

Name: Puspa Luitel

Year(s) of Graduation and Degree(s) JD (2016)

Statement of interest answering/addressing the following:

What is your vision for VLS in the next five years?

I would love to see Vermont Law School with the mission of *law for the community and the world*, explore partnership opportunities with some law colleges/universities from Nepal and Bhutan. I would also love to see more diversity at VLS, as we all know diversity is our strength. In the next five years, I foresee VLS graduates not only advocating for environmental issues, but also business, immigration and humanitarian issues both at national and international level.

What skills do you bring to the VLSAA to accomplish these priorities?

It will be a great honor for me to be part of the board. And as an immigrant myself, I will bring the best from both the worlds (professionally and personally).

How would you galvanize the energy and enthusiasm of alumni to increase participation in VLS events and giving?

I will reach out to alumni individually for the best time to get involved in all events and giving depending on their geographic location.

List and describe your alumni service: I am actively looking for the opportunity to get involved more and more (am a graduate of 2016).

List your activities as a VLS student.

International law society – member/participated in all events

Black law student association – member/participated in all events

Business law society – member/participated in all events

Criminal law society – member/participated in all events

Student Bar Association – attended several meetings and participated whenever appropriate.

LALSA: member/participated in all activities

List any appropriate professional and community activity and please describe how that experience would serve you as a Board member.

I have been in the leadership role as president of a non-profit community organization in Vermont since 2012. I have organized community meetings, wrote grant proposals, and completed all paperwork required to register the organization as a Vermont nonprofit as well as applied for 501(c) (3) status. Similarly, I have served as a planning commission member of my town until recently and also attended state convention as a delegate from my town. Likewise, I served as a strategic planning committee member at a school district and represented the New American communities during the search for a new high school principal. I have also participated as a panelist regarding refugee resettlement in Vermont, and received appreciation award from the City of Winooski, Vermont, in recognition of my outstanding service to the immigrant communities. And I am a Refugee Congress Delegate from Vermont since 2013 and have been serving on the Mayor Miro Weinberger's (Burlington, Vermont) Brother Keeper's project since 2016.

Having reviewed the [standing committees](#) on the VLSAA Board, which committee(s) would you choose to serve on and why?

I would prefer to serve on the nominating committee, because as a selection committee member, I have reviewed many applications for superintendent and principal's positions as well as for the director's position in the past and also interviewed selected candidates for such positions.

Discuss whether you have the resources and ability to make the Board a priority over the next three years. Board responsibilities include quarterly in-person Board meetings, regular committee meetings and projects, alumni outreach and community initiatives, and providing thoughtful consultation to alumni and the law school.

I am forever grateful for the opportunity VLS provided me. Now, I want to give back to the community by becoming an at-large member, so that I might make difference in the lives of some people. And I am willing and available to make any time commitment to serve on this board.