



SINGAPORE ACADEMY OF LAW

The Singapore Academy of Law proudly presents

"Pupillage and Practice: The Look Before The Leap"

Date: Friday, 10 February 2006 v **Time:** 6.00pm to 8.00pm v **Venue:** Seminar Room 2, Law Faculty, National University of Singapore, 9 Kent Ridge Drive, Singapore 119241 v **Price:** Complimentary

INTRODUCTION

The Singapore Academy of Law Membership & Social Committee is proud to present a reprise of last year's highly-successful, informative & provocative event, *exclusively* for law students and "newbies" to the Singapore legal profession!

Join our panel for a *frank, no-holds-barred, informal* discussion about what it's REALLY like to practise law! We've assembled a diverse, entertaining and top-notch panel that's young enough to remember the initial pangs of practice, but experienced enough to know how to navigate (some in hindsight!) those tricky early years.

The forum will also give you the chance to chat with lawyers who are interested in listening to you and helping you decide which area of practice best suits you (without wanting to persuade you to join their firms). They've all agreed to be totally honest about their experiences and are eager to share their tips and insights with you. There will also be senior lawyers on hand to add their views and opinions, so don't miss this great opportunity to satisfy your curiosity about the reality of legal practice, and to network!

Plus, there'll be complimentary *food and beverages* thrown in!

So register now (**via the attached registration form**) and come on down to the 'Real Careers Fair'!

TOPICS OF DISCUSSION

The panel will discuss topics such as:

- What do "billable hours expectations", "all-nighters" and "working weekends" really mean for young associates?
- What's the truth behind working for a Singapore law firm vs. working for a JLV?
- How difficult is it to become a partner at different law firms? What if I don't want to become a partner – am I "condemned" to poor work and second-class treatment?
- Do law firms engage in "cherry picking" and poaching? How do I get noticed?
- How does law firm practice differ from in-house work and government lawyering? When & how do I decide what works for me?
- What's the Singapore legal community really like? Is it competitive and petty, companionable and friendly, or what?
- What will be the biggest challenges facing young lawyers in the next few years? How truly competitive is our legal profession internationally?

MODERATOR

Adam Maniam is the 2nd Year Class President, and was also a Dean's Lister and Law Ball Finalist in his first year. While he is still undecided, Adam's friends argue that based on looks alone, he should practise Criminal Law. Adam hopes this discussion will educate everyone about the realities of the legal profession (especially his friends!).

PANELISTS

The confirmed panellists *include*:

- **Anand Nalachandran, Associate, Messrs Harry Elias Partnership**

Anand graduated with an Honours degree from the National University of Singapore in 1999 and has been in practice with the firm of Messrs Harry Elias Partnership since being admitted to the Bar in 2000. Aside from general litigation experience, Anand has developed a specialist criminal practice, handling a broad spectrum of criminal matters at all levels in the Subordinate Courts and Magistrate's Appeals as well as major offences and capital (death penalty) cases in the High Court and the Court of Appeal. Furthermore, he is on the list of Assigned Counsel with the Supreme Court for capital matters and volunteers as Defence Counsel with the Criminal Legal Aid Scheme.

Outside practice, Anand is actively involved in the Law Society of Singapore as an elected member of the Council, the governing body of the Society, and holds office as the Honorary Secretary and is a member of the Ex-Co. In addition, Anand is Co-Chairman of the Young Lawyers Committee as well as the Vice-Chairman of the Social & Welfare Committee. Anand has also been appointed to the Membership & Social Committee of the Singapore Academy of Law.

- **Howard Cheam Heng Haw, Senior Associate, Messrs Rajah and Tann**

Howard graduated with LL.B (Hons) from King's College, University of London and was admitted to the Bar in 2001. He is currently a Senior Associate at Messrs Rajah & Tann where he specialises in corporate and capital markets matters. Prior to his decision to specialise in his current area, he was practising at Messrs Harry Elias Partnership, where he engaged in civil and criminal litigation, arbitration and corporate law matters.

In his free time, Howard likes to play soccer with his friends, read and watch movies. At the moment, he is trying to find the time to engage in new pursuits, such as the learning of a new musical instrument and/or a new language.

- **Vivienne Lim, Director, Genesis Law Corporation**

Vivienne graduated with a LLB (Hons) degree from National University of Singapore in 1995 and was admitted as an Advocate & Solicitor of the Supreme Court of Singapore in 1996. She has been a litigator since the day she was called to the bar. Vivienne was a partner at Helen Yeo & Partners and then Rodyk & Davidson before setting up Genesis Law Corporation with a few partners. She has just returned from a housebuilding mission trip to Banda Aceh where she learnt that lawyering gives you absolutely no useful skill set whatsoever in terms of disaster response assistance but is happy to share her various perspectives on practice.

- **Nicholas Chan, Asia Pacific Head of the Merger and Acquisition Group (Legal), JPMorgan**

Nicholas Chan graduated from Pembroke College, Cambridge in 1991, qualifying as an English barrister the following year and, thereafter, as a Singapore Advocate and Solicitor. He was the first pupil at (the then fledgling) Wong Meng Meng & Partners. After a private practice career of seven years, Nicholas left international firm, Orrick Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP, and joined JPMorgan in 1999.

He is currently the Asia Pacific Head of the M&A Group (Legal). Nicholas sits on the boards of various JPMorgan entities and also sits as a director of Wild Rice Theatre, The Singapore Lyric Opera and is a trustee of the Action for AIDS Endowment Fund. He is one of the founding partners of The Marmalade Group of restaurants, so named after one of his dogs.

- **Sylvia Lim, Manager, Continuing Education & Training, Temasek Polytechnic**

Sylvia Lim wanted to quit Law School half-way but managed to complete her LL.B studies with her classmates in 1988. Highly interested in public service, she was a Police Inspector with the Singapore Police Force for 3 years before leaving for private practice. After four years of going to court, her passion for police training and a balanced life brought her to lecturing at Temasek Polytechnic, where she has been for the last seven years, teaching subjects such as Civil Procedure, Criminal Procedure and Crime Prevention. She is currently the Manager of Continuing Education and Training at its Business School, overseeing the part-time programmes that Temasek Polytechnic conducts for adult learners. When she is not working, her time is spent in political work and sports.

- **Jason Lee, Recruitment Consultant, Legal Labs Recruitment**

Jason Lee graduated from the University of Nottingham and was in private practice for about 5 years with an international “magic circle” law firm, where he trained and spent time at their offices in Hong Kong, London and Singapore. He moved in-house and worked for MNCs in the telecommunications/IT industry in Hong Kong and Singapore, before embarking on a career in recruitment consulting. He consults with Legal Labs Recruitment (www.legallabs.com), one of the longest established legal search and recruitment firms in Singapore, having been in the business since 1999. He advises lawyers across varying levels of seniority on career options and has assisted in placing many of them in either private practice or in-house roles in Singapore and across the region.

- **Sharon Lim Hui Mien, Assistant Registrar, Supreme Court of Singapore (with effect from 1 February 2006)**

Sharon obtained her degree in law from Newnham College, Cambridge University in 1997 and an LL.M from the University of California, Berkeley in 2002. She started work in the Legal Service in 1998 and has variously been appointed to the posts of Justices’ Law Clerk, Assistant Registrar (Supreme Court), District Judge (Subordinate Courts) and on secondment to the Ministry of Finance as Deputy Director, Fiscal Policy. As such, she is looking forward to being on the same side of the table for once with her colleagues from the legal profession. Sharon also assists at the Singapore Academy of Law as the Assistant Secretary to the Professional Affairs Committee. For leisure, Sharon spends copious amounts of time brushing her Shih Tzu and thinking up delicious things to cook.



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(Closing date for registration: 3 February 2006)

- **Please MAIL/EMAIL** your registration form to:
Corporate Communications Department
(Attn: Ms Sherina Chan)
Singapore Academy of Law
1 Supreme Court Lane, Level 6
Singapore 178879
- **Registration** is accepted on a first-come, first-served basis, subject to availability of seats.
- **Registration will be confirmed by email.** Unsuccessful applicants will be notified by email.
- SAL **reserves the right** to cancel the event or change the venue, panellists and dates, or revise the programme should circumstances so warrant.
- Please ensure that all registration details are clearly provided to avoid delay in registration.
- **For enquiries**, please contact Ms Sherina Chan at tel: (65) 6332 0078 or send an email to sherina_chan@sal.org.sg for more details.

MBSHP – 10 Feb 2006

REGISTRATION FORM

Please register me for the above event. (**delete where appropriate*)

Name: Mr/Ms/Mdm/Dr* _____ Designation: _____

SAL Member: Yes/No* Membership No (eg:A0012 or L1534): _____

Email: _____

Name of Tertiary Institution:

Mailing Address:

Areas of Practice:

Tel: _____ Cellphone No: _____ Fax: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____