



La Trobe Law Students' Association

2020/2021 Committee Elections

Nomination Statements

PRESIDENT

Name: Brandon Draper

Nomination moved by: Paris Nesire

Nomination seconded by: Sam Chung

In 150 words or less, please explain why you would like to be a part of the 2020/2021 committee.

I am keen to put myself forward as the LSA's 2020/2021 President after serving as a committee member for five terms. The LSA needs another resilient leader who allows all law students the opportunity to be heard. Students join the LSA with an overall goal to help other students and while I believe I have spent the last five years fulfilling this common goal, there are still plenty of initiatives and opportunities which I'd love to see implemented. The LSA has done a remarkable job in improving its overall branding and professionalism over the years. However, more work is needed from the committee's leadership team to promote active and meaningful student engagement. I strongly believe the LSA is equally important for law students in social and professional aspects and am very optimistic that I can provide the leadership and experience required for the next committee in achieving this balance.

In 150 words or less, please describe what skills or attributes you have that would assist in the performance of your role.

Having undertaken various LSA committee roles has given me a unique perspective on how the organisation operates and what it needs to thrive. Most importantly, a leader requires strong interpersonal skills and must be approachable. I believe my ability to understand others and take on different viewpoints makes me an excellent presidential candidate. I am passionate about the LSA's sustainability and am committed to promoting a collaborative working environment while simultaneously offering each director sufficient autonomy. I have developed key conflict resolution skills throughout my time at La Trobe, particularly through my Vis moot experience. These skills, in conjunction with being able to build working relationships, are essential in leading an organisation of ~30 people. Having finalised a decreased study load for next year, I am able to commit a significant amount of time to the LSA. I am truly excited by the possibilities ahead for all law students.

In 150 words or less, please describe any changes or initiatives you'd like to see implemented during your term in this role.

- The introduction and expansion of the Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Portfolio to ensure every law student is meaningfully supported;
- The introduction of an equity-based LSA scholarship for students who need assistance purchasing textbooks;
- Continued development of the JD Portfolio to ensure JD students have equal representation and support;
- Weekly cohort meeting opportunities to allow students a dedicated platform to be heard and connect with peers, particularly during these challenging times;

- Increased public and private sector career related events and opportunities;
- Focused mailing lists to allow students to opt-in to receive weekly emails based on their preferences (e.g. weekly job opportunities);
- Connecting students with La Trobe alumni for mentorship opportunities;
- Expanding the education portfolio to include increased studying support (e.g. frameworks of study notes);
- Creating a summary guide of the LSA constitution to ensure consistent future enforcement;
- A new user-friendly website.

Name: Nathan Jasper

Nomination moved by: Hammad Shahin

Nomination seconded by: Karena Ogloff

In 150 words or less, please explain why you would like to be a part of the 2020/2021 committee.

Hi all, I'm Nathan, and I've been the Treasurer of the LSA this year! My extensive experience on the LSA has been overwhelmingly positive, giving rise to my aspirations of leading the committee towards making more meaningful and tangible contributions to the people we represent.

As Treasurer and previously Competitions Officer, I have gained a robust understanding of the LSA's operations, including knowledge of the ins and outs of each portfolio. As President, this understanding could be utilised to make a more significant impact on the LSA's external functions, by reinvigorating opportunities for growth and development that benefits all of you!

I am a responsible leader – motivated by the continued dialogue surrounding LSA's purpose and objectives. I seek to lead the LSA with renewed focus, optimism for our capability to positively influence the La Trobe law student experience and ultimately, mandate change in the LSA, law school and legal industry.

In 150 words or less, please describe what skills or attributes you have that would assist in the performance of your role.

I am skilled in solving complex problems and inspiring those around me to be the best version of themselves, both personally and professionally. I have extensive transferrable skills in leadership and change management due to experience in Vice-President, Director, and Duty Manager positions.

I have an astute knowledge of the internal and public processes and a clear vision for the LSA's future. As LSA Treasurer, I've been proactive in a role which is traditionally defined by the performance of reactive duties, including demonstrating innovation in the establishment of an Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion portfolio. I have redefined the LSA's financial leadership capability by increasing the cash reserve by 15%.

Due to my advocacy for La Trobe LSA, I've been elected as an officer of the Australian Law Students' Association (ALSA) Discipline & Grievance Committee. This position will allow me to funnel increased benefit/access to ALSA for La Trobe law students.

In 150 words or less, please describe any changes or initiatives you'd like to see implemented during your term in this role.

I am committed to the goal of leading the LSA towards securing itself as a pre-eminent part of the La Trobe law student experience.

If elected, my key focus areas will be:

- 1) Provide leadership and support to the Equity, Inclusion, and Diversity portfolio so that its implementation is effective both internally and externally.
- 2) Increase advocacy on key issues, including but not limited to mental health & wellbeing, bullying & sexual harassment, LGBTIQ+ community, and racial equality.
- 3) Develop more transparent methods of communication between committee members, as well as between the LSA and law students.
- 4) Implement a new marketing strategy that reinvigorates the LSA's online presence and increases engagement, including actioning the website redevelopment, starting an LSA podcast, effectively utilising LinkedIn, and redefining the social media strategy so that it is more relevant and effective.

Among many more changes and initiatives, shaped by what you all want!

Secretary (UNCONTESTED)

Name: Alex Chan

Nomination moved by: Karena Ogloff

Nomination seconded by: Nathan Jasper

In 150 words or less, please explain why you would like to be a part of the 2020/2021 committee.

Having volunteered my time to the LSA committee for three terms and most recently as Careers Director, I have been provided with an invaluable experience which has assisted me in all facets of my law degree. I have been able to develop multiple skills particularly in teamwork and communication whilst working with like-minded passionate individuals. As someone who has always been proactive in leadership, I have enjoyed being apart of the LSA community and helping create an abundance of events, particularly in the careers domain. This has afforded me so many opportunities that have not only benefited me but also enhanced the experience of so many other law students. As such, I would love to be apart of the next committee as Secretary as I believe my role as Careers Director has set me up to assist the committee and students of the law school with all the LSA can offer.

In 150 words or less, please describe what skills or attributes you have that would assist in the performance of your role.

As Careers Director I have gained several skills and attributes that would carry over to the role of secretary. Through this role, I have developed great communication skills which have been essential in enabling me to effectively get messages across to not only law students but also my colleagues and team which was an essential part of running 15+ events this term. In addition to this, I have proven to be organised especially in meeting all critical deadlines and be a team player, which has been shown through my close workings with the sponsorship team and the other executive members of the LSA. As such, this has been an excellent opportunity for me to work out how to balance completing my law degree alongside extracurricular activities. A Secretary needs to be confident in communicating with all LSA committee members as well as the law faculty. My time as Careers Director has taught me how to liaise with firms, stay organised, meet deadlines, work with colleagues and most importantly communicate with all parties.

In 150 words or less, please describe any changes or initiatives you'd like to see implemented during your term in this role.

In the 2020/2021 term, I would love to see an increase in student participation across LSA events and for these events to promote inclusivity. I believe there needs to be an increased awareness of what the LSA 'mission' is and that this needs to be promoted to all law students. Having a solid 'mission' will help shape what the LSA stands for and what type of events it will run. Another focus I would have, if elected Secretary, would be ensuring that the committee is working effectively as a team, this would involve a more open communication plan as well as holding events for the committee to enjoy. By building a better atmosphere throughout the team, the LSA will be able to work more efficiently and

effectively. Another initiative is to promote both social and educational events better, especially by making use of our social media platforms that not only reach students but also firms. This term as Careers Director, we began to have non-commercial law focussed events however I believe that this could become even greater of a focus.

Treasurer

Name: Alex Hughan

Nomination moved by: Nathan Jasper

Nomination seconded by: Alex Chan

In 150 words or less, please explain why you would like to be a part of the 2020/2021 committee.

After being on the committee for the 2019/2020 term, i was able to see the benefits that the committee has for La Trobe Law students. Being a part of such an organisation that strives to only benefit law students is something that i wish to be a part of again, only this time, hopefully, in a more meaningful capacity as Treasurer. In a new roll i feel as though i would be able to utilize my skills and leadership to help ensure the effectiveness and efficiency of the committee operations. The opportunity to become the Treasurer, is an opportunity to learn and develop skills that are not only applicable in the legal industry, but also everyday life. Thus, the challenge to become the committee's next Treasurer is one that i am looking forward to taking head on.

In 150 words or less, please describe what skills or attributes you have that would assist in the performance of your role.

Throughout my life i have been an active participant in leadership roles, social activities, and team environments. Thus, my skills of leadership, teamwork, and communication are skills that will enable me to succeed as Treasurer. My ability to communicate with others effectively is integral to the effectiveness of a Treasurer, as well as my ability to lead, as providing financial leadership to the committee is one of the main functions of the Treasurer. In this respect, i feel i am well equipped to present the financial data to the committee in a way that can be understood clearly. I understand that meeting deadlines is fundamental to the role of the Treasurer, and in this respect i feel as though i would fulfill this requirement seamlessly, as i make a point of being punctual and concise in all of my dealings, whether that be at university, my job, or just life in general. My role on the committee as Activities officer highlights my ability to communicate and provide leadership in a number of ways, as both were extremely important after the impact of the Corona Virus. After which i was a part of a decisive response from the activity's portfolio, and played a role in working around the barriers created. Being the Treasurer is an important role that carries large responsibilities due to the financial reporting which is required by law. This is a responsibility that i am more than willing to accept and carry, and i believe i am ready to take on this challenge, and i look forward to doing so.

In 150 words or less, please describe any changes or initiatives you'd like to see implemented during your term in this role.

The initiatives I would like to see implemented are in relation to the operation and effectiveness of the committee itself, to therefor produce better opportunities for Law students. Principally among those that should be implemented is for the committee to attempt to build stronger personal and working relationships within the LSA. In my

experience, morale and chemistry are huge factors in the effectiveness of any team, and this can be achieved by simply bringing an element of fun to the work that we conduct. Two events that i proposed and have run throughout the course of the 2019/2020 committee as a part of the activity's portfolio have been committee targeted events in an attempt to increase morale. A second initiative I would like to see in the LSA is to reach a higher level of collaboration between each portfolio. The LSA would benefit from this at the present time due to the state of affairs, as some portfolio's will be doing a lot of heavy lifting, while others have had events and opportunities cancelled. Allowing a higher level of collaboration would alleviate these problems and allow for a more even workload spread across the committee, and potentially even more opportunities resulting for La Trobe Law Students. Furthermore, as the Treasurer is one part of the executive leadership, it would be my aim to create a strong executive that is able to provide effective and unified leadership and support to all areas of the LSA, enabling each portfolio the creativity and freedom to run their portfolio's as they intend to do so. These are just some of many ideas that i am looking forward to implementing across the 2020/2021 committee term.

Name: Daniel Reljic

Nomination moved by: Brandon Draper

Nomination seconded by: Bernard Fitzgerald

In 150 words or less, please explain why you would like to be a part of the 2020/2021 committee.

Being a part of the previous LSA Committee as Information Technology Officer I developed a passion and commitment to the LSA and would love to continue that on through a new position as Treasurer. Through my previous role, I have been able to gain an understanding of the role the LSA plays in providing law students with the opportunity to enhance their careers within the legal sector, whilst simultaneously providing opportunities both academically and socially. I would, therefore, like to ensure that the LSA continues to meet its financial objectives. In a post-COVID world, it is imperative that the LSA is able to remain financially stable over the coming years, and to therefore be able to in the long-term, benefit both future committees and students. These increasing challenges are an area in which I believe I can have a positive impact in and help see the LSA through these uncertain times.

In 150 words or less, please describe what skills or attributes you have that would assist in the performance of your role.

In my previous role as Information Technology Officer I have gained a comprehensive understanding of the inner workings and functions of the LSA. It similarly allowed me to experience what the committee is like, most specifically its strengths and weaknesses. This knowledge provides me with the ability to respond adequately to the current challenges facing the organisation. Furthermore, the role of IT Officer required a high level of organisation and flexibility, with the workload often being daily as a result of the extensive content uploaded and posted on the LSA's different social media platforms. Using the experiences and skills I have developed throughout my life and in my previous LSA role, I believe my abilities in teamwork, time-management and organisation provide a skill-set that could prove beneficial in ensuring the LSA, and specifically its financial state, is able to successfully manage and thrive in these challenging times.

In 150 words or less, please describe any changes or initiatives you'd like to see implemented during your term in this role.

In my role as Treasurer, I would focus particularly on the possibility of investing capital that could further the LSA's objectives and ensure less reliance on funding from the La Trobe Law School. With the current COVID-19 climate and the financial hardship that the Law School and the entire university are currently in, the responsible and prudent use of the LSA's finances could prove vital to the long-term future of the organisation. Similarly, following on from the previous Treasurer, the continued improvement of transparency within the committee between portfolios would assist in improving processes and ensuring finances are spent in the most efficient and effective manner to ensure the LSA continues to grow and benefit as many law students as possible, whilst at the same, ensuring that the LSA's finances remain in a good and stable position for future committees.

Name: James Reginato

Nomination moved by: Kiyon Mirzaei

Nomination seconded by: Elly-May Dreier

In 150 words or less, please explain why you would like to be a part of the 2020/2021 committee.

Having been on the LSA committee for the last two years, I can truly say that I have loved being involved. The culture is one that is supportive and representative of law students and one that seeks to develop ways to engage students in university life. I am a firm believer in providing equal opportunity to people regardless of their circumstances and I would love to continue being involved in fostering that nurturing environment. I also thoroughly enjoyed the responsibility I was assigned in representing the interests of other law students and raising issues that were pertinent amongst the law student cohort.

Looking forward, I hope to remain on the committee in order to assist students in their personal growth and career development allowing them to enhance and maximise their university experience.

In 150 words or less, please describe what skills or attributes you have that would assist in the performance of your role.

Being an accounting student with experience in financial reporting and management, I believe I am an apt candidate for this role from a technical perspective. I have undertaken accounting subjects since year 11 and have a thorough understanding of financial reporting and systems including the Xero software utilised.

From an interpersonal perspective, I believe that I am an organised and diligent individual which will greatly assist me in meeting key deadlines and my experience in hospitality and sales has developed sound communication skills. As a school leader, I was involved in the financial management of projects including preparing budgets, creating / following up invoices and having difficult conversations with respect to the financial viability of initiatives. Further, I have had mediation and dispute resolution experience which I believe to be essential as a member of the executive in resolving any disciplinary matters or conflict that arises.

In 150 words or less, please describe any changes or initiatives you'd like to see implemented during your term in this role.

With full transparency in mind, my ultimate goal goes without saying. To ensure the solvency and financial longevity of the Law Student's Association. In saying that however, I will be advocating for a variety of new initiatives and changes if elected. These would include the expansion of career related events outside of the commercial space, increased sponsorship from a diverse range of sponsors and a greater focus on equity, diversity and inclusion. From a financial perspective, I would aim to synthesise financial information and

increase transparency allowing directors to better understand their financial limits while still working with them to achieve their goals.

Director of Activities

Name: Samuel Chung

Nomination moved by: Sarah Bux

Nomination seconded by: Georgie Aidonopoulos

In 150 words or less, please explain why you would like to be a part of the 2020/2021 committee.

I am applying for Director of Activities for a second year because I would like to provide the next committee with some level of consistency with the upheaval that 2020 has brought. I aspire to be a familiar face and mentor for all law students at La Trobe, as this will be my fourth committee position if I am selected. I would like to remain connected with the LSA as much as I can during this pandemic, and I feel that a formal position would allow me to do so. I have built rapport with vendors involved with the 2021 law ball and law camp since late 2019. I will continue negotiating COVID-19 logistics and our budget with them if I am selected.

In 150 words or less, please describe what skills or attributes you have that would assist in the performance of your role.

My extensive event management experience within and outside the LSA Activities portfolio would greatly assist in the delivery of a fantastic 2020/21 Activities calendar! I was the 2018 First Year Rep for Activities, a 2018/19 Activities Officer and the 2019/20 Director of Activities. I am also a committee member of the HeartKids Youth Advisory Committee (a support organisation for children with heart conditions). I have mentored at national camps for young Australians living with heart conditions, planned formal functions for the organisation and recently ran a variety of online games to keep HeartKids connected during the COVID-19 pandemic. Finally, I know a cross-section of the La Trobe law student population, having undertaken internships, mooting, language learning, the Emerging Leaders program, the Student Excellence Academy and LTSU event assistance. I'm willing to provide social events for all La Trobe law students during another term as Director of Activities.

In 150 words or less, please describe any changes or initiatives you'd like to see implemented during your term in this role.

The COVID-19 pandemic poses an obvious threat to face-to-face social events. However, I believe that I can tackle the challenge of running virtual activities in the interim, due to my experiences of doing so with HeartKids. The movie night, bowling night and first-year welcome event were new initiatives that my amazing Activities Officers and I ran in 2019/20. It was lucky we were so proactive, as the 'standout' events such as law camp and law ball had to be delayed. As the world moves online, games nights that 'aren't lame' and ways to keep first year and JD law students connected are on the top of my agenda. If 2021 sees the LSA back on campus, I'm also prepared to continue my relationship with the vendors that are holding our deposits for the aforementioned 'standout' events in 2021.

Name: Rebecca Klvac

Nomination moved by: Elly-May Dreier

Nomination seconded by: James Reginato

In 150 words or less, please explain why you would like to be a part of the 2020/2021 committee.

Being a part of the LSA committee would not only fulfil my innate desire to be involved in leadership and push myself to give all my time and effort into making the committee a generous and representative body for law students, but it would allow me to give back to my wonderful peers who work so hard and deserve a passionate committee like the LSA to cater to their needs.

In 150 words or less, please describe what skills or attributes you have that would assist in the performance of your role.

My skills such as highly organised, quick problem-solving and excellent communication (and humour) skills paired with my attributes including outgoing, solution-orientated and initiative allow me to be a passionate team-player who would thrive running events for my fellow law students and working in a committee to create the most memorable experiences possible for everyone involved.

In 150 words or less, please describe any changes or initiatives you'd like to see implemented during your term in this role.

After being an Activities Officer for the past term, i believe i understand the work required to go into making the reoccurring events the committee holds be great as well as have ideas like a virtual law camp (bigger and better @ start of next year), a regular online event like trivia or games night and even possible Just Dance on zoom to allow law students at this time to enjoy the company of their peers and be reminded that the LSA is there for them, even in pandemics!

Director of Careers

Name: Ingrid Tam

Nomination moved by: Alex Chan

Nomination seconded by: Angelica Panopoulos

In 150 words or less, please explain why you would like to be a part of the 2020/2021 committee.

Having been a part of the 2019/20 Careers Team, I have experienced the reward in hosting and participating in events. I believe that the Careers portfolio is crucial in helping our law students see beyond university units and grades, and explore suitable career options.

I see value and potential in the careers portfolio, and therefore would like to be a part of the committee in the year to come.

In 150 words or less, please describe what skills or attributes you have that would assist in the performance of your role.

I have excellent time management skills, as I have been juggling between a paralegal role, full load of studies and a 14-hour internship commitment weekly. Due to my work and internship, I have experience in leadership, event-management and people skills, where empathy and relatability are highly looked upon. I believe that my skills and attributes will help me perform in this role without difficulty, while at the same time, invest and build into the next Director of Careers.

In 150 words or less, please describe any changes or initiatives you'd like to see implemented during your term in this role.

I believe that the previous Director of Careers, Alex Chan, has done a phenomenal job in the portfolio, given the strange circumstances that we have found ourselves in. I hope that during my term in this role, I will be able to build on the foundation that Alex has established and introduce new initiatives.

I have recognised that the careers portfolio in the past has been focusing on clerkships and large corporate firms. However, that career path may not be for everyone, therefore I would like to broaden the area of focus to include panels or events that involve in-house lawyers, barristers, criminal and family law, as well as small and boutique firms.

I also believe that it will be rewarding if it's possible to organise professional mentoring for the portfolio.

Name: James Reginato

Nomination moved by: Elly-May Dreier

Nomination seconded by: Kiyam Mirzei

In 150 words or less, please explain why you would like to be a part of the 2020/2021 committee.

Having been on the LSA committee as a careers officer for the last two years, I can truly say that I have loved being involved. The culture is one that is supportive and representative of law students and one that seeks to develop ways to engage students in university life. I am a firm believer in providing equal opportunity to people regardless of their circumstances and I would love to continue being involved in fostering that nurturing environment. I also thoroughly enjoyed the responsibility I was assigned in representing the interests of other law students and raising issues that were pertinent amongst the law student cohort. Looking forward, I hope to remain on the committee in order to assist students in their personal growth and career development allowing them to enhance and maximise their university experience.

In 150 words or less, please describe what skills or attributes you have that would assist in the performance of your role.

I believe that my experience as a careers officer over the last 2 years would greatly assist me in my role as the Director of Careers. I have been heavily invested in the careers portfolio and have become aquatinted with its operations including its various stakeholders and events. I have also worked in hospitality and sales over the last few years equipping me with strong communication skills which will enable me to effectively communicate with both internal and external stakeholders. I further believe I possess strong leadership skills having worked in a management position and a leadership role in high school. Both roles have provided me with extensive time management, event planning and delegation experience. I am a results driven individual and celebrate the success and growth of my team and I hope to lead another fantastic group of people through the next committee term.

In 150 words or less, please describe any changes or initiatives you'd like to see implemented during your term in this role.

I will be advocating for a variety of new initiatives and changes if elected such as diversified sponsorship and increased focus on equity and inclusion. However, my biggest focus as the Director of Careers will be on expanding career related events to include those outside of the commercial space. Students have expressed a desire to see more non commercial related events and it is my desire to champion those interests and see them implemented in the next term.

Director of Competitions (UNCONTESTED)

Name: Afreen Taqvi

Nomination moved by: Brandon Draper

Nomination seconded by: Ally Mangion

In 150 words or less, please explain why you would like to be a part of the 2020/2021 committee.

In the past six or so months, Covid-19 has changed everything about life for university students. The La Trobe LSA has always been an important fixture in the law school but in the past few months it has taken on a new importance in that it is now the glue that holds the law cohort together. From organised study sessions, to virtual competitions and career events, the LSA is now one of the only resources available to all law students that allows them to have as authentic a law school experience as is possible in these circumstances.

Over the past year I've been lucky to have had the opportunity to serve on the General Committee and work closely with hard-working and enthusiastic students. I'd like to be elected again because I believe I would make a valuable contribution to the 2020/2021 Committee.

In 150 words or less, please describe what skills or attributes you have that would assist in the performance of your role.

I believe that I would excel in the role of Director of Competitions for two reasons. First, I've been fortunate to be able to compete not only in a number of internal LSA competitions, but also on an international scale in Germany and most recently, in the Virtual Vienna Vis Moot. Training for these competitions has resulted in the development of excellent public speaking and communication skills, as evidenced by my Best Individual Oralist Award at the Vis Moot.

Second, although I have the requisite skills, I would excel in this role because I genuinely have a passion for competitions, more specifically, for mooting. Moot Court Competitions have been the highlight of my degree and I'd love nothing more than to be able to present the same opportunity to other students, as it was presented to me.

In 150 words or less, please describe any changes or initiatives you'd like to see implemented during your term in this role.

- Detailed feedback to be provided to competitors. Competitions are a way for students to expand their skill set and as a past competitor myself, I know that the value of feedback cannot be underestimated. As Director, I would ensure that all competitors gain something from competitions regardless of whether they win or not.
- External Competitions. Although the internal LSA moots are excellent, as Director I would ensure that students are aware of and have the opportunity to compete externally as well internally.

Director of Education

Name: Rebecca Klvac

Nomination moved by: Elly-May Dreier

Nomination seconded by: James Reginato

In 150 words or less, please explain why you would like to be a part of the 2020/2021 committee.

Being a part of the LSA committee would not only fulfil my innate desire to be involved in leadership and push myself to give all my time and effort into making the committee a generous and representative body for law students, but it would allow me to give back to my wonderful peers who work so hard and deserve a passionate committee like the LSA to cater to their needs. I would also love to use my perspective as a law student to provide what i would want from a committee with the resources and connections the LSA has, establishing initiatives for specific year levels too.

In 150 words or less, please describe what skills or attributes you have that would assist in the performance of your role.

My skills include being highly organised, quick problem-solving and excellent communication skills as well as my attributes being outgoing, solution-orientated, initiative and my passion for learning. These would allow me to be a team-player who would thrive with a role that allows me to facilitate and provide educational support and events for my fellow law peers in order to create an optimistic environment for learning and growth.

In 150 words or less, please describe any changes or initiatives you'd like to see implemented during your term in this role.

After being a part of the committee and watching what the education portfolio contributes to students, i would love to continue their collaborative events with academics in workshops as well as professionals in speeches and presentations plus initiatives amongst students in study groups and peer mentoring. I would use my role to bring in as many new faces to law students as possible to expand their support network and new ways to make students feel the presence of the LSA community through for example watching pre-recorded lectures together.

Name: Leyan Elsaadi

Nomination moved by: Brandon Draper

Nomination seconded by: Karena Ogloff

In 150 words or less, please explain why you would like to be a part of the 2020/2021 committee.

I have taken on the Education Director role in late June and have continued to cater to the students by providing them a platform to connect and study with each other. I think that allowing everyone to connect with one another is essential to the growth of the law school students cohort. I want to continue to work and expand on the ways we can academically support students.

In 150 words or less, please describe what skills or attributes you have that would assist in the performance of your role.

I have the required organisational and leadership skills that can lead Education Officers to perform their roles. I am most familiar with the process it takes to run this portfolio. I have learned what it takes to be an effective communicator with the team and I am consistently open to new ideas that are presented by committee members. I am happy to dedicate as many work hours to the benefit of the law students any given day.

In 150 words or less, please describe any changes or initiatives you'd like to see implemented during your term in this role.

There have been a few staple events that could not be organised and run during the 2019/20 term that I would like to see to bringing them back; such as the Legal Scholar's Speech, Justice Speech and Women In Law. I would also like to brainstorm all the ways we can truly provide students with the academic resources and confidence to perform as best they can under the circumstances.

Director of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (UNCONTESTED)

Name: Leyan Elsaadi

Nomination moved by: Brandon Draper

Nomination seconded by: Karena Ogloff

In 150 words or less, please explain why you would like to be a part of the 2020/2021 committee.

I have joined the LSA for the 2019/20 term in this newly established role and have had the privilege of meeting and working with the most hardworking students. I would like to continue in my position and implement all the fantastic initiatives that unfortunately could not take place during the 2019/20 term. This role has become a fundamental part of my degree and it is an honor for me to continue working with the LSA for our students.

In 150 words or less, please describe what skills or attributes you have that would assist in the performance of your role.

As an international student, I have a broad perspective on catering for the diverse cohort that embodies La Trobe. I have had the experience of serving in this role for the 2019/2020 term. Through that term, I have worked with a passionate team to brainstorm and implement the changes for the benefit of the LSA and the wider Law School community. I have the confidence to lead a team to plan and organise events and initiatives within the committee. I have familiarised myself with the LSA's Constitution and have been able to address and resolve complications in a timely and efficient manner. Finally, I have and will continue to be the voice of underrepresented communities and people through this role and beyond.

In 150 words or less, please describe any changes or initiatives you'd like to see implemented during your term in this role.

During this term, the Equity, Inclusion and Diversity team has worked on setting out a diversity calendar that keeps us on track and allows us to plan ahead for significant historical or cultural events that are being commemorated or celebrated.

Also, I would like to see the different portfolios take on diverse initiatives and implement them to aid in reshaping the goals and aims for the LSA.

Finally, I would like to re-establish and strengthen the relationship between the LSA committee members and the law school students cohort.

Director of Juris Doctor

Name: Faviola Martinez-Figueroa

Nomination moved by: Brenda Lam

Nomination seconded by: Brandon Draper

In 150 words or less, please explain why you would like to be a part of the 2020/2021 committee.

As the current Juris Doctor Director my main goal has been to create a community where students will engage and be exposed to opportunities within their studies and future careers. I would like to continue this work for another year.

In 150 words or less, please describe what skills or attributes you have that would assist in the performance of your role.

I have extensive knowledge of La Trobe University and its processes. I have been an employee of the university for over 6 six years and this has provided me with a wide range of information and skills that will allow me to lead the JD cohort to great opportunities.

In 150 words or less, please describe any changes or initiatives you'd like to see implemented during your term in this role.

The most important change I can bring forth is to make sure we grow as a close knit community. I would also like to work closely with the LSA to assure that JD students are well represented and accounted for in all activities. I believe the JD cohort has different priorities and needs. For this reason one of the main changes that I would like to implement is to provide a catered plan of activities and events that will directly benefit JD students.

Name: Arrian Korkotidis Stubbs

Nomination moved by: Nathan Jasper

Nomination seconded by: Ally Mangion

In 150 words or less, please explain why you would like to be a part of the 2020/2021 committee.

I am nominating to be part of the 2020/2021 general executive committee for the LSA because I want to enrich and contribute to the La Trobe law student experience in a meaningful way and help bring about positive change within the La Trobe Law School. The opportunity to work autonomously and collaborate alongside likeminded university students are aspects of the LSA committee that personally resonate with me. Being able to develop strong relationships with both LSA committee members and fellow students also highly appeals to me. Having thoroughly enjoyed my LSA committee position this year as a Competitions Officer I am motivated by the opportunity to take on further responsibility by becoming a Juris Doctor Director. The prospect and goal of bringing Juris Doctor and undergraduate law students closer together is something I am very passionate about and will be able to bring about in a Director capacity.

In 150 words or less, please describe what skills or attributes you have that would assist in the performance of your role.

I can bring a diverse range of skills and attributes that would directly assist me in performing the role of Juris Doctor Director. Skills include leadership, teamwork, written communication, verbal communication, organisation, interpersonal and problem solving. Attributes I exhibit which would be highly beneficial to the role of Juris Doctor Director include hardworking, passionate, enthusiastic, proactive, innovative, devoted and thoughtful. These skills and attributes have been developed through professional work experience, past positions on university student society committees and a range of leadership and cocurricular roles. Past positions I have held on university student society committees include LSA Competitions Officer, Treasurer for the Monash Entrepreneurs Club, as well as Professional Officer and Social Officer for the Monash Business Commerce Students' Society (BCSS).

In 150 words or less, please describe any changes or initiatives you'd like to see implemented during your term in this role.

Changes and initiatives I would like to see implemented during my prospective term as a Juris Doctor Director include additional social and networking activities specifically targeted at bringing the Juris Doctor cohorts closer together. Furthermore, activities aimed at uniting Juris Doctor and undergraduate law students together is something I would be very eager to implement. Increasing opportunities for both law students to learn and use legal specific information technology within classes and a professional development setting is change I would like to see introduced. Arranging events that provide insight to students in terms of what area or areas of law they may want to pursue is an initiative I would like to help bring about as I feel this is a universal question amongst students that they require assistance answering.

Director of Marketing

Name: Ingrid Tam

Nomination moved by: Alex Chan

Nomination seconded by: Angelica Panopoulous

In 150 words or less, please explain why you would like to be a part of the 2020/2021 committee.

Having been part of the 2019/20 committee, I have found the experience extremely rewarding and allowed me to be more involved with university. I believe that the Marketing portfolio has a lot of potential to move towards a modern and slick design through rebranding, and therefore would like to exercise my expertise in this area as the Director of Marketing

In 150 words or less, please describe what skills or attributes you have that would assist in the performance of your role.

I have experience with instagram stories and creating graphic for event promotions, which I believe will be useful in this area. I also have excellent time management and leadership skills, which means I will be able to ensure that the marketing timeline is executed well and in time for promotions.

In 150 words or less, please describe any changes or initiatives you'd like to see implemented during your term in this role.

I believe that a rebranding is definitely necessary for the Marketing portfolio, to ensure that we enhance the quality of images and graphics on social media platforms while sticking to our original colour palette. The graphics that we currently have are not quite 'eye-catching' and it doesn't attract people's attention due to its traditional design. I believe that, through rebranding, students' engagement will increase as they are more inclined to focus their attention on 'modern and slick' designs (which is the current trend).

I also believe that Marketing is crucial in attracting attendance to events. Therefore in this role, I aspire to plan ahead and create a social media timeline for events to increase awareness within our law students, and ensure that they do not miss out on beneficial opportunities.

Name: Kiyam Mirzaie-Basari

Nomination moved by: James Reginato

Nomination seconded by: Katy Gale

In 150 words or less, please explain why you would like to be a part of the 2020/2021 committee.

I would like to be a part of the 2020/21 committee for the main purpose of representing my fellow La Trobe law students within the committee, and serving their best interests by giving them a voice within the law school and by helping them in any way I can. I also want to do everything I can to make new and current law student's experience at La Trobe Law School as pleasant as possible, with the help of the rest of the committee.

In 150 words or less, please describe what skills or attributes you have that would assist in the performance of your role.

Being apart of the last two LSA committees, I am well aware of the structure and processes involved within the committee's day-to-day responsibilities. Further, I was recently involved with Commonwealth Bank's Student Ambassador program, in which I had the role to 'sell' the idea of signing La Trobe O-Week students onto banking benefits with CommBank, which has drastically improved my understanding of marketing and communication with the student body, and how students respond to certain interactions.

In 150 words or less, please describe any changes or initiatives you'd like to see implemented during your term in this role.

I would like to see much more interaction and involvement with the general La Trobe Law student body, as while the last few committees have continued to improve in this aspect, we still have a long way to go before we can say we have achieved a significant growth in student interaction. This can be achieved through a few ideas I have for the committee and potentially my team if I am elected to this role.

Name: Elly-May Dreier

Nomination moved by: Brandon Draper

Nomination seconded by: Nathan Jasper

In 150 words or less, please explain why you would like to be a part of the 2020/2021 committee.

I thoroughly enjoyed being part of the committee over the past year and would really like to stay on to see some more positive changes come that will benefit law students. I would like to continue ensuring that law students have access to all the events and resources available to them in an engaging manner for their benefit. I am also very excited to see what else the LSA as a collective will be able to create especially during the unprecedented COVID-19 situation and what the future could look like with the increased use of technology.

In 150 words or less, please describe what skills or attributes you have that would assist in the performance of your role.

Through working within the marketing portfolio this committee, I feel as though I can continue with the great work that was done with the skills I developed. Including generation of images and an understanding of the importance of having a strong social media presence. I have also developed effective time management skills that will allow me to ensure all platforms stay updated and do not lead to an information overload on one platform. I also have knowledge of posts/content that works better on different platforms due to their preferred settings which would be useful when deciding what platforms may be better suited when posting content especially during busy periods such as clerkship season.

In 150 words or less, please describe any changes or initiatives you'd like to see implemented during your term in this role.

I would like to see the introduction of some other merchandise options that would be more affordable so that many students are able to have something that they can have to symbolise their connection to the LSA. Also, possibly making some changes to the website to make it more visually appealing, using more images and a simplistic design. As well as the possibility of using other more professional platforms to get our information out to students such as LinkedIn, which could take some of the traffic and frequency of posting off some of the other platforms such as the Facebook page.

Director of Sponsorship

Name: Emilia Sterjova

Nomination moved by: Alannah Bryant

Nomination seconded by: Alyssa Mae Britnell

In 150 words or less, please explain why you would like to be a part of the 2020/2021 committee.

I would like to be a part of the committee as I am looking to make some new friends in my course. I am in my sixth year and so a lot of my friends have already graduated. I hope to make some new connections and learn a bit more about the LSA and what can be done to make the university experience even better for other students.

In 150 words or less, please describe what skills or attributes you have that would assist in the performance of your role.

I have experience with a large number of clubs and committees that I have run, established or been a part of the executive. I would like to impart some of my knowledge from other committees to see if things can be further improved in the LSA. I enjoy working in teams and taking on leadership roles. I communicate well and am confident in public speaking. I am also terrific at networking as I used to work in politics so I could use my networking skills and contacts in the field to engage further sponsors. It would be a wonderful opportunity and an honour to be a part of the LSA.

In 150 words or less, please describe any changes or initiatives you'd like to see implemented during your term in this role.

I would like to increase our sponsorships and potentially introduce a tiered sponsorship system. I would see how we could better incentivise our sponsors by being creative with ways in which we could promote their brand in print and online. I have some experience with media and as a former Editor-in-Chief for Rabelais, our student magazine so I could use these skills to better promote our sponsors and to better attract further sponsors.

Name: Isabella Parolin

Nomination moved by: Nathan Jasper

Nomination seconded by: Alexandra Chan

In 150 words or less, please explain why you would like to be a part of the 2020/2021 committee.

I would love to be on the LSA for the term of 2020/21 as I believe that being a part of the committee is such a rewarding experience. The LSA is a fundamental presence in the law school, being a member on the committee I would like to emphasise this. As I was previously the officer for activities and a first year representative, I have experienced the effort and dedication that each member of the committee puts into each event. I was able to liaise with not only my peers but with people in the industry. The opportunity to have collaborated with such ambitious and likeminded people on the LSA was an unforgettable experience and I hope to be on the next committee for this reason.

In 150 words or less, please describe what skills or attributes you have that would assist in the performance of your role.

After being on the LSA, watching and following in the footsteps of my seniors, I believe that I have acquired the right skills to contribute to the role as director of sponsorships. Through my experience as an officer for activities and being a first year representative in the careers sector, I have enhanced my communication, time-management and teamwork skills. Organising events and frequent liaison between my peers and firm representatives, have taught me that communication is imperative. This was extremely important, especially between portfolios, as it ensured that our events ran smoothly. My role as a volunteer paralegal for Fitzroy Legal service has also equipped me with the skills necessary for this position. These skills encompass approachability, confidence, and the ability to work autonomously. My role at FLS entails frequent liaison with clients, courts and stakeholders which requires professionalism and confidence. Thus, when introducing yourself to potential employers from various law firms and backgrounds, it is extremely important to be approachable and confident. My ability to work autonomously is also demonstrated through my role at FLS as I am required to independently research, manage client files and deliver briefs to barristers. Further, as this role requires the director of sponsorships to be a 'middle man', I believe that having strong negotiation skills and being able to form a rapport with firms are also essential. I have demonstrated these skills competing in the client interview competition where extracting information from the client and building a rapport with them were essential in being successful in the competition. Hence I believe I demonstrate the skills necessary for the role of the director for sponsorships.

In 150 words or less, please describe any changes or initiatives you'd like to see implemented during your term in this role.

If I was chosen as the director of sponsorships, I would like to propose ideas to firms that would not only serve their interests but also benefit the LSA. In building and maintaining a rapport with firms, I would propose to them the idea of introducing programs for pre-penultimate students. As most funding is acquired through getting firms to sponsor

competitions, workshops and seminars, this would be an alternative area that has potential for growth. Most students in their second or third year of their degree are eager to gain experience and firm exposure. Hence this would benefit both firms and the LSA. These programs could run either virtually through insidesherpa, or in person (once covid settles). Thus, this would increase student engagement. I would also like to assist the firms and the LSA in organising more virtual events so that student engagement is maintained and is somewhat equivalent to what it would be in person. As we are living in unprecedented times, I would like to help the LSA and firms in restoring some normality. Thus, trying to increase student and firm engagement online by promoting more virtual networking events and seminars would be beneficial and something I would like to explore as the director for sponsorships.

Name: Daniel Reljic

Nomination moved by: Brandon Draper

Nomination seconded by: Bernard Fitzgerald

In 150 words or less, please explain why you would like to be a part of the 2020/2021 committee.

Being a part of the 2019/20 LSA Committee as Information Technology Officer I developed a passion and commitment to the LSA and would love to continue that on through a new position as Director of Sponsorship. Through my previous role, I have been able to gain an understanding of the role the LSA plays in providing law students with the opportunity to enhance their careers within the legal sector, whilst simultaneously providing opportunities both academically and socially. I would, therefore, like to ensure that the LSA continues to meet those objectives, as it is imperative that the LSA is able to continue to provide relevant and useful opportunities for all La Trobe law students. Furthermore, with the current climate, it is imperative that the LSA continues to secure sponsorship and maintain relationships with firms to ensure its continued growth, and thus benefit both future committees and students. These increasing challenges are an area in which I believe I can have a positive impact on.

In 150 words or less, please describe what skills or attributes you have that would assist in the performance of your role.

In my previous role as Information Technology Officer I have gained a comprehensive understanding of the inner workings and functions of the LSA. It similarly allowed me to experience what the committee is like, most specifically its strengths and weaknesses. This knowledge provides me with the ability to respond adequately to the current challenges facing the organisation. Furthermore, the role of IT Officer required a high level of organisation and flexibility, with the workload often being daily as a result of the extensive content uploaded and posted on the LSA's different social media platforms. Using the experiences and skills I have developed throughout my life and in my previous LSA role, I believe my abilities in teamwork, time-management and organisation provide a skill-set that could prove beneficial in ensuring the LSA is able to successfully manage and thrive in these challenging times.

In 150 words or less, please describe any changes or initiatives you'd like to see implemented during your term in this role.

In my role as Director of Sponsorship, I would focus particularly on continuing to expand and grow the number of LSA sponsors and sponsorship revenue to ensure the long-term success of the organisation. With the current COVID-19 climate and the financial hardship that the Law School and the entire country is in, it is imperative that the LSA can continue to maintain and grow its sponsorship revenue. This will therefore require expanding our choices and approaching firms and organisations that have not previously been affiliated with the LSA. Furthermore, I would focus on working closely with the Director of Careers to ensure student engagement during firm presentations and events remains high, benefiting both La Trobe law students as well as the LSA's future sponsorship opportunities.

Name: Rebecca Klvac

Nomination moved by: Elly-May Dreier

Nomination seconded by: James Reginato

In 150 words or less, please explain why you would like to be a part of the 2020/2021 committee.

Being a part of the LSA committee would not only fulfil my innate desire to be involved in leadership and push myself to give all my time and effort into making the committee a generous and representative body for law students, but it would allow me to give back to my wonderful peers who work so hard and deserve a passionate committee like the LSA to cater to their needs. I have also loved being a part of the past term of the committee and now that i know the ropes, would love to take some more initiative and responsibility under my belt.

In 150 words or less, please describe what skills or attributes you have that would assist in the performance of your role.

My skills such as highly organised, quick problem-solving, multitasking and excellent communication skills paired with my attributes including solution-orientated, focused and initiative allow me to be a passionate team-player who would thrive in negotiating with sponsors and allocating the funds required for the LSA events and initiatives. I would effectively be able to communicate with our sponsors during this uncertain time about changes and requirements as well as use my problems-solving skills to prioritise what is important and necessary for the committee from sponsors. Through working with a barrister over the past 9 months, i also believe i can understand the sponsor's perspective and possibly find some connections for potential sponsors.

In 150 words or less, please describe any changes or initiatives you'd like to see implemented during your term in this role.

After being a part of the committee for a year now, i have gained an understanding of the importance of sponsorship and its role in enabling our work. Thus i would both aim to continue our existing partnerships as well as hopefully reach out to other potential sponsors such as governmental, businesses/organisations such as LinkedIn or associations such as the Victorian Bar Association. I also understand the change that this role will endure at this time of uncertain circumstances.

Activities Officer

Name: Alanah Garzia

Nomination moved by: Tom Kelly

Nomination seconded by: Elisa Keith

In 150 words or less, please explain why you would like to be a part of the 2020/2021 committee.

Although it will be something a bit out of my comfort zone, I am eager to challenge myself this year and want to better engage with students within the LaTrobe law school community. I hope a position of leadership such as this will allow me to do so, as I am passionate about making sure us law students have access to the best experiences, education and opportunities possible during our time at La Trobe. I also think being a part of the LSA would assist in my own career development and help me to develop my professional skillset as I work towards a career in the legal profession.

In 150 words or less, please describe what skills or attributes you have that would assist in the performance of your role.

I am a friendly, social and approachable person - all of which I believe will be assets to a role in the LSA, one in Activities particularly. I am very well organised and highly committed to my work and studies. Hopefully this is something I will be able to reflect through a role in the LSA. I know how stressful and demanding Uni can be sometimes as a law student. This is probably one of the reasons we all look forward to events like law ball, booze cruise and the law camps - which give us all a well-deserved break from our studies. If I'm lucky enough to earn this position in the LSA, I will be committed to making sure we are able to make the most out of our time as law students at La Trobe, enjoying it as much as we can.

In 150 words or less, please describe any changes or initiatives you'd like to see implemented during your term in this role.

Due to Covid-19, we have all experienced a very different uni life this year to what we would have experienced in previous years. We missed out on most of our much loved social events such as law ball, booze cruise and law camp which sadly had to be cancelled. If I'm awarded this position in the LSA, I would like to ensure that despite the difficult times we face, we make the most out of a bad situation and try our best to still come together as a community and enjoy our time together as law students. Once the Covid situation eases (soon, hopefully), events like law ball, booze cruise, or similar alternatives depending on restrictions, will be my top priority - as I know how much we all enjoy them.

Name: Amy Hicks

Nomination moved by: Sam Chung

Nomination seconded by: Georgia Smart

In 150 words or less, please explain why you would like to be a part of the 2020/2021 committee.

I would like to be a part of the committee as I really want to get involved in the LSA, and be able to be a part of a group of like minded people that will all support, and uplift one another. Being a part of this committee would also allow me to learn more about my course, from different perspectives of other people and gain experience of being a leader. As well as build on my co-operation skills, and organisational skills.

In 150 words or less, please describe what skills or attributes you have that would assist in the performance of your role.

I am an extremely creative person, I always try to get involved in different groups and put my input into them. Through my creativity I believe I would be able to assist in coming up with innovative new ideas for special events for the LSA, to get everyone involved. I also am a major people's person, I love being around people and meeting new unique people. I would bring a very social, and warm persona to the committee which I hope would encourage more people to join and get involved in events.

In 150 words or less, please describe any changes or initiatives you'd like to see implemented during your term in this role.

I'd like to see more promotion for study groups and support groups for students. Though there are a number of these initiatives, I believe it is something that needs to be pushed more, specifically for first year students. Having the support of other students to assist with academic troubles, as well as personal/mental times of need is something I believe the LSA could implement more of a focus on.

Name: Shaun James

Nomination moved by: Sam Chung

Nomination seconded by: Jesse Prior

In 150 words or less, please explain why you would like to be a part of the 2020/2021 committee.

I have had the exciting opportunity to be the first-year representative for Activities in the 2019/2020 committee and have enjoyed it thoroughly. I am now applying to be an activities officer for the 2020/21 LSA Committee because I feel that I am able to continue to contribute to the activity portfolio of the committee through my early experience in the current committee.

This year with the COVID-19 situation, the activities team has been faced with a great challenge through online learning. The team has had to become even more creative and reactive to adapt to the new environment through off campus/online events. I will use the experience of this new way of thinking and planning to ensure that the activities portfolio continues to implement its positive impacts on the social connection at our university, as COVID-19 will be sure to have an impact on the LSA committee of 2020/21.

In 150 words or less, please describe what skills or attributes you have that would assist in the performance of your role.

I joined the LSA right in the midst of the COVID-19 challenge and participated in my very first committee meeting online. In regard to the Activities portfolio, we as a team have had to think out of the box to come up with completely new ways to maintain the social connection that is so important at university. Flexibility, adaptability and creativity are the main skills I think that I can offer to the 2020/21 LSA Committee, mostly gained through needing to plan activities that are online based.

The COVID-19 situation will be sure to continue into the next year, and with this a portfolio like Activities will need to be able to continue to adapt to circumstances beyond their control but more importantly continue running events that accommodate these circumstances. I believe I can aid in this continuing to happen, due to my previous experience this year.

In 150 words or less, please describe any changes or initiatives you'd like to see implemented during your term in this role.

I believe that the committee of 2020/21 will need to continue to adapt to a changing university landscape due to more online learning, but more importantly ensuring that it continues to serve the very students it represents.

I would like to see even more of a focus on the new cohorts that are entering Law at La Trobe University, as many of these students will have never met in person and will heavily lack the ability to make new social connections due to online learning.

The 2020/21 Committee will definitely be impacted by the COVID-19 Situation, and so will all Law students at La Trobe. This means that the committee must go that extra mile to ensure that the wellbeing and success of all its students are upheld and ensured going forward into a future that is uncertain.

Name: Arrian Korkotidis Stubbs

Nomination moved by: Nathan Jasper

Nomination seconded by: Ally Mangion

In 150 words or less, please explain why you would like to be a part of the 2020/2021 committee.

I am nominating to be part of the 2020/2021 general executive committee for the LSA because I want to enrich and contribute to the La Trobe law student experience in a meaningful way and help bring about positive change within the La Trobe Law School. The opportunity to work autonomously and collaborate alongside likeminded university students are aspects of the LSA committee that personally resonate with me. Being able to develop strong relationships with both LSA committee members and fellow students also highly appeals to me. Having thoroughly enjoyed my LSA committee position this year as a Competitions Officer I am strongly motivated by the opportunity to continue working on the LSA committee. I highly value the social and friendship aspect of the LSA committee and prospect of being able to meet new people and make new friends.

In 150 words or less, please describe what skills or attributes you have that would assist in the performance of your role.

I can bring a diverse range of skills and attributes that would directly assist me in performing the role of Activities Officer. Skills include leadership, teamwork, written communication, verbal communication, organisation, interpersonal and problem solving. Attributes I exhibit which would be highly beneficial to the role of Activities Officer include hardworking, passionate, enthusiastic, proactive, innovative, devoted and thoughtful. These skills and attributes have been developed through professional work experience, past positions on university student society committees and a range of leadership and co-curricular roles. I have been able to gain the aforementioned skills and attributes through holding positions on university student society committees include LSA Competitions Officer, Treasurer for the Monash Entrepreneurs Club, as well as Professional Officer and Social Officer for the Monash Business Commerce Students' Society (BCSS).

In 150 words or less, please describe any changes or initiatives you'd like to see implemented during your term in this role.

Changes and initiatives I would like to see implemented during my prospective term as an Activities Officer include additional social and networking activities which may include speed dating, a committee retreat and an after exams party. Furthermore, I would like there to be a series of activities aimed at bringing together Juris Doctor and undergraduate law students. Increasing opportunities for both law students to learn and use legal specific information technology within classes and a professional development setting is change I would like to help implement. Arranging events that provide insight to students in terms of what area or areas of law they may want to pursue is an initiative I would like to help bring about as I feel this is a universal question among students that they require assistance answering.

Bendigo Representative Officer (UNCONTESTED)

Name: Maddisson Tahlia Rungen

Nomination moved by: Emily Armstrong

Nomination seconded by: Joel Blanch

In 150 words or less, please explain why you would like to be a part of the 2020/2021 committee.

I would love to be a part of the new committee as I joined this year and have enjoyed the little experience I have had to date! I would like to continue to be a part of the LSA because I feel like I have already become more immersed into my degree and have participated in activities I wouldn't have ordinarily been a part of. As well as that, I enjoy the added responsibility and I like being a part of something beneficial with like-minded people. I am particularly interested in maintaining correspondence with the Melbourne campus, but also involving Bendigo in any way that I can!

In 150 words or less, please describe what skills or attributes you have that would assist in the performance of your role.

I am an exceptionally driven person and I enjoy having added responsibility or being in a position where I am held accountable. I am intent on doing all things that I do to the best of my abilities and will always give something the time and effort required to do it well. I am also friendly and approachable and willing to listen and ultimately help people as much as I can. While I feel as though I have the capacity to undertake this role, I am also happy to ask for assistance where needed and welcome the feedback from students in more senior positions.

In 150 words or less, please describe any changes or initiatives you'd like to see implemented during your term in this role.

Given this role hasn't been filled of recent times the first goal is to see it exist! Before becoming a part of the current committee, I was completely ignorant to a number of things that are evidently common knowledge at the Melbourne campus. I never knew what clerkships were for example, and never realised La Trobe has so many connections to law firms. Ideally in this role I will be able to form a bridge between Melbourne and Bendigo so that Bendigo students don't feel so in the dark but also create opportunities more central to our region. Developing connections to regional firms and mainly broadening the opportunities for law students in terms of skill building, work experience and career direction would be at the forefront of my mind as a starting point.

Careers Officer

Name: Alanah Garzia

Nomination moved by: Tom Kelly

Nomination seconded by: Elisa Keith

In 150 words or less, please explain why you would like to be a part of the 2020/2021 committee.

Although it will be something a bit out of my comfort zone, I am eager to challenge myself this year and want to better engage with students within the LaTrobe law school community. I hope a position of leadership such as this will allow me to do so, as I am passionate about making sure us law students have access to the best experiences, education and opportunities possible during our time at La Trobe. I also think being a part of the LSA would assist in my own career development and help em to develop my professional skillset as I work towards a career in the legal profession.

In 150 words or less, please describe what skills or attributes you have that would assist in the performance of your role.

I'm very well organised person and I'm highly committed to my work and studies. Hopefully this is something I will be able to reflect through a role in the LSA. I'm friendly, social and approachable - all of which I believe will be assets to a role in the LSA. I know how stressful and demanding uni can be sometimes as a law student, especially when we start thinking about life post-uni and what kind of careers we are all chasing after. If I'm lucky enough to earn this position in the LSA, I will be committed to making sure that as law students, we are given ample opportunity to make connections and develop our professional and networking skills during our time at uni - in order to better prepare us for life after La Trobe and make sure we're all well informed about the wide range of careers available to us.

In 150 words or less, please describe any changes or initiatives you'd like to see implemented during your term in this role.

Due to Covid-19, we have all experienced a very different uni life this year to what we would have experienced in previous years. We've missed out on a lot of opportunities to meet and interact face-to-face with potential future employers or people in the field. Careers nights and cocktail events are generally a very important asset for students. Although Zoom has been a sufficient alternative to these face-to-face events, if I'm awarded this position in the LSA I would like to ensure that despite the difficult times we face, we make the most out of the situation and keep doing our best to give students the opportunity to expand their networks, make good impressions and get their names out into the legal community - despite the lack of in person meetings.

Name: Chelsea Cara Fung

Nomination moved by: Natalie Stojanovski

Nomination seconded by: Elly-May Dreier

In 150 words or less, please explain why you would like to be a part of the 2020/2021 committee.

Having been a first year rep for careers this year, I've found that I have already made so many new friends in all years within such a short timeframe. This opportunity has not only allowed me to make these connections but it also presented numerous opportunities to communicate with Law Firms which is extremely beneficial when considering my post study plans. I would also like to continue working alongside the LSA as a careers officer as I thoroughly enjoy working alongside all members of the association, but also because I believe there is still much more that I can prove to the team. Lastly, being in the LSA has allowed me to contribute to the wider law community rather than just my studies alone.

In 150 words or less, please describe what skills or attributes you have that would assist in the performance of your role.

In terms of my past experience, I was in my high school's Social Justice Club which meant that I was in charge of running school fundraises/events, contacting charities directly, organising catering for events etc. Personally, I find pleasure in working behind the scenes and more so the planning stages of these events, in which I'm aware are a few tasks careers officers must undertake. In terms of the LSA, as a first year rep for careers, I have already been taught the expectations of the association and everything to do when organising career-related events, having run some sessions on my own. As for my personality, I'm extremely bubbly, love getting to know new people and most importantly I'm always up for a challenge.

In 150 words or less, please describe any changes or initiatives you'd like to see implemented during your term in this role.

Whilst I believe that the LSA is doing extremely well as it is, improvements could always be made. Being the first year rep for careers last term, I noticed that there were the same number of people attending these career-related sessions on zoom (mostly being members of the LSA). Therefore if I was chosen as careers officer, I would do more in promoting the events and being more proactive in inviting the wider community of LaTrobe's law students to attend the sessions.

Name: Carla Louise Camassa

Nomination moved by: Alex Chan

Nomination seconded by: Ingrid Tam

In 150 words or less, please explain why you would like to be a part of the 2020/2021 committee.

Being a member of the LSA for 2020/2021 would provide a great opportunity to contribute to the success and well-being of La Trobe University's law students. I would relish working with a team of like-minded individuals to set and achieve goals that directly aid fellow students during their studies. Be it meeting other students at Law Camp, or helping students improve their results with the Law School 101 Workshop series, the LSA play a pivotal role in the culture of law at La Trobe. This is something I wish to help develop and promote to students across all stages of their degree. Further, I am keen to deepen my connectedness to the university and feel the LSA is a perfect way to get involved. I would enjoy expanding my network of contacts and being a source of friendship and support to other law students within the LSA and beyond.

In 150 words or less, please describe what skills or attributes you have that would assist in the performance of your role.

I feel the role of careers officer would be an excellent fit for me. I am inherently dedicated and perceptive, always endeavouring to maintain a contentious and empathetic spirit. I have held numerous leadership roles in the past, and this has taught me to be an excellent team member. I understand how to provide tailored support to ensure large scale events run smoothly, having assisted in delivering La Trobe's Open Days for several years. I also possess excellent interpersonal skills and an innate sense of professionalism, these qualities refined through my current role as a paralegal. These qualities will allow me to effectively liaise with members of the LSA and other external bodies to ensure the careers program blossoms over the coming year. I am the type of person who thrives on being useful and hence feel this energy would make me a great addition to the LSA for 2020/2021.

In 150 words or less, please describe any changes or initiatives you'd like to see implemented during your term in this role.

Having engaged with the careers program across the duration of the year, I have thoroughly enjoyed the publications and events. However, being in my later years of study, I feel the careers programs should seek to provide students more information on their options for further study or work post-graduation. The LSA have provided some information regarding PLT training, but I would like to see this expanded. I also would like to see post-graduation information accessible beyond just what the major commercial firms are offering. For students with interests in criminal law, research, or the non-for-profit sector, information concerning post-graduation opportunities is limited. I also think having access to a careers adviser who specialises in the legal industry but is not affiliated with a firm would be of substantive value. I feel expanding the careers program in this way will improve engagement with the LSA as a whole.

Name: James Reginato

Nomination moved by: Kiyam Mirzaei

Nomination seconded by: Elly-May Dreier

In 150 words or less, please explain why you would like to be a part of the 2020/2021 committee.

Having been on the LSA committee as a careers officer for the last two years, I can truly say that I have loved being involved. The culture is one that is supportive and representative of law students and one that seeks to develop ways to engage students in university life. I am a firm believer in providing equal opportunity to people regardless of their circumstances and I would love to continue being involved in fostering that nurturing environment. I also thoroughly enjoyed the responsibility I was assigned in representing the interests of other law students and raising issues that were pertinent amongst the law student cohort. Looking forward, I hope to remain on the committee in order to assist students in their personal growth and career development allowing them to enhance and maximise their university experience.

In 150 words or less, please describe what skills or attributes you have that would assist in the performance of your role.

I have been a careers officer on the committee for two years now and have become familiar with the processes and operations of the portfolio. My experience so far has provided me with strong time management and communication skills which I believe will strongly assist me in this role. Further, my hospitality experience and leadership role in high school have fostered a positive 'can do' attitude and a friendly presence around others. I am hopeful that I can support the Director of Careers in this role to achieve their goals and aspirations for the portfolio.

In 150 words or less, please describe any changes or initiatives you'd like to see implemented during your term in this role.

I will be advocating for a variety of new initiatives and changes if elected. These would include the expansion of career related events outside of the commercial space, increased sponsorship from a diverse range of sponsors and a greater focus on equity, diversity and inclusion.

Name: Emilia Lisa Sterjova

Nomination moved by: Alyssa Britnell

Nomination seconded by: Alannah Bryant

In 150 words or less, please explain why you would like to be a part of the 2020/2021 committee.

I would like to be a part of the committee as I am looking to make some new friends in my course. I am in my sixth year and so a lot of my friends have already graduated. I hope to make some new connections and learn a bit more about the LSA and what can be done to make the university experience even better for other students. I would also appreciate the opportunity to meet people in the field so I can have a better understanding of what I would like to do after I graduate.

In 150 words or less, please describe what skills or attributes you have that would assist in the performance of your role.

I have experience with a large number of clubs and committees that I have run, established or been a part of the executive. I would like to impart some of my knowledge from other committees to see if things can be further improved in the LSA. I enjoy working in teams and taking on leadership roles. I communicate well and am confident in public speaking. I am also terrific at networking as I used to work in politics so I could use my networking skills and contacts in the field to engage further connections at our career events. It would be a wonderful opportunity and an honour to be a part of the LSA.

In 150 words or less, please describe any changes or initiatives you'd like to see implemented during your term in this role.

I'd like to see more career events with a plethora of positions other than just the obvious "lawyer" role. I'd especially like to have presentations where we have people in the field who may have changed careers or taken different paths to gain their role. It would be fantastic to see major Q&A events where there are panellists from all aspects of Law.

Name: Alice Chernishoff

Nomination moved by: Steph Brock

Nomination seconded by: Alisha Ukunde

In 150 words or less, please explain why you would like to be a part of the 2020/2021 committee.

There are multiple reasons why I would like to be a part of the LSA committee. First, it would be special to be a part of something big. It would help me put my law degree into perspective and understand that the degree is about so much more than just the content. Second, I think that it would be a chance to connect with committee members. The community, from what I have observed, seems to have a great culture with dedicated, hard-working people who would be great to get to know. Finally, I believe that being a part of the law community is something valuable to any law student, but particularly a first-year law student. There is so much to learn and be exposed to, and I think this would be the perfect opportunity for that.

In 150 words or less, please describe what skills or attributes you have that would assist in the performance of your role.

I think that I have a good set of communication skills which would be particularly useful in this role as a careers officer. Communication would be with other members of the portfolio, but also with professionals from law firms. For both of these groups, I am aware that communication needs to be appropriate and efficient, this I would be able to do. Moreover, I see myself as having an approachable and positive nature. This is of particular importance when communicating with those two groups mentioned above, as well as other members of the LSA committee.

In 150 words or less, please describe any changes or initiatives you'd like to see implemented during your term in this role.

An initiative I would like to see implemented is a forum, perhaps a Facebook page, where detailed descriptions on multiple career options are presented. Obviously, this can be done by an individual themselves, but a forum where all the key information for particular roles may allow students to gain an understanding of key points for different roles in different branches of law. If presented well + effectively, this could be a very useful forum; useful for a first year who has not thought about career options in much depth at all, but also useful for someone who has researched in depth and perhaps did not consider one particular option that they had no idea existed. This could help people to filter through which firms they would like to hear from when events occur, in line with their particular interests.

Name: Chanel Shaya

Nomination moved by: Alexandra Chan

Nomination seconded by: Ally Mangion

In 150 words or less, please explain why you would like to be a part of the 2020/2021 committee.

Graduating from science last year I noted that one thing I regretted was not being a part of the student's association or just getting more involved in my discipline in general. I believe that when you belong to a community and you are working in it as well, your passion for that discipline can only grow since it is so hands on and the relationships that come out of it I'm sure will be sustained for life. I want to be able to build a network that will help both myself and other law students, as well as build new skills and gain new experiences through the endless amount of opportunities that will be encountered.

In 150 words or less, please describe what skills or attributes you have that would assist in the performance of your role.

Communication skills: being both a student and paralegal has definitely built up my ability to communicate verbally - listening, taking the time to understand and then responding to the best of my knowledge and experience - as well as over email/phone. Strong work ethic: I am always on time and always aim to exceed set goals such as breaking tasks up (no matter how big or small they may be) over a given period of time, rather than leaving it till the last minute. This way I am putting my best effort in everything that I do (I have my fantastic Todoist app to thank for that!). I am very determined: no matter what appears in the way I am still very focussed on achieving goals and work that has been set. I work very well with people, no matter what our disagreements are, I always advocate for everyone to have their say and to mesh our ideas together to create a unique outcome.

In 150 words or less, please describe any changes or initiatives you'd like to see implemented during your term in this role.

I want to see more of our students having being more confident when it comes to job applications, clerkships, etc., I know how much of a daunting experience it is considering how competitive the law sector is, which is why I want to see more communication and even a sort of mentoring role between careers officers/the director and the students. I do believe that working closely like this will produce a trust into the members of the LSA by the students and it will strengthen their confidence when applying for clerkships/jobs. They'll also be able to learn from our experiences and even pick up skills and so will we.

Name: Amy Hobbs

Nomination moved by: Matthew Caltabiano

Nomination seconded by: Monique Naumovski

In 150 words or less, please explain why you would like to be a part of the 2020/2021 committee.

As a third year Law student I believe the LSA provides a fantastic opportunity to gain experience working and coordinating alongside like-minded Law students and experienced legal professionals.

As a member of the LSA, should I be granted such a privilege, I intend to expand and strengthen the existing LaTrobe network, establishing and maintaining connections with law firms across the spectrum of practice areas.

Furthermore, I take pride in my organisational skills, and would thrive if given the opportunity to put them to use. This includes strong time management skills which I believe could also be further strengthened given the opportunity.

In 150 words or less, please describe what skills or attributes you have that would assist in the performance of your role.

I believe I can bring a fresh new perspective and a bundle of new ideas to renew and modernise LaTrobe's careers networking field.

As a naturally friendly and bubbly personality, I believe I can bring the best out in a team and ensure their cohesion to the extent conducive to effective and efficient productivity.

I am a highly motivated and valuable team member who can call upon my natural micro and macro managerial ability for the benefit of the team, and for the benefit of the cohort.

In 150 words or less, please describe any changes or initiatives you'd like to see implemented during your term in this role.

Should I be granted the privilege, my main focus would fall upon improving the utility and increasing the volume of networking opportunities outside of careers week.

Further, I wish to assist LaTrobe's cohort in narrowing down on specific legal skills valued by law firms, so as to increase the utility of our students as potential interns or associates, hereby increasing their employability.

To this extent, I believe LaTrobe students would benefit from a focus on strengthening the necessary skills to be of use to employers as, realistically, exam conditions don't exist in the field.

Lastly, I believe that those students in exceptional circumstances should be granted equal opportunity to thrive as their peers. I wish to promote this through awareness campaigns targeted at overcoming the stigma associated with 'getting help' beyond the regular scope of the class.

Name: Lauren Rametta

Nomination moved by: Brandon Draper

Nomination seconded by: Elly-May Dreier

In 150 words or less, please explain why you would like to be a part of the 2020/2021 committee.

My role as a First Year Representative this year has enabled me to contribute to the continued effort of the LSA and give a voice to our student cohort. My interest in supporting others and my ability to effectively do this within a team setting is very important to me. My motivation, dedication and approachable nature will add strength to the LSA. I want to share my creativity with others and am very enthusiastic about this. I wish to enhance your experience as a student to ensure you achieve your personal career goals. I intend to further develop a strong and united cohort that is proud of its achievements. As a Careers Officer I would like to continue to raise the profile of the LSA to ensure employers can better understand the unique skill set that studying Law at La Trobe University can offer their organisation.

In 150 words or less, please describe what skills or attributes you have that would assist in the performance of your role.

My ability to face challenges efficiently and thoughtfully will help me gauge the needs of my peers. I have excellent listening skills and I am able to develop a good rapport with people. I have a strong work ethic and am willing to dedicate my time to provide opportunities for the law cohort to feel valued and supported. I am well organised and my attention to detail will assist me in effectively presenting clear and precise ideas to my team. I would love the opportunity to continue to be a part of this community group where I can contribute and be rewarded when I see the positive outcomes achieved by those who seek the LSA's services.

In 150 words or less, please describe any changes or initiatives you'd like to see implemented during your term in this role.

My focus as a Careers Officer will be on providing innovative student professional development through valuable and informative seminars. Students will be given opportunities to build on skills required to succeed in their career path.

My key changes and initiatives include:

1. Guest presenters from different areas of law, including La Trobe Law alumni.
2. Promote the success of La Trobe Law students through social media platforms such as LinkedIn to ensure these achievements are accessible to employers.
3. Conducting interviews with La Trobe Law students who were successful in their clerkship applications and publish their advice on the LSA's social media platforms to assist students.

Name: Arrian Korkotidis Stubbs

Nomination moved by: Nathan Jasper

Nomination seconded by: Ally Mangion

In 150 words or less, please explain why you would like to be a part of the 2020/2021 committee.

I am nominating to be part of the 2020/2021 committee for the LSA because I want to enrich and contribute to the La Trobe law student experience in a meaningful way and help bring about positive change within the La Trobe Law School. The opportunity to work autonomously and collaborate alongside likeminded university students are aspects of the LSA committee that personally resonate with me. Being able to develop strong relationships with both LSA committee members and fellow students also highly appeals to me. Having thoroughly enjoyed my LSA committee position this year as a Competitions Officer I am strongly motivated by the opportunity to continue working on the LSA committee. I highly value the social and friendship aspect of the LSA committee and prospect of being able to meet new people and make new friends.

In 150 words or less, please describe what skills or attributes you have that would assist in the performance of your role.

I can bring a diverse range of skills and attributes that would directly assist me in performing the role of Careers Officer. Skills include leadership, teamwork, written communication, verbal communication, organisation, interpersonal and problem solving. Attributes I exhibit which would be highly beneficial to the role of Careers Officer include hardworking, passionate, enthusiastic, proactive, innovative, devoted and thoughtful. These skills and attributes have been developed through professional work experience, past positions on university student society committees and a range of leadership and co-curricular roles. I have been able to gain the aforementioned skills and attributes through holding positions on university student society committees include LSA Competitions Officer, Treasurer for the Monash Entrepreneurs Club, as well as Professional Officer and Social Officer for the Monash Business Commerce Students' Society (BCSS).

In 150 words or less, please describe any changes or initiatives you'd like to see implemented during your term in this role.

Changes and initiatives I would like to see implemented during my prospective term as an Careers Officer include additional career and networking opportunities with students and organisations such as corporate cocktails, careers festival, webinars and workshops. Arranging professional development initiatives that provide insight to students in terms of what area or areas of law they may want to pursue is something I would like to help bring forward as I feel this is a universal question among students that they require assistance answering. As a Careers Officer I would like to see students be provided with in-depth information and a range of opportunities that can help them partake in legal work experience both before graduating and also applying for Seasonal Clerkships.

Name: Sarah Bux

Nomination moved by: Samuel Chung

Nomination seconded by: Georgie Aidonopoulos

In 150 words or less, please explain why you would like to be a part of the 2020/2021 committee.

The LSA forms an immensely important role in enhancing the student experience at La Trobe Law School. Whether organising social events, publishing crucial and credible content, informing us of deadlines or helping us create strong bonds between our peers, the LSA's efforts are pertinent in being a La Trobe Law Student and, importantly, contribute to our advancement in the profession.

As a proud La Trobe Law Student who has often engaged with the LSA, I am eager to form a part of the 2020/2021 committee, supporting the LSA's ongoing efforts to improve the student experience – socially, culturally, academically and professionally. While our current climate poses difficulties, I am excited by the prospects of our online forum in shaping student engagement. I am enthusiastic about the next committee's ability to reform plans in light of required change. I am ready to serve our peers and help improve their student experience.

In 150 words or less, please describe what skills or attributes you have that would assist in the performance of your role.

Holding consumer-facing roles for many years, I pride myself on my ability to serve others. Whether conversing with peers, engaging prospective clients or accommodating key personnel's needs, I perform with the highest level of integrity when liaising with all stakeholders. These skills, combined with my PR studies, highlight my gregarious nature and strong capacity to engage and build mutually beneficial relationships with patrons. These attributes are important in this role to efficiently and positively engage students and firms.

My organisational and time management skills are constantly revised and improved. This is highlighted by my ability to managing academic, financial and professional matters to the highest degree, irrespective of increased work commitments. This year I have increased practise of wellbeing, accompanying online engagements; growing my organisational skills while in isolation. These well-rounded organisational skills will allow me to meet all deadlines, while ensuring high quality content for La Trobe Law Students.

In 150 words or less, please describe any changes or initiatives you'd like to see implemented during your term in this role.

The Careers Portfolio's commitment to La Trobe Law Students in creating a platform whereby we can form mutually beneficial relationships with employers and ensuring we are aware of career opportunities is essential to the student experience. Building from these strong foundations, I would like to see the embedding of a series of pre-penultimate career events into the Careers calendar to engage the different needs of students. Furthermore, developing from Careers Connect Fairs, a series of events catering for diverse career

prospects by informing students of alternative uses of their law degrees may be beneficial. Such a forum may highlight the role of, for example, Judge's Associates and other members of a court's staff. Finally, as the array of double degrees offered at the Law School poses an opportunity for different careers, hosting events recognising different careers which work fluidly with law could assist and engage many students.

Competitions Officer

Name: Ali Raza

Nomination moved by: Kiara Fernando

Nomination seconded by: Sahej Chaudhary

In 150 words or less, please explain why you would like to be a part of the 2020/2021 committee.

I believe that LSA is doing incredibly well in organizing social and educational events for law students. The events are very informative and helpful. Being a member of the LSA committee gives me an opportunity to put my contribution in the process which will be helpful for all my fellow law students.

As a law student, LSA is a great platform where I can develop many skills such as, organizational work ethics, interpersonal and leadership skills. Also, being a part of the LSA committee, it helps me build network with professionals from law firms and other institutions which will play a vital role in my career.

In 150 words or less, please describe what skills or attributes you have that would assist in the performance of your role.

I have previously participated in several law moot court competitions such as Sir Harry Gibbs and Henry Dunant IHL law moot court competitions. I have also judged the preliminary rounds of ALSA moot court competition organized in 2019 by Australian Law Students' Association.

The knowledge and experiences that I have gained through participation in these moot competitions can help me in the role as a competition officer to assist the Director of competitions run the events as smooth as possible.

In 150 words or less, please describe any changes or initiatives you'd like to see implemented during your term in this role.

Considering the current situation of COVID-19 pandemic, if the moot competitions are to run virtually. As a competition officer, I will put my fullest energy and time that every possible steps and initiative be taken to run the competitions and any other activities virtually as proper as possible.

Depending on the situation in the next semester and year during my term in this role, I will try hard to bring any changes as required in those circumstances to perform my roles and responsibilities.

Name: Alisha Ukunde

Nomination moved by: Ally Mangion

Nomination seconded by: Nathan Jasper

In 150 words or less, please explain why you would like to be a part of the 2020/2021 committee.

I had the chance to become a first year representative for competitions last semester and I enjoyed my role a lot despite not having a whole lot to do due to the current Covid-19 situation however, I would love to be able to have a more active role next semester and apply all the new things I've learnt from my previous experience with LSA.

In 150 words or less, please describe what skills or attributes you have that would assist in the performance of your role.

High school dance competition coordinator and organiser (2016-2019); This role taught me to effectively manage and work as a team. I was also responsible for organising the group costumes, participation forms, consent forms, participation fees, selling tickets etc which has given me the experience to easily tackle tricky situations that may come up as well as keep the entire group connected through different activities as well as dance.

Intermediate and Senior Badminton Championship (2017-2019); This experience allowed me to manage my time for studies, social activities as well as sports throughout my schooling years

The Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award (2017); I learnt to push my boundaries and take up challenges regardless of the uncomfortable environment

Air Force cadets Leading Cadet distinction award (2015-2018); Here I learned the importance of discipline and picked up many organisational skills which I still follow today.

In 150 words or less, please describe any changes or initiatives you'd like to see implemented during your term in this role.

I'm sure in the absence of Covid, all LSA teams would be running much smoothly but as of the current situation, I would like to help publicise all the events, competitions, seminars etc a lot more, especially to my first year cohort so that they can expand socially since none of us are familiar with each other. I would furthermore, with Ally's assistance, be able to take a more active role in supervising competition events etc so that the work load is well distributed and would not become too overburdening on one person alone.

Name: Alice Chernishoff

Nomination moved by: Steph Brock

Nomination seconded by: Alisha Ukunde

In 150 words or less, please explain why you would like to be a part of the 2020/2021 committee.

There are multiple reasons why I would like to be a part of the LSA committee. First, it would be special to be a part of something big. It would help me put my law degree into perspective and understand that the degree is about so much more than just the content. Second, I think that it would be a chance to connect with committee members. The community, from what I have observed, seems to have a great culture with dedicated, hard-working people who would be great to get to know. Finally, I believe that being a part of the law community is something valuable to any law student, but particularly a first-year law student. There is so much to learn and be exposed to, and I think this would be the perfect opportunity for that.

In 150 words or less, please describe what skills or attributes you have that would assist in the performance of your role.

Good organisational skills are one of my attributes that would be useful to this role. I follow a weekly planner (hour by hour breakdown) so I am able to manage my time well and so I would be able to plan ahead in an efficient manner for upcoming events. Further, I have solid communication skills. I believe this would be of vital importance as a competitions officer regularly, on a weekly basis, but particularly in the lead up to events. Working with other members of the portfolio would be important for this portfolio and so effective communication is needed. Lastly, I would say that I have good problem-solving skills. I understand that a lot of planning and preparation would go into each of the 8 competitions of the year, however I am also aware unplanned events do occur. In these situations, I am able to take a step back, observe the current situation and then make a calculated decision, rather than rushing and stressing out.

In 150 words or less, please describe any changes or initiatives you'd like to see implemented during your term in this role.

The first change I would like to see implemented is more effective and clear advertising of what competitions are and what they involve. I notice that competitions are advertised on Facebook group, however I think it should be advertised in a slightly different way. Perhaps including a video of proceedings from a competition. Perhaps a video of a participant on their experience of being involved in the competition. Some different method of advertising compared to standard/traditional ways would encourage more participation and great understanding of what competitions involve.

Secondly, I believe that there should be some method of encouraging more involvement of first year students in competitions. Me as a first-year student, wanted to get involved in competitions but felt a little intimidated by the idea. If there was some sort of way to get first years feeling more comfortable and confident to join, I think this would certainly

strengthen the nature of the competitions. Perhaps some sort of policy where they come along with a group of 4 friends and participate. Perhaps encouragement to come and watch before participating.

Name: Emily George

Nomination moved by: Lauren Vigliotti
Nomination seconded by: Maria Joseph

In 150 words or less, please explain why you would like to be a part of the 2020/2021 committee.

In my first day of uni, I was very nervous about moving from the comforts of high school. But in orientation, I went to the law stall and I felt so welcomed, and uni just felt like home with the LSA being my family. Then with uni being online and all these external factors, LSA has been such great support. I want to join the committee to make others enjoy uni, especially in these tough times and share their passion for law.

In 150 words or less, please describe what skills or attributes you have that would assist in the performance of your role.

I believe that I would be an asset to LSA, due to my skills and experiences. As Public speaking and debating captain in school, I have gained strong skills in communication, confidence and collaboration with both my peers and teachers. Through this role, I also organised debate week where I ran debating competitions for every year level, working on timetables, promotions and overseeing the competitions. Another role that I had was being a leader in Model UN this involved meeting and getting my peers to be enthusiastic about events. So I believe that my experiences and my passionate attitude will allow prospering in this role.

In 150 words or less, please describe any changes or initiatives you'd like to see implemented during your term in this role.

I would like to see more opportunities for first years, even though they are just starting I think that competitions are a great way to get to bond and understand each other. Another area I would focus on is on promotion; on social media, emails and even on law group chats for each year level so we can all be aware of the opportunities around us. The last thing I would implement is more online competitions to cater to these tough times and to allow people to stay connected and enjoy their isolation.

Education Officer

Name: Jesse Prior

Nomination moved by: Nathan Jasper

Nomination seconded by: Shaun James

In 150 words or less, please explain why you would like to be a part of the 2020/2021 committee.

I would like to make a difference to the cohort of students undertaking the stressful period of study at La Trobe University. I have not been able to make a complete difference during my time as a first year representative due to the current circumstances, but I hope I can join and express concerns amongst the students who are in a similar situation as myself. Law educational needs are paramount, as it is essential for a prosperous career and future.

In 150 words or less, please describe what skills or attributes you have that would assist in the performance of your role.

I believe I have the ability to gauge and express the concerns of the students. This is due to my approachable, social and friendly nature, to which I believe will be of great benefit to the LSA. I also have the ability to express ideas well, and evaluate current program/model that I suggest may need to be altered.

In 150 words or less, please describe any changes or initiatives you'd like to see implemented during your term in this role.

I would like to see some form of collaboration between education and careers, with a focus on educating new law students regarding practical skills that will help them throughout their studies, and on towards their career. This is something that I have struggled with in the past, and therefore have realised is an area of misconceptions within the cohort. I also am a firm supporter of the current 101 sessions occurring, and wish to see that continued and expanded upon.

Name: Hammad Shahin

Nomination moved by: Brandon Draper

Nomination seconded by: Nathan Jasper

In 150 words or less, please explain why you would like to be a part of the 2020/2021 committee.

I've been on the LSA committee for two terms and I want to continue aiding the LSA's growth and direction, ensuring that everything the LSA does by way of events, services and publications is innovative, forward-thinking and accessible to the diverse array of law students that call La Trobe home. As a current Education Officer, I've been responsible for numerous initiatives, including spearheading the LSA's transition to using Microsoft Teams. It's important that I train the next committee on how to effectively use Microsoft Teams, so that it can help facilitate the LSA's future ambitious projects.

The 2020/21 LSA committee will be the most capable and driven one yet and I will be able to make my strongest impact to date by being part of it. In particular I want to steer the 2020/21 committee's focus to more strongly align with the LSA's pillars, particularly that of representation and wellbeing.

In 150 words or less, please describe what skills or attributes you have that would assist in the performance of your role.

I have a strong sense of duty and I regularly brainstorm initiatives for the LSA to consider implementing. I will be able to contribute to the committee's success by going above and beyond the basic requirements of the Education Officer role, as I have in the past. I am punctual and I always hold myself accountable to any tasks that have been delegated to me, never sweeping any of my mistakes under the carpet and always asking my fellow portfolio members and Director for direct, constructive feedback.

I possess robust time management skills, proven by my ability to meet the minimum requirements of the Education Officer position, implement my own initiatives and juggle all this alongside my studies and other work. I possess polished interpersonal skills and have extensive experience working across various teams at La Trobe which would aid me in developing close working relationships with all committee members.

In 150 words or less, please describe any changes or initiatives you'd like to see implemented during your term in this role.

A particularly strong line-up of practical workshops need to be delivered to law students, especially for first years, as semester two is a critical juncture and it is important that they have as much support as possible. I plan on working closely with the Education Director to ensure that all workshops and events are better able to cater to the diverse need of La Trobe students, alongside the Equity, Inclusion & Diversity Committee if established.

I plan to build upon the LSA's transition to Microsoft Teams which I initiated, by directing my efforts to encourage all committee members to holistically adopt its use, especially so

portfolios can collaborate together. I would also like to gauge law student opinion on the LSA's delivery of workshops and study sessions to identify how to further improve these for the long-term, especially with students working from home for the foreseeable future.

Name: Sarah Bux

Nomination moved by: Georgie Aidonopoulos

Nomination seconded by: Samuel Chung

In 150 words or less, please explain why you would like to be a part of the 2020/2021 committee.

The LSA forms an immensely important role in enhancing the student experience at La Trobe Law School. Whether organising social events, publishing crucial and credible content, informing us of deadlines or helping us create strong bonds between our peers, the LSA's efforts are pertinent in being a La Trobe Law Student and, importantly, contribute to our advancement in the profession.

As a proud La Trobe Law Student who has often engaged with the LSA, I am eager to form a part of the 2020/2021 committee, supporting the LSA's ongoing efforts to improve the student experience – socially, culturally, academically and professionally. While our current climate poses difficulties, I am excited by the prospects of our online forum in shaping student engagement. I am enthusiastic about the next committee's ability to reform plans in light of required change. I am ready to serve our peers and help improve their student experience.

In 150 words or less, please describe what skills or attributes you have that would assist in the performance of your role.

Holding consumer-facing roles for many years, I pride myself on my ability to serve others. Whether conversing with peers, engaging prospective clients or accommodating key personnel's needs, I perform with the highest level of integrity when liaising with all stakeholders. These skills, combined with my PR studies, highlight my gregarious nature and strong capacity to engage and build mutually beneficial relationships with patrons. These attributes are important in this role to efficiently and positively engage students and firms.

My organisational and time management skills are constantly revised and improved. This is highlighted by my ability to managing academic, financial and professional matters to the highest degree, irrespective of increased work commitments. This year I have increased practise of wellbeing, accompanying online engagements; growing my organisational skills while in isolation. These well-rounded organisational skills will allow me to meet all deadlines, while ensuring high quality content for La Trobe Law Students.

In 150 words or less, please describe any changes or initiatives you'd like to see implemented during your term in this role.

A key to a successful and enjoyable Law School experience is the connections and friendships we make along the way. Whether established through group assignments, awkward icebreaker activities or LSA events, the creation of friendships at Law School are those which can be carried with you within your degree and beyond.

The Education Portfolio has, for many years, successfully combined the importance of learning with wellbeing. To build on this success, I would like to see the introduction of mentorships in the 2020/2021 committee; coupling first year students with those in their pre-penultimate years. The purpose of this program would be to help guide them through the beginning of Law School, help familiarise themselves with the University and create friendships. Whether online or on campus, the introduction of such a program is key to ensuring that students are engaged and doing well at Law School – academically, socially, mentally and professionally.

Equity Officer

Name: Alexandra Patchett

Nomination moved by: Kate Benesovsky

Nomination seconded by: Dina Sabeta

In 150 words or less, please explain why you would like to be a part of the 2020/2021 committee.

I believe the LSA is an essentially part of being a law student at La Trobe. The projects that the LSA run are vital in helping students through their studies at La Trobe and in preparing them for a career in law after they graduate. I would love to be involved in the committee and help to put together these fantastic events and to help to encourage students to participate in all the activities that the LSA offers.

In 150 words or less, please describe what skills or attributes you have that would assist in the performance of your role.

One of the skills that would assist in my role is my fantastic organisational skills. I am good at balancing many different activities and organising my time most efficiently in order to get all tasks done to the best of my ability. Another skill is my enthusiasm. Particularly in regards to the role of equity officer, I am very passionate about ensuring that people from all backgrounds have equal access to a career in law and encouraging more diversity in the legal sector.

In 150 words or less, please describe any changes or initiatives you'd like to see implemented during your term in this role.

I would love to introduce events that are positioned towards minority groups in the legal industry. Such as information evenings or breakfasts that address what working in the law might look like for a particular minority group. This would be similar to the women in law breakfast that is already run by the LSA. I would also want to look at ways to provide mental health support to law students throughout the semester but particularly at times of peak stress and also to educate students about what support is available to them (either academic or mental health support).

Name: Jaskaran Singh

Nomination moved by: Mohammad Amir

Nomination seconded by: Dion Vadivelu

In 150 words or less, please explain why you would like to be a part of the 2020/2021 committee.

As a fourth year commerce/law student, I am eager to participate in as much extra circular activities. Being a part of the LSA, I believe it would improve on my soft skills as majority if not all, of my tasks would be team based. Working alongside like-minded individuals throughout the year, would better prepare myself for future challenges ahead. It would also push myself to get outside my comfort zone.

Diversity and Inclusion is an area I'm passionate about and I'm interested in being a part of a team that is tackling pre-existing issues that are hindering individuals progress in regards to their university life. The LSA is well equipped in addressing these issues. This was made evident through being a part of the moots the committee organised. The moot was run well by the committee members, which motivated myself to be a part of their future activities.

In 150 words or less, please describe what skills or attributes you have that would assist in the performance of your role.

A particular attribute I have that would assist in helping the team out, would be a good understanding in how to tackle issues concerning Diversity and Inclusion. During my internship with PwC, I was tasked in identifying and providing recommendations with how the firm better recruit graduates whilst ensuring everyone from different backgrounds having equal opportunity. I believe this experience would provide the team with a good outlook on how they can better address current ongoing issues.

Furthermore, I have worked extensively In groups during my work experiences, to where I have greatly improved on my communication and being an active listener. I believe these skills are of importance, especially during team work as understanding what your team members are saying is a necessity. In addition, I also possess great time management skills as I schedule almost everything including personal commitments.

In 150 words or less, please describe any changes or initiatives you'd like to see implemented during your term in this role.

If successful, during my term in this role I would love to address the struggle with attendance numbers during the events the LSA organises. Finding ways to increase popularity of these events is something I would enjoy working on alongside like-minded individuals. Furthermore, I would like to also encourage individuals from every background to be a part of these events, as it would bring forth new ideas and creativity that would benefit everyone's interests.

Name: Alice Chernishoff

Nomination moved by: Steph Brock

Nomination seconded by: Alisha Ukunde

In 150 words or less, please explain why you would like to be a part of the 2020/2021 committee.

There are multiple reasons why I would like to be a part of the LSA committee. First, it would be special to be a part of something big. It would help me put my law degree into perspective and understand that the degree is about so much more than just the content. Second, I think that it would be a chance to connect with committee members. The community, from what I have observed, seems to have a great culture with dedicated, hard-working people who would be great to get to know. Finally, I believe that being a part of the law community is something valuable to any law student, but particularly a first-year law student. There is so much to learn and be exposed to, and I think this would be the perfect opportunity for that.

In 150 words or less, please describe what skills or attributes you have that would assist in the performance of your role.

I have a genuine interest in equity issues. This is something that I believe is vital for the equity portfolio and will determine the amount of commitment and dedication a member is willing to put towards the regular tasks that equity officer demands, but also the initiatives that are created. The success of this portfolio would be determined by the interests of the members and so if their interests are genuine, I believe this would also mean a diverse nature be reflected among the LSA committee and entire law faculty. Further, I see myself as a very organised person. I use a weekly planner (hour by hour) breakdown of each of my days so can manage my time effectively, which would be useful for this role. I understand that there are specific tasks to complete in this role such as writing newsletter articles, researching + applying diversity measures and so I would be able to help plan the stages involved in executing these tasks. Finally, I have an open mind and am willing to try new things. This would be of particular importance in the equity portfolio as I am aware it is a fairly recent portfolio with much growth to occur.

In 150 words or less, please describe any changes or initiatives you'd like to see implemented during your term in this role.

An initiative that could be implemented are multiple diversity events to occur throughout the year. These could be based on particular groups; Indigenous Australians, women, people with disabilities etc. It would be necessary to present these events in a manner that is the most effective as possible and has a clear purpose. It may also be useful to gather data on particular areas of equity that students are passionate about and interested to hear from. This would ensure the event is most successful.

Another initiative is a page on Facebook where podcasts or books on particular equity issues are recommended. It could be presented almost as a review, where each post highlights the 3 or 5 main messages from that particular podcast or book and specific quotes. This would

allow people who view the page on Facebook to filter through and find issues that have particular relevance or interest to them, and then choose the appropriate book or podcast based on the review.

Name: Dion Vadivelu

Nomination moved by: Jaskaran Singh

Nomination seconded by: Mohammad Faour

In 150 words or less, please explain why you would like to be a part of the 2020/2021 committee.

I would like to be part of the 2020/21 LSA committee as I believe I would make a meaningful impact to the overall organisation, as well as especially in my chosen portfolio of equity officer. The La Trobe LSA's ability to develop a relationship with major law firms as well as promote the La Trobe law programme is something I have admired and respected at my time at La Trobe University. Being part of the LSA would not only broaden my knowledge of the law profession, but also enable me to contribute my skill set in order to benefit the organisation. In addition, I believe the LSA is also an avenue into building further relationships with not only other La Trobe law students but also the wider La Trobe community as well.

In 150 words or less, please describe what skills or attributes you have that would assist in the performance of your role.

The position of equity officer is well suited to my skills and attributes which I have developed over my time undertaking just under 3 years of a La Trobe Bachelor of Laws degree. My experience in working in two immigration law firms, as well as at the ASRC and Whittlesea Community Legal Centre, has exposed me to a diverse range of people from different backgrounds and beliefs. I have also gained significant time management, organisation and legal writing and research skills, which would make me an ideal candidate in researching and promoting diversity measures and writing newsletter articles on relevant topics. Coming from a migrant background, I understand firsthand the importance of equity, diversity and inclusion and I believe my personal experiences is something I want to contribute to the organisation. Having worked numerous jobs at one time, I have developed fairly good time management skills and flexibility.

In 150 words or less, please describe any changes or initiatives you'd like to see implemented during your term in this role.

At the start of my time at La Trobe undertaking a law degree, I had perceived the LSA to reflect the lack of diversity in the general law profession, which often made me hesitant to participate in the association. However, the newly created position of equity officer has given me the confidence to want to be a part of this organisation. I believe further changes and initiatives in the organisation which promote inclusive behaviour would greatly benefit the organisation and encourage people from different backgrounds and beliefs to want to be a part of. I would also like to see the LSA promote innovative legal jobs that reflect the broad nature of the legal profession and that fall outside the traditional legal jobs.

Name: Bernard Peter Fitzgerald

Nomination moved by: Daniel Relijc

Nomination seconded by: Hugh Christie

In 150 words or less, please explain why you would like to be a part of the 2020/2021 committee.

I believe my skills and experiences can be brought to bare for the benefit of all in the position of equity, diversity and inclusion officer. The requirements of this role closely align with my preexisting personal and professional interests. Having been a member of the Muslim Legal Network since 2019, for example, I have first-hand experience of the benefits that inclusive networking events have to offer.

In 150 words or less, please describe what skills or attributes you have that would assist in the performance of your role.

I identify as having a form of intellectual disability, or neural diversity, as a result of my ADHD. My experience living with ADHD has long attracted me to working with diverse peoples of all backgrounds and experiences. Having previously worked at an international school in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, for a period of five years, I have significant experience in working with the needs of people from a variety of different cultural and ethnic backgrounds. Additionally, having previously represented students as the Education Officer on the La Trobe SRC (the previous incarnation of the LTSU), I am in a strong position to make valuable contributions to the LSA.

In 150 words or less, please describe any changes or initiatives you'd like to see implemented during your term in this role.

Diverse recruitment drive, focusing on recruiting Indigenous students to the committee. Other affirmative measures that may become necessary as they become apparent. Central database for employment and careers information for diverse students.

Name: Nima Mohamed

Nomination moved by: Leyan Elsaadi

Nomination seconded by: Jasmin Joyce

In 150 words or less, please explain why you would like to be a part of the 2020/2021 committee.

Becoming a part of the LSA committee is a wonderful opportunity that I would like to partake in. Having the opportunity to be in a position that I am passionate about whilst working with a talented team of driven members is an invaluable experience. This opportunity will also enable me to voice and implement new and improved strategies and ideas that will assist in achieving the objectives of the LSA. It is inspiring to be a part of a group of like-minded individuals who work collectively in providing more opportunities, guidance and new initiatives that will be beneficial for personal growth and for law students as a whole.

In 150 words or less, please describe what skills or attributes you have that would assist in the performance of your role.

My interest in seeking this position is motivated by my passion for working with people from all walks of life, and providing aid and support for those in need. Being an Afro-Arab Muslim, I have been exposed to many issues that some underrepresented communities may have faced or continue to face. This has allowed me to be more understanding as well as sensitive and conscious of others coming from different minorities, backgrounds and abilities. I have always aspired to voice and represent marginalised individuals in any way possible. I believe that I can assist in being the drive to new implementations and strategies that will bring awareness to social issues that many law students face within their degree or may face in their upcoming career.

In 150 words or less, please describe any changes or initiatives you'd like to see implemented during your term in this role.

As the Equity, Inclusion and Diversity portfolio was first introduced in the 2019/2020 committee, I was fortunate enough to be a part of the very first sub-committee of this portfolio. This experience has highlighted the need for different voices from diverse backgrounds to be represented and address the need for changes that are adequately put in place to tackle social issues and implementation for different strategies in conducting various events, programs or even policies with the committee and the Law School as a whole. During my term in the 2020/2021 committee, I would love to see the continuance in creating initiatives that will further achieve accessibility, inclusion and representation for minority groups and individuals with special needs. I would also like to see further measures to be taken in providing opportunities for everyone to feel included, heard and represented.

JD Officer

Name: Paraskevi (Vivian) Papageorgiou

Nomination moved by: Faviola Martinez-Figueroa

Nomination seconded by: Fernando Jesus Galetto

In 150 words or less, please explain why you would like to be a part of the 2020/2021 committee.

I would love to be part of the 2020/21 committee as a JD Officer, as I feel passionate about promoting student engagement and becoming more involved with the JD cohort to advocate a collegiate atmosphere. Now that teaching has been transferred to online learning for the foreseeable future, I believe that it is important now more than ever to ensure that JD students are connected and supported. I realise that the circumstances we are all facing during Covid means that as students, we have fresh challenges on top of our studies and I want to do my best to make the transition easier for my peers as part of the LSA JD committee.

In 150 words or less, please describe what skills or attributes you have that would assist in the performance of your role.

As a newly appointed Peer Mentor at La Trobe, I am already easily accessible and available to JD students to approach during online Meet Ups this semester, for any issues they wish to discuss or even just to chat about anything in an informal zoom chat. As a Peer Mentor, I believe that I am approachable, friendly and in the best place to be a point of contact for all JD students, regardless of whether they are in the first or final year of their studies.

In my previous role as an Emergency Veterinary Nurse, I was also a Clinical Coach and mentor to student veterinary nurses where I was frequently called upon to raise issues to management on their behalf to ensure that needs were met in a constantly changing working environment.

In 150 words or less, please describe any changes or initiatives you'd like to see implemented during your term in this role.

As a JD officer I plan to increase student online engagement, so that we engage and interact more with each other outside of the classroom. I will do this by organising regular monthly online informal meetups and social events such as online trivia nights.

Furthermore, I plan to foster and promote regular online group study sessions, to ensure that students have more support during the transition to online learning.

Lastly, I plan to expand the scope of the careers events provided to JD students by increasing the types of employers outside of commercial law firms that approach La Trobe, in areas such as family law, employment law, criminal law and policy roles ect.

Name: Brenda Lam

Nomination moved by: Faviola Martinez-Figueroa

Nomination seconded by: Brandon Draper

In 150 words or less, please explain why you would like to be a part of the 2020/2021 committee.

Having being a part of the 2019/20 committee for the JD cohort, I have worked extensively with the Director of the JD to bring forward events and skills resources for student. This furthered the JD LSA connection with students and doing so, we have received incredible feedback in our performance. I would like to continue with this path to face new challenges in the time of COVID-19.

In 150 words or less, please describe what skills or attributes you have that would assist in the performance of your role.

I have a genuine interest in ensuring the development of the JD cohort as a whole. We have wide range of students with various experiences and maturity. Having a good understanding of this would allow me to implement ideas and strategies that would be catered specifically for the JD cohort.

In 150 words or less, please describe any changes or initiatives you'd like to see implemented during your term in this role.

1. Seek networking opportunities for students.

As the legal profession moves online for majority of its operations, students have not been able to network traditionally to build relationships with professions. Providing a new avenue for this would allow students to make the necessary steps to launch their career.

2. Exposure to scholarships and internship roles outside of La Trobe.

It is important that notice of such is given in an appropriate time to allow students to prepare for their applications. Critical research and strategic planning would allow for this to be advertised to students properly.

Name: Josie Dines

Nomination moved by: Gabe Brown

Nomination seconded by: Jasmine Wright Catron

In 150 words or less, please explain why you would like to be a part of the 2020/2021 committee.

I am passionate about the law being an inclusive and accessible space for all, and would be grateful for the opportunity to be able to help my fellow JD cohort achieve the most they can out of their law degree. As a mature-aged student with a (well-managed) chronic medical condition, I recognise the need to strengthen both the personal and educational support that is offered to those undertaking the JD. I would like to be part of the LSA Committee as I believe it would be an excellent way to utilise and draw from my lived experiences for the benefit of all students. I have a genuine desire to see my peers succeed and would work hard to ensure that the law school experience is positive for everyone, regardless of their personal backgrounds. La Trobe Law School is renowned for its commitment to social justice, and if I am successful in my nomination I would work hard to ensure this is embodied within the support available for JD students. I am currently both a Peer Mentor and a Student Advisory Board representative, demonstrating my commitment to my peers and a desire to ensure all voices are heard within the university.

In 150 words or less, please describe what skills or attributes you have that would assist in the performance of your role.

I am currently employed as an Executive Assistant to the Company Secretary/General Manager of Legal, Risk and Compliance at a large superannuation company. In this role, I work closely with the Board and the Executive in drafting and implementing policies. I have experience in corporate governance and am meticulously organised. I am an enthusiastic individual with excellent communication skills, and I have experience in stakeholder engagement and building lasting relationships with my peers. I believe I would thrive in the role as JD Officer and would love the opportunity to be able to listen to the JD cohort and implement their ideas into reality.

In 150 words or less, please describe any changes or initiatives you'd like to see implemented during your term in this role.

I believe there is a need for a specific equity branch for the JD cohort, which could be encompassed under a JD Officer role. I think it is important to offer students workshops on things such as money and time management skills, as most JD students are working alongside their studies. I believe a focus on these soft life skills could greatly help those who are struggling either financially or due to poor time-management, and it would demonstrate that La Trobe supports students both personally as well as academically. I also believe it is important to build the diversity and inclusivity of the JD cohort through specific events targeted at supporting LGBTIQ+ individuals and those who identify as disabled/living with chronic illnesses. In light of COVID-19, which has been a very isolating time for many, I believe these support networks need to be fostered into the JD program to ensure every student can achieve the best possible outcomes from their degree. It can be intimidating at

the best of times when starting a post-graduate degree, let alone if you are suffering financially or with your health, and I think these initiatives could really help expand the growing LSA JD portfolio.

Name: Arrian Korkotidis Stubbs

Nomination moved by: Nathan Jasper
Nomination seconded by: Ally Mangion

In 150 words or less, please explain why you would like to be a part of the 2020/2021 committee.

I am nominating to be part of the 2020/2021 general executive committee for the LSA because I want to enrich and contribute to the La Trobe law student experience in a meaningful way and help bring about positive change within the La Trobe Law School. The opportunity to work autonomously and collaborate alongside likeminded university students are aspects of the LSA committee that personally resonate with me. Being able to develop strong relationships with both LSA committee members and fellow students also highly appeals to me. Having thoroughly enjoyed my LSA committee position this year as a Competitions Officer I am strongly motivated by the opportunity to continue working on the LSA committee. I highly value the social and friendship aspect of the LSA committee and prospect of meeting new people and making new friends.

In 150 words or less, please describe what skills or attributes you have that would assist in the performance of your role.

I can bring a diverse range of skills and attributes that would directly assist me in performing the role of Juris Doctor Officer. Skills include leadership, teamwork, written communication, verbal communication, organisation, interpersonal and problem solving. Attributes I exhibit which would be highly beneficial to the role of Juris Doctor Officer include hardworking, passionate, enthusiastic, proactive, innovative, devoted and thoughtful. These skills and attributes have been developed through professional work experience, past positions on university student society committees and a range of leadership and co-curricular roles. Past positions I have held on university student society committees include LSA Competitions Officer, Treasurer for the Monash Entrepreneurs Club, as well as Professional Officer and Social Officer for the Monash Business Commerce Students' Society (BCSS).

In 150 words or less, please describe any changes or initiatives you'd like to see implemented during your term in this role.

Changes and initiatives I would like to see implemented during my prospective term as a Juris Doctor Officer include additional social and networking activities specifically targeted at bringing the Juris Doctor cohorts closer together. Furthermore, activities aimed at uniting Juris Doctor and undergraduate law students together is something I would be very eager to implement. Increasing opportunities for both law students to learn and use legal specific information technology within classes and a professional development setting is change I would like to see introduced. Arranging events that provide insight to students in terms of what area or areas of law they may want to pursue is an initiative I would like to help bring about as I feel this is a universal question among students that they require assistance answering.

Name: Kalani Dharmapriya

Nomination moved by: Rhys Cooper

Nomination seconded by: Jasmine Wright Catron

In 150 words or less, please explain why you would like to be a part of the 2020/2021 committee.

I am always very eager to be an active member of the communities to which I belong. A sense of camaraderie within any group of individuals is so important and so uplifting. I have been able to see first-hand the positive impact that a community can have on individuals, having been in many cultural, neighbourhood and academic communities over the years. I would love the opportunity to engage more with my peers and the professors at La Trobe through the LLSA platform and I hope that together we can make the most of this difficult time that we are in.

In 150 words or less, please describe what skills or attributes you have that would assist in the performance of your role.

- Strong communication skills (I have had a lot of experience public speaking and debating)
- Enthusiastic, friendly and approachable
- Strong organisational skills
- Experience organising events and liaising with university staff as a committee member

In 150 words or less, please describe any changes or initiatives you'd like to see implemented during your term in this role.

I believe that right now, what the JD students really need is a sense of connection between their peers and their university. I would like to see more online social networking events. I feel that students are struggling to find strong friendships during this time, especially if they are first year students like me. I would also like to see perhaps monthly Facebook posts highlighting the experiences of La Trobe Law Alumni. I also think that it is important for us to have a platform to voice our concerns over our learning arrangements as we navigate remote learning. No student should be left behind.

Marketing Officer (UNCONTESTED)

Name: Shaun James

Nomination moved by: Nathan Jasper

Nomination seconded by: Samuel Chung

In 150 words or less, please explain why you would like to be a part of the 2020/2021 committee.

I would like to be a part of the 2020/21 LSA committee as a marketing officer because I feel it is a very important time for such an organisation to support its students through such an extremely tough experience due to the COVID-19 situation. I have really enjoyed my time already had in the 2019/20 Committee and only want to further my impact into the future. The committee has also provided with me with a great set of skills which have and will come with great benefit to me into the future.

I think that next years committee will be faced with great challenges from the current climate, and its members will need to be fully committed to ensuring that the students it represents are supported in a wide variety of ways.

In 150 words or less, please describe what skills or attributes you have that would assist in the performance of your role.

Creativity is one of my main skills which I think would be beneficial to a portfolio such as marketing. I am always keen to think outside the box, and face challenges straight on with new ideas.

Another skill which I feel would be beneficial to such a role is my commitment to the tasks which I am given, and furthermore my ability to be flexible in ensuring these tasks are completed on time and to an excellent standard.

I am also a team player which I think is the key to success for a committee of any type, especially in the LSA. I am always open to helping my peers, supporting one another and also ensuring that everyone is feeling confident.

Time management would be my last skill, which in a portfolio like marketing is crucial in order for key messages to get out beyond the committee at the right time.

In 150 words or less, please describe any changes or initiatives you'd like to see implemented during your term in this role.

I think that the marketing portfolios task has only become more great with the COVID-19 situation as online platforms have become an engrained and primary source of communication within communities. Specifically within the La Trobe community, the marketing portfolio of the LSA is the voice of such a committee and needs to ensure that it maintains contact with the students it aims to represent.

If I was to be lucky enough to be given this role I believe that I would ensure this continues to happen as the COVID-19 situation is not going to disappear anytime soon.

I would personally like to see the marketing portfolio engaging even more with students about mental health, wellbeing and support services as such times require such vital support.

Name: Lauren Rametta

Nomination moved by: Brandon Draper

Nomination seconded by: Elly-May Dreier

In 150 words or less, please explain why you would like to be a part of the 2020/2021 committee.

My role as a First Year Representative this year has enabled me to contribute to the continued effort of the LSA and give a voice to our student cohort. My interest in supporting others and my ability to effectively do this within a team setting is very important to me. My motivation, dedication and approachable nature will add strength to the LSA. I want to share my creativity with others and am very enthusiastic about this. I wish to enhance your experience as a student to ensure you achieve your personal career goals. I intend to further develop a strong and united cohort that is proud of its achievements. As a Marketing Officer, it is my goal to consistently inform and guide students to know what professional development is available to them through carefully planned marketing.

In 150 words or less, please describe what skills or attributes you have that would assist in the performance of your role.

My ability to face challenges efficiently and thoughtfully will help me gauge the needs of my peers. I have excellent listening skills and I am able to develop a good rapport with people. I have a strong work ethic and am willing to dedicate my time to provide opportunities for the law cohort to feel valued and supported. I am well organised and my attention to detail will assist me in effectively presenting clear and precise ideas to my team. I would love the opportunity to continue to be a part of this community group where I can contribute and be rewarded when I see the positive outcomes achieved by those who seek the LSA's services.

In 150 words or less, please describe any changes or initiatives you'd like to see implemented during your term in this role.

My focus as a Marketing Officer is to consistently inform and guide students to be aware of what professional development is available to them through carefully planned marketing.

My key changes and initiatives include:

1. Marketing La Trobe Law by advertising the success of La Trobe Law Alumni and current students. This includes developing an active LinkedIn profile for the LSA to ensure future employers are aware of these achievements.
2. Improving communication amongst students by having more information available. This includes developing a Frequently Asked Questions section on the LSA website.
3. Conduct surveys for students to ensure that their needs are understood and met by the LSA.
4. Continue my work as a First Year Representative and introduce more merchandise options for students.

Publications Officer

Name: Elly-May Dreier

Nomination moved by: Brandon Draper

Nomination seconded by: James Reginato

In 150 words or less, please explain why you would like to be a part of the 2020/2021 committee.

I thoroughly enjoyed being part of the committee over the past year and would really like to stay on to see some more positive changes come that will benefit law students. I would like to continue ensuring that law students have access to all the events and resources available to them in an engaging manner for their benefit. I am also very excited to see what else the LSA as a collective will be able to create especially during the unprecedented COVID-19 situation and what the future could look like with the increased use of technology.

In 150 words or less, please describe what skills or attributes you have that would assist in the performance of your role.

I have developed strong time management skills while working within the marketing team and feel those could be transferred to allow myself to easily meet deadlines and fulfil the obligations required of this position. I was also required to do some editing and proofreading of content to be posted in my role which will assist me in this position. I also have good written skills that would allow me to write articles for the Weekly LSA Newsletter that is sent out to law students. I was also able to work well in a team while I was involved with the marketing portfolio this year.

In 150 words or less, please describe any changes or initiatives you'd like to see implemented during your term in this role.

Within this role I would look forward to writing many articles in the Weekly LSA Newsletter with the possibility of including a segment that would be featured every week such as "getting to know the LSA" which would feature committee members telling other students a little bit about themselves; or possibly having a pet feature segment towards the end of every newsletter to bring some joy to the students on a weekly basis.

Name: Sarah Fitzsimons

Nomination moved by: Alyssa Britnell

Nomination seconded by: Tashi McPherson

In 150 words or less, please explain why you would like to be a part of the 2020/2021 committee.

After 4 years of regularly attending LSA events and competing in two LSA run competitions, I would be delighted to contribute back by joining as a Publications Officer. These events have helped shape my development as a law student in addition to what we learn in class. I have gained advocacy practise through mootng, as well as professional personal development skills. As such, I wish to be a part of this organisation to help shape the future for students who are earlier on in their university journey.

As I have a reduced study load for the first time this semester, I now have the time to fully dedicate myself to the role of publications officer and continue the longstanding legacy of the La Trobe Law Students Association of producing high-quality publications.

In 150 words or less, please describe what skills or attributes you have that would assist in the performance of your role.

I have applied for the role of Publications Officer as I have ongoing experience copywriting and editing catalogues for an online eco-store "Reusable" and believe that these skills will translate well into this role. Furthermore, I am a confident communicator and understand the importance of prioritising tasks effectively. Four years as a military policewoman has taught me that I thrive within a high-pressure work environment. During this role, I conducted numerous investigations which needed to be completed within strict time constraints. I developed the skill of maintaining high professional standards, whilst working as efficiently as possible and utilising my time management skills. As such, I consider that I will be able to effectively meet publication deadlines whilst consistently delivering work of a high quality.

In 150 words or less, please describe any changes or initiatives you'd like to see implemented during your term in this role.

During this difficult time of covid-19, it's great to see that the LSA has articles on mental health and that the LAW101 page has a section dedicated to it. I would strive to maintain such positive and helpful publications and would seek to improve them by forming stronger links with pre-existing LTU resources. As a publications officer, I would focus on increasing awareness of LTU sport resources. These include upcoming walk and run challenges, so that the benefits of collaborative exercise, such as being a great study break, can still be enjoyed despite isolation.

Furthermore, I am passionate about travelling, cooking and exercise. I am more than happy to compose articles in these areas in addition to writing about important law school matters, for example by publishing different recipes weekly for people to try at home.

Name: Laura Di Natale

Nomination moved by: Brandon Draper

Nomination seconded by: Hammad Shahin

In 150 words or less, please explain why you would like to be a part of the 2020/2021 committee.

The La Trobe Law Students' Association (LSA) has played an integral role in enriching my experience at university through competitions, social events and networking opportunities. I would like the opportunity to actively contribute to the experience of fellow law students and broader community at LTU within the 2020/2021 committee.

In 150 words or less, please describe what skills or attributes you have that would assist in the performance of your role.

The role of publications officer requires attention to detail and the ability to meet deadlines in correspondence with the release of major publications such as the annual Clerkship and Career guides, in addition to the weekly newsletter. As a paralegal at a community legal centre and consumer law firm I have had the opportunity to develop document drafting and review skills. During my volunteer role as coordinator of a community homework club I was responsible for publications including the creation of promotional materials. Within each of these roles time management, teamwork and strong community mindedness have been the key focus. I feel that these attributes will allow me to contribute to the publications team in a meaningful way by representing the student voice and promoting relevant information about LSA events and opportunities.

In 150 words or less, please describe any changes or initiatives you'd like to see implemented during your term in this role.

The importance of publications as a means of communicating key information to the student body has become increasingly apparent while face-to-face meetings are limited. In particular, the LSA Weekly is an essential resource for law students. In 2020/2021 I would like to assist with increasing student engagement with the newsletter through consistent contributions on varied topics of interest. In addition to events, the newsletter has the potential to showcase the achievements of LSA members and other articles that serve to inform and inspire growth in reader engagement. The introduction of member contributions to the newsletter is a way to maintain consistency and reflect the voice of students in a real way.

Name: Jessica Bell-Matsen

Nomination moved by: Chelsea Fung

Nomination seconded by: Georgia Smart

In 150 words or less, please explain why you would like to be a part of the 2020/2021 committee.

As a first year law student I would love to be a part of what seems like a very fun and supportive team. In regards to the position of publication officer, I strongly believe I would have not only a lot to offer the team, but also a lot to learn from it.

I have always been an avid reader and writer and excelled in English subjects all throughout school. Since setting my sights on law I had somewhat given up on my passion for writing due to my perceived lack of necessity for it within the legal profession. Learning of the position of publications officer, I visualised myself combining the two rather than having to choose one or the other. I would love to have the opportunity to reignite my appreciation for creativity and writing through collaborating with a team of likeminded people and contributing to the production of high quality work.

In 150 words or less, please describe what skills or attributes you have that would assist in the performance of your role.

I believe I have many skills and attributes that would lend to my performance as publications officer but there are a few that I would like to highlight. These include my assertiveness and confidence to offer my opinion on a subject while, at the same time, remaining respectful of others. Along with this, years of working in professional customer service roles has allowed me to develop strong interpersonal skills, which include responsibility, understanding, listening and empathy. These are all highly regarded qualities that contribute to my overall communication skills and ability to work in a cohesive and respectful team environment, and therefore excel in this role. I also hope you can gain a sense of my high level of written communication skills based on my application.

In 150 words or less, please describe any changes or initiatives you'd like to see implemented during your term in this role.

As a first year law student, I am not entirely familiarised with the behind the scenes work of the LSA and, with regard to this application, specifically the role of publications officer. I do however hope that working in this position will allow me to gain a better understanding and deeper knowledge of this and in turn allow me to form a stronger opinion on the types of changes or initiatives I would appreciate from this role.

In summary, there are no specific changes or initiatives that I believe should be implemented right now, but I look forward to having the chance to learn from fellow seasoned committee members and implement changes as challenges or new ideas are presented.

Unfilled Positions

Note: Unfilled positions will be filled via by-election after the Annual General Meeting. Candidates who are successful in their nominations for multiple positions will vacate one, which will be filled via by-election after the Annual General Meeting.

Director of Publications