

NOMINATIONS FOR AALA NATIONAL AGM 2021

National President – Molina Asthana



I have been on the Executive of AALA since its inception in 2013. I was the National treasurer for a couple of years before I took over as Vice President in 2018. I have seen the organisation grow from strength to strength with 50 members in one State to 1300 nationally and I believe I have contributed to its growth and prominence. I have always been a very active member of the Executive and have brought skills experience as well as connections that I believe have benefited the organisation.

I have been involved in the formation of branches in many States and Territories have been an active organiser of our flagship events, the National Summit as well as the William Ah Ket Scholarship event. In addition I contribute actively on a number of subcommittees.

I also hold significant professional and governance experience. I have practised in both India and Australia for over 20 years with experience of having worked at the highest court in India, at top tiers in Australia, nearly 11 years in the Victorian Government and now my own practise.

I am the first South Asian woman to be elected as President-Elect of the law Institute of Victoria. I also sit on various boards including the AMES Australia, Graduate House of the University of Melbourne, AFL South East Commission, Gymnastics Victoria, Table Tennis Victoria and Good Shepherd ANZ and am a member of the Football Federation of Victoria Tribunal. I also founded the NFP multicultural women in sport which aims to

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increase participation of women of diverse background in sport. My advocacy work has won many awards and is occasionally reported in media.

I believe that I will bring organisational knowledge, experience and prominence in the profession to the AALA National President's role that the organization can utilize.

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National Vice-President – Matt Floro



I'm a Senior Solicitor at the Environmental Defenders Office, Australia's first public interest environmental community legal centre. I've previously worked at Corrs Chambers Westgarth in Sydney, Clayton Utz in Brisbane and Melbourne, and the Victorian Department of Premier and Cabinet in Melbourne. I hold undergraduate degrees in law and economics and a Master of Laws from the University of Queensland and have recently completed a Master of Public Administration at Griffith University.

Passionate about community, I've been an AALA member since 2016, was a keen member of the NSW Branch Committee from 2017-2019, and served as the inaugural convenor of the National Student Engagement Subcommittee in 2019. I currently serve as National Vice-President and Company Secretary of the National Environmental Law Association and as an Expert Counsellor (Human Rights and Environment) to the LAWASIA Human Rights Committee.

As the AALA National Secretary over the past two years, I've had the honour of working with enthusiastic and inspirational AALA colleagues from around Australia in helping improve AALA's administrative and corporate governance arrangements, assisting the formation of new AALA Branches in the ACT, NT and SA, and playing a key role in organising our successful 2020 and 2021 National Cultural Diversity Summits.

As a candidate for AALA National Vice-President for 2022, I want to help build stronger connections and support for all State and Territory Branches; provide more value to Members through a program of outstanding National events; and enhance our connections with the judiciary and government, our partners and supporters, and policy and media organisations.

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I'm dedicated to advancing the concerns of Asian Australian lawyers and law students and everyone with an interest in Asia. It would be a privilege to be elected as AALA National Vice-President.

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National Secretary – Mary Liu

As the AALA National Secretary, my goal would be to strengthen current establishments and policies from National Executive Committee, and to introduce and facilitate the introduction of further strategies, such as the reformation of Branch Terms in order to strengthen AALA National Portfolios, Branches and general AALA corporate governance.

I aim to effectively lead the internal administration and procedures of AALA by ensuring that seamless communication pathways exist between Branches and National Executive Committee, where open discussions are encouraged and proposals are considered with a fair contribution from all.

Further, I aim to conduct informative meetings of the National Executive Committee, the AGM and SGMs, as well as to oversee National Portfolios and Branch activities in accordance with the Constitution.

In collaboration with National Treasurer, I will also strive to preserve and expand membership numbers and present valuable opportunities to AALA members where possible.

Having joined AALA as a volunteer in 2019 and subsequently became a Victorian Committee Member in 2020, with additional duties as the National Secretariat Officer and Victorian Chair of the Student Liaison Subcommittee in 2021, I am dedicated to the success of AALA and its future trajectory. I promise to devote the greatest of my time and effort to shoulder the National Secretary responsibilities in collaboration with National Executive Committee as the backbone of AALA should I be elected.

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National Treasurer – Ivonne Muryadi

I am the Secretary of AALA NSW Foreign Qualified Lawyers subcommittee and currently serving as National Finance Officer since June 2021 assisting Nai Yan, the National Treasurer. In the past 5 months, I have assisted the National Treasurer with bank reconciliation, preparation of budget, year-end financial statements audit for annual report, managing memberships, participating in Membership Subcommittee activities and prepared memberships report with analysis for year 2021.

I graduated with Bachelor of Commerce Professional Accounting and Laws recently admitted as a lawyer to the Supreme Court of NSW. I am also a qualified Chartered Tax Accountant. I am currently working as a Senior Analyst in Corporate Restructuring team at RSM Sydney focusing on financial analysis, investigations, and recovery. For the past 6 months, I have been on secondment at Moorebank Intermodal Company Limited, a government business entity, assisting the CFO with year-end audit and financial statements preparation, preparing budget and forecast, drafting finance report for Board of Directors meeting.

Volunteering as National Finance Officer has been a great experience for me however, I would like to contribute more of my skills, knowledge, and time for AALA and its members. I am prepared to take on a more challenging role as National Treasurer. As an accountant and a lawyer, I can be the bridge to close the gap between numbers and law. I am committed to deliver value to AALA and its members by implementing positive initiatives that could benefit AALA members.

I am passionate in supporting AALA's objective as I share the same goal, promoting diversity and inclusion in legal profession. I would like to grow and support the community that creates a difference in the legal industry. I am prepared and will commit to contribute my skills and time to support AALA nationally

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Ordinary Executive Committee Members

William Zhou



William Zhou believes that diversity is a crucial part of Australia and hopes that diversity is fairly reflected in the institutions which serve all Australians. He has run for public office to advocate for the younger Australian generations and the diverse communities. He has published in the Court of Conscience Journal on institutional bias and its detriment to democracy.

William studied his Master of Laws degree at the University of Sydney. He obtained Bachelor's degrees in Law (Honours) and Business, and Graduate Diploma in Legal Practice, from the Queensland University of Technology. In his Master's degree he pursued his interest in international law and legal philosophy, with one of his adapted papers being placed runner up in the ACICA Essay Competition 2021. In Sydney, he practiced as a solicitor under the supervision of a former Member of NSW Legislative Assembly, and now works at the University of Sydney. In the past, he worked for Jenny Yang Realty, and Herbert Smith Freehills.

Since 2018, William has served as a Committee Member in the Asian Australian Lawyers Association ('AALA'), first in Queensland and now in New South Wales. He has been involved in various subcommittees and working groups across the organisation (including students, sponsorships, data and policy, mentoring, etc.) and played a key role in developing the new AALA web site. Prior to joining AALA, he volunteered for not-for-profit associations in the community and still maintains connections to those associations which support the broader communities, including Lions Clubs Australia.

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He is honoured to be part of AALA, and in joining as an Ordinary Member of the National Executive Committee he hopes to support the team in serving the Members across all Branches. He welcomes everyone interested in AALA to get involved.

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Stephanie Tan

Stephanie is a Senior Associate at HWL Ebsworth (Perth), specialising in insolvency, construction disputes and insurance.

She has been a member of the AALA WA Branch Committee since its inauguration in 2016 (as part of the Professional Development subcommittee, covering mentoring and CPD events) and the WA Branch Secretary from 2019-2021, stepping down at this year's Branch Meeting.

As part of her role on the AALA Executive Committee over the past two years, Stephanie has been involved in subcommittees including Sponsorship and Partnerships (2019-2020), Membership (2019-2020), Mentoring (2019-2021), Steering, Policy, Advocacy and News Media (2020-2021) and Secretariat and Governance (2020-2021). She has a particular interest in advocacy and policy issues and will happily stay up until all hours to proofread material.

In her free time, Stephanie is fully occupied with her family, including two young children, church commitments and following Marvel and F1-related news.

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Johnny Duc-Huy Nguyen

In seeking to join the AALA Executive Committee, my key contributions would be my:

- Experience hosting The LLB Podcast, and lived experience and audience-contributed insight on issues of employment for young CALD people; and
- Diverse professional experience and ability to constructively contribute towards decision-making.

Significantly, as the current National Media and Policy Officer for AALA, I have a proven track record with AALA. In this role, I supported AALA in holding the National Summit on Cultural Diversity 2021, and advancing its policy and advocacy agenda.

Young People's Employment Issues

I am the founder of The LLB Podcast, a podcast providing careers advice. The podcast's mission is to help young people land jobs by democratising information that was previously hidden/gatekept. Coupled with my lived experience, my engagement with my audience has given me broad insight into the challenges young people face in finding employment. This insight would help AALA further engage and serve young members.

My Skills

My varied employment has routinely placed me in positions to contribute towards discussions with senior leaders. I have previously held intern positions at the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet, Cisco, GiveIndia (a large Indian non-profit) and am currently a graduate at Ashurst. Building on this experience, I currently hold advisory roles within Ashurst such as being on the firm's diversity network, being the co-chair of the Graduate Engagement Committee and being the youngest member of the Vision and Values Working Group.

My unique insight into young people's challenges coupled with my ability to effectively liaise with senior leaders means I will be able to enrich the AALA Executive Committee's discussions on all issues. Significantly, as someone who is effective at both strategy and implementation, I can help drive the organisation's goals forward on all fronts.

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Alyssandria Lim

As National Secretary for two years, I supervised Aly Lim's work as National Secretariat Officer in 2020-2021. Aly has played a key role in the development of our National Policies, including our National Anti-Discrimination, Bullying and Harassment Policy and our National Sexual Harassment Policy. She has also been of incredible support in the running of our National Executive Committee meetings and our 2020 and 2021 AGMs and Branch Meetings. I commend her nomination for the position of Ordinary Executive Committee position. – Matt Floro