, noted certain faculties have already set a precedent of ignoring them and that there is a battle in terms of implementation and that there could be problems with it. She also suggested the law school might try to find a way out of this so given it is in the trial phase we need to have an input.

Ben noted it is important to find a way to communicate this change to students in the law school, especially noting the immediate response being to cut down assignments below 10 days and to focus on exams.

## **9 Subject Survival Nights**

Irene mentioned that she will be running two sessions: one for JD 1 and LLB 1-3 courses, and another for JD2 and LLB4 courses.

## **10 Requesting help from ALSA**

Grace Wa noted there is an ALSA conference coming up and asked if the Executive was interested in talking to them about the educational issues we have been discussing - noting there are some distinctions between how USYD does things versus other universities.

Ben said he was happy to get info and comparative stuff from ALSA but did not want them to do anything on our behalf. Grace agreed. The Executive broadly agreed that they were happy for Grace wa., to proceed with engaging with ALSA on this point as she saw fit.

## **11 ALSA Affiliation**

Ben noted that re the ALSA dispute they came back and said there was an issue with the jurisdiction of the review board and as such there is no further avenue for appeal.

Ben noted there is now a point for us to discuss our affiliation conditions and providing ALSA with guidance and suggestions moving forward. He noted that a lot of the benefit of attending ALSA is not ours and that we exist in more of a knowledge sharing role. Ben noted that it might be good for the next Executive to consider adjusting our affiliation fees, but not necessarily disaffiliate, especially when we do not gain much of a benefit. He noted that given we went through a process without procedural fairness, it is now appropriate to consider these things.

Harriet also noted that from a comps perspective they do not provide a lot of value given the organisational issues of this year.

Eden asked how much ALSA cost us this year and Ben noted it was around \$15,000.

Ben suggested we speak to people affected and draft up some recommendations.



**12 In Camera**

**Motion:** That the meeting move in camera.

Moved: Vivienne Davies

Seconded: Michelle Chim

The motion was carried unanimously with zero abstentions.

(In camera discussion)

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

Moved: Onor Nottle

Seconded: Adam Schaffer

The motion was carried unanimously with zero abstentions.

**14 Other Business**

None was raised

Meeting closed: **7:15pm**