

## Policy

### Valedictorian: Selection Process and Criteria

1. The Valedictorian of the TC Beirne School of Law (**Law School**) is a student who has received excellent academic results and has contributed to the Law School.
2. The Valedictorian is chosen from the graduating class.
3. Two Valedictorians are therefore selected each year, one at the end of each semester.
4. The Valedictorian's name is recorded on the plaque in the Law Library.

### Eligibility criteria

1. In order to be eligible for nomination a student must have:
  - a. Completed (or be eligible to graduate from) the LLB or LLB(Hons);
  - b. Have above-average academic records (ie cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) of at least 6.0 in LAWS courses)
  - c. Demonstration of other significant contributions to the University and/or their discipline of study
    - contribution to the TC Beirne School of Law and/or The University of Queensland
    - participation in extracurricular activities
    - volunteering and/or work experience
    - Demonstration of achievement despite adversity during their degree (e.g. illness, family commitments, social circumstances) or combining other pursuits whilst completing the program
    - Demonstration of long term career goals and how their program will assist them to achieve those goals

## **Nomination process**

2. Students self-nominate (using the BEL StudentHub nomination form - link is provided in the email). Student peers or academic staff may suggest to a student that they should be nominated (or encourage them), but the student must self-nominate.
3. Students must include a written statement (no more than 500 words) addressing the specified criteria.
4. Students must submit their applications via the StudentHub before the deadline (generally 2-3 weeks after the email requesting nominations is sent).

## **Selection process**

5. Students are required to meet specified criteria and are then considered by a panel consisting of the Dean, the President of the UQLS and the Manager of Student Administration
6. The Law School will validate information provided by the student in their application submission. If further information is required by the school as part of the shortlisting process, they may contact individual students to request this.
7. In determining whether the applicant has made a contribution to the Law School the following may be considered:
  - a. Awards received including Deans Commendations, scholarships and other prizes;
  - b. Participation in mooting, negotiation or other legal competitions organised by the UQLS or any other body;
  - c. Holding a position on the UQLS executive, or one of its subcommittees; the Justice and the Law Society (JATL) executive; the Australian Legal

Philosophy Students Association executive (ALPSA); or the executive of the University of Queensland International Law Society (UQILS);

- d.** Volunteer work through the UQ Pro Bono Centre or any other organisation/facilitator;
  - e.** Undertaking an internship or work experience in the legal sphere;
  - f.** Involvement in any other initiative of the Law School or the UQLS; and
  - g.** Involvement in any other activities that have allowed the student to apply their theoretical knowledge of the law to practical situations.
8. The future plans of the applicant may also be considered.