



SYDNEY UNIVERSITY LAW SOCIETY INC.
ABN 49 844 560 526

Minutes of Executive Meeting held on **03/10/2022**

Chair: Ben Hines

Minute taker: Eden McSheffrey

Meeting opened: **9:06pm**

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 |
| Harriet Walker | Competitions Director |
| Vivienne Davies | Socials Director |
| Onor Nottle | Campus Director |
| Adam Schaffer | Sports Director |
| Michelle Chim | International Student Officer |
| Yijun Cui | Equity Officer |
| Grace Wallman | Disabilities Officer |
| Edward Ford | Queer Officer |
| Nishta Gupta | Ethnocultural Officer |
| Julia Lim | Marketing Director |
| Justine Hu | Design Director |

Absent: Kelly Ma, Grace Wong, Maja Vasic,
Elizabeth Nutting

Apologies: Ariana Haghighi

Late:

Early Departures: Ben Hines (9:30pm), Adam
Schaffer (9:42pm)



MINUTES

1 Welcome and Apologies

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

Motion: That Ariana Haghghi's apologies be accepted.

Moved: Eden McSheffrey

Seconded: Yijun Cui

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 public minutes from the Executive Meeting held 19 September 2022 be approved as a correct and accurate record of the meeting.

Moved: Irene Ma

Seconded: Grace Wallman

The motion was carried unanimously.

3 Last week updates/shoutouts

- Irene shouted out Ben and his team for getting runner up for Gibbs.
- Edward shouted out Ariana for judging and writing the question for queer client interviewing. He also shouted out Harriet for all of her help with competitions. Edward also shouted out Julia Lim for all of the last minute marketing requests she has processed.
- Ben shouted out Edward for the Rainbow moot with Kirby.
- Ben shouted out Grace Wa. for the Disabilities in the Legal Sector panel that she ran.

4 What's on this week

- a. **Mon:**
- b. **Tues:**
- c. **Wed:** Marrickville Legal Centre x SULS Queer Sensitivity CLE Workshop (TBD, probably 4pm); Ashurst Visualising the Law Exhibition opening; First year picnic (1-2pm).
- d. **Thurs:**
- e. **Fri:**
- f. **Sat:** LAW BALL
- g. **Mon:**

5 Portfolio updates

- Grace Wa. thanked the Exec for attending her panel.
- Edward noted the rainbow moot was last Tuesday and went really well.



- Harriet noted the Baker McKenzie National Women's Moot has been running and going really well. She noted the grand finals are soon and President Ward is giving a keynote address. She thanked her committee for working on this.

6 Socials

Vivienne asked for all hands on deck to help set up the Law Ball. She also noted that there is a registration shift + also noted the safety Officers attending.

Motion: That two free tickets for Final Year Dinner be approved so that the Blackacre team can raffle them.

Moved: Vivienne Davies

Seconded: Ben Hines

The motion was carried.

Ben asked about what time his speech would be. Vivienne said it would be before the DJ starts. Ben thanked her and Grace for all of their work on the event.

Motion: That the chair passes to Irene Ma.

Moved: Naz Sharifi

Seconded: Irene Ma

The motion was carried.

7 SULLS 2022 SGM and Motions on Notice

Eden explained the SGM motions on notice which he had drafted. The first motion is about a proposed SULLS debit card which would create new clauses 61A-61F. Eden explained that this motion would allow Executives to avoid waiting for reimbursements for large amounts of spending upfront and make being an Executive more financially accessible. He spoke to the logistical aspects, safeguards and avoiding misappropriation of funds, and emphasised being open to changed wording of any clauses.

He explained the second motion which formally entrenches circular motions as a decision-making mechanism for SULLS Executives and proposes to raise the threshold for passing them. Irene asked about the reasoning behind the specific threshold proposed. Naz raised the issue of conflicts of interest if there would be a set number of votes required. Naz and Eden proposed changing the clause to clarify that any set number would relate only to executives who are not conflicted out of a vote.

The third motion relates to conflicts of interest. Eden mentioned that as SULLS is incorporated under *Associations Incorporations Act (2009)* NSW, and there could be serious penalties if certain conflict of interest procedures are not followed. Eden has created a register of interests, which each year the Secretary would be tasked with maintaining and of which any SULLS member would be able to request a copy. He emphasised that SULLS is now a medium-sized charity and therefore subject to a higher level of ACNC scrutiny. Eden then explained the proposed conflict of interest provisions which would prevent conflicted Executives from voting on issues they have a direct or indirect interest in, unless the Executive decides otherwise.



The final motion proposes to officially designate the President as the Society's Public Officer, which they already currently carry out but Eden suggested it should be formalised to comply with the Act's requirements. Eden thanked the executives for their contributions.

8 Situation in Iran and what SULS can/should do

Naz noted there has been a lot of upheaval and rioting about the regime in Iran and how it is treating women who are having Hijabs forced on them – Naz has had Iranian students reach out to her about what SULS is doing. She said she has some thoughts about what we can do, noting many students feel stressed about their families which it makes it very hard to focus on anything unrelated to what is happening back home.

Onor said that she backs SULS doing something here given today's incident with the university.

Naz wanted to prioritise not having an inflammatory or triggering response. She suggested that we listen to students and see what we can do or say. She noted lots of students fear for their families lives overseas and feel scared about showing anti-regime sentiment - we can show strong support for their cause rather than doing something without their input.

Eden said he was happy to be part of that process and minute any meetings/consultations.

Naz emphasised the importance of sensitivity in these discussions.

9 Pride in Law NSW

Edward noted Pride in Law is starting a chapter next year in NSW and asked us if we would be willing to give information or distribute marketing materials encouraging students to join up.

10 PASS advocate update

Irene noted last Thursday in a meeting the Faculty finally presented their ideas regarding alternatives to PASS, which is to be called the 'mentoring for success' program. It is targeted specifically to students at high risk of failing where a small group and both academics and senior students will tutor. They catch up weekly and share schedules about certain topics. At the meeting they invited a previous PASS facilitator who shared some valuable feedback.

Grace Wa. said the faculty talked through the options such as using a referral system and explained that they as SULS representatives tried to get the message across that having a targeted program is positive but is not mutually exclusive to having an actual PASS replacement which they promised. There was back and forth about this but the Dean wasn't at the meeting so it was limited.

Michelle noted the president of CLSS said that lots of Chinese students weren't able to get to higher marks and she feels that the Faculty should pay more attention to this.

Irene emphasised that a key message we sent was that while the program helps students at risk of failing, it can't be called an alternative to PASS.



11 In Camera

Grace noted this is a statement related to the disabilities portfolio which has to be in camera because one of the signatories has asked that it is not public until they publish it.

Motion: That the meeting move in camera

Moved: Grace Wallman

Seconded: Michelle Chim

The motion was carried.

(In camera discussion)

Motion: That the meeting move out camera

Moved: Grace Wallman

Seconded: Michelle Chim

The motion was carried.

12 Other Business

None was raised.

Meeting closed: **10:19pm**