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The Constitution Before and Beyond The Court:
Theories, Trends, Trajectories
(in conjunction with a Book Launch for A Treatise on Singapore Constitutional Law)

By Professor Thio Li-ann, NUS, Faculty of Law
Guest of Honour: Chief Justice Chan Sek Keong

23 May 2012 (Wednesday), 5.30pm to 6.30pm
Auditorium, Level 3, Blk B, Faculty of Law, NUS (Bukit Timah Campus)

ABOUT THE TALK

Professor Thio discusses the theories or political philosophy underlying the Singapore constitutional order, the emerging public law jurisprudence in relation to topics like the separation of powers, rule of law, interpreting fundamental liberties and the use of transnational legal sources. She reflects on the challenges and insights that may be gleaned from teaching and researching a constitutional system which is rooted in Westminster parliamentarianism but has in certain respects been a forum for constitutional experimentation, developing along an autochthonous trajectory, pursuant to its unique mix of principles, pragmatism and particularities. In so doing, she offers observations on how the Singapore experience may inform the province of constitutional law and understandings of constitutionalism.

ABOUT THE WRITER

Dr Thio Li-ann graduated with a Bachelor of Arts (Jurisprudence) from Oxford, and obtained her Master of Laws from Harvard and doctorate in international law from Cambridge. She is a Barrister of Gray’s Inn, and a Professor of Law at the National University of Singapore (“NUS”) where she teaches and researches constitutional and administrative law, international law and human rights in Asia. She was twice ranked an NUS Excellent Teacher. In 2004, she received the NUS Young Researcher Award.

She is a sometime Nominated Member of Parliament (Eleventh Session), and was consultant to Warwick University (on Singapore academic and political freedom issues) and an expert witness before the Australian Federal Court on Singapore constitutional and extradition law.

Formerly Chief Editor of the Singapore Journal of International & Comparative Law and General Editor of the Asian Yearbook of International Law, she currently sits on the editorial board of the International Journal of Constitutional Law, Journal of East Asia and International Law; National University of Taiwan Law Review and Australian Journal of Asian Law.

A prolific scholar, she has published more than 80 law articles, authored Managing Babel: The International Legal Protection of Minorities in the Twentieth Century (2005), and co-authored (with Kevin Y L Tan) Constitutional Law in Malaysia and Singapore (2010) and Evolution of a Revolution: 40 Years of the Singapore Constitution (2009).

PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS:

5.15pm - Registration
5.30pm - Welcome Address by Simon Chesterman, Professor & Dean of NUS, Faculty of Law
5.40pm - Remarks by the Guest of Honour, Chief Justice Chan Sek Keong
5.45pm - Talk on The Constitution before and beyond the Court: Theories, Trends, Trajectories by Dr Thio Li-ann, Professor, NUS, Faculty of Law
6.15pm - Q&A moderated by Dr Kevin Tan, Adjunct Professor of NUS, Faculty of Law
6.30pm - Reception and Book Sale by Academy Publishing

Admission is FREE. Please click here to register.
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