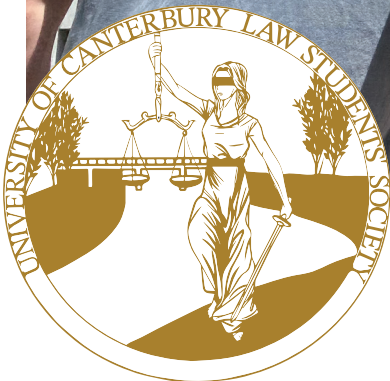


# Whiter™

THE UNIVERSITY OF CANTERBURY LAW STUDENTS' SOCIETY MAGAZINE

ISSUE ONE: 2024



EST. 1972



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# EDITORIAL



Hello, this year Sid and I have the privilege of being your obiter editors. You might be wondering “what is Obiter?”. Obiter is the Law Students’ Society magazine. Obiter is short for obiter dictum (jargon) not the green bus which orbits Christchurch (the orbiter).

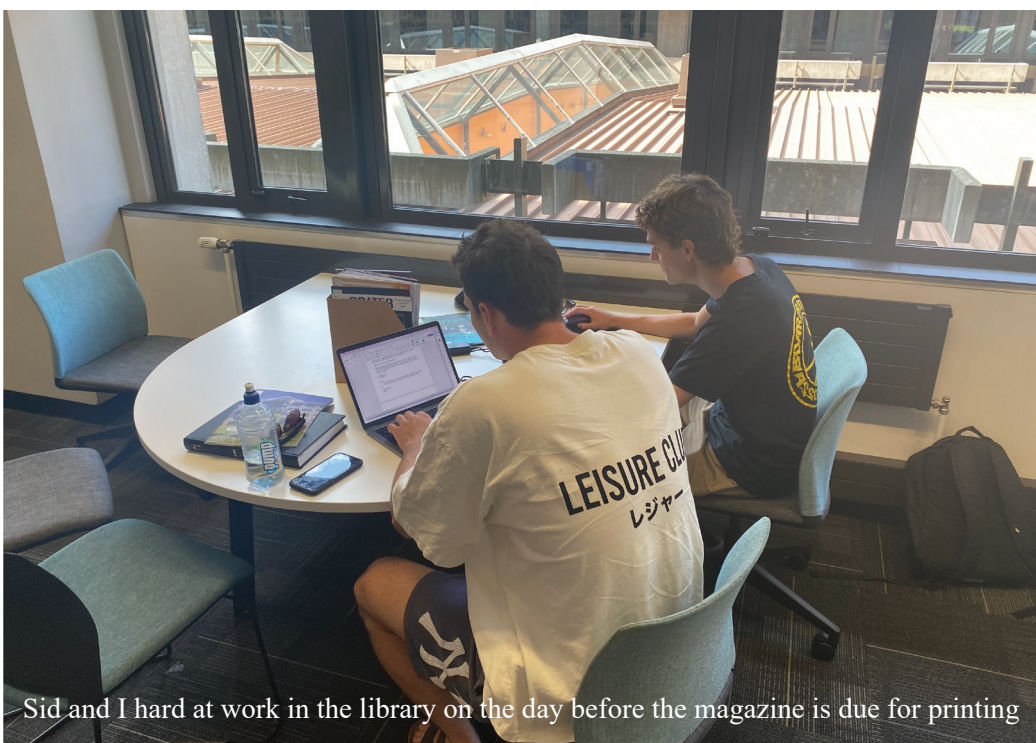
This year LAWSOC has many great and completely unique events, including but not limited to; sausage sizzles, a cocktail night, a ball and a camp. Most relevant to whomever reads this is our launch night, which is the first event of the year on 23rd February.

See pages 15 to 17 for full details of the events.

We have been busy over the holidays concocting this issue. I, Antonio Sidonio, can confirm it is packed with thrilling reads (and advertisements) to lull you back into university life. To make this year truly memorable, the Obiter team is also making YouTube videos to tease new events, so subscribe!

Kindest Regards,  
Sid and Antonio

*Antonio Sidonio  
Sid Morvat*



Sid and I hard at work in the library on the day before the magazine is due for printing

Contributors :

Tim Bateman  
Isaiah Ong  
Petra Butler  
Joel Wilson  
Austin Smart  
Hunter Heath-Keen

Thank you!

We would like to say a special thanks to Julie Madden at Blueprint for making this issue possible and Isaiah Ong for all the help and advice.



# PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

## *Isaiah Ong : LAWSOC President 2024*



*Isaiah Ong (left) with former LAWSOC president Lily Sawyer (right)*

**K**ia ora!

Ah, the sweet spot of the uni year - where summer's not quite over, mates are back in town, and the little voice in the back of your head hasn't given up on coming to uni in person... yet. For first years, it's the adventure of moving into halls; for the rest, it's the challenge of finding a new flat that isn't as cold as the last (good luck with that!). No overdue assignments, and exams are a distant speck on the horizon. In the words of Wilkinson, I could get used to this.

Now, how do you turn this already fantastic year into an absolute banger? Simple. Join LAWSOC. If you're reading this because you snagged it on Clubs Day, pat yourself on the back - you're on the right path. If you stumbled upon Obiter in some other mysterious way, fear not! Hit up

our linktree or slide into our Instagram DMs, and we'll be more than happy to help you on your way. It's never too late to join the cult! (Disclaimer: LAWSOC is not a cult, I swear.)

But why should you join LAWSOC? Excellent question. Let me count the ways.

We run just about every kind of event you could imagine - from our iconic law ball and cocktail night, which have created memories that will last a lifetime for many a law student, myself included. To our exam tutorials and assignment workshops, which have saved the hide of many a law student, sadly also myself included. Law competitions? We've got them for juniors and seniors - Negotiations, Witness Examination, Paper Presentation, Client Interviewing, Mooting - you name it, we've probably got it. Free lunches once a month for our members? Check. Annual law revue stage show? Of course. Last year, we even put on "Grease", and no, not just for the boys' strip.

This year, we're cranking it up a notch. More collabs with other clubs - both law and otherwise. We have a junior launch night with UC Women in Law and Law for Change UC. We have a quiz night with UCom. We are teaming up with QUIL this year to run some fun and new events for our rainbow members. We are bringing

back a classic in the form of our sports cup against the engineers, except this time with an added gala raising funds and awareness for mental health.

*I could go on.*

The point is, our calendar is more stacked than a game of a rage cage (stack cup). So, whether you are someone who enjoys drinking speights with your mates, or if a cup of tea's more your cup of tea, we've got something for everyone. Just show up. What's the worst that could happen?

Our first event? LAWSOC will get the ball rolling, literally, with Lawnch Bowls, at the Fendalton Bowling Club just down the road this Friday 23rd of February from 3pm onwards. Happy hour kicks in at 4pm. Doesn't matter if you're only going to be 5 days into your law degree, or 5 years. Come along and say hi. There'll be cheap drinks, a free BBQ, and catering provided by the local Italian restaurant (Domino's).

Cheers to an epic year ahead, from a LAWSOC exec that is more fizzin' than a shaken-up can of sprite,

Isaiah Ong  
2024 LAWSOC President

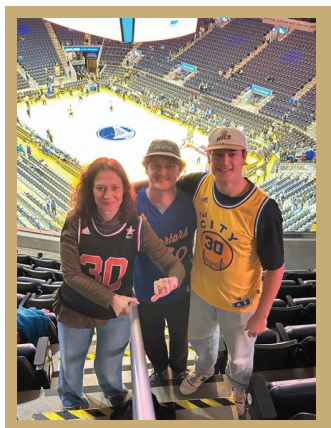
A handwritten signature in gold ink that reads "Isaiah Ong".



# DEAN'S ADDRESS

Kia ora koutou,

A heartfelt welcome to the 2024 academic year at Te Whare Wānanga o Waitaha | Canterbury University's Faculty of Law | Te Kaupeka Ture whether you are returning to the Law Faculty or are completely new to the University and embarking on studies for the LLB, the BCJ or postgrad law. My academic and professional colleagues and I are very much looking forward to meeting you in the lecture theatres, around campus, or at one of the fantastic events and competitions our seven law and criminal justice clubs are running this year.



I hope you had the opportunity over summer to relax and to spend some time with friends and whānau- ready to start the year with your batteries charged and to immerse yourself in the law and university life, to meet new friends, and to make the most of what Ōtautahi Christchurch has to offer. If you are new to Christchurch, the University campus, and/or the Law School and it all seems a bit confusing you will not be alone. You might find me wandering around campus or the Law School trying to find where I have to go, too. Like some of you I just moved to Christchurch to become part of the Te Kaupeka Ture whānau as the Dean of the Faculty this year. And to be honest, as a previous Wellingtonian, I am missing the hills a bit as

orientation guidance. But my experience has been that everyone here is super friendly and happy to help – so please ask if you need assistance.

Now let me tell you a bit about the law school. Your Faculty of Law has a proud tradition dating back to 1873 when the University was established. It is known for its innovation and dynamic approach to legal education in New Zealand and is a leading organisation within the University community, the wider social community and also the professional community of, Ōtautahi, Canterbury and Aotearoa | New Zealand. You have chosen well!

Before I hand over to my colleague, Professor Karen Scott, who expertly led the Faculty through a very successful 2023 as the acting Dean of the Faculty- thanks heaps Karen- a huge shout out- , I thought I'll briefly introduce myself. What Google will tell you is that I am a German and New Zealand qualified lawyer whose research foci are human rights and international commercial law (I often have to explain at dinner parties how come that I research nearly diametrically opposed areas of law□). For the last 23 years my academic home was Te Herenga Waka | Victoria University where I was inter alia acting Dean in 2022. I am also the founder and director of the Institute of Small and Micro States. What is probably not as easily to extract from Google is that I have been an avid Law Ball attendee since I love dancing and that I love combining teaching around the world with discovering the respective country. For example, in January my sons and I (unfortunately my daughter couldn't join) explored California.

From Karen: For this year, let me tell you about exciting additions to our staff line-up. Dr Mark Hanna from



Northern Ireland via the University of Durham in the UK arrived in December 2023 and will be teaching in our core torts law course in the second half of this year. We are looking forward to welcoming Dr Ricky Lee from Adelaide, who will be joining us in July 2024, and will be teaching Equity in 2025 as well as space law! We were sorry to lose Professor John Page, Dean of Law in April and Rebekah MacCrae in July last year, and wish them well in their moves to UNSW, Sydney, and senior advisor at LINZ, respectively.

We have appointed some great new colleagues to our professional team over the course of the last year. Student advisor Vicky Yee has been joined by new advisor, Nicole Anfang and we also welcomed Karen Edgecombe as our new Academic Manager. While we were sad to see Helen Lu leave for pastures new, we are thrilled that Natalie Welsh has been joined by Alix Morales (academic administrator), Gloria Douch (Professional Staff Team Leader) and Xanthe Bucher (administrator and receptionist). Simon Arnold has also been appointed to the team as Faculty Manager. Our expanded team means that we are able to provide longer reception hours so please pop in and say hello to Xanthe on the 3rd floor of Meremere!

Kei ōu ringaringa te ao  
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Petra  
Dean of Law  
February 2024

A handwritten signature in gold ink that reads 'Petra Butler'.



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## LAW SCHOOL LEGENDS



*Tim Bateman (left) with Obiter editor Sid Mowat (right)*

# TIM BATEMAN

*Tim Bateman is a University of Canterbury Law School Graduate and a former Crusader, Hurricane and Māori All Black. Since his playing career, Tim has embraced a focus of supporting the wellbeing of others through numerous projects including his 'fruit salad' children book series and establishing O-Studio. I sat down with Tim to discuss his life and the lessons learned through his experiences.*

earning it. Tim articulates this distinction as embodying a leadership style that extends assistance to those in need, rather than seeking to expose others for their mistakes. Tim also attributes his leadership skills demonstrated in his position to his integrity and possession of the challenging skill of holding himself to account, which add to the reasons why he was selected and made a fantastic head monitor at school.

There can be a whole range of reasons for students to elect to study law. Along with having an older brother studying law, Tim was also drawn to versatility of a law degree and the critical thinking skills that it's studies can provide. Once at university, his experience was incredibly unique being a full-time professional rugby player. His degree meant he would sometimes find himself sitting exams in a hotel across the globe and cramming an essay the eve of a big game. Despite the challenges, Tim remained committed, attending as many classes as possible and dedicating extensive hours to studying in the law library. University provided a refuge for Tim allowing an escape from the stresses of his intense rugby commitments and the responsibilities of being a young husband and a father. Despite the challenges, Tim loved his time at UC and acknowledges all the support received during the time, particularly the sympathy shown by lecturers who sympathized with his unique circumstances.

**T**im grew up in a small, West Coast town called Totara flat alongside his parents and three siblings. He then spent a few years in Greymouth before venturing across the island to Christchurch. There, Tim attended Christchurch Boys' High School for his remaining three years of school. Reflecting on this period, Tim is incredibly grateful for his time at Christchurch Boys', emphasizing the significant shift to a culture where success is celebrated rather than frowned upon. During his years at Christchurch Boys', Tim excelled on the rugby field playing in the 1st XV for each of these years. This included three victories in the annual grudge match against Christs College and the captaincy role for the side in his final year. During which, he was honored to have the privilege of serving as the school's senior monitor, serving as an acknowledgement to his leaderships and contributions to the school community thus far. From this experience, he gained numerous valuable insights into effective leadership. A key lesson involved the belief that a skilled leader collaborates with and supports individuals to collectively discover solutions. This stands in contrast to leaders who employ a demanding style of leadership and place themselves above other individuals, and therefore expect respect without



# LAW SCHOOL LEGENDS : TIM BATEMAN

When Tim looks back on his playing career, he is filled with immense gratitude. He made many amazing memories and considers himself incredibly fortunate to have completed a lengthy and successful career with various teams and franchises. Early in his career particularly, Tim grappled with the demand of playing professional rugby and balancing these pressures with his studies and family responsibilities at the time. There was a saying that resonated with Tim from the Crusaders environment during this challenging period of, “pressure makes diamonds”. It instilled in him the importance of embracing difficulty because, if something proves challenging, it is likely worth the effort. This mindset guided Tim to confront challenges, which proved to be a pivotal factor in his rugby triumphs and inevitably extending its influence far beyond the playing field.

Navigating tough times is not always as simple as embracing pressure and challenges. Support also plays a crucial role in withstanding pressure situations. The higher the pressure, the more support is required on the other end. The nature of support required varies for each person based on their needs and can include social support, financial support, wellness support, and so many more.

Tim’s first project following his rugby career was a children’s book series. This came about after being stuck in a hotel room in Japan during a Covid

lockdown. During which, he forced himself to sit down with a pen and paper and use his time to create something. What stood out to him was the subtle nuisances of children’s books that he liked reading to his kids. He also wanted to incorporate a message that was important to him, Stoicism. This is a philosophy described by Tim as accepting that things may happen out of your control but that ultimately the individual has the accountability to control their emotions. Stoicism is a recurring idea in Tim’s life. Through trials and tribulations, and moments of extreme stress moving between rugby and university life, Tim has needed to learn how to maintain composure. This message was conveyed in the first book of his ‘fruit salad’ series, “Sad Banana”. Tim followed this up with the “Lonely Lemon” which conveys an important message about loneliness and the ways to overcome this and find a genuine connection. The messages in these stories are incredibly powerful and can make an impact on people of any age.

O-Studio was first set up in Christchurch in 2019 by Tim and his wife Laura to offer a full suite of holistic wellness and recovery services. The studio boasts a range of amenities, including float cabins, ice baths, recovery spaces, saunas, massage, yoga, meditation and pilates. The motivation for such project arose when Tim noticed the correlation between his performance on the rugby field, and the health of his wife who battles with multiple sclerosis. O-Studio now provides a place for people step away and support their wellbeing and is rapidly growing franchise with locations spanning across New Zealand.

Students at UC constantly must deal with both the internal and external pressures placed on them. Tim hopes that students can take a leaf out of his book in learning and understanding how to withstand these. When things are hard, they are challenging and no amount of denying this will make something any easier. Perspective is important as for many students, a big exam or grueling public law essay may be the hardest thing they have ever faced. For many, University is the first point in which people can see their futures taking a direction, and student’s must understand that it will be both challenging and scary. Ultimately, however, we as students must not back down because pressure makes diamonds and if something is challenging, it will be worth doing.







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# MEET THE EXECUTIVE

Another year, another executive. This year's executive is filled with all sorts of quirky personalities. So that you can better get to know this year's executive, we have asked each member three questions:

1. Who was your most played artist from 2023
2. What would be your ideal first date?
3. Which member of the 2024 executive would you not want to represent you in Court and why?



## ISAIAH ONG : PRESIDENT

Isaiah Ong was destined for LAWSOC presidency from the day he entered the earth. LAWSOC needn't worry about insufficient connections with Isaiah at the helm. Let's hope enough networking opportunities arise for Isaiah across this year's calendar.

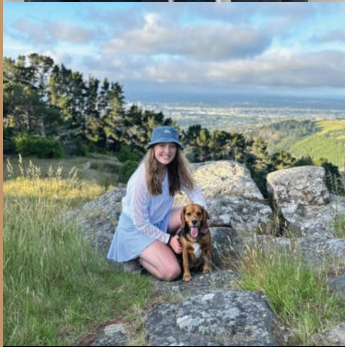
- 1) Paramore
- 2) I'd treat her to dinner at the local Italian restaurant (Domino's). If the weather is nice, I'd show her around the local scenery (Riccarton Bush). And if she's really lucky, the night might end with something sweet (SoYo).
- 3) Cait Montford as her alcohol consumption (or lack thereof) leads me to believe that she would not be in her element at the bar



## MATTHEW MCVICAR : VICE PRESIDENT

We are all intrigued to see what our vice-president will pull out of the bag for this year's law camp, maybe some 'one person per shower' signs wouldn't go a miss this year.

- 1) Dixon Dallis
- 2) Go karting
- 3) Sidney Mowat as he would be late to the hearing



## CAIT MONTFORD : TREASURER

It's easy to forget that our treasurer is still a student because unless you are one of the children she takes care of at work, the only time you will see her is if she takes time off to make it to exams.

- 1) Taylor Swift
- 2) Somewhere I can talk so not the movies! Maybe a walk somewhere tbh walks are always fun and you learn a lot about people in nature
- 3) Sid Mowat as he will probably stick me up because he would think it's funny



## GIBSON MCMURDO : REVUE PRODUCER

Gibson has ventured out of the barn to put together what is bound to be another sensational edition of Law Revue for 2024.

- 1) Piri
- 2) Theme Park where you can really get to know someone while flying through the air at great speeds
- 3) Matthew McVicar as he's normally somewhere nearby when I do something stupid, and he would just throw me under the bus





## ANDREW WORMALD : EDUCATION/WELFARE OFFICER

It's hard to believe Andrew has made it this far through law school seeing that he lives with an endless bar and that all his study time is used in buying another Rav4. Let's hope he comes back refreshed and satisfied following his fruit picking summer.

- 1) Meatloaf
- 2) Something outdoors like hiking or mountain biking, followed by a brew
- 3) Gibson McMurdo as he would show up in jeans



## OLIVIA LILL : EDUCATION/WELFARE OFFICER

It's a rarity to find someone from Ashburton striving for higher education (or any education at all!) but this exec member has stuck with her academic career and has wound up as an Education and Welfare Officer on the LAWSOC exec.

- 1) Taylor Swift
- 2) 2-week cruise and a trip to Europe
- 3) Parker because he'll probably get back at me for years of annoying him



## BEN EVANS : SOCIAL OFFICER

This man really showed all of himself in 2023, winning the strip captain nomination and putting in a sensational performance making hearts race. Maybe it wasn't Christ's College money that got him the role of Social Officer for this years LAWSOC exec.

- 1) Coldplay
- 2) Beach day beers followed by pub kick-ons
- 3) Sid Mowat as he is most likely to be dusty during Court



## PARKER BRADFORD : SOCIAL OFFICER

We can only hope that the social events put on by this exec member are as fire as his hair.

- 1) Eminem
- 2) A craft beer tasting tandem biking tour around a few pubs, splitting the bill
- 3) Liv as I go by one rule that you should never trust someone from Ashburton. Unruly bunch.



## SOPHIE LUMB : COMPETITIONS OFFICER

Sophie Lumb, but certainly not dumb, will no doubt use her calm and collected demeanor to provide a series of great competitions and workshops this year.

- 1) SZA
- 2) I have a mans. No comment.
- 3) Sid as I would worry that he would sleep through the Court date



## ALLY BASA : COMPETITIONS OFFICER

This Spotify artist is a great addition to the 2024 executive. We are confident that the competitions this year will be chart topping under her watch.

- 1) Kendrick Lamar
- 2) Nothing beats a cute little dinner out! Super basic and cliché. Candle lit vibes and a nice drink
- 3) Matthew because he would be late to Court



## GEORGIE HOUSE: SECOND YEAR REP

This St Margaret's graduate is bound to provide an exceptional experience in 2024 for the fresh faces amongst the UC Law School.

- 1) The Wiggles
- 2) Private plane to Europe
- 3) Bella because she'd be late



## ISABELLA PAERATA: SECOND YEAR REP

Isabella has climbed the ranks, from head of year at high school to second year representative in LAWSOC. She will certainly welcome the juniors into the law school.

- 1) Sza
- 2) Shopping spree on their card
- 3) Georgie because she would never answer her phone



## MAGDALEN GIBSON : PROMOTIONS OFFICER

This promotions officer is bound to do great things this year, provided we can keep her away from the cruisers.

- 1) Harry Styles
- 2) Takeaways at the beach
- 3) Lily Campbell because we'd spend all our time talking crap and get nothing done



## LILY CAMPBELL : PROMOTIONS OFFICER

We are pleased to see Lily get her out of the textbooks and venture outside of the library to take on the role of one of this year's promotions officers.

- 1) Taylor Swift
- 2) Ice-cream then home to beat my date at a few rounds of Singstar
- 3) Maggie Gibson as she would be too busy going to all her lectures in person to



## SID MOWAT : OBITER EDITOR

When Sid hasn't been busy doing a shoey or self-adulating at the gym, he has been working tirelessly to create a great edition of this year's Obiter magazine.

- 1) Zach Bryan
- 2) Fish and chips at a Blackcaps test match with a couple of chilled drinks
- 3) Isaiah Ong as he would be too busy networking with the Judge and opposing council to represent me effectively.



## ANTONIO SIDONIO : OBITER EDITOR

If we can keep this newbie gymrat away from the rec centre, this Italian menace will no doubt use his tech skills to create an amazing looking magazine, but will also be help to keep you guys entertained throughout the year on the Obiter social media accounts. (coming soon!)

- 1) The Smashing Pumpkins
- 2) Get ice cream on New Regent Street and then go thrifting. Afterwards return to my house to play Minecraft
- 3) Sid Mowat would probably try to sneak a beer into the court hearing



# EVENTS

## FEBRUARY



**Tuesday 20th / Wednesday 21st : Clubs Day**

**Friday 23rd : LAWSOC Launch Night**

The first event of the year is the LAWSOC Launch Night which will be held at a bowls club. Whether you are a returning member, new to university or simply interested in getting amongst LAWSOC it's highly recommended you come to this once-in-a-lifetime event!

## MARCH



**Friday 8th - Sunday 10th : Law Camp**

The infamous Law Camp is one of the most highly anticipated LAWSOC events. If you are a second year or higher this is something you cannot miss. Law Camp is a retreat from the hustle and bustle of city life and gives you the opportunity to make new friends, flatmates or maybe even a soulmate. There will also be alcohol.



**Monday 11th - Wednesday 13th : Negotiations Competition**

Spanning over three evenings (prelims, semifinals and then finals) negotiations is the first of a series of competitions where aspiring lawyers can hone their practical skills.

**Thursday 14th : Bus Trip**

This is one of the newest additions to LAWSOC's events calendar. More information is to be made available at a sooner date.



**Thursday 21st: Cocktail Night**

Yet another certified LAWSOC banger. Cocktail night is an evening of sophistication and style. This evening will take you on a journey of taste, where every sip tells a story and every moment becomes a memory.

**Monday 25th - Wednesday 27th : Witness Examination Competition**

This competition follows the same format as Negotiations and is my personal favourite. This competition involves questioning witnesses to draw out information.

# APRIL

## Friday 26th : Flat Crawl

Rumour has it a flat crawl will occur on this day... More information will be made sooner to the date.

**To be confirmed: Quiz Night**

# MAY



## Wednesday 1st / Thursday 2nd : Open Mooting Prelims

This the most important competition of the year. It involves engaging with a panel of judges on an issue of the law in a factual scenario.

## Monday 13th - Wednesday 15th : Client Interviewing Competition

In between the preliminary Mooting round and the finals is the client interviewing competition, which involves buddying up with three people - one being your partner, and the other being your client.



## Friday 17th : Junior Cocktail Night

More information about this mysterious event will be released at a sooner date.

## Thursday 23rd : Open Mooting Finals

Even if you don't make it through to these finals as a competitor, they are certainly something worth watching as a spectator. Watch the finalists wear their robes and present their cases like true professionals.

## 27th Thursday - 31st Friday : Midsessional exam tutorials

Struggling with the mid-semester exams? Luckily, these tutorials, hosted by the crème de la crème of past students, will help you get a far greater understanding of course content and how to apply it in exam questions. They may cost a gold coin, but they are worth a whole lot more!

## June : Exams and Mid-semester holidays

# JULY

## Tuesday 16th : Re-Ori Clubs Day

## Thursday 25th : Junior Mooting Prelims

This is a mooting competition exclusive to second years.

## Saturday 27th : Law Ball

Law Ball is an event of epic proportions and commonly provides plenty of drinks, food and live music. Law Ball is an evening where you dress your best and immerse yourself in an atmosphere of opulence and glamour. This event is one which CANNOT be missed. BEWARE! Tickets tend to sell very quickly for this event.





# AUGUST

**Thursday 1st : Junior Mooting Finals**



**Thursday 15th - Saturday 17th : Law Revue**

Law Revue is the most famous and critically acclaimed university show in New Zealand. Prepare for a rollercoaster of laughter as our talented cast takes you on a comedic journey through the quirks and nuances of the legal world. This is a show where satire meets skits, dancing, and singing in a celebration of legal wit and wisdom. There are several viewings of this show to ensure that you do not miss out!

**Tuesday 20th : LAWSOC Annual General Meeting**

This is the meeting where we review the year and vote for the next year's executive.

# SEPTEMBER



**Friday 13th - Sunday 15th : Souls Sports Exchange**

This is the annual sports competition against the Society of Otago University Law Students.

**Monday 16th - Wednesday 18th : Junior Client Interviewing Competition**

**Saturday 21st : Flat Crawl**

**Monday 23rd - Sunday 29th : Mental Health Awareness Week**

With pilates, a mental health breakfast, mental health quiz night, mental health sports day and mental health gala... this year's LAWSOC Wellness Week is bigger and better than ever!.

**Monday 30th : Junior Negotiations Competition Prelims**

# OCTOBER

**Tuesday 1st / Wednesday 2nd : Junior Negotiations Competition Semis and Finals**

**Sunday 13th - Friday 18th (TBC) : Final exam tutorials**

When the time has finally come for you to buckle up and face those lecture recordings which you never watched, LAWSOC will be there to help you along the way with our awe-inspiring tutorials led by students, for students.

**Saturday 19th : Leavers' Night**

This event is an evening where staff and students celebrate the graduating cohort.





NEW ZEALAND LAW STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Kia ora koutou! On behalf of the New Zealand Law Students Association (NZLSA) we want to wish everyone at Canterbury a happy new year and welcome you back for another year of study. If you are not familiar with NZLSA that is okay! We hope your first LSS magazine issue will tell you a little bit of what we are all about and if you want to find out more, please check out our social media pages.

## ABOUT US

The New Zealand Law Students' Association (NZLSA) is the parent body of the six on-campus Law Student Societies in New Zealand. Upon enrolling as a law student, a student automatically becomes eligible as a Student Member of the NZLSA. In this way, the NZLSA is the national body representing the interests of all law students throughout New Zealand. The NZLSA oversees the six Law Student Societies (LSS) around the country and provides them with guidance on the successful administration of an LSS.

The NZLSA also provides advocacy and a united voice on matters that affect all law students. To this end, the NZLSA nominates two representatives to sit on the Council of Legal Education and makes submissions where necessary on issues relevant to law students. The NZLSA negotiates on behalf of the six LSS with the law firms that sponsor the four legal competitions held on each campus. In addition, the NZLSA holds an annual conference that provides LSS competition winners with the opportunity to compete for the national titles in mooting, witness examination, client interviewing, negotiation and paper presentation.

## THE EXECUTIVE AND COUNCIL

The NZLSA Council which is comprised of both the six law student society presidents and the NZLSA executive, meets regularly so that the LSS presidents can share ideas, collaborate on initiatives and discuss issues relevant to law students nationwide.

### **The NZLSA Executive consists of:**

President: Tom Simmonds

Administrative Vice-President: Paula Ioapo

Treasurer: Archie Ritchie

Education Vice-President: Amy Xie

Competitions Vice-President: Nathan Collins

Marketing Vice-President: Emily McCullough

Conference Convener: Madeleine Tutty

Council of Legal Education Representatives: Meghan Grant and Rita Shasha



[nzlawstudentsassociation](https://www.instagram.com/nzlawstudentsassociation)



[New Zealand Law Students' Association](https://www.facebook.com/NewZealandLawStudentsAssociation)



<https://nzlsa.com>



# 2024 KEY EVENTS

## REGIONAL COMPETITIONS

- **Bell Gully Senior Mooting:** Mooting is a simulated court proceeding, involving the submission of written briefs and presenting oral arguments. Mooting is the most prestigious competition in the legal sector.
- **Buddle Findlay Senior Negotiations:** Students compete in teams of two to negotiate a problem for their respective clients. Each team receives a set of common and confidential facts. Negotiation is an incredibly practical skill in many sectors and competitors always appreciate the opportunity to gain valuable skills.
- **IPLS Client Interviewing:** This competition involves interviewing a client and aiming to extract as much information as possible while offering some preliminary legal advice.
- **Minter Ellison Rudd Watts Witness Examination:** In the witness examination students will act as counsel for either plaintiff or prosecution against another student acting as the defence. Both competitors are briefed on the facts of the case and will conduct a direct and cross-examination on their clients.
- **Lexis Nexis Paper Presentation:** The LexisNexis Paper Presentation Competition is designed to help law students develop their research, writing, and presentation skills. It involves competitors researching and writing a legal essay on a topic of their choice, and then presenting it to a panel of judges. Competitors compete individually and the papers may be written on any legal topic, such as law reform, recent case law, or other legal issues. Participants can choose to write something specifically for the competition or reuse assignments they have already completed. The written papers should be 3,000-5,000 words long.



## NZLSA CONFERENCE

Each year NZLSA organises an annual conference, the location of which rotates around New Zealand's six law schools and this year we are heading down south to the University of Canterbury Law School for our 2024 Conference. The conference is predominately coordinated by the NZLSA Conference Convenor, who also sits on the NZLSA Council. The main purpose of the conference is to hold the national finals of the respective legal skills competitions. The winners at the NZLSA conference have the privilege of being named New Zealand's best and have the opportunity to go on and compete against the world's best overseas! The conference is a highlight of every year and we hope to see many new faces this year! Want a spot? A pre-requisite to attending the conference is winning your respective LSS regional competition - for more information contact your LSS competition officers.



## AUSTRALIAN LAW STUDENTS ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE

Our Regional competition winners also have the opportunity to hop across the ditch every year and compete at and attend the ALSA Conference! ALSA is a much larger version of our conference consisting of delegates from all the Australian law schools. The conference is a week-long and consists of competitions, social events and education panels. This year ALSA will be held in Hobart! (Pictured: last year's team at ALSA in Sydney!). More information on ALSA to come.



# STUDY SPOTS

## RANKED

There are many study spots across the university campus. But not all study spots are created equal. Some are optimal, whilst others are suboptimal. In this article, our very own Sid Mowat endeavoured to rank some of the most popular study spots. Study spots will be ranked by scales of productivity, comfort and availability



### Engcore

A solid study spot with the huge advantage of being open 24 hours for the night owls. The vending machines take a serious thrashing the night before a big assignment is due. Comfort is lacking if you are unable to snatch one of the few booths available.



### Floor 4

Floor 4 is a niggly height, often leaving you contemplating whether it is a lift or stairs day. It could be described as more of a social floor which often sees the noise levels escalating. Would recommend continuing upwards if you are looking for a productive study session.



### Ernest Rutherford

One of the newer buildings on campus providing great amenities and genuinely working microwaves. Some may find that spacious design can make staying focused difficult, however, Ernest is a generally solid study space.



### Rehua

This modern building is certainly home to campus's best bathrooms, earning Rehua a perfect comfort score. Your caffeine addiction will also be satisfied with quality coffee just downstairs.





# STUDY SPOTS

## RANKED



Sid is no stranger to the dangers of studying at the Foundry.

### The Foundry

Studying at the Foundry is a dangerous game. Sure, it is nice being outside on a sunny afternoon, but the refreshments will soon diminish your productivity, and some of the next day's.



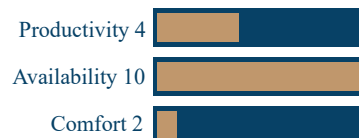
### Floor 10

I wish anybody daring to try and find a seat on level 10 the best of luck. However, if you manage, you will be blessed with a personal booth and exquisite views across the city and will be in for a productive study session.



### C Block

The only time you would ever study there is if you made your way over for a lecture just to find you are an hour early and don't want to make the trip back to another spot on this list. The only advantage is that it should be quiet as no one else would be dumb enough to think to study there so some work may be possible.



### Haere-roa

Haere-roa has an advantage due to its geographical location; just next to a student car park and is home to the Foundry making the post study refreshments easily accessible. It is also home to a ping pong table, foosball table and arcade machines. The building does experience heavy foot traffic affecting productivity but isn't a terrible spot to smash out a quick task.





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