



Minutes of Annual General Meeting

Meeting open 1.15 pm.

2021 WULSA Committee Members Present:

- Albert Lionheart
- Jordyn Coxhead
- Mirijam Mayer
- Vinod Bal
- Akasha Rio
- Patricia Alcartado
- Charlotte Mitchell
- Christopher Headey
- Reid Thomas

Apologies:

- Siobhan McDonald

Not present:

- Cathrine Grobler

Agenda

1. WULSA Report on the year
2. Treasurer report
3. Passing of previous SGM minutes
4. Election process
5. Nominations for 2022 positions
6. Constitutional amendments
7. General business

Albert starts with karakia. Set out structure of meeting.

WULSA Report on the year

- Money has been challenging this year. WULSA started with \$200 in the account this year. Important to have money to start operations early.
- IPLS and Simpson Grierson primary problems. People we were emailing had since resigned so made it hard.
- Go through report, see [report document](#).
- See notes: 9.4 Connections - Log o Wood not happening, we are very happy with WSU
- Notes on Conference - that is upcoming from the 31 August, looking forward to that and money in the budget for it.
- Speaking to roles
 - Social - Recommendation that people committing to portfolios do it. Explanation of situation Chris placed in this year as basically the sole Social Officer, Jordyn as AVP stepped in.
 - Comps - Akasha and Vinod joined to add diversity to the portfolio. Te Ao Maori presence. One main thing that should be considered is the costs of competitors, recommendation that EFTPOS card be utilised - room in constitution for this. Subway orders worked well to minimise food wastage and cost and allowed for all prelims to be on one night.
 - Acknowledge other people that come to different events from other associations. We appreciate the support.
 - Health and wellbeing - Reid explains not much happened necessarily with portfolio initiatives due to own mental health issues.
 - Albie: Health and Wellbeing events -> Board games evening, movie night, cultural lunches to touch base with other associations.
 - Acknowledge also that Reid has been valuable member of Committee, supported all events (both Comps and Social) and really been helpful. So should be commended.

Passing of Previous SGM Minutes

- AVP (Jordyn) - read through minutes of SGM on 10 December 2020. Included discussion on EFTPOS card and why not used. BNZ not helpful this year, so card not established.

Albert Lionheart moved:

- That these minutes be passed as being reflective of the SGM on 20 October 2020.
- seconded by Robert van Deventer.
- 0 abstentions. 0 opposed.
- **Motion passed.**

Treasurer’s financial report

- Mirjam outlined at start year we only had an effective \$200 operative cost..
- Difficulty with BNZ throughout year, particularly at start to gain access.
- Ball tix we are all very happy with.
- Operational costs at \$2000 we are very happy with.
- Auditing - query from member how finances are audited. Explanation that it happens through Charities Services.

WULSA Budget				
ASSETS			LIABILITIES	
Cash at hand	Amount		Accounts Payable	Amount
Accounts	\$14,663		Annual Ball (est)	\$12,500.00
			NZLSA travel reimbursements to Albie (est)	\$870.00
			Conference administrative costs (WULSA compe	\$1,000.00
			Cultural lunch x2	\$500.00
			Chapman Tripp Junior Negotiations	300
			NZLSA Annual Fees	\$1,700
			NZLSA Junior Moot	\$300
Total	\$14,663		Total	\$17,170
Accounts Receivables	Amount		Operating Expenses	Amount
W/SU Grant	\$1,150		Xero fees (Until January)	\$414
College of Law (Invoice to be sent in January)	\$2,000		Payclip (1x residual payment remaining)	\$32
NZLSA Comps refunds (est)	\$2,000			
Total	\$5,150	+	Total	\$446
Total Assets	\$19,813		Total Liabilities	\$17,616
			NET SURPLUS/DEFICIT	\$2,197

Election process

- Jordyn and Albert read through election bylaw to outline the process.

Nominations for 2022 positions

Albert calls for nominations for the 2022 WULSA Committee.

Nominations for Competitions Officers

- No nominations. No nominations from the floor, to be addressed in a SGM at a later date.

Nominations for Social Officers

- *Akasha Rio nominated: Andrew Walker. Seconded by Chris Headey.*
- *Akasha Rio nominated: Lani Waho. Seconded by Vinod Bal.*
- *Self nominated through notice prior to AGM: Sara Ahmad. Seconded by Lushomo Thebe.*
- *Akasha Rio nominated: Georjah Riley-Huaki. Seconded by Jordyn Coxhead.*

Nominations for Careers and Education Officers

- *Vinod Bal nominated: Hussain Sabori. Seconded by Akasha Rio.*
- *Mathew Harty nominated: Tefin Joseph. Seconded by Chris Headey.*
- *Self nominated through notice prior to AGM: Sara Ahmad. Seconded by Akasha Rio.*

Nominations for Public Relations Officer

- *Akasha Rio nominated: Reid McLean. Seconded by Vinod Bal.*
- *Patricia Alcartado nominated: Siobhan McDonald. Seconded by Chris Headey.*
- ~~*Charlotte Mitchell nominated: Briana McGuire. Seconded by Sam Johnston.*~~ Withdrew before election.
- *Self nominated through notice prior to AGM: Laura Swears. Seconded by Jordyn Coxhead.*

Nominations for Health and Wellbeing Officer

- *Reid McLean nominated: Rere Delamere. Seconded by Akasha Rio.*
- *Self nominated through notice prior to AGM: Laura Swears. Seconded by Patricia Alcartado.*

Nominations for Treasurer

- *Ravindi Pathirana nominated: Tefin Joseph. Seconded by Mathew Harty.*
- *Akasha Rio nominated: Mirjam Mayer. Seconded by Vinod Bal.*

Nominations for Administrative Vice-President

- *Akasha Rio nominated: Charlotte Mitchell. Seconded by Vinod Bal.*
- *Vinod Bal nominated: Hussain Sabori. Seconded by Akasha Rio.*
- *Robert van Deventer nominated: Jana Stokes. Seconded by Akasha Rio.*

Nominations for President

- *Lushomo Thebe nominated: Patricia Alcartado. Seconded by Akasha Rio.*

Constitutional Amendments

Life Membership and the Standards Committee

- Member discusses clause 6 (life members) and how it might be utilised and implemented to give life members a vote. Member suggests that past Presidents be made life members and given an ex officio membership (clause 12). They would then be able to vote and contribute to any WULSA standards committee (clause 21).
- President (*Albert*) points out that Waikato is only university to have a standards committee. Another member suggests that it is a good thing, to have a level under university level for disputes before it is escalated. Competitions Officer (*Vinod*) suggests that life membership is less meaningful for WULSA, given its nature as a student association and previous Presidents have moved on from university to full time work.
- AVP (*Jordyn*) suggests:
 - Standards Committee is ineffective, floor 3 is too small and the Committee cannot function as an independent body.
 - While Life Members are present in Constitution, does serve a purpose and having past Presidents as life members is practically ineffective, as they are already ex officio until the following term anyway.
 - Also points out that Incorporated Societies Act changes are upcoming, and major constitutional changes should be considered in light of that.
- Further discussion of ex officio and position of Dean as ex officio. President (*Albert*) points out that the Faculty does not want to have any part of decision making process, and perhaps they should be removed as ex officio and or part of Standards Committee process. Member contends that a new Dean may not have the same approach, or may change over time, and so status should be left as is.

Jordyn Coxhead moved:

- **That this discussion on Life Membership, the Standards Committee and Ex Officio Members should be tabled for the next SGM in more detail.**
- seconded by Robert van Deventer.
- 0 abstentions. 0 opposed.
- **Motion passed.**

Please note: the following amendments were discussed after the General Business section, but have been included under this heading for ease of reference.

Amendments to Competitions Policy

- Member suggests that the competition rules might be amended to incorporate FLEXI students and facilitate online competitions.
- Members agree that this is quite difficult to facilitate, and future committees should not be bound to this requirement.
- Member points out that the faculty might be moving to in-person next year and phase out Zoom engagement, making online competitions redundant.
- As well as this, AVP (*Jordyn*) points out that senior competition rules have to adhere to NZLSA requirements, junior competitions with a bit more flexibility. There's a difficulty with the relationship between us as a student organisation, the faculty and the private company of law firms.
- Member says the facilities we have at Te Piringa (eg. Moot Court) are a privilege, not a right.
- No motion passed.

ALSA inclusion

- President (*Albert*) points out that the President of the Waikato Asian Law Students Association should be included as an ex-officio member.

Albert Lionheart moved:

- **That the President of the Waikato Asian Law Students Association should be included as an ex-officio member.**
- seconded by Mathew Harty.
- 0 abstentions. 0 opposed.
- **Motion passed.**

Amendment to Tauranga election policy

- President (*Albert*) points out that the election policy technically requires a ballot box to be provided at Tauranga Campus, regardless of online voting. Suggests clause be deleted or amended.
- AVP (*Jordyn*) suggests an exclusion clause be included to prevent this requirement when online voting is in progress.

Jordyn Coxhead moved:

- **That a new 9(3) be included in the WULSA Elections Bylaw, to allow for an exception for the placement of a ballot box where online voting is in progress.**
- seconded by Rod Young.
- 0 abstentions. 0 opposed.
- **Motion passed.**

AVP role description amendment

- AVP (*Jordyn*) reaffirms that the constitutional role of AVP is lacking in rule based duties, as they are merely required to be a secretary. The role description should reflect the AVP 's role in assisting the President and taking an active leadership role.

Jordyn Coxhead moved:

- **That the role description of Administrative Vice-President be amended to include a new clause 10(2) reflecting the AVP's duty to assist the President in the carrying out of their duties.**
- seconded by Christopher Headey.
- 0 abstentions. 0 opposed.
- **Motion passed.**

General Business

Idea for a new Schedule 4 for Constitution to establish Law Student Senate

- Member suggests that a new structure be established in order to engage with Faculty. Member suggests that two members of each Law Student Association be elected as "Senators", and conduct meetings with faculty staff. Process at this stage unclear.
- Other members outline on a practical level this already happens. Presidents meet with staff already and are privy to staff discussions at the level the proposed structure suggests.

- Members also outline that structures that bind other law student associations shouldnt be included in WULSA constitution, for their own governance purposes. WULSA is not a senior association that sits on the top, they are equal entities.
- No motion passed. To be outlined by member at later date with more detail.

Albert made closing karakia.

Meeting closed at 3.45 pm.