**2024 JOHN NETHERCOTE PRIZE IN AUSTRALIAN CONSTITUTIONAL LAW**

**ESSAY COMPETITION RULES**

1. The competition is open to:
   1. all Australian residents aged 35 years of age and under; and
   2. all students enrolled in an undergraduate degree course at an Australian university.
2. The competition prize shall consist of:
   1. One return economy airfare from anywhere in Australia to the 2023 SGS Conference in Melbourne (“**Conference**”);
   2. One complimentary registration to the Conference;
   3. $500 cash;
   4. Presentation of a certificate at the Conference;
   5. One-year fully paid membership for SGS.
3. Eligibility shall be determined by the SGS Essay Competition Sub-Committee (Eddy Gisonda, Robyn Sweet, Xavier Boffa and Natalie Litsas) (**the Committee**) whose decision shall be final and conclusive.
4. Entry to the competition is by submission of an essay on the following topic: *“Should Australia adopt a Commonwealth Bill of Rights?”*
5. The essay shall;
   1. Address the nominated topic;
   2. Comprise no more than 1,500 words (excluding footnotes and headings);
   3. Properly referenced, AGLC format is preferred;
   4. Be in an electronic form as a Word document (.doc or .docx);
   5. With text in Times New Roman and size 12 font, 1.5 line spacing;
   6. Be submitted to contact@samuelgriffith.org.au
6. The essay shall include a cover page;
   1. Full name;
   2. Institution;
   3. Contact details;
   4. Essay title, word count.
7. The essay must be an original piece of work and free of any plagiarism.
8. Any person who submits an essay that is adjudged by the Committee to be in breach of rule 7 will be disqualified.
9. The closing date for the submission of the essay is 01 April 2024 unless otherwise determined by the Committee.
10. The judging panel (**Panel**) is to be comprised of up to three members as selected by the Committee.
11. Following the closing date, all essays submitted shall be forwarded for consideration by the Committee (or a delegate or delegates of the Committee).
12. No later than 01 May 2024, the Committee shall select no more than 4 essays that it adjudges on merit, in its absolute discretion, to be the best essays submitted addressed to the nominated topic (**Finalists**).
13. The Panel shall, in its absolute discretion, select the competition winner from the Finalists in accordance with any further rules supplied by the Committee.
14. The winning finalist shall be chosen on merit.
15. The winner, as chosen by the Panel, is eligible to receive the prize upon ratification by the Committee.
16. It shall be a condition of receiving the Prize that the winning entrant agrees that he or she will attend the Conference.
17. The winning entrant will be invited to provide a short presentation to the Conference on his or her entry. The winning entrant may accept or decline that invitation.
18. The Committee reserves the right to:
    1. decline to award any or all prizes in the event of a failure of entries to reach an appropriate standard;
    2. vary the rules of this competition in its absolute discretion at any time.
19. No correspondence shall be entered into by the Committee in respect of the application of any of the rules hereto.
20. The Samuel Griffith Society will be granted rights to publish the winning essay on its website and social media. The winner of the Prize must agree that if it is published through any other avenue of publication, that publication will be accompanied by an acknowledgement that the essay was the Prize winning essay in The Samuel Griffith Society Essay Competition in the relevant year.