Law students to work on legal aid cases

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SINGAPORE - A new elective course will allow senior law students at the National University of Singapore (NUS) to work on actual cases.

A Memorandum of Understanding was signed yesterday by the NUS Faculty of Law and the Legal Aid Bureau, to facilitate the setting up of the clinical legal education programme (CLE). Under the programme, third and fourth year NUS law students will work with clinical instructors on cases involving clients from the Legal Aid Bureau (LAB).

Students will assist in everything from taking statements from clients to assisting in preparation for Court. They will also attend Court and see for themselves how their efforts pay off. Mr Tan Puay Boon, director of the Legal Aid Bureau, said he hopes the programme "inspires" the undergraduates to become "the pro bono lawyers of the future".

Law Faculty Dean Tan Cheng Han added: "Students see how the law operates in society and this deepens their understanding of the law and legal institutions. At the same time, CLE will help to inculcate values that the law school believes is important for our graduates to have."

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