

# **Constitution of the Auckland University Law Students' Society (Incorporated)**

Adopted: August 2021

## 1. Name

- (1) The name of the Society shall be the Auckland University Law Students' Society (Incorporated).
- 2. Interpretation
  - (1) In these Rules, unless inconsistent with the context:
    - (a) "AGM" means annual general meeting.
    - (b) "ALSA" means Australian Law Students' Association.
    - (c) "AULSS" means Auckland University Law Students' Society (Incorporated).
    - (d) "AUSA" means Auckland University Students' Association.
    - (e) "EC" means Equity Council.
    - (f) "Executive" means the Executive Committee of AULSS.
    - (g) "Faculty" means the University of Auckland Faculty of Law.
    - (h) "Law Student" means any person enrolled in a Part II, III, or IV LLB course, or an LLB (Hons) course, or an LLM, MLS, or MTS course, or a PhD in law at the University of Auckland.
    - (i) "Legal Competition" means a competition that develops, tests, or requires skills needed for legal education and includes but is not limited to:
      - (1) Client Interviewing Competitions,
      - (2) Negotiations Competitions,
      - (3) Mooting Competitions,
      - (4) Witness Examination Competitions, and
      - (5) Sentencing Competitions.
    - (j) "Member" means, unless another class of membership is specified, or unless context otherwise requires, a full member of AULSS.
    - (k) "Member of the Executive" means a member of the Executive stated in (f).
    - (1) "NZLSA" means New Zealand Law Students' Association.
    - (m) "PILSA" means Pacific Island Law Students' Association.
    - (n) "SGM" means special general meeting.
    - (o) "Society" means Auckland University Law Student's Society (Incorporated).
    - (p) "Student" includes "undergraduate, postgraduate, doctoral, and international students of the University of Auckland.
    - (q) "Term" means the term of the Executive as defined by Rule '22'.
    - (r) "TRT" means Te Rākau Ture Māori Law Students' Association.

## Part One – Objectives, Purposes and Aims

# 3. Objectives

- (1) There shall continue to be a society known as the Auckland University Law Students' Society ("AULSS").
- (2) AULSS may not operate to make a profit for distribution to its members.
- 4. Purpose and aims
  - (1) The purpose of AULSS is to promote the general welfare of law students studying at the University of Auckland.
  - (2) To achieve this purpose, AULSS aims to
    - (a) actively honour the principles of the te Tiriti o Waitangi and the Treaty of Waitangi and uphold the mana and rangatiratanga of Māori throughout the operation of AULSS;

- (b) assist the discussion of issues that relate to law students in conjunction with the Equity Council;
- (c) provide representatives on the Equity Council for the purposes of advocacy issues affecting students' legal education;
- (d) further the cultural, sporting, and social interests of law students;
- (e) promote and provide opportunities for law students to enhance their legal education and careers;
- (f) provide and promote activities for the benefit and enjoyment of law students;
- (g) maintain and build a relationship with TRT and PILSA, and;
- (h) provide legal competitions for law students to compete in for the purpose of enhancing their legal skills.
- 5. Membership
  - (1) There will be three classes of membership of AULSS, namely;
    - (a) full membership;
    - (b) partial membership; and
    - (c) life membership.
  - (2) Any Law Student may become a full member of the Society by paying the annual subscription fee for full members that year.
  - (3) Any student may become a partial member for purposes set by the Executive.
  - (4) The annual subscription fee for each class of membership shall be set by the Executive. In establishing these fees, the Executive shall have regard to the comparative rights and benefits of each class of membership. The annual subscription fee established in respect of partial members may not exceed that established in respect of full members.
  - (5) The Executive may, in its discretion, limit access to activities, events, opportunities, goods, services provided or organised by the Society to certain classes of members.
  - (6) Only full members of the Society may speak, move, and vote at General Meetings of the Society and serve as a member of the Executive.
  - (7) Life members may exercise any right or privilege afforded to full members under this Constitution, except serving as a member of the Society Executive.
  - (8) The Executive may, by resolution to that effect carried by two-thirds of all members of the Executive and having obtained that person's consent, designate any person a life member of the Society who:
    - (a) as a member of the Executive, discharged their duties with outstanding diligence throughout their term; or
    - (b) as a member of the Society, made a lasting and important contribution to the betterment of students' wellbeing and or experience of law school; or
    - (c) as a member of the Society, has brought prestige or acclaim to AULSS or the University of Auckland Law School; or
    - (d) being a former Law Student has obtained considerable professional success, whose appointment as a life member will enhance the prestige of the Society.
- 6. Ceasing membership
  - (1) Full and partial membership is annual and terminates on March 15 in the year after a person becomes a member, unless the person becomes a member for the succeeding year by paying the appropriate annual subscription fee and fulfilling the eligibility requirements of a Member in Rule 5.

- (2) Members of the Executive shall be full members of the Society from the time they assume office until March 15 in the year after they leave office, provided they are otherwise eligible for full membership throughout that period and are not required to pay an annual subscription fee during that period.
- (3) Membership will cease upon death or upon receipt by the Executive of written notification they wish membership to cease.
- (4) No refunds of subscription fees are to be given for cessation of membership.
- 7. Common seal
  - (1) The Executive shall provide a common seal for the Society and may from time to time replace it with a new one.
  - (2) The Secretary shall have custody of the common seal, which shall only be used by the authority of the Executive. Every document to which the common seal is affixed shall be signed by the President and countersigned by the Secretary or a member of the Executive.

## Part Two – The Executive

- 8. The Executive
  - (1) The Executive shall consist of
    - (a) The President;
    - (b) The Administration Vice President
    - (c) Two Education Vice Presidents;
    - (d) The Secretary;
    - (e) Two Treasurers;
    - (f) Two Social Officers;
    - (g) Two Competitions Officers;
    - (h) Two Media Officers;
    - (i) Two Sports Officers;
  - (2) The Quorum of the Executive shall be eight Executive members.
- 9. Role of the Executive
  - (1) The Executive is responsible for conducting the day-to-day business of the Society in accordance with its purpose
  - (2) The Executive, as representatives of AULSS, aim to build and maintain relationships with people and organisations that associate with AULSS.
  - (3) The Executive must make responsible financial decisions.
  - (4) All members of the Executive are to assist in making events and activities organised by AULSS successful.
  - (5) All members of the Executive are to assist in communicating the knowledge gained in their position to the succeeding Executive by way of a written report.
  - (6) The Executive has the ability to spend money as appropriate to carry out its activities.
  - (7) The individual roles of the Executive within this Constitution shall in no way limit the duties and responsibilities of each Executive Member.
  - (8) The Executive is required to perform due diligence when deciding whether \to engage with partners and sponsors.

- 10. Relationship with the Equity Council.
  - (1) AULSS is a sitting member of the Equity Council.
  - (2) The Executive shall be responsible for maintaining and building a strong relationship with the Equity Council.
  - (3) The Executive shall consult the Equity Council when making decisions that may adversely affect the interests of the Equity Council.
  - (4) Members of the Executive may only advocate for issues regarding students in conjunction with the Equity Council.
  - (5) The Executive shall endeavour to provide two representatives at each Equity Council meeting.
  - (6) The Executive shall reasonably assist the Equity Council groups Executives where reasonably necessary.
  - (7) Any decision to cease or alter the relationship with the Equity Council can only be made at an AGM or SGM with a two-thirds majority vote.
- 11. Decisions made by AULSS
  - (1) AULSS recognises the Treaty of Waitangi (the Treaty) and Te Tiriti o Waitangi (te Tiriti) as the founding documents of New Zealand. AULSS shall give effect to the principles of the Treaty and te Tiriti when making decisions to the best of its abilities. The common principles of the Treaty and te Tiriti will act as guiding principles for the decisions made by the Executive.
  - (2) Decisions made for the normal functioning of each Executive position may be made by the holder of that portfolio.
  - (3) If a portfolio is unable to make a decision, the decision must be brought to the Executive to be determined by a majority vote of the entire Executive and in accordance with Rule 10.
  - (4) Decisions of notable student interest that are expected to adversely affect student welfare must be done by a majority vote of the entire Executive and in accordance with Rule 10.
  - (5) The Executive may also, at their discretion and by majority vote, call for a binding referendum.
    - (a) All Law Students shall be eligible to vote in a referendum.
- 12. Relationship with NZLSA
  - (1) AULSS is a voting member of NZLSA
  - (2) Any decisions to cease or alter the relationship with NZLSA can only be made at an AGM or SGM with a two-thirds majority vote.
- 13. Role of the President
  - (1) The President shall
    - (a) represent the Society in its official capacity at all functions and meetings, or send a representative on their behalf;
    - (b) co-ordinate the functions, duties, and powers of the Society and lead the Executive;
    - (c) be responsible for overseeing the Executive as a whole and the activities of AULSS;
    - (d) organise, preside over, and chair meetings and elections of the Society;
    - (e) ensure equal opportunities are promoted for all Members and the wider student body;
    - (f) apply for sponsorship on behalf of the Society and its events;

- (g) support and maintain relationships with other student groups within the Faculty; and
- (h) build and maintain relationships with key stakeholders including but not limited to NZLSA, AUSA, PILSA, TRT, the EC, and the Faculty.
- 14. Role of the Administration Vice President
  - (1) The Administration Vice President Shall
    - (a) assist the President in the performance of their role;
    - (b) perform the role of President when the President is unable to do so;
    - (c) chair meetings of the Executive when the President is absent;
    - (d) organise and apply for sponsorship for the Society and its events in conjunction with the President;
    - (e) receive and take responsibility for managing any complaint made by a Member about AULSS;
    - (f) in conjunction with the President, be responsible for overseeing the Executive as a whole and the activities of AULSS; and
    - (g) assisting in organising the annual AULSS ball.
    - (h)
- 15. Role of the Secretary
  - (1) The Secretary shall
    - (a) facilitate communication between the Society and its members and the Society and Faculty, where appropriate;
    - (b) organise meetings and notify the Executive and Equity Officers of the Society's meetings;
    - (c) maintain the minutes of all meetings of the Society and record attendance;
    - (d) make the minutes available to all the Executive at the earliest convenient time;
    - (e) make the minutes available upon request, where appropriate;
    - (f) organise and give notice of elections as provided for in this Constitution; and
    - (g) invite, accept, and give public notice of all valid nominations for positions detailed in this Constitution and all proper requests for meets and motions such as required by this Constitution.
    - (h) The Secretary is responsible for maintaining a record of those who have violated the zero-tolerance policy and taking reasonable steps to ensure that it is abided by.
- 16. Role of the Treasurers
  - (1) The Treasurers shall
    - (a) keep the books of account and other such records necessary for the accurate preparation of financial statements;
    - (b) responsibly manage and account for the funds of AULSS;
    - (c) ensure that all monies received by or on behalf of the Society and promptly banked in any account authorised by the Executive;
    - (d) present financial statements for adoption at the AGM;
    - (e) approve a budget of revenues and costs before any events run by the Society take place to ensure that such events are run in a prudent manner;
    - (f) comply with any requirements of any external stakeholders; and
    - (g) promptly file financial statements and associated documents with the Companies Office and Charities Office.
- 17. Role of the Education Vice Presidents

- (1) The Education Vice Presidents shall
  - (a) represent the Society at Faculty and University level meetings in compliance with Rule 10;
  - (b) organise and implement a mentoring programme between students;
  - (c) organise and implement recruitment events at appropriate times of the year;
  - (d) organise and implement study workshops for law assessments at appropriate times of the year;
  - (e) maintain a welfare-based presence in the Law School with a particular focus on the awareness of mental health; and
  - (f) maintain an effective relationship and liaise with those in other organisations that hold similar positions, including but not limited to the EC, TRT, PILSA, NZLSA.
  - (g) Assist AUSA and the Faculty in the coordination, training, and dissemination of information to class representatives.
- 18. Role of the Competitions Officers
  - (1) The Competitions Officers shall
    - (a) promote and provide opportunities for all Members of AULSS to enter and compete in legal competitions at Auckland Law School
    - (b) co-ordinate, publicise, and administer competitions, working with law firms, students, and the Faculty to ensure that such events run effectively;
    - (c) liaise with NZLSA and ALSA and other such national and international law organisations to provide opportunities for the winners of the competitions they organise to represent Auckland Law School either nationally and/or internationally; and
    - (d) maintain an effective relationship and liaise with the NZLSA Competitions Vice President.
  - (2) The Competitions Officers shall not be permitted to enter any competitions that they assist in organising.
  - (3) The Competitions Officers shall ensure that no other members of the Executive have access to any confidential information regarding competitions.
- 19. Role of the Social Officers
  - (1) The Social Officers shall
    - (a) organise, publicise, and run the social events of the Society as may be determined from time to time by the Executive including but not limited to Law Steins;
    - (b) assist in organising the annual ball;
    - (c) when running events aimed at AULSS members act with a primary purpose of fulfilling the social needs of law students; and
    - (d) when running events open to non-members, act with the primary purpose of generating revenue for the Society to be put towards future events that may benefit law students.
- 20. Role of the Sports Officers
  - (1) The Sports Officers shall
    - (a) organise, publicise, and run the sporting events of the Society as determined by the Executive. The events include but are not limited to the Log O' Wood exchange with the University of Waikato, a Law School team for Round the Bays and the ELM Games; and

- (b) take responsibility for the publicity, advocacy and managing of teams from the Faculty of Law for the University of Auckland Interfaculty Sporting Tournaments.
- 21. Role of the Media Officers
  - (1) The Media Officers shall
    - (a) organise and produce the publications of AULSS, including but not limited to a law school magazine;
    - (b) take all reasonable steps to ensure that production costs of the publication are met by advertising and sponsorship revenue;
    - (c) produce as many issues of the law school magazine as deemed appropriate by agreement between the Media Officer(s) and the Executive.
    - (d) maintain and update the Society's website;
    - (e) be responsible for promoting AULSS events and general communication between AULSS and its Members through avenues which could include but are not limited to email, social media, and posters; and
    - (f) send an issue of all significant publications to the Equity Officers for approval before publishing.
- 22. Eligibility of persons to be a member of the Executive
  - (1) Members of the Executive are elected by members of AULSS current law students studying any law paper above Part I.
  - (2) Members running for election must confirm they will be available and studying at the Faculty of Law for the entirety of their proposed term.
- 23. Term of the Executive
  - (1) Each term of the Executive commences on the first day of October and ends on the last day of September of the following year.
  - (2) Notwithstanding (1), Executive members may be required to perform additional duties outside of their official term of office.
  - (3) This date may be amended by mutual agreement between the President and incoming President each year.
  - (4) Persons elected to be members of the Executive are automatically members of AULSS for the following year.
  - (5) All members of the previous Executive are responsible for handing over email addresses and office keys at the completion of their office.
  - (6) All members of the previous Executive are responsible for ensuring a comprehensive handover and shall act in good faith with the new Executive when handing over their office.
- 24. Meetings of the Executive
  - (1) Meetings of the Executive shall be called at any time at the discretion of the President or Administration Vice President.
  - (2) At least 24 hours notice shall be given before any meeting takes place.
  - (3) The President or Administration Vice President shall chair the meeting.
  - (4) The Secretary shall take minutes of the meeting, or another member of the Executive shall do so in their absence.
  - (5) Minutes of the Executive must be made available to any member of the Society on request.

- (6) Decisions of the Executive, as a whole, shall be passed by a majority at meetings of the Executive by formal motion.
- (7) Nothing in this clause prevents the decisions being made by the Executive such as but not limited to online or prevents individual portfolio decisions being made in accordance with Rule 11.
- (8) The Equity Officers shall be invited to every meeting of the Society.
- (9) The Presidents are required to give notice to the Executive and Equity Officers of the date, time, and location of the meeting no less than 24 hours in advance.
- 25. Members of the Executive ceasing to hold office and replacement
  - (1) A member of Executive ceases to hold office
    - (a) if they are no longer enrolled in law courses at the University of Auckland in a semester which they are on the Executive;
    - (b) if the President receives written notification that they no longer wish to be a member of the Executive.
      - (1) If the President resigns, notice should be received by the Administration Vice President.
    - (c) if the Executive passes a motion to dismiss a member due to absence, repeated misconduct or poor performance following verbal and written warnings and communication between the President and Executive Member so far as practicable; and
    - (d) in the case of other exceptional circumstances such as death or injury.
    - (e) If a member of the Executive is found to be in breach of the Zero Tolerance Policy in Part 7 of this Constitution, they will be removed from office immediately, and the Executive shall act in accordance with Rule 24(4).
  - (2) The Executive shall be responsible for performing the duties of every vacant office.
  - (3) If a President ceases to hold office, the Administration Vice President shall take over all functions of the President in the interim.
  - (4) If a member of the Executive ceases to be a member, the Executive must within 28 days take steps to find a suitable replacement for that Member or that Member's workload, either by SGM, internal appointment or redistribution of workload as the Executive sees fit.
  - (5) The Executive must take into account the remaining time in the Member's term in office, the resulting burden on the portfolio or other Executive members if not replaced, the ease (or difficulty) in holding an SGM and fairness or otherwise of an appointment.
  - (6) In the case of appointment, unsuccessful candidates who ran at the previous AULSS elections should be favoured unless there are strong reasons otherwise.

# Part Three – The Equity Officers and Equity Council

- 26. Role of the Equity Officer
  - Recognising the origins of the Equity Council and the Equity Officer(s) in AULSS initiatives, and in accordance with AULSS' commitment to promoting the furtherance of equity causes and the resolution of equity concerns at the Auckland Law School; AULSS
    - (a) recognises the Equity Council and the Equity Officer(s) appointed by that Council as an important voice of student equity concerns at the Auckland Law School; and

- (b) commits to dealing with the Equity Council and Equity Officer(s) in good faith, aiming to build a constructive, open, communicative, and transparent relationship to advance equity concerns.
- 27. The AULSS Executive will, in decision making
  - (1) consider the views of the Equity Officer(s) regarding the likely impact of those decisions on groups of equity concern;
  - (2) in accordance with Rule 10, shall accommodate the views of the Equity Council and work in conjunction with the Equity Council to address equity concerns when carrying out the Society's affairs.

## Part Four - Finance

#### 28. Finances

- (1) The Executive has the power to invest, save, spend, borrow, and lend.
  - (a) Funds and the power to purchase, rent, borrow or lend assets on behalf of AULSS.
  - (b) There shall be three signatories to all AULSS accounts.
  - (c) The signatories to the accounts shall be the President and the two Treasurers.
  - (d) The Administration Vice President will be the signatory in the case of absence of either Treasurer.
  - (e) No spending will be authorised without the approval of two signatories.
  - (f) Transfers of funds between the various AULSS accounts must be approved by at least two signatories.
  - (g) The AULSS EFTPOS card is only to be used with the permission of at least two signatories.
- 29. Pecuniary gain
  - (1) Members of the Executive may not make a pecuniary gain from AULSS.
  - (2) Pecuniary gain does not include reimbursement for expenses incurred personally or reasonably payment for goods or services rendered.
  - (3) For the avoidance of doubt, pecuniary gain does not include receiving free or discounted admission to events organised by AULSS.

## Part Five – AGM and SGMs

- 30. Requirements for AGM and SGMs
  - (1) The Secretary shall give no less than seven (7) days Public Notice of the AGM and SGM starting date, time, venue, and order of business.
  - (2) All Members present shall be entitled to one vote.
  - (3) The President shall chair the AGM, and any SGM and the Secretary shall take minutes.
  - (4) The quorum of the AGM or SGM shall be forty-five (45) members.

## 31. AGM

- (1) The Executive must call an AGM once every year in Semester Two.
- (2) At the AGM, the President shall propose a motion in the minutes of the last AGM to be adopted; and
- (3) The President shall present a report of the operations of AULSS during the current term; and

- (4) The President shall announce the results of the election to the Executive of the Society.
- (5) At the AGM, the Treasurers shall present for acceptance the financial accounts of the Society.

## 32. SGM

- (1) The Executive may call an SGM at their discretion.
- (2) The Executive must call an SGM within 21 days when it receives a written request to call an SGM by at least 30 members.
- (3) All motions shall be given by the Secretary in the Public Notice of the SGM.
- (4) Any Member may propose a relevant variation of the motion by notice to the Secretary no less than two days before the SGM.
- (5) At the SGM, the President will call for and explain motions.

# Part Six - Elections

## 33. Elections

- (1) Elections must be held in the first half of Semester Two preceding the year the Executive is to hold office.
- (2) Subject to Rule 33(4), between one and three suitably qualified persons (whether or not members of the Executive or Society) appointed by the Executive will preside over the elections as Returning Officers.
- (3) Subject to Rule 33(4), the Executive must appoint Returning Officers for each election no later than one week prior to the date on which nominations are open.
- (4) For the purposes of this Rule, a person is suitably qualified to serve as a returning officer if they do not intend to be a candidate in that election and either;
  - (a) in the opinion of the Executive, their characteristics render them an appropriate Returning Officer; or
  - (b) they are a life member of the Society.
  - (c) The Returning Officers will act by consensus in discharging their functions or, failing consensus, by majority vote.
  - (d) Returning Officers must remain strictly impartial as between candidates and may not cast a vote in the election.
  - (e) No member of the Executive intending to seek election to the Executive in an election may participate in the appointment of a Returning Officer under this Rule for that election. Any member of the Executive who participates in appointing a Returning Officer for an election is ineligible for nomination in that election.
  - (f) It is the responsibility of the Returning Officers to advertise the nominations and election as widely and reasonably as appropriate.
  - (g) Only members of the current year are eligible for nomination the following year.
- (5) Nothing in this Constitution prevents an eligible student from becoming a member for the purpose of voting.
- (6) Nothing in this Constitution prevents an eligible student from becoming a member for the purpose of being nominated for elections apart from the following prerequisite for the position of Treasurer.
- (7) In order to be eligible for nomination to the AULSS Executive position of Treasurer, each nominee must:

- (a) Have completed Year 12 or Year 13 Accounting at a secondary school; or
- (b) Have completed two stage one accounting papers at a tertiary institution; or
- (c) Have signed an undertaking to complete a Xero Accounting Software Course; or
- (d) Have either:
  - (1) completed or signed an undertaking to complete any equivalent training; or
  - (2) possess a level of financial knowledge that the returning officers, in conjunction with the outgoing Treasurers deem suitable.
- (8) In the event that there are no eligible nominees by Thursday midnight, the returning officers may use their discretion to waive the prerequisite requirement for one nominee, provided that their fellow nominee meets the prerequisite.

## 34. Nominations

- (1) The Society shall open nominations on the Monday prior to the week of voting.
- (2) Nominations shall close no later than Friday midday the week prior to voting.
- (3) Nominations for the Executive must be made individually.
- (4) Every nomination for any office must be in writing and shall include:
  - (a) the office for which the nomination is made;
    - (b) the signature of the nominees; and
    - (c) the signature of a nominator and a seconder who must both be eligible to be Full Members.
- (5) No person shall be nominated for more than one office.
- (6) No person shall be nominated for office who will not be enrolled in classes at the University for the whole term of office.
- (7) Nominations may be refused by the Secretary for reasons of eligibility, with the Executive having final discretion.
- (8) Once nominations have closed, the Secretary shall publicly advertise a list of nominees as appropriate.
- (9) Withdrawals of nomination must be made in writing to the Secretary.

## 35. Election procedure

- (1) Only full members and persons for full membership of the Society are eligible to vote in elections.
- (2) No campaigning shall be allowed until nominations have closed.
- (3) Voting shall be permitted either in person with the use of paper ballots, electronically using equivalent electronic documents on a suitable computer system, or by a combination of the two.
  - (a) The Returning Officers shall determine the means by which voting will be permitted each year and the voting period. The whole of the voting period must fall on weekdays during ordinary semester time.
  - (b) The Returning Officers will give public notice of when and how eligible voters may vote no later than the last day on which nominations may be received.
  - (c) Where voting is permitted in person, voting shall take place at the law school on three consecutive days for at least three hours each polling day.
  - (d) Where both voting in person and electronic voting is permitted, electronic voting shall commence no earlier and end no later than the earliest and latest

time at which voting in person is permitted and will be permitted continuously throughout this period.

- (e) Where only electronic voting is permitted, voting shall be permitted for a single continuous period of no less than 48 and no more than 72 hours.
- (f) No eligible voter shall be denied the right to vote in an election solely for the reason that they are abroad during the time of elections, and where voting is permitted only in person, the Returning Officers must make a special accommodation to ensure those members are able to cast a ballot. Not late ballots will be accepted by reason of this provision.
- (4) The Returning Officer shall provide a ballot paper or, in the case of electronic voting, equivalent electronic document" in each place that they appear.
- (5) For each office, the ballot paper shall contain:
  - (a) a list of all valid nominations in alphabetical order; and
  - (b) a category of "no confidence"; and
  - (c) a category of "no vote".
- (6) Every Member shall be entitled to exercise one vote only for each position by indicating their vote on the ballot paper provided.
- (7) Should the "no confidence" category receive the greatest number of votes for a position, no one shall be elected to that position.
- (8) The Returning Officers shall publicly advertise the names and results of the election for each position.
- (9) Where an election for one or more positions results in a tie between the two or more candidates or groups of candidates receiving the greatest number of votes, the following procedure will apply:
  - (a) the returning officers shall immediately conduct a recount of the votes cast for any positions that appear tied;
  - (b) where the outcome of any election still remains tied following such recount and verification, the returning officers must then call a second election which, as far as reasonably possible, follows the requirements of Rule 35.
    - (1) For the avoidance of doubt, the Returning Officers have the discretion to shorten the period of time that nominations and campaign periods are open.
    - (2) The Returning Officers do not have the discretion to vary the duration of time for which voting is open as stipulated in Rule 35(1)(e).
- (10) In the event that an office has failed to garner any eligible nominations, the returning officers must then call a second election which, as far as reasonably possible, follows the requirements of Rule 34.
  - (1) For the avoidance of doubt, the Returning Officers have the discretion to shorten the period of time that nominations and campaign periods are open.
  - (2) The Returning Officers do not have the discretion to vary the duration of time for which voting is open as stipulated in Rule 34(e).

# Part Seven – Zero Tolerance Policy

- 36. Zero Tolerance Policy
  - (1) AULSS holds zero tolerance for any acts or omissions that result in;
    - (a) all forms of heterosexism, cissexism, racism, sexism, prejudice and any grounds outlined under the Human Rights Act 1993; or
    - (b) abuse, violence, or harassment against any other person; or

- (c) bullying; including all forms of physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual, by any means including online; or
- (d) theft, dishonesty, or corruption by any person; or
- (e) violation of personal or academic privacy; or
- (f) wilful or reckless damage to AULSS property or persons and gross negligence of any person that causes damage to any property or persons; or
- (g) direct or indirect academic dishonesty and/or cheating in any Academic institution.
- (h) This list is non-exhaustive.
- 37. An AULSS member may have their membership revoked or be barred from membership and be denied participation at AULSS events if that eligible Member has breached the AULSS Zero Tolerance Policy.
- 38. The Equity Officers have the right to determine, by their own processes, whether a person has breached the Zero Tolerance Policy.
- 39. If any member of the Executive receives a complaint about a member or eligible Member, they must forward that complaint to the Equity Officers as soon as reasonably possible.
- 40. The Equity Officers, following their own processes, reserve the right to alter their determination of whether a member or eligible Member was in breach of a Zero Tolerance Policy.
- 41. The Equity Officers may consider breaches of this policy before the adoption of the Zero Tolerance Policy.
- 42. The Secretary is responsible for maintaining a record of those who have violated the zero-tolerance policy and taking reasonable steps to ensure that it is abided by.

# Part Eight – Constitution and other provisions

## 43. Constitution

- (1) The whole or any part of this Constitution may be altered, added to, or rescinded by passing a motion to that effect by a two-thirds majority at an SGM called for that effect, or at the AGM.
- (2) The Executive may
  - (a) correct any typographic errors in this Constitution by passing a motion with that effect carried by two-thirds of all members of the Executive.
  - (b) Amendments made under this Rule may only seek to clarify, rather than alter, the meaning of this Constitution.
  - (c) Where the Executive passes a motion under this Rule, the Secretary must promptly give members notice of the wording of that motion.
  - (d) These amendments will take effect seven days after the Executive passes that motion unless, during that period, any twenty (20) members of the Society deliver to the Secretary written notice stating that they consider the Executive has improperly used its powers under this Rule.
  - (e) Where notice is properly delivered under this sub-rule, the Secretary must, as soon as is practicable, convene an SGM in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution to consider whether the amendments to the Constitution made by the Executive should be adopted.
  - (f) This SGM will proceed as would any other SGM convened to consider amendments to this Constitution.

## 44. Dissolution

- (1) The Society may be wound up by passing a motion to the effect by a two-thirds majority at an SGM called for that effect or at the AGM.
- (2) When such a motion as described in Rule 44(1) is passed, the Society shall be wound up, and all surplus assets after payment of the costs of winding up debts and liabilities of the Society shall be held on Trust by the Faculty or any similar student body or organisation.
- (3) Any student body or organisation in Rule 44(2) must
  - (a) be formed for the benefit of all Law Students enrolled at the Faculty;
  - (b) operate exclusively for charitable purposes; and
  - (c) have rules prohibiting the distribution of its assets and funds amongst its members.
- 45. Transitional provisions
  - (1) This Constitution is effective immediately once it has been registered with the Societies Office following the passing of a motion at an SGM in Semester 2 in 2021.
  - (2) All Executive Members elected at the 2021 AGM and SGM will operate under the new Constitution effective immediately.
  - (3) All previous Constitutions of the Society shall become null and void.
  - (4) Notwithstanding the implementation of the Constitution, all existing rights and obligations of the Society shall continue.
  - (5) All actions of the 2014 Executive and all past executives shall be validated unconditionally by acceptance of this Constitution.