



The Gavel

Volume II, Issue I

28 February 2007

In this issue...

- BBQ this Thursday
- Juries in sentencing
- No money for CLCs
- Transit Officer fiasco

Introducing CLSS

The **Chinese Law Students Society (CLSS)** was founded in 2004 and has more than 150 members at the University of Sydney.

Our goal here at CLSS is to make all our members' time at uni better, with fun outings, useful career events, and revision sessions.

Our members

Our members come from a variety of academic backgrounds, united by a common interest in law. We draw on the diverse backgrounds of our members to work in the interest of all members.

Our activities

Our **Introductory BBQ** is held in the second week of March. This year we welcome special guests from Mallesons

Hong Kong—for more details see the ad on Page 3.

We hold regular **revision sessions** where our members can exchange their knowledge and skills to help each other master the law.

We also hold **beach parties** and **day trips**, which, with the support of your Union, is a great way to relax and have fun with fellow members.

Member resources

Through our website, regular newsletter, **the Gavel**, and email announcements, we keep you up-to-date on career opportunities in Australia and outside. Our web-

site also contains resources to help our members take the best advantage of opportunities: <http://www.usydclss.com/>



CLSS Beach Party

Get involved!

We are constantly looking for talented people to join the executive team. If you would like to get involved, send us an email at: usydclss@gmail.com telling us what area you are interested in.

Enjoy O-week!

If you would like to contribute...

To contribute items to the newsletter, please email usydclss@gmail.com

The editors reserve full right to edit submissions.

Legal Digest

NSW election—“Law and order auction”

In the lead-up to the NSW election in March, the Iemma government announced a massive increase in minimum sentences for certain crimes, including indecent assault, as well as

further hampers on judicial discretion.

<http://www.smh.com.au/news/law-and-order/more-cops-harsher-sentences-less-paperwork/2007/02/25/1172338458723.html>

Legal action to seek Hicks' return

As the Howard government changes its posi-

tion on David Hicks, his lawyers have instituted proceedings in the High Court, arguing that he is entitled to expect the government to consider asking for his repatriation.

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/newsitems/200702/s1858526.htm>

Who the bloody hell are we?

Enoch Lau

aka "Wannabe Honkie"

Role: Most equal among equals.

Studying: Science/Law - Hons

Favourite Quote: "I lined up at midnight to get Windows Vista."

Collin Wong

Role: Deputy-Dictator

Studying: Commerce/Law - V

Favourite Quote: "heyo~"

Catherine Feng

aka Cat

Role: Slave driver

Studying: Com/
Law - Hons

Favourite Quote: "If I have seen a little further it is by standing on the shoulders of giants"



Ok Y Y _ ' D \$ *

Daniel Nguyen aka Dan

Role: Fiscal conservative

Studying: Economics/Law - IV

Favourite Quote: "The second mouse gets the cheese".

Jane Ma

Role: Careers

Studying: Commerce/Law - III

Andrea Ho aka "Andy Lau"

Role: Resident coffee addict

Studying: Ec (Soc Sci)/Law - IV

Favourite Quote: "Life is pain. Anyone who says different is selling something."

John Lee aka "Johnre"

Role: I use a computer.

Studying: Com/Law - II

Favourite Quote: "I try to avoid thinking with my gut" - Carl Sagan.

Grace Ng aka "Gracie"

Role: We do the things the real

execs can't be bothered doing

Studying: Science/Law - Hons

Favourite Quote: "When you go into court your fate is in the hands of 12 people not smart enough to get out of jury duty"

Changhong Zhao

Role: Executive

Studying: Commerce/Law

Shirley Chan aka "Shirlz"

Role: The food freak trying hard to be a sports freak

Studying: Commerce/Law - II

Favourite Quote: Practices doesn't make perfect; perfect practice makes perfect

Law studies suspended after abuse of law books

Enoch Lau, funniest resident satirist

Law studies at UNWS have been suspended indefinitely after revelations of "improper conduct" by certain members of staff towards donated law books.

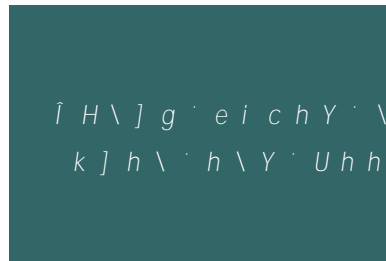
An anonymous whistleblower told the Law Books Auditors-General that parts of law books have been mislabelled and parts of different books have been placed together in the same cover.

In addition, the whistleblower revealed that staff members have complained of "soiled" pages for months, since the move of the Faculty of Law at UNWS to new premises.

Students studying corporate law have been most disadvantaged and it is

uncertain whether annual exams can now progress.

Club MacDonalds University Law School has offered to take over the soiled books to supplement its library.



Competition news

Aurora Project Internship

Are you interested in a career in native title matters and Indigenous affairs? The Aurora Project is seeking interns to provide assistance to under-resourced and over-worked Native Title Representative Body (NTRB) lawyers.

Applications (March intake 2007):

open 5 March to 5 April.

Aurora project:

www.auroraproject.com.au.

NTRB: www.ntrb.net.

National Essay Competition

Is there a current legal issue you wish to write about? The National Essay Competition is open to all Australian law students and re-

cent law graduates. You are invited to write between 5,000 to 20,000 words on any legal issue. Topics from past winners include the Bali Nine and Guantanamo Bay. A cash prize of \$1,000 and publication in the ALSA Academic Journal are on offer.

Entries close 1 April, 1007.

Q&A - New Students Guide 2007

Q: What if I am a Dutch-speaking Jordanian studying Medicine? Am I permitted to join CLSS even if I am not Chinese or a law student?

A: Our society welcomes all members regardless of race, religion, gender, language, or sexual preference; anyone may join CLSS. You can join at our O-week stall, or at any of our events throughout the year..

Q: How can I become an executive?

A: Elections are held during the Annual General Meeting, which at present, occurs in October. All ordinary members, and honorary members who are otherwise eligible for ordinary membership, may vote in and stand for election for any of the executive positions during the election.



Sydney Law School

Keep an eye out for the Gavel and emails for notice of elections or openings on the executive board. For more information, email usyclss@gmail.com

Q: How are you different from the Sydney University Law Society (SULS)?

A: SULS is the official society for law students at the University of Sydney. Although CLSS is an informal society, we work closely with SULS, and cater more strongly for students who are studying at the main campus.

We build close connections with the legal industry here and overseas. Because of our relatively small size, we are able to cater to each and every member.

Q: When do the Jacaranda trees at uni bloom?

A: Jacaranda trees start to present their beautiful lilac flowers at around October/November. The general advice is that if you are unprepared for the exams by the time the Jacaranda tress bloom, you are in deep strife.

Q: Where are the Jacaranda

trees at uni?

A: You can find Jacaranda trees in the main quadrangle, and along Manning Road and Physics Road.

You can find Jacaranda trees in the main quadrangle, and along Manning Road and Physics Road.

Q: What is that big concrete box called “law school”?

A: The Sydney University Law School is located on the corner of King,

Phillip, and Elizabeth streets. It is near St James railway station, and is directly opposite the NSW Supreme Court. Classes for students in combined years 4 and 5, and for graduate students, are held there, as well as legal research classes for first year students. The Law School also houses the Law Library, whose shelves of Commonwealth Law Reports are the favourite haunts of all cool law students.

To get there from main campus, you can take a train from Redfern station, or take any bus from City Road or Parramatta Road bus stops, and get off near King Street.

Information

The Gavel is published by the Chinese Law Students Society and distributed free at the University of Sydney.

To subscribe to the electronic version of **The Gavel**, send an e-mail to usyclss@gmail.com with “Subscribe” on the subject line.

President of the CLSS

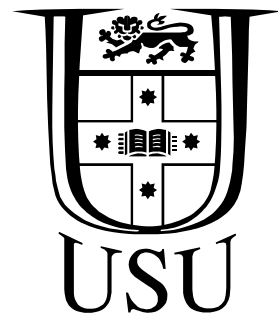
Enoch Lau

Editors

Tommy Chen, Tian Cai, John Lee

Contact

usyclss@gmail.com



Supported by

The University of Sydney Union