

**International Student Representative
for the Melbourne University Law Student Society**

Carlos Cohen-Leon

Running for International Student Representative is the most natural option, and fit for a person of my background. I have lived in three countries, including Australia; and understand the difficulties that sometimes arise in efforts to fit in, and be part of a community when you are on the outside looking in. It is imperative to ensure that the international student community, which has a commanding presence at Melbourne Law School has an environment that can grant them every possibility of integrally developing their personal, academic, and professional skills and prospects. It is important, as well, to enable them to feel, and be reassured that they are members of a very special, and unique group of students; and that they belong.

The current International Student Representative has carried out magnificent work, and I have had the opportunity to be a part of some of the events, and programs that have been developed for International Students, such as the ELLIS (Experiential Learning for Law International Students) Program. The main focus of my role will be to continue building, and developing what has been established. Programs such as ELLIS have become fundamental for International Students in obtaining work experience, and ensuring that it becomes a regular part of the curriculum is important.

I come from a large family. The Law School cohort is an extended family, and one works hard for family. Family always comes first.