Centre for Legal Theory (CLT)

The Centre for Legal Theory (CLT) at NUS Law brings together colleagues in the Faculty of Law interested in a variety of theoretical approaches to law, including those informed by related disciplines. CLT exists to promote formal and informal exchanges on theoretical work by members of the Centre and other colleagues.

Among the research currently undertaken by CLT members, particular strengths can be noted in work relating to: Civil Obligations, Constitutional Law, Comparative Law, Criminal Law/Criminal Justice, Criminal Procedure, Democratic Theory, Evidence, Global/Transnational Law, History of International Law, Intellectual History, International Law, International Legal Theory, International Political Theory, Jurisprudence/General Legal Theory, Legal Analysis, Legal Reasoning, Philosophy of Private Law, Public Law Theory, Property Theory, Religion and Law, Religion in International Relations, Rights, Social Theory, Sociology of Law, Standing in Private Law and Theories of Order.

CLT organises several events throughout the academic year, including the Singapore Symposium in Legal Theory. CLT has also hosted a number of international conferences, seminars, and roundtable discussions.

The Singapore Symposium in Legal Theory

The Singapore Symposium in Legal Theory is an initiative supported by the Faculty of Law, with funding by the Academic Research Fund from the Singapore Ministry of Education, to promote discussion of current research in the field of legal theory, broadly conceived. It consists of a formal programme of papers held in Semester 2 each year, in which those working in legal theory from around the world join with colleagues at NUS to present work in progress and explore contemporary debates. Professor Joseph Raz inaugurated the programme in January 2014.
Window on Asia-Pacific Legal and Social Theory

CLT hosts a dedicated webpage for scholars in the Asia-Pacific area working on different aspects of Legal and Social Theory. The Window on Asia-Pacific Legal and Social Theory promotes opportunities for gathering information on scholarship within the region on legal and social theory widely construed, so making it easier for scholars to find others with similar or complementary interests, and to be aware of institutional activities within their fields. If you would like your interests and activities to be included in the Window, please contact us by email: clt@nus.edu.sg

Representative Research Projects

Aging, Law and Society
Lynette J CHUA

Building a Rules-based Intergovernmental Organization
TAN Hsien-Li

Contemporary Debates over Legal Rights
Mark McBRIDE

Developing a Positive Theory of the Executive as a Constitutional Actor
Swati JHAVERI

In Pursuit of Pluralist Jurisprudence
Nicole ROUGHAN & Andrew HALPIN

Legal Reasoning
Mark McBRIDE & James PENNER

New Theories of the State’s Authority: Beyond the Separation of Powers
Nicole ROUGHAN & Swati JHAVERI

Normativity and Change at The Intersection of Law and Religion
Arif JAMAL & Jaclyn NEO

Political Theology of International Order
William BAIN

Popular Power in the History of Political Thought
Sandra FIELD

Property Theory
James PENNER

Regulatory Foundations of Public Law
Michael DOWDLE
Representative Book Publications by Members

- **A Cosmopolitan Legal Order: Kant, Constitutional Justice, and the European Convention on Human Rights**
  By Alec Stone Sweet & Clare Ryan
  (Oxford University Press)

- **Constitutionalism beyond Liberalism**
  Edited by Michael Dowdle & Michael Wilkinson
  (Cambridge University Press)

- **In Pursuit of Pluralist Jurisprudence**
  Edited by Nicole Roughan & Andrew Halpin
  (Cambridge University Press)

- **Islam, Law and the Modern State: (Re)imagining Liberal Theory in Muslim Contexts**
  By Arif A Jamal
  (Routledge)

- **Medieval Foundations of International Relations**
  Edited by William Bain
  (Routledge)

- **New Essays on the Nature of Rights**
  Edited by Mark McBride
  (Hart Publishing)

- **Questioning the Foundations of Public Law**
  Edited by Michael Wilkinson & Michael Dowdle
  (Hart Publishing)

- **Basic Knowledge and Conditions on Knowledge**
  By Mark McBride
  (Open Book Publishers)

- **Property Theory: Legal and Political Perspectives**
  Edited by James E. Penner & Michael Otsuba
  (Cambridge University Press)

Opportunities at NUS

The Centre for Legal Theory welcomes queries regarding opportunities for research project collaboration in any area of legal theory.

**Visiting Researchers & Scholars Programme**
Academics and PhD Scholars interested in visiting to conduct research for a period are welcome to contact the Centre or any member of the CLT group.

**Post-doctoral Fellowship**
The Faculty also offers annual Post-doctoral Fellowships administered by the Office of Vice Dean (Research).

**Doctoral Research Scholarships**
The Faculty boasts extraordinary breadth and depth of scholarship in Legal Theory, and is committed to cultivating the next generation of academics. Generous scholarships are available for the doctoral programme to cover tuition and basic living expenses in Singapore.

Details on the opportunities to come to NUS on the various schemes can be found at law.nus.edu.sg/clt/comingtonus.html

CLT Executive Committee

**Director**
Professor Andrew Halpin

**Deputy Director**
Assistant Professor Mark McBride

**Members**
Professor Damian Chalmers
Professor James Penner
Professor Andrew Simester
Professor Alec Stone Sweet
Associate Professor Mike Dowdle
Assistant Professor Swati Jhaveri
Assistant Professor Tan Zhong Xing