

# Competitor Selection Policy

UTS Law Students' Society

<b>Issued by</b>	Erika Serrano, President
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## 1 Preamble and General Policies

- 1 This policy applies to the selection of competitors for all intervarsity competitions as well as the selection of bench members for all UTS LSS hosted competitions requiring a bench of two or more judges.
  - 2 This policy operates in addition to the formal UTS LSS inclusion policy. This policy should be interpreted as sharing the same vision and purpose of the UTS LSS Inclusion Policy, that being the promotion of a diverse and inclusive UTS law cohort.
  - 3 This policy is designed to encourage diversity in UTS LSS Competitions and foster the growth of UTS LSS Competitors in their Competitions careers.
  - 4 The UTS LSS reserves the right to not register any individual, team or delegate for any of the competitions and/or ALSA Annual Conference that is subject to this policy. This decision is at the discretion of the relevant selection panel and is final.
  - 5 In accordance with the UTS LSS By-Laws, the ALSA Selection Panel will consist of the President, Secretary, Vice-President (Mooting), Vice-President (Skills) and the Vice-President (Education).
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## 2 General Intersvarsity Competition Selection

### Part 1: Process

- 6 Subject to clause 4(a) and (b), applicants for external competitions will be selected by either the Vice-President (Mooting) or the Vice-President (Skills Competitions), alongside the Intersvarsity Competitions Directors.
  - a) In the circumstances that the Vice-President (Mooting) or Vice-President (Skills Competitions) wish to apply for the competition in question, they will be removed from the selection process, with an appropriate replacement as chosen by the Intersvarsity Competitions Directors.
  - b) In the circumstances that there are more than twenty applicants as required for any external competition, a Selection Panel will be formed.
- 7 The Selection Panel will be composed at the discretion of either the Vice-President (Mooting) or Vice-President (Skills Competitions) but must be composed of no less than three UTS LSS councillors with some background in UTS LSS Competitions.
- 8 A member of the Selection Panel may not apply for the competition for which he or she is on the Selection Panel for.
- 9 Members of the Selection Panel will approach the selection process with an impartial mind.
  - a) If any member involved in the selection process indicates any sort of lack of impartiality for any reason, it is either the Vice-President (Mooting) or the Vice-President (Skills Competitions)'s responsibility and sole discretion to remove this member from the panel and replace them.

## Part 2: Method of Selection

- 10 UTS LSS councillors involved in the selection process (Selectors) will rank the applicants, with the first rank being the best application in the eyes of the councillor.
- 11 The rankings of all Selectors will be combined, and the highest-ranked (lowest nominal value) applicants will be selected.
- 12 In the circumstances that there are equal rankings for more applicants than can be selected, either the Vice-President (Mooting) or Vice-President (Skills Competitions) will have the ultimate discretion.
- 13 Responsibility for collating the decision and communicating the decision to the applicants will lie with the Intervarsity Competitions Directors, as overseen by either the Vice-President (Mooting) or the Vice-President (Skills Competitions).

## Part 3: Selection Criteria

- 14 The Selectors will give primary consideration to the following criteria:
  - a) prior experience in the relevant competition, whether internal or external;
  - b) prior experience in any UTS LSS competition, whether internal or external; and
  - c) Availability during the preparation period for the competition.
- 15 The Selectors will give secondary consideration to the following criteria:
  - a) academic results, where relevant to the topic of the competition;
  - b) contribution to the UTS LSS's competitions portfolio, including judging, coaching and any other relevant contribution;
  - c) the quality and substance of the written application;
  - d) any other relevant legal research, writing or oral skills;
  - e) the likelihood of the applicant representing UTS to the best of their ability, in terms of sportsmanship and character; and
  - f) how cooperative the team members will be with each other.
- 16 When weighing up the factors included in sections 14 & 15 the Selectors must also consider the following:
  - a) where there are equally qualified applicants, preference should be given to selecting a diverse team in light of the UTS LSS Inclusion Policy;
  - b) in order to ensure equality of access to external competitions, where the applicant has competed previously in the same competition, this will weigh as a significant factor against the applicant's selection for that same competition again; and
  - c) where a junior competitor has demonstrated great talent and commitment in the relevant competition, their lack of experience should not weigh unfavourably against their selection.
- 17 The Selection Panel must keep pre-existing teams together where they have expressed a desire to remain together in their application.

### **3 ALSA Conference and Competition Selection**

#### **Part 1: Process (ALSA International Humanitarian Moot & Championship Moot)**

- 18 Applicants for the ALSA International Humanitarian Moot & Championship Moot will be chosen by the ALSA Selection Panel.
- 19 Each member of The ALSA Selection Panel will rank the applicants, with the first rank being the best application in the eyes of The Panel member.
- 20 The rankings of The ALSA Selection Panel will then be combined, and the highest-ranked (lowest nominal value) applicants will be selected.
- 21 In the circumstances that there are equal rankings for more applicants than can be selected, the Vice-President (Mooting) will have the ultimate discretion.
- 22 Responsibility for collating the decision and communicating the decision to the applicants will lie with the Secretary.
- 23 Any decision of the ALSA Selection Panel is final and not appealable.

#### **Part 2: Selection Criteria (ALSA International Humanitarian Moot & Championship Moot)**

- 24 The ALSA Selection Panel will give primary consideration to the following criteria:
  - a) Success in any Open Mooting Competition in the twelve (12) months prior to the date of selection; and
  - b) Success in any Subject Moots in the twelve (12) months prior to the date of selection; and
  - c) Keeping pre-existing teams together where they have expressed a desire to remain together in their application, supported by valid reasons.
- 25 The ALSA Selection Panel will give secondary consideration to the following criteria:
  - a) success in the Open Mooting Competition or Subject Moots in previous years;
  - b) for the IHL Moot, knowledge in that field, evidenced by studying IHL Law;
  - c) the quality and substance of the written application;
  - d) any other relevant legal research, writing or oral skills; and
  - e) the likelihood of the applicant representing UTS to the best of their ability, in terms of sportsmanship and character.
- 26 When weighing up the factors included in sections 24 and 25 the ALSA Selection Panel must also consider the following:
  - a) where there are equally qualified applicants, Selectors should also prefer the selection of a diverse team in light of the UTS LSS Inclusion Policy;
  - b) in order to ensure equality of access to external competitions, where the applicant has competed previous in the same competition, this will weigh as a strong factor against the applicant's selection for that same competition again; and

- c) where a junior competitor has demonstrated great talent and commitment in the relevant competition, their lack of experience should not weigh unfavourably against their selection.

### **Part 3: Process (All Other ALSA Competitions)**

- 27 Applicants for all other ALSA Competitions will be chosen by the ALSA Selection Panel.
- 28 If section 36 or 37 is not enlivened each member of The ALSA Selection Panel will rank the applicants, with the first rank being the best application in the eyes of The ALSA Selection Panel member.
- 29 The rankings of The ALSA Selection Panel will then be combined, and the highest-ranked (lowest nominal value) applicants will be selected.
- 30 In the circumstances that there are equal rankings for more applicants than can be selected, either the Vice-President (Mooting) or the Vice-President (Skills Competitions) will have the ultimate discretion.
- 31 Responsibility for collating the decision and communicating the decision to the applicants will lie with the Secretary.
- 32 Any decision of the ALSA Selection Panel is final and not appealable.

### **Part 4: Selection Criteria (All Other ALSA Competitions)**

- 33 The ALSA Selection Panel will give primary consideration to the following criteria:
  - a) Success in any Skills Competition in the twelve (12) months prior to the date of selection; and
  - b) Keeping pre-existing teams together, where applicable, where they have expressed a desire to remain together in their application, supported by valid reasons.
- 34 The ALSA Selection Panel will give secondary consideration to the following criteria:
  - a) success in the Skills Competition in previous years;
  - b) the quality and substance of the written application;
  - c) any other relevant legal research, writing or oral skills; and
  - d) the likelihood of the applicant representing UTS to the best of their ability, in terms of sportsmanship and character.
- 35 When weighing up the factors included in sections 33 and 34 the ALSA Selection Panel must also consider the following:
  - a) where there are equally qualified applicants, Selectors should also prefer the selection of a diverse team or individual in light of the UTS LSS Inclusion Policy;
  - b) in order to ensure equality of access to external competitions, where the applicant has competed previous in the same competition, this will weigh as a strong factor against the applicant's selection for that same competition again; and
  - c) where a junior competitor has demonstrated great talent and commitment in the relevant competition, their lack of experience should not weigh unfavourably against their selection.

- 36 The right to represent the UTS LSS at the ALSA Paper Presentation Competition will be rewarded to the winner of the UTS LSS internal Paper Presentation Competition of that year.
  - 37 Should the first-place winner of the Paper Presentation Competition not be available, the second-place winner of that same competition will be offered the right to represent the UTS LSS instead.
  - 38 If the first place and second place winners of the Paper Presentation Competition are not available or do not wish to compete in the relevant ALSA Conference Competition of that year, applications will be opened to all UTS LSS members and be subject to the selection criteria as detailed in sections 33 to 35 above.
  - 39 In the instance that section 38 is enlivened, success in the relevant competition of that current year will be given substantial weight in determining the highest-ranked applications.
  - 40 Other than the special consideration in section 38, the selection criteria stated in sections 33 to 35 will apply.
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## **4 ALSA General Delegates**

### **Part 1: Process (General Delegates)**

- 41 Applicants for General Delegate positions at ALSA will be chosen by the ALSA Selection Panel.
- 42 Each member of The ALSA Selection Panel will rank the applicants, with the first rank being the best application in the eyes of The Panel member.
- 43 The rankings of The ALSA Selection Panel will then be combined, and the highest-ranked (lowest nominal value) applicants will be selected.
- 44 In the circumstances that there are equal rankings for more applicants than can be selected, the President will have the ultimate discretion.
- 45 Responsibility for collating the decision and communicating the decision to the applicants will lie with the Secretary.
- 46 Any decision of the ALSA Selection Panel is final and not appealable.

### **Part 2: Selection Criteria (General Delegate)**

- 47 The ALSA Selection Panel will give primary consideration to the following criteria:
  - a) relevant extracurricular involvement with the UTS LSS; and
  - b) relevant extracurricular involvement with the UTS Faculty of Law; and
  - c) the quality and substance of the written application.
- 48 The ALSA Selection Panel will give secondary consideration to the following criteria:
  - a) any other relevant marketing, writing or oral skills; and



- b) the likelihood of the applicant representing UTS to the best of their ability, in terms of contribution and character.
- 49 When weighing up the factors included in sections 47 and 48 the ALSA Selection Panel must also consider the following:
- a) where there are equally qualified applicants, Selectors should also prefer the selection of a diverse team in light of the UTS LSS Inclusion Policy;
  - b) in order to ensure equality of access to ALSA, where the applicant has attended previously, this will weigh as a strong factor against the applicant's selection.
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## 5 Judging Benches

### Part 1: Considerations to be taken when determining judging benches

- 50 When the relevant UTS LSS Competition Director is approaching judges, practitioners, academics and students alike to act as judge on the bench of any UTS LSS hosted competition, they should give special consideration to the diversity and gender balance on that bench.
  - 51 Where possible, UTS LSS competition directors should always prefer a diverse and gender balanced bench of judges.
  - 52 Diverse should be given the same meaning that it has within the UTS LSS Inclusion Policy.
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## 6 Appeals

### Part 1: Considerations to be taken when determining judging benches

- 53 This chapter applies to any appeal or review of a decision made under Chapter 1 Part 3 of this Selection Policy.
- 54 The IVC Competitions Appeal Panel shall be comprised of the relevant Competitions Vice-President that was not a member on the Initial Selection Panel, the Secretary and the President.
- 55 All reviews and appeals must:
  - a) be made in writing;
  - b) be made within twenty-four (24) hours of being notified of the selection decision; and
  - c) contain specific reasons for the appeal or review, including specific reference to the selection criteria under Chapter 1 Part 3 of this Selection Policy.
- 56 The outcome of the appeal or review will be determined only by reference to submissions from the appellant and the appellant's original application.
- 57 The decision of the IVC Competitions Appeal Panel is final.