



## LAWS5181 – Law Journals

### **Student Editorships - Australian International Law Journal Call for expressions of interest to enrol in LAWS5181**

Students currently enrolled in the LLB program within the TC Beirne School of Law who have successfully completed the LAWS3705 *Public International Law* course are invited to apply to be appointed as student editors of the **Australian International Law Journal** ('AILJ'). Upon successful completion of their editorial roles, the **five students** who are selected as editors will receive academic credit (pass/fail academic credit is available through the course LAWS5181 *Law Journals* in second semester).

LAWS5181 *Law Journals* provides a valuable opportunity for a committee of students to be involved, under academic supervision and guidance, as researchers, writers and editors, in the publication of the *AILJ*. The student editors also have the possibility of having a case note or book review published in the *AILJ*.

The *AILJ* is published by the Australian Branch of the *International Law Association* ('ILA'). The *AILJ* offers established and developing scholars the opportunity to publish high quality refereed scholarship on topics of public and private international law. The ILA is a global organisation which plays a pre-eminent role in the progressive development of international law. From a modest beginning in 1983 as *Australian International Law News*, the *AILJ* has become a peer-reviewed law journal of international standing. It has been edited by distinguished international legal academics and practitioners based predominantly in Sydney. In 2018, the editorship of the *AILJ* moved to the TC Beirne School of Law, under an agreement with the Centre for Public, International and Comparative Law. The *AILJ* is now edited by an academic Editor in Chief and an editorial committee that includes LLB students. In US law schools, the editorship of law journals has, for decades, been conducted exclusively by outstanding law students. There has been a similar trend among leading law schools in Australia, with the *Sydney Law Review*, the *Melbourne University Law Review* and the *Melbourne Journal of International Law* all having had student editorial committees.

The *AILJ* will normally be published as a single issue per year. The course LAWS5181 will be offered in second semester each year. Unlike studies in other LLB courses, the project work required for editing the *AILJ* is sporadic. Most work will be undertaken in the semester of enrolment, but some editing may have to be undertaken during the end of year break. There is no formal class contact. The workload, however, will be roughly equivalent to that required for any other 2-unit course.

**Students who have an excellent GPA in the LLB program, who have successfully completed the LAWS3705 *Public International Law* course, and who are particularly interested in developing their research and editorial skills, are encouraged to apply. Students who have also successfully completed the LAWS5153 *Private International Law* course are also encouraged to apply.**

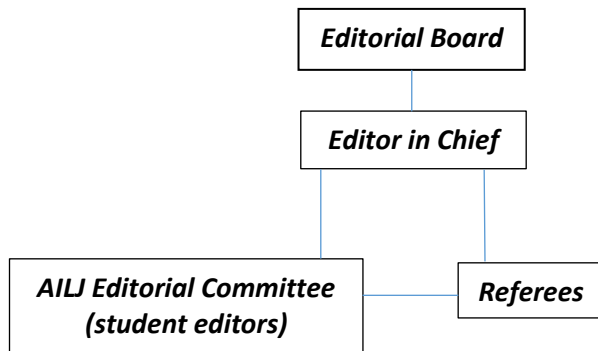
To allow for a more informed decision on whether to apply, prospective applicants are encouraged to read the attached background information. The course profile for LAWS5181 should also be consulted. If you wish to take part in this worthwhile activity, please complete the attached Application Form and return it by email to Professor Anthony Cassimatis ([a.cassimatis@law.uq.edu.au](mailto:a.cassimatis@law.uq.edu.au)) by **Friday 5 July 2024**. Applicants will be advised whether or not they have been accepted into the *AILJ* Editorial Committee by email as soon as possible.

**Professor Anthony Cassimatis AM**  
Editor in Chief, *AILJ*



## LAWS5181 – Australian International Law Journal – Background Information

### 1. Editorial Organisation



The Editor in Chief of the *Australian International Law Journal* ('AILJ'), together with the five<sup>1</sup> students making up the *AILJ Editorial Committee*, will be responsible for editing and producing the *AILJ*.

The Editor in Chief and the *AILJ Editorial Committee* will issue mid-year a call for academic contributions to the *AILJ*. Once academic submissions have been received, potential referees will be identified by the Editor in Chief. These potential referees will then be invited to assess the suitability of academic articles submitted to the *AILJ* for publication.

The Editorial Board of the *AILJ* offers oversight and support to the Editor in Chief and the *AILJ Editorial Committee*. Members of the Editorial Board may also serve as referees.

### 2. The Editor in Chief

The Editor in Chief is a member of the academic staff of the TC Beirne School of Law, currently Professor Anthony Cassimatis AM. The responsibilities of the Editor in Chief are to:

- Advise the Head of School on the appointment of the *AILJ Editorial Committee*;
- Provide academic supervision of the members of the *AILJ Editorial Committee* and to be available for consultation and advice;
- Decide who is to referee articles submitted for publication to the *AILJ*;
- Decide whether articles, case notes and book reviews are to be accepted for publication, or rejected;
- Approve the cases and books to be noted or reviewed by *AILJ Editorial Committee* members;
- Provide assistance to *AILJ Editorial Committee* members on how to improve draft notes and reviews in order to improve the likelihood of acceptance for publication; and
- Assess *AILJ Editorial Committee* members on a pass/fail basis in the LAWS5181 *Law Journals* course.

The Editor in Chief will serve as course coordinator of LAWS5181 *Law Journals*.

---

<sup>1</sup> There is scope for the committee to expand in size where the number of submissions require. In the past this has involved suitably qualified Law School graduates joining the committee and serving as volunteers. Academic credit is limited to five students.

### **3. The *AILJ* Editorial Committee**

#### **(a) Selection**

Each year, the Editor in Chief will invite students to apply to be student editors of the *AILJ* on the basis of the following:

- (i) Expressions of interest;
- (ii) GPA in law and international law related courses;
- (iii) Result achieved in *LAWS3705 Public International Law* or equivalent course;
- (iv) Demonstrated ability in writing, research and editing; and
- (v) Demonstrated interest in publishing.

If a student has also successfully completed *LAWS5153 Private International Law* then this will also be taken into consideration. Applying these criteria, the Editor in Chief will select five students to serve as the *AILJ Editorial Committee* for second semester, and will then recommend to the Head of School to permit them to enrol in *LAWS5181 Law Journals*.

#### **(b) Organisation**

The student editors will be members of the *AILJ Editorial Committee*. The Editor in Chief and the members of the *AILJ Editorial Committee* will ordinarily meet in week 1 of second semester (in all likelihood using Zoom). Subsequent meetings will be held as and when required.

#### **(c) Resources**

*AILJ Editorial Committee* members will be expected to use their own laptop or desktop computers. *AILJ Editorial Committee* members will be given access to the relevant Dropbox folder(s) which will be established for the relevant issue(s) of the *AILJ*. Printing facilities will not be provided by the Law School.

#### **(d) Responsibilities**

The primary responsibility of members of the *AILJ Editorial Committee* is to work under the direction and guidance of the Editor in Chief. This will largely entail responsibilities in three broad categories: (i) research and writing; (ii) general editing responsibilities; and (iii) individual editing responsibilities.

##### **(i) Research and Writing**

Each student editor shall be required to:

- Write and submit, for potential publication in the *AILJ*, a note on a recent judicial or arbitral decision involving issues of public or private international law that has implications beyond the decision in the case itself; or
- Write and submit, for potential publication in the *AILJ*, a review of a recently published international legal book.

The cases and the books must be approved by the Editor in Chief before the case notes and book reviews are written. The case notes and the book reviews should each be 1500-2000 words.

The case note or book review will count towards each student editor's pass/fail grade for *LAWS5181 Law Journals*. These are also to be directed towards and submitted for potential publication in the *AILJ*. The decision as to publication rests with the Editor in Chief and publication is not guaranteed.

However, to improve the likelihood that the work will be published in the *AILJ*, student editors are encouraged to discuss drafts of the notes or reviews with the Editor in Chief who will provide comment and advice on how to improve the work.

### **(ii) General Editing Responsibilities**

These are threefold, involving *reports*, *editing* and *final proofing*.

- *Reports* - Each student editor shall be required to write a report of approximately 500 words on a maximum of three (3) articles submitted for publication in the *AILJ*, depending on the number of submissions in the relevant year.
- *Editing* - Each student editor shall be responsible for the editing of a maximum of three (3) articles accepted for publication by the Editor in Chief, depending again on the number accepted in the relevant year. The editing involves the formatting of the article, proof-reading, checking all quotations and references for accuracy, and advising where necessary regarding changes to substance or style.
- *Final proofing* - For each article that a student editor has edited, they shall also be required to check the final proofs provided by the printer of the *AILJ* for accuracy, and to advise where corrections are necessary.

### **(iii) Individual Editing Responsibilities**

Student editors are responsible for the administration of the review process of papers submitted for publication as **articles**. This responsibility includes liaising with the Editor in Chief in relation to the selection of referees, providing the Editor in Chief with student editors' reports, requesting assessment of articles from referees, and reminding referees to provide reports when there is delay. Student editors are also responsible for the final formatting of all articles accepted for publication, to have them ready for transmission to the printer of the *AILJ* by a specified date in November (as determined by the Editor in Chief – a date *after* November may be specified where delays occur in the editorial process), and to check proofs for accuracy (including through the distribution of proofs to authors for final checking), and to advise where corrections are necessary.

Student editors are also responsible for the final formatting of all **case notes** and **book reviews** accepted for publication, to have them ready for transmission to the printer of the *AILJ* by a specified date in November (as determined by the Editor in Chief – a date *after* November may be specified where delays occur in the editorial process), and to check proofs for accuracy (including through the distribution of proofs to authors for final checking), and to advise where corrections are necessary.

## **3. Assessment**

Pass/fail grades will be awarded based on performance in three areas:

- (a) Editing of articles, book reviews and case notes;
- (b) Quality of the final submitted version of case note or book review; and
- (c) Quality of reports.

LAWS5181 *Law Journals* will be graded on a Pass ('P') or Fail ('F') basis. ***It will be necessary to obtain a 'P' for each area of assessment before a 'P' will be awarded in the course as a whole.***

**Application Form – LAWS5181 - Student Editorship - Australian International Law Journal**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

The following information will enable the Editor in Chief to decide whether a student is to be offered a place in LAWS5181 *Law Journals*. Not all matters listed will necessarily have equal weight in making a decision, as it is important that the *AILJ Editorial Committee* comprises student editors who possess a range of different skills.

**1. Other Degree(s) (if any) and Institution(s)**

\_\_\_\_\_

**2. LLB Courses and Results**

<u>Public International Law</u>		<u>Private International Law</u>	
Course name	Grade	Course name	Grade
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

**3. Grade Point Average in LLB** \_\_\_\_\_

**4. If there is any other information you consider relevant to the Editor in Chief's decision on your application, please attach an appropriate statement of no more than one A4 page.**

Please check that you have addressed all of questions 1 to 4 that are applicable to you.  
The application should be emailed to:

**Professor Anthony Cassimatis AM**  
[a.cassimatis@law.uq.edu.au](mailto:a.cassimatis@law.uq.edu.au)

Your application should be emailed to Professor Cassimatis by midnight on **Friday 5 July 2024**.