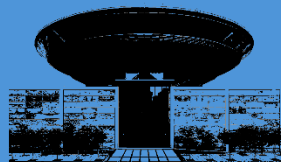


# AUSLSS 2023/24 TERM WRAPPED



TAKE A TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE WITH AUSLSS AND  
REVIEW OUR ACHIEVEMENTS OVER THE 2023/24 TERM



AUSLSS

AUSTRALIA SINGAPORE LAW STUDENTS' SOCIETY

# OUTGOING PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It has been an honour and a privilege to have served as the third President of the Australian Singapore Law Student Society ('AUSLSS') and has been an even greater joy for me to have dedicated the majority of my university life to doing so.

As I look back on my time spent with the AUSLSS, I cannot help but let my mind wander back to when the society was first established three years ago. I was fortunate enough to have met founders of the society who were courageous enough to start AUSLSS at the height of the pandemic, and had invited me to become part of the AUSLSS. Since then, I have seen how AUSLSS has grown and evolved since its first iteration. We continue to attract like-minded individuals to join us in serving the Singaporean law student community in Australia. I am proud to have led such a driven and passionate Executive Committee this term.

I would like to give special thanks to the following individuals: Claris Yee and Oracle Chow, who served as Vice-President (External) and Vice-President (Internal), respectively during this term. Together with me, they have been part of AUSLSS's Executive Committee since the establishment of our society. We started in the same department together and have since worked alongside each other for the past three years. They have been integral to the AUSLSS, and we would not have accomplished what we did without the both of them. I wish them nothing but the best in their future endeavours.

I would also like to give special mention to Theng Shuen Tay, who served as the Publications Director during this term. During the second year as a society, we set up the Publications Department together, which has grown to encompass a strong team who have worked effortlessly with the society to create articles that are enriching and beneficial to our student community. For that, I give her full credit for shaping the department into what it is today.

I would like to thank each and every member of the current Executive Committee. You have worked tirelessly under my term, and I have nothing but respect and admiration for each of you who have given your all to this society.

To our members who have been attending our events, reading our articles and listening to our podcasts, thank you for your support. Whether you are currently a student or a practicing lawyer, the Executive Committee has and always will continue to draw their strength from you. By having the opportunity to create such meaningful events, publications and podcasts, it has allowed us to further develop ourselves academically and professionally. We hope that you have also found our events and resources beneficial. The Executive Committee could not have come this far if not for all your support.

As the Executive Committee moves into its next term under the leadership of the fourth President, Nurshamin Wan, I am confident that the mission and goals of the AUSLSS will continue to be furthered. I have full confidence in the new Executive Committee, and I cannot wait to see what the future holds for us all.

Lastly, I would like to thank all the firms and organisations that partnered with AUSLSS during this term. In no particular order, special thanks go to Clifford Chance, the Public Defender's Office, the Singapore Corporate Counsel Association, and Youth Law Australia.

Thank you.

Yours Faithfully,

**Ooi Jun Zhe Jaeden**

President AUSLSS, Outgoing

## OVERVIEW OF EVENTS ORGANISED

The AUSLSS organised a total of 5 events this year, the most we have ever done to date!

**WEBINAR** **SCCA SPORTS WEBINAR**  
**WEBINAR** **PDO WEBINAR**  
**WEBINAR** **LEGAL LANDSCAPES – AU V SG WEBINAR**  
**PODCAST** **YOUTH LAW PODCAST**  
**NETWORKING** **CLIFFORD CHANCE NETWORKING EVENT**

*Have a read about what our members got up to, and what they have to say about them*

**2023  
OCT**

### SCCA SPORTS WEBINAR



AUSLSS partnered with Singapore Corporate Counsel Association (SCCA) to host a webinar with Speakers, Dylan Mah (then Group Head of Legal and Corporate Affairs International Table Tennis Federation - ITTF) and Bryan Tan (Partner, Reed Smith LLP)], who shared their insights and experiences about the Sports and E-Sports industry.

Hear more about the experience of hosting the webinar with two of our AUSLSS members, Shamin and Yijia:

**YIJA:** Organising and hosting an online industry insights panel in collaboration with the Singapore Corporate Counsel Association was a novel opportunity to take initiative in planning, proposing ideas and connecting with industry professionals I otherwise would not get the chance to and to work with other executive members that I would not get to meet on the basis we were based in different parts of the country.

**SHAMIN:** I really enjoyed hosting the sports webinar in collaboration with SCCA. What stood out to me was how we were able to reach many students interested in the legal field, even those who weren't law students. This inclusivity was important because it emphasized that legal-related knowledge is for everyone. Additionally, the sports angle made the content more accessible and engaging to a wider audience. This event aligned with my personal goal of making legal education more approachable and relevant to diverse groups, and it was fulfilling to see our efforts resonate with such a broad spectrum of participants.



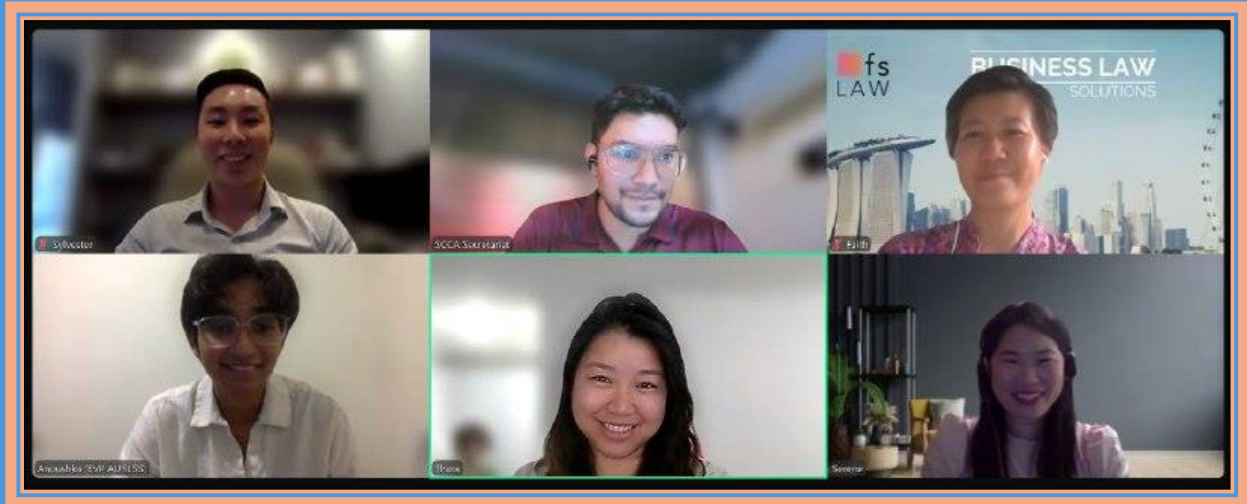
## PDO WEBINAR - BEHIND THE SCENES OF BEING A PUBLIC DEFENDER



In collaboration with the Public Defender's Office (PDO), AUSLSS members Shamin and Ambi, were able to speak with Muhammad Taufiq Suraidi and Ryan David Nonis to learn more about the rewarding aspects and demanding realities of being a Public Defender, including balancing the tension between helping clients from lower-socioeconomic background and the Office's resource constraints.

2024  
JUL

## LEGAL LANDSCAPES – AUSTRALIA V SINGAPORE



In collaboration with the Singapore Corporate Counsel Association (SCCA), AUSLSS member Anoushka hosted Faith Sing (Managing Director, fsLaw), Thara M (Senior Legal Counsel, Toll Group) and Sylvester Tan (Trainee, Mayer Brown PK Wong & Nair) who shared their advice and thoughts about the differences between practising in Singapore and Australia. This webinar was incredibly useful for students who are weighing up whether to stay in Australia or return to Singapore to practise the law, and if so, the challenges and opportunities presented for them.

2023  
DEC

## YOUTH LAW PODCAST



As part of our Hearsay Ah! podcast, our AUSLSS members Jaeden Ooi and Oracle Chow were fortunate to host Anastasia Corneo and Khushaal Vyas from Youth Law Australia, who provided invaluable insights about the employment issues faced by young people, including international students, when undertaking part-time jobs or internships in Australia.

2024  
JAN

## CLIFFORD CHANCE NETWORKING EVENT

One of AUSLSS's highlights this term was hosting a networking event at Clifford Chance's office in Singapore. Not only were AUSLSS members treated to an amazing spread, but were very fortunate to speak with the trainee lawyers, associates and even partners from various practice groups to learn more about Clifford Chance's work and culture.

Hear more from Ashley, Asher and Ambi about what they have to say about the event:

**ASHLEY:** It was a good networking opportunity for me as I was able to network with trainees that were from all over the globe and not just from Singapore. It was especially memorable and meaningful as I was able to speak to Melissa (the HR Recruiter), who shared with me about the upcoming internship opportunity. Through this event, it has allowed me to network and apply for opportunities I would have otherwise missed out on.

**ASHER:** Having the opportunity to meet the practicing lawyers at the firm had left a deep impression on me. As they shared with me about their journey from being a law student to an established legal practitioner has shown me how dynamic the legal profession is and how rewarding it can be.

**AMBI:** Clifford Chance was very meaningful because it was the first in-person AUSLSS event I had attended. It was memorable as it was the first time seeing all the AUSLSS members in person as well as my first legal networking event in Singapore. It provided me great insights about the legal career and opportunities. It was a very easy-going event without any pressure to ask questions.



## REFLECTIONS OF SOME OF OUR AUSLSS MEMBERS

Integral to AUSLSS is the recruitment of newer members to help grow our community — whether through organising networking and social events or producing publications to expand our reach to Singaporean law students around Australia. If you're interested in joining AUSLSS, have a read to learn more about what the Executive Committee team does!

### STUDENT ENGAGEMENT OFFICER - ASHLEY

In essence, the Student Engagement Officer (SEO) plays a crucial role in enhancing the engagement and participation of Singaporean Law students and alumni within and beyond the AUSLSS. The primary objective of an SEO is reaching out to students, implementing effective marketing strategies, and publicising both AUSLSS events and marketing materials from law firms and institutes partnering with us. As the SEO, I implemented strategies to reach out to current and potential AUSLSS members, to foster a sense of community by encouraging active participation in society activities and events. As the manager of all the AUSLSS social media platforms, the SEO works to enhance visibility and engagement with its members and potential partners. I also worked closely with the President and Head of Departments in the marketing of the society and ensured that the promotional materials align with the values of the society.

### EXTERNAL AFFAIRS OFFICER – ASHER

During my position as an External Affairs Officer, I had the opportunity to speak to various legal professionals regarding AUSLSS' vision and discuss potential collaborations with the society on events. Through these interactions, I was able to hone my interpersonal communication skills as well as build up confidence in a professional capacity representing an organisation.

### INTERNAL AFFAIRS OFFICER – SHAMIN

During my time as an Internal Affairs Officer, I valued the numerous opportunities to engage with staff members and professors from various universities all across Australia. My passion for university life and academia made these interactions particularly meaningful, and I found speaking with seasoned academics and professionals to be incredibly enriching. A highlight of my experience was being invited as a guest to a university alumni reunion event, which provided an excellent opportunity to network and gain insights from legal experts with extensive experience in academia and practice. However, a unique aspect of AUSLSS is the flexibility it offers. You're never confined to your appointed role. Ad hoc opportunities, such as moderating a webinar, allow you to step outside your scope and expand your skill set. I was able to leverage on these additional opportunities to further develop my abilities, making my experience with AUSLSS both enriching and multifaceted.

### **SECRETARY – YIJIA**

As the Secretary, I was not particularly tied to a head of department, but rather oversaw and assisted the various HODs and teams where I could. This gave me the opportunity to be privy to a diverse range of networking and educational events the committee had been planning up. Seeing what different teams were working on and how complementary projects were gave me a snapshot over the whole society and I appreciated being able to see where as a team we were headed.

### **PUBLICATIONS OFFICER - JOYEE**

As a Publications Officer, I was responsible for drafting and editing the publications we produced. A small milestone of mine was drafting the article for the Youth Law Australia podcast for our members and the broader audience to read. I was able to draw on the knowledge I had built from my law studies, and hone my research and writing skills during the process of producing the article. It was a wonderful opportunity to push myself out of my comfort zone.

### **PUBLICATIONS OFFICER - JEROME**

My role as a Publications Officer had a more creative focus. I am primarily responsible for designing and editing the articles after they are drafted. I did not actually expect to be pushing out as much content as we did over the year. While it can be a tedious process, it was definitely satisfying and fulfilling at the same time. Being able to materialise my colleagues' ideas through my passion for photography and editing skills alongside with the positive feedback fueled me to keep improving our articles.





# GET TO KNOW OUR INCOMING PRESIDENT



## 1. INTRODUCTION:

Hello! My name is Nurshamin, and I am currently a Juris Doctor student at the University of Western Australia. My academic journey began with a degree in Sociology, where I developed a deep interest in understanding societal structures and values. This passion led me to pursue further studies in law, which I regard as an ideal extension of my degree. Through law, I aim to delve deeper into the intricacies of the notions of justice and the roles of legal systems in our society.

## 2. WHY DID YOU WANT TO STUDY LAW?

During my undergraduate degree in Sociology, the law was broadly canvassed when exploring various societal issues. However, I felt that there was still much opportunity to delve deeper into how the law works and its impact on our lives. This exposure sparked my curiosity about the functions of the legal system, especially its role in shaping societal values and norms. I am fascinated by the complexities of the law, which inspired me to undertake my Juris Doctor degree.

## 3. WHAT HAS YOUR EXPERIENCE OF LAW SCHOOL BEEN LIKE THUS FAR?

My experience has been incredibly rewarding and eye-opening thus far. Compared to my previous degree in Sociology, where the focus was on theoretical frameworks and social analysis, law school demands a more structured approach to problem-solving and requires more critical thinking. Additionally, studying at a university abroad, has broadened my worldview, and provided me with a more nuanced understanding of a legal system in a different jurisdiction.

Further, one of the aspects of law school which I appreciate is the sense of community. My lecturers and classmates are so supportive, which turns the rigour of law school into a more enjoyable process. This supportive environment has made an otherwise foreign environment feel less daunting, which has enriched my overall experience.

## 4. HOW DID YOU GET INVOLVED WITH THE AUSLSS?

My involvement began when an existing member from the Executive Committee reached out to me to join AUSLSS before I commenced law school. They knew about my enthusiasm to learn more about the law and become part of a community and thus encouraged me to join the society. I envisaged this as an opportunity to

ease my transition into law school. Looking back at how much I have done in the past year, I'm pleased with my decision to get involved with the AUSLSS.

## **5. HOW WAS YOUR EXPERIENCE AS A MEMBER OF AUSLSS LIKE BEFORE YOU JOINED AS AN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER?**

Prior to joining the Executive Committee, I found the resources produced by AUSLSS to be very helpful, especially when I was reading them while waiting to commence law school. There was so much I needed to know but I was unsure where to begin, so I found the publications particularly useful to read at my own pace. This initial engagement helped me discover the various aspects of AUSLSS that I could get involved in, and it provided a solid foundation for my journey into law.

## **6. WHAT HAS YOUR EXPERIENCE BEEN LIKE WORKING IN THE AUSLSS?**

Working in the AUSLSS as an Executive Committee member has been immensely fulfilling. The role has provided me with numerous opportunities to develop valuable skills, from moderating webinars to representing the society at events and creating networks. It has also allowed me to contribute to creating a supportive and dynamic environment for fellow law students. It has deepened my connection to the legal community and given me a greater sense of purpose in my academic and professional journey.

## **7. WOULD YOU RECOMMEND OTHERS TO JOIN THE AUSLSS AS AN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER?**

Absolutely, I would highly recommend it! The experience offers a rewarding platform for personal and professional growth. It allows you to take on responsibilities that you might not encounter in your regular studies, such as organising events, networking with legal professionals, and advocating for student interests. The skills and connections you gain as an Executive Committee member are invaluable and can significantly enhance your law school experience.

## **8. WHAT DO YOU HOPE FOR THE AUSLSS IN THE FUTURE?**

In the future, I hope that AUSLSS continues to be a safe and supportive space for law students to develop new skills and gain insights into the legal field. I envision the society expanding its initiatives to represent a diverse range of interests, both niche and general, ensuring that every member feels included and valued. By fostering a collaborative and inclusive environment, AUSLSS can continue to empower law students to achieve their full potential.

## **9. WHAT WOULD YOU SAY TO A LAW STUDENT WHO MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN JOINING THE AUSLSS?**

To any law student considering joining the AUSLSS, I would say go for it! There is a place for everyone, regardless of your interests, skill level, or personality. Whether you want to put yourself out there and network, train your speech skills and moderate an event, or work on designing promotional material and writing a publication, AUSLSS offers something for everyone. It's a fantastic opportunity to develop your existing interests and discover new ones, all while growing in a supportive community. Don't hesitate to get involved and make the most of what this society has to offer.

## **10. ENDING MESSAGE:**

Every law student's journey is unique. Whether you're considering law school or are already immersed in it, be sure to craft the path that suits you best. Remember that there's so much more to law school than the exams and assignments. Embrace this exciting phase of your life, explore new opportunities, and make the most of it. If you're looking for a platform to further enrich your journey, look no further than our AUSLSS community! We would be delighted to welcome and support you in enhancing your law school journey.