Research Associate/ Deputy Editor

The Centre for Asian Legal Studies (CALS) at the Faculty of Law, National University of Singapore, is inviting applications from suitable candidates for the above full-time position, which involves a contract of employment for two years from 1 January 2016. The position is a research position, in the field of Asian legal studies, relevant to our programmes and remit, and assistance generally with the work of the centre; it will also involve the performance of duties as Deputy Editor of the Asian Journal of Comparative Law.

For information about CALS please visit http://law.nus.edu.sg/cals/. For information about the Journal please visit http://journals.cambridge.org/action/displayJournal?jid=acl

The areas of legal study in which we are active or we seek to establish programmes are:

i) Legal reform in Myanmar, with special reference to constitutionalism, legal education/profession, economic law, and minorities.
ii) Socio-legal issues in SE Asia, with special reference to legal pluralism, law and religion, legal personality and status, social movements and legal activism, and legal professions.
iii) State capitalism in Asia.
iv) Law and society in urban Asia, with special reference to the interface of urban and legal systems, and heritage preservation.
v) Law and development in Asia’s emerging areas.
vi) Corporate law and governance in Asia.
vii) Asia and international law.

Appointments are not confined to these areas and strong applications in adjacent areas of Asian legal studies, including from country-experts, will be considered.

Duties

- Subject to the standard NUS terms as to annual leave, the appointee will be expected to be in residence throughout the term of the appointment. NUS policies allow absence for field work, where approved, for up to 90 days in the academic year.

- The appointee will be expected to develop a research agenda related to or adjacent to one of the above themes, including undertaking substantial research projects leading to publication during the term of the appointment. Such research may include, but is not limited to, the writing of articles for publication in refereed journals, contributing to book chapters in edited collections, and preparing a monograph or other book for publication. The appointee will be required to present his or her ongoing research, and to participate in and contribute to CALS events. Although the position as advertised is for three years, the research agenda presented should specify detailed plans for the first year, but only outline plans for the second and third years.

- The appointee will also act as Deputy Editor of the Asian Journal of Comparative Law. In this capacity the appointee will work under the general direction of the Chief Editors of the Journal, and will be responsible for administrative work relating to the planning of ordinary and special issues (there are two issues per year); workflow relating to submitted articles, including the oversight of copy-editing and production issues; and liaison with authors, the publisher (Cambridge University Press), editors, and reviewers.

Requirements
1. Applicants are expected to be of exceptional calibre, have attained an Honours degree (or equivalent), a Masters degree, or a PhD in a relevant area of law.

2. The principal selection criterion will be the applicant’s potential for excellent research. Existing research, especially published research, in CALS-related areas will be considered favourably. Applicants are required to submit a proposed research plan with their applications.

3. A further selection criterion will be the applicant’s experience and knowledge of journal editing. Experience in a similar capacity to Editor or Deputy Editor, or other involvement in editorial processes, will be a significant advantage. Skill and accuracy in copyediting is also a requirement, as is a very high standard of competence in the English language.

4. Applicants are expected to display a high level of academic professionalism, with good organisational and inter-personal skills and an exceptional eye for detail. A strong command of the English language is also required.

Application procedure
Applications should be sent by email to cals@nus.edu.sg by 1 November 2015. These must comprise:

- a cover letter explaining the applicant’s interest in the position
- a curriculum vitae
- a list of publications
- a writing sample
- academic transcripts of all undergraduate and graduate studies (if studying for a current degree, please include a list of current courses)
- at least two referees who may be contacted for a reference
- research plans for the next one to two years