



SULS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

02 September 2020 - 6:30 pm - Zoom

Meeting Opened: 6:40 pm

Executive In Attendance:

Amer Nasr
Max Vishney
Deaundre Espejo
Barry Wang
Danielle Stephenson
Rosie Sok
Oscar Alcock
Mark Teh
Natalie Leung
Sarah Mae Tang
Daniel Lee Aniceto
Ibrahim Taha
Donna Kwon
Alison Chen
Felicity Macourt
Abbey Jiaqi Shi
Miriam Shendroff
Calida Tang
Eden McSheffrey

Members of SULS in Attendance:

William Pyke
Adam Herman
Thrishank Chintamaneni
Dane Luo
Casper Lu
Vasile Tiano
Sam Goldberg

Former SULS Member in Attendance

Jeremy Chan

Apologies: Sinem Kirk, Alex De Araujo, Sarah Purvis, Patrick Lucarnus

Absent: Nil

The meeting was chaired by Amer Nasr

Motion: To hold the 2020 AGM online

- Moved: Amer Nasr
- Seconded: Felicity Macourt
- Vote: the motion was carried unanimously with zero abstentions

1. Opening, Welcome & Acknowledgement of Country

Amer Nasr delivered an Acknowledgement of Country at the commencement of the meeting and welcomed attendees.

2. Apologies and leaves of absence

Apologies were received from Sinem Kirk, Alex De Araujo, Sarah Purvis, and Patrick Lucarnus

3. Minutes of the previous meeting

The report and minutes of the previous meeting - the 2019 November SGM - were made available post last year's SGM.

4. Business arising from these minutes

i) Annual Reports of the immediate past President, Secretary and Treasurer

Motion: To read reports by the immediate past President, Secretary and Treasurer

- Moved: Amer Nasr
- Seconded: Adam Herman
- Vote: the motion was carried unanimously with zero abstentions

The immediate past President, Secretary and Treasurer delivered their reports to the Annual General Meeting. The full transcript of the reports can be found in Appendices C, D and E.

- a) Immediate Past President's Report - Jeremy Chan (**Appendix C**)
- b) Immediate Past Secretary's Report - Sam Goldberg (**Appendix D**)
- c) Immediate Past Treasurer's Report - Adam Herman (**Appendix E**)

No further business arose from the minutes of the 2019 SGM. No correspondence from the previous meeting.

Motion: that the minutes of the previous meeting (the 2019 November SGM) be accepted

- Moved: Amer Nasr
- Seconded: Sam Goldberg
- Vote: the motion was carried unanimously with zero abstentions

5. Motions on Notice and Constitutional Amendments

i) Vote of confidence to fill vacated executive positions

The first motion considered was the acceptance of the new Careers Vice President Felicity Macourt. On 9th of January Amer Nasr received a resignation letter from Derek Martin. SALS held a call-out for applications, which opened on Friday 10 January and closed on Friday 31 January.

Motion: To accept Felicity Macourt to the position of Careers Vice President for 2020

- Moved: Amer Nasr
- Seconded: Mark Teh
- Vote: the motion was carried unanimously with zero abstentions

The second motion considered was the acceptance of the new Sports Director Oscar Alcock. On 9th of January Amer Nasr received a resignation letter from Bill Litsas. SALS held a call-out for applications, which opened on Friday 10 January and closed on Friday 31 January.

Motion: To accept Oscar Alcock to the position of Sports Director for 2020

- Moved: Amer Nasr
- Seconded: Donna Kwon
- Vote: the motion was carried unanimously with zero abstentions

ii) Proposed amendments to the SULLS Constitution

a. Proposed amendment to Clause 5 of the Constitution (Appendix A)

Motion: To amend clause 5

- Moved: Amer Nasr
- Seconded: Rosie Sok
- Vote: the motion was carried unanimously with zero abstentions

b. Proposed amendment to Clause 5D of the Constitution (Appendix A)

The proposed amendment that was circulated was to change subsection B to write and/or. The amendment has the effect of allowing notice to be posted on either the society notice board or via digital means.

Motion: To open a discussion on the proposed amendment

- Moved: Amer Nasr
- Seconded: Donna Kwon

Amer Nasr discussed the reasoning for this amendment. The reason behind the proposed change is that the way the clause currently reads it is necessary for the society to post both a mailout and use the notice boards. As SULLS has created a goal to reduce the amount of unnecessary consumption of paper by the executive, the executive thinks it to be unnecessary to have a notice both on our board and distributed by a mail server. Amer Nasr then proposes an amendment to this motion to dig deep into solving the issue that he just presented (see Appendix B). The newly amended amendment would eliminate the option for posting any notice on a physical notice board and would require notice to be provided by email.

Sam Goldberg asked if the current constitutional clause states 'and/or' or merely 'and.' Amer Nasr told him the current clause only says 'and.' Amer clarified that he is proposing an amendment to the motion that was provided in the notice of the AGM meeting, rather than an amendment to the clause as it currently stands

Dane Luo asked what is the formality of an amendment to an amendment. Dane notes that the original amendment is being amended but he has not seen the newly amended 5D in any notice prior to the meeting. Dane questions on if this needs a notice provision. Amer refers to the SULLS Standing Orders and recites the following clauses:

32. Any member may move an amendment to a motion before the Chair.
33. All amendments are to be relevant to the main motion.
34. An amendment may not simply negate the effect of the main motion.
35. Amendments are to be dealt with as they arise.

36. While an amendment is under consideration, no other amendment may be moved.
37. An amendment may not itself be amended.
38. The mover of an amendment may alter the amendment with the leave of the meeting.
39. The speaking rights for an amendment are the same as those for a main motion.

Amer says there is no provision which states that in order to make an amendment to a motion, additional notice must be circulated. He notes it would be better practice to provide notice but the logistics made that impossible. Dane does not agree with the point stating that the above standing orders sit under the heading of 'substantive motions' and he is not sure if constitutional amendment falls within the domain of a substantive motion. Dane shares his concern that there could be large scale amendments unflagged without notice that could potentially come on the floor to constitutional provisions that do not meet standard notice requirements. Dane provides the example that someone could propose a small change, but on the floor they make a big change that may have similar objects but is way beyond the scope of the change that notice was originally given for. As a matter of principle, Dane notes he will abstain from this motion and says that he is not against the specific amendment to the amendment, but rather the principle of setting a precedent of making constitutional changes to amendments without providing notice at general meetings. Amer states that there is room in the SULS standing order and Constitution for more provisions but he interprets the standing orders in a way which allows amendments to amendments to be made without notice. Amer mentions that a series of checks and balances is something that can be included in the Constitution at a future time.

Motion: To make an amendment to the motion to amend 5D

- Moved: Amer Nasr
- Seconded: Rosie Sok
- Vote: all in favour (21), all against (0), all abstaining (5)

Note those who abstained were: Donna Kwon, Casper Lu, Dane Luo, Deaundre Espejo, and Alison Chen

c. Proposed amendment to clause 12(d) of the Constitution (Appendix A)

Donna Kwon brought forth an amendment to clause 12(d) of the Constitution. Donna highlighted that 12(d) currently requires the immediate past Treasurer to present at the AGM an audited set of financials for the preceding year. Under clause 47(a) of the Constitution, the AGM is required to be held in March of April. The requirement that the financials be audited by March or April is difficult to meet for 2 reasons. (1) it requires the immediate past Treasurer to remain in close contact with the accountants and the new Treasurer once their term is over and (2) the audited financials are not due to ACNC until 30 June so the accountants only being preparing the previous years financial documents in April and the audit is done in May. The reason for this is that the accountants are on holiday for the majority of December and January and when they return, they prepare the society's

quarterly BAS for the final outgoing year due in February. Donna also noted how the audited financials are available to the public in June when the AIS are submitted to ACNC. She spoke about how we make this information available to SULLS members directly providing evidence that the 2019 audited financials were in the Weekly Newsletter the week prior to the AGM.

Dane Luo asked who SULLS prime auditors are, and Donna replied that it is Simaco Partners. Dane asked if the SULLS executive has considered changing the auditors so that they could meet current constitutional provisions. Donna said no because SULLS has used one company for a while and the accountant now has an intimate knowledge and a good working relationship with SULLS. Dane Luo asks if this AGM was held in March or April 2020, would this condition have been met. Donna Kwon says no because the immediate past treasurer sent a report to read out at the originally scheduled AGM and the report included the unaudited financial statement and mentioned that Donna could share the audited statement once it became available.

Dane Luo notes that he will be voting against the 12(d) amendment for three reasons.

1. The SRC and USU meet the March/April headlines and they have closing years on 31st of December each year.
2. The SULLS executive could examine the possibility of finding new accountants.
3. As a matter of importance before audited accounts are submitted to ACNC there should be a general provision that members of the society should be able to review them. In a hypothetical situation where there is a big discrepancy between unaudited and audited accounts then general members should be allowed to review and examine that.

Dane Luo proposes that it may be worth considering moving the date of the AGM rather than saying that the AGM cannot consider or does not have to consider audited accounts. Dane Luo mentions this would be quite extraordinary for any charity or incorporated association to do.

Donna Kwon says that general SULLS members would not be provided with unaudited financial statements as those are not publicly released whereas audited statements are always available. Dane Luo states that he does not think members should compare unaudited with audited statements but rather that before members vote on something that they should be able to see the audited accounts. Dane Luo does not think we should say at the AGM 'can you look at this but our auditors have not checked it yet.' Dane Luo opines that before the audited accounts get sent to ACNC that members should be able to comment on it and question the treasurer, past executive, and president.

Mark Teh asks why the AGM has to be held in either March or April. Donna Kwon explains that the AGM has to be in the first 6 months after our financial year ends, so it has to be before June. Dane Luo refers to section 47(a) of the SULLS Constitution which says that the

AGM needs to be held in March or April. Mark Teh asks if we could receive audited reports if SULS moves its AGM to June. Donna Kwon says yes, moving the AGM to June would allow the accountants to provide SULS with audited financial statements for the AGM.

Donna Kwon withdraws motion to amend section 12(d) of the Constitution.

d. Proposed amendment to clause 12(e) of the Constitution (Appendix A)

Donna Kwon brought forth a motion to amend clause 12(e). Donna Kwon went through the reasons why 12(e) is currently in the Constitution (see Appendix A).

Amer Nasr regulated discussion thereafter.

Motion: To make an amendment to clause 12(e)

- Moved: Donna Kwon
- Seconded: Dane Luo
- Vote: the motion was carried unanimously with zero abstentions

e. Proposed amendment to clause 21 of the Constitution (Appendix A)

Max Vishney brought forth a motion to amend the Constitution in accordance with the changes in Appendix A. Passing this amendment would mean that managing the Textbook Loan Scheme would become a Constitutional duty for the SULS Equity Officer. Max Vishney listed three reasons for why the change to this section is necessary. Firstly for consistency, the financial grants policy is already identified in the constitution therefore it makes sense to add in the textbook loan scheme. Max Vishney points out that the textbook loan scheme has seen significantly more engagement this year than the financial grants scheme. Secondly, adding the Textbook Loan Scheme into the Constitution would solidify the expansion of the scheme. Max Vishney explains that there was a big expansion to the loans scheme this year and based on available records from previous semesters, both the number of recipients and textbooks loaned has more than tripled. Further, Max Vishney explains that on 6 August 2020 faculty agreed to provide, on an ongoing basis, \$20000 from the Walter Reid Memorial Fund for the continuity of the textbook loans scheme. In recognition of this Max Vishney deems it appropriate that the textbook loans scheme is brought in line with other policies. Thirdly, it is noted that other societies' loan schemes have closed before, and Max expresses that removing a loans scheme should not be a decision that is taken lightly and therefore merits inclusion in the Constitution.

Amer Nasr regulated discussion thereafter.

Motion: To make an amendment to clause 21 of the Constitution

- Moved: Max Vishney
- Seconded: Dane Luo
- Vote: the motion was carried unanimously with zero abstentions

f. Proposed addition of part 25 -Exceptional Circumstances- into the SULS Constitution (Appendix A)

Motion: To open a discussion on the proposed amendment of clause 25

- Moved: Amer Nasr
- Seconded: Donna Kwon

Amer Nasr read out the proposed addition to the Constitution. He noted that SULS wanted to formalize the ability to adopt an online election format for the year 2020 due to Covid-19. Amer Nasr said that after speaking with the electoral officer on the feasibility of this motion that Calida would like to make an amendment to the proposed motion.

Motion: To open a discussion on the proposed amendment to the motion to amend the Constitution (see Appendix B)

- Moved: Calida Tang
- Seconded: Mark Teh

Calida Tang states that she had a look at the notice for the motion for the AGM and there were a few amendments that she wanted to put forth for discussion today. Calida Tang went through the newly amended part 25 (see Appendix B). Calida Tang then stepped through the reasons why the amendments to the motion to amend the constitution are necessary.

- Clause 91 would allow campaigning to be in person. Calida Tang believes this is important because the Law School currently has physical classes and if there are physical classes then it stays more true to the normal practice to permit physical campaigning as well as online campaigning. Although some students would not be able to come to class, these people can still be accessed through social media.
- Clause 92 would make clause 5(c) of the Electoral Regulations redundant for the year 2020. Clause 5(c) reads 'Voting must be open for a period of no fewer than four hours and no greater than 12 hours, with no polling place being open for less than 2 hours.' This means that you cannot have voting open for longer than 12 hours. In practice, this occurs by splitting voting over 2 days for 6 hours each day. In Calida Tang's opinion that clause is too restrictive in the circumstances of Covid-19 especially because SULS is having an online election.
- Clause 93 seeks to rectify the limitations posed by clause 92 by allowing a time period of 48 hours for voting. Calida Tang states that the reason for a 48 hour period is that it most closely stays true to the two day voting period that has been implemented in the past.

Although it is a large expansion it would be most fair to the students who are studying online.

- Clause 94 was added to ensure the clause ceases to have effect at the conclusion of the last SGM for the year 2020.

Amer Nasr regulated discussion thereafter.

Dane Luo notes that he will be abstaining from this motion. Dane Luo lists three points for why he will be abstaining:

1. General opposition to alterations to amendments to the constitution being done without notice
2. In response to clause 93, Dane Luo does not think 48 hours is enough time for online elections. Dane notes that from his experience being the Reserve Returning Officer for the 2020 online USU Board elections, voting trends showed that 48 hours might not be enough. When the USU had their online election over five days, less than half voted in the first two days. Having a longer voting period would also allow the Election Officer to send reminder emails.
3. Concerned with clause 91 permitting in-person campaigns. Dane Luo is concerned that in a heavily contested election there could be several campaigners going up to a student to convince them to vote and there is a risk that doing that physically as opposed to online, runs a risk of breaching Covid-19 physical distancing practices. The USU received advice from NSW Health at the start of the Pandemic that any physical campaigning would be completely inappropriate. Dane believes that keeping the original motion and having campaigns online would be better.

In response to the points raised by Dane Luo, Calida Tang asks if the USU election has traditionally been held over a three day period in person. Dane says it has traditionally been three days but with online voting that was extended to five days. Calida states that the SULLS election needs an SGM to confirm the election of the executive and given that it is a shortened teaching period, the election timeline set out is quite tight. Under the current assumption that the voting period will occur on a Monday and Tuesday, there also needs to be a certain period of time for the electoral officer to review the finances of each ticket, before the election of the new executive can be confirmed at a general meeting. [Calida runs through the 2020 timeline of the SULLS election]. Calida explains how an extended voting period would make it difficult to hold an SGM during the semester. Calida is happy to leave s 91 in its original form and notes that given health concerns it might be difficult to enforce social distancing with physical campaigning.

Casper Lu agrees with Calida and acknowledges how dynamic the Covid-19 situation is, and also acknowledges the points raised by Dane. In regards to the 48 hour period that Dane has raised, Casper Lu thinks that it is possible that a lot of people were voting last minute, even if the SULLS election lasts two days longer people might still have the same mindset. Casper

Lu's last concern notes how clause 94 ceases to have effect after the conclusion of the last SGM in 2020 and this leaves room for a possibility that in the event there is no SGM there will not be a way for this part to be removed. Casper recommends that the amendment also includes a date set in December 2020 which has the effect of ceasing part 25 if an SGM does not occur.

In response to Casper, Dane Luo states that he does not agree with Casper's interpretation of clause 94. Dane points to the fact that if you read the other clauses within the section they refer to the year 2020, so even if there is no SGM the part only takes effect in the year of 2020.

Calida Tang provides an option of amending the amendment to allow the election to run for 3 days (72 hours). Dane Luo stated that he was not aware that the reason Calida originally requested a 48 hour election period was due to election spending, Dane Luo notes 13(c) of the SMLS electoral regulations and agrees that given the time restrictions posed by the electoral regulations, the timeline is quite tight and Dane Luo does not feel that in current circumstances the election needs to run longer than 48 hours. However, in different circumstances, Dane Luo would want the election to be longer and thinks 72 hours would be reasonable.

Calida Tang seeks to modify clause 91 to require online campaigns. Based on the discussion the rest of the amendments to the motion to amend the Constitution would go ahead.

Amer Nasr asks if anyone would like to speak against Calida's proposal. There was no response. Calida then amended her amendment to the motion.

Motion: To vote on the amendment to the motion put forth by Calida Tang

- Moved: Calida Tang
- Seconded: Miriam Shendroff
- Vote: the motion was carried unanimously with zero abstentions

Motion: To adopt the newly amended part 25 into the SMLS Constitution

- Moved: Calida Tang
- Seconded: Miriam Shendroff
- Vote: all in favour (24), all against (0), all abstaining (2)

Note those who abstained were: Casper Lu and Dane Luo

6. General Business

Amer Nasr notes he has not received any correspondence prior to this meeting.

Dane Luo seeks to pass the following motion:

'A motion that the General Meeting directs the Executive to present a constitutional amendment at the next SGM clarifying whether alterations to proposed constitutional amendments at General Meetings require notice.'

Amer Nasr regulated discussion thereafter.

Sam Goldberg questions what would happen if, at the next SGM, SMLS members do not like what the executive has proposed? Would people be allowed to amend that amendment during the meeting?

Amer thanks Dane for pointing this out and agrees that certain parts of the Constitution need greater clarification. Amer mentions that this is the reason behind the creation of bylaws which the executive has been working on but he notes there are specific points that need to be addressed within the constitution itself within the standing orders.

Dane replies to Sam that given the precedent from tonight that yes, the amendment to the constitution could be amended without notice at the meeting. Dane explains that he is of the belief that three years ago the SMLS secretary, Emily Shen, held that amendments could not be altered within 14 days of a general meeting. Amendments would come in with 21 days notice and that allowed seven days for amendments. This is why Dane Luo thinks that the meeting chair does not have the correct reading of the standing order and that it is necessary to have a Constitutional amendment clarifying the issue.

Amer Nasr thanks Dane Luo and notes that it is important to formalize this.

Motion: To pass this resolution motioned by Dane Luo

- Moved: Dane Luo
- Seconded: Casper Lu
- Vote: the motion was carried unanimously with zero abstentions

Amer Nasr states that we will take this on notice to make a proposition for the next SGM which is tentatively set for Friday 20 November 2020.

Motion: To accept the amended SMLS Constitution giving effect to the changes voted on today

- Moved: Amer Nasr
- Seconded: Natalie Leung
- Vote: all in favour (24), all against (0), all abstaining (2)

Note those who abstained were: Casper Lu and Dane Luo

Motion: To adjourn the AGM Meeting

- Moved: Amer Nasr
- Seconded: Rosie Sok

This concluded the business conducted at the Annual General Meeting.

With the formal agenda thus concluded, the meeting was declared closed at 8:15 pm.

Appendix A

MOTIONS ON NOTICE - 2020

A. Motion to Accept Careers Vice President

Background/Rational: In January the initially elected Careers Vice President Stepped down from his role within SULS. Therefore the position of Careers Vice President is a casual vacancy under Appendix 1 Part 3(e).

Application Process: SULS held a call-out for applications, which opened on Friday 10 January and closed on Friday 31 January. We received a number of applications and conducted interviews with short-listed candidates. The interview panel consisted of the President and one senior executive, and minutes from each interview were then discussed amongst the executive. As such, we have nominated Felicity Macourt for the position of 2020 Careers Vice President.

B. Motion to Accept Sports Director

Background/Rational: In January the initially elected Sports Director Stepped down from his role within SULS. Therefore the position of Sports Director is a casual vacancy under Appendix 1 Part 3(e).

Application Process: SULS held a call-out for applications, which opened on Friday 10 January and closed on Friday 31 January. We received a number of applications and conducted interviews with short-listed candidates. The interview panel consisted of the President and one senior executive, and minutes from each interview were then discussed amongst the executive. As such, we have nominated Oscar Alcock for the position of 2020 Sports Director.

C. Amendment to Clause 5

Background/Rationale: Currently clause 5 makes note that the Society has sixteen elected positions when in fact here are fifteen, and five appointed positions when there are in fact seven. Therefore, in order to comply with the arrangements made in the remainder of Part 5 as well as the current structure of the SULS Executive team, it is necessary to update the clause with the change

Proposed changes: Amend 5 - replace phrase 'sixteen elected positions' with 'fifteen elected positions', and 'five appointed positions' with 'seven appointed positions'.

D. Amendment to Clause 5D

Background/Rationale: Clause 5D Currently, clause 5D identifies the need to post notice in the Society's notice boards. However, the Society would like to recommend a less restrictive approach as all communications about appointments to the Executive now occurs via mailout. In the purest of interpretations, the use of the notice board has diminished significantly in order to reduce the organisations carbon footprint and therefore, the unnecessary consumption of paper used by the Executive in communications. To increase digital use and transparency with executive communications, mailouts will continue to happen. The future Executive may still elect to use the notice boards if they so wish, however that proposal is that that should not be a requirement.

Proposed Changes: Amend 5D(b) – Remove 'by placing particulars of the appointment on the Society's notice boards in the Law School boards in the Law School Building, and'.

E. Amendment to Clause 12(d)

Background/Rationale: Currently, clause 12(d) requires the immediate past Treasurer to present at the AGM an audited set of financials for the preceding year. Realistically, the requirement that the financials be audited by March or April (when AGM is required to be held as per clause 47(a)) is difficult to meet for the following reasons. First, given the term of the immediate past Treasurer ends on the last day of the society's financial year, it would require the immediate past Treasurer to remain in close contact with the accountants (or the incoming Treasurer) even when their term is over. Second, because the audited financials are due to ACNC by 30 June, our accountants only begin preparing the previous year financials in April and the audit is done in May. The reason for this is that they are on holiday for the majority of December and January and when they return, they prepare the society's quarterly BAS for the final outgoing year due in February. Given these issues, I propose that we amend clause 12(d) to remove the requirement of previous year financials being audited.

NB: The audited financials are available to the public in June when it and the AIS are submitted to the ACNC.

Proposed Changes: Amend 12(d) - replace word 'audited' with 'unaudited'

F. Amendment to Clause 12(e)

Background/Rationale: Currently, clause 12(e) requires the current Treasurer to present to the AGM unaudited accounts from First Semester. This clause remained from when the AGM previously was held during second semester. As a result of the new requirement of the AGM being held in March or April, I find it futile for financials from the first three months of the year be presented. To increase financial transparency of the society, I propose we amend clause 12(e) to replace 'unaudited accounts from First Semester' with 'the working budget for the year'.

Proposed Changes: Amend 12(e) - replace 'unaudited accounts from First Semester' with 'the budget for the year'

G. Amendment to Clause 21

Background/Rationale: CLAUSE 21 Currently clause 21 delineates the responsibilities of the Equity Officer but does not make note of the ongoing responsibility of the Textbook Equity Loan Scheme, which has grown to become increasingly popular at SULS. Therefore, the rationale of adding this do the duties of the Equity officer is in order to ensure the ongoing application of the ` program that has assisted many students to loan books for their respective courses. SUB-CLAUSE 21(e) Currently the 'and' in sub-clause 21(e) limits finality, and this would change if sub-clause 21(g) were to be added. SUB-CLAUSE 21(f) Currently, there is no addition of penultimate finality, therefore the change would be to add the word 'and' here. SUB-CLAUSE 21(g) Finally, Clause 21(g) enshrines the Society's Equity Textbook Loan Scheme as described above under Clause 21 rationale. Given the ongoing success and need of the program, the Executive trusts this should become part of the ongoing duty of the Equity Officer.

Proposed Changes: Amend 21(e) - remove the word 'and'. • Amend 21(f) - add at the end of the phrase, the word 'and'. • Add 21(g) - 'Managing the Society's Equity Textbook Loan Scheme'.

H. Creation of Clause 91 within Part 25

Background/Rationale: Currently, there is no formal power in the SULS Constitution allowing for AGMs, SGMs and online elections. Therefore, this amendment seeks to formalise this power with an exceptional clause that has a formal and automatic termination period.

Proposed Changes: Add Part 25: Exceptional Circumstances • Add clause 91 under Part 25 - 'For the year of 2020, AGMs, SGMs, elections and campaigns, shall all be held online due to in-person limitations posed by COVID-19 health regulations. This clause shall be automatically extinguished upon the conclusion of the last SGM for the year of 2020'.

Note: Clause 5D and Part 25 were passed in their amended form (see appendix B) while clause 12(d) was withdrawn.

Appendix B

AMENDMENTS TO THE MOTIONS TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION - 2020

Constitutional Clause	Current Constitutional Provision	Amendment Provided with Notice	Amendment to the Motion to Amend the Constitution
Clause 5D	(b) Notice shall be given by the Secretary of the availability of appointed Executive positions by placing particulars of the appointments on the Society's notice boards in the Law School Building, and by inclusion of the particulars of the position in an email to the Society's database, and by other means as the Executive may direct or the Secretary thinks appropriate.	(b) Notice shall be given by the Secretary of the availability of appointed Executive positions by placing particulars of the appointments on the Society's notice boards in the Law School Building, and or by inclusion of the particulars of the position in an email to the Society's database, and by other means as the Executive may direct or the Secretary thinks appropriate.	(b) Notice shall be given by the Secretary of the availability of appointed Executive positions by placing particulars of the appointments on the Society's notice boards in the Law School Building, and or by inclusion of the particulars of the position in an email to the Society's database, and by other means as the Executive may direct or the Secretary thinks appropriate.
Part 25 Exceptional Circumstances	N.A	91. For the year of 2020, AGMs, SGMs, elections and campaigns, shall all be held online due to in-person limitations posed by COVID19 health regulations. This clause	91. For the year of 2020, AGMs, SGMs, elections and campaigns shall all be held online due to in-person limitations posed by COVID19 health regulations. 92. For the year of 2020,

		ceases to have effect upon the conclusion of the last SGM for the year of 2020.	clause 5(c) of the Electoral Regulations does not apply. 93. For the year of 2020, election voting must be open for a period of no fewer than four hours and no greater than forty-eight hours. 94. This part ceases to have effect upon the conclusion of the last SGM for the year of 2020.
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Appendix C

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT'S REPORT - 2020

Jeremy Chan – 2019 President

Because this will be the third (and hopefully final) time that I make a report to a general meeting of the Sydney University Law Society, I will keep this as brief as possible. Given the dramatically different time in which we currently live, at least compared to the year just prior, I will leave reports about 2020 and the future of SULS to the 2020 Executive and to you – the current members. Instead, I plan to focus on where we've been just so we can put into perspective how we got to where we are today.

Now quick disclaimer: given there has been very little research tracking the history of SULS, this recount of SULS is from anecdotal evidence of alumni, various historical prints that one can find in the Sydney Law Library, and remnants of meeting minutes from decades past that have been buried in the dust of the never-ventilated SULS office. Maybe one day someone can actually fact check these points and provide the citations needed.

A quick Google reveals that SULS was formed in 1902, some 47 years after the Sydney Law School was established. However, what is less well known is that at some point, SULS was not the student society we know today. Rather, being a student was not a prerequisite to membership. The membership of SULS used to be made of students, alumni, practitioners, and other interested persons.

This meant that the reach of SULS was far larger than SULS today. Indeed, although Law Ball (may it rest in peace for 2020) is one of SULS's largest social events of the year, it was even bigger "back in the day", where newspapers reported that the SULS law ball had thousands of attendees. Maybe that meant it was easier to get a ticket but it's almost certain that that law ball could not have been just made up of current students.

The problem with such a SULS was that although it could run flashier balls and throw around more money for large social events, it was not able to truly represent its students. This is because being a student was also not a prerequisite to being a SULS executive.

In fact, it was the Hon Michael Kirby, who once regaled some law students including me with a story about how he wrestled the SULS presidency off a practitioner to become the first elected student President. Indeed, he once told me that his crowning achievement was amending the Constitution such that you could not become a member of SULS unless you were a current student. This, he said, was the way to ensure that SULS was for the students, not for the alumni and practitioners who controlled it.

Fast forward to the 21st century, SALS continues to be and should always be a body for its students. That is the weight of responsibility that comes with election or appointment to any role within SALS. Perhaps the changes of the 21st century to the SALS Constitution (including incorporation and charity status) have not been as landmark as that of Michael Kirby. However, it's clear that the core objective is the same: to advance the education and learning experience of all students within the Sydney Law School.

Yet, it's important we shine a light on this history because it's not all positive. And it's crucial we understand the responsibility that all of us, as executives or as current members of the society, bear in being part of a society like SALS, with its capacity for significant change. Just as the Constitutional change of the Hon Michael Kirby some decades ago has impacted us as current students today, so too will the actions we take today affect future members of SALS. Advancing the education and learning experience of students within the Sydney Law School involves both current and future students.

And for some (current and future) members of our society, we continue to struggle to support them. For example, in the 118 years of SALS history, the first time an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander member of SALS graduated from this law school occurred only in the last 5 years. If SALS is going to support all students within the Sydney Law School, both present and future, then it follows that we should take steps to support both: those that do join our society, and those that *might* join our society as a future student. That, is where our presence within the broader community becomes crucially important and where our actions do fall within the core object of our society.

So even though the core objective of our society remains relatively narrow, we must never forget that the change that we create within our broader society is important for, and does align with, our core objective. I urge all of you to keep in mind the impact that decisions made today have in the future. Not only do our decisions impact our society as a whole, but also they impact the individual lives that experience SALS, the Sydney Law School, and the community it offers.

To close, remember that SALS is a student body run by students and for students. Having graduated at the end of Semester 1 this year, that does *not* include me. And as my time in the Sydney Law School has finished, maybe this is a good time to remind you all not to be beholden to the words of alumni. Don't worry – I won't be offended.

Thanks for your time today and good luck for the future.

Appendix D

IMMEDIATE PAST SECRETARY'S REPORT - 2020

Sam Goldberg – 2019 Secretary

I shall begin this report with a brief overview of the state of SULLS' administration.

For the first time, SULLS was required to submit an annual report to the Australian Charities and Not For Profits Commission (ACNC). This was successfully submitted. I would like to thank Adam Herman, our treasurer, for the phenomenal job that he did in preparing the financial materials necessary for submission, on-time and without any deficiencies.

SULLS has been chosen by the Australian Bureau of Statistics to submit four quarterly business indicators. Despite the ABS' insistence on only communicating by post, these were all submitted. Thanks again must go to Adam for his timely communication of quarterly financial statements to me whenever asked.

SULLS successfully passed multiple constitutional amendments at a Special General Meeting on 27 August 2019 and again at this meeting of 7 November 2019 without issue. In this respect it should be noted that we have maintained a strong working relationship with both the Law Faculty and the Clubs and Societies Office, allowing us to continue to receive the benefits of their events and programs. Both relationships are notable for how unremarkable they have been. Long may that continue.

SULLS ran its first contested election under the new system of Expressions of Interest, and indeed its first election since further amendments to the electoral process were passed at last year's Annual General Meeting. Credit must go to the Electoral Officer Ann Wen, who successfully kept us on a schedule which is shockingly tight and absurdly lengthy. May I take this moment to record the immense administrative effort that SULLS' convoluted new electoral system demands, in the hope that the Electoral Review Committee, which, under the Constitution, must next be convened in 2020, acts upon it. It seems unreasonable for a university society to need a 70-day electoral process, preceded by the appointment of an Electoral Officer and Electoral Legal Arbiter and followed by a Special General Meeting.

Finally, SALS incorporated this year. Credit must go to the President for pushing through the necessary amendments to the SALS Constitution. I wish the incoming Secretary the best of luck in navigating the administrative requirements that this change will demand.

I would like to thank the Executive for their timely submission of entries for the SALS Weekly each week. Despite the challenges that my irregular bedtimes, afternoon naps and poor memory threw up on occasion, each newsletter was sent out on time. I take this opportunity to note that the SALS Weekly has enjoyed a record-level of readership; indeed we hit 4000 subscribers for the first time this year. It has been a successful means of celebrating the achievements of students, as well as sharing event details and photos. The challenge remains to ensure students are aware of and subscribe to this resource, allowing the full benefit of events and opportunities publicised week in, week out.

That now said, may I take this opportunity to briefly reflect more broadly on the year that was.

SALS works best when it harnesses the diverse strengths of all its members, and indeed, all members of its Exec. Ideas should come from below, not from a pedestal erected at the tete of the society or cohort. It cannot be an oligarchy or, indeed, a dictatorship. In this respect the words of Ronald Syme, the greatest of the 20th century Roman historians, are apt: "Individuals capture attention and engross history, but the most revolutionary changes in Roman politics were the work of families..."

In this respect, certain people deserve special mention.

First, Tanvi Patel, our Campus director, for always making herself and her campus reps available to any Executive Member who wanted to get feedback from the student body, and who always sought to proactively engage all law students in the law school community. And, might I add, for genuinely looking out for the wellbeing of all law students, including that of the Executive.

Second, Charlie Ward, our Marketing Director, for single-handedly answering the queries - no matter how repetitive, drunken or inane - of anyone who cared to message the SALS Facebook page, and to go above and beyond to help them.

And third, Hannah Stilin, our Sports Director, for working so bloody hard to make sure everyone who came to sport felt welcome and had a great time, no matter their ability.

I do think that some achievements happened this year. At the start of the year, at our first formal meeting at our training/bonding weekend, we reflected on what we each wanted to leave behind for this organisation. I would like to draw attention to a couple of notes that I minuted at the time.

Shanshan Guo, our International Officer, wished to institute significant new initiatives. Amongst many other new events, she successfully executed SALS' first moot purely for international students. Big tick.

Our Competitions Directors, Kaity Crowe and Wendy Hu, wished to expand engagement. This year witnessed a Negotiations competition so oversubscribed that it will likely need to be run across both semesters next year. Big tick.

Allana Colonne, our Careers Director, stated that she'd like the Careers portfolio to move beyond the corporate. With the introduction of such initiatives as Table Talks and Public & International Law Panels, she achieved that.

I would also like to shed a momentary light on the Executive members whose work is easily hidden from the public eye. I would like to commend Adam for his willingness to pull the trigger on common sense expenditure - an iPad to process merch sales; a printer that works; and some more exciting upcoming projects which are not for me to announce. Special thanks must also go to Calida Tang, our sponsorship director, who worked tirelessly alongside Allana to maintain our relationships with our industry partners, and Maddy Antrum, our Education VP, whose influence is harder to spot but who worked very hard in the service of SULLS across the year.

I shall conclude this report with a final observation.

This year marked the 108th year of the Sydney University Law Society. In many ways, it was more significant than most, not for its achievements, but as a contemporary turning point. Much structural change has occurred over the last two years. SULLS is now incorporated; it is now a charity; it is now a member of ALSA, the Australian Law Students' Associations. At the same time, it has continued to struggle to engage the student body that it represents and serves; indeed, attendance at many of SULLS' weekly events is perhaps as low as it has ever been in recent times. SULLS has been well served by its Executive this year, and, collectively, there are things of which they can be proud. There nonetheless remains much for the incoming Exec to do. I wish them all the very best in doing it.

Sam Goldberg

Secretary

Sydney University Law Society

Appendix E

TREASURER'S REPORT - 2020

Adam Herman - 2019 Treasurer

2019 was an incredibly prosperous and productive year for SULS. I have had the pleasure as serving you on the 2019 SULS Executive as your Treasurer, and during this period the Society experienced a time of incredible expansion in terms of its core service offering to the Sydney Law Student cohort. Colleagues across all portfolios contributed an incredible amount of effort, dedication and expertise to deliver a range of never-before-seen events, initiatives and programmes ranging from the wildly successful Careers evenings; to an overall uplift in the Equity schemes made available to those who need it most - and everything in-between.

In my role I was fortunate to enable these initiatives from a financial standpoint thanks to the incredible work of our Sponsorship Director, Calida Tang, who secured one of the largest ever pool of funds from our fantastic partners and sponsors. This alone allowed us to invest more in the Society than ever before. Another key point of revenue throughout the year was our Merchandise offering, which had seen a boost in sales compared to previous years as a result of a more modern ordering and delivery proposition. The Executive also delivered a range of deepened engagements with central University and Faculty, who were gracious enough to provide additional funding for focused expenditure on intervarsity competitions and improved social experiences on-campus.

Key points of expenditure were as to be expected, the extensive suite of Socials offered by the Society - including Law Ball (the biggest it has ever been!), and First Year Law Camp. To reiterate and dispel any perceptions to the contrary, SULS did not profit from these events, and instead subsidised the expense of holding these events when developing ticket prices.

Publications was another area of significant expenditure. I would encourage Executive groups in future to consider reducing the amount of print material as preferences move to online material in the interest of convenience, environmental concerns and cost consciousness. SULS spent a significant sum on Competitions in 2019 with many intervarsity competitions being held overseas. For such trips, SULS sponsors our competitors by taking care of airfare, accommodation and registration fees - to ensure equality.

In 2019 we joined the AUstralian Law Students Association (ALSA), the peak national representative body for all law students in Australia. This incurred cost in terms of membership fees and travel expenses associated with conferences and competitions held interstate.

Given our immense level of funding in 2019, a number of items of capital expenditure were also made including a refresh to our technology assets, photography equipment and the retrofitting of an electronic swipe mechanism to the existing office door to enable greater use of the space out-of-hours.

On the whole, it has been a year of great growth and activity. I leave SULS in a healthy financial position, with over \$200,000 in savings and investments. I trust that I leave these resources in good hands.

The current Treasurer, Donna Kwon will circulate finalised financial statements for the year ending 2019 shortly.

All the best

A handwritten signature in grey ink, appearing to be 'Adam Herman', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Adam Herman
Treasurer, SULS
2019