Temasek Foundation’s Asian Legal Education Initiative headed by NUS Faculty of Law kicks off Phase II in Kuala Lumpur

NUS and UM join hands to boost legal education skills and capacities

Temasek Foundation (TF), the National University of Singapore (NUS) and the University of Malaya (UM) have embarked on an 8-month initiative that began on Monday, 12 April 2010, in Kuala Lumpur (KL) Malaysia, as the second phase of the TF’s Asian Legal Education Initiative which has a pledged total of $500,000 to help raise the level of law teaching in Asia.

This follows the inaugural roundtable session at the inaugural Asian Law Deans Forum that was launched in July 2009. As the next phase, this initiative is a series that is targeted to span the rest of 2010 and is slated to be held in KL and Singapore. It is organised by the NUS Faculty of Law and is focused on further collaboration with regional law schools that are committed to upgrading their institutional capacity in teaching policy and pedagogy over the next two years.

In partnership with UM, the series of workshops is the first such collaboration between TF, NUS Faculty of Law and UM Faculty of Law. Funding for the project will be provided equally by Temasek Foundation and partner institution, University of Malaya, the overall cost of the project is expected to be S$200,000.

Comprising a total of several week-long workshops, one study trip and personalised consultations for five select faculty members, the series will culminate in a re-visioning exercise to be held in November 2010 at UM, KL. Customised to be an on-going process of equipping UM faculty members with pedagogical techniques and strategies to raise the level of legal skills teaching, a team of three to four academics from the NUS Faculty of Law have been selected to provide a basic grounding in pedagogy for law teaching; an introduction of other skills in class design and assessment strategy; specialised legal skills teaching workshops; and one-on-one consultancies to help review, revise and re-invent existing modules at UM to better deliver student learning.