

Postgraduate Law Students' Association (PLSA) Annual General Meeting

28 March 2013

5:30pm – 6:15pm

Room 611, Level 6, Melbourne Law School,
The University of Melbourne

Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

- Professor Ian Ramsay, Associate Dean (MLM)
- Kaye Nankervis, Program Manager (MLM)
- Leigh Mitchell, President
- Emma Manning, Vice President and Strategy and Policy Manager
- Fatemeh Abdullah, Social Justice and International Affairs Manager
- Christoph Jescheck, Member
- Emma Do, Member
- Eugenia Wilson, Member
- Isabelle Steiger, Member
- Marco Antonio Rubio, Member
- Shefali Sihag, Member
- Trent La Franchi, Member

Apologies:

- Yang Yi, Treasurer and Communications Manager
- Alison Huitfeldt, Member
- Benny Bin Hu, Member

1. Opening Remarks

Leigh Mitchell welcomed the meeting and thanked Professor Ian Ramsay and Kaye Nankervis representing Melbourne Law School for their attendance. Leigh thanked the previous PLSA Committee in particular President Rikky Minocha. Leigh commented that the current PLSA Committee had taken office in September 2012 with the intention to formalise PLSA processes with a focus on transparency.

2. Apologies and Attendance

Yang Yi and MLMSA nominees Alison Huitfeldt and Benny Bin Hu were not able to attend the meeting.

3. Confirmation of previous meeting minutes

There were no records of any previous AGM.

4. Minute taker appointed

Emma Manning was appointed as minute taker.

5. Presentation of PLSA Annual Report

Fatemeh Abdullah presented the PLSA Annual Report as per Appendix A. There were no additional questions or comments.

6. Motion to adopt PLSA Annual Report

The motion to adopt the PLSA Annual Report was proposed by Leigh Mitchell and passed unanimously.

7. Presentation of PLSA Accounts 2012/2013

In the absence of Yang Yi, Treasurer and Communications Manager, Leigh Mitchell presented the PLSA Accounts 2012/2013 as per Appendix A. There were no additional questions or comments.

8. Motion to adopt PLSA Accounts 2012/2013

The motion to adopt PLSA Accounts 2012/2013 was proposed by Leigh Mitchell and passed unanimously.

9. Presentation of draft MLMSA Constitution

Emma Manning presented the draft MLMSA Constitution. Emma Manning gave a summary of the three critical phases of development: a) research and consultation, b) drafting and c) advertising. Thanks were extended to LSS President Pat Easton and past PLSA Vice President Mayuran Siva for their assistance in editing the draft MLMSA Constitution.

Emma Do raised concerns that Section 6 of the draft MLMSA Constitution did not include an executive position dedicated to representing the interests of international MLM students. Emma Manning commented that this had been considered during drafting however it was considered the role of the Global Law Students Association (GLSA) to represent the interests of all international students within Melbourne Law School. Leigh Mitchell and Emma Manning also commented, regardless of the GLSA, the draft MLMSA Constitution allowed for MLMSA Members to be coopted into the MLMSA Committee and therefore there was flexibility for an international MLM student representative to form part of the MLMSA Committee if required.

10. Motion to wind up PLSA

In accordance with Section 23 of the PLSA Constitution the motion to wind up PLSA was proposed by Leigh Mitchell and passed unanimously. In accordance with Section 25 of the PLSA Constitution all PLSA funds and assets will be transferred to the MLMSA as of 1 April 2013.

11. Motion to adopt the draft MLMSA Constitution

The motion to adopt the draft MLMSA Constitution was proposed by Leigh Mitchell and passed unanimously.

12. Announcement of MLMSA Incoming Executives

Professor Ian Ramsay commended the outgoing PLSA Committee on their achievements since assuming office particularly with regards to their event management. Professor Ian Ramsay announced the results of the online student election which was conducted via email with votes collected and tallied by the Melbourne Law Masters Office. The MLMSA Executive Committee for 2013/2014 was elected as follows:

President	Emma Manning
Vice President	Alison Huitfeldt
Treasurer	Benny Bin Hu
Strategy and Policy Director	Eugenia Wilson
Communications Director	Shefali Sihag
Events Director	Trent La Franchi

13. Any Other Business

None

14. Closing Remarks

Leigh Mitchell thanked Professor Ian Ramsay, Kaye Nankervis and the other attendees and extended his warm wishes to the incoming MLMSA Executive Committee.

Appendix A – PLSA Annual Report**PLSA Organized Events - September 2012 - March 2013**

Melbourne Tulip Festival Day-Trip

Saturday, 22 September 2012

Students came together to enjoy the sights of over 500,000 Tulips consisting of more than 100 varieties. The event allowed students to gather together and take some time out from study over the weekend.

Melbourne Law Masters PLSA Open House

Thursday, 4 October 2012

Thursday, 1 November 2012

Wednesday, 13 February 2013

The PLSA organised regular Melbourne Law Masters Open House nights at the Masters Common Room on Level 6. With pizza and wine provided, the evenings allowed students to come together and take some time out from study, assignments and exams to debate the latest in legal scholarly thought and reflect on classes.

PLSA Represented at the 2012 Law Institute of Victoria Legal Fun Run & Walk

Monday, 12 November 2012

Melbourne Law Masters students Yang Yi, Isabel Steiger and Pat Ni represented the PLSA in the 2012 Law Institute of Victoria Legal Fun-Run & Walk. All three PLSA team members ran a great 8 kilometer race around Melbourne's Royal Botanic Gardens and celebrated with hundreds of fellow participants at a post-race gourmet BBQ. This was the first year PLSA sponsored a Melbourne Law Masters LIV Fun-Run team.

PLSA Professional MLM Student Networking Event

Thursday, 22 November 2012

The PLSA hosted the inaugural Melbourne Law Masters Professional Student Networking Event at the Richmond Club Hotel Rooftop Bar. The event provided a fantastic opportunity for MLM students to meet and network with other students as well as to celebrate the end of the year together. The event was a great success judging by both student turn out and positive feedback provided.

PLSA 'Bring on 2013'

Friday, 1 March 2013

As part of Semester 1 Orientation Week festivities the PLSA welcomed incoming Melbourne Law Masters students at the Richmond Club Hotel. The event provided a fantastic opportunity for new, current and outgoing MLM students to meet and network, as well as to celebrate the New Year together.

Appendix B – PLSA Accounts 2012/2013

Statement of PLSA Financial Accounts - September 2012 - March 2013

1. 2012 Annual Income

The annual grant from the Melbourne Law School for the period from 1 January 2012 to 31 December 2012 was \$9,000. We understand that before the current PLSA Executive Committee took the office in September 2012, a new student association was formed and as a result part of PLSA's annual grant was transferred to this new association. This split left PLSA's annual income at \$7,658.75. The PLSA does not have any external source of funding and therefore the Melbourne Law Masters faculty grant constituted the entire annual income of the PLSA for 2012.

2. Accounts

Upon the current PLSA Executive Committee taking office in September 2012, the accounts were provided by the financial department of Melbourne Law School. The balance shown was \$5,663.09 as of 31 July 2012.

During the period from September 2012 to March 2013, the PLSA held three Open House events at which pizza, sushi, wine and soft drinks were provided. The total cost of these events came to \$1,351.50. The PLSA supported the participation of three MLM students in the Law Institute of Victoria (LIV) Fun Run event in September 2012. PLSA support for team registration came to \$205.00. The PLSA organized two networking events at the Richmond Club Hotel in November 2012 and March 2013 that cost \$3,636.36 in total. As of 31 March 2012 PLSA is left with a balance of \$303.06 debit. This debit was caused by payment of 2013 activities from the 2012 budget.

3. 2013 Annual Income

The grant initially proposed for the period from 1 January 2013 to 31 December 2013 was \$5,000.00. Through the effort of Executive Committee members the Dean of Melbourne Law School has accepted a comprehensive budget and an allowance of \$9,000.00 was granted for the year 2013.

Due to the debit amount from the last financial term, the current balance is \$8,696.94. An amount of \$306.00 has been deducted from that amount for the February PLSA Open House event. The new incoming committee is expected to have a balance of \$8,390.94 when it takes office on 1 April 2013.

4. Accounts String Change in 2013

The PLSA has been notified that the account string for PLSA has been changed to 01-732-99-00000-PLS-86-01. It is understood that the functioning of the PLSA will not be affected by this change.

Yang Yi
Treasurer - PLSA
27 March 2013