Dear Members of the NUS Law Community,

This year Singapore celebrates its Golden Jubilee. Among many achievements in the past half century, Singapore’s promotion of the rule of law has been both a good in itself and a foundation of the country’s prosperity and security. The National University of Singapore Faculty of Law, perhaps more than any comparable law school in the world, has played a central role in the development of that legal regime, as well as training the lion’s share of the men and women who practice law or hold high legal office in the judiciary and government.

As Chief Justice Sundaresh Menon ’86 noted in his Opening of the Legal Year address, there is much to celebrate in Singapore’s legal landscape. But we cannot rest on our laurels. The same is true for us at NUS Law, as we continue to strive to be one of the best law schools in the world.

Allow me to use this annual letter, my fourth as Dean, to share a few highlights from the past year and note some things to watch out for during SG50.

New Decanal Team

As I commence a second three-year term as Dean, I must begin with a sincere thank you to the three Vice Deans who helped lead NUS Law during my first term.

Ng-Loy Wee Loon ’87 took on the role of Vice Dean for Academic Affairs and together we oversaw the first review of our curriculum in a decade. The students who entered NUS Law last August are currently undertaking this new curriculum, which includes a grade-free first semester to encourage them to see law as a calling rather than simply as a subject. We also hope to increase their exposure to other Asian legal jurisdictions, in particular civil law as it is practised in Asia. Singapore’s legal sector is growing both in size and complexity and will continue to do so; our aim is to give students the intellectual skills that will serve them not only in their first day on the job but throughout a lifetime.

Intellectual skills do not guarantee success, of course. Personal and professional skills are also needed. That was the reason for the creation of a new position of Vice Dean for Student Affairs, which Joel Lee came to define as his own. The portfolio covers the student experience at NUS Law and so embraces everything from admissions and orientation to career guidance and graduation. Among other things, Joel cultivated a strong relationship with the Law Club, whose student leaders worked with his office...
to ensure that a degree at NUS Law is rigorous and fulfilling but also, hopefully, fun! A thorough review of our admissions process should also ensure that we admit the very best and the most deserving students to NUS Law.

On the research front, Stephen Girvin helped lead a transformation in our approach to research. In addition to building up a Research Seminar Series that is attended by a healthy number of faculty and visitors, he oversaw a review of our doctoral and postdoctoral programmes that has brought some top younger scholars to Singapore. He also played a key role in the ambitious research agenda that started in 2013, including the launch of new research centres that I will describe below. It is perhaps only fitting that he steps down and into the directorship of one such research centre.

A paragraph hardly does justice to their achievements, not least because it glosses over the many other leadership roles that they played on faculty and university committees. Each of them is that rare species of academic who is both a leading scholar and a leader of scholars. The end of their terms will, I hope, give them more time for their own scholarship — for Wee Loon that field is intellectual property, for Joel it is mediation, and for Stephen it is maritime law. I expressed my sincere thanks to them at our welcome lunch for the semester and do so again here.

Happily, I have three outstanding colleagues who have agreed to fill these large pairs of shoes.

Academic Affairs is now led by David Tan. With degrees from Melbourne and Harvard, David has previously served as Director of Sports at the Ministry of Community Development, Youth & Sports and Director of International Talent at the Ministry of Manpower. He teaches the first year subject of Torts and offers two of our most popular electives: Entertainment Law and Freedom of Speech. His research has been published in leading journals around the world. He is also an accomplished fine art fashion photographer and was named the 1998 Outstanding Young Person of Singapore.

Eleanor Wong ’85 has taken over the Student Affairs portfolio. Eleanor has experience as a corporate lawyer in Singapore and New York, as well as a stint in government prosecuting complex commercial and securities frauds for the Commercial Affairs Department. She joined NUS Law in 2002 to direct our Legal Skills Programme, part of major initiative to improve the skills component of our curriculum, and has played a major role in overseeing our mooting teams. Eleanor is also a celebrated playwright and sometime television host; one of her plays (“Mergers and Accusations”) was recently included in a list of classic Singapore plays chosen by The Straits Times and will be part of the Esplanade’s Studios season from April to May of this year.
The new Vice Dean for Research is James Penner. Prior to joining NUS Law in 2013, he had served as Head of Department and Professor of Property Law at University College London. James is widely regarded as one of the world’s leading experts in the philosophy of property and the law of trusts, and writes widely in the areas of private law and the philosophy of law. He holds a law degree from Toronto and completed a prize-winning doctorate at Oxford. He has previously held faculty positions at the London School of Economics and King’s College London.

I would also like to acknowledge the enormous debt that I owe to Associate Dean Goh Mia Yang ‘92, who plays a major role overseeing the increasingly complex operations of the Faculty of Law. As an integral part of the decanal team, she and I look forward to working with the new Vice Deans.

Research Centres Launched

As I highlighted in last year’s letter, NUS Law recently commenced the most ambitious research programme in our history. Two thousand and fourteen saw key steps taken in advancing that agenda with the formal launch of two major research centres.

The Centre for Law & Business (CLB), directed by Tan Cheng Han SC ‘87 and Lan Luh Luh ‘89, was formally launched in August at an Intellectual Property Law conference graced by the Chief Justice as Guest of Honour. Linked to developments seeking to position Singapore as the dispute resolution hub of Asia, CLB builds on NUS Law’s extensive experience in commercial law teaching and research. It brings together faculty members, colleagues from the NUS Business School and other faculties, and distinguished visitors from Singapore and around the world. Its work will be of scholarly value to academics, but also policy relevance to the wider legal and business communities. As Luh Luh will now be devoting more time to her Business Law commitments, I am pleased to announce that Ng Siew Kuan has taken over as Deputy Director of CLB.

The following month, Minister for Law K. Shanmugam ‘84, helped us launch the Centre for Banking & Finance Law (CBFL). Helmed by Dora Neo, CBFL draws together faculty expertise that covers the major economies of the region and most of the globe. The new centre will enhance Singapore’s status as an international financial centre and thought-leader in three ways: as a convenor, as a thought-leader, and as a platform. It will bring together experts and practitioners from the sector, generate new insights and new ideas, and — we hope — initiate conversations that will go on to have an impact in both the classroom and the boardroom. Alex Loke ‘90 played a key role in leading CBFL up to its launch. Alex has now taken up a prestigious position in Hong Kong but has agreed to stay on as an Adjunct Research Professor attached to CBFL. I am delighted to share the news that Hans Tjio has agreed to serve as Co-Director of CBFL, working with Dora to build on its early successes.

These centres join the more established Centre for International Law and the Asia-Pacific Centre for Environmental Law (APCEL), as well as the Centre for Asian Legal Studies that was launched in 2012.
Two new entities in development are a Centre for Maritime Law, to be headed by Stephen Girvin and being developed in consultation with the Maritime and Port Authority, and a Centre for Legal Theory that will be directed by Andrew Halpin. There will be more news about these in the months ahead.

Such research centres provide focal points for research, improving both its quality and its impact. Quality is improved by ensuring that world-class scholars are engaged in a collaborative effort to generate new ideas and tease out their policy implications; impact is improved by the centres offering platforms for sharing work with a wider community.

If you think there is a way you could contribute to one or more of these enterprises, please do not hesitate to let me know.

New Faces

Maintaining this level of activity and building new peaks of excellence at NUS Law mean that we must recruit and retain the very best faculty. We are continuing our process of expansion and in the year in review our faculty has been strengthened by several hires, in particular a series of hires that ensure that we have a sustainable expertise in Singapore law for years to come.

Last year saw the first Sheridan Fellows join NUS Law. Named after NUS Law’s founding Dean, these new full-time positions are intended to serve as a bridge between either undergraduate study or work in the legal profession and a tenure-track academic position with a strong foundation in Singapore law. In 2014, we welcomed a bumper crop of new Fellows.
Samuel Chan graduated from the Australian National University (ANU) in 2012 with a Bachelor of Laws (First Class Honours and the University Medal) and a Bachelor of Asia-Pacific Studies. He was also the recipient of several academic prizes, including the ANU Singapore Alumni Undergraduate Scholarship, the Australian Capital Territory Bar Association Prize for Evidence, the Allens Arthur Robinson International Trade Law Prize and the Dean’s International Student Prize. Samuel previously served as a Student Editor for the Federal Law Review in 2010.

Alan Koh ’14 has as his primary research interest comparative corporate law with particular emphasis on Japan and China, with additional interests in legal education, legal history and the legal profession. Alan received his LL.B. from NUS and his LL.M. from Boston University in 2014 under the NUS-BU LL.B.-LL.M. Concurrent Degree Programme. He is fluent in Mandarin Chinese and Japanese, and was the recipient of an Outstanding Undergraduate Researcher Prize.

Ivan Lee ’14 received several academic prizes at NUS, including the Adrian Clark Memorial Medal and the Outstanding Undergraduate Researcher Prize. His research interests lie in criminal law and legal theory generally, and especially the evolution of law and the relationship between law, culture, and morality.

Timothy Liau ’14 topped his LL.B. class at NUS, winning 14 prizes, including faculty and university level prizes for outstanding research as an undergraduate. He has published works in leading journals both locally and internationally on commercial law, company law, and unjust enrichment. Timothy’s interests extend across disciplines. Broadly, he is interested in both human and firm decision-making and how legal, moral, and other norms impact upon their practical deliberative processes. At the level of legal doctrine, he is hoping to chart the dynamics of these interactions in the areas of property law, contract law and commercial law.

Justin Jerzy Tan ’10 graduated from NUS with a double degree in law (1st Class Honours) and business administration. Prior to joining NUS Law, he served as a legal officer at the Legal Aid Bureau and then practised tax law at Baker & McKenzie.Wong & Leow, where he advised on both regional and Singapore tax issues with a special focus on the international tax aspects of cross-border transactions. Justin has published in tax-related journals, including International Tax Review and IBFD’s Asia-Pacific Tax Bulletin. He also assisted in writing the chapter on partnership taxation in The Law and Practice of Singapore Income Tax (2nd edition). His main interests are in tax and general business law.

Tan Zhong Xing ’12 also won prizes at NUS, including the Montrose Memorial Prize for Jurisprudence and the Wong Peng Koon Prize for Best Directed Research Paper. Prior to entering academia, Zhong Xing was an associate at TSMP Law Corporation where he practised corporate and commercial litigation. His research and teaching interests lie broadly in corporate and commercial law, with an emphasis on analysing corporate governance and contract law from a range of intra and inter-disciplinary perspectives.
In addition to the Sheridan Fellows we also welcomed Elaine Chew ‘09 to NUS Law as a Lecturer. Elaine graduated with first class honours and also earned a BCL with Distinction from Oxford in 2013. Prior to joining NUS Law, she worked as a Justices’ Law Clerk and then as an Assistant Registrar and Magistrate at the Supreme Court. At the Ministry of Law, she served as an Assistant Director in the Policy Advisory Division, where she was engaged in putting up policy papers, conducted consultations and assisted in the drafting of amendments to the Land Acquisition Act, State Lands Act, Arbitration Act and International Arbitration Act. She has taught the Property Law module as an Adjunct and was also an Instructor in our Legal Skills Programme. She has also coached for the Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot.

Lin Lin (LL.M. ‘06, Ph.D. ‘11) joined us as an Assistant Professor. She specialises in Chinese corporate law, comparative corporate law, and partnership law. Trained in both civil and common law jurisdictions, she has a continuing interest in civil law, in particular Chinese civil law. In addition to her degrees from NUS, she completed her LL.B. with highest distinction from the Guangdong University of Foreign Studies in China. At NUS she received a President’s Graduate Fellowship and Faculty Graduate Scholarship. From 2012 to 2013 she was a Visiting Scholar at Stanford Law School and the Arthur and Toni Rembe Rock Center for Corporate Governance at Stanford University. Prior to joining academia, Lin Lin was a Legal Policy Officer at the Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority of Singapore (ACRA) where she helped with reforms to the Companies Act and the Business Registration Act. She has also worked in the Corporate Finance Department of Shook Lin & Bok LLP and a stint at the Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC).

We also awarded an Overseas Graduate Scholarship to Tara Davenport (LL.M. ‘10). Tara’s first law degree was from the London School of Economics, where she received a prize for the highest marks in the Law of Obligations. Her Master’s at NUS was in Maritime Law, building on her work as a shipping lawyer in one of Singapore’s top shipping firms and as a country officer at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. She has worked at our Centre for International Law for nearly four years and is now pursuing her doctorate at Yale.
Research Excellence

These new and returning colleagues join a faculty that 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 new books appeared in 2014: *Company Law in China: Regulation of Business Organizations in a Socialist Market Economy* by Wang Jiangyu (Edward Elgar); *Personal Property Law* by Tan Yock Lin (Academy Publishing); *Mobilizing Gay Singapore: Rights and Resistance in an Authoritarian State* by Lynette J. Chua ’03 (Temple University Press); *Singapore Court Practice 2014* by Jeffrey Pinsler (two volumes, LexisNexis); and *50 Years of Malaysia* by Andrew Harding (Marshall Cavendish). In the realm of fiction, Walter Woon ’81 published *The Devil and the Deep Blue Sea* (Marshall Cavendish).

We also welcomed the second editions of *Law of Intellectual Property in Singapore* by Ng-Loy Wee Loon ’87 (Sweet & Maxwell) and *Reading Law in Singapore* (LexisNexis, edited by Michael Hor ’84, Nicholas Poon and Tang Hang Wu ’95); the third edition of Michael Bridge’s *The Sale of Goods* (Oxford University Press); the fifth edition of *Australian Criminal Justice* by Stanley Yeo ’76 (Oxford University Press); the seventh edition of *Law of Negotiable Instruments* by Poh Chu Chai ’73 (LexisNexis); the ninth edition of Michael Bridge’s *Benjamin’s Sale of Goods* (Sweet & Maxwell); and the ninth edition of *The Law of Trusts* by James Penner (Oxford University Press).

Our faculty also edited major works on a variety of topics of national and regional significance. These include *Constitutionalism in Asia* by Thio Li-ann and Kevin Tan ’86 (Hart); *Sustainability Matters* (volumes 1 & 2) by Lye Lin Heng ’73 (World Scientific); Bob Beckman’s *Freedom of Navigation and Globalization* (Martinus Nijhoff); *The South China Sea Disputes and Law of the Sea* by S. Jayakumar ’63, Tommy Koh ’61, and Bob Beckman (Edward Elgar); *Historical Origins of International Criminal Law: Volumes 1 & 2* by Cheah Wui Ling ’03 (Torkel Opsahl); *Critical International Law* by our PhD students Prabhakar Singh and Benoît Mayer (Oxford University Press); *Socio-legal Scholarship on Southeast Asia: Themes and Directions* by Lynette J. Chua ’03 (a special issue of the Asian Journal of Comparative Law co-edited with Melissa Crouch); and my own edited volume entitled *Data Protection Law in Singapore: Privacy and Sovereignty in an Interconnected World* (Academy Publishing).
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.

At the Criminal Law Conference 2014, Minister for Law K. Shanmugam ’84 cited the recent book by Chan Wing Cheong, Michael Hor ’84, and Stanley Yeo ’76, Criminal Law for the 21st Century – A Model Code for Singapore. He noted their proposals and said they were being given careful thought. In particular, he said that the government needed to give greater consideration to the idea of rationalizing some areas of the code.

Singapore’s Court of Appeal and other courts routinely engage with the published work of our faculty. In the year 2014, the Court of Appeal cited with approval the work of David Tan and Goh Yihan ’06 in a case on duty of care. A note by Wee Meng Seng ’93 in Lloyd’s Maritime and Commercial Law Quarterly was cited by Menon CJ in a decision on international (or cross-border) insolvency. Stephen Girvin’s work was cited in two cases on shipping law — once on the giving of notices of readiness (NOR) under voyage charters and the other on the nature of a freight forwarder’s bill of lading. Leong Wai Kum’s work featured in two Court of Appeal cases: one on the court’s power to vary a maintenance order made for the benefit of a child, and a second on the interpretation of how a spouse’s “misconduct” may be relevant (or not) in the division of matrimonial assets.

Jeffrey Pinsler’s books on evidence, procedure, and ethics were relied upon in some three dozen cases in 2014. The courts also cited Margaret Fordham’s work on wrongful conception and wrongful birth actions; Yeo Hwee Ying ’80 on the evidential value of registration of a partner under the Business Registration Act; Lynette J. Chua ’03 on the constitutionality of section 377A; Hans Tjio on securities regulation; Thio Li-ann on the right of an arrested person to be brought before a magistrate; Lye Lin Heng ’73 on landlord and tenant law; and Cheah Wui Ling ’03 on the crime of commercial sex with a minor.

The Singapore Court of Appeal and its Malaysian counterpart both cited Teo Keang Sood’s book on strata title and Chan Wing Cheong and Stanley Yeo ’76 on criminal law. The Malaysian Court of Appeal also cited Kevin Tan ’86 & Thio Li-ann’s work on constitutional law. Books and other works by Walter Woon ’81 were cited thrice in Singapore’s Court of Appeal, once in the Malaysian Federal Court, twice in the Malaysian Court of Appeal, 11 times in the Singapore High Court, once by a registrar in the High Court, and twice by the District Court. Principles of Insurance Law by Poh Chu Chai ’73 was cited in three Malaysian cases; his book on Pledges, Guarantee and Letters of Credit was cited by the Singapore and Malaysia courts, and Law of Banker and Customer was cited in another Malaysian case.
Andrew Simester was cited twice by the New Zealand Court of Appeal on voluntariness and the criminal liability of corporations. The Canadian Supreme Court relied upon Michael Bridge’s work on good faith in a contract law case. Kevin Gray’s work on property law was cited by the UK Supreme Court and Court of Appeal, as well as the New South Wales Court of Appeal.

Another country in which many members of NUS Law have had an impact is Myanmar. Last year I joined Senior Minister of State for Law and Education Indranee Rajah ’86, Assoc Prof Ho Peng Kee ’79, and my counterpart at SMU Yeo Tiong Min ’90 to visit senior Myanmar officials, including Education Minister Dr Khin Sann Yi, Chief Justice U Tun Tun Oo, and Attorney General Dr Tun Shin.

In the course of the trip we signed memoranda of understanding with the law schools at Yangon University and Mandalay University. These MOUs provide a framework for cooperation in legal education between our law schools, ranging from curriculum design and faculty exchanges to enhancing research and development resources. We also presented books to expand their library resources.

The legal environment in Myanmar is changing rapidly, and it was truly impressive to see how quickly and how thoughtfully their law faculties are responding. My colleagues and I look forward to working with them on the basis of mutual respect to improve legal education and opportunities for students.

Faculty Achievements

Our faculty achieved significant milestones in many other areas.

Lynette J. Chua ’03 won an honourable mention for her essay in the 2014 Law & Society Association’s Junior Scholars Essay Competition as part of their 50th Anniversary celebrations. The topic was “What is the future of socio-legal studies, what new possibilities exist, and what innovations should the Law & Society Association consider as it enters the 2nd Half Century?”

Koh Kheng Lian ’61 was an inaugural inductee into Singapore Women’s Hall of Fame at the Singapore Council for Women’s Organisation’s Gala Dinner and Induction Ceremony. The Hall of Fame honours women who have made, or are making an impact, on Singapore – “the boundary breakers and record holders, the risk-takers and change makers, the role models and the standard setters”. Among other activities, Kheng Lian chairs the APCEL Specialist Group on Climate Change Adaptation and is on the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung’s Rule of Law Program Asia.
Ambassador-at-Large Tommy Koh ’61 was awarded the 2014 Great Negotiator Award by Harvard Law School. He is the 11th recipient of the Award, which recognises his work as chief negotiator for the United States-Singapore Free Trade Agreement; for chairing the negotiations that produced the ASEAN Charter; for key actions that resolved territorial and humanitarian disputes in the Baltics and Asia; and for successfully leading two unprecedented global mega-conferences: the Third United Nations (UN) Conference on the Law of the Sea, and the UN Conference on the Environment and Development, also known as the “Rio” Earth Summit.

In April, Ng Siew Kuan and Ng-Loy Wee Loon ’87 were appointed as IP Adjudicators by the Intellectual Property Office of Singapore (IPOS) in recognition of their achievements in IP Law.

Alan Tan ’93 and Simon Tay ’86 were appointed by the government as Eminent Experts to the International Advisory Panel on Transboundary Pollution. They will be providing specialised knowledge and advice for the Panel’s deliberations on transboundary pollution issues, particularly on forest and land fires and the resulting haze pollution.

Mindy Chen-Wishart delivered the Fourth Annual International and Comparative Quarterly Lecture on 20 May 2014. Set up to showcase the best paper published in the ICLQ in the preceding year, her topic was “Legal Transplant and Undue Influence; Lost in Translation or a Working Misunderstanding?”

Tracey Evans Chan ’97 was promoted to Associate Professor with Tenure from 1 July. He has taught a range of subjects including the electives Biomedical Law & Ethics and Corporate Insolvency Law, which are also his areas of primary and secondary research. Tracey also began his secondment to Singapore’s Ministry of Health in 2014 where he will be assisting with various legislative and regulatory projects that relate to human biomedical research and healthcare services delivery. He will also oversee the work of the Bioethics Advisory Committee.

Mark McBride was granted leave to supplicate for (i.e. completed) his Philosophy D.Phil (i.e. Ph.D) at Oxford in September. The thesis is titled “Immediate Knowledge and Conditions on Knowledge” and one of its chapters is a modified version of a Legal Theory paper of Mark’s on epistemological issues in Evidence Law.
Jaclyn Neo ’03 received her J.S.D. (Doctor of the Science of Law) from Yale in April. Her dissertation topic was “Mixing State and Religion: A Theory of Mixed Constitutionalism”.

In October, Chan Wing Cheong was awarded a President’s Volunteerism & Philanthropy Award (PVPA) which honours those who have set benchmarks of excellence in encouraging the spirit of giving in Singapore. Wing Cheong has been a volunteer probation officer and small group leader to youths in boys’ homes for several years. His work includes helping male juvenile delinquents pass their probationary stays.

On 17 November, Debbie Ong ’89, began her two-year term as Judicial Commissioner of the Supreme Court of Singapore. She will play a key role in the path-breaking developments in Singapore’s family law regime, as well as further strengthening NUS Law’s ties to the courts.

Joel Lee was appointed Chairman of the new Singapore International Mediation Institute (SIMI) which was launched by Senior Minister of State Indranee Rajah ’86 on 5 November. SIMI aims to set world-class standards in mediation and will manage an accreditation scheme for mediators. Together with the significant investments in arbitration and important moves in litigation, notable the creation of the Singapore International Commercial Court, SIMI represents a third avenue for dispute resolution in Singapore through mediation.

Jeffrey Pinsler was appointed to the Board of Governors of the Singapore Judicial College, which is an entity dedicated to the training and development of Judges and Judicial Officers. It is established under the auspices of the Supreme Court.

Michael Bridge and Kevin Gray were elected Ordinary Academic Benchers of the Middle Temple. (A far grander honour than the downbeat title suggests!)

“Mergers and Accusations”, a play by Eleanor Wong ’85, has been included in the list of classic Singapore plays chosen by The Straits Times. The play is the first of her trilogy of plays collectively entitled “Invitation to Treat”. The trilogy will be part of the Esplanade’s Studios season from April to May 2015.
The lifeblood of NUS Law is our students. We have rich traditions such as Orientation, Rag & Flag, the Law IV Musical, the Farewell Dinner, and Commencement. Above and beyond the normal rigours of law school studies, these events mark our calendar and shape the experience of our students.

In the 2014 Vis Moot, in which almost 300 law schools participated, the NUS Law team came in as 1st Runner-Up for the Werner Melis Award for Best Respondent Memorial. The NUS representatives were Chen Chi ‘14, Hannah Lee ‘15, Kenneth Kong ‘14, Kok Yee Keong ‘14, Jasmine Yong ‘14 and Mitchell Yeo ‘14. Yee Keong and Chen Chi additionally earned honourable mention for being two of the top speakers in the General Rounds.

The 2014 Oxford Intellectual Property Moot team also brought home a 1st Runner-Up award for their memorials. The team’s principal drafter was Stephanie Teh ‘14, and her colleagues were Naveen Lulla ‘14 and Sudhershen Hariram ‘14.

In AY 2013-2014, NUS Law mooters dominated the local mooting scene. Kelvin Chong ‘15 won the Drew & Napier Advocacy Cup. Hairul Hakkim ‘16 won the Wong Partnership International Commercial Arbitration Moot. Leong Qianyu ‘16 won the Stamford Law Corporate Moot. Anand Tiwari ‘16 won the Mallal Moot (organised by Allen & Gledhill) and Christopher Zheng Rui ‘17 took the Best Memorial Prize. In the Harry Elias Moot, Louis Lim ‘17 was overall Best Speaker, and Geraldine Toh ‘17 wrote the Best Memorial.

On behalf of all our students, I note my great appreciation of the support given to our mooters by Eleanor Wong ’85 and Lim Lei Theng ’92 and the incredible team of alumni that work with them to prepare our mooters for battle.

NUS Law students involved in the Innocence Project gained praise and attention for their work in providing second chances for prisoners who believe they have been wrongly convicted. They were instrumental in overturning the conviction of a young man who had been charged with drug offences. Their efforts were recognised by the University at the 10th NUS Student Achievement Awards, where the group won an award in the Projects (New Initiatives) category. The Innocence Project is a world-wide movement; the Singapore chapter is run by the Law School’s Criminal Justice Club.

Other NUS students were also active in social causes. The NUS Pro Bono Club launched Migrant Workers Awareness Week 2014 to bring the general public closer to the lives (and live issues) faced by migrant workers. They also helped to create two manuals on migrant worker rights (the Justice Without Borders Practitioner’s Manual
and the Law Society Manual on Migrant Work Issues and Their Resolution). NUS also hosted the Asia Pro Bono Conference with substantial student participation led by Helena Whalen-Bridge and a keynote address by Indranee Rajah ’86.

The Class of 2014 continued the hallowed tradition of giving back to the community by producing a musical and raising funds for charity. The 2014 Law IV musical was graced by Chief Justice Sundaresh Menon ’86 and raised more than $25,000 for the chosen charities: Willing Hearts and Child at Street 11.

The Singapore Law Review published its 32nd issue in December 2014 and held its annual Singapore Law Review Lecture featuring an address by Visiting Professor Antony Anghie, Samuel D. Thurman Professor at the University of Utah, on the topic of “International Law and the Pre-History of Globalization”.

**Alumni Relations & Development**

Last year’s Commencement was particularly special as the Class of 2014 included our 10,000th graduate. Our alumni continued to make us proud, with many achievements worthy of recognition.

V.K. Rajah ’82 was appointed Attorney-General, taking over from Steven Chong ’82 who returned to the bench of the Supreme Court. Michael Hor ’84 left NUS for Hong Kong to take up the deanship in the University of Hong Kong Faculty of Law. His colleagues and friends came together to establish a Michael Hor Prize in his honour, recognising his significant achievements in the areas of criminal law, criminal legal process and freedom of expression.

Support from alumni remained strong as we saw an increase in the number of alumni donors. Other alumni served in different ways, including the 103 alumni mentors who are currently participating in the third year of our NUS Law Alumni Mentorship Programme (LAMP). We also often have alumni back with us as adjunct professors or speakers at our career talks.

Another boost to the development of criminal law was the launch of the Amaladass Professorship in Criminal Justice. The Professorship builds on the Amaladass Fellowship, first established in 2009 in memory of the late legal practitioner Mr M. Amaladass by a friend. Criminal law was one of Mr Amaladass’ main areas of practice during his almost 30 years in the profession. Ho Hock Lai ’89 is the augural Amaladass Professor and delivered a lecture titled “Recent (non-) Developments in the Right to Counsel” on 17 September 2014 to mark the launch. We were honored to have the late Subhas Anandan ’70 as the chair of this lecture.
Besides Michael Hor and M. Amaladass, we also celebrated the legacies of Professor **Bernard Brown** and the late Madam **Jenny Lau** in NUS Law. Professor Brown taught in NUS Law over 50 years ago and to mark his 80th birthday, some of his students from the NUS Law Class of 1960 established the Bernard Brown Prize in Public Law. Madam Lau held the honour as Singapore's first female judge and her family set up the Jenny Lau Prize in International Environmental Law & Policy in her memory. It is particularly gratifying to us to be able to work with donors to create legacies in education and philanthropy in NUS Law. If you wish to obtain naming opportunities within NUS Law to honour a family member, a friend or your organisation, please do not hesitate to contact **Trina Gan ’04** (trina.gan@nus.edu.sg; 6601 2248).

It was with much sadness that we learnt about the passing of **Subhas Anandan ’70** in January this year. His death is a great loss to our community. Subhas graduated from NUS Law in 1970 and continued to actively engage with students at the Faculty of Law throughout his career. Most recently, he was a guest speaker at a Criminal Practice class on 4 November at the invitation of his nephew, **Anand Nalachandran ’99**.

We also mourned the loss of another great legal personality, **Karpal Singh ’68**. I never had the opportunity to meet Mr Singh, but knew of him by reputation as one of the more interesting characters in Malaysian politics.

Both men impacted the lives of many during their lifetimes in different ways, on different sides of the causeway. We hope that their experiences will be inspiration for the generations of NUS Law students to come.

On a happier note, together with the Class of 1984 and the Class of 2004, we helped celebrate their 30th anniversary and 10th anniversary reunions respectively. We also made time to travel up to Kuala Lumpur in April and were glad that some of our Singapore-based alumni were able to join us as well to meet with their former classmates. I also hosted a dinner in October for alumni based in New York.

Anniversary reunions have always been a hallmark in our calendar. If you belong to the Classes of 1965, 1970, 1975, 1980, 1985, 1990, 1995, 2000 or 2005 and wish to hold a class reunion this year, please let us know. We are often able to provide each class with logistical support as well as a small 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. For reunion matters in NUS Law, you can contact **Trina Gan ’04** (trina.gan@nus.edu.sg; 6601 2248).
We finished the year with a night out at the theatre with supporters and alumni who came to see the W!ld Rice production of “Monkey Goes West” on 5 December 2014. This was in part to thank our various stakeholders for their help for the past year as well as to support W!ld Rice, which is helmed by Ivan Heng’ 88. It was a tremendous event.

Our alumni continue to contribute to NUS Law in many ways. We benefit from your successes, which inspire and challenge us all. We welcome your involvement to meet with faculty and students, participate in events, or offer your time or experience. And we are grateful for your financial support, and the growing number of alumni who give back to NUS Law in order to help the next generation of students. If you would like to discuss any of the ways in which you might advance the mission of NUS Law, please feel free contact Trina Gan ’04 (trina.gan@nus.edu.sg; 6601 2248) or myself directly.

**Stay in Touch**

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

Together with all my colleagues, please accept my best wishes to you and your loved ones for 2015. I hope that the year brings you peace, happiness, and fulfilment.

Simon Chesterman
Dean, NUS Law
DONATION FORM

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