

MONASH LAW GUIDE



2020

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DEAN'S FOREWORD

I am delighted to welcome all of our new students and their families to our community here at the Monash University Faculty of Law. You are joining a world-class law school with a proud history and demonstrated record of academic excellence. We educate lawyers for careers across the globe and undertake research that makes a difference domestically and abroad.

Our aim is to become a leading international, clinical, and technologically enabled law school in our region of the world. We operate from seven locations across two hemispheres and three continents, with our main Clayton campus and CBD premises, involvement in two community legal centres and a CBD clinical facility, and two overseas campuses in Prato and Kuala Lumpur.

As Dean of the Faculty of Law, I am enthusiastic about commencing this journey with you in your first year of study in law. Your place in the Bachelor of Laws (LLB) Honours degree reflects your hard work at school or other university studies to this point. It is also a testament to the tremendous support that you have received from your family, friends, and others who have supported you in reaching this point. We are confident that you will find academic and professional staff in our Faculty who are just as committed to your legal education, personal welfare, professional development, and university experience as you are.

A law degree with good results and other transferable skills from your time at a top law school opens the door to many different career possibilities, within all arms of the legal profession as well as encompassing careers in government, business, and civil society, in Australia and across the globe. In a changing landscape for graduate career opportunities, especially in the legal services sector, the skills you learn and the

opportunities you pursue, both inside and outside the classroom, all have a crucial impact in positioning you to have the best career options available to you when you graduate.

You will find the transition into law from your previous studies challenging on many levels, whether you are coming to us straight from school, another course here at Monash University, or even another institution. You will need to learn the concepts, language, and practice of law and justice, as well as their ethical, institutional, and social dimensions. You will need to develop skills of legal literacy, analysis, research, and advocacy.

Finally, you will need to develop skills that are as necessary for university study as they are for life-long careers, such as electronic and print-based research skills, time and project management, communication and writing skills, and interpersonal skills such as teamwork. The resources available to you throughout your law studies at Monash are extensive, and will ensure you feel supported and confident as you tackle these challenges. In all of this you will have the tremendous support of the Monash Law Students' Society (LSS) behind you throughout your law degree. It is one of the largest and most active law student societies in Australia. The Faculty of Law supports and works closely with the LSS, providing a wide variety of academic, social, and career-oriented events for students.

In the end, you will make lifelong friendships and emerge with a qualification that you can use in a wide variety of legal and other careers in government, law, business, and the community at large. We hope that you will become a part of the ever-growing alumni of the Faculty of Law, who now occupy some of the most prominent positions amongst the judiciary, bar, law firms,

DEAN'S FOREWORD

and other occupations in Victoria, Australia, and across the globe. As the Faculty of Law celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2014, we are mindful of the living chain of past and present students, staff, and friends of the Faculty, whom you now join in the next phase of your and this Faculty's exciting future together in our 56th anniversary year.

Throughout your degree, you will have tremendous educational and lifetime opportunities both locally and across the international network of Monash University campuses and partner universities. Law students have the opportunity to study at Prato in Italy and Sunway in Malaysia, or to undertake student exchanges and visits to many other leading universities overseas. We send students annually to national and international student mooting and similar competitions, all of whom benefit from what is now available to them in our new state-of-the-art multi-functional Moot Court and various LSS student competitions.

Our Clinical Guarantee ensures that you will have the opportunity for work-situated experiences that show you how the law affects clients and otherwise works in the real world, through professional practice subjects at our Monash Law Clinics at Oakleigh, Springvale, and the CBD, student placements and clinics, and other practical experiences. You will also have the opportunity to be taught by some of the experts who write the leading legal textbooks, advise or work for governments, contribute to public policy and advocacy, consult in the legal profession and business, bring professional experience into the classroom, train the next generation of lawyers, and make a difference to social justice globally, nationally, and at home.

We welcome you to the community that is the Faculty of Law for what we hope and trust will be

some of the most rewarding years of your life. You will meet lifelong friends, future colleagues, and peers in your chosen professional destination during your time with us, and create lasting memories to carry with you for many years to come.



PROFESSOR BRYAN HORRIGAN BA, LLB (Hons)
(UQ), DPhil (Oxon)
DEAN, FACULTY OF LAW, MONASH UNIVERSITY

PRESIDENT'S FOREWORD

It is my pleasure to welcome you to law school and to the 2020 Monash Law Guide! This Guide is an introduction for all things Monash Law, providing a look into the range of opportunities that await you.

It is no easy feat making it into Monash Law, so congratulations to you all and we are incredibly excited to welcome you to the beginning of your time at Monash Law School, where you will have the chance to apply your diverse skills. The fun really begins when you have the opportunity to study and travel overseas, volunteer at community legal centres, enter law competitions to hone your skills, and undertake leadership programs while trying to avoid inadvertently giving your friends legal advice.

The degree can be intense – it is certainly no walk in the park. Whilst at times it will be challenging, the skills you learn, experiences you have and friends you make at Monash will last well beyond your time at university. By surrounding yourself with the right people and having the courage to give things a go, you will make the most out of your degree and have a lot of fun whilst doing so.

The Law Students' Society's Education team is whom you and I can thank for this magnificent resource. Special credit goes to Kerstin McGregor, Director of Education, and Gemma Tripp, Education Publications Officer, and the Education subcommittee. It is these people who have assembled the Guide, so that you can find out about the opportunities which are best suited to you. No one is a better resource for extra-curricular opportunities than an older student, so Kerstin, Gemma and the rest of the team have brought the older students straight to you!

I would also like to thank Professor Bryan Horrigan for his and the Law Faculty's ongoing

support of the LSS, and for the wise words in his foreword. Universities across Australia envy the strong relationship between our LSS and Law Faculty, and our students are fortunate to have a truly synergetic faculty and student society. The publication of this Guide would not be possible without the generous support of the Monash Faculty of Law.

Good luck to all of you for your first semester of law. I encourage you to make the most of your degree, work with your friends and take every opportunity you can. I hope to see you all around campus this year!

SOFIYA HAY
PRESIDENT OF MONASH LAW STUDENTS'
SOCIETY

EDITOR'S FOREWORD

Welcome to the Monash Law Guide 2020!

Firstly, congratulations on making it into Monash Law School! Your hard work and persistence has paid off, and now the fun (and more work!) begins.

The Law Guide is made by law students and graduates, for law students. While it doesn't cover everything there is to know about university life, I hope that it provides information and inspiration that will assist in making your time at Monash Law some of the best years of your life.

This Guide has been divided into five sections: Seizing Law, Studying Law, Sampling Law and Surviving Law. It contains a wide range of information, from tips on writing your first Foundations of Law assignment to being admitted to practice. Law school can be tough and confusing, however I hope that the articles within this Guide take some of the mystery out of what to expect and help you throughout your first year and beyond. The authors of these articles all know what it's like to study Law, and are therefore well equipped to provide helpful and meaningful advice.

As well as containing survival tips, this Guide outlines some of the incredible opportunities available to you throughout your time at Monash that will make your experience all the more memorable and fun. The experiences on offer are extensive and varied. I encourage you to take note of the opportunities that interest you and to get involved as much as you can!

I would like to thank the Monash Faculty of Law, the Dean of Law, Professor Bryan Horrigan, and the Director of Education, Kerstin McGregor, for their support. I'd also like to thank the wonderful Education Publications Subcommittee: Alina Ali,

Angela Wang, Binari Almeida, Charlotte Lupson, Ethan Liu, Imogen Feder, Jessie Quinn-Quigley, Mahi Joshi, Patrick Hooton, Sarah Sullivan, Sonja Boon, Stefano Mascaro, Vivian Lai-Tran, Yu Xuan Peh and Natalie Adler. This Guide would not have been possible without their contributions and hard work.

Welcome to the Monash Law family – enjoy the Guide and the journey ahead!

GEMMA TRIPP
EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS OFFICER
EDITOR OF THE MONASH LAW GUIDE

GLOSSARY

ALLOCATE+: The online system used by Monash to allocate yourself to classes. Some are preferential and some are first in first served, so pick the best times for you before the classes fill up!

AGLC-4: The Australian Guide to Legal Citation. At University, proper citation is important for your assignments (e.g. when you refer to an article or a case), and this is the citation guide for law. You can purchase a hard copy or access the PDF online.

CASE NOTE: A type of assignment you may encounter in your first year, in which you summarise and evaluate a case relevant to a question proposed, using other cases, policy and secondary sources.

COMMON LAW: Not to be confused with legislation, this law is case law or judge-made law.

DISSENT JUDGEMENTS: When a judge disagrees with the majority opinion and puts forward reasons for this.

DSS: Disability support services.

JAFFY: Just another f***** first year, used as a term of endearment. Everyone was a jaffy once.

LAWBRY: The Law Library (15 Ancora Imparo Way, near Menzies and LTB).

LAW DATABASES: Accessible via the Monash Law Library website and essential for research. Examples include Westlaw and LexisNexis.

LTB: Learning and Teaching Building.

MOODLE: Moodle is the online portal used by Monash. You can access your readings here as well as lecture slides, lecture recordings, and assignment instructions. It is also used to submit assignments. Check it out before your first week, as you are expected to complete readings listed here before semester commences.

OBITER DICTUM: Comments made by judges as an aside that are relevant to the law and sometimes looked at by judges deciding future cases.

OKTA: The verification system used by Monash to log in to your student account (sending you a 'push' to the Okta app on your phone when you log in, verifying your identity).

PRECEDENT: Reasoning for decisions (ratio decidendi) which courts use to determine how to resolve a case before them, provided that the case before them is similar enough.

SWOTVAC: The week-long break between the last week of university (week 12) and the first week of the exam period.

TURNITIN: Built into Moodle, this system checks to ensure you have not plagiarised your assignments before you submit your assignments. It provides you with a percentage of similarity and a plagiarism report before submission.

WES: Web Enrolment System. Used to enrol and re-enrol in your course and your units, access academic transcripts, access your exam timetable and other important records.

JESSIE QUINN-QUIGLEY

SEIZING LAW

MEET THE EXECUTIVE



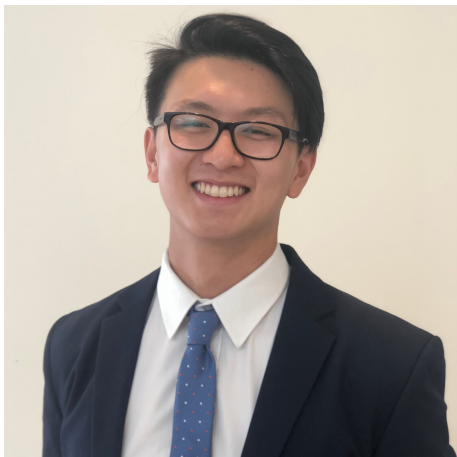
SOFIYA HAY: PRESIDENT

Heading into my fourth year of law, my goal and role as President is to help deliver the best possible experience to yourself and your cohort as you make your foray into the world of law school. I have the privilege of leading this fantastic team as they work tirelessly to continue establishing and providing the many events and initiatives that are on offer throughout the year. As a Monash Law student, I'm your chief advocate and am always open to hear about any issues or questions that you may have, especially while you find your feet in this exciting, new university endeavour.



LUCINDA NADJ: SECRETARY

My role as Secretary is essentially divided into twin tasks. Primarily, I manage the entire committee which involves fulfilling our legal compliance obligations and being the go to person in the case of a dilemma. In addition to that, I overlook and coordinate the administration portfolio which includes marketing, social media and IT. These are some of the most important aspects of the LSS as they ensure that we are well represented on every possible platform.



ABRAHAM LUO: TREASURER

As the Treasurer, I'm responsible for handling the financial side of the LSS. Alongside my two Assistant Treasurers, Alison and Hansa, the Treasury Team here to make sure that the financials of the LSS are tip top. Whether that's through writing cheques, processing reconciliations or performing other fun administrative tasks – you can find us working in the background to support the great events and initiatives that the LSS runs.



SKYLAR MIAO: DIRECTOR OF ACTIVITIES

The Monash LSS Activities Portfolio consists of eight members: two First Year Officers, two Functions Officers, two Activities Coordinators, Peer Mentor Coordinator and Director of Activities. Together we are responsible for organising a variety of exciting events including Law Ball, Boat Cruise, First Year Dinner, First Year Camp, Peer Mentor Intro Night, Trivia Night, Pub Crawl, BBQs and End of Exam Parties. As Director of Activities, I am responsible for organising and overseeing these events. I am looking forward to another successful year of Monash LSS Activities Portfolio.

MEET THE EXECUTIVE

HENRY JA: DIRECTOR OF CAREERS

While most of the other portfolios deal with your experience at law school, it is my job to help you get started in the long and arduous, but ultimately fulfilling, process of preparing for life after it. The Careers portfolio will be running a number of events and initiatives throughout the year, highlighting the varied paths and options available to the modern law student and how best to get involved. I look forward to seeing you around at some of our events!



KERSTIN MCGREGOR: DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

From advocating for fairness of process with assessments in liaison with the law faculty, to facilitating supplementary learning through free HD-student run tutorials, to sharing the wealth of knowledge available between hundreds of law students via our publications, to connecting our international students, to promoting wellbeing in all facets of student life; The Education Portfolio aims to support law students by ensuring that their time studying is made more accessible, simple, healthy, happy, and successful.



STEVEN DICKSON: DIRECTOR OF COMPETITIONS

The Competitions Portfolio, comprised of myself, five Competitions Officers, and one Judge Liaison, is responsible for organising and running all of the LSS competitions held throughout the year. This includes obtaining the problems we use for each competition, sourcing high quality judges, and ensuring that competitors have an overall fantastic experience. These competitions are a great opportunity for students to develop practical legal skills, and my team and I work together to ensure that they are as useful, and as enjoyable as possible.



SCOTT WALKER: DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EQUITY

The Social Justice & Equity Portfolio facilitates a dialogue between students, legal professionals and community leaders around some of the biggest social justice issues affecting the law and our community. Queer and Women's events give amazing opportunities for students to engage with legal professionals. The Just Leadership Program gives you the opportunity to be a change-maker in the community and our SJE Seminar Series allows you to broaden your understanding of contemporary social justice issues. I look forward to seeing you at SJE events throughout the year.



FIRST YEAR OFFICERS



Your first year as a law student will be exciting, daunting and challenging no matter if you are fresh out of high school or have transferred from another course. It is our job as First Year Officers to make sure that your transition to Monash Law is as smooth as possible. We are both in our second year of university studying Commerce and Law.

We know first-hand the challenges of starting a new course at university where you don't know many other people. Trust us when we say that by getting involved in the events run by LSS, you will be able to create a group of friends at Monash in no time. Having friends in Law is important. It means you have people to share notes with during exam time, people to talk to about how to approach an assignment and friendly faces to have a chat with when things get tough or stressful. The more effort that you put in getting

involved in university events, the more you will get out of your first year studying law. So, whether it is going on Law Camp, having a go in the First Year Moot or enjoying a few drinks at the pub crawl or boat cruise, make sure you give everything a go!

We were in your position last year and understand the challenges and struggles you might face. Without sugar coating it, law gets hard. But, at the same time, it can also be super rewarding. If you have any questions or issues never hesitate to shoot us a message or come up to us in the law library - we will always be there to help. Try your hardest this year, get involved, get support when you need it, but most importantly, enjoy the ride!

RUBY WENSOR AND CHRISTIAN SANTORO
FIRST YEAR OFFICERS

ACTIVITIES

BARBEQUES

The LSS understands the struggles of the hungry and broke student life. Luckily, every fortnight on Tuesdays we run barbeques to make that student life a little easier. Come down for both meat lover and vegetarian options as well as drinks (sometimes alcoholic if that's your thing), and to say hi to our friendly LSS Activities Subcommittee!

TRIVIA NIGHT

Do you happen to know a lot of useless facts? Or do you have a lot of redundant knowledge in a very niche subject that you never get to flex? Well our annual Trivia Night is the perfect time to put that knowledge to use! Gather your friends and enjoy a themed night of wholesome, yet very competitive fun.

PUB CRAWL

Meeting people at university can be daunting for many and it's hard to find where to start, but that's why you have us! Join us for the most anticipated LSS event of semester one as we guide you, and many others like you, around some of the grooviest bars on Chapel Street! This is one event you simply cannot miss!

SEAN HANNA AND LENA LAY
ACTIVITIES COORDINATORS

FIRST YEAR EVENTS

FIRST YEAR CAMP

Ask any law student who has been on camp and you can guarantee that this was their highlight of their first year! Law camp will make sure that you turn up to your first day at university knowing 199 familiar faces and a couple of older students to ensure that your transition into law school is as seamless as possible. This jam-packed weekend involves plenty of games, activities and partying with your new friends! This is your first opportunity to make lifelong friendships and memories which you will carry with you throughout your time in law school. If you're looking to finish off your holidays the right way, this event is not to be missed!

FIRST YEAR DINNER

This themed event is exclusive to first years and will entail a sit-down dinner, an endless bar tab and hours of dancing. This is the best way to celebrate the completion of your first law assignments and the first few weeks at university before exam preparation gets underway. Unlike Law Ball, there are no seating allocations, so buy a ticket, grab your mates and get ready to enjoy some champagne sunrises with the rest of the friends you have made so far in law.

RUBY WENSOR AND CHRISTIAN SANTORO
FIRST YEAR OFFICERS

FUNCTIONS

BOAT CRUISE

Set sail for a boatload of fun and entertainment, the annual LSS Boat Cruise is a rite of passage for law students to begin their year! This event will guarantee an evening fit with a creative dress-up theme for all to get involved, as well as a DJ cranking some 'current' and 'kriller' hits. Although we won't go into s-pacifics, this is an event you will not want to miss!

LAW BALL



Welcome to the Roaring Twenties, your golden years are just beginning! Why not start them off by attending an event bigger than Gatsby could ever imagine, the most anticipated event of the university social calendar year, the annual Monash Law Ball!

Victorian fashion is a thing of the past, as the night will consist of dazzling style outdoing flappers of the 20s, original dance moves rivalling the Charleston, great company, and exquisite food, Law Ball entertains and enchants all who attend. Ball-goers are treated to incredible live music followed by a DJ set, guaranteed to get them up out of their seats and on the dance floor.



Previously taking place at The Peninsula and the Melbourne Exhibition Convention Centre, Law Ball 2020 venue is still TBA, but is sure to be more spectacular than ever. With the theme in past years transforming the venue into an 'Ocean Oasis' and 'Night Under the Stars', attendees are whisked away for an evening of pure bliss. Last year, the 'Circus' theme for the night accommodated a live fire performance, and this year's ball will be no exception, promising an even hotter act.



The formal evening is followed by an exclusive after party in the CBD, where you can chuck on some chucks and dance to your heart's content. If there is one event not to miss in the annual calendar, it's this one!

CAITLIN KALAJA AND DELINA PHAM
FUNCTIONS OFFICERS

QUEER EVENTS

SCOTT WALKER, QUEER OFFICER

The LSS Queer Portfolio seeks to create a friendly and inclusive space for LGBTQIA+ law students and allies. Our events allow you to engage with the legal community and foster relationships with queer legal professionals, as well as connections with queer communities at other universities. We hope that, together, we can create an active and vibrant queer community at Monash University that empowers each other to be the next generation of queer legal professionals.

QUEER 101

Queer 101 training gives you the skills to be a law student and future legal professional sensitive to your queer classmates, colleagues and friends.

QUEER KEYNOTE

The Queer Keynote gives you the opportunity to hear from a prominent queer member of the

legal community on current issues in the law.

QUEER NETWORKING NIGHT

The Queer Networking Night allows you to meet with legal professionals from across the profession in a relaxed atmosphere, along with members of the queer communities from other Victorian law schools.

QUEER IN THE LAW PANEL

This is an event that is not to be missed. You'll have the opportunity to meet queer legal professionals, as well as representatives from a variety of firms, to learn about the law and being a queer professional in the law. The Queer in the Law Panel allows you to engage with a selection of legal professionals at different stages in their careers and in different practice areas in a forum-style event.

WOMEN'S EVENTS

FELICIA TORCASIO, WOMEN'S OFFICER

The role of the women's officer is to promote equality and female empowerment through a diverse range of events and networking opportunities. These events are open to all genders but have a specific focus on maintaining equal opportunities for women in a largely male dominated field.

WOMEN IN LAW BREAKFAST

A sell-out event, the annual Women in the Law Breakfast will be held again in 2020, on the morning of Thursday 7 May. The Women in the Law Breakfast is a fantastic event designed to celebrate female legal professionals. It connects aspiring students with seasoned female lawyers in order to pass down invaluable advice about pursuing a career in law as well as their views on the role of women in the legal profession today. Despite its focus, all genders are welcome and encouraged to attend.

QUEER AND WOMEN'S MENTORING PROGRAM

The Queer and Women's Mentoring Program pairs students with legal professionals to

strengthen students' professional networks. This program allows students to gain an insight into the challenges faced by queer and women legal professionals and tear down these barriers. Mentors will include lawyers from various practice areas and in different sectors, including top commercial firms and community legal centres.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & NETWORKING NIGHT

The Professional Development & Networking Night is designed to maximise women's professional opportunities, providing the tools to tackle the major obstacles encountered in the legal world. This event will be held on Thursday 27 August. Last year's guest speakers included a Monash Graduate who discussed her experience at Leo Cussen Centre for Law, a representative from Clayton Utz (the sponsoring firm), who provided fantastic advice about the recruitment process and lastly, a female lawyer who specialised in family law and who spoke about managing her career, alongside her role as a mother.

JUST LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

The Just Leadership Program (JLP) is an initiative of the Monash Law Students' Society Social Justice & Equity portfolio. The program affords selected students the opportunity to listen to, learn from and network with high profile speakers who are closely associated with social justice and equity issues in the law.

Participants are invited to attend ten seminars focused on a range of current social justice issues. These seminars are conducted in a Q&A format, allowing students to ask questions directly to our panel of esteemed guest speakers. This year, some seminars will also have a special focus on an unfolding issue, such as the Rights of Indigenous People seminar, which will focus on Treaty in Victoria. Past speakers include the Honourable Michael Kirby AC CMG; Professor Gillian Triggs; Andrew MacLeod and Julian Burnside QC.

Participants also enhance their leadership skills through undertaking a group project relating to one of the ten seminar topics. Past projects have included written law reform and parliamentary submissions and resources or interactive seminars for students.

At the conclusion of the program, participants are invited to attend a Graduation Ceremony, where the group with the most impressive project will be awarded a bursary to support the continued improvement and completion of their project.

2020 PROGRAM DATES

The following is a list of dates and topics for the 2020 JLP seminars:

- Introductory Seminar: Leadership in Social Justice (Tuesday 31st March, 6:00-9:00pm)
- Asylum Seekers and Refugee Rights (Tuesday 21st April, 6:30-8:30pm)
- Institutional Abuse and the Law (Tuesday 5th May, 6:30-8:30pm)
- LGBTQI+ Rights (Tuesday 12th May, 6:30-8:30pm)
- The Rights of People with Disabilities and the NDIS (Tuesday 19th May, 6:30-8:30pm)
- Mental Health and the Law (Tuesday 26th May, 6:30-8:30pm)
- Animal Rights and the Environment (Tuesday 28th July, 6:30-8:30pm)
- Workers' Rights (Tuesday 25th August, 6:30-8:30pm)
- Women's Rights (Tuesday 1st September, 6:30-8:30pm)
- The Rights of Indigenous People and the Victorian Treaty (Tuesday 8th September, 6:30-8:30pm)

The graduation ceremony and public lecture will take place on Tuesday 22nd September 2020 at the Clayton Campus.

APPLICATIONS

Applications for the 2020 program will open on Monday March 2, 2020. Students will be selected based on their commitment to social justice issues, relevant work experience, and ability to work within a team. Please feel free to direct any questions to Bree and Ellie at justleadership@monashlss.com.

BRIANNA BROWN AND ELLIE HEARNES,
JUST LEADERSHIP COORDINATORS

SJE PUBLICATIONS

SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EQUITY GUIDE

The Social Justice and Equity Guide is an insightful and effective compilation of volunteer and career opportunities within the social justice and equity landscape. The guide outlines opportunities at Monash and in the community, both locally and internationally. You are welcome to download a copy of the 2019 Guide via the Monash LSS website, and kick start your journey towards driving social change. The 2020 Guide Launch will take place on 9th of April – don't miss out on a hard copy of the guide at the launch, as well as guest speakers who will provide invaluable advice regarding their experience in combining their law degree with their will to progress.

THE REASONABLE OBSERVER BLOG

The Reasonable Observer Blog is the perfect way to keep up to date with legal commentary and current affairs; our aim is to start a discussion about current issues, and to evaluate them reasonably and apolitically. Publications also include spotlights and interviews with individuals working professionally in a social justice setting, such as Luke Geary (founder of Salvos Legal), and writing by fellow Monash students.

If you would like to contribute to the blog, or have any ideas to share, please contact Nikkita at equitypublications@monashlss.com.

NIKKITA CHANDNANI
PUBLICATIONS (EQUITY) OFFICER

EQUITY

EQUITY SEMINARS

In 2020, we are thrilled to be running the annual Social Justice & Equity Seminars, featuring numerous distinguished speakers from the legal field. Different seminars will be held throughout the year, and the Q&A format will provide students with an insight into how the law interacts with a contemporary social justice issue. The seminars will also provide information on how you as a law student can get involved, and how you might develop a career in the social justice field as a lawyer. Upcoming seminar topics include Asylum Seekers & Refugees, Environmental Law and Free Speech & Democracy. All students are warmly encouraged to attend the seminars and participate by asking questions. This Seminar Series is a great alternative to the very selective Just Leadership Program as it covers many of the same topics and is conducted in a similar format.

SJE AWARD

The LSS is pleased to continue the Social Justice & Equity Award in 2020. This is a unique and exciting opportunity for students to immerse themselves in volunteer work, social activism, coordinate charity events and launch various social justice initiatives. Students are encouraged to apply to be eligible for consideration. Applicants will be judged by merit, and on the value of the work they are contributing to the social justice and legal space. Stay tuned for more information!

MELIS RUTHERFORD
EQUITY OFFICER

LSS CAREERS

The Monash LSS Careers Portfolio aims to bring students of all year levels a wide selection of high-calibre and informative events, with a view to introduce them to areas of employment and cultivating their professional networks.

Semester 1 is our busiest semester; we begin the year with the Student to Professional Night, a panel discussion where speakers share their journey from law student to lawyer. Next is the Clerkship 101 Seminar, which is aimed at later year students, in which senior students who have previously clerked will share their experiences and insights. The Beyond Commercial Careers Fair is an opportunity for students meet with non-commercial graduate employers during a networking evening.

The focus then shifts to the Expert Panel Series, where partners from leading law firms discuss their particular area of practice, allowing students to learn more about different areas of law and commercial practice in general. The semester culminates in May with the launch of the Clerkship Guide at the Monash LSS Networking Evening, which is the portfolio's premier event, while the Professional Mentoring Program will be launched a few weeks after. Registration for Mock Interviews will open during the final weeks of Semester 1, with the program running during the winter break. Later year students will also have the Clerkship Q&A after Semester 1 exams to assist them through the process of applying for clerkships.

Semester 2 focuses on non-commercial careers, particularly non-traditional, non-commercial areas of the graduate employment market. The In-House Seminar presents some of the options available at organisations with an in-house legal

team, while Journey to the Bar is a great opportunity for students interested in advocacy to hear from barristers and their professional journey. Finally, the year closes off with a Criminal and Family Law Seminar.

Feel free to reach out if you have any questions or comments. We wish you every success in your eventual career and look forward to seeing you at some of our events! Keep an eye out on our Facebook Page to keep up to date with our events.

HENRY JA
DIRECTOR OF CAREERS

STUDYING LAW

THINGS I WISH I KNEW IN FIRST YEAR

If life is like an open road stretching beyond the horizon, then each of us sit in our own lane. Navigating law school is like driving along that highway, anticipating roadblocks and problem-solving hazards. No one's drive is easy, even if it appears to be so from the outside looking in. I'd like to welcome you into law school by providing you with some tips that I wish I had known in my first year;

MAKE DECISIONS FROM YOUR HEART

Whilst you may now know concretely what career path you intend to follow, make sure the one you do choose comes from your heart. Life is very short and we all have to work for a very long time. I encourage you to actively choose which lane you want to steer into and always make sure you know why you have chosen to pursue something. It can become very easy to follow the masses within law school; however, if you're like me, and certain opportunities do not appeal to you, always consider pursuing the road less travelled. Often, this is where you find out what makes you want to get out of bed in the morning and provides you with a sense of achievement. Remind yourself that your life is your own and do not be afraid to take chances, because you never know where it might lead.

GET INVOLVED

I cannot emphasise this enough, please get involved! Sustaining long-term friendships at university can be challenging due to conflicting timetables, but joining different programs, clubs, societies and social groups is a great way to meet new people!

TRANSFERRABLE SKILLS

Try to view your law degree as providing you with a set of transferrable skills that you can transfer between multiple roles and industries, as opposed to confining yourself to legal jobs. The modern workforce requires graduates who are adaptable, so I'd encourage you to ask yourself 'what position can I fulfil with the skills I have learnt here?'

FAILURE IS SUPER REWARDING

We have a bad habit of associating failure with negative connotations. However, I encourage you all to see failure as a chance to discover something new. I will not sugar-coat it; law school can be very tough some days and the academic standards seemingly too unrealistic. Do not be embarrassed if you do not understand a piece of information or how to structure an assessment. I hadn't even heard the term 'case note' when I started in my first year! If you are struggling, please speak up because there is no shame in asking for help. It is a strength, not a weakness in life and will allow you to keep your eyes on your own lane.

SARAH SULLIVAN

STUDY TIPS

Whether you're a first-year law student straight out of high school, or a student with previous university experience, it's important to establish an effective and productive study regime that works best for you. Here are some tips to help ensure you study effectively.

BEFORE CLASS

Whether your lectures are pre-recorded videos or require physical attendance on campus, it's important to have a solid understanding of what you'll be going through to make sure that you're expanding upon your foundational knowledge in class. This, unfortunately, often takes the form of pre-reading the textbook and relevant cases. It's important to not waste time copying slabs of information. Instead, identifying the key takeaways fundamental to each topic will help ensure that you properly understand the relevance of the theory and previous case judgments on a particular area of law. Having this foundational knowledge prior to class learning will allow you to be more engaged in class, ask questions, and contribute to class discussions.

DURING CLASS

First and foremost, establishing a study group with people in your class is extremely beneficial. The assigned content and problems for each class is better managed between small groups of 4 or 5 people. Dividing, teaching and discussing the content and questions between each other is an effective study tool for any Law unit. During class, it's also important to remain engaged so that you're at your most productive. Everybody is different, so make sure you do what's best for you. Some like to hand-write the key points discussed in class, whereas others like to scribe every word spoken by the lecturer/tutor. However, I've found that having pre-prepared notes and answers to the assigned problem questions allows me to be properly engaged with the class discussion and ask any questions to clarify my understanding of the topic.

AFTER CLASS

You may feel that every week is like climbing a mountain. Luckily for us law students, after we reach the top of one mountain, we find ourselves at the bottom of the next one! However, it's easy to fall into the trap of thinking that previous weeks are no longer necessary. The importance of spaced revision of previous concepts throughout the semester will see you reap the rewards come exam time.

OTHER ADVICE

- Don't feel the need to reinvent the wheel! If you do decide to change the way you study, it's better to experiment in first year when the stakes are lower.
- Study in an environment that's best for you. Ideally, it's best to study where there are less distractions. Lawbry will always be there for you when you need it most.
- As cliché as it sounds, make sure you're in the right headspace when studying. If you feel overwhelmed, anxious or overly distressed at any point, please utilise the student support services offered by Monash. They're there for a reason!

Good luck for your studies this year and we hope that you'll develop the study strategies that lead to HDs throughout your degree!

STEFANO MASCARO

PRODUCTIVITY DURING SEMESTER

WEEK 1-3

The beginning of a new semester gives you a fresh start to fulfil the academic promises you made to yourself. The first few weeks are often the most motivating, but with little work and study to do, this motivation tends to go to waste. That's why it's the perfect opportunity to get a head start on the weekly readings and upcoming assessments.

The most common pitfall that students tend to fall into is extending their holiday for the first few weeks of the semester, thinking that they have plenty of time to catch up later. Failing to complete the early content at the start of the semester means that you miss out on the theory that provides the foundation for the future content. Therefore, it's important to complete the first few weeks of content to a high standard, thus giving yourself more time to spend on the upcoming assessments.

WEEK 4-8

This period is generally the busiest of the semester. With assignments being released and due within this time period for most units, it's a balancing act to make sure you spend the right amount of time on each assessment.

It's easy to fall into the trap of finishing each assignment right before the deadline, frantically editing and referencing whilst pulling an all-nighter to make sure it's ready for submission. An easy way to avoid this is to try start your assignments as early as possible. Read through the assessment requirements so that you have a good idea of how much time you need to set aside for each. Doing the bulk of the planning and research as soon as the assignment is released decreases the stress of leaving things until the last minute. This also allows you to consult with learning skills advisors to ask questions about your assignment, thus ensuring that you're completing it to a high standard.

During this assessment-filled period, it's also important to keep up to date with the weekly coursework. Falling behind during this period is often a slippery slope for many students, who find themselves 4-5 weeks behind come exam time. Despite the importance of these assessments, the broader and more important goal is your exams. Keep this in mind!

PRODUCTIVITY DURING SEMESTER

WEEK 9-12

With assessments sometimes being due in this period, the same rules apply. Get started early, ask questions, and don't leave it until the last minute. In a perfect world, you've also managed to stay on top of all the weekly coursework... wouldn't that be nice?

It's easy to lose motivation during this period, as assessments are behind you, and you telling yourself that exams are too far away to worry about. Don't make this mistake! This period is a time for consolidating all the coursework done throughout the semester in preparation for exams – catching up on missed lectures, going through the set readings, etc. The LSS revision lectures can help with specific exam revision material and advice, so keep an eye out for them and make yourself available for it!

This period is also where you'll most likely be receiving the results of your assessments. It is important to not let any bad results affect your motivation or productivity. I know it can be hard, especially if the scores aren't what you expected, but use this as motivation for the rest of the semester.

SWOTVAC

SWOTVAC and the exam period is the most nerve-wracking time of the semester. But, if you've remained consistent with your study and productivity throughout the semester, then SWOTVAC can be centred around completing practice exams and refining your skills, rather than learning the content and finishing your notes. The most common mistake is to dedicate all of SWOTVAC to finishing your notes, just in time for your exam. It's important to have the notes you intend to bring into the exam finished and printed off, so that you can use them when completing your practice exams to replicate the feel of the real exams.

One thing I found particularly useful during this period was printing off a calendar with the dates of my exams and filling in my plan for each day prior. I set a target of timed and untimed practice exams I wanted to do for each unit. This physical reminder of what I planned to do during this period encouraged me to remain productive and motivated.

Stay calm, trust in yourself and the work you've done throughout the semester and I'm sure you'll be smiling on results day!

LSS EDUCATION

The Education team at the LSS is committed to providing invaluable student services in the realm of law academia. The Education Portfolio comprises of a tutorials program, student wellbeing, academic support and many other exciting and helpful initiatives.

Law school can certainly be daunting, which is why we have a series of seminars tailored specifically to first years. From the First Year Crash Course, which focuses on specific study skills and legal writing, to the revision seminars - the LSS Education Portfolio caters to the most difficult and confronting aspects of a law degree. These seminars not only provide useful advice in terms of content, but they also touch on specific study tips which are helpful in all aspects of one's law degree and may not be touched on in class.

In addition to the once off seminars, the LSS Education Portfolio also offers supplementary tutorial programs (which compliment the compulsory law tutes) for those who need more clarification on key concepts, or simply want to boost their grade. There are two tutorials per week, and are run by a high achieving student. This program has boasted incredible feedback, as the student tutors are intelligent, relatable, vibrant and passionate about the subjects that they teach. Whilst already covering a wide variety of compulsory units, tutorials also are running for popular electives.

A wide range of resources such as Sketchnotes (a rough set of notes) and practice problems are provided on the LSS website. These are readily accessible and available to download easily. In conjunction with all of these resources is an Academic Support Officer, who is responsible for liaising with lecturers regarding student concerns. All of these services are free with the purchase of an LSS membership.

AMY HALE, TUTORIALS OFFICER

PASS PROGRAM

Peer Assisted Study Sessions (PASS) is a program that is run by the law faculty which aims to assist first year students. PASS sessions are run weekly and cover relevant content learnt in the previous week's lectures and classes, whilst also going through practice questions which can assist in preparations for exams.

These sessions are run by a current student who excelled in the subject and are therefore more likely to assist and answer questions that you have as students. Unlike law lectures and seminars, these sessions consist of smaller classes with a smaller number of students ranging from 12-30, which provides a more comfortable environment where students are allowed to ask any questions they like.

PASS is highly recommended as it helps with the transition from high school learning to university learning, and it is also a wonderful way to make friends in first year with other students. Enrolment is completed through WES after the semester begins, and although it is not compulsory it is highly recommended.

BINARI ALMEIDA

LAW LIBRARY

Your first foray into law school will involve many encounters with the Law Library, also affectionately known as 'Lawbry' by staff and students.

The basement of the Lawbry has several rooms with wide windows that provide natural lighting- perfect for independent or group study. These are exclusive to law students and require you to scan your ID card for access. You'll also find the fancy moot court where you may catch a glimpse of students participating in LSS competitions.

On the first floor, there are printing facilities, computers and study tables in an open-plan layout. If you're coming to the first floor to 'study with friends', it is unlikely you'll get much done because it can get quite lively during peak times. If you need help with your assignments, you can approach any of the friendly law librarians or learning advisors stationed at the information desk. They are always keen to help, whether it be with AGLC formatting or deciphering assignment criteria. Furthermore, this team also holds seminars about time-management and exam preparation, specifically tailored to first year students.

Library staff have also compiled the Law Library Guide website. Under the 'Research and Writing' tab, you can browse through resources on how to tackle your case note; this style of assignment is very common in first year law units. Throughout your studies, you'll also navigate through the 'Law Databases' tab. This links to a range of databases which compile primary and secondary sources of the law; such as cases, statutes and journals. Of course, these sources will need to be acknowledged according to the Australian Guide to Legal Citation. The 'Citing and Referencing' tab breaks this down using clear examples. Pay attention to these rules and it'll save you precious marks!

If you're looking to do more concentrated studying, you'll be better off heading up to the higher levels. All the floors above and including the stairway are Quiet Areas where silence is mandatory and actively reinforced by librarians and students.

On the second floor, there are private study cubicles which are home to stressed out students-especially during SWOTVAC. Heading up to the third level you'll find more cubicle desks, computers and a wide collection of textbooks and reading materials. I highly recommend borrowing your textbooks as it is very financially and environmentally friendly. However, make sure to abide by the due dates as there is typically a \$5 fee each day the book is overdue. While there is a \$25 leeway, once this is exceeded, you'll have to start paying it off. Additionally, there are a range of exam guides that are massively under-utilised. These can help you to practice issue spotting and learn how to structure and discuss your response.

The fourth level is a vast, white expanse of dead silence- great for you to knuckle down and prepare for upcoming assignments and exams. So what are you waiting for? Go check out the Lawbry!

YU XUAN PEH

ASSIGNMENT TIPS AND TRICKS

Law assignments can be a great way to boost your mark ahead of exams and are an important way to understand the course material. The assignments come in a variety of forms, including research essays, memorandums or hypothetical problem questions. Here are some tips and tricks as to how you can approach your law assignments.

PLAN AHEAD

Law assignments are typically released a few weeks before they are due. It can be a helpful approach to read over the assignment immediately so you can start to plan your research and response, and leave time to formulate a thorough argument. Law assignments can be complex so leave yourself plenty of time.

BE MINDFUL OF THE WORD COUNT

Be aware that the law faculty does not include 10% above or below for the word count. This means that if the word count is 2,000 words, you can submit 2,000 words or below but will be penalised for submitting 2,001 words or above. Before starting the assignment, make sure that footnotes are not included in the total word count. Just click on the words in the left-hand corner and un-select the footnotes box.

RESEARCH

Pay attention to the tips and tricks taught by the library staff so that you can use the resources efficiently. Searching databases with keywords and related topics will take you to useful sources. Scroll through bibliographies of sources you find to be redirected to even more sources.

WRITE CONCISELY

Try to avoid using long, complex sentences. With law assignments, it is important to say what you mean with clear and concise sentences. The word limit will encourage you to use your language effectively.

AVOID LATE SUBMISSIONS

Submitting an assignment late will incur a penalty. If you have a reason to need extra time, make sure you approach the Law faculty as soon as possible. Be aware that the Law faculty can be more strict on extensions than other faculties.

BE SPECIFIC

When referring to a statute, make sure you reference the specific section in your citations. Same goes for cases-make sure you reference the specific paragraph that your point comes from in your citations. It can save time to note these sections and paragraphs when doing your research, so you don't have to find this information again later!

READ THE CRITERIA CAREFULLY

Sometimes the Chief Examiners may require your assignment to be submitted in a particular form or for a specific font size and type to be used. Before you hit the submit button, make sure you have re-read all the requirements to avoid unnecessary penalties.

USE THE AGLC FOR CITATIONS

Make sure you are using the most up to date version of the AGLC (in 2020 this is the 4th edition). Citations are often checked for irregularities so it's important to pay close attention to these rules.

FIRST FOL ASSIGNMENT

The 'Engaging with the Legal System' assignment is probably one of the first written assignments you will complete as a law student, and this can be daunting. Forget about all the essays you wrote in high school, because law assignments are a completely different beast. Hopefully, these tips will aid you in nailing it first time round!

TIP 1: START EARLY!

Don't be that person who begins writing the night before, burning the midnight oil in a Red-Bull fuelled writing extravaganza. Start early! As soon as the lecturers release the assignment, give it a read and plan your course of action. Do a little preliminary research into the various topics outlined and note which one appeals to you most.

TIP 2: HEAD TO COURT ASAP

Gather your friends and head to court ASAP. Make a day trip out of it! Not only is it a fantastic bonding experience, but you will get that crucial head start over others. When you arrive, ensure you ask staff which case is undergoing sentencing. In these cases, the judge will provide background information regarding the case and the reasons why the person is being sentenced. Take copious notes, as this will come in handy when you apply the case to the question. Also, try and go to multiple hearings, as this will allow you to compare and contrast cases, which will help you scoop up those extra marks.

TIP 3: HAVE A GOOD STRUCTURE

Put yourself in the shoes of a lecturer. They must comb through reams of assignments, scrutinise each one and provide feedback. Having a coherent structure and sub-headings makes it a lot easier for the lecturer to see what point you are arguing. It will also help you formulate your ideas better and develop a greater understanding of the topic.

TIP 4: APPLY, APPLY, APPLY

Most of your marks will come from applying the cases you have heard in court to the topic question. Ask yourself – do the circumstances of Case X lend support to the question? Or does Case Y? Compare and contrast multiple cases against each other, often you will find that one case supports the topic and the other rebuts it. If this occurs, be sure to mention it! It will prove to the lecturer that you have considered both sides of the argument and have understood the 'dialectic' nature of the law.

TIP 5: PROS AND CONS

Similar to tip #4, it is imperative that you consider the pros and cons of the topics, providing counter arguments for either side. Support your arguments with well-founded evidence from academic journals, as well as the application from the cases you have heard.

TIP 6: CITATIONS

The AGLC is one of your best buds. Even though it is tedious and boring, making sure you get your citations correct is one of the easiest ways to get extra marks. It may also be the deciding factor between a D and a HD. If you are unsure about your citations, see the teaching staff in the Lawbry. They are very helpful!

ETHAN LIU

EXAM SKILLS

The fabled law exams. Two and a half hours of sweating, stressing and sore hands – if you're not prepared. So how do you succeed in such a daunting task? Below are my top four tips on how to do well and attain that coveted HD.

TIP 1: CONSISTENCY IS KEY

Ideally, you should churn through the readings each week, as they give you a substantial and comprehensive knowledge of the material. A great way to do this is to have a timetable – allocate a certain amount of time each day for each subject. Doing the readings before class is essential too, it will reinforce your knowledge and you can ask the lecturers questions on your areas of concern. However, if you are in Week 12 and are looking at a mountain of unfinished course work, focus on the main areas, particularly cases and the legal principles outlined. You are rewarded in the exam for applying these rules to the relevant issues outlined in the factual scenario. Furthermore, don't forget to attend PASS classes and LSS tutorials. They are a god-send!

TIP 2: DEVELOP YOUR OWN NOTES

Developing your own notes for the exam is an entirely different process to learning the content throughout the semester. Structure is key, so your exam notes should be a concise and comprehensive formula that will allow you to tackle any exam question. They should consist of precise statements which include relevant statutory authorities or legal principles from cases. This will make applying the rules to the hypothetical scenario easier. Personally, my notes are written like a checklist, containing every element required to fully answer the question. E.g.: 'Step 1 – Define the relevant law (for the tort of false imprisonment), Step 2 – What was the degree of restraint?, Step 3 – What was the type of restraint?

TIP 3: PRACTISE, PRACTISE, PRACTISE

SWOTVAC should not be the time for catch up. It should be the time for doing past exam papers and formulating your exam notes. Two and a half hours may seem like a long time, but it disappears in a heartbeat during law exams. To ensure maximum mark attainment (MMA), you need to work effectively and efficiently. A great way to achieve MMA is through practice. I recommend doing at least three practice papers. The first exam should be completed with no time conditions and with your notes beside you. After you have a feel for the structure and have developed a comprehensive answer, do the other exams to time. This will simulate the exam environment such that when you do enter that exam, the experience will be familiar, and you'll be less likely to be stressed.

TIP 4: TIME MANAGEMENT

Time management is crucial to success in law exams. You must stick to time like your life depends on it. Abbreviating the names of parties (ie. plaintiff = P) or indicating above for previously answered questions and statements of the law are helpful time-savers. If worst comes to worst, start dot-pointing early on if you are seriously running out of time. Remember! It is always better to answer the majority of the questions, rather than focusing on blitzing one particular question. Most of the marks will come from applying relevant legal principles to the facts of the question. Remember the acronym IRAC – issue, rule, application, conclusion. It forms a skeleton structure for tackling exams. Combining Tip #3 and Tip #4 will guarantee that you stick to time and answer each question to the best of your ability.

Law exams are beasts. Your neurons are sure to be popping off and your brain will be on fire. But don't worry. With each exam, you will develop more and more study techniques, and you will improve if you put in the effort. The HD's will follow. Best of luck!

ETHAN LIU

HOW TO TAKE NOTES ON CASES

Notes on cases (not to be confused with case note assignments) can be time consuming, but are an essential part of studying law. As a first-year student, you will especially notice the need for case notes in Torts and Criminal Law, so I'm here to give you some tips on writing these. In my first semester of my first year, I made the mistake of the leaving them all to SWOTVAC, meaning they will take up a big chunk of the time that you'll want for your other notes and practice questions. Having made this mistake, I really recommend doing them throughout semester.

Here are my tips for writing notes on cases to make it less time consuming and to ensure that you stay up to date, especially as the cases are often discussed in class:

- **Complete them throughout semester.** As you read a case in your textbook, or hear them discussed in online videos, add them to the table (discussed below) straightaway. You can always go back and add details later but having the foundations from your videos and readings is a great start.

- **Put these into a table.** I recommend using several tables (e.g. a table for assault, a table for battery, a table for false imprisonment). I recommend setting your table out with columns titled: Case name, Facts, Principle. Under 'case name', include the name and date. Under 'facts', you can include a brief outline of the essential facts of the case, in a sentence or two, keeping it strictly linked to the context of the unit that you are undertaking. Include what was decided by the judge. Under 'principle', you can include the big idea that is relevant to the case and how you will use it in the exam (e.g. 'salient features must be looked at in negligence cases')
- **Compare cases in your table to the Reading Guide.** This has all of the cases that you need, and you might notice a few you want to research yourself as they were not in the videos or readings.

Come exam time, you will be able to print your table and incorporate the case names into your notes for the exam, to save yourself the stress and time of doing it later!

JESSIE QUINN-QUIGLEY

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SERVICES

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT LUNCHEONS

The Monash Law Students' Society would love to invite all International Students and students on exchange to join us for our International Student Luncheons held twice a year. You are welcome to drop in, grab a slice of pizza and make some new friends. You can exchange experiences, seek advice regarding your academic career in Australia or just take some time off away from the demands of your Law degree to chat and relax with peers. The first Luncheon is on the 30th of March 2020 in the Law basement. I am looking forward to seeing you all there!

PLAIN LEGAL WRITING SEMINAR

Writing in correct legal language is one of the first and foremost challenges for any law student and especially for any students who may need extra assistance with English expressions and syntax. It

is an essential skill while students are completing assignments, as well as drafting scripts for competitions as part of your law degree. Hence the Monash LSS provides plain legal writing seminars with one of your professor's tailored specifically towards the particular needs of law students to assist you in achieving a better performance during your time at law school. This is a free event and refreshments will be provided before the seminar. Come down and start writing like a professional lawyer from the first day.

For any questions please contact Kami at interofficer@monashlss.com.au

KAMI MOGENI
INTERNATIONAL STUDENT OFFICER

SPECIAL CONSIDERATION

During your law degree you will face a number of challenges academically and personally. Sometimes these challenges or external events outside of your control can make study very difficult. If you are struggling and believe your work has been impacted, or will be impacted in the future, by acute illness, bereavement and/or hardship or trauma you are encouraged to apply for special consideration.

Special consideration can be applied for and subsequently used to gain an extension on an assignment or defer an exam. However, it cannot be used retrospectively to change an original assessment result.

APPLYING

To be eligible for special consideration you must be affected by:

- Acute illness (e.g. hospital admission, serious injury, severe asthma or severe anxiety or depression); or

- Bereavement (e.g. death of a close family member or family relationship breakdown); or
- Hardship/trauma (e.g. victim of a crime, sudden loss of employment/income or severe disruption to domestic arrangements).

The faculty shall then consider your application and read it in light of any necessary supporting documentation to support your application.

Students considering making an application for special consideration should consult Monash Connect and consider the relevant materials required online. This article is in no way to be used as an instructional piece of writing but rather a general guide on how the process works.

PATRICK HOOTON

DISABILITY SUPPORT SERVICES

To assist you to study independently, you can access disability services once you've registered with DSS and arranged adjustments with Monash. This may include flexible assignment deadlines and alternative arrangements for exams.

STUDENTS WHO ARE CARERS

Monash also supports students who are carers of a person who is aged and frail or has a disability, medical or mental health condition. If this situation affects your ability to study, you can discuss reasonable adjustments with a disability advisor. To receive this support, you will need to register as a carer.

SERVICES FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Support workers provide a range of services including note-taking classes, writing for you during exams, and Auslan interpreting. Accessible accommodation on campus may also be provided such as wheelchair-accessible accommodation

options.

Alternative formatting for essential learning materials for your course can be provided as electronic text or Braille.

If eligible, alternative arrangements are available for exams such as extra time, rest breaks, someone to read or write for you, a computer and assistive technology, or a separate exam venue. These adjustments to exam conditions are made to accommodate individual circumstances.

For more information, consult the DSS' website: <https://www.monash.edu/disability>

VIVIAN LAI-TRAN

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Academic integrity is about conducting your studies with honesty, responsibility, and in an ethical manner. It is a moral code which includes avoiding plagiarism and collusion.

WHAT IS PLAGIARISM?

Plagiarism is taking someone else's ideas and expressing them as your own, without giving the author proper acknowledgement. It is not just copying and pasting, it also includes paraphrasing parts of text and using phrases or words verbatim without quotation marks. There is also self-plagiarism, where you use your own work that has been completed previously and resubmit it for a different assignment. As a rule of thumb, you should complete original work for each new assignment to avoid self-plagiarism.

WHAT IS COLLUSION?

Collusion is the unauthorised collaboration with your peers on assessable work. It includes working with one or more people to prepare and produce work, allowing others to copy your answers on assessment tasks, or even doing another person's work for them. So come assessment time, be careful when discussing ideas or possible avenues to tackle the assignment. Allowing others to proof-read your work is allowed, just ensure that they do not change your ideas, add or replace content or rewrite any part of the assessment. It is better to see the learning skills advisors or Law Library staff to aid you in proof-reading your work.

CHEATING

Cheating is considered a very serious offence by the University, so it is best to avoid cheating at all costs. Contract cheating involves paying an external provider to write your assessment for you. This can constitute a criminal offence and will impact your ability to be admitted as a lawyer by the Victorian Legal Admissions Board.

BREACHES OF ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

There are several ramifications if you are suspected of breaching the Student Academic Integrity Policy. A staff member will inform you of the breach and ask you to respond. They will also report to the Chief Examiner of the unit, who will determine whether the breach was intentional or reckless. If the breach is deemed to be neither intentional nor reckless, the University will ask you to participate in additional academic skills development. As such, you may lose marks or be asked to resubmit the entire assignment. The outcome is then recorded on the University register for seven years, to document that you have been notified of the academic integrity guidelines. If the breach is intentional or reckless, it is then reported to the Associate Dean of the faculty. The Associate Dean will then deal with the matter or refer it to the appropriate faculty discipline panel. Penalties for the breach include the work not being assessed, a zero mark for the unit, suspension or even exclusion from the University. The penalties will depend on the seriousness of the offence and whether you have breached the policy prior. Furthermore, when a penalty is applied it is recorded for 15 years, which may affect your admission as a lawyer by the Victorian Legal Admissions Board (evidence of the breach must be disclosed).

AVOIDING PLAGIARISM AND COLLUSION

Be extremely careful when referencing your work and follow the AGLC – it is your best friend! Seek assistance from Law Library staff and proofread your work thoroughly. If in doubt, over-reference to avoid reckless plagiarism. The Academic Integrity Policy can be found on the Monash University website, as well as interactive guides which provide more information. Be careful!

ETHAN LIU

REVIEW OF ASSESSMENT MARKS

If you receive a mark which you believe is incorrect, you may be eligible to have the assessment re-marked. This process can be found <https://www.monash.edu/law/current-students/assessments/faculty-remarking-procedures/re-marking-procedures> online:

<https://www.monash.edu/law/current-students/assessments/faculty-remarking-procedures/re-marking-procedures>

In summary, they note the following:

IN-ASSESSMENT ASSIGNMENTS

1. The assessment must be weighted more than 10%.
2. The mark must not be a fail grade (as these assessments are reviewed automatically).
3. You must receive further feedback from the marker to be eligible.
4. Review the unit guide and the assessment feedback as this will generally provide further details on how to obtain additional feedback.
5. If the marker has not returned your email with further feedback in a reasonable timeframe (5 business days), email the chief examiner and note this.
6. If the further feedback is unsatisfactory, email the Chief Examiner a memorandum to outline the deficiencies and the marker's alleged errors (Please note "Questions to Consider" below), within 2 weeks of receiving your mark.
7. *IF A RE-MARK OCCURS: THE NEW MARK, EVEN IF LOWER, WILL STAND.*

EXAMS/ASSIGNMENTS WEIGHTED AT LEAST 30%

1. You are entitled to a copy of your exam script for review, and can request it online: <http://www.monash.edu/law/current-students/assessments/exam-feedback-procedure>
2. If you have reviewed the exam and still believe an error has occurred you must write a memorandum outlining the deficiencies of your piece and the marker's alleged errors (Please note "Questions to Consider" below).
3. This must be sent to the Chief Examiner within eight weeks of receiving your overall unit score

for Semester 1. For a Semester 2 unit, the memorandum must be sent before the census date of Semester 1 the following year.

4. The Chief Examiner has 21 days to provide an outcome. If no outcome is provided after this timeframe has elapsed, it is advised that you email the Associate Dean of Education.

5. *IF A RE-MARK OCCURS: THE NEW MARK, EVEN IF LOWER, WILL STAND.*

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER:

These are a few questions to consider when writing the memorandum as established above:

- Did you answer all the required questions and allocate your time effectively in accordance with the instructions in the task?
- Did you analyse the facts correctly to identify the legal issues?
- Did you discuss issues that were not raised by the question?
- Did you place undue emphasis on some issues and insufficient emphasis on others?
- Did you formulate the legal principles correctly and cite authority on them?
- Did you discuss any difficulties or ambiguities in the application of the principles?
- If any authorities relevant to the question are in conflict, did you discuss the conflict and evaluate the weight of each authority?
- If you raised a pertinent issue, did you deal with it fully and accurately, or did you just raise it in a general sense, without dealing with it fully?
- Did you reach some sort of conclusion on each issue that you identified?

If you have any issues with the remark process, feel free to email the Academic Support Officer at academicsupport@monashlss.com

MASON ROGERS
ACADEMIC SUPPORT OFFICER

ACADEMIC PROGRESS COMMITTEE

The Academic Progress Committee (APC) hearings exist to monitor the progress of students who are having difficulties completing their academic work to a satisfactory standard. The hearing is before a panel which consist of a number of academics (generally 4 or 5) and a student representative.

Students may be subject to APC hearings in the following circumstances:

- Failure to pass 50% of units in an academic year.
- Failure in the same compulsory subject twice.
- Failure to comply with conditions imposed by the Dean or by the APC.

Students can prepare for an APC hearing by doing the following:

1. **Book an appointment with the student advocacy and support** by following this link: <https://msa.monash.edu/services/student-advocacy-support/>. This department of the Monash Student Association is employed to assist student's with academic issues and is independent of the university. They can assist you with the APC process.
2. **Check your STUDENT email every 48 hours** to ensure that you receive all correspondence. Read all received documents regarding the hearing carefully.
3. **Talk to a counsellor** for some advice on managing the stress of this situation. The university has a free counselling service located in the campus centre. Appointments can be made by calling 9905 3020.
4. **Contact the LSS Academic Support Officer** if you need further guidance at academicsupport@monashlss.com

The university holds these hearings in

order to ensure that you are able to finish your degree. This is not a punitive process. The possible outcomes of an APC hearing are the following:

1. **Continuation without Conditions:** The student will be able to remain enrolled in a normal workload.
2. **Continuation with Conditions:** The student is able to remain enrolled, however must abide by the conditions set by the APC. These can range from a reduced workload to seeking Monash services.
3. **Exclusion:** The student is unable to continue their enrolment in this degree as the APC is unsatisfied they can continue their degree. They can still pursue another degree at Monash or another tertiary institution.

Further information regarding the APC hearings can be found online at: <https://www.monash.edu/execserv/progress/student-resources2>

MASON ROGERS
ACADEMIC SUPPORT OFFICER

HONOURS

Undertaking a law research unit is compulsory in order to complete the Honours component of the Bachelor of Laws (Honours) and other associated double degrees. As daunting as this sounds, the research units offered cover a range of student skills and abilities. The way in which Honours is completed is relatively flexible. Professional practice, public speaking competitions or academic research are all ways in which you can complete the Honours requirement of your degree.

PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE

If you're looking for practical opportunities to build your professional skills in a legal work place, then look to LAW4328 Professional Practice, LAW4330 Family Law Assistance Program: Professional Practice, LAW4803 Clinical Placement, and LAW4811 In-house Clinical Placement. These units connect law students to various clinical legal education, corporate law firms, community legal centres, advocacy groups, and in-house legal opportunities. Even if you're not interested in corporate work, it is not only worth exploring your options, but also accessing opportunities to undertake legal research on projects in a workplace setting. This will undoubtedly provide value for your professional development and CV building alongside your degree.

RESEARCH PROJECT

Academically inclined research opportunities also exist to complete the research component of your law degree. Consider LAW4327 Honours Thesis, LAW4801 Research Project, and LAW4802 Research Practicum. These units require significant independent and in-depth research into an area of law, with word counts for your thesis ranging from 4,000 to 10,000 words, depending on which unit you choose to undertake. Specifically, the LAW4801 Research Project gives students an opportunity to either write the research project paper alone (4,000 words) or as a group activity (8,000 words). This involves advanced research methods, skills and self-management. An Honours thesis or similar major research project provides a competitive edge for highly sought-after jobs after graduation, including judge's associateships. This is also a means of exploring academia and further research after completing your undergraduate degree.

COMPETITIONS

If you're a natural in front of a judge, perhaps mooting and advocacy is a more comfortable option for you. Available mooting units to complete the research component of the course include LAW4805 Mooting and Advocacy Competition, LAW4806 Jessup Moot Competition, and LAW4807 Vis Arbitration Moot. Students attend seminars on mooting and advocacy with a strong practical advocacy element to the program. This is most attractive to students hoping to or considering practice in court advocacy or as a barrister in the future. Particularly for the Jessup Moot Competition and Vis Arbitration Moot, students represent Monash University at interstate and international mooting competitions. The ability to work in a team, present themselves confidently in a public speaking space, and write comprehensive memoranda are essential.

VIVIAN LAI-TRAN

CLINICAL EXTERNSHIP

Looking for practical legal experience to compliment your law degree? Need to boost your CV? Clinical Placements connect Monash Law students to placements to enrich their experience during Law school.

The Clinical Placement is an 'umbrella' unit that houses a number of different placement opportunities (LAW4803 Clinical Placement/ LAW4811 In House Placement). LAW4803 Clinical Placements are hosted by organisations external to Monash University, usually at their premises. LAW4811 In House Placement are conducted in partnership with an external organisation, but are hosted at Monash Law Clinics in the CBD. Placements are one day a week over a period of 12 months and available placements differ between semesters.

Previously, law firms such as King & Wood Mallesons and Stary, Norton, Halphen have hosted students, as well as In House Legal such as Carlton & United Breweries and Tennis Australia. Students are able to preference such law firms in their application based on what area of law interests them most; whether it's insurance law, criminal law or intellectual property law, amongst other areas of law. International research clinics, court internships, community legal work, and government or governance clinics are also available for students. These opportunities are good exposure to practical legal work and also to what career path you're hoping to forge in law.

Students are required to have completed all first and second year law units (LAW1XXX and LAW2XXX units) as well as LAW3112 Corporations Law to be eligible for Clinical Placement. Students undertaking Sexual Assault and Family Violence clinics must have completed LAW4328, LAW4330 or LAW5050

Preference for a placement in these specialised clinics will be given to students who have completed these units. Specific placements may

have further pre-requisites. Further, preference will be given to students who are near to completing their degree and who have not yet completed another placement. Applications are assessed and selected based on a combination of the Cover Letter, CV, and course marks (WAM). For some placements, the host organisation may wish to interview a shortlist of applicants and contribute to the final selection.

Assessment for Clinical Placement units include a host supervisor report, reflective journals and a video case report. There is some flexibility as to how marking weight would be balanced as appropriate for each individual placement. A seminar program is also required and is a hurdle requirement.

VIVIAN LAI-TRAN

PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE

Professional practice is one of the most interesting and hands-on units that the Faculty runs. It is a placement at a community legal centre for two days a week for about four months. Under the supervision of a solicitor, students interview clients, provide legal advice, do ongoing casework for clients and can even sometimes represent clients in Court. The unit runs on a trimester timetable. Trimesters run from: November to mid-March; mid-March to early July; and early July to November.

I am mid-way through my Professional Practice placement right now and I'm learning great skills such as: how to present to lawyers; how to manage a busy work-load of cases; and how to relate to clients who range from being organised and calm, to being frustrated, overwhelmed and distressed. I'm also learning about very practical aspects of the law which are not the sort of thing you learn in a standard law unit but which affect so many people. Common issues that we see are: traffic offences; fines; divorces; family violence; wills; parenting arrangements; criminal pleas; and unpaid debts. Students need to specifically apply for the unit through the Monash 'InPlace' system.

Students need to write a short application about why they want to do the unit. It is important to note that places are limited, and students in the later years of their degree are prioritised, so if you don't get accepted at first, you can always apply again.

Professional practice is a double weighted unit and is one of the units you can complete to receive Honours (instead of writing a thesis). Students complete an 'intake' session on one day, interviewing new clients and provide legal advice through supervising lawyers. There is also a 'priority day', on which students complete case work for ongoing clients. Seminars generally run in the morning, once every week or two weeks. Students also have to write a reflective journal entry every few weeks and a community outreach program, which involves two sessions of community outreach and then completing an assignment about the program.

FREYA RICH

SAMPLING LAW

EXCHANGE

Your law degree at Monash will provide you with many opportunities to study in universities across the world. These exchanges usually last for a semester, or up to a year. Double degree students are often eligible for exchange after their second year and straight law degree students may be eligible after their first year. Units studied overseas will be counted towards your degree. Some popular universities include University of Leeds, Utrecht and the University of Warwick. The Law Faculty also conducts the Mishpatim Program in Israel and offers internship opportunities in the USA, Rome, Malaysia and Israel. You may be eligible for loans, grants and scholarships for financial assistance so make sure to look into these options.

MONASH PRATO

Monash Law students have the opportunity to travel to Prato in Italy as a part of their degree. This program typically runs from April to June but students are able to select to go for one to three months. Depending on your course map, students are usually able to attend Prato in their third year onwards.

MONASH MALAYSIA

The Malaysia Law program is based at Monash's campus in Sunway. The units at Sunway are offered over two blocks of four-week teaching periods. The Malaysia program can be ideal to fit in a study abroad experience in between semester one and two.

IMOGEN FEDER

MONASH PRATO

One of the best parts of attending university is the opportunity to go on exchange and explore the world. The Monash Law Prato Program is an opportunity to study on campus in Italy for your electives which cover a range of international and comparative law subjects taught by distinguished academics and professionals from Australia and around the world. All units are taught intensively and in English from April to July each year across three teaching blocks during the European spring.

Academics from Monash University and a variety of partner universities teach Monash Prato units, including those from Warwick University and University of Paris-Sud, amongst others. Students will have plenty of opportunity to involve themselves with Italian life in a small urban Italian town, as well as make short trips to neighbouring countries where timetable permits (after all, classes are a priority!).

Eligibility requirements for Bachelor of Laws (Honours) and associated double degree students are to be actively enrolled in a Monash undergraduate Law degree, an average of at least 55% from Law units, and the completion of the first 48 credit points of core Law units by the end of the year prior to participation in the program. Students cannot defer their place in the program to the following year, however, they may re-apply.

Funding is also available for the program when students are accepted, including Monash Abroad funding, Law Mobility Equity Grants, and OS-HELP. Centrelink is also available for students for the duration of the program. Critically, whilst exchange at external partner universities do not count towards your WAM, all grades at Monash Prato count directly towards your WAM and GPA.

VIVIAN LAI-TRAN

MONASH MALAYSIA

Study abroad at Monash Malaysia is a great way to get that overseas exchange experience but at minimal cost. It is held over the winter holidays, throughout the month of July if you are doing one or two Group A units, or it can extend into Semester 2 if you are also doing Group B units. Most students do one or two units over the month of July and come back to Clayton in time for semester two.

Malaysia is not only a lot closer than a lot of the other European exchanges students often participate in, but is also a lot cheaper. Thanks to the New Colombo Plan (NCP), most students receive a \$2,000 grant to study in Malaysia, along with a \$500 grant from Monash itself, which helps to cover most of your costs for the time you're there. Keep in mind, however, that each student can only receive the NCP once, so if you are planning on going to Malaysia more than once you will not be eligible for the NCP after your first study abroad.

As it is study abroad and not exchange, note that you will still receive a numeric grade for the unit you study in Malaysia, compared to a pass or fail grade. In saying that, the subjects aren't incredibly complex and are manageable if you're showing up to class (which you have to do in Malaysia as there is an 80% minimum attendance requirement).

Different subjects have different timetables so it's good to remember that most of your interaction will be with other students in your unit. However, most people travel somewhere new every weekend and a lot of people end up going to the same places, so it is easy to meet people through travel.

Monash Malaysia is a big campus located in Sunway, which is about a 30-minute drive from Kuala Lumpur City. Most students live in Sunway Monash Residence (SMR) or in an Airbnb nearby in Sunway. SMR is Monash's own residence on campus and is less than a 5-minute walk from where classes are located. If a private space shared with close friends seems more like your type of living arrangement, Airbnb's may be more appropriate. Some people lived in KL city and opted to do the 30-minute drive every day as Grabs (Malaysia's uber) is quite cheap and not too costly if the fare is split among a few people.

Overall, studying abroad in Malaysia is a great experience as you get to explore a new country at minimal cost, while getting a unit or two out of the way!



MONASH MALAYSIA CAMPUS

ALINA ALI

MONASH CAMBRIDGE PARTNERSHIP

The Monash-Cambridge Degree Pathway is a pathway to study either the Master of Laws (LLM) or the Masters Degree in Corporate Law (MCL) at Cambridge University. It is available to Monash Law students enrolled in a Bachelor of Laws Double Degree or the Juris Doctor. If you are an LLB student, you can apply in fourth year; or after 1.5 years (72 credit points) if you are a JD student.

To be eligible for this program, you must meet Cambridge's academic and financial admission standards, and you must become a member of Cambridge if you receive a formal offer.

Placements for the MCL are very competitive: a maximum of 25 students can be enrolled per year, and you must be in the top 5-10% of your class. You may need to take an IELTS or a TOEFL to prove your grasp of the English language depending on whether you are a national from a List A Country or a List B Country. Information about what constitutes a List A or B Country can be found by following the links for the entry requirements for the MCL on Monash's Law page. Directions on how to get there are provided at the bottom of this article.

Likewise, the LLM is highly competitive, with outstanding academic results required (minimum of an upper second class honours degree equivalent). Cambridge University points out that meeting the minimum academic requirements does not guarantee entry, and that your English proficiency, experience, professor availability,

references and number of available places will be taken into account.

It is also worth mentioning the financial requirements of studying the LLM or the MCL. The Overseas University Compensation Fee for the LLM is £30,681 and the MCL is £32,130, excluding the Maintenance and Settling In fees. Financial aid, such as scholarships and bursaries are, however, available.

If you are interested in this pathway, it is advised that you should consult a course adviser to discuss the best ways to guarantee your success as early as you can. You must apply to Monash for the LLM/MCL first by early November and mid December respectively, and if you are successful, must apply to Cambridge by early December and early January respectively.

More information can be found at Monash's Law page —> current students —> study enhancement opportunities —> Monash-Cambridge degree pathway. On this study enhancement opportunities page, you will also find things like the Monash-Oxford pathway (for JD students) or Monash-Kings College pathway, and the Prato Law Program.

SONJA BOON

LSS COMPETITIONS PORTFOLIO

Interested in learning some practical legal skills that'll give you an edge in the workplace? Keen to put the content you've learned in class into practice? Law competitions are a fantastic (and fun!) way for you to experience law from a different angle, whether you're a keen first year or an old law school veteran.

Competitions are great for making new friends and having some fun while learning and exercising new skills – from the skills in advocacy you'll take from our Moots and Witness Examination competition, to the soft, client-driven skills you can pick up in our Client Interview or Negotiations competitions. Whatever area of law you're interested in, there's bound to be a competition that'll help you out.

If you've never competed before, don't worry! Almost all of our competitions are open to everyone, regardless of experience, and our workshops and competitors' guides will get you up to speed in no time. We even run a Moot just for First Year students, which is a great introduction to Mooting! We encourage you to follow the LSS Facebook page for updates, as well as the competitions page on the LSS website for more information on each competition.

Each competition has two opening rounds, open to everyone, with a break to Quarter Finals for the top eight teams afterwards. Our rounds always fall on a Monday and Wednesday, so keep those nights free if you're keen!

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Steven Dickson (Director of Competitions) at competitions@monashlss.com, or a competitions officer at compsofficers@monashlss.com

STEVEN DICKSON
DIRECTOR OF COMPETITIONS

INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW MOOT

The IHL Moot introduces students to the world of public international law. This is an area of law that is often not covered in careers sessions and is only available as an elective in later years of study. It has a fascinating moral dimension, as you may be required to defend a dictator or an alleged war criminal.

Regardless of how far you progress in the competition, your public speaking skills will improve due to the repeated practice and rigorous questioning from the bench. Monash University has competed in a number of international law moots such as the Nuremberg Moot Court and the International Commission of Jurists Victoria International Criminal Law Moot. If you are interested in these moots, then the IHL Moot is a great place to start.

In terms of preparation, the Oxford Public International Law database is your best friend. Learn how to use it properly and you will have no trouble finding relevant cases. Often you will come across International Criminal Court (ICC) cases. It is important that you understand how ICC procedure works, especially how the standard or the burden of proof can change at different stages of the trial process. Ad-hoc tribunal (such as the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia) cases are just as important. It is also important that you understand the differences between the Rome Statute and the statute that created the ad-hoc tribunals.

Regardless of how the moot goes, you and your teammates will bond over the shared experience. And who knows, you may just end up at the Hague one day!

DEVIN ELLIOT, NICHOLAS D'ARCY & ESTEE KHOO
2019 INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW MOOT
WINNERS

FIRST YEAR MOOT

The First Year Moot is a law competition exclusive to first year law students, which is a fantastic way for you to get involved as everyone else will also be a beginner!

Mooting is a mock court competition where you conduct legal research and present a case in front of a judge. Each team consists of a senior counsel, a junior counsel and an optional solicitor. The two counsels speak in court while the solicitor has an important research and advisory role.

After making it through the quarter finals, we had the opportunity to moot at competition sponsor Clayton Utz's offices in the CBD, followed by the Grand Final at the Monash MootCourt. This was a particular highlight - we were questioned on our legal understanding by a judging panel of three experienced legal professionals.

In our team of three, we focused on one ground of appeal each, which enabled us to craft our

submissions so that they fully addressed contentious issues. You should also remember that the manner of speaking is quite different from debating - you should aim for a formal conversation between you and the judge. While questions from judges can be intimidating, their purpose is to test your critical thinking skills, so don't be afraid to tackle them head on. Finally, make sure you reflect on the judges' feedback! This will help you fix flaws in your arguments and improve on your communication skills after each round.

We definitely recommend that everyone try mooting at least once, and the First Year Moot is the perfect opportunity. It allows you to develop and apply legal research skills, as well as work in a team and practice communicating in a courtroom environment.

BRYNNIE RAFF, EMILY CULPH & YU XUAN PEH
2019 FIRST YEAR MOOT WINNERS

GENERAL MOOT

The General Moot is a three-week competition run by the LSS. Each team is given the case facts and the points of appeal. Junior Division mooters will get a problem on Contract, Tort or Criminal law, while Senior Division mooters will face a problem involving any area of law. Teams prepare memoranda for both sides of the case. Our team was lucky enough to have our final round heard in the Federal Court.

Competing is a great way to find out if you enjoy research, writing and arguing. You'll get to comb the depths of Lexis, wrangle your findings into a logical argument, and come up with creative ways to defend its weak spots. It'll hone your case-reading skills, legal research skills, and teach you to write concisely but with detail. If you act as Counsel, you'll learn how to think on your feet and really improve your communication skills.

We had a blast building some crazy arguments, making lasting friendships, and it may have

helped with job opportunities too. Although it can be time-consuming, it's worth giving it a go.

Here are some handy tips:

- Know your memo inside out so you can jump around if the judge asks you to.
- When you get the opposing team's memo, research the hell out of it! They might be wrong!
- At its best, a moot is a formal discussion between you and a judge on how best to interpret a point of law. You're there to assist the judge. It's not a high school debate - most judges will respond poorly to hyperbole or aggressive manner. A professional and calm presentation goes a long way.
- Take a deep breath and have fun - you've got this!

ERIN MANUEL, ALEXANDRA LAWRENCE & GILLIAN LEE
2019 GENERAL MOOT WINNERS

NEGOTIATIONS

Genuinely everyone we talked to both during and after the LSS Negotiations Competition agreed that it was a thoroughly enjoyable and rewarding experience. Broadly speaking, the competition involves; you and a partner being given a set of facts, some of which are unique to your team's 'side' while the others are shared, three hours to discuss the facts and possible negotiation techniques with your partner, and then a 50 minute negotiation with the other team to reach a solution both sides are happy with.

Some general tips we have for the competition are:

- Try to avoid having too rigid a plan before entering the negotiation. It's great to be prepared and definitely discuss everything in detail, however plans can fall apart after a few minutes if the other team hits you with something you didn't prepare for. You want to be flexible, this will impress the judges.
- Organise your client's priorities and discuss some possible areas you might be willing to compromise in in order to gain in more important areas.
- Remember you're having a discussion with the other team, not a debate. Stay formal, however don't get aggressive or standoffish. It's important to concede on things that you can't win and to do it graciously – this is mainly what the judges are looking for.

This is a competition that requires no work prior to competition day, no legal knowledge, and no experience (we didn't do any of the above tips in the first negotiation, so you'll be fine). For that reason, this competition is perfect for first years and we cannot recommend that you give it a go strongly enough. As well as improving a skill that is useful in both your professional and everyday life, the Negotiations Competition is a great chance to get a taste of LSS competitions in a friendly and not-too-competitive environment.

TRAVIS BARTON & TRISTAN HOCKING-BROWN
2019 NEGOTIATIONS WINNERS

INTERVIEW

The Client Interview competition is an engaging, stylish and fun initiative the LSS offers to all law students, with no prior legal knowledge required.

Competing in pairs, participants will don glamorous business attire and head into the law building in the evening. A client will be assigned to each team and as lawyers, the participants must elicit information, some of it hidden, form an idea of potential issues and give simple and effective advice to the client.

Not only will competitors look stunning all night, they will also vastly improve several key legal skills. Working in a team is closely assessed, as is the ability to synthesise simple issues and feedback from a stream of information. Time management is also key and certain formalities must be observed, reflecting a day in the life of a qualified lawyer.

The competition is an excellent way for both first years and beyond to get a grip on time pressured legal situations and how to effectively facilitate discussion and be receptive to the client's desires. Suit up and get involved in Client Interview which every year never fails to enthrall!

CAMILLE LOURDES & EDDY MIZRAHI
2019 CLIENT INTERVIEW WINNERS

WITNESS EXAMINATION

There are few things as satisfying as nailing a red-faced witness in a full courtroom. If you love acting and thinking on your feet, I urge you to enrol in the Witness Examination Competition.

The competition simulates a criminal law trial. Competitors receive a brief of evidence which contains basic facts, a charge sheet and two witness statements. Representing either the Crown or the Accused, competitors must work to unravel the opposing side's argument, whilst simultaneously bolstering their own. This is principally performed through the oral-examination of live witnesses, who are each told to stick to the account contained within their written statement.

All examination must be done within the boundaries of evidence law, and the inclusion of a single word can determine whether a question is legally permissible. This is what makes the trial process so thrilling! Competitors must be constantly vigilant, ready to substantiate/defend objections whenever they arise.

For future competitors, my principle advice would be "go for it". The competition is a fun, no pressure environment, and Judges (volunteer barristers) are exceptionally encouraging. I'd also advise competitors to:

- Become familiar with basic principles of evidence law. The Monash unit is advantageous but not essential. The Judicial College of Victoria have useful resources/pocket guides;
- Remember to never ask open ended questions in cross-examination, or leading questions in examination-in-chief. Control your witness!
- Speak in plain English, and use evocative language
- Whilst questioning a witness, don't be afraid to 'pause' and think

MEGAN ROLLER

2019 WITNESS EXAMINATION WINNER

MERGERS AND ACQUISITIONS

The Deals Competition is designed for students with an interest in commercial law, and more specifically, merger and acquisitions, as it requires students to advise their client on scenarios that may arise during the merge or acquisition of another corporation. Throughout the four stages of the competition, students will likely find themselves drafting memorandums of advice and contract terms, as well as participating in oral presentations and negotiations. Completing Contract A & B are prerequisites for participation in the competition, however, you really need no prior knowledge to be successful!

We have some hot tips to offer to any students interested in participating.

- Tip #1 – You may not need prior knowledge but be prepared to work long nights to learn everything from scratch. Law firm publications and handbooks, ASIC regulatory guides, ASX listing rules and Takeovers Panel decisions should form part of your bible when navigating each task.
- Tip #2 – Go above and beyond a simple recitation of the law. The case format of the competition calls for a tailored approach to your client's problem
- Tip #3 – Rely on and trust your teammates (but not too much!). It is important to share the load of work evenly (because there is a lot) but also ensure that everything is double-checked by another pair of eyes.

We'd highly recommend getting involved in the LSS Deals Competition. Not only does it help you gain an understanding of the kind of work that commercial lawyers are involved in on a daily basis, but it also demonstrates that you have a pre-existing interest in the field of corporate law. The Deals Competition is incredibly valuable as a learning exercise – it puts the academic theory that you've learnt in your units into context.

TESSIE CHANG, JONATHAN LE & WRIJOY
CHOWDHURY

2019 MERGERS AND ACQUISITIONS WINNERS

COMMUNITY LEGAL CENTRES

Volunteering at a Community Legal Centre (CLC) is great for two reasons. One, in assisting the community through interesting and challenging work, and two, whilst developing your own skills in communicating, note taking, reasoning, organisation and confidence. Through work undertaken at CLCs, students develop valuable work experience that can help with future career growth and opportunity. There are a number of CLCs in and around Melbourne where there are opportunities for volunteering and professional practice law electives.

MONASH OAKLEIGH LEGAL SERVICE

The MOLS service located adjacent to Monash University's Clayton Campus is a legal centre which provides free legal advice to socially and economically disadvantaged residents. You can get involved at MOLS by volunteering in the night advice only sessions or through the Professional Practice law electives offered by Monash University.

SPRINGVALE MONASH LEGAL SERVICE

Similar to work undertaken by MOLS, SMLS is also a community legal centre which provides free legal advice to local residents. I currently volunteer at SMLS as a caseworker, which is a fortnightly commitment and involves interviewing, note taking, communicating advice to the client under the supervised guidance of a qualified lawyer. The work also includes creating a file note and summarising the legal advice provided to the client. Prior to casework, I volunteered also on a fortnightly basis as a receptionist at the centre, which involved attending to

clients as they entered the legal service and collecting details of the client and a brief overview of their matter. Volunteering at the legal centre is a fulfilling and at times challenging experience, and is completely different to textbook knowledge learnt at Law school.

ARSC HUMAN RIGHTS LAW PROGRAM

The Human Rights Law Program is a community legal centre providing access to justice for refugees and people seeking asylum. See ASRC article on page 46 for more details and how you can get involved.

Contact your local community legal centre and enquire about any volunteer positions!

MAHI JOSHI

ASYLUM SEEKER RESOURCE CENTRE

WHAT IS THE ASRC?

The ASRC is an independent, not-for-profit organisation based predominantly in Footscray that supports people seeking asylum through the provision of resources and support services as well as through campaigns, advocacy, social and legal work.

BECOME A VOLUNTEER

The ASRC is in need for volunteers throughout the year to work in various departments and recruit new volunteer positions quarterly. ASRC's next major recruitment round is set to happen in January 2020 and then in April. Hop on over to ASRC's website to submit an expression of interest to volunteer!

ASRC INFORMATION NIGHTS

The ASRC hosts several information nights to educate the public about the different ways they can engage with the centre, including volunteering, campaigning, fundraising and more. These nights are a great way for students and general members of the public to speak directly with ASRC staff and volunteers about the great work they do.

STUDENT PLACEMENTS

The ASRC may offer a limited number of student placements each year. These placements are often organised through the university or education centre specifically. If interested, talk to Monash University directly

THE ASRC HUMAN RIGHTS LAW PROGRAM

The ASRC HRLP is a community legal centre and a member of the Federation of Community Legal Centres that provides access to justice for refugees and people seeking asylum. The practice offers legal support including expert immigration advice and engages in community legal education and training.

The Human Rights Law Program also offers a Practical Legal Training program. Students must commit to volunteering for 2-3 days per week for a minimum of 60 days. To apply to undertake the Practical Legal Training or a student placement with the Human Rights Law Program, send a cover letter and CV to amy.s@asrc.org.au.

STUDENT EXPERIENCE, BY EIDDWEN JEFFERY

The benefits of volunteering at the ASRC are immense. Not only have I been able to network with a group of like-minded people, with whom I share core values, but I have also been able to widen my experiences and understanding of the world. Especially when it comes to understanding asylum seeker and refugee policy in Australia. When volunteering, I know that I am working within an organisation that helps provide for individuals and families that are having to re-build their sense of home. The range of services stretch over social needs (food, housing), medical (vaccinations, counselling), legal, education, employment and advocacy services. All of these services help to support and give individuals a sense of autonomy and respect. Each service has so many parts and jobs that everyone can contribute, helping lend your time and skill set towards a collective goal. For me it was administration, helping out on reception, through which I have had the opportunity to grow, support and improve the opportunities that are given to asylum seekers.

MAHI JOSHI

CAREER CONNECT

Your law career begins at enrolment, and as daunting as that may seem, there's plenty of support at Monash University to build your employability skills. Monash's Career Connect is one such service. Whether it's applying for clerkships in your penultimate year or legal volunteering applications early in your degree, Career Connect can help you hone your competitive edge.

WHERE DO I START?

It may be surprising that not many students know what employers look for in a resume, cover letter, or other job application documents. Career Connect's job application workshops and online Moodle modules, also known as "How To" workshops, cover such topics from writing resumes likely to capture the attention of any recruiter to interviewing in an engaging yet constructive manner. Once you've attended a "How To" workshop or completed the online Moodle module, you can get an online review of the job application document you've worked on. This helps tweak your resume to perfection and set yourself apart from the candidate pool of other successful, volunteering stacked law student resumes. In rare moments when you have spare time but the career-driven beast in you wants to improve, how about trying Leap into Leadership Online (LiLO)? This platform helps develop your skills by completing 12 leadership focused topics to enhance your employability. The Student Futures platform also helps you develop the 12 key skills all employers search for in valuable candidates by articulating the

skills you've learned from all parts of your professional life.

IN NEED OF GUIDANCE?

Career Connect runs career workshops which help develop and elevate your industry knowledge with over 30 career workshops, including law and consulting-specific offerings, led by an expert Career Success Coach. If you're ready to launch your applications, Monash's online portal, Career Gateway, is an invaluable tool where hundreds of job opportunities are provided alongside employability events. International students also receive significant support from Career Connect through workshops, employer events and jobs boards targeted specifically at international students.

VIVIAN LAI-TRAN

PRACTICE LEGAL TRAINING

I have to... do more study?!

After studying for six years to complete a double degree in commerce and law, the last thing I wanted to do was more study. However, the Victorian Legal Admissions Board (VLAB) had other ideas. Enter practical legal training (PLT).

PLT: VITAL STATISTICS

- Who: You.
- What: Completing PLT is one of three requirements which law graduates must meet in order to be eligible for admission to legal practice in Victoria. PLT can be undertaken as supervised legal training within a firm (rare and varies between firms) or can be undertaken as a short course (the Graduate Diploma in Legal Practice (GDLP)) administered by accredited providers. This article focuses on the GDLP.
- When: Law graduates generally complete the GDLP in their first year after graduating. The GDLP can be undertaken either full time (around 3 months) or part time (around 6 months).
- Where: The three main GDLP providers in Melbourne are the College of Law, the Leo Cussen Centre for Law and Australian National University. The GDLP may be studied either online or on-site (depending on the provider).
- Why: Learn some practical legal skills. Get a background on different practice areas. Because VLAB says so.

WHAT'S IT LIKE?

The coursework itself is relatively easy. You undertake a number of core units and electives all of which have a focus on practical lawyers skills. For the online course, there is usually a week-long on-site component. You'll meet your lecturers and focus on practical skills such as writing, problem solving and advocacy.

The coursework is pass / fail. If you fail assignments, you are given feedback and asked to resubmit the assignment. The course is about learning and preparing for practice, not stress or testing.

You also need to undertake a legal placement and begin your journey with 'continuous professional development' points. If you are working as a law graduate, this counts as your legal placement.

The course costs approximately \$10,000 (for domestic students) and student loans are available through FEE-HELP. If you are working as a graduate with a firm, the firm will usually cover the fees.

AARON CHISHOLM

GETTING ADMITTED

Every social event and family get-together, 2019:

'Congrats on finishing your law degree, Aaron. So you're a lawyer now right?'

Well no, not quite. I have to complete my practical legal training and then work in a firm as a graduate and then have an admission ceremony in the Supreme Court.

"Oh... cool. So you're not a lawyer.'

GETTING ADMITTED

If you want to practice law in Victoria and call yourself a lawyer, you must apply to be admitted to the profession. The Victorian Legal Admissions Board (VLAB) administers the admissions process.

THE THREE REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSION

Firstly, you must have successfully completed a law degree. You've come to the right place, then.

Secondly, you must have completed practical legal training. See the article at page 48 of this publication for more information.

Lastly, you must satisfy VLAB that you are a 'fit and proper person to practice law'. This requirement is perhaps the most confusing and ambiguous. The nature of lawyers' work requires that lawyers are fit to be entrusted with the heavy ethical responsibilities of being a lawyer.

When you apply for admission, you must

disclose any matter (including criminal, academic or general misconduct) that may have bearing on whether VLAB considers you fit and proper. You'll learn much more about this in Ethics and again when you complete your PLT.

ADMISSION CEREMONY AND LEGAL PRACTICE

Once you have satisfied all three of these requirements, you may be admitted as a lawyer of the Supreme Court of Victoria in a humbling ceremony. Your friends and relatives will now be proud of you. To practice law, you must obtain a practising certificate (which is essentially a formality).

PRACTICING OUTSIDE OF VICTORIA

After admission, you are eligible for admission in other Australian jurisdictions and New Zealand. Other countries have their own requirements for admission.

AARON CHISHOLM

A CAREER AT THE BAR

We have interviewed Brett Sonnet, an admitted Barrister at the Victorian Bar to get his insights into what a career at the Bar may look like.

Can you tell us a little bit about yourself?

I am now 52 years old. I was admitted as a barrister & solicitor in the Supreme Court of Victoria and High Court of Australia in 1991. Thus, I have practised law for nearly 30 years now. I have always worked in criminal law. Initially, I worked as a defence solicitor with a private firm in Prahran for 6 years. Then I worked as manager of trials at Victoria Legal Aid for 2 years. Then I worked at the Office of Public Prosecutions for the next 21 years – initially as a solicitor for 20 years and then as a Crown Prosecutor for 10 years. I left to practise as a barrister in July this year.

What does it mean to be a barrister and what motivated you to come to the Bar?

A barrister is counsel for any party to litigation or anticipated litigation. A barrister must represent the interests of their client to the best of their ability but within the rules set down by the legislature and courts. A barrister is an independent voice for any person involved in a legal dispute. I was motivated to become a barrister because of the freedom it offers a lawyer in terms of work what to do and what jurisdiction to practise.

In your opinion, what are the advantages and disadvantages of working as a Barrister?

The advantages of being a barrister is the independence. You are able to act for whoever you choose and at what fee you wish to accept. It offers a varied practice in the law. The disadvantages of being a barrister is that you must be independent, hard-working and maintain good relationships with instructing solicitors and

clients – this requires work. Often the work is difficult and performed under great time constraints. Finally, it is often not easy to argue a case before a difficult judge.

What is a usual day at the Bar? Any interesting or strange experiences?

A usual day at the Bar involves checking with your List Clerk and emails for briefs and instructions from solicitors and attending to the filing of court documents. In addition, being a barrister means that you are often in court arguing cases which can mean travel and waiting time before your case is heard. Interesting experiences involve meeting new clients for the first time. Strange experiences often involve arguing cases which have little merit before a judge.

What would your advice be for law students who are considering a career at the Bar?

The life of a barrister is not easy. However, it is made easier if you are prepared to work hard, be organised and cultivate good working relationships with persons involved in the legal system. I would recommend that a law student not enter practise as a barrister direct from law school, but rather work as a solicitor with a legal firm to develop legal skills for at least 2-3 years.

MAHI JOSHI

A CAREER OUTSIDE LAW

Paula Piccinini is currently the CEO of Safe Futures, one of the largest family violence crisis accommodation and refugee responses. Paula, a child of immigrant parents, studied Arts/Law at ANU. We asked her some questions about herself and studying law.

Can you tell us a little bit about yourself?

I was admitted to practice in 1991, signed the Bar Roll in 1997 and left the Bar in 2015. I practiced as a solicitor for 6 years then signed the Bar Roll and practiced as Barrister in the family law. Develling, write advice of other barristers. I ceased to enjoy family law as I found that the family law system tended to encourage conflict between parents that didn't benefit children. So, I decided to do a mediation course. I practiced as a mediator while I was at the Bar to segue out of the practice of family law. As a mediator, you manage to work with parents that are agreeing to be in the same room together and are able to facilitate discussion. Whilst I was there, I was fortunate enough to have a number of governance officers, including being a RACV non-executive director for 9 years and also served on the Board of not for profit family violence service. I got a job as the Manager of In house of a community legal service, and another job at a general manager at Direct Service. Prior to this current job, I also served as the Mayor of Manningham Council for two years, and am an elected councillor.

What would your advice be for law students starting law school?

The law is good generalist degree. You don't need necessarily need to practice law. Being legally literate is an important skill in a lot of fields. You've got to make the decision whether you want to practice law. Law is all about people. Life is consumed with cases and legislation and not about people and how they feel. Study of law is quite dry, but practice of law is very full and colourful. If you don't know what you're getting yourself into, try and get work in any way you can in the law whilst you're studying. Studying law is still quite gendered. Women get pushed to family and children's court and don't often pursue opportunities to practice commercially. Money is often in commercial practice, where it's still a blokes' world. See if you can break the barriers. Be a leader.

MAHI JOSHI

MONASH LAW REVIEW

The Monash University Law Review is our flagship academic journal. Founded in 1974, the Review publishes one volume of articles each year, that is comprised of three separate issues. Amazingly, the Review's editorial board is actually managed entirely by student editors and merely supervised by faculty advisors. As such, it is renowned for their scholarly publications on a broad range of legal issues. This is sponsored by Herbert Smith Freehills, King & Wood Mallesons, Allens Linklaters and Arnold Bloch Leibler.

The Law Review encourages submissions by authors in any current legal interest, which broadens to case commentaries, legislative commentaries, book reviews and law reform critiques. There are also certain special issues that are done by the Review. For instance, Intellectual Property done in 2012 – Volume 38(1), or Climate Change done in 2010 – Volume 36(1).

Further, the Review strongly urges law students at Monash to contribute to the publication of the journal. Students, if wishing to submit an article, must satisfy the requirements of an undergraduate or masters degree and accompanied by at least two written recommendations from academic staff within the respective faculties. In regards to student editors and committee members, this allows development of editing and legal writing skills, research and reviewing capabilities, and not to mention the invaluable experience gained from working on a widely recognized and respected academic publication. To join the publication team, you may either submit an application after invitation – which is generally extended to students with the highest marks in law subjects – or by general application, by emailing law.review@monash.edu.

Do note that submissions for Volume 46(2) of 2020 are now open!

ANGELA WANG

AMBASSADOR PROGRAM

The Law Ambassador program is a leadership development initiative where you get to work on a team project that benefits the community. While that description sounds vague, it actually gives you the flexibility to pursue a project you are passionate about. For example, my team identified there was a lack of guidance and knowledge about different career paths in law. Therefore, we organised a tree planting day to facilitate meaningful connections between environmentally-conscious students and legal professionals. Similarly, other teams in the past have organised a workshop about cultural competency, launched a website for unit reviews and developed an app about legal careers. Being in this program also means that you get to attend a range of workshops to develop 'employability skills' and gain insight into the legal industry.

WHY JOIN?

The best part of this program is the people you meet. It gives you a rare opportunity to connect with students in other year levels and be mentored by a range of professionals from barristers to entrepreneurs. The program also fits neatly into your uni schedule as the workshops are mostly held in the late afternoon at Clayton campus. In terms of working on your project, it is up to your team to organise regular meetings. From this, you really get to enhance your collaboration and communication skills. However, it also means that you bear the responsibility as a team to stay on track throughout the year. All your effort will then be recognised at the End of Year Showcase where teams pitch their ideas in order to get funding. Overall, I would highly recommend this program to anyone keen to kickstart their personal and professional development.

HOW TO APPLY

Applications open around March so keep an eye on your email for more details!

YU XUAN PEH

DEBATING

Debating is a great activity to take up in conjunction with studying Law at Monash! It is an activity where teams of two or three people make arguments either for or against a particular topic with the aim to convince the adjudicator that your arguments are the most persuasive. Debating clubs are usually available at high schools and universities, allowing students to improve and enhance skills in communication, reasoning and quick thinking.

Monash University has a debating club that is open to everyone! The Monash Association of Debaters abbreviated to 'MAD' is a welcoming society which runs training and competitions within Semesters with the opportunity for students to travel interstate and internationally to compete in inter-university competitions as both an adjudicator and debater.

Student Experience from Monash student debater Anita Nair (3rd Year)

Debating at university, why do it? The first reason was to find a group of friends around me. The trainings have no obligations, there's quite a few law students involved and a few trips/socials, so it quickly became a place where I found a group of friends who I could also now recognise in lectures or tutorials. Secondly, it is genuinely helpful for academics, and not just through public speaking. Debating also forces you to consider the values and ramifications of things we do in the world and present them in a way which is understandable to someone else. It also ensures that you have some knowledge of what is going on in the world. Whether that's through reading the news for topics or listening to incredibly knowledgeable people make cases, it's an easy access point to really understand current affairs of the world.

MAHI JOSHI

MODEL UN

Model United Nations (UN) is an interactive conference focusing on international affairs and global matters. University delegates represent the views of a particular country in a committee and work together with other nations to create a resolution to a specific topic.

In April 2019, I participated in the National Model United Nations (NMUN) in New York, USA. I spent nine months researching foreign policy, writing position papers and practicing speeches to prepare for this week-long conference. I represented Papua New Guinea within the United Nations Environment Assembly, discussing global solutions to ocean plastic pollution. This experience has been my greatest achievement at university thus far, because I was able to practically apply my written and oral skills in a 'real-life' context and travel at the same time! The

fourteen delegates became one huge family and it became a two-week sleep-over in this diverse and super cool international city! By actively collaborating with other delegates, I was able to make friends from all over the world, including from Europe, Asia, and Britain. My opinions were consistently challenged, expanding my knowledge and refining my critical analysis skills. When I reflect back, I treasure the 'little' things the most, such as memories of people laughing in our hotel room or eating authentic Italian pizza at a restaurant on a cold night.

Model UN runs conferences both locally at a state level and internationally overseas. If this intrigues you, I'd encourage you to apply because I can promise you won't regret it!

SARAH SULLIVAN

HOW TO SELF-SOURCE AN INTERNSHIP

Obtaining an internship position can be really challenging and a competitive process. In 2018 I completed a three-month internship at the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP). Here are my top tips for self-sourcing your own internship:

MAKE A LIST:

Start by making a dot-point list of all of the specific organisations, firms, or companies that you are interested in potentially interning at and separate them into categories like, 'definitely', 'maybe', 'not sure'. This helps to re-organise priorities, however be careful of being too picky! Experience is experience, regardless of where it is at.

GET EMAILING!

Then draft a generic email to all of the places on the list, expressing your interest, availabilities and contact details, such as your email or phone (if comfortable). Add in a sentence or two that personalises the email to the individual organisation, which shows that you have researched the company/firm beforehand. Use the website's generic contact email address, or if there is a direct email to the HR representative or recruiting staff/hiring manager use that instead.

USE LINKEDIN EFFECTIVELY:

Most recruiters are actively searching for graduates and interns on LinkedIn; most industry professionals have their email address/phone number on their

company's website, so search their names on LinkedIn and add them as a connection. Whilst adding them, send a private message outlining your interest in their organisation and if any volunteer programs/placements are available.

CREATE A 'CONTACT LIST':

I would create a 'contact list/table' with all of the names, occupations, emails and phone numbers of any industry representatives or professionals that you come across. Keep this list for personal records and accessing information in the future.

BE PREPARED FOR MULTIPLE CALLS/COMMUNICATION:

Sometimes organisations are busy and you may have to call/email multiple times to get through properly. Also, if there are no current availabilities at the organisation, keep them on file and email them in a few months' time to check again, or ask if another department might need an intern. Do not give up, with a bit of patience you will get there!

SARAH SULLIVAN

SURVIVING LAW

EAT, DRINK AND BE MERRY

Monash has a plethora of lunch and coffee places available to fulfil all your foodie desires. Unfortunately, this will not reflect as positively on your bank account unless you know the insider secrets such as LSS card discounts available and end of day specials. Some of the best places to eat or grab your daily dose of caffeine include Artichoke and Whitebait, Church of Secular Coffee, Nesso, Taste Baguette and Grafali's.

GRAFALI'S

As an all-time favourite, it is no secret that Grafali's make great coffee. In saying that, it also means that they are often quite busy, perhaps heightened by its central location in campus centre. The food is also slightly pricier compared to other places in the vicinity and no end of day specials are available. Note that they do not accept LSS card but they do accept an MSA card if you are ordering a small sized coffee. However, it is the only café in campus centre which is open on weekends, which is an absolute saviour around SWOTVAC when caffeine consumption tends to match water consumption for most law students.

NESSO

Located in the basement of the Learning and Teaching building, Nesso is great for a quick coffee on the way to a lecture. However, they don't accept LSS card or have discounts on coffee. They do however, have a morning deal of a regular coffee and egg & bacon muffin or Danish for \$6.50 before 10:30am. They provide filling lunch options such as pasta and have a lunch special in which you can get 3 dishes with free bottle of water for \$12, which is an absolute steal.

TASTE BAGUETTE

Located in Menzies, Taste Baguette has great tasting coffee and baguettes! No misleading marketing here. They have affordable coffee and also accept the LSS card for a discount. Additionally, they have end of day specials which include their filled baguettes among other quiches and roll's for lunch. They also offer a variety of pastries and croissants.

CHURCH OF SECULAR COFFEE

Church of Secular Coffee, located near the big outside screen, is one of the only cafes on campus that do a full sit-down brunch. They have such a trendy cafe ambience that it's easy to forget you're at university. In saying that, it is not the cheapest place to eat as prices are on the higher side for university student standards. However, this is to be expected for a full brunch cafe and in fact it is comparatively cheap for suburban brunch with meals ranging from \$14-\$19. They also do discounts for coffee if you bring your own keep cup. As it is fairly new, they do get quite busy which can often extend the wait for take-away coffee.

ARTICHOKE AND WHITEBAIT

Artichoke & Whitebait is the best in terms of value for money, quality, and customer service in campus centre. They accept the LSS card for 10% off coffee, however that makes you ineligible for stamps towards their loyalty card. Additionally, they make sandwiches, focaccias, wraps and salads. You can customise your own using their fresh ingredients, similar to Subway but fresher and with far more variety. Most importantly, around 3pm (sometimes earlier) they start their end of day specials in which pre-made focaccias or wraps are available for \$6 and sandwiches for \$4. If that doesn't convince you, the fact that they sell Daniel's Donuts definitely will. Their killer specials, along with their stellar staff and amazing customer service makes Artichoke ideal as your daily coffee and lunch go-to café.

ALINA ALI

PEER MENTOR PROGRAM

Congratulations on getting into law school! It is a fantastic achievement to get here, and the Peer Mentor Program (PMP) is here to help kick-start your law school journey. For more than a decade, the PMP has long been responsible for facilitating the efficient transition of first year students by fostering positive social relationships.

The PMP is here to address all your burning questions and make the experience of adjusting to university a little bit less daunting than it seems. Your involvement in the PMP will see you allocated to a group of first year students with a pair of older students who act as your mentors. Your group is conveniently based on your geographical location, so you'll be set with Uber and study buddies even before Week 1!

All the voluntary mentor students are equipped to answer questions relating to study skills, course content, campus life and any other uni-related issues you may come across in your personal and professional lives during first year. They'll also be present at all events that we have planned to make your first year journey more enjoyable, especially in your first few weeks.

MENTEE WELCOME DAY

PMP kicks off the social and academic calendar of first year law with Mentee Welcome Day - a perfect opportunity for you to be introduced to the Monash Law Students' Society and to meet your mentors and other students for the first time. Enjoy a delicious afternoon tea, while in the presence of your future first-year cohort.

INTRO NIGHT

This is a free, fun and laidback social event which is another great opportunity to get to know your mentors and fellow first year law cohort. On the night, you will join your mentors and group for dinner, then travel together to the Caulfield Park Sports Club for some booze, some mingling and a boogie. You may just meet your new best friend, or the love of your life - we've seen both happen before and hope to see that happen again!

O-DAY

In conjunction with the Law Faculty, PMP will be hosting your O-Day experience. On the day, you will be addressed by various members of the Faculty, the LSS team and university portfolios that may be helpful for you. Following that, you will partake in a fun campus scavenger hunt, and be audience to a Q&A panel of senior students who, between them, have a variety and wealth of experiences to draw on to answer all your questions about what is to come.

STUDY SKILLS SESSIONS

Where would Monash law students be without their trusty Law Library ('Lawbry')? Probably wandering around trying to find a quiet nook amongst the chaos of Hargrave-Andrew. The Law Library team have invited us back again to assist them with running the Study Skills Sessions you need to kickstart your study habits in first year. There will be multiple hour-long sessions available to book into where members of the mentoring team sit down with a group of you and chat about course tips, exam preparation and generally introduce you to a different mode of study required in law school.

THE REST OF SEMESTER

With more of a focus on social networking and wellbeing than ever before, the 2020 PMP Program promises a great semester ahead with a multitude of different social events.

ZAC SCHERGER
PEER MENTOR COORDINATOR

HEALTH & WELLBEING EVENTS

The Law Students Society is proud to present new and fresh Health and Wellbeing events for 2020! Law school can be both stressful and daunting and therefore it is our aim to make your time here as students as enjoyable as possible.

New in 2020, Health and Wellbeing is thrilled to host 'Wellness Wednesday'. This is a pop up event that will be running on the Wednesday of Week 6 in both semesters! We are hoping to provide lots of freebies, plenty of healthy snacks, and a little zone that will distract you from university stresses!

Additionally, we believe in the importance of educating you on tips and tricks that will help you get through your studies. We are also providing voluntary lectures by experienced individuals in the hopes that you walk away with some key study skills that may reduce stress throughout the course of your degree!

Mental Health Week is also one to mark in your calendar! This usually occurs at the end of semester two and aims to promote a balanced and healthy lifestyle. Don't shy away from the free delicious snacks that will be set up in the law library and loads of boost vouchers! We also launch the annual health and wellbeing publication known as the 'Being Guide' which is filled with healthy recipes and mental health tips tailored specifically for law students.

Definitely do not miss Boof and Kaz, our therapy dogs, who often come visit students in the law library weekly! Both Boof and Kaz adore a pat and cuddle, they are impossible to avoid and never fail to put a smile on faces.

We cannot wait to provide these health and wellbeing initiatives in 2020 so definitely stay tuned throughout the year!

ANDREA FRANCO
HEALTH & WELLBEING OFFICER

EXERCISE

Law school is an amazing experience. You will be challenged academically and make great friends, however it can also be a stressful time – especially during assignment and exam periods. This is why it is important to make sure that, during these periods of heightened stress and anxiety, you take the time to look after yourself. With many supporting the idea that exercise reduces stress and anxiety, the benefits for your mental and physical wellbeing cannot be overstated.

One of the best ways to deal with the stressful periods during your studies is through exercise. Not only is it a great way to keep in shape during the semester, but it can also be an opportunity to make new friends. Monash has a number of sporting and exercise clubs which students are encouraged to participate and join.

Specifically for law students who are looking to keep in shape and meet people in the legal

industry, the Law Institute of Victoria (LIV) has a running club for members that is held once a week on a Monday night at 6pm outside their office at 140 Williams Street. All are welcome to join in to remain healthy and to chat with other members of the industry while you exercise.

The law school may also run yoga sessions in the lead up to the exam period as well. This is a great opportunity to work out and remain mindful of yourself in the company of your friends at law school.

Given the challenges ahead, it is highly recommended that you remember to take time out of your busy schedule to look after yourself. Even a small amount of time reserved once a week to go for a run or workout will keep you healthy and help you remain happy in your studies.

PATRICK HOOTON

STRESS MANAGEMENT

A large part of surviving law school involves learning stress management strategies and having mechanisms in place which will prevent you from feeling overwhelmed and burnt out. Speaking from personal experience, it can seem like you are drowning in work and you can often feel discouraged when your hard work is not reflected in your results.

Stress as a law student is unique as it actualises in two variations. Firstly, you have to manage external stress created by lecturers and the inherent difficulty of the degree. Secondly, you have to manage internal stress created in comparing yourself to other law students and their accomplishments and grades. Evidently, law is starkly different to high school as everyone doing the degree is equally as bright as the person next to them, hence it is essential to stop drawing comparisons, especially numerically, otherwise your life can get consumed by the degree. This can have negative implications on other aspects of your life such as your mental health, thus learning efficient stress management is integral to surviving law.

A few coping mechanisms include exercise, organisation, and balance. Firstly, frequent exercise plays a huge role in stress management as it relieves healthy endorphins and maintains a sense of balance and routine or consistency in your life. Secondly: organisation!!! Nothing revolutionary or new here folks, but never underestimate how important organisation is to stress management. Be organised with which assignments need to be completed by which date and prioritise your time accordingly. Additionally, you can't realistically do every reading (not to deter you from trying), so prioritise those essential to understanding the topic at hand and use the rest of your time to work on assignments. Using a planner or some visual display of upcoming deadlines can help substantially with this. Lastly, balance. Don't cut off your social life or hobbies or compromise spending time with loved ones in order to constantly be studying, this is not sustainable! Law school is a marathon not a sprint, so pace yourself. Have a strong support network, and most importantly, support yourself through law school by having effective stress management mechanisms in place.

ALINA ALI

MONASH COUNSELLING SERVICES

There's no pretending that law school isn't tough. Friends, family, PASS class, LSS tutorials, meditation, exercise, etc. can all be super helpful and assist in getting through your units and exams and, sometimes, this will be exactly what you need. However, sometimes you need more directed, tailored and professional assistance. This is where counselling can come in.

Monash provides a free counselling service for all students, which is situated in the health clinic, right opposite World Point/next to the pharmacy in Campus Centre. No problem is too big or too small. There are a number of counsellors with different specialisations, including anxiety, academic performance and stress, procrastination and disordered eating.

Please reach out if you feel like you need some help. You can call up Monash Counselling to make an appointment. There is also a phone counselling service (open 24/7): 1300 STUDENT (1300 788 336). Note that if you would prefer to seek help off campus, there are numerous places you can do this. Great places to start include your GP (you may be able to get a mental health plan) or Headspace.

NATALIE ADLER

