

**FACULTY OF LAW  
STUDENTS ON LAW COMMITTEES – ELECTIONS 2010**

**LAW SCHOOL LIAISON COMMITTEE  
STUDENT STATEMENTS**

**Stuart Butterworth**

The role of a member of the Law School Liaison Committee is to actively and effectively represent the views of undergraduate law students as stakeholders in the decisions that affect us. Engagement with the widest possible range of students in the faculty is therefore of primary importance in effectively fulfilling this role.

My previous experience on the LSS Competitions Portfolio has allowed me to have contact with a wide range of students, allowing me to actively represent a diverse student view. In addition, serving on both the LSS committee, as well as a number of committees in other areas, has given me the experience to advocate for your views on the issues that all of us care about.

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**Nicola Giarratana**

A successful leader is one who acts as a beacon of direction and guidance, who is inclusive rather than exclusive and most importantly, someone who has the ability to listen. *I can do this*. Voting for me will ensure your voices are heard and your expectations are put forward on the path to becoming a reality. I advocate positive and dynamic representation of your needs and interests.

A second year Arts/Law student, I have had extensive experience within the student community. I am a member of various law related and university wide clubs. I therefore have the ability to engage with various student populations and acknowledge their expectations.

In my role as a 2009 Law School Ambassador I have and will continue to communicate with people in positions of authority yet still remain well grounded in the student cohort. I will act as an effective point of contact and instigator of change between you and the Faculty.

Completing a major in Chinese, having done voluntary work with Sudanese people and having been involved in community organisations such as Toastmasters International, I have a strong social conscience allowing me to foster the Faculty's sense of student community.

Time at university should be a period which is enjoyed and maximised. However, student needs are often quashed behind the veil of academia, authority and administration. I aim to build an inclusive, robust student culture where your voice will be heard and channelled into the decision makers of this Faculty.

Vote #1 Nicola Giarratana

## Edward Hennebry

I believe that my election to the Law School Liaison Committee will provide for me a valuable opportunity to engage with persons who are central to the success and development of the Law Faculty.

I am applying for a position on this Committee because I have an interest in nurturing effective staff-student cooperation and commitment in the pursuit of an academic culture which embraces inclusion, coherence, integrity and mutual respect. As a member of the Committee my intent would be to ensure that the Committee:

- Provides an accessible forum which allows for the needs and concerns of students to be heard and acted upon appropriately by staff members, and vice versa.
- Provides an opportunity for the student body to contribute meaningfully to equitable and optimal administration of resources and facilities available to the Faculty.
- Provides in its representational role an effective means for harnessing the support and involvement of the student body in addressing issues of relevance to the Faculty and resolving those issues in the best interests of the Faculty.

As a graduate of the Monash Faculty of Arts (Bachelor of Arts (Global)), with six months successful residential study in France, I can offer the Student Committee:

- Over 3 years experience as an Arts undergraduate.
  - Knowledge of the University environment in Australia and overseas.
  - Experience in communicating effectively with faculty staff.
  - Empathy and understanding of the academic, personal, economic and social development needs of an undergraduate student.
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## Margaret Neav

Currently I am studying Arts/Law and I am a 2009 Law School Ambassador. I started law in 2007 and next year will be my final year at Monash. I am running for a position on the Committee because over the years of studying law these are some of the changes I'd like to see happen:

1. One Week Swot Vac.
2. Exams Spread Over 4 Weeks - I have found that even though there is a 4 week exam period all my exams seem to be over my the first week of exams so having exams spread out would help ease the stress that can come with exams.
3. Semester 2 Mid-Semester break in week 6 not at the end week 10.
4. Better facilities for all students such as more power points in lecture theatres for laptop use.
5. Lectures to not be timetabled in the old science lecture theatres -for those of us who have classes there I'm sure will agree with me that having classes there for up to 3 hours straight isn't the best learning environment compared to where a lot of law lectures are held such as Menzies & Rotunda.

To see these changes happen next year please make sure you vote 1 for me on the Faculty Committee to represent the student interests in the law school and look at new initiatives, programs and projects that will help us all make the most of our experience as students in the law school.

## **Mark Schultz**

My name is Mark Schultz and I served as the Student Representative on the Law Faculty Board in 2009. I'm running for election to the Undergraduate Liaison Committee and need your help to ensure that the strong, effective and responsible leadership I have provided this year can continue into the future!

The committee provides a vital platform for students to bring important issues to the attention of the faculty. Therefore it is essential that the undergraduates elected are heavily involved in the life of the Law School and understand the issues facing Law Students today.

I offer that experience, involvement and understanding.

I am presently in the fourth year of an Arts/Law degree and have been deeply involved with the Law Faculty throughout my time at Monash. I am well aware of the specific needs of Law Students at Monash, having run for LSS President and spent a year shaping the future of undergraduate Law programs at Monash through my seat on the Board.

Furthermore, I am well placed to give effect to the interests of students. My knowledge and understanding of what Law students really need has been complimented by my tenure on the Board. That experience has equipped me with an in-depth understanding of the faculty and its administration, placing me in an unparalleled position to make a difference for you! So, if you want to vote for a representative who understands your needs and can get the job done:

Vote #1 Mark Schultz.

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## **Chris Spain**

Chris Spain – I am currently a 4<sup>th</sup> year Arts/Law student and have been extensively involved in many academic and co-curricular pursuits at Monash University since 2006. Over the past four years, I have contributed to the law faculty through my roles as a Law School Ambassador, Peer Mentor and as a participant in many LSS competitions. As I enter my final year, I believe that I know what students want and need to succeed academically and to enjoy all of the opportunities that the Monash University law faculty provides.

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## **Amanda Velonis**

I am in second year of my LLB and find that my studies have become a consuming and passionate part of my life.

I feel so fortunate to be studying law at Monash University, and to be part of such an inspirational environment. This is why I would like to be elected. It would be a privilege to perform a role which allows me to give back to a faculty and establishment which has offered, and continues to offer me, so much by way of education, opportunity and personal relationships.

I understand the role of committee officer to be of liaising: this means being engaged with fellow students, being able to communicate with staff, and expressing a unified 'student' voice within the committee structure.

I believe that I would be able to fulfil this task because, I would be able to collate opinions and concerns from many students regarding administrative or educational issues, special events, student publications and the provision of student facilities. This is because I already know many of the students on the LSS and have many acquaintances from all different backgrounds and different stages in their degree. Furthermore, I respect and often communicate with university staff, finding it easy to express myself in a formal environment.

I sociable, hard working, efficient, communicative, honest, responsible and committed. My friendly and outgoing personality means that I am never shy to introduce myself to new people and express myself. Thus, I think that I would be suited to this role.

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### **Rachel Yap**

My motivation to run for this position is I strongly believe in bridging the gaps in communication between students and law faculty members. I believe this is important in order for the law faculty to address the needs and wants which rest on the students' minds. I consider myself an approachable, patient and well-informed person regarding the issues and desires of the law faculty and am an active member of the law faculty that attends many of the Law Student Society events, all course lectures and tutorials.

As a liaison committee member, I would aim to serve the law faculty (and the students) by providing the law faculty with up to date and relevant information about problems within the course, any suggestions from law students and note any observations which may be of concern to the law faculty. In addition, I will take a positive attitude to all tasks given to me and aim to improve and assist the Law Students Society to improving the quality of the events and activities held throughout the year.

Qualities I believe I could bring to the law School Liaison Committee are an outgoing and diverse personality, an open-minded and respectful attitude and the will to maintain an unwavering commitment to improving the quality of the resources available to law students and the effectiveness of the teaching by the law faculty.

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