

I, André Hoogenboezem, President of the Murdoch Student Law Society, submit the attached as my Executive Committee Report.

Introduction

This is the executive report for the President of the Murdoch Student Law Society and is written by André Hoogenboezem. It will act as a report and review of this term within the society and should aid future committee's improve and develop the society.

Initial Sponsorship Period

The Sponsorship period went generally well.

The feedback from firms on providing them a prospectus as early as I did (early December) was entirely positive and really appreciated. I recommend the following committees do the same, as it gives you and the firms as much time as possible during the break. It will also give the President a break in the sponsorship period, as there will be a latency period between giving firms the prospectus in December and then returning to discuss sponsorship in January.

There were items from a previous year that were not evidenced to firms as being complete however. This was simply corrected by giving the firm the same product this year for free. Ultimately, this is not ideal and should not happen. However, there can be unforeseen circumstances and oversights that cause such a thing to happen. I recommend that the next committee do as I did if such problems arise. Firms are generally accepting of mistakes and are accommodating.

External Relations

The External Relations of the society are well.

We have a working and known relationship with WAJA which provides exposure among other benefits to both our organisations. I recommend that this working relationship continue in the future as it serves the interests of our stakeholders.

Our relations with other law societies in Perth are well. I recommend that the new President meet with the other society's President to cultivate a closer relationship, as we did not do that this year. The introduction of the inter-varsity moot is a welcome addition to this relationship and will aid in the relations between the Law School Societies. I would recommend continuing that moot indefinitely but this is ultimately a decision for the Competitions Vice-Presidents.

Our relationship with ALSA is good. However, the experience of the ALSA Delegates and Competitors in the conference was subpar and I recommend that if the experience of next year's committee is similar, the usefulness of actually going to the conference should be questioned.

Law School and University Relations

Our relationship with the Law School is good. We have not experienced any problems within the last year with the Law School as an institution nor the staff. We believe that the changes being made to change and improve the law school should continue unhindered and we fully support the restructuring of the law school. Sonia has been an incredible aid to the society and has proven an invaluable resource to us and the students.

Our relationship with the Murdoch University Guild is non-existent. We attempted to obtain exemptions regarding affiliation requirements and the Guild has never followed up on it. We are not Guild affiliated anymore and we need to consider this in the future. If the Guild chooses to ignore our efforts to contact them and to become affiliated, should next year's committee choose to, then this will have to be the new reality of the society. I conclude that, as an institution, the Murdoch University Guild is not supportive of student societies on campus.

Membership and Engagement Review

Our engagement problems, similarly experienced by the University widely, continues. It is difficult to engage students and keep them interested in on-campus events with the accommodations made due to COVID-19. However, these issues are not going to continue and the situation is improving. We have more members this year than last year. With more classing being taken within the law school building itself next year and with the change back to 100% in-person learning (or as much as possible) will continue to improve the engagement we have.

Internal Committee Relations

Internal Committee relations have been improving over the past few years. We do not experience similar problems to those encountered by the committee 3 or 4 years ago and should this continue, the society will be in a better position than ever before.

There were not any major disruptions throughout this year by Executive Committee members leaving and this had a significant impact on cultivating positive internal committee relations.

The active effort put in by this committee and the committees of the last 2 years have significantly improved the position of the society and its ability to serve the students of Murdoch University. This society is drastically different from how it was in 2019 and earlier, all for the better. If the active efforts to improve the society continue it will be, by a very large margin, the best student organisation on campus.

Schedule 1: Responsibilities of the President

It is the responsibility of the President to:

- oversee the activities of the the Society;
- assist in coordinating and facilitating all endeavours, events and projects of the Society;
- preside over all meetings of the Society as Chairperson, unless otherwise specified or delegated;
- resolve minor grievances within the Committee, as detailed in Part 17 of these rules;
- authorise the appropriation of the Society's funds;
- sit as a member of the ALSA;
- liaise with the School of Law staff as needed;
- obtain, encourage and expand sponsorship opportunities for the Society;
- represent the interests of all School of Law students in matters pertaining to the objectives of the Society;
- actively encourage feedback from all Members on the performance of the Society and any improvements that can be implemented;
- nominate a Vice-President of the Society to represent the President and act on their behalf should the President be unable to fulfil his duties relating to a particular event, function or project; and
- authorise transactions less than and including \$AUD1,000.

It is the responsibility of the President, as a member of the Executive Committee, to:

- proactively provide leadership and guidance to the Executive Committee, Committee and Sub-Committee;
- ensure that every Committee Member understands the expectations of their position, the objectives of the position and the objectives of the Society, whether outlined formally in this Constitution or informally in any other guidelines publicly published by the Society;
- represent the interests of the relevant Executive portfolio, Committee members and students;

- oversee the activities of the relevant Executive portfolio and delegate responsibility to the relevant Committee Member;
- assist the Committee in all endeavours, events and projects where appropriate; and
- work one (1) weekly shift in the Café of the Society in accordance with the appropriate By-law.

It is the responsibility of the President, under the by-laws in effect as at 20 July 2021, to:

- receive complaints relating to elections; and
- recognise proxy votes at Meetings.
- assess notices of intent to take a brief absence;
- assess extraneous circumstances pertaining to Committee Member leave; and
- notifying the Committee of any approved leave.