An anniversary is a time for looking back as well as looking forward.

This year marks the National University of Singapore Faculty of Law’s 60th anniversary — our diamond jubilee — and there is much to celebrate. Over six decades, NUS Law has had a tremendous impact on the study and the practice of law in Singapore, our region and around the world. There is much of which you, our alumni and stakeholders, should be proud.

But we are also working with our students, staff and alumni to “pay it forward”. As seven of my predecessors and I wrote in the anniversary edition of LawLink, we have launched the NUS Law Student Support Fund to ensure that future generations of law students can take advantage of the possibilities available to them at law school without regard for financial circumstance. If you have already made a contribution, thank you! If you are still deciding, I hope that these pages will help you see the impact your gift — however large or small — will have.

In this, my sixth annual letter as Dean, I will capture some highlights of the year 2016 — and some of the opportunities in 2017.

**Anniversaries and Honours**

Even as we prepared for the 60th anniversary of students reading law in Singapore, we celebrated two other anniversaries last year.

In 2016, we marked the 10th anniversary of our student-led Pro Bono Group. We produced a commemorative booklet and launched the inaugural Pro Bono Awards with Indranee Rajah ’86, Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Finance & Ministry of Law. The awards recognised the contributions of seven individual students and provided grants to four pro bono projects.
Our Asia Pacific Centre for Environmental Law (APCEL) observed its 20th anniversary with a conference on Sustainable Development. The guest-of-honour was Desmond Lee ’01, Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Home Affairs & Ministry of National Development, who delivered the opening address. With recent confirmation that 2016 was the hottest year since modern records began, APCEL’s work is more important than ever.

Commencement is always a festive time, but last year it was a particular highlight to confer Speaker of Parliament Madam Halimah Yacob ’78, LL.M. ’01 with the degree of Honorary Doctor of Laws. As I noted in my citation, it is the burden of many trailblazers to be known not only for what they do, but also for what they represent. Mdm Halimah has made a difference to the many people whose lives she has touched as a labour leader and as a politician, but also those whom she has inspired — to see themselves as not defined solely by their class, their gender, their race, or their religion.

**New Programmes, New Faces**

As Alice was once advised in Wonderland, you have to run as fast as you can just to keep in the same place; if you want to get somewhere else, you have to run twice as fast as that! We have therefore been busy developing new programmes and recruiting new faculty.

In the area of arbitration, for example, Singapore has invested heavily over the past two decades. In that time, we have developed a suite of modules on arbitration; together with the Centre for International Law, we also offer the Singapore International Arbitration Academy. Last year we added a new degree programme: the **LL.M. in International Arbitration & Dispute Resolution**. Taught by top arbitrators and academics from Singapore and around the world, the modules comprise a mix of public and private international law, as well as skills such as mediation and negotiation to equip the next generation of dispute resolution experts.
We also welcomed new faculty at all levels.

**Lucy Reed** joined as a Professor of Professional Practice and Director of the Centre for International Law (CIL). An internationally renowned practitioner-scholar of international law, Lucy previously led the global international arbitration group and public international law group at Freshfields. In addition to her rich professional background, Lucy has long had a deep engagement with the academic world. Among other achievements, she has delivered the prestigious Hague Lectures at the Academy of International Law and was President of the American Society of International Law from 2008 to 2010. Lucy succeeds **Robert Beckman**, who served with distinction as Director of CIL since its founding in 2009, and who will continue to head its programme on Ocean Law and Policy.

Two other colleagues joined as full professors: **Damian Chalmers** and **Antony Anghie**.

Prior to joining NUS Law, **Damian Chalmers** was at the London School of Economics and Political Science for 23 years, where he led its European Institute and served as Director of its Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence. He has also been co-editor of the *European Law Review*, one of the leading EU law journals, and is co-author of one of the leading textbooks on the EU. His research is on EU law and the law and governance of comparative regional integration, in particular how domestic administrative settlements and patterns of market regulation adjust to the tensions of regional integration.

**Antony Anghie** was previously Samuel D. Thurman Professor of Law at the University of Utah. His research interests include public and private international law; human rights; globalisation, development issues, and international law; terrorism and the use of force; international business transactions and international economic law; colonialism and the history of public international law; and third world approaches to international law.

**Wayne Courtney** was appointed an Associate Professor, joining us from Sydney Law School where he had been an Associate Professor and Associate Dean. Wayne specialises in contract law and has broader interests in commercial law and private law. Before entering academia, he practised as a commercial lawyer in a leading Australian law firm and also in-house at a major multinational company.
Matthew Seet ‘12 joined us as a Sheridan Fellow. A graduate of NUS Law, he also holds a Master’s in International Law from the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva, earned while on a Swiss Government Scholarship. We also appointed Benny Tan ‘12 as a Lecturer. He comes with experience as a Deputy Public Prosecutor and State Counsel at the Attorney-General’s Chambers, as well as previously serving as a Legal Skills Programme Instructor.

Two new Teaching Assistants also joined us. Wong Wen Jian ‘15 has interests in Tort Law, Contract Law and Company Law. Benjamin Wong ‘15 has served as a research assistant at our Centre for Law and Business and is teaching the Law of Contract.

In addition to a range of visiting faculty and our loyal adjunct professors, we also hosted high-ranking members of the judiciary from around the world. These included Lord Justice of Appeal Sir Christopher Clarke, Lord Chief Justice Lord Thomas of Cwmgiedd, and President of the UK Supreme Court Lord Neuberger of Abbotsbury.
These new faculty and visitors bolster the dedicated faculty members who have served us well through our six decades. In 2016, we recognised the commitment of some of our longest serving faculty.

Those recognised included Chin Tet Yung and Lye Lin-Heng ’73 for 40 years of service; Stephen Phua ’88, Yeo Hwee Ying ’80, Margaret Fordham, and Barry Crown for 30 years of service; Kumaralingam Amirthalingam for 15 years of service; Christopher Chuah for 10 years of service as an adjunct professor; and Kelry Loi ’99, Umakanth Varotttil Ph.D. ‘10, and Arif Jamal for 5 years of service.
Research Excellence

In addition to offering a world-class academic programme, NUS Law continues to produce outstanding scholarship across the spectrum of legal research. In addition to dozens of scholarly articles and book chapters, as well as scores of conference papers, the following books were published in 2016:


Institutionalizing State Responsibility: Global Security and UN Organs by Vincent-Joël Proulx (Oxford University Press)

Criminal Law in Myanmar by Chan Wing Cheong, Michael Hor ’84, Mark McBride, Neil Morgan and Stanley Yeo ’76 (LexisNexis)

Change in Voting: Singapore’s 2015 General Election by Kevin Tan ’86 (Ethos Books)


The Internal Effects of ASEAN External Relations by Ingo Venzke and Thio Li-ann (Cambridge University Press)

Legal Profession (Professional Conduct) Rules 2015: A Commentary by Jeffrey Pinsler (Academy Publishing)

Understanding Lawyers’ Ethics in Singapore by Alvin Chen ’00, LL.M. ’09 and Helena Whalen-Bridge LL.M. ’03 (LexisNexis)
We also welcomed the following new editions:

**Marsden and Gault on Collisions at Sea**
(14th edition) by Stephen Girvin
(Sweet & Maxwell)

**Modern Contract of Guarantee**
(3rd edition) by Wayne Courtney and John Phillips
(Sweet & Maxwell)

**The Law of Trusts**
(10th edition) by James Penner
(Oxford University Press)

**Law and Practice of the United Nations**
(2nd edition) by Simon Chesterman, Ian Johnstone and David M. Malone
(Oxford University Press)

**Law of Banker and Customer**
(6th edition) by Poh Chu Chai ’73
(LexisNexis)

Our faculty also edited major works on a variety of topics of national and international significance. These include:

**Constitutionalism and Legal Change in Myanmar**
edited by Andrew Harding LL.M. ’84 and Dr Khin Khin Oo
(Hart Publishing)

**Constitutional Interpretation in Singapore: Theory and Practice**
edited by Jaclyn Neo ‘03
(Routledge)

**Contemporary Issues in Mediation**
edited by Joel Lee and Marcus Lim ’12
(World Scientific)

**Finance, Rule of Law and Development in Asia**
(edition) by Andrew Harding LL.M. ’84
(Brill)**


Woon’s Corporations Law edited by Walter Woon ’81 (LexisNexis)

Pro Bono in Singapore: The PBG Story edited by Helena Whalen-Bridge LL.M. ‘03

Benjamin’s Sale of Goods edited by Michael Greenhalgh Bridge (Sweet & Maxwell)

Impact

In addition to producing scholarship that changes the way law is thought about, many colleagues also had a direct impact on how it is practised.

In an extraordinary honour, Ng-Loy Wee Loon ’87 was appointed honorary Senior Counsel — in recognition of her “special knowledge in law and her contributions to the development of the law and to the legal profession.” These included serving as amicus curiae in major intellectual property cases.

Andrew Simester’s analysis of joint criminal enterprise liability (in the Law Quarterly Review) was endorsed by both the High Court of Australia and the Hong Kong Court of Final Appeal — rejecting a recent decision of the UK Supreme Court. In other cases, he was also cited by the New Zealand Supreme Court and the High Court of Australia on the meaning of intention.
**Benny Tan ’12** was appointed as amicus curiae in the High Court case of *Koh Yong Chiah v PP*. The judgment noted that the Court was greatly assisted by his written brief. Separately, his piece on wilful blindness in the context of the **Misuse of Drugs Act** was cited with approval by the Court of Appeal in *Masoud Rahimi bin Mehrzad v PP*.

**Teo Keang Sood**’s books on strata title and land law were cited by the Singapore Court of Appeal and High Court in *Attorney-General v Aljunied-Hougang-Punggol East Town Council* and by the Malaysian Federal Court in *Low Huat Cheng v Rozdenil bin Toni*; the Court of Appeal in *Meenachi Holding & Trading (M) Sdn Bhd v Serba Kemas Sdn Bhd*; and the High Court in *Eastern Cargo Express (M) Sdn Bhd v Fabina Properties Sdn Bhd*.

**Timothy Liau ’14** and **Rachel Leow ’11** were also cited by the Singapore Court of Appeal in *Eng Chiet Shoong v Cheong Soh Chin*. Their article on restitution for unjust enrichment that sets out the general position on the development of the law of unjust enrichment in Singapore was published in the *Singapore Journal of Legal Studies*.

**Stanley Yeo ’76** was cited by the Singapore High Court for his work on causation in *Guay Seng Tiong Nickson v PP* and the Supreme Court of New Zealand in *Shivneel Shahil Kumar v The Queen*.

**A. Kumaralingam** was cited by the Singapore High Court in *Hii Chii Kok v Ooi Peng Jin London Lucien and another*. He was invited to present the Keynote Address at the 2016 Annual Seminar of the MedicoLegal Society of Singapore, and then appointed to the Teaching Faculty, Centre for Medical Ethics and Professionalism, Singapore Medical Association.

**Mindy Chen-Wishart**’s analysis of the perennial problem of consideration in the context of part payment of a debt was cited with approval by the UK Court of Appeal in *MWB Business Exchange Centres Ltd v Rock Advertising Ltd*.

**Walter Woon ’81** joined the Market Surveillance and Compliance Panel (MSCP), a body established under the Electricity Market Rules, part of the oversight mechanism for the National Electricity Market of Singapore. He was also appointed Special Counsel to the Steering Committee for the Re-writing of the Taiwan Company Act.

**Tan Hsien-Li Ph.D. ’09** was invited to present on the ASEAN Community to the Singapore Judicial College/Singapore Academy of Law programme for the judicial officers of ASEAN. She also recorded a lecture on the rise of Southeast Asian regionalism for the UN Audio Visual Lectures on International Law.
Stephen Phua ‘88 was appointed to the Income Tax Board of Review, a first instance tribunal that adjudicates disputes on income tax assessments. He also serves as a member of the main committee on the Study of the Tax Ecosystem and Practices in Singapore, an initiative commissioned by the Commissioner of Inland Revenue.

Michael Ewing-Chow ‘95 and Junianto James Losari’s suggested clause to avoid a clash of treaties between the WTO and other Regional Trade Agreements and International Investment Agreements, published in the *Journal of World Investment & Trade*, was adopted in the final draft of Trans Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPP).

Jaclyn Neo ‘03 and Arif Jamal were invited to speak at the Human Rights Day Conference organised by the European Union Delegation to Singapore. They spoke on the topic of Freedom of Religion or Belief in Singapore and ASEAN.

Helena Whalen-Bridge LL.M. ‘03 was an invited expert for the Global Study on Legal Aid undertaken by the UN Development Programme and the UN Office on Drugs and Crime, which is the international community’s first attempt to collect data on and present a comprehensive overview of the state of legal aid globally.

Cheah Wui Ling ‘03, LL.M. ‘06 and alumna and legal counsel Ng Pei Yi ‘11 launched the Singapore War Crimes Trials Web Portal, an ongoing public outreach project supported by the National Heritage Board and the Singapore Academy of Law. The launch was organised together with the *Singapore Law Review*.

Daniel Seng ‘92 delivered a global study on the copyright limitations and exceptions relating to educational institutions to the Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights (SCCR) of the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) that has been widely praised by publishers, academic institutions and NGOs in international IP circles. This is the first time a faculty member has been involved as a special consultant in international copyright law reform.

Koh Kheng-Lian ‘61, LL.M. ‘66, Ph.D. ‘72 was invited to be the advisor of the Center for Sustainable Energy Policy and Law (SEPL), National Tsing Hua University, Taiwan and consultant to the Secretariat of the Resilience Working Group, Ministry of National Development, to review Singapore’s Climate Change Adaptation Plans. She is also the national correspondent for Singapore by the *Centre International de droit Compare de l’environnement*, an international NGO. She was the Keynote Speaker at the Judges Academy on Human Rights Protection International Symposium organised by the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung in Taiwan.
During the year, **Kevin Tan ‘86, Jaclyn Neo ‘03** and **Swati Jhaveri** were invited by the Constitutional Commission to make oral representations on proposed reforms to the elected presidency.

**Alan Tan ‘93** advised China’s National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) on antitrust immunity for airlines in alliances such as Star and Skyteam that seek to offer joint services at coordinated prices in the Chinese market. To this end, he presented on the Singapore experience at a high-level symposium convened in Beijing by the NDRC and the Civil Aviation Administration of China.

**Lin Lin LL.M. ‘06, Ph.D. ‘10,** was appointed as the External Consultant to the Steering Committee of the Taiwanese Company Law Reform. She was elected as an Executive Fellow to the China Banking Law Society and was invited by the Oxford Law School as a Guest Contributor to the Oxford Business Law Blog. Her article titled “Re-engineering the Venture Capital Market: A Case of China” was cited in the syllabus of Business Case of the Nanyang Business School of Nanyang Technology University of Singapore (NTU).

**Jean Ho ‘03** was invited by the Secretary-General of the International Centre for the Settlement of Investment Disputes to speak on new generation investment agreements at the World Bank in Paris, France, to celebrate ICSID’s 50th anniversary. She also recorded a lecture on State responsibility and investment contracts for the United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law.

**Faculty Achievements**

Our faculty also achieve significant milestones in other areas.

Two of our colleagues, **Sandra Booysen** and **Mike Dowdle**, were promoted to Associate Professors with tenure in 2016.

**Sandra Booysen LL.M. ‘03, Ph.D. ‘09** completed a doctorate at NUS Law on banking documentation, laying the foundations for her teaching and research in the related fields of contract and banking law. A particular niche is in the area of bank documentation and she is routinely consulted by AGC and MAS.

**Mike Dowdle** teaches in two core modules: first year Introduction to Legal Theory and second year Legal Systems of Asia, as well as two electives: Theoretical Foundations of Public Law and Law, Economics, Development & Geography. That second elective is connected to with his recent focus of research into the new field of regulatory geography.
Dan W. Puchniak has been appointed Director of the Centre for Asian Legal Studies and Editor-in-Chief of the Asian Journal of Comparative Law, the journal of the Asian Law Institute (ASLI). Gary F. Bell reassumes his role as Director of ASLI, where he was the centre’s founding director in 2003.

Swati Jhaveri, Walter Woon ‘81, and Stephen Phua ‘88 received the University-level Annual Teaching Excellence Award. Swati also joined the NUS Teaching Academy as a fellow.

At the Faculty level, I had the pleasure of announcing our own Annual Teaching Excellence Awards. The recipients were Cheah Wui Ling ‘03, LL.M. ‘06, Swati Jhaveri, Joel Lee, Jaclyn Neo ‘03, Alan Tan ‘93 and Benny Tan ‘12.

David Tan, Vice Dean (Academic Affairs), was appointed as NUS Law’s first-ever Dean’s Chair. Like the Provost’s Chair, this term chair is designed to recognise outstanding performance in research by an Associate Professor who has achieved recognition in the field.

Wang Jiangyu received a Best Author award from the China Law Review. The award cited his articles on China’s new Foreign Investment Law and on lessons that Singapore’s rule of law and judicial independence can offer for legal reform in China.

Jaclyn Neo ‘03 won the DILA International Law Prize for Young Scholars for her article on the incorporation of human rights in Malaysia, which was published in the Asian Yearbook of International Law.

Lim Lei Theng ’92 was recognised for her efforts at this year’s Legal Aid Bureau Appreciation Awards. The bureau presented Lei Theng with the “Legal Aid Bureau 5-year Amicus Award for contributions as Volunteer Assistant Directors of Legal Aid”.

Joel Lee received an Honourable Mention at the 33rd Annual Academic Awards of the International Institute for Conflict Prevention and Resolution (CPR). His award was in the “Outstanding Professional Article” category, which recognises articles published by academics and other professionals that advance understanding in the field of ADR. The article examined the importance of culture in mediation.

Lynette J. Chua ‘03 received the 2016 Article Prize from the Socio-legal Studies Association (UK) for her article on the mobilisation of human rights by queer activists in Myanmar. She was also elected to the US Law & Society Association’s Board of Trustees for a three-year term. As the Trustee candidate receiving the largest number of votes, she was also elected Class Representative to serve on the Association’s Executive Committee.
Benny Tan ‘12 also won — for a second time — the Law Society’s Best Feature Article prize for pieces published in the Singapore Law Gazette. His article was on wilful blindness and presumption of knowledge under section 18(2) of the Misuse of Drugs Act.

Members of the NUS Law community were also among those recognised in the National Day Awards.

These included Lye Lin-Heng ‘73, who received the Public Service Medal, and Teo Keang Sood and Stephen Phua ‘88, who received Long Service Medals.

For my own part, I was honoured to be appointed by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon to the United Nations University Council, the governing body of the United Nations University, which is based in Tokyo.

Student Achievements

While the academic calendar is marked by classes and exams, the NUS Law student experiences goes far beyond academics — with rich traditions ranging from Orientation to Rag & Flag, from the Law IV Musical to Commencement.

Among other things, the past year was an outstanding one for our international mooters. Some teams are selected and coached by faculty members; others are initiated by students themselves on an ad hoc basis, with support and encouragement from our Mooting and Debating Club and mooting alumni. While we celebrate the victories, we also take the position that participation in such competitions is a wonderful experience that should be available to as many students as possible.

A team of first year students from NUS Law won the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CI Arb) Japan Chapter Award in the Intercollegiate Negotiation Competition. The team members were Daniel Ling ‘20, Tan Fong Han ‘20, Darren Sim ‘20, Violet Huang Qianwei ‘20, and Sophia Yew ‘20. The NUS Team also won the Best Teamwork Award.
The team was supported by Lim Lei Theng ’92, Ruby Lee ’85 and Sonita Jeyapathy ’03 as well as several moots alumni, in particular David Isidore Tan ’16.

After an absence of six years, the NUS Law team marked its return to the Asia Cup Moot Court Competition with stunning success. The team of students, Kiu Yan Yu ’18, Dana Chang ’18, Ephraim Tan ’18, Ong Chee Yeow ’18, and Charlotte Wang ’18, pulled off a clean sweep of the top prizes including the Best Overall Team, Best Memorial, and Best Oralist (Dana). This is only the third time in the Cup’s 19-year history that a team has managed to achieve such a feat.

Victor Leong ’16, Joshua Hiew ’17, Mehaerun Simaa ’16, and Hairul Hakkim ’16 were overall champions at the Nuremberg Moot Court Competition. The team won after defeating teams from the United States, Pakistan, Rwanda, the United Kingdom, and Brazil. Joshua received the additional honour of being awarded Best Speaker for the Final Round.

A team of Year 2 students — Kiu Yan Yu ’18, Ong Chee Yeow ’18, Ephraim Tan ’18, and Manfred Lum ’18 — took the top spot at the International Air and Space Law Academy (IASLA) Space Law Moot Court Competition.

Too Fang Yi ’16 and Manek Minhas ’16 were first runners-up in the International Negotiation Competition (INC) 2016. The team was coached by Joel Lee.
After winning the Singapore National Round, the NUS Jessup team represented Singapore at the International Rounds of the Philip C. Jessup Moot Court Competition. Hairul Hakkim ‘16, Mehaerun Simaa ‘16, Victor Leong ‘16, Joshua Hiew ‘17, and Victor Yao ‘17 won the award for Best Overall Applicant Team. Three speakers were placed within Top 10 for individual oralist rankings – Joshua came in 1st, Victor Leong took 2nd place and Victor Yao was ranked 7th.

Clara Lim Jia Ying ‘17 and Jennifer Lim Wei Zhen ‘17 participated in the inaugural NLIU-Justice R. K. Tankha International Moot Court Competition. Having placed as 2nd out of 27 teams in the preliminary rounds, the NUS team emerged as 5th in the quarter-finals, with Clara clinching the Best Oralist Award.

NUS Law was first runner-up at the 9th Frankfurt Investment Arbitration Moot Court 2016. The team of students, Christopher Zheng ‘17, Parveen Kaur ‘16, Wilson Koh ‘16, and Douglas Wong ‘16, also clinched the Gary B. Born Award for the Best Team from a Non-OECD Country and the prize for the Best Team from the Asia-Pacific Regional Group. The team was coached by Jean Ho ‘03 and Inga Martinkute, Ph.D. student.
Our students also did well in the Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot. One team, comprising Loh Tian Kai ‘16, Jonathan Yong ‘16, Tan Zhen He ‘16, and Eugene Oh ‘17, came in tops at the Shanghai Pre-Moot, beating almost 30 teams. The team also went on to beat over 100 teams in Hong Kong to emerge as semi-finalists. Tian Kai placed 3rd for the best oral advocate prize in both Shanghai and Hong Kong.

In the European rounds, Leong Qianyu ‘16, Marrissa Karuna ‘16, Mark Hee ‘17, and Chester Tan ‘17 took 2nd place against more than 50 teams at the Budapest Pre-Moot, and the NUS Law team was placed in the top 16 teams in Vienna.

In the 14th Annual Oxford Intellectual Property Law Moot, the NUS Law team of Sam Yi Ting ‘16 and Kelly Tseng ‘16 brought home the coveted Powell Gilbert Prize for the Best Written Submission, a feat last achieved in 2007, and emerged as quarter-finalists.

NUS Law emerged as first runner-up in debut at the 7th International Air Law Moot Court Competition. The team comprising Ling Jia Yu ‘16, Benjamin Goh ‘16 and Louis Lim ‘16 (Team Captain), also clinched the Best Respondent’s Memorial award. The team was coached by Alan Tan ‘93.

Student life is more than just about winning competitions, of course. The faculty and its students continue to engage in social and community-based projects.

The Legal Education and Awareness Project and Thai-ed with Love by the Pro Bono Group were recipients of the Projects (New Initiatives) award at the NUS Student Achievement Awards.

The Legal Education and Awareness Project successfully equipped at-risk youths in Singapore with knowledge of the law so that they are prepared to handle any situation in the future. It included collaborations with the Thye Hua Kwan moral Society Family Service Centre and Centre for Promoting Alternatives to Violence.
The **Thai-ed with Love** project served as a platform for NUS Law, Khon Kaen University and Thammasat University students to gain first-hand experience in doing pro bono work and for students from the three institutions to exchange ideas and learn from each other.

Following their Projects (New Initiatives) award in 2015, the **Innocence Project** continued its good work by achieving Bronze in the category of Projects (Community Service) at the NUS Student Achievement Awards 2016.

The student-led **Singapore Law Review** was honoured to have the Honourable Justice Steven Chong ‘82 deliver the 28th Annual Lecture on the amendments to the mandatory death penalty scheme under the Misuse of Drugs Act and the Penal Code.

NUS Law students working through the Pro Bono Office have received kudos for their work and initiative in the NUS-Rajah & Tann PDPA Compliance Assistance Scheme.

Our students have also been participating in the State Courts Student Representative Programme. Stationed at the counters of the Community Dispute Resolution Tribunals from June to November 2016, 23 NUS Law students assisted more than 130 litigants in person with their queries and applications.

Keeping with tradition, the **Class of 2016** put together a musical production to raise funds for charity. Over 60 students were involved in the making of the 2016 original musical “Built to Order”. Their adopted charity was the Autism Resource Centre, a not-for-profit charity dedicated to serving children and adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder.

Prior to the musical, the students presented me with an unorthodox challenge: if they raised $10,000, I would have to work the kopi stall (coffee stall) at the Summit canteen for an hour. I accepted — and then they raised almost triple that! So, under Belson Eng’s careful supervision, I made *kopi, kopi-o, teh-C peng kosong*, and various other concoctions. (I came away with new respect for our students and Uncle Belson!)
Law IV is a noble tradition at NUS Law that showcases two of the most admirable qualities of our students: the diversity of their talents, and the depth of their commitment to helping others. This year, I am deeply touched that as we celebrate NUS Law’s 60th Anniversary, the Class of 2017 has decided that the focus of their efforts will be none other than their fellow law students. The Class of 2017 Pro Bono Award will have a ripple effect, as it spurs our students on to find meaningful ways to serve the wider population through pro bono and other community service projects. The fact that such talented students are acutely conscious of how fortunate they are — and of the opportunities that they have even as students to give back to society — gives me great hope for the future of the legal profession that most of them will join. If you would like to contribute towards this worthy cause, you can use the gift form at the back of this letter.

Alumni Relations & Development

Our alumni continued to make us proud, with many achievements worthy of recognition. The following is illustrative of a fraction of their achievements.

Lucien Wong ’78 recently took over as Attorney-General as V.K. Rajah ’82 completed a distinguished term as the country’s chief legal officer. Gregory Vijayendran ’92 also began his term as the newly elected Law Society President, with Kuah Boon Theng ’90 and Adrian Tan Gim Hai ’91 supporting him as Vice-Presidents.

In new judicial appointments, Judith Prakash ’74 became the first female Judge of Appeal of the Supreme Court. Tay Yong Kwang ’81 was elevated to Judge of Appeal. In addition, Chua Lee Ming ’83 and See Kee Oon ’91 were both recently appointed as Judges of the High Court.

Tan Min-Liang ’02, co-founder and CEO of Razer Inc., was among those chosen as the Straits Times Asian of the Year for 2016. The award recognises those who have contributed significantly to improving lives at home or in the wider region.

In September, Paul Tan Beng Hwee ’05 was named Disputes Star of the Year at the Asialaw Asia-Pacific Dispute Resolution Awards.

Remy Choo Zheng Xi ‘10 was honoured with the International Bar Association’s (IBA) Outstanding Young Lawyer of the Year Award.

Darren Tay Wen Jie ‘14, LL.M. ’15 became the first Singaporean to win the World Championship of Public Speaking, held in Washington D.C.
Chew Gek Khim ‘84 and Goh Joon Seng ‘62 were each awarded the Meritorious Service Medal during the National Day Awards 2016, which saw many alumni recognised. These included Jennifer Marie Suriyiacala ‘83, Gloria Lim May Ern ‘96, Darren Daniel Tang Heng Shim ‘97, Jasvender Kaur d/o Saudagar Singh ‘85, Paul Chan Wei Sern ‘08, Benjamin Yim Geok Choon ‘90, and Leong Wing Tuck ‘92.

Farida Alkaff ‘08 was included in the “Top 10 30-Somethings” awarded by the Association of Corporate Counsels.

Leslie Chew Kwee Hoe ‘78 was appointed Dean of the new UniSIM Law School, Singapore’s third law school that this year begins its own legal education story.

K. Muralidharan Pillai ‘92 won the Bukit Batok by-election in May 2016, joining the ranks of many other NUS Law alumni in Parliament, and Chia Yong Yong ‘85 was re-appointed as Nominated Member of Parliament.

Malathi Das ‘92 received the NGO Leadership and Excellence Award at the 6th Asia Best CSR Practices Awards.

In addition to serving as role models for our students, we are deeply grateful for the strong support we receive from our alumni each year. Alumni serve in many ways, including the 93 alumni mentors who are currently participating in the fifth year of our Law Alumni Mentor Programme (LAMP). Jointly organised by the Centre for Future-ready Graduates@Law and the NUS Law Alumni Office, LAMP links first and second year NUS Law students with alumni mentors who can share their experiences and insights, as well as offer practical guidance and encouragement. Students get an up-close glimpse into life as a lawyer and are better equipped to make decisions about their professional development.
Alumni also return to the faculty as adjunct professors, coaches for moot competitions, speakers at our career talks, and advisors to student groups such as the Pro Bono Group.

Other alumni and stakeholders made important financial contributions to support future generations of NUS Law students.

**Chew Gek Khim ‘84** made a significant gift to NUS Law to establish the Chew Gek Khim Bursary to help financially disadvantaged law students.

The family of the late **Bennett Lam Chung Meng ‘86** set up a Book Grant in his memory to provide additional help to law students in need.

**Lim Chong Kin ‘95, LL.M. ’97** set up a Book Prize in Competition Law, a subject close to his heart.

An anonymous alumni donor established the Tan Keng Feng Prize in the Law of Torts to recognise the many contributions made by former NUS Law professor **Tan Keng Feng ‘71** in this subject area and to the Faculty of Law in his 30 years with the Faculty. I had the pleasure of catching up with Keng Feng at the prize-giving ceremony in which we awarded the first such prize. Sadly, he passed away later in the year and is greatly missed by all.

NUS Law also saw strong support from other donors. Mr and Mrs John and Lydia Ewing-Chow both received bursaries during their undergraduate days at the NUS Faculty of Science and their son is an alumnus of NUS Law. In order to give back to the University to help needy students facing similar difficulties today, they set up the John and Lydia Ewing-Chow Bursary.

The Singapore Academy of Law recently established the Singapore Academy of Law Undergraduate Scholarship, which is a full-term scholarship targeted at high-potential freshmen from low-income Singaporean families. This Scholarship aims to nurture the future generations of the legal profession and enable outstanding students who are financially needy to have the opportunity to read law.

In addition, the Ashurst ADTLaw Scholarship was jointly set up by firms Ashurst LLP and ADTLaw LLC. The Scholarship offers academically bright law students an award of $12,000.
There were a good number of reunions held last year, with the Class of 1976, 1986, 1996, 2001 and 2006 celebrating their anniversaries. In addition, a reunion held in Hong Kong allowed us to reconnect with alumni living and working there.

Many of our classes take the opportunity presented by a reunion to do some good, thus giving rise to class bursaries and grants. The Class of 1986 have continued to raise the bar following their recent 30th Anniversary reunion. Their Class of 1986 Scholarship supports financially needy and academically meritorious NUS Law students.

Anniversary reunions have always been a hallmark in our calendar. This year, the Class of 1992 and 1997 are already planning for their celebrations and we will be catching up with alumni in Shanghai and London very soon.

If you belong to the Class of 1967, 1972, 1977, 1982, 1987, 2002 or 2007, please contact us if you are interested in celebrating your own anniversary and we can help you to plan the gathering. We are often able to provide logistical support as well as a subsidy — so do take advantage of it! We also hope to be able to meet with our overseas alumni on a regular basis, so if you are currently residing overseas and would like to work with us on a reunion in your area, we would love to hear from you.

In addition, you will soon be hearing more about the 60th anniversary celebrations planned for 2017.
I cannot overstate how much our alumni have contributed to the successes of NUS Law. Your achievements inspire and challenge us all, raising our profile and establishing our reputation. The opportunities you create for our students, through advice, internships, and employment are what transform these young men and women into lawyers. Your financial support makes possible our mission of being one of the very best law schools in the world — while making sure that no deserving student is left behind.

As I mentioned at the start of this letter, we are asking for your help in expanding the opportunities available to our students through the **NUS Law Student Support Fund**. A donation form is attached to this letter, or if you would like to discuss any of the ways in which you might advance the mission of NUS Law, please feel free contact **Jo-Ann Chan ’97** (joann.chan@nus.edu.sg; 6601 2248) or myself directly.

**Stay in Touch**

I hope that you find these annual updates on NUS Law interesting. If you would like to know more, or if you think there may be ways in which you could get involved with the faculty, please do not hesitate to let me know.

On behalf of all of us at NUS Law, we wish you and your loved ones the best for 2017 and the Year of the Rooster. May it bring you peace, happiness and fulfilment.
Giving to the Next Generation: 
The NUS Law Student Support Fund

Given the rising cost of a legal education (tuition alone now stands at $12,500 per year) and the steady rise in the number of bursary applications each year (around 10% of our students currently receive some kind of financial aid), it comes as no surprise that student support is the main focus of our 60th Anniversary fund-raising campaign.

The new NUS Law Student Support Fund will be used to support financially disadvantaged students, student learning and student activities at NUS Law, enabling all our students to develop to their full potential regardless of financial circumstances. The Dean will have discretion to allocate funds where they are most needed for the greatest benefit of our students.

Thank you for your generosity. Your gift will benefit deserving students and support meaningful learning opportunities at NUS Law.

Stephanie Ng Wenli ‘18
Year 3 Student and scholarship recipient
I / We would like to make:

- A monthly* gift of $__________ for ________ months.
- An annual* gift of $__________ for ________ years.
- A one-time gift of $__________

To support:

- NUS Law Student Support Fund (used to support needy students, student learning and student activities at NUS Law, enabling all our students to develop to their full potential regardless of financial background)
- Class of 2017 Pro Bono Award (set up by the graduating Class of 2017, this fund will be used to encourage our students to serve the wider population through pro bono and other community service projects)
- NUS Law Fund (enables the Dean to channel resources where they are most needed within NUS Law)
- Other: ________________________________ (please specify, refer to this link http://law.nus.edu.sg/giving_to_law for more options.)

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Thank you for your support!