

OBITER GRADED

Welcome dear readers to yet another new feature, that we hope will become a regular feature in Obiter moving forward. Unlike the UC Law Lecturers Draft, however, we won't be going head to head. Rather, we will be teaming up to bring you Obiter's newest feature – Obiter Graded.

Together we will be looking back on the various publications produced by our many predecessors and assigning them with a grade based on a combination of a) how far we managed to throw them down the stairs at Oliver's flat, b) how well we know the editors personally, and c) whether, by Obiter's lofty standards, their issues were actually good, or not. If you think this is a risky concept, then you'd probably be right. But without risk, there is no reward.

So how does Obiter Graded work, we hear you ask? Well, we pick a set of former editors, then we critique each of their publications, and assign each issue with a star rating, before giving their collective works an overall letter grade.

First to be graded on our list of editors (victims) are our immediate predecessors – Brayden Cottom and Jeremy Wright. They produced three publications during their tenure – Issue Three 2021: Exam SZN, Issue One 2022: Crash Course, and Issue Two 2022: Out of Iso. Were they the Wright men for the job? Let's find out.

Issue Three 2021

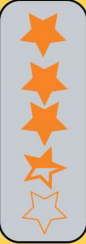
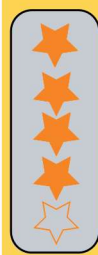
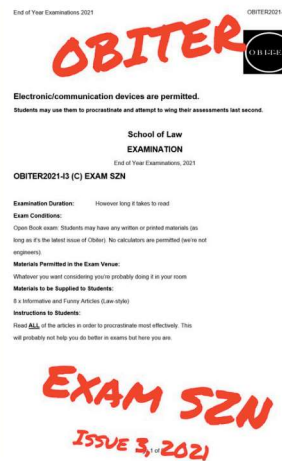
As their first issue as Obiter Co-Editors, the former headboys of Papanui and Shirley Boys respectively, produced *Exam Szn*. Sure, half the articles were sports-related, but sometimes sticking to what you know pays off. And it certainly did here. As LAWSOC's sports guy(s), they wrote playful articles on the LAWSOC Social Basketball Team (making its return in 2023 – watch this space!) and chucklesome reports on classics like the LAWSOC v ENSOC Rugby Match and Law(n) Bowls, while also introducing a new feature called Have You Heard Of...

In typical Obiter fashion they also tried to squeeze an article out of the age old question – what is law? It's actually much better than you think. Did you know that Brayden plays the trumpet? Well, in case you didn't, he's mentioned it again here. While Jeremy provided a rundown on his Tea Party pres experience. Fun fact: Jeremy is now on the UCSA exec, and gets to go to Tea Party for free – lucky bastard. Their final article, in what can best be described as a last ditch effort to remind you this issue was actually on Exam Szn, was on Exam Don'ts.

Overall, this was a pretty strong first issue. It is probably worth mentioning that their cover, despite being for an online publication, was very clever and looked quite good.

Rating: 4 stars out of 5

Standout quote: "get that up ya ENSOC ya bloody dogs."



Issue One 2022

In their second issue as Obiter Co-Editors, the boys produced *Crash Course*. Before we get into the grading, we must first address the elephant in the room – Clubs Day. As we understand it, Obiter (the magazine itself, not the editors) actually went down to Dunners for Flo week, and unfortunately contracted covid, and thus was forced to isolate for the first week of Uni.

This issue had all the usual trimmings to an Obiter Clubs Day edition. A warm Dean's address from Ursula Cheer, a chipper President's address from Jack Holloway, a feature on the various other clubs on campus, and marginal Exec Bios, complete with some wounding photos. This issue was bulked out by a smorgasbord of articles in the general column. Toddlers – oddly compelling (pause). Summer Internships – fascinating and informative. Hot Person Summer – perfect, perfect, perfect. Heather Couch Appreciation – short and sweet, and the all important Have You Heard Of... was the cherry on top.

Overall, this issue wasn't bad at all. If we're picking holes, the cover was a little simple, and by being 20 pages instead of the typical 24 pages, it was on the shorter end of the spectrum. But, as the saying goes – size doesn't matter: it's how you use it. And these 20 pages were used well.

Rating: 3.5 stars out of 5

Standout quote: "Holloway attended Lincoln before beginning law, and thus has extensive expertise in using other people's libraries, R.M Williams apparel and the internal anatomy of sheep."

Issue Two 2022

With their final issue as Obiter Co-Editors, these two produced *Out of Iso*. This issue tested positive for being a more than decent publication of UC Law's favourite (albeit only) magazine. With an assortment of articles recapping some of LAWSOC's biggest and best events from the first term, as well as the customary Obiter high jinks in the general column, including a new feature or two. This issue was not only Out of Iso, but out of this world.

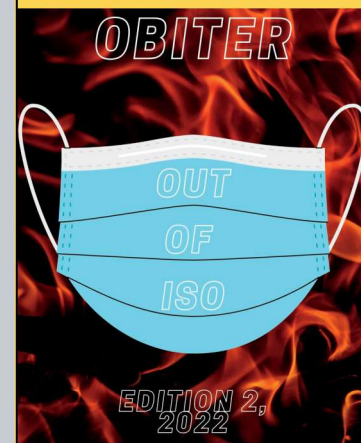
This issue can be split into two parts: 1) 'serious' column and 2) general column.

- 1) Law Camp – a fun weekend for those who stayed longer than four hours. Cocktail Night – a huge success given the circumstances, and Ben Jenkins on Law Revue – a story as old as time.
- 2) We learned that some of you (idiots) passionately hate LAWSOC. We learned that being a MacBook user in lectures is like ordering a sweet and sour pork at a BYO. We learned that Jeremy wasn't lying when he told us he was an incredible writer, and we learned that Brayden HAS heard of curling.

Overall, this issue was solid, but didn't quite live up to the high standards set by their first two issues. The cover seemed to be a metaphor for the issue itself, in that the fire was hidden behind a mask.

Rating: 3 stars out of 5

Standout quote: "The optimism in the air was palpable as everyone got to meet their teammates instead of just stalking them on Facebook."



Letter Grade: B 70% – just enough to get into second year.

The role of an Obiter Co-Editor isn't an easy one. It can be a punishing job that sometimes doesn't get the recognition it deserves. So we can't knock Jez and Bravdz too much for their efforts last year. In fact, it's quite the opposite. They have been huge supporters of us behind the scenes, and perhaps the