

# The Pettifogger



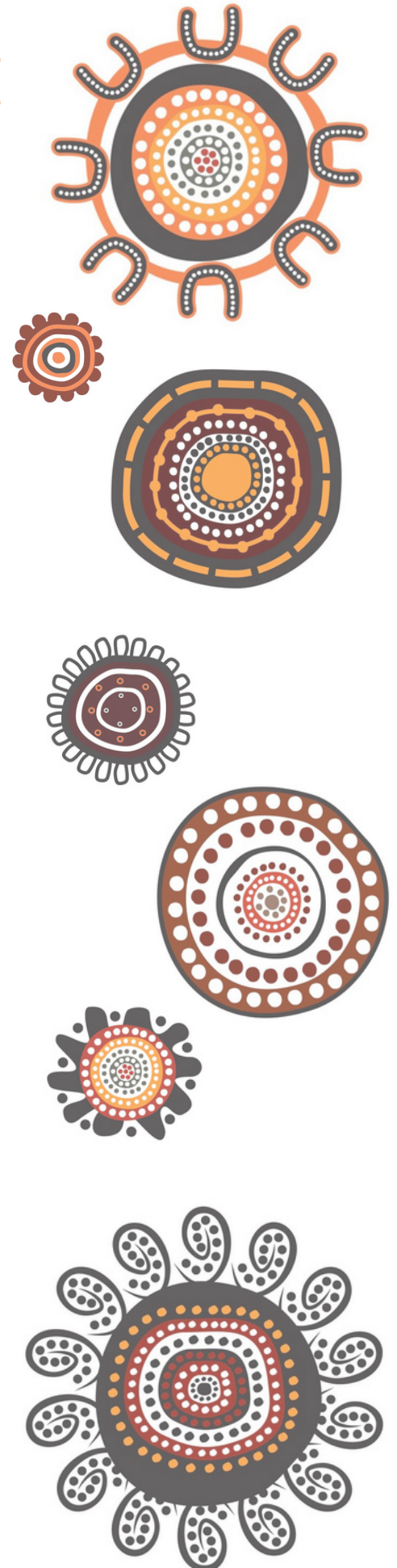
## The Third Edition



A publication of  
TULS, 2022

# Acknowledgement of Country

The Tasmania University Law Society (TULS) acknowledges the traditional owners of the lands and seas that we study, work and live on, the Palawa people of Iutruwita/Tasmania. We acknowledge and respect the contributions First Nations people have made to Australian law throughout history, and pay our respects to elders, past, present and emerging.



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# Your Career Co- Pilot, The Importance of Mentoring



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**“Our chief want in life is somebody who will make us do what we can.” – Ralph Waldo Emerson**

When it comes to starting your career, a mentor is there to act as a guide, or co-pilot, as you venture out into the ‘real world’. They have walked the path before you, and understand the hazards, the opportunities, the challenges and the rewards that await. They can impart their knowledge and wisdom to empower you as you become the whole lawyer. But what is a mentor? And why is the mentoring experience so imperative as you begin your legal career?

A mentor is a trusted advisor who guides you in your career and professional life. You can think of them as your ‘career co-pilot’. Like Mr Miyagi to the Karate Kid or Yoda to Luke Skywalker, they are an experienced hand who has been there before – ready to guide you along your own journey.

They can help you explore career options, set goals, develop contacts and identify resources. They act as a sounding board whenever you are faced with a sticky situation and provide insight into the industry with their experience.

At Leo Cussen, the importance of this trusted advisor is understood. Each graduate in our Practical Legal Training course is assigned an experienced lawyer mentor who is there to guide them as the transition from law school to the industry. The Leo Cussen GDLP program is structured around working closely with an experienced lawyer mentor while doing the work of a lawyer in a supportive environment.

And mentoring in our PLT program is critically important.

PLT marks the end of your education and the beginning of your legal career. Law school focuses on the academic and theoretical, while PLT offers the opportunity to learn the practical skills required for a career in law. That's why having an experienced lawyer as a mentor helps to kickstart your career.

Craig Collins, Senior Lawyer and Mentor at Leo Cussen, explains that mentoring is how lawyers learn in practice: "You won't be reading textbooks, but you will be tapping into the unwritten knowledge, experience, and wisdom of more senior colleagues. Great mentoring is a fast-track to achieving competence, confidence and even mastery as a lawyer." And these are the benefits that are there to be reaped – you get an insight into life as a legal professional, you have greater access to networks and contacts, they can guide you through 'sticky' situations and provide you with support and confidence.



Craig Collins,  
Senior Lawyer and Mentor at Leo  
Cussen

Julie Anderson, Lawyer and Mentor at Leo Cussen, understands the importance of being of a mentor to a law graduate: “It is such an asset to have a mentor, who is dedicated to guiding you and helping you find answers when you need them.” Julie works closely with our WA law grads and often stays in contact with them long after they have completed the course.

The mentors at Leo Cussen, like Craig Collins and Julie Anderson, are dedicated to supporting law graduates – they are your champions as you enter the legal industry. They want to give back to the next generation of lawyers coming through, helping impart their own learnings and acting as a sounding board. It’s a best practice introduction to the industry, as they offer insights to help graduates find their career pathway post-law school.



Julie Anderson,  
Lawyer and Mentor at Leo Cussen

# TAKE CHARGE OF YOUR CAREER PATH

King & Wood Mallesons and Forage are giving you a genuine insight into the role of a corporate lawyer through our virtual experience program. Gain experience, whilst honing your skills and responding to real-life legal scenarios.

In this truly international program, you will receive instructions from Partners and lawyers from the firm itself. While you test your understanding of law across various countries, you will build real skills and confidence that will allow you to explore the world of commercial law. We have two programs you can choose from - all whilst enjoying the flexibility and convenience of completing the tasks whenever and wherever you like.



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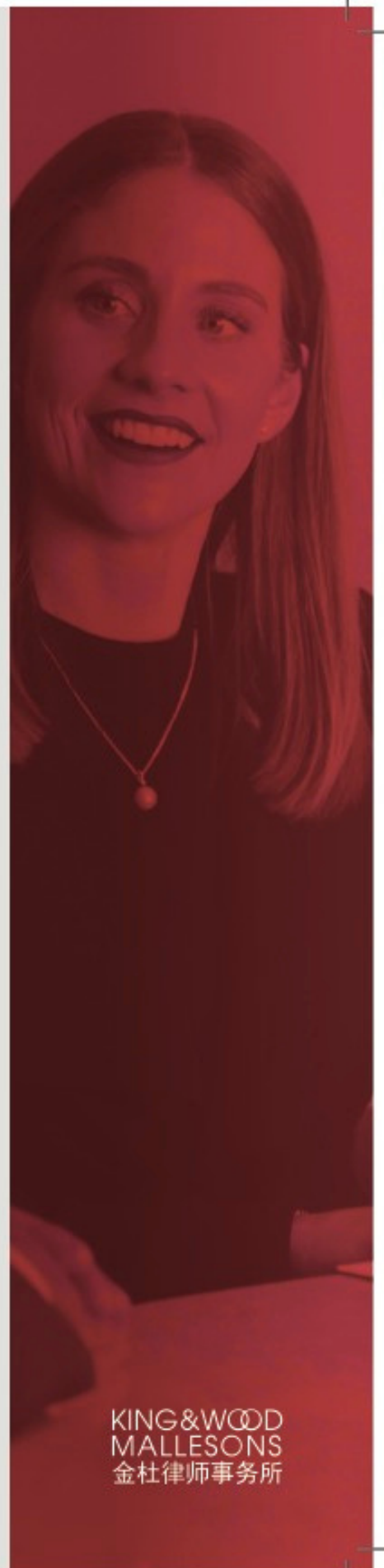
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# TULS Sports

This year's sports has been extremely successful so far and there are many things coming up you should keep an eye out for!



There are 25+ registered players across Futsal, Netball and Basketball in the weekly campus sports which is a fantastic turn out! It's been a mixed bag of results... It's tough but the teams are showing real progress, and the vibe across all sporting nights is at an all-time high.

In basketball we have outstanding performances from Ava Drew and Liam Devlin on the courts. In netball, Lizzie Arnold and Miles Kahles with a special mention for Kevin Toman receiving a dissent warning by the umpire, Justice Kirby would be proud. Jesse James and Hannah Lawrence have been showing that they're people of many talents in futsal and we witnessed some of the best goal keeping ever seen by Scott Currie.

Dodgeball has already completed one interfaculty round and while it was a loss for the legal eagles, there was strong participation on the day across all year levels. Despite the loss many special shout outs must be given, the MVP of the night was Simon Stankovich as the last player on court on multiple occasions. Hannah Lawrence must also be mentioned again here as she not only managed to be last the one standing in the game against Engineering but she accomplished it in heeled boots, sport is no excuse for a lack of class!



A massive congratulations and special mention must be given also to Angus Calvert, our sports rep this year who has done an outstanding job at organising this year's sports and keeping everyone on their game. Good luck to everyone for the rest of the year, go Legal Eagles!



# Defining legal skills



**Admission  
to Practice**  
The College of Law

The most employable graduates are those who are able to demonstrate transferrable skills such as communication, teamwork, initiative, problem solving and career specific skills related to the law field such as legal research, drafting, advocacy, etc. In addition to these skills, you will need to show a positive attitude of energy, commitment and contribution and present yourself confidently.

Every employer is looking for a specific set of skills to perform the job. Your role is to convince them that you have the skills, knowledge and motivation to excel in the position. By identifying your skills, this will lay the foundation to preparing job applications, answering questions in an interview and networking with others in your field.

Skills are refined and developed over time in a number of settings including university, paid or voluntary work, extra curricular involvement (eg travel, interests, community activities) and life experiences.

Being a lawyer requires distinctly specialised skills that are learned primarily through legal education, then in practice itself. Certain skillsets are considered fundamental to admission to legal practice. You need to recognise which skills come from academia and which must be learned elsewhere.

## **What skills do employers look for?**

Legal skills can be broadly categorised as follows:

- Analytical and problem solving: establishing what is legally relevant requires considerable practice to sift through information and establish the legal relevance of issues. Also identifying clients' objectives and working out the best way to achieve them requires strategic thinking often gained through analysis of case law and practical legal work picked up whilst studying.
- Research: teaches graduates to locate and read cases, statutes and other legal materials with a view to helping apply the findings to legal problems.
- Verbal communication: law provides individuals with the ability to state a case with precision, distill and assimilate complex facts and information into an easy to understand summary and format. Other skills include active and empathic listening, asking the right questions and creating scenarios, formulating arguments, advising, interviewing and investigating.

- Advocacy/Negotiation/Persuasion: resolving an issue in a way that both parties find acceptable, trying to persuade the other to agree with his/her point of view. In advance of the negotiation, learning as much as possible about the other person's position and what the strengths and weaknesses of that position are, being prepared to defend and counter the arguments the other party will likely make.
- Written Communication: writing precisely for a specific audience and context, the need for clear and succinct as well as informative and engaging writing. Writing takes many forms including notes on a case file, letters and memos, legal pleadings, court documents and contracts, etc.
- Time management: the ability to juggle conflicting priorities and workload in fast paced and pressured environments.
- Client management: clients will vary and graduates will need strong people management skills to manage the diverse needs and different ways clients will interact. Some clients will be extremely challenging and demanding due to their difficult circumstances.

## **How do you write about your skills?**

One of the most difficult parts of writing a job application and attending an interview is being able to promote your skills and describe them confidently. You must also show where you used your skills so you can convince the employer that you have the skills they are looking for.

Employers highly value the work and skills that you develop through legal experience, but also other areas such as retail, sales, customer service, voluntary work. These skills and experiences should be added to your portfolio in addition to the skills from your course work.

In a skills based cv, rather than just listing your skills, you will need to back them up with evidence to support each skill. Avoid generalised statements. Show how you have actually used those skills by using examples from your work experience, studies or extra-curricular activities. Create a 1-2 line statement that focuses on the key actions you took. Begin sentences with strong action words and show where you have gained your skills. For example,

- strong influencing and persuasion skills acquired through sales and retail employment involving face to face interaction with customers.
- well-developed client liaison skills demonstrated when volunteering for the X Community Legal Centre, acting as first-point-of contact and conducting preparatory interviews.
- advanced research skills evidenced by honours dissertation which required accessing, contextualising and critically examining information from a range of primary and secondary sources.

# ALSA Recap



On Thursday, 7 June, UTAS competitors travelled to Brisbane to represent the law faculty at the 2022 Australian Law Students' Association ('ALSA') Conference Competitions. The delegation competed in a range of competitions, including:

- Negotiations – Marcus Tong and Nitesh Pillay;
- Client Interview – Ailis Fraser and Paul Bobenhausen;
- The ALSA Championship Moot – Mia Grant, Scott Currie, and Amie Myjowycz; and
- The International Humanitarian Law Moot – Miles Kahles, William Heddle, and Sydney Lee.

Despite the high quality of other universities' delegations, the teams achieved great success with the Negotiations Team finishing as semi-finalists and the Championship Moot as quarterfinalists! The competitions were a practical and fun opportunity for students to challenge and develop a variety of skill in front of legal professionals and students, whilst networking with law students from all across Australia. Overall, 'it was such a fun experience!' – Mia Grant, 3rd year.

Speaking on the event, Marcus Tong, 5th year said it was 'an experience that everyone should try out for as it takes the learning of the law outside of the classroom... which is stimulating, intense, and realistic.' William Heddle, 2nd year, added 'ALSA 2022 was an amazing experience to practice oral advocacy as to practice oral advocacy as well as expand your knowledge in new areas of law! It was overall a very rewarding experience!'

A particularly special congratulations to our TULS President, Fletcher Clarke, who was awarded the Grace Tame Award for Outstanding Advocacy! Well done to all competitors and UTAS delegates!



getting to know:

# Tamara Wood



Star sign?

Scorpio

Spirit Animal?

A chook



How long have you worked at UTAS for?

Tamara has worked at UTAS for a total of three years. She worked at UTAS on some shorter contracts teaching constitutional law in 2019 and 2020. She then finally returned this semester in 2022 and is here to stay.

Have you always lived in Tasmania?

Tamara has not always lived in Tasmania. She completed her PhD in Sydney and then spent some time in Melbourne before moving here. She is very excited to be here as she loves Tasmania. Her family's relocation here was a welcome change for her, a stark contrast from the high-rise city life of Melbourne or Sydney. She remarked that Tassie is the best of both worlds, combining the benefits of a capital city, such as a vibrant cultural life and its associated opportunities while avoiding the congestion and lack of nature that is customary of other capital cities.

## What do you enjoy doing outside of your work?

She mostly spends time outside of work raising her young children; one being six years old, and the other nine years old. She remarked that this involves a lot of time at the beach, the park or sitting in cafes ordering babycinos. She loves visiting kunanyi / Mount Wellington and the Blackman's Bay Beach, as she lives close by.

## Proudest moment of your career thus far?

Tamara was unable to choose between two moments. The first being a part of a team that has been drafting a regional framework for climate mobility for governments in the Pacific. Drawing on her research and experience, she has been part of a team drafting a framework that is designed to protect those displaced by climate change. She has found the experience extremely rewarding, especially with the ability for her to see her work having an impact in practice. Her second moment was when she provided refugee law training to 200 judges in Cape Town, South Africa. She explored with them how to apply the criteria for refugee protection in African regional refugee law, using her academic expertise. She said this was a surreal experience.

## Is there anything you are excited to implement at UTAS?

Tamara is most excited to implement opportunities for students to engage in refugee law throughout their UTAS studies. She also does not want it to just stop there, citing her wish to connect students with practical real-world institutions, such as the UN Refugee Agency or the Tasmanian Refugee Legal Service. She remarked that for this area of work, often the most motivating aspect of studying and working in this area, in social justice, is the tangible impacts on people's lives, and she wants students to have the opportunity to experience this.

## If you could give one piece of advice to every new law student, what would it be?

*'Remember that you need to leave law school with a lawyer's brain. You don't need to start with it'*

Tamara remarked that doing a law degree is like getting your brain rewired, and it is not necessarily intuitive. She thinks anyone can do it, but they just need to put the work in. She believes the world needs more diverse lawyers and more kind lawyers. It doesn't need more 'smart' lawyers.

## What is your particular area of interest in law?

Tamara's legal interest areas are in refugee protection and addressing displacement in the context of climate change. She began her career with an interest in refugee law, focusing on the regional refugee law in Africa. She chose this area because of the potential progress she saw could be made, as Africa was, and is, more open to change than countries like Australia. She then began looking at how the law can address climate change and associated displacement, as refugee law does not directly address this concurrent issue.

She previously worked in the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre in Melbourne, including while she was studying. She took a refugee law class at the University of Melbourne with Michelle Foster, a leading academic in this field, and was hooked. She wanted to do what Foster did in an academic capacity and drew inspiration from her achievements and knowledge. She then did her PhD with Jane McAdam, another seminal, world leading scholar in climate change and displacement. She has recently been working with Cathryn Costello, yet another eminent scholar. All three of these women were the editors of the 2021 textbook 'The Oxford Handbook of International Refugee Law', which sheds some light on their wide academic reach. Tamara expressed her pleasure and gratitude in being mentored by such amazing women in this area, and reflected that in her experience, refugee law is a field that is very willing to support and encourage junior researchers in their interests.







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Kicking up at storm in Cargo was the second-year event in week 5 of this semester. With a great turn out the bar tab somehow managed to be used completely, with ginger beer and solo being amply consumed. It was a great way for students to get to know a little more of their cohort and discuss how incredibly well we're all doing in Private Law. With a growing turn out year after year it was great to meet so many wonderful students off campus, and a special shout goes to students who came to their first TULS event in their time at UTAS. I'd like to thank TULS for their encouragement and help with the planning of the event and to everyone who came, it was such a great night!

# Second Year Drinks





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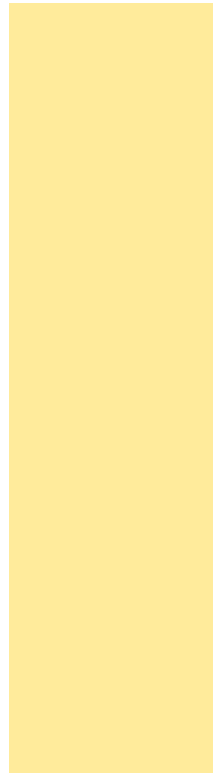
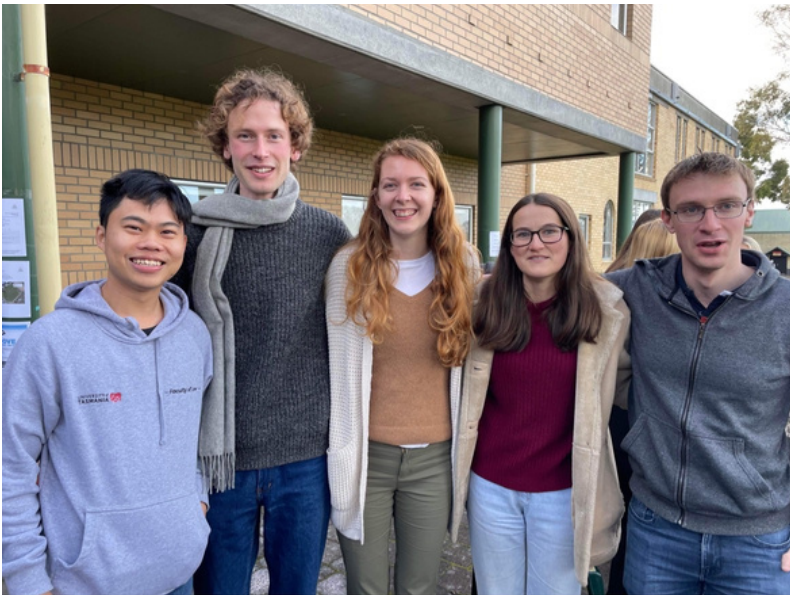
To welcome back the Law School for a fresh semester of academic rigour and general shenanigans, TULS hosted the WELCOME BACK BBQ. Held on Friday, 29 July in the Law School Courtyard, it was a 'great time to come together to both recognise the efforts of last semester and to mark the start of a more positive one' (Fletcher Clarke, 5th year).

Reflecting on the event, Marisa Gillam (4th year) noted 'it was a great day, we love playing a bit of Jenga, and being welcomed by our interim Dean, Gino.' Especially when the feature sausages cooked 'to perfection' (Maddy Kellow, 5th year) and special guest the Honourable Kate Warner. Gino's decision to welcome everyone from the top of a picnic table certainly ensured a fun and inspirational start to the semester. According to Megwyn Mosenthal, 5th year, it 'was the highlight.'

# Welcome Back BBQ

Overall, the BBQ 'was a great afternoon of music, food, and community' (Marisa Gillam, 4th year).







# 2022 Trainee Perspective

Moving home from Queensland at the start of 2022, I knew ultimately, I wanted to practice in Hobart prompting me to explore the Tasmanian Legal Practice Course (TLPC). I can honestly say sitting here at the end of week 11 it's the best decision I made. The practical nature of the course with regular court appearances quickly firmed up for me that my future was going to be in Criminal Law.

The local profession including Supreme Court Judges and Magistrates have quickly welcomed all of us as future practitioners. The TLPC team have been incredibly supportive and there doesn't seem to be any such thing as asking too many questions! I've really enjoyed meeting current practitioners from the greater Hobart region who make themselves available and are only too happy to help. I have great peers that have quickly welcomed me as a 'mainlander' and the ongoing exercises have been a great way to get to know many members of the group.

I was definitely nervous coming from an interstate university undertaking PLT in Tasmania at a brand-new university. Now I'm busy telling my peers in Queensland to move to Tasmania for six months to undertake PLT!! If I had undertaken PLT in Queensland it would have been entirely online with a four-week placement. The TLPC is in person three days a week, includes a three-week placement and is jam packed with legal experts and weekly opportunities. It is without a doubt a worthwhile investment. The Tasmanian Legal Practice Course really does set the standard nationally.....and no I'm not on commission for my review! Lol

Kalana Norton,  
QUT Law Graduate

# STAY TRUE.

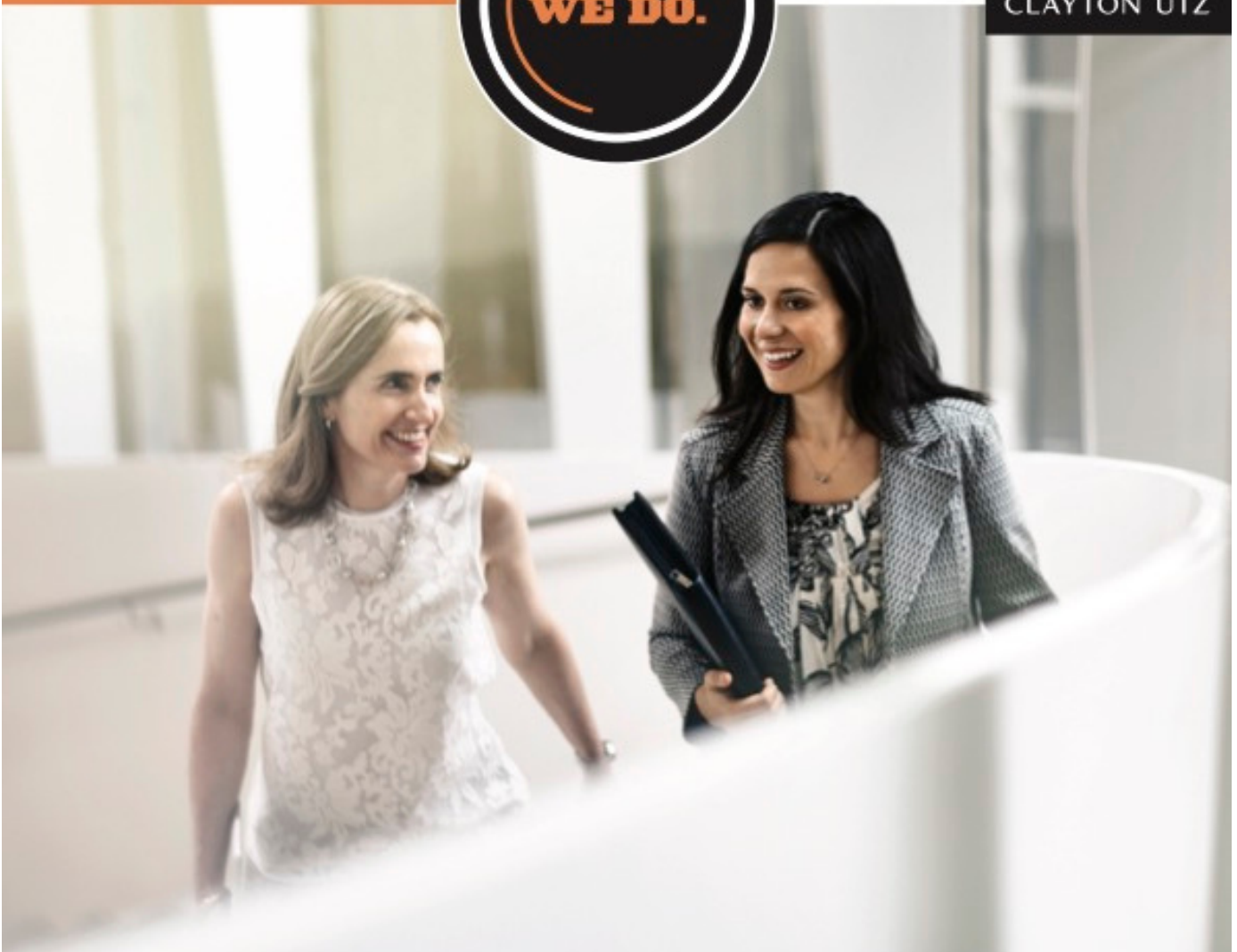
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# Arnold Bloch Leibler

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Two handwritten signatures in black ink, one above the other, appearing to be 'John' and 'Gloria'.