

AALA National President – Volunteer | Position Description

About the role

- Would suit candidates with significant legal industry experience and prior experience in a management decision-making role/board role
- Oversee AALA's environment of responsibility, unity, integrity, courage, and fellowship to meet its objectives
- Oversee the activities of the Executive Committee and Branch Committees
- Attractive opportunity for candidates looking for volunteer experience with Australia's premier non-profit community organisation focussed on advancing cultural diversity in law

The role

This role involves supporting and directing the leadership of AALA and its overall mission. The National President acts as the official spokesperson of AALA, and directs the organisation towards meeting its vision, mission, and objectives.

The President oversees the general management of AALA and its people, is responsible for leading and managing the organisation structure, cultivating a positive and robust morale within AALA and ensuring the continued development of a results-orientated, professional and efficient organisation.

Importantly, the President must identify and address opportunities for AALA and aim to build productive alliances and partnerships with other organisations.

Specific responsibilities include:

- Develop and implement AALA operational policies and strategic plans through the National Executive Committee and Subcommittees
- Direct the National Executive Committee towards AALA's mission and objectives
- Plan AALA's short-term and long-term goals in collaboration with the National Executive Committee
- Steer AALA advocacy work, joint venture, national events projects, and manage public messaging and activities
- Speak at AALA events, both National and Branch events, and act as a spokesperson for AALA for the media and other stakeholders.
- Oversee AALA fiscal activity, including budgeting, reporting, and auditing
- Ensure all AALA legal and regulatory documents are filed
- Monitor compliance with applicable laws and regulations

Skills required

This role will suit candidates who possess the following transferable skills and qualifications:

- Legal industry background
- Bachelor's degree or Master's degree in a relevant discipline or MBA
- Experience in management decision making (finance, organisation, marketing, operations)
- Experience in building consensus and relationships among association members, executives, stakeholders, and legal industry
- Proven management and negotiation skills
- Ability to inspire confidence and to build trust
- Ability to work under pressure, plan personal workload effectively, and delegate
- Excellent communication skills
- Previous board experience would be highly regarded

Time commitment and application

This role requires the successful applicant(s) to volunteer, on average, 6 hours per week.

Term of appointment

12 months from the date of the Annual General Meeting.

How to apply

See Notice of Annual General Meeting

About the organisation

The Asian Australian Lawyers Association (AALA) is the first incorporated association in Australia to focus on the growing number of Asian Australian lawyers in the profession, as well as other lawyers with an interest in Asia. Our members hail from more than 10 countries in Asia and, between them speak almost 20 different Asian languages and dialects. We have members from all walks of legal life, including students, lawyers and principals from small, medium and large firms, barristers, in-house and government lawyers. The objectives of AALA include:

1. To bring together members of the legal profession of Asian heritage and cultural background and others with an interest in Asia;
2. To provide a cohesive professional network to advocate for, and provide support to, our members and to benefit from shared learning and experience
3. To improve the capability and reputation of the members in the legal profession through raising public awareness and providing education;
4. To develop links with Asian legal associations and facilitate and promote access for members to Asian legal markets;
5. To promote and facilitate Asian cultural diversity in the senior ranks of the legal profession;
6. To promote a mutual understanding of Australian and Asian legal systems; and
7. Such other purposes as the association, by general meeting, may determine, as an independent, politically unaffiliated and religiously tolerant organisation.