Law Academic To Head New Statutory Board

Associate Professor Simon SC Tay of the NUS Law faculty was appointed to head the newly formed National Environment Agency, a government statutory body under the Ministry of the Environment. The NEA, formed from 1 July 2002, has over 3000 employees and is responsible for strategizing and implementing environmental policies and regulations for Singapore. This includes pollution control, public health, meteorological services and regional and international cooperation on environmental issues.

Prof Tay had previously served as a nominated Member of Parliament from 1997-2001. In 2001-02, he had also assisted the Ministry of the Environment as one of three focus group chairmen for public participation in the preparation of the Singapore Green Plan 2012.

Environmental law has been a particular focus of Prof Tay’s teaching and research in the Faculty. He pioneered the Faculty’s international environmental law course, as well as a course on trade and the environment. In addition, he has been a committee member of the Asia Pacific Centre for Environmental Law since its inception, and taught in the multi disciplinary Masters course in Environmental Management with his faculty colleagues. He has published on environmental law and policy in various international journals. Additionally, Prof Tay has served as an expert for the UN Environment Programme, the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and the China International Council on Environment and Development.