

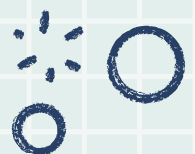
A U S L S S

AUSTRALIA SINGAPORE LAW STUDENTS' SOCIETY

## AUSLSS 2024/25 WRAPPED



*A look back on our journey and accomplishments as a community this past term.*



# Outgoing President's Message

To all who made this journey possible,

I am grateful beyond words for the past year, serving as the Fourth President of the Australia Singapore Law Students' Society (AUSLSS). This role has been extra special to me, having undergone many months of exciting experiences and challenging milestones.

In my incoming message, I expressed that my vision for this term was twofold: to continue honouring the traditions that past committees have worked hard to build, while also striving to create new opportunities and address aspects that have yet to be explored. At the time, I carried this vision with optimism, but also with an awareness of the weight of the role. I was still in my first year of law school and learning to adjust to so much at once.

What truly made all the difference was my incredible team, whose talent and dedication I am both heartened by and immensely proud of. They have been amazing at supporting this vision and in bringing ideas to life, no matter how big or small, conventional or out of the ordinary. I am especially grateful to Anoushka Thanikesh (External Affairs Vice President), Ashley Tung (Internal Affairs Vice President), and Joyee Goh (Publications Director). They have been my constants through every idea, brainstorm, and challenge.

I wish them the very best in the next chapters of their journey, and may they continue to create positive impacts on the legal community and wider society, just as they have done so admirably this term. On a personal note, I am proud that this year marked progress in paving the way for more women to take up leadership within AUSLSS, a milestone I hope will inspire many more to follow.

We first introduced a mentorship programme, an experimental attempt to explore ways to create initiatives where AUSLSS alumni and current members could come together. We also had our very first collaboration with the United Kingdom Singapore Law Students' Society (UKSLSS), where both our publications and editorial teams partnered to write an article relating to medical law.

I was especially heartened to have organised our first Australia-based event, a picnic in Perth where I am based, following an earlier one in Singapore. As we quickly grew, we were presented with the opportunity to collaborate with the Singapore Legal Service for two more Australia-based events in Melbourne and Sydney, both of which saw an encouraging turnout.

We have also kept our webinars running, with seven of them this term, covering various areas of law and contributed by both our internal and external teams. In addition, we published a second edition of the Law School Guide through our Publications team and produced a podcast highlighting diverse legal careers.

# Outgoing President's Message

This term's achievements would not have been possible without the lawyers and collaborators who generously devoted their time and expertise. I am honoured to acknowledge the following contributors:

- Ramesh Selvaraj and Yzabel Dumaguing (International Arbitration Webinar)
- Kelvin Kwek, Giselle Ng, and Serene Gan (SCCA x AUSLSS Webinar)
- Gillian Woon and Marilyn Wai (Navigating Australian Legal Careers Webinar)
- Laxman Khanna (Singapore Picnic)
- Tommy Tang, Tyzton Tan, Yusrini Yusof, and Chen Da Tan (Perth Picnic)
- Ashley Ang (Addleshaw Goddard Webinar)
- Greg Barns SC and Trish Cameron (Careers that Change Lives Webinar)
- Deputy Attorney-General Tai Wei Shyong SC, 2nd Chief Prosecutor Isaac Tan, DCP David Khoo, DPPs Clara Low and James Chew, and LSC Secretariat Paul Kishin (Legal Service Tea in Melbourne and Sydney)
- Alyson Lim (President, UKSLSS), Choon Wee Yeo (Editor-in-Chief), and the UKSLSS Editorial Team
- SILE Executive Director Rachel Tan (Diverse Legal Careers Podcast)

Their support has been invaluable, and each of these events was enriched by their insights and generosity. I would also like to extend my appreciation to our alumni, who have generously shared their guidance, helping me develop in both leadership and perspective. Finally, to my family and friends: thank you for having my back through it all. Your support kept me resilient while balancing this role, law school, and life abroad.

It is now my privilege to hand over the reins to Sanjeev Vijayakumar, whose vision and dedication have already made such an impact. I have no doubt he will take AUSLSS to even greater heights and I encourage you to support him wholeheartedly.

I am truly proud of what we've achieved together, and I hope to continue giving back to this society that has grown to mean so much to me.

With gratitude,  
*Nurshamin Wan*

Outgoing President 2024/25, 4th Executive Committee  
Australia Singapore Law Students' Society (AUSLSS)

# Overview

Building on the strong foundations of previous committees, we grew to organise 14 events and initiatives this term, making it our most eventful one yet. We hope this paves the way for future committees to grow even further.

## External Affairs

International Arbitration Webinar  
SCCA x AUSLSS Webinar  
Navigating Australian Legal Careers Webinar  
Addleshaw Goddard Webinar  
Careers that Change Lives Webinar

## Internal Affairs

Mooting Webinar  
Law School Advice Webinar

## Publications

Law School Guide 2.0  
UKSLSS x AUSLSS Collaborative Article  
Podcast with Singapore Institute of Legal Education (SILE)

## President Ad-Hoc Initiatives

Singapore & Perth Picnic Networking  
Melbourne & Sydney Tea Sessions with Singapore Legal Service  
AUSLSS Mentorship Program

## Design & Outreach Acknowledgements

We gratefully acknowledge the outreach and design contributions of our Student Engagement Officer, which enabled the following events and initiatives to come to life.

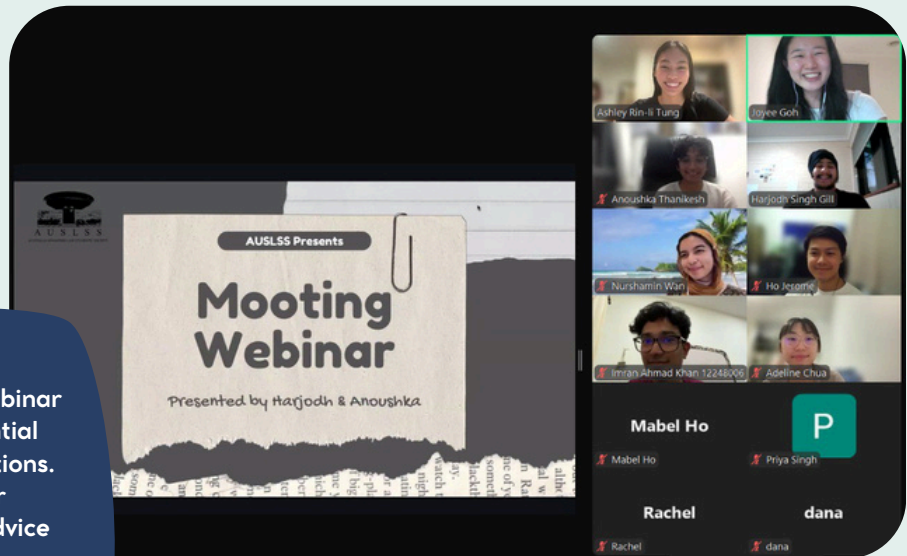
Being SEO has been such a rewarding experience. From designing posters to running socials and finding fun ways to showcase AUSLSS events, I have loved contributing to the society and seeing the impact good design can have. It has also taught me how much creativity and collaboration go into bringing a community together.

~ Adriana Ling, Student Engagement Officer

NOV  
2024

# Mooting Webinar

We opened the term with this webinar that provided insight into essential skills to perform well in competitions. It also offered a platform for interested students to ask for advice from two of our active mooting competitors!



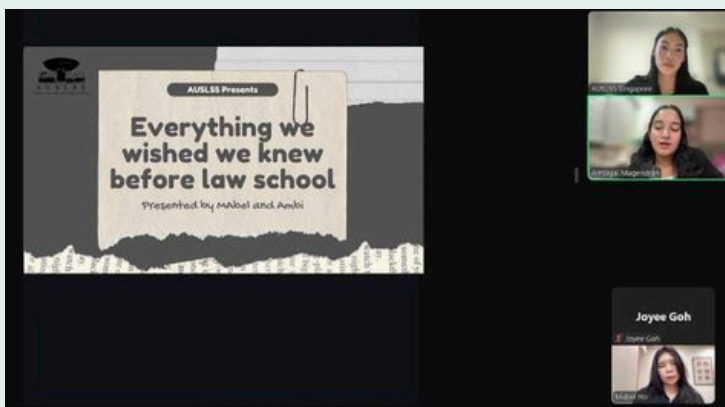
Speaking at the mooting webinar was really meaningful to me because mooting has been such a big part of my growth in law school, especially in building confidence and sharpening my legal writing.

I'm glad I was able to share that journey and hopefully encourage others to see how much mooting can help them too.

~ Harjodh Singh Gill, Internal Affairs Officer

# Law School Advice Webinar

JAN  
2025



Featuring our senior law students, Ambi and Mabel, this webinar was an opportunity for students to hear from those who've been through it and gain valuable tips to help them succeed. They spoke about the tips on navigating law school as an international student, double degree insights, practical advice on stress management, what they wished they had done differently, including an interactive Q & A session.

Getting the opportunity to moderate the webinars hosted by our very own executive members was a fulfilling experience and I was so impressed with all our presenters. I appreciate how they took the time off their busy schedules to provide such informative webinars for our members!

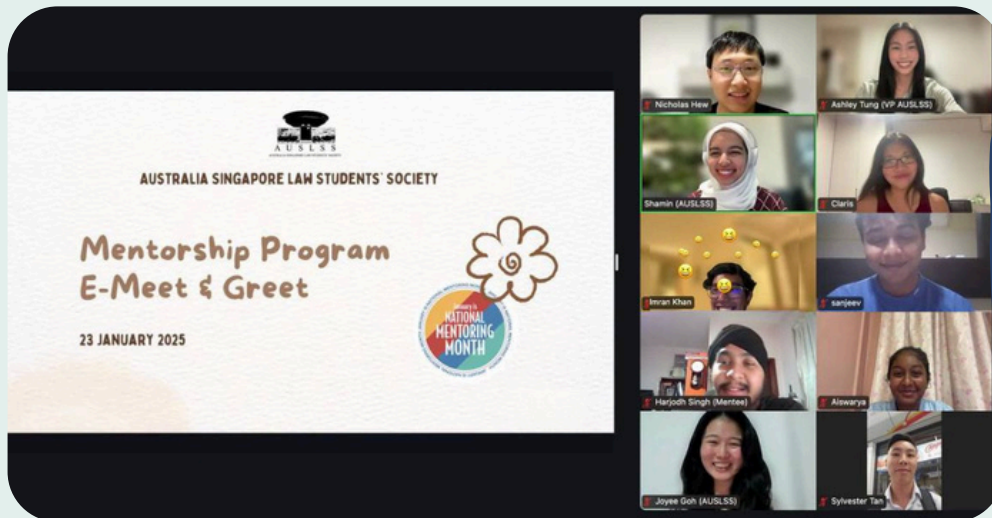
I'm grateful for the chance to speak at the webinar. It felt meaningful to share my own experiences and hopefully provide some clarity and reassurance to students who are just beginning their law school journey.

~ Ashley Tung, Internal Vice President

~ Mabel Ho, Internal Affairs Officer



# Mentorship Programme E-Meet & Greet



We hosted this session to guide the mentors and mentees through an overview of the program, including tips and resources to effectively benefit from this mentorship. It was exciting to have worked with ten groups of mentors and mentees for this inaugural session, and to see the connections thrive over the months.

This was a useful session to ease the mentors and mentees into the program. I particularly enjoyed seeing the seniors and alumni of AUSLSS come together with the current members and I hope there can be more collaborations like this in the future!

~ Sanjeev Vijayakumar, Treasurer and Mentor

**FEB  
2025**

## Singapore Picnic Networking

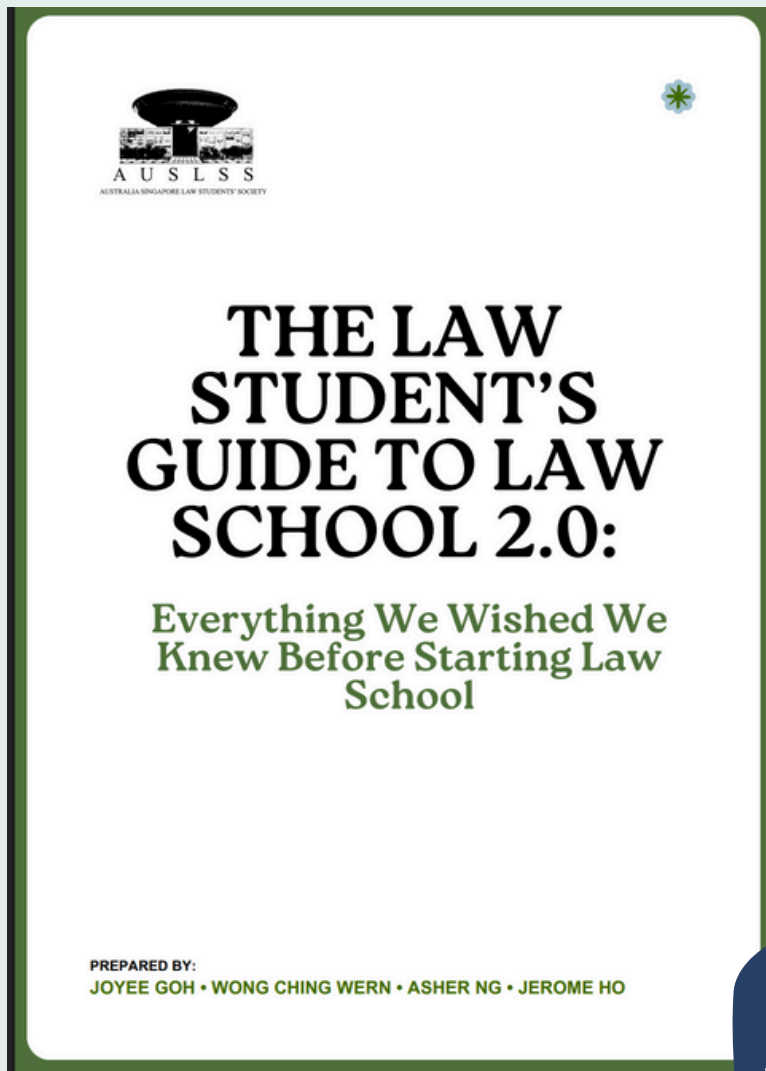
This session brought together new law students, seasoned students, and a practicing lawyer to share tips and support for the legal journey ahead.



The picnic event was a warm and enjoyable way to kickstart my law degree, giving me the chance to meet new people and gain valuable insights from those already on their journey in law school. The supportive legal community made the experience especially reassuring, helping me ease into the degree with enthusiasm.

~ Simone Choo, AUSLSS Member

# Publication - The Law Student's Guide to Law School 2.0



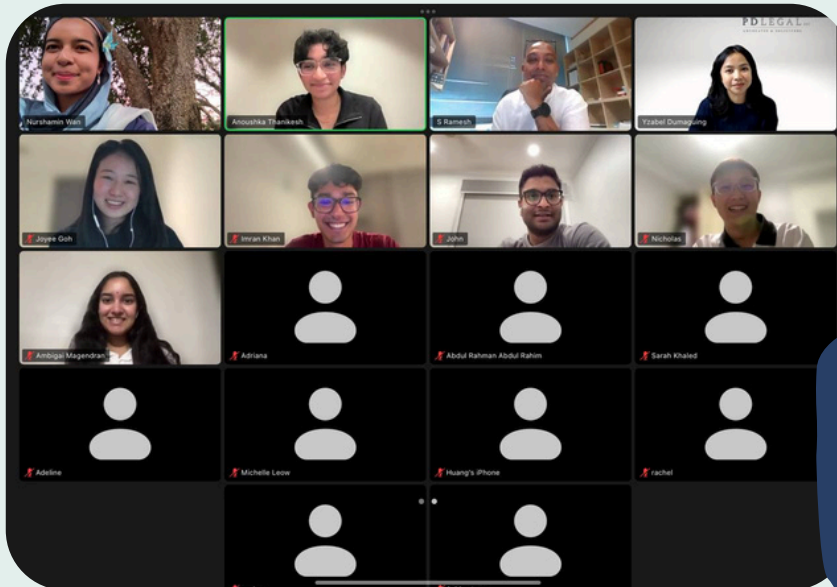
In this guide, we expanded on the advice that was provided in the first edition through seventeen tips. These cover how to:

- Navigate the law school environment
- Study effectively
- Find your interests in law
- Balance law school and life abroad

'Advice that I Wished I Had Received in Y1 of Law School' guide was the first publication I led from start to finish, overseeing the planning, writing, and editorial process. At first, it felt daunting since leading a team was something I was not yet accustomed to. However, the experience proved to be incredibly rewarding as I saw my team's ideas take shape and each member's contributions come through in the final piece - it simply wouldn't have been possible without their effort.

~ Joyee Goh, Publications Director

# International Arbitration Webinar



Featuring Ramesh Selvaraj from Allen & Gledhill and Yzabel Dumaguig from PDLegal, the speakers provide their advice and share their journey into this growing field.

**MAR  
2025**

## SCCA x AUSLSS Webinar



Kelvin Kwek, General Counsel at Samsung Asia and Giselle Ng, Principal Corporate Counsel at Microsoft share their experiences on life as an in-house counsel.

During my term, I organised and moderated a webinar on International Arbitration to introduce students to a thriving yet often overlooked area of law. Additionally, I convened a webinar in collaboration with the Singapore Corporate Counsel Association, providing students with insights into the role of an in-house counsel in the technology sector and the growing impact of AI. It was rewarding to see months of effort come to fruition, helping students explore potential career paths and better prepare for their future in law.

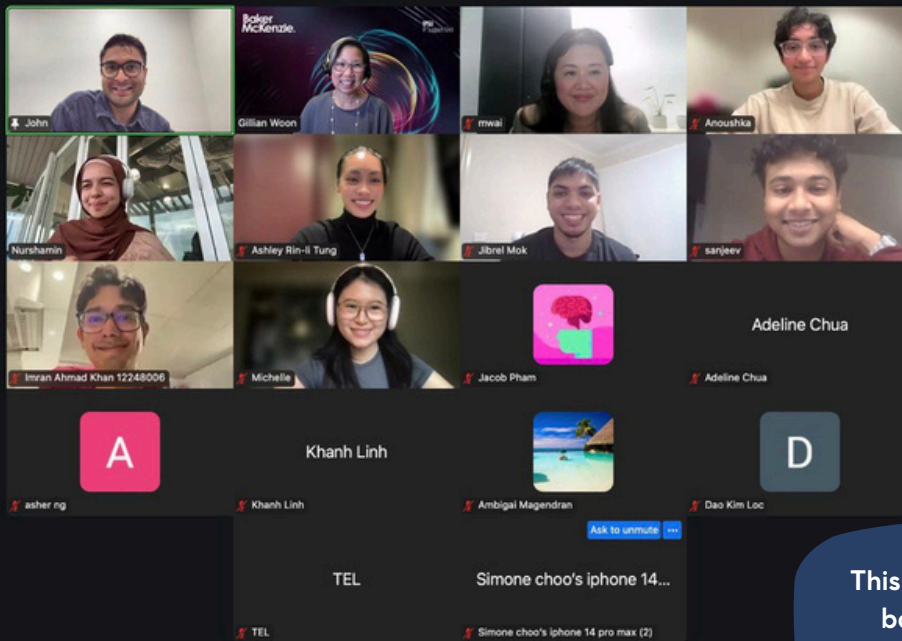


Thank you to Serene Gan from SCCA, for her continued support for our society, including her efforts and expertise in organising this collaborative webinar!



# Navigating Australian Legal Careers

APR  
2025



This webinar featured lawyers based in Australia: Gillian Woon from Baker McKenzie and Marilyn Wai from Hunt & Hunt Lawyers. They delved into the intricacies of their career and navigating the transition from Singapore to Australia.

I'm grateful for the opportunity to moderate the Legal Careers in Australia Webinar. It was rewarding to see students gain confidence and clarity in pursuing their legal careers in Australia, especially hearing from Singaporean professionals who have successfully navigated the transition.

~ John Abraham, External Affairs Officer

# Perth Picnic Networking



In April, AUSLSS hosted our first in-person event in Australia! This picnic networking session at Matilda Bay, Perth, brought students and lawyers together to learn and share experiences and advice about the legal field.

It was heartening to see how a calm space encouraged people to connect with ease and it was even more meaningful that it was held near my home university, UWA. I hope that future members of the AUSLSS Exco will continue creating casual initiatives like these near their own campuses, to build diverse experiences across our wider community.

I would like to extend my immense gratitude to Tommy Tang, Tyzton Tan, and Yusrini Yusof from Tan & Tan Lawyers, along with Chen Da Tan from the State Solicitor's Office, for generously sharing their time and insights with us. We're also incredibly grateful to our wonderful volunteers, Dana Khalaf and Joanne DCruz, for doing such an amazing job with the photos and set-up!

*~ Nurshamin Wan, President*

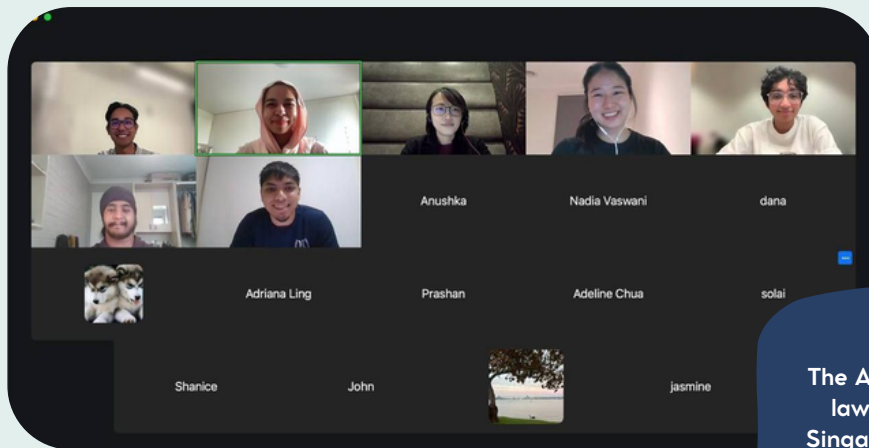


Organising the first-ever in-person event in Perth was truly a joy! It was a really eye-opening experience reaching out to lawyers for the first time to take part and more so in executing the event!

*~ Kalyaniambigai Magendran (Ambi), Internal Affairs Officer*



# Addleshaw Goddard Webinar



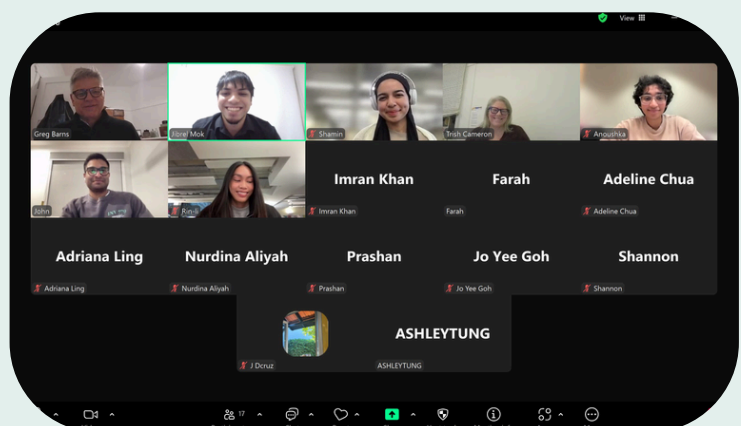
The AUSLSS hosted a webinar with a lawyer from Addleshaw Goddard Singapore, sharing her unique career journey, including her decision to return to Singapore after working in Australia, and offered valuable insights into the world of construction law.

I had the opportunity to moderate a webinar with an international arbitration firm and it was a privilege to work with Ashley Ang, who was part of the Construction and Engineering practice group. The experience was a smooth and pleasant one, with Ashley sharing her insights into specialising in construction law, among other relevant pointers for law students!

*~ Imran Khan, External Affairs Officer*

## Careers that Change Lives Webinar

This webinar featured Greg Barns SC from Albert Wolff Chambers and Trish Cameron from the Tasmanian Refugee Legal Service. The speakers shared their experiences in migration, human rights, and social justice law, shedding light on the realities of working in these impactful areas.



Moderating this webinar was a privilege. Hearing the speakers' stories and the impact they've had in refugee and migration law left me reflecting on the kind of difference I hope to create in my own career.

*~ Jibrel Mok, External Affairs Officer*



# Legal Service Tea Sessions in Melbourne and Sydney

JUL  
2025



AUSLSS collaborated with the Singapore Legal Service and the Singapore Global Network to host tea sessions with Deputy Attorney-General Tai Wei Shyong. He shared insights into his legal journey, from his early days as a Justices' Law Clerk to his current appointment at the Attorney-General's Chambers.



I had the opportunity to attend and assist the Legal Service Tea Melbourne Session, which featured the Deputy Attorney General, Chief Prosecutors, and Legal Service Officers. They shared insightful and candid experiences about their work in prosecution. I thoroughly enjoyed the session and found it an enriching opportunity to learn from them directly.

~ Adeline Chua, Secretary

Assisting with the Sydney Legal Service Tea was both insightful and motivating, giving me a clearer understanding of the many pathways within the Singapore Legal Service. It was a meaningful experience to contribute to the event while also learning from the diverse career journeys shared.

~ Shreya Menon, AUSLSS Member

# UKSLSS x AUSLSS Collaborative Publication

SEP  
2025

## COMPARATIVE ARTICLE UKSLSS X AUSLSS



UKSLSS x AUSLSS

### A Comparative Study of the Development and Applicability of the "Bolam" test across the United Kingdom, Australia and Singapore

#### Writers:

Alyssa Tan • Julius Goh • Wong Ching Wern • Asher Ng

#### Editors:

Sit Jie Ren • Shu Yi Tan • Choon Wee Yeo

#### Introduction

The 'Bolam-Bolitho' test has long served as the primary standard for determining whether a medical professional has breached their duty of care. Established in *Bolam v Friern Hospital Management Committee* ("Bolam"),<sup>1</sup> the test, as articulated by McNair J, assesses negligence based on whether a doctor has "acted in accordance with a practice accepted as proper by a responsible body of medical men skilled in that particular art".<sup>2</sup> *Bolitho v City and Hackney Health Authority* ("Bolitho")<sup>3</sup> later refined this standard by clarifying that "a responsible body" of medical opinion must have "logical basis".<sup>4</sup>

In this inaugural collaborative article between UKSLSS and AUSLSS, we explore how the law has struggled to balance patient autonomy with medical discretion, examining how each jurisdiction has reshaped the legacy of the *Bolam-Bolitho*.

A huge thank you to the publication and editorial teams from both committees for your amazing efforts!

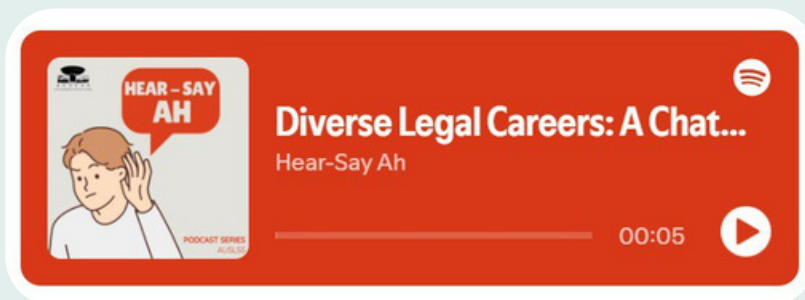
Collaborating with law students from a different jurisdiction has been a rewarding experience. Through this joint article with the UKLSS, we were able to exchange perspectives and enrich our research with diverse insights.

~ Asher Ng, Publications Officer

Working with UKSLSS has been really fulfilling. Learning about how the legal system works in both the UK and Singapore gave me so much to reflect on, especially when comparing the differences across the three countries' commonwealth-rooted legal systems.

~ Wong Ching Wern, Publications Officer

## Podcast with SILE



In this episode, the AUSLSS team chats with Rachel Tan, Executive Director at the Singapore Institute of Legal Education (SILE). From her beginnings as a Foreign Service Officer to her roles in private practice, academia, and now at SILE, she shares the motivations behind her career pivots and the lessons learnt along the way.

We are so excited to have contributed to this podcast, it was both of our first times recording one! Rachel was a pleasure to chat with, she was such a thoughtful and engaging speaker. She reminded us that there's so much to explore within the legal field, it's a space that constantly challenges and inspires! We would also like to express our appreciation to Jerome Ho for editing the recording. He has done an excellent job!

~ Joyee & Shamin, Podcast Moderators





# Meet Our Incoming President



## 1. Could you tell us a little about yourself and your journey so far?

Hi! I'm Sanjeev, a third-year Bachelor of Laws (Hons) student at the University of Tasmania. I started out in Business and Engineering, completing a diploma in those fields, but a chance experience in law sparked my passion for the field.

I'm particularly drawn to construction law and commercial disputes. While some might find the technical complexity dry, I actually enjoy the challenge and the detail involved. This attention to detail and love of complexity is what I bring to every legal challenge, and what I hope to carry into my future career.

## 2. What first sparked your interest in studying law?

What first sparked my interest in law was a legal internship I took during my diploma. I was given the chance to work on a variety of cases, including criminal matters and even an appellate case on proprietary estoppel. I still remember sitting in court, completely captivated as experienced litigators cross-examined witnesses; it was the first time I truly saw the law come alive.

That sense of excitement drew me in, and while my interests have since evolved towards construction law and commercial disputes, the spark came from those early moments of being in the courtroom and realising how powerful and dynamic law could be.

## 3. What has been the most rewarding or surprising part of law school for you so far?

Studying abroad has been one of the biggest challenges I have faced, and being away from the comforts of home took time to adjust to. Law school itself has been a journey of highs and lows; it has brought moments of pride when results reflect the effort put in, but also long and difficult nights of preparation and doubt.

What has stood out to me most is how much I have learnt through those challenges. My friends and faculty have been a constant source of support, and I was especially surprised by how approachable my professors are, always willing to set aside time to guide and encourage us.

The most rewarding part has been realising that resilience is not about avoiding setbacks, but about finding the strength to push through them with the right people beside you. That lesson has shaped not only my experience in law school but also the way I approach life.

## 4. How did you first hear about the AUSLSS, and what drew you to get involved?

I first heard about the AUSLSS through a senior, but at the time, I didn't have the capacity to get involved. I also felt that my legal knowledge and experience were still developing, and I wanted to build that foundation before taking on a role within the society.

## **5. What skills or lessons have you gained from working with the AUSLSS Executive Committee?**

Under the leadership of Shamin, the main thing I took away was the importance of collaboration and adaptability. Taking in the ideas of others often leads to better outcomes, and working with a diverse team really highlighted that for me.

There were also many situations where we didn't have the luxury of time. As a growing society, we often had to make the best of any opportunity, and being able to adapt effectively made a real difference in achieving our goals.

## **6. Would you recommend others to join the AUSLSS as an executive committee member?**

Absolutely. Beyond the obvious benefit of strengthening your CV with extracurricular experience, serving on the AUSLSS Executive Committee gives you the chance to contribute to the welfare of students like yourself. You get to be part of something bigger than yourself, and I can honestly say that there is a unique sense of fulfilment that comes from making a meaningful impact on the Singaporean law student community.

## **7. If a student is just starting law school, what advice would you give them?**

My advice would be to study smart, not just hard! Focus on mastering the main principles of each topic first. Once you have a solid understanding of the core concepts, the secondary rules and nuances become much easier to grasp. Learning from more experienced students can help you identify what is truly essential, rather than trying to cover everything at once.

For me, seniors like Jaeden and Anoushka, who were also former AUSLSS members, were invaluable in helping me streamline my study approach across multiple areas of law. By focusing on what is absolutely necessary, you ensure that you grasp the key elements of each area of law without missing any critical legal principles.

## **9. What advice would you give to new law students navigating both law school and student societies?**

Time management is something you learn fast in law school, usually the hard way, like realising you can't actually pull an all-nighter every night. But on a serious note, it's okay to ask for help when you feel overwhelmed, and prioritising your mental health is essential. Within the society, we are always here to support members, whether you are juggling heavy academic commitments or just need a break. Do not suffer in silence; it is perfectly okay to not be okay!

## **10. Do you have a message you'd like to share with the AUSLSS community as you begin your presidency?**

In the words of Nelson Mandela:  
"It always seems impossible until it's done."

These words resonate deeply as we embark on this journey together. Leading the AUSLSS will come with challenges and opportunities, but it is our determination, resilience, and collaboration that will define our success. I encourage every member to stay engaged, contribute where they can, and embrace both the highs and the lessons along the way. Together, we can make this term one of growth, achievement, and meaningful impact for our community.

# 2024/25 AUSLSS Exco, Signing Off



**Nurshamin**  
President



**Anoushka**  
External Vice President



**Ashley**  
Internal Vice President



**Joyee**  
Publications Director



**Sanjeev**  
Treasurer



**Adriana**  
Student Engagement Officer



**Adeline**  
Secretary



**John**  
External Affairs Officer



**Imran**  
External Affairs Officer



**Jibrel**  
External Affairs Officer



**Mabel**  
Internal Affairs Officer



**Elysse**  
Internal Affairs Officer



**Harjodh**  
Internal Affairs Officer



**Prashan**  
Internal Affairs Officer



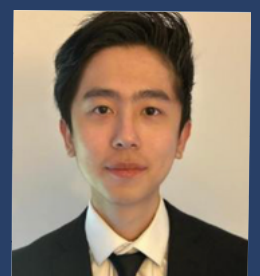
**Ambi**  
Internal Affairs Officer



**Ching Wern**  
Publications Officer



**Jerome**  
Publications Officer



**Asher**  
Publications Officer

Thank you for your support and we look forward to seeing the society continue to thrive under the next committee.