



## PRESS RELEASE

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### **NUS Law School partners Tsinghua University in degree programmes**

*Singapore, Friday, 30 December 2011* - The law schools of two leading universities in Asia, the National University of Singapore (NUS) and Tsinghua University, have announced their intention to establish new programmes enabling students to earn degrees from both institutions. The first of such collaborations with a Chinese university, NUS Faculty of Law signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Tsinghua University on 14 December 2011.

Professor Wang Zhenmin, Dean of the Tsinghua University's Law School remarked, "It is often said that the 21<sup>st</sup> century belongs to Asia. The realisation of this dream depends largely on how disputes are resolved and wars are averted. Many disputes among nations were resolved by soldiers. We hope that disputes in the 21<sup>st</sup> century could be peaceably resolved by lawyers and advocates."

Said Professor Tan Cheng Han, Dean of NUS Law School, "We are honoured to join hands with one of Asia's top law schools, and I see great benefit in this partnership. I am confident that it will yield significant fruit to widen and deepen the talent pool in Asia to serve the legal needs of a more complex region." Prof Tan will conclude a ten-year stint as Dean at the end of the month.

Professor Stephen Girvin, Vice-Dean of Research and International Programmes at NUS Law School said, "These important programmes add significantly to our suite of joint degree programmes with other leading law schools. These new programmes will allow NUS law students to obtain two law degrees, giving them the opportunity to broaden their legal education in a unique way. Such opportunities, particularly with a top Chinese law school, are especially important in the globalised world we live in."

Prof Wang added that Tsinghua is very glad to reach an understanding for a collaboration with NUS, and he believed that the partnership has profound implications for the legal profession and it will provide a platform for both universities to contribute to the continuing development of law and order, and peace.

#### Concurrent Degree Programme

The concurrent degree programme is based on a "3+1" model, with selected students from both law schools spending part of their course time at the partner institution and receiving an LLM (Master of Laws) degree. Each home institution will send five of its current LLB (Bachelor of Laws) candidates who have completed at least three years of study at their home institution to spend a minimum of one year at the other institution.

Admission will be based on interviews by both institutions, with fees set and assessment carried out by the institution in which students are actually studying for a given year. On completion of the programme, participants will receive an LLB degree from their home institution and an LLM degree from the partner institution.

Opportunities may also be available for the faculty of both law schools to teach at the partner institution.

### Graduate Programmes

The two law schools have also agreed to discuss cooperation at the graduate level, including a possible joint LLM degree.

Prof Girvin said that these programmes will provide participating students with not only excellent networking opportunities, but also tremendous exposure to Chinese legal practitioners, and deepen their understanding of Chinese law -- an integral consideration for doing business with Asia's most populous nation and largest economy.

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### **About National University of Singapore (NUS)**

A leading global university centred in Asia, the National University of Singapore (NUS) is Singapore's flagship university which offers a global approach to education and research, with a focus on Asian perspectives and expertise.

NUS has 16 faculties and schools across three campuses. Its transformative education includes a broad-based curriculum underscored by multi-disciplinary courses and cross-faculty enrichment. Over 36,000 students from 100 countries enrich the community with their diverse social and cultural perspectives.

NUS has three Research Centres of Excellence (RCE) and 21 university-level research institutes and centres. It is also a partner in Singapore's 5th RCE. NUS shares a close affiliation with 16 national-level research institutes and centres. Research activities are strategic and robust, and NUS is well-known for its research strengths in engineering, life sciences and biomedicine, social sciences and natural sciences. It also strives to create a supportive and innovative environment to promote creative enterprise within its community.

For more information, please visit [www.nus.edu.sg](http://www.nus.edu.sg)

### **About the NUS Law School**

NUS Law is Asia's Global Law School. Widely regarded as the region's leading law school, it nonetheless sees itself as part of a global conversation about the study and practice of law. Its diverse faculty includes 60 full-time academics together with many adjuncts and visitors; its 1,200 undergraduate and postgraduate students include some of Singapore's top school leavers as well as outstanding scholars from all over the globe.

In addition to its teaching programme, the faculty is a major source of research on legal issues affecting Singapore, the region and beyond. NUS Law produces the leading publication on Singapore law as well as the Asian Journal of Comparative Law and the Asian Journal of International Law. Faculty regularly publish in these and other leading journals, as well as producing their own monographs and engaging with the public through mass media.

The Law School's alumni are a who's who of Singapore's legal community. Graduates include leaders in the profession, government ministers, Supreme Court judges, ambassadors, community leaders, social workers and many more. Other alumni go on to careers that take them to the heights of the profession around the world.

For more information, please visit [www.law.nus.edu.sg](http://www.law.nus.edu.sg)