

ELECTION OF FY2021 MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE, APPOINTMENT OF HONORARY MEMBER & WLAQ SUPPORT PERSON

The Women Lawyers Association of Queensland held its Annual General Meeting on 25 June 2020 where the business of 2019 was reported on. WLAQ will release the 2019 Annual Report, which will contain all reports delivered, in the coming week.

FY2021 Management Committee

The following members were elected to the Executive Committee:

President | Catherine Cheek, Special Counsel, Kennedy Spanner Lawyers
Vice-President | Jessica McClymont, Barrister-at-Law
Vice-President | Stephanie Williams, Barrister-at-Law
Secretary | Emma Lewis, Law Graduate, Shand Taylor Lawyers
Treasurer | Melissa Simpson, Lawyer, McCullough Robertson Lawyers
Immediate Past President | Jamie Shine, National Special Counsel, Shine Lawyers

The following members were elected to the Management Committee (alphabetical order):

Lauren Austin, Associate, Wilson Lawyers
Dzenita Balic, Principal Crown Prosecutor, Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions
Nichola Di Muzio, Special Counsel, Thynne + Macartney
Sarah Ford, Senior Associate, Gilshenan & Luton Legal Practice
Jessica Goldie, Barrister-at-Law
Krystal Kovac, Head of Legal & Compliance, Oncore
Amie Mish-Wills, Principal Legal Advisor, Enterprise Legal
Jessica Popple, Lawyer, Pippa Colman & Associates
Kirsten Van der Wal, Associate, Maurice Blackburn Lawyers
Hannah Wordsworth, Law Student, University of Southern Queensland

Honorary Member

At the AGM, President Jamie Shine announced Ann-Maree David's appointment as an Honorary Member. Ann-Maree joined WLAQ in 1992, and moved to her position on the Management Committee in recent years. During that time, she was the AWL Representative, where she also served as President, and held one of the two Vice-President positions since 2015.

Ann-Maree is the thirteenth Honorary Member and WLAQ is grateful of the support and dedication that all Honorary Members continue to provide the organisation.

Continued over page

WLAQ Support Person

Bullying and harassment is an issue in the profession, and while we may not all have experienced it, we likely know someone that has been subject to it. An objective of WLAQ is to support our members and while WLAQ recognises that it cannot provide the necessary therapeutic and expert support needed for a member who may be subject to bullying or harassment, we want to ensure that it is able to provide further assistance in this area. This is why we have announced the appointment of Ann-Maree David as the inaugural WLAQ Support Person.

Ann-Maree's role will be to act as a contact for any member who may want to discuss bullying or harassment issues, but the support will not extend to counselling or legal advice.

The WLAQ Support Person will be supported by WLAQ with the provision of numbers for LawCare, BarCare, counsellors or psychologists and names of law firms that could assist them if they want to take the issue further. The WLAQ Support Person would not be authorised to suggest that a claim is or is not made and again, would not provide any legal advice, rather a sounding board in a similar vein that WLAQ has the Friends of WLAQ program. The WLAQ Support Person would not be asked by the WLAQ Committee to provide the names of any persons that have contacted them, but would be required to report on volume of calls and to raise any issue that she considers the WLAQ Committee may need to address, for example, a systemic issue.

All members, as part of this initiative will be informed that if the WLAQ Support Person feels as though a member is in position of harm, they are to immediately contact the WLAQ President, who then may contact the BAQ President or QLS President or another entity as the WLAQ President determines.

Details on how to contact the WLAQ Support Person will be released on our website shortly.

For further information, please contact admin@wlaq.com.au.
25 June 2020