

# Pettifogger

## The Third Issue



### IN THIS ISSUE

- Update on Internal Competitions and the ALSA conference
- Exclusive interviews with members of the Law Faculty on their units and research areas
- Reflections on Summer Units

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# About this issue

## **Internal Competitions & ALSA**

Hear from Competitions Director Mia Grant about recent events, including the preliminary rounds and finals of the UTAS Internal Competitions and the selection of keen mooters for the upcoming Australian Law Students' Association National Conference.

## **Faculty Interviews**

Get an insight into the research and teaching of some of the UTAS Law School's lecturers.

## **Reflections on Summer Units**

Learn about what the 2023 summer electives entailed and some highlights from fellow law school peers who undertook this year's two summer electives.



# Internal Competitions & ALSA

Mia Grant



The TULS Internal Competitions provide students with the opportunity to compete in a variety of competitions in a supportive and friendly environment. Students are able to compete in a range of competitions to test their practical skills and receive feedback from members of the legal profession!

The competitions offered are:

- Senior and Junior Moots: students undertake a mock trial where they make submissions on legal issues.
- Negotiations: negotiate with the opposing counsel to achieve the best outcome for their client, whilst remaining flexible and maintaining good relations between the parties.
- Witness Examination: Conduct a cross-examination and an examination-in-chief in an attempt to credit your own witness and discredit your opposing counsel's witness.
- Client Interview: conduct a preliminary interview of a client, in teams of two, in an attempt to determine potential causes of action based on the factual situation they present to you.

The TULS Internal Competitions were a huge success this year! It was extremely encouraging to see so many students participate in the internal competitions program!

## **Preliminary Rounds of Internal Competitions**

On Saturday the 25th of March, students participated in the preliminary rounds of the internal competitions at the law school. The students were able to compete in the Senior Moot, Junior Moot, the Arnold Bloch and Leibler Witness Examination Competition, Tasmanian Legal Practice Course Negotiations Competition and the Clayton UTZ Client Interview Competition. We had over 50 students enter into the multiple competitions offered throughout the day. It was particularly promising to see so many first-year students competing. Starting at such an early stage in their university careers will set them up extremely well and I was impressed with their willingness to participate!

The preliminary rounds were judged by members of the legal profession, I would like to thank Mahum Akbar, Megan Scholyer, George Holgate, Dinesh Loganathan, Justin Heng, Lilli Midgely and Mathew See for assisting, the students were able to gain invaluable experience and feedback.

The following students progressed to the Grand Final. Congratulations to all of them on their outstanding efforts:

- Senior Moot: Jackson Cacciatori, Tenzin Phunstock, Kate Cosgrove, William Heddle.
- Junior Moot: Emal Aika, Jack Oates Pryor, Sarah Adkins, Jessica Pursell.
- Witness Examination: Chloe Winkler and Alec Garratt.
- Negotiations: Henry Southcott, Emma Madden, Ash Burke and Darcy Heffernan.
- Client Interview: Isabella Byrne, Muna Koirala, Rebecca Von Samorzewski, Emily Heathcote.

## Grand Final of Internal Competitions

The Grand Final was held on Saturday the 15th of April at the Supreme Court of Tasmania. The grand finalists were again able to compete in front of highly experienced legal professionals. We would like to thank: Richard Grueber, Sally Rofe, Bruce McTaggart, Audrey Clarkson, Charli Barclay, Thomas Pilkington, Susie Winter, Emma White, Phillipa Morgan and Lisa Pennington. The Grand Finals were followed by an Awards Ceremony at Franklin Wharf where the students could celebrate their efforts and also network with the legal professionals.

I would like to congratulate the grand final winners:

- Senior Moot: Tenzin Phuntsok
- Junior Moot: Jack Oates Pryor
- Negotiations: Emma Madden and Henry Southcott
- Client Interview: Emily Heathcote and Rebecca von Samorzewski
- Witness Examination: Chloe Winkler

I would also like to thank the TULS committee, Competitions Sub-Committee and especially Bec and Ava for all of their help with organising the internal competitions!

## ALSA Conference

The ALSA conference will be held in July this year in Sydney. We will be sending UTAS teams to compete in the International Humanitarian Law Moot, Championship Moot, Witness Examination Competition, Client Interview Competition, and Negotiations Competition. The ALSA conference provides students with the opportunity to compete against students from universities across Australia, as well as attend social and networking events!

The students representing UTAS at the ALSA conference are:

- International Humanitarian Law Moot Team:
  - Zack Stephenson
  - Kate Cosgrove
  - Henry Southcott
- Championship Moot Team:
  - Miles Kahles
  - Jesse James
  - Natalie Size
- Negotiations Team:
  - Emma Madden
  - Ash Burke
- Client Interview Team:
  - Rebecca Von Samorzewski
  - Isabella Byrne
- Witness Examination:
  - Chloe Winkler



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*"I chose ABL because of its unique offering to graduates – I found that ABL was one of the few firms which encouraged client contact and experience across a variety of different matters from day one."*

Drew Hawkes, 2022 Law Graduate

### Key dates

Applications open:  
Monday 3 July 2023

Applications close:  
Sunday 13 August 2023

Interviews:  
September 2023

Offer day:  
Wednesday 18 October 2023

### Key contact

Hayley Brown  
Human Resources Manager  
hbrown@abl.com.au

[abl.com.au/careers](https://abl.com.au/careers)

# Staff Profiles

The UTAS Law School has some amazing lecturers who are experts in their fields. Here about their research and units you can take in the following interview summaries.



**Jane Nielsen**

## **A Quick Trip Down Memory Jane**

After graduating with a Bachelor's Degree in Commerce and Law, Jane relocated to London to spend two years doing accounting work for an asset management firm. It was here, working in the capital gains tax area, she was convinced it was law and not accounting that was the path for her. On return to Australia, Jane completed the Tasmanian Legal Practice Course before going into private practice at Dobson Mitchell and Allport (DMA). At DMA, Jane's focus was commercial litigation.

## **Academia**

Following four years at DMA, Jane made the decision to complete a PhD at UTAS. Her focus was on a completely unrelated area to what she had done in practice, being the intersection of intellectual property and competition law. Jane worked under the supervision of Don Chalmers (then head of the Centre for Law and Genetics), Lyndon Griggs, and later Dianne Nicol. Academia beckoned with Jane landing a permanent position in the Law School.

This change came about due to the differences between private practice and academia. They are similar in respect to both pathways entailing really busy jobs where there are many things on the go at once. A marked difference is the requirement for time recording in private practice. Whilst she notes you really do get used to it, the process of recording your billable hours is very mechanical and sets the pace at which one works. Hence, unlike in academia, lawyers working in private practice do not get as much luxury to spend their time sitting with legal problems.

Furthermore, the hierarchical structure of a law firm delegates much of the research of legal questions to junior lawyers. More senior lawyers begin to take on a more administrative role. As the part of her job Jane loved most, burying herself in research, the chance to permanently do so by joining the law faculty was more aligned with her interests.

## **Genomic Law**

As genomic sequencing for clinical and research needs increased, there is an increasing need to properly regulate the area. There is a push to broadly share this data, however on the other side of that, there are a lot of issues around protecting people's rights. Key issues stem from consent, privacy, ownership, discrimination, and commercialisation of people's genomic data. It is through striking the right balance that the need to better diagnose genomic conditions and identify appropriate treatment can be balanced with the need to protect individuals' rights. Doing so will likely require an overhaul of Australia's patchwork privacy law regime to better equip it for the modern age.

If you want to learn more about genomic law, there are a few relevant electives available. The next likely to be run will be Health Law and Ethics in the new year, coordinated by Margaret Otlowski.



## **Intersection between intellectual property and competition law**

Genomic law requires an understanding of the intersection of IP and competition law. The essential question concerns whether dealings in intellectual property should be exempt from competition law. Various jurisdictions take different approaches to this complex legal and policy issue. Both IP law and competition law share the same aim; to enhance economic efficiency, be that through innovation or otherwise. The consensus is that they are complementary areas of law. Nevertheless, there will be instances where IP law is used in an anti-competitive manner.

## **Other Research Projects**

Jane has also been working on a research project to return raw genomic data to the individuals who provide it, and a different project to more efficiently regulate innovative health technologies including bioprinting devices, CRISPR gene editing, and biologic drugs.

## **Ways to Join the Jane Fanclub**

Jane is currently involved in teaching Tort Law and Private Law: Obligations and Remedies - both core units.

- Regarding tort law, Jane kind of fell into teaching it. However, it is something she was quite comfortable with from the start as she had a lot of experience in tort law in private practice. She always says to her students that it may well be the subject you use most in practice.
- In terms of remedies, with the course restructure it is now intended to act as a bridge between private law units taken early in the course (e.g., contracts, tort) and those taken later (e.g., equity & trusts, property).

Jane is also the unit coordinator for the elective Competition Law that is currently running. This subject is a direct result of the research Jane undertook as part of her PhD.

## **Reflections on the Current State of the Tasmanian Legal Community**

The benefits of becoming a member of the Tasmanian legal community is its small size and real sense of collegiality. Since UTAS is the only law school in the State, the main pathway to the profession is first through UTAS and then the Practical Legal Training Course. Thus, the profession is really dependent on recruiting quality graduates from UTAS as junior lawyers. Jane, in her position as Chair of the Board for the Centre for Legal Studies, expressed the plethora of job opportunities there are for junior lawyers in Tasmania - particularly where they have sought out practical experience.





**Anja Hilke Meijer**

### **Early life and study**

Anja grew up in the Netherlands and moved to Australia when she was 13 years old. In High School, Anja loved learning and developed a love of debating, which prompted her to study law at University. Anja initially studied her Bachelor's degree at the University of Sydney, with honours in history. She then went on to complete a Master's degree in International Law at the University of Brussels in 1992, and a Masters of Public International Law at the University of Geneva in 1998.

### **Working Life**

After completing her Masters degree in Brussels in international law, Anja came back to Australia to work in a commercial practice, but she found that she disliked the commercial world. Instead, Anja pursued work at the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Anja also worked in the Antarctic Division as a lawyer.

Anja started her teaching role at the University of Tasmania in 2009. Since then, Anja has had a considerable impact on the law school– she has worked to help UTAS establish an international moot presence and created the Competition Moot Unit. With Anja's guidance, UTAS won the ALSA moot in 2018 and has represented Australia in Hong Kong and Zambia.

Today, Anja teaches mainly public law and constitutional law units, but she also has extensive experience in other areas of the law including tort law. Anja teaches Human Rights Law (LAW234), which focuses on global inequality, the nature, history, and challenges of Australian and international human rights, as well as advancements to social justice and human rights mechanisms. Anja also teaches International Trade Law (LAW263) - in which she has an extensive background – focussing on the way in which global trade has been regulated in modern times. This unit also considers the key principles, aims and methodology of the World Trade Organisation.

Anja is a global thinker and believes that as law students, we need to direct our studies towards units which offer a more global perspective and underscore the importance of understanding the global political economy. Anja believes that we need to talk more about the financialisation of society and how this can worsen economic inequality, particularly through the privatisation of resources.

### **Research**

Anja has done significant research in the field of LGBTQ+ human rights. She has researched LGBTQ+ human rights in the context of 'religious freedom' which aims to justify discrimination. In doing so, Anja has investigated the push from Christian organisations which allow discrimination in relation to employment and same-sex marriage. Anja has also directed much of her research towards Australia's role in international human rights, and our domestic compliance with international obligations.

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**Amna Parvez**  
Lawyer, 2022  
Graduate Program

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## Working as a graduate lawyer at Clayton Utz

I came into law from a health science background and did not know the legal industry as well as most law students. So, when it came to clerkships applications, I felt quite lost about which firms to apply to. I found large commercial law firms intimidating and wondered whether they would be the right fit for me. Further, I found the clerkship application process of many firms to be strenuous and anxiety inducing which also shied me away. I applied for a clerkship at Clayton Utz because a fellow law student was working at the firm as a paralegal at the time and had a very positive experience. Clayton Utz had a pleasantly simple application process and provided thorough support during the interview stage by appointing each interviewee a buddy. I was fortunate enough to be offered a position in 2020's Summer 1 Clerkship Program.

## Summer 1 Clerkship Program Experience

As a clerk, I was warmly welcomed by the people at Clayton Utz. Everyone was friendly and had a down to earth personality. I was given interesting and challenging tasks and provided plenty of support and feedback. I did not feel intimidated or out of place at all as I had feared I would. After my clerkship, I continued at Clayton Utz as a paralegal in 2021 and then started as a graduate lawyer in 2022.

## Graduating and Starting as a Lawyer at Clayton Utz

Graduates at Clayton Utz start their career with a two-week PLT workshop and a week-long orientation program that is attended by all national graduates. My orientation program occurred during the COVID-19 border closure period, so I attended my orientation in Perth. However, graduates normally go to Sydney for orientation week. During orientation week graduates spend plenty of time together which really kickstarts team bonding and work friendships. This makes the graduate social events and daily work life a lot more fun. Some of the social events my graduate cohort attended included a paint and sip class, mini golf and graduate dinners.

## Practice Areas and International Opportunities

Clayton Utz is a leading independent Australian law firm. However, it has strong working ties with many international law firms and clients. This makes Clayton Utz lawyers well equipped for international working opportunities and external secondments. The Perth office has a wide range of practice areas including Commercial Litigation, Restructuring and Insolvency, Corporate M&A & Capital Markets, Real Estate, Environment & Sustainable Development, Banking and Finance, Workplace Relations, Employment & Safety and Major Projects & Construction – there is something for everyone! These practice areas open doors for graduates and lawyers to transfer their career into any sector and direction.

## Graduate Program Structure

What sets the Clayton Utz graduate program apart from others is that it offers graduates three six-month rotations instead of the industry standard of two rotations. Graduates who have an interest in a wide variety of areas of law or those who are looking to explore their options are well suited for this type of structure. My first rotation was in Restructuring and Insolvency, a practice group for which Clayton Utz is the industry leader. Currently I am on my second rotation in Major Projects and Construction where I have worked with many international clients. Both rotations have involved incredibly fulfilling work with hard working and motivated team members.

## Dedication to Pro Bono Work

Another reason why Clayton Utz stands out for me is because of its dedication to pro bono work. Currently, Clayton Utz is the only leading Australian law firm with a separate Pro Bono practice led by a Pro Bono Partner. It is also the law firm that consistently provides one of the highest pro bono contributions in the industry each year. As a graduate, I was given a pro bono matter to work on. I was also seconded to Law Access to provide pro bono legal assistance to the not-for-profit. I really value this dedication to vulnerable members of the community and take pride in the pro bono services of the firm.

Overall, my time at Clayton Utz for the past 2.5 years has been incredibly rewarding and enjoyable. It has significantly changed my perspective of what it is like to work at a large commercial law firm. I highly recommend everyone to apply for a clerkship at Clayton Utz.



[claytonutz.com/graduates](https://claytonutz.com/graduates)

**"I, in my approach to the law, am a critical legal theorist. I look at the law and say, who isn't working for people and how can we change it because I don't believe that we should sit still. I think that the law is not the status quo. The law is supposed to serve us all."**



**Robin Banks**

### **Career**

Robin grew up in Tasmania, however, started her law degree at the age of 36. Prior to this, Robin studied architecture in Melbourne right after graduating from school. In Melbourne Robin worked for a gay publishing cooperative and from there got involved in volunteering in the legal centre as a non-legal volunteer. Following this Robin got a job with the Peak Community Legal Centre organisation in Victoria, which led to various projects around justice and rights. After involvement in the community legal sector, Robin travelled around Australia and lived briefly in Cairns and Alice Springs. In Alice Springs Robin set up and ran an advocacy service for people with disability and worked a lot with childhood disability. Robin then began a law degree and moved from Alice Springs to Sydney to work for the Disability Discrimination Legal Centre, whilst finishing her law degree. An opportunity arose for Robin to go to Canada for a year, whereby Robin worked at the Canadian Human Rights Commission doing legal research.

Coming back to Australia, Robin did some temporary work for the Northern Australian Aboriginal legal aid service. Following this Robin took up a role at a Sydney law firm where she worked in litigation "Yeah, I love litigation. Like it's, it's a real buzz". From here Robin moved on to be the CEO of the public interest advocacy centre "We had 36 staff doing public interest work across indigenous justice, disability rights, consumer rights in energy and water, health and coronial law, like just this incredible spectrum". After being in Sydney for a few years Robin was ready to return to Tasmania, whereby she was appointed as the state's Anti-discrimination Commissioner, and worked in this role for 7 years. "I did a lot of work going out there and pushing people to understand how the law is supposed to be an instrument of equality, not inequality."

Robin is still currently involved in community activism, training people on how to engage with legal processes and political processes, Inclusion and diversity training, and teaching at the university.

### **Research**

"I came to the research from a personal sense that discrimination law doesn't sufficiently incorporate an understanding of the experience of prejudice-based behaviour." Robin's thesis was about the law and the way it's interpreted, through a lens of the most understood forms of prejudice-based discrimination. Robin looked at the two dimensions of how we respond to people unconsciously. Being, whether are they a friend or a foe, and their competence. Robin's research looked into how different identity groups sit in different places on this matrix, and how discrimination or in its current form, doesn't operate equally for different groups. Robin's research showed that sexual harassment was the most successful form of claim. However, the level of success overall has dropped and is dropping for all attribute groups including sexual harassment. It now hovers around 10-13%. Robin's research was very encompassing into many various facets of the law and society, delving into the psychological theories around prejudice, international mechanisms and discrimination law, and the major law reform initiatives in Australia. In the final chapters of Robin's PhD, there are 26 recommendations for reform within Australia's discrimination legislation.

## **Electives and teaching**

Human Rights and discrimination law are Robin's key areas of expertise. In the last few years, she has had exposure to a few different subjects within the law school. Robin taught foundations of law a couple of years ago, a bit of public law and human rights law, and this semester Robin has been doing Seminars for admin law. "Administrative law is probably the closest thing we have to good protections against government overreach, in the absence of human rights act."

Yvette and Robin have been working on a new unit, Disability and the Law which would cover areas like disability, mental illness and mental health in the law and anti-discrimination law. This proposed elective is still in its construction process, but Robin is keen to get it off the ground. So, keep an eye out for it hopefully coming up in the curriculum in the near future!

## **Current issues around the law of discrimination**

Australia's laws around discrimination are in the process of development. Robin discussed that the cost reform regime for discrimination matters is currently a prevalent issue. Currently, if you lose a discrimination claim, you pay the other side's costs. Consequently, we do not see as the main claim as you expect. Robin outlined that for discrimination claims "It should not be a cost mentality law... rather a presumptive costs order rule in favour of the plaintiff."

Another issue regarding the discrimination legal sphere today is standing. The standing rules in Australia are narrow, whereby you must be a person aggrieved. Robin explained that often the people disadvantaged by discrimination are the least able to defend themselves. Standing has been a huge issue for a long time and will continue to be unless we see reform.



## Career

Gino began his UTAS journey as an accounting student over 37 years ago. Law seemed to be a fitting addition to his accounting degree at the time. “I thought, well, I could be an ordinary accountant, or I can be an accountant that has an extra qualification. And so I thought, broaden your horizons a little bit”. After graduating second in his class, Gino was offered a teaching role here at UTAS Law School to teach tax law, pending going to Sydney to complete his PLT at the College of Law. The following year Gino furthered his studies in the US (Michigan).

After returning to Australia and working for the University of Tasmania, Gino decided he wanted to get into writing before commencing practice. From here he decided to pursue an academic career. “I’ve been teaching and writing, amongst other things ever since.” Having studied in the US, Gino found it an advantage, enabling him to be comfortable with the US legal system, because there’s material in some of his books that has a US component.

## Academia

“I am wary of calling it research. I’ve always thought that I did scholarship”. Gino’s work in the scholarship and writing space has targeted books. The opportunity to co-author a book first came with the first Equity and Trusts book, published in 1996.

Following this Gino pitched an idea for the Legal Ethics book (after studying this area in the US) to publishers because, at the time in Australia, there wasn’t anything of its kind. This proved the genesis for further books, encompassing books on costs, agency law, charity law, powers of attorney, succession, confidentiality, limitation, associations, construction of wills, and lawyer discipline. He acknowledges that “people assume, that if you’ve written a book in the area... you are the expert in the field... I sort of modelled myself on people I’d seen who could be called generalists. And so I’ve been a generalist in a society increasingly punctuated by specialists.”



**Gino Dal Pont**

## Equity and Trusts

After studying at the University of Michigan, the University of Tasmania gave Gino the opportunity to teach equity and trusts, which sat hand in hand with co-authoring the equity and trusts book. Gino teaches equity primarily through the lens of trusts but commences with an overarching equity taxonomy. This unit invites a conceptual jump for students to understand the role of equity in the legal system.

## Legal Ethics

Legal ethics was a specific area Gino studied at the University of Michigan. He introduced legal ethics teaching at UTAS because of his overseas studies. “I try to highlight to students first up that just because you do a course on this doesn’t mean you will be responsible, ethical or moral”. What Gino hopes students will obtain from the unit is an understanding of what ethical conduct may involve or require in any given situation, as well as “a framework within which to determine or resolve ethical disputes or ethical challenges.”

## Electives

Since beginning teaching at the Law School in 1991, Tax was the main elective that Gino taught. “Tax is one of those areas, you’re either 100% in or you’re not in the game.” In 2022 Gino was the unit coordinator for the Tax unit. Gino encourages students to study tax because, in reality, everybody in some way or another contributes to the tax system. Underscoring the Tax law elective are the distinctly political and economic dimensions of tax, as a springboard to probing how Parliament and the judiciary seek to balance these two.



## **2023 Trainee Perspective**

I graduated from UTAS with a Bachelor of straight Law in 2022. I'm an international student from Singapore so I had plenty of options post-graduation in terms of where to do my legal practice. One of them was to go back home and sit for a two-year bar exam, stay in Tassie for legal practice or move to the mainland. Ultimately, my decision was to stay in Tassie and I can confidently say at the start of Week 12 (officially halfway through!) that it was the best decision that I have ever made. The main difference of Tassie's legal practice course compared to the rest is its practicality and the real-life lawyer skills that it teaches us!

In my understanding, the mainland courses were partially to fully online. From the past twelve weeks of practical experience in Tassie which includes going to the Supreme Court, Family Court and Magistrates Court for weekly appearances in front of actual judges and magistrates, making up physical files for vendor/purchaser or landlord/tenant clients in property and commercial law respectively, I cannot fathom how legal practice could be delivered online.

Not only have I gained practical skills that will definitely equip me to be a competent lawyer, I have also become more confident in my advocacy skills. In addition, coming to lectures every week has helped me gain a beautiful community of friends whom I know will be a great support to me as we embark on our young lawyer journeys together. Some of us have even started a social Netball team together! The comradery spirit that we have is unmatched from discussing assignments as a team and getting our daily coffees from nearby cafes during breaktime.

This experience has been absolutely life changing and I could not imagine becoming a lawyer without the preparation that the TLPC has given me. I graduate in three months and somehow that thought does not scare me (that much)! Even if you are wanting to move to the mainland eventually, I would definitely recommend anyone and everyone to first complete their legal practice course in Tassie.

Sydney Lee, 2022 UTAS Graduate

# Summer Units

## Law of Armed Conflict and International Criminal Law



Josephine Palmer

### What content was covered?

The unit explored two interacting bodies of international law. International Criminal Law and International Humanitarian Law. We looked at the historical development within these areas as well as prevalent current issues occurring within society today. It delved into different facets of these bodies of law, from Gender and armed conflict to legal regulations of weapons and provided in-depth content on war crime crimes trials.

### How was the unit structured?

The unit was an intensive unit over three weeks. Classes were held from 1 pm-4 pm. The unit was run by Professor Timothy McCormack, accompanied by many extinguished guest lecturers and speakers throughout. There were three assessments within the course. The first was a short essay, the second was a larger essay and then an exam a week after classes concluded.

### Guest speakers

We were very privileged to have Mr Luis Moreno Ocampo, founding prosecutor of the ICC Join us via Zoom from Miami Beach daily (thanks Tim) Regina Weiss, a former prosecutor at the ICC. Furthermore, we had several guest lecturers including His Excellency Vasyl Myroshnychenko Ambassador of Ukraine, Dr Rosemary Grey, Senior lecturer at Sydney law school and Co-Director of the Sydney Centre for international law, whose research area focuses on gender and international criminal law. Dr Indira Rosenthal, Utas PhD candidate and expert advisor and consultant in international human rights and criminal law, specialising in gender analysis, violence against women and women's access to justice. Fauve Kurnadi, Legal adviser, International Humanitarian Law, Australian Red Cross. David Tuck, Head of the International Committee of the Red Cross Canberra. Dr Matt Killingsworth, Head of Politics and international relations @utas.

### Highlights from the summer unit

1. The exposure to such incredible guests who came to speak to us during the unit.
2. Although being a short time frame, the unit was much fun. It was an incredible environment to be learning.
3. The content and teaching was consistently engaging.

### Key learning takeaways

1. How multifaceted the international legal sector is.
2. The complexity of the substantive rules within international humanitarian law and international criminal law.

### Would you recommend this summer unit and why?

I 100% recommend this unit. It is not like any other unit taught at the law school. The learnings involved are not just relevant in today's climate the unit is interesting and genuinely very fun!



Georgie Williams

# Advocacy



## **What content was covered?**

The unit was a practical insight into advocacy in the legal profession. It was a hands-on learning experience guided by esteemed members of the profession. We covered how to be a good advocate in court and in the broader profession. This included a full day engaged in a mock trial where we presented opening and closing addresses, and examination-in-chief and cross-examination.

## **How was the unit structured?**

The unit was an intensive week of 9am-5pm content with a final assessment the following week. The unit was presented by Magistrate Wells, Dr David Plater, Jemma Holt, and Aneita Browning. The level of experience of the teaching team added immense value to the course. The approach of the teaching team was to treat the students as colleagues. As such, we gained invaluable feedback and support from the teaching team.

## **Did you have any guest speakers or lecturers come in for the unit?**

We were extremely fortunate to hear from multiple Supreme Court Justices, highly-regarded defence and prosecution lawyers, legal practitioners, alumni, and community members. The guest speakers were candid about their experiences in the profession and gave us excellent advice.

## **Highlights from the summer unit**

1. Presenting to and feedback from Magistrate Wells and Mr Hill.
2. Hearing an opening address from criminal lawyer Kim Baumeler.
3. Candid advice and practical tips from legal professionals.

## **3 Key learning takeaways**

1. Law school is so different from legal practice!
2. There are so many opportunities for law graduates.
3. Good advocacy can be learned.

## **Would you recommend this summer unit and why?**

I would highly recommend this unit because it is not like any other unit you will do; it is almost entirely practical and guided by an incredibly knowledgeable and experienced teaching team.

