SIX INTERNATIONAL MOOTING COMPETITIONS FOR 2006
AND GENEROUS SPONSORSHIP FOR THREE MOOT TEAMS

SINGAPORE RED CROSS - ENHANCING AWARENESS OF
THE LAW OF WAR
Thanks to the strong support of the Singapore Red Cross, NUS will be
well represented at two international mooting competitions involving
International Humanitarian Law (IHL), also known as the law of war or the
law of armed conflict.
The Red Cross International Humanitarian Law Moot will take place in
Hong Kong in March 2006.
For the first time, the Singapore Red Cross will also sponsor another NUS
team, which will travel to the city of Vrnjacka Banja in Serbia Montenegro
for the Jean Pictet International Humanitarian Law Competition.
Singapore Red Cross's sponsorship of these teams is part of its programme
to enhance awareness of International Humanitarian Law in Singapore.
It hopes that through participation in IHL moots, greater interest would
be generated in IHL among Singapore law students and the public generally.

IP ACADEMY SPONSORS THE IP MOOT AT OXFORD
As part of its mission to broaden the knowledge and capabilities in the
protection, exploitation and management of intellectual property (IP) in
Singapore, the IP Academy will sponsor a team from the NUS Law Faculty
to participate in the Oxford International Intellectual Property Moot Court
Competition at Oxford University in April 2006. This is the first time that
Singapore will be represented at an international IP moot competition.
The Competition aims to inspire students to pursue careers in IP Law.
The IP Academy is a national initiative that was established in January
2003 with the aim of becoming a leading think tank in Asia for IP research
and education.

The course in International Legal Process (ILP) taught by Assoc Prof
Beckman (coach of the NUS meeting teams since 1978) and former
mooters Jason Chan '02 and JaiKanth Shankar '04 aims to prepare
mooters for six international competitions:

- Philip C Jessup International Law Moot Competition
- Manfred Lachs
- Space Law Moot Court Competition
- Willem C Vis International
- Commercial Arbitration Moot
- Red Cross International Humanitarian
- Law Moot
- Jean Pictet International Humanitarian Law Competition
- Oxford International Intellectual Property Moot Court Competition

"Coming back to teach in NUS has been a great experience. Working
alongside Assoc Prof Beckman has been lots of fun. In particular, it's
great to be on the other side of the fence - getting students to answer
questions is much less stressful than having to answer Assoc Prof
Beckman's inquiries!" Jason Chan '02 Moot Alumnus and part-time
tutor at the Faculty

"It is almost surreal, to be on the 'other side'. It was not too long ago
that I was an ILP student, and I can vividly recall my experience. I am
glad to see that the passion and zeal for mootng has not dwindled in
any way. Among other things, ILP is extremely useful for litigation
practice. The research, drafting, analysis and thought processes involved
go a long way to prepare a student for actual litigation work, although
students will only appreciate the utility of the mootng experience
with the benefit of hindsight." JaiKanth Shankar '04 Moot Alumnus and part-time
tutor at the Faculty

NUS-UM MOOTING COMPETITION 2005
BY NG AIN KAI '08
Carrying on with a tradition that recently saw a
two-year lapse, the NUS-UM (University of Malaya)
Mooting Competition returned on 5 August 2005.
The Mooting and Debating Club (MDC) and the Law
Society of the University of Malaya hope that the
competition will allow both Universities to foster closer
ties and friendship. Barely a month before the
Competition, Senior Minister, Mr. Goh Chok Tong
remarked in his speech at the NUS Centennial Dinner,
that, besides strengthening NUS international
collaboration as part of its strategy to go global, NUS
should explore more ways to strengthen links with the
UM to create bonds between the students from both
Universities. The MDC felt the same way and indeed
after the success of the 2005 Competition, no doubt
it will continue to be an annual event.
Tan Shou Min '07 and Darius Chan '07 represented
NUS while UM was represented by Nicole Leung and
Chong Kien Mun.

With the Moot Court packed to the brim, Darius launched
the moot with a clear and persuasive style, undaunted
by persistent questioning from the bench of distinguished
luminaries - Senior District Judge Richard Magnus LLM
'75, Mr. Jimmy Yim SC '82 LLM '90, and Mr. Steven
Chong, SC '82. He managed to create a lasting
impression on the judges. Meanwhile, Shou Min's
unflappable manner allowed him to put
his case before the bench effectively.
The team from
UM presented their
case well using
different techniques
and choice of words
from the NUS team,
thus providing the
audience with a
rare opportunity to
witness the manner
and style of mooters
from other countries. During their submissions, the
audience was treated to a rather entertaining exchange
between the mooters and the bench.
After deliberation by the judges, the NUS team emerged
winner of the Competition and Shou Min was named
the best mooter. We certainly look forward to the next
NUS-UM Mooting Competition.
INTRODUCING OUR NEWEST ALUMNI...

Centennial Class of 2005
The Practice of Law

The President of the Law Society, Mr Philip Jeyaretnam, SC and the Co-chairs of the Law Society’s Young Lawyers Committee, Mr Anand Nalambandran ’99 and Ms Jacintha Thannimalai ’00 spoke to law students about “The Practice of Law”. This was followed by a question and answer session where a panel of young lawyers from the Law Society’s Young Lawyers Committee fielded questions on corporate and litigation practice in Singapore and the opportunities for lawyers in the global legal world today.

Roses & Hello

Following the proud musical tradition of their predecessors, the Class of 2006 put up a stirring performance, “Roses & Hello” at the University Cultural Centre. 10/11.2005

“Roses and Hello” weaved its musical tale with a generous splash of humour and romance. The story told of a struggle between a feisty young woman (Penny played by Erlene Tan ’06) who owns a floral boutique sandwiched between two skyscraping office towers, and a law firm hungry for space to expand its premises. Yeo Kok Siew ’06 played the smart, confident yuppy lawyer caught between being a filial son, and living out his own dreams - eventually forced to choose one over the other. The musical talents of the cast were obvious and the song “Discovery”, held together by an excellent chorus, elicited near hysterical laughter from the audience. The musical production raised $32,000 for their adopted charities, the Straits Times School Pocket Money Fund and the St. Theresa’s Home.

"The best thing about the Law IV production tradition has been its charitable cause - the opportunity that it presents for us to do something within our means, for the less fortunate and less privileged. We hope that future Law IV productions will continue to focus on the adopted charities, whilst displaying the talents and strengths of the graduating batch as a whole."  Producers Crasta Reniza Sophia ’06 and Lee Pek En Evangeline ’06
Building on its conference series (which is fast becoming a “must attend” event in the annual calendar of legal scholars in, and interested, in Asia), ASLI launched a complementary symposium series in November 2005 for smaller groups of scholars to gather and discuss specific topics in greater depth and detail.

The inaugural ASLI Symposium was jointly organised by member institutions International Islamic University Malaysia (“IIUM”) and National University of Singapore (“NUS”). NUS hosted the event, which brought together more than 40 scholars from 18 institutions to consider topics under the theme of “Reflections on Legal Education in Asia”. It was particularly gratifying to welcome participants from as far as America and England.

The opening keynote and overview session on the first morning set the stage for the four panel discussions to follow. Prof. Nik Ahmad Kamal Nik Mahmood, Dean of IIUM, opened the symposium with his paper on “The Importance of Understanding and Teaching Islamic Law in Asia”. Prof. Tan Cheng Han, Dean of NUS, then spoke on “Legal Education in Asia: An Overview”. The question and answer session was lively and probing, and quite undeterred by the imminent onset of lunch!

In the panel on “Culture Neutral? Are there Asian challenges for teaching specific subjects or skills?” papers looked at the teaching of comparative law, public international law and legal skills and also considered the opportunities and challenges for “internationalising” legal education in Asia.

Other sessions explored the changing face of legal education, various legal education landscapes in Asia, the effective teaching of legal skills and the challenges of teaching certain subjects in Asia.

With the relatively intimate symposium setting, discussions were frank and challenging. Asian law schools face many common issues and challenges, finding the right balance between academic and professional learning objectives, between law and non-law subjects; considering whether law education should be a graduate endeavour rather than an undergraduate degree; funding and autonomy. At the same time, the symposium gave participants a valuable opportunity to learn about different developments in other jurisdictions.

Judging from the animated discussions that continued into tea breaks and meals, most participants would welcome the prospect of more ASLI symposia on topics of common interest.

The 3rd ASLI Annual Conference “The Development of Law in Asia: Convergence vs. Divergence” organised by ECULP, will be held in Shanghai from 25-26 May 2006. More information on ASLI and the Conference is available at http://law.nus.edu.sg/ansi.

05.08.2005
ALUMNI LUNCH WITH THE NUS PRESIDENT

TO REACH OUT TO ALUMNI FROM THE VARIOUS FACULTIES AND STRENGTHEN THEIR TIES WITH THEIR ALMA MATER, THE PRESIDENT OF NUS INVITED ALUMNI BACK TO THE UNIVERSITY.
A MATTER OF DEGREES
TO MEET THE NEEDS OF A DEVELOPING LEGAL MARKET IN SINGAPORE AND THE WORLD, THE LAW SCHOOL HAS LAUNCHED SEVERAL GROUND-BREAKING NEW PROGRAMMES.

NYU@NUS

The New York University (NYU) School of Law and the NUS Faculty of Law have launched an innovative and unprecedented collaborative programme - NYU@NUS.

The Master of Laws programme seeks to attract the very brightest legal minds who will be taught by NYU and NUS faculty at the NUS campus in Singapore. Students graduating from the programme will be conferred with both an NYU LL.M. in Law and the Global Economy and the NUS LL.M. More details on the programme are available on the Faculty’s website.

DOUBLE HONOURS DEGREE IN ECONOMICS AND LAW

Singapore is a regional center for legal services, and a lot of our international legal work involves commercial, corporate and financial law. This means there is – and will continue to be – a demand for lawyers with a strong background in Economics, as well as for economists trained in law. Scholars and practitioners of the two fields have been actively examining the places where they meet. E.g., most Corporation Law subjects in top law schools now include economic analysis, and economists working on public policy, such as competition policy, require a working knowledge of the supporting legal infrastructure.

The Double Honours Degree in Economics and Law is a programme offered jointly by the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences and the Faculty of Law, leading to both the degrees of BSocSci(Hons) and LLB (Hons).

The course includes the core of the Economics and Law degrees, as well as some other modules to allow students to explore beyond those areas and fully leverage on multi-disciplinary opportunities.

“When I heard of the double degree programme, I immediately applied because I felt that this would widen my perspective and create more career options for me. I was interested to learn about the mechanics of law from a different point of view. I also felt that economics was inextricably entwined with law and both courses would be highly relevant to society today.”

“Professor Tan Cheng Han, SC ’87 Dean of the Faculty of Law: ‘Singapore is currently working to consolidate and extend its status as a regional center for legal services as well as corporate and financial services. As work in corporate and financial services law increases, there will be a corresponding increase in the demand for lawyers with a strong background in Business, as well as for Business graduates trained in Law. This programme is therefore part of the law school’s strategy of turning out graduates who have a well-rounded knowledge base and transferable mind skills.”

DOUBLE HONOURS DEGREE IN BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION AND LAW

Built around the core modules of the Business Administration and Law degrees, students who have successfully completed this double degree programme will be awarded a BA Honours as well as a LL.B. (Hons) degree.

“Professor Lim Chin, Dean of NUS Business School commented: ‘The Business Administration-Law double degree programme is the outcome of our move towards developing top business graduates with special interests in law, health, science and the arts. Double degrees also give depth to learning and work skills. The marketability of our graduates increases as more employers seek versatile professionals who have sound management, financial and business knowledge and acumen on top of their professional grounding. In addition, the double degree gives our Business undergraduates more career options.’“

“I am definitely gaining from the experience and I enjoy it here in Law which is a more close-knit Faculty.”

Lam Wei Yuan (saw 99) who transferred from the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences after completing his first year where he majored in Economics.