

SHAREHOLDER INSPECTION RIGHTS: A COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVE - ASIA CONFERENCE

Friday 4 June 2021 (via Zoom, Singapore Time)

TIME (SGT)	PROGRAMME
0850 – 0900 (10 mins)	Welcome & Introduction Speakers: Associate Professor Jaclyn Neo (Centre for Asian Legal Studies), Professor Randall Thomas (Vanderbilt Law School) & Associate Professor Umakanth Varottil (National University of Singapore)
Chairperson: Associate Professor Dan Puchniak, NUS Law	
0900 – 0930 (30 mins)	Paper #1: <i>Shareholder Inspection Rights in Australia: Then and Now</i> Presenters: Professor Jennifer Hill (Monash University) & Dr Timothy Bowley (Monash University; Johnson, Winter & Slattery)
0930 – 1000 (30 mins)	Paper #2: <i>Shareholder Inspection Rights in India</i> Presenters: Associate Professor Umakanth Varottil (National University of Singapore) & Ms Neha Joshi (Legal Counsel, India/NY)
1000 – 1030 (30 mins)	Paper #3: <i>Shareholder Inspection Rights in Korea</i> Presenter: Professor Kon Sik Kim (Seoul National University)
1030 – 1100 (30 mins)	Paper #4: <i>Shareholder Inspection Rights in China: Law and Practice</i> Presenter: Professor Robin Huang (The Chinese University of Hong Kong)
1100 – 1115 (15 mins)	Break
Chairperson: Associate Professor Umakanth Varottil, NUS Law	
1115 – 1145 (30 mins)	Paper #5: <i>Over-disclosure in Hong Kong? The efficacy of inspection rights in highly transparent SMEs</i> Presenter: Professor David Donald (The Chinese University of Hong Kong)
1145 – 1215 (30 mins)	Paper #6: <i>Shareholder Inspection Rights in Singapore</i> Presenters: Associate Professor Dan Puchniak (National University of Singapore) & Ms Samantha Tang (National University of Singapore)
1215 – 1245 (30 mins)	Paper #7: <i>Shareholder Inspection Rights in Japan</i> Presenter: Professor Gen Goto (The University of Tokyo)
1245 – 1300 (15 mins)	Concluding Remarks and Way Forward

SPEAKERS' PROFILES

Dr Timothy Bowley Monash University; Johnson, Winter & Slattery



Tim is a corporate law researcher, lecturer and corporate lawyer. His research interests focus on contemporary regulatory debates in corporate and securities law, with a particular focus on the role of shareholders in corporate governance. Tim holds a PhD in law from the University of Sydney, a Master of Law from the University of Cambridge and a Bachelor of Law (Honours) from the University of Adelaide. Tim teaches at Monash Law, is a member of Monash Law's Centre for Commercial Law and Regulatory Studies and is a consultant for a national Australian law firm. Prior to commencing his academic career, Tim was a partner in a national Australian law firm and practised in London.

Professor David Donald The Chinese University of Hong Kong



David C. Donald is a Professor in the Law Faculty of The Chinese University of Hong Kong and Executive Director of CUHK's Centre for Financial Regulation and Economic Development. David previously taught at the Institute for Law and Finance of the University of Frankfurt, Germany and worked as a commercial lawyer in the US and Europe. His publications focus on corporate law and securities market structure, with an emphasis on comparative law issues and new technology. David is a member of the editorial boards of the *Asian Journal of Comparative Law* and the *Taiwan Law Review*.

Professor Gen Goto The University of Tokyo



Professor Gen Goto is Professor of Law at the University of Tokyo, Graduate Schools for Law and Politics, in Japan. He has visited Harvard Law School as Visiting Scholar at East Asian Legal Studies (2013-2015, 2018), and has taught at National University of Singapore, Faculty of Law (2017) and at Radzyner Law School of IDC Herzliya in Israel (2019). After graduating from Faculty of Law at the University of Tokyo in 2003 (LL.B.), Professor Goto had been Assistant Professor at the University of Tokyo (2003-2006), Lecturer (2006-2008) and Associate Professor (2008-2010) at Gakushuin University in Tokyo, and Associate Professor (2010-2019) at the University of Tokyo. Also, he had assisted the Japanese Government on law reforms as Researcher of Japanese Ministry of Justice (2010-2013, for reform of Companies Act) and as Professional Member of Financial System Council of Japanese Financial Services Agency (2011-2013 and 2016-present, for reform of Insurance Business Act and other financial regulations). His articles in English can be found at <http://ssrn.com/author=608493>.

**Professor Jennifer Hill
Monash University**



Jennifer Hill is the Inaugural Bob Baxt AO Chair of Corporate and Commercial Law and Director of the Centre for Commercial Law & Regulatory Studies (CLARS) at Monash University Faculty of Law. Her scholarship is in the area of comparative corporate law and governance. She has held visiting teaching and research positions at a number of international institutions, including Cambridge University; Cornell; NYU; University of Virginia, and Vanderbilt University. Jennifer is a Research Member of the European Corporate Governance Institute (ECGI) and the Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence on Sustainable Finance and EU Law (EUSFiL), University of Genoa, Italy. She is also a Life Member of Clare Hall, Cambridge and a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Law.

**Professor Robin Huang
The Chinese University of Hong Kong**



Robin Hui Huang is Professor (senior level) at the Faculty of Law, Chinese University of Hong Kong. He is a leading expert in corporate and financial law with a focus on Chinese and comparative issues. He is also Adjunct Professor of Law at the University of New South Wales, Li Ka Shing Visiting Professor of Law at McGill University, Honorary Professor at East China University of Political Science and Law, and Guest Professor at China University of Political Science and Law. He is Specially-Invited Research Fellow of the Supreme People's Court of PRC and Expert Advisor of Shanghai Financial Court. He has had about 120 publications, including 10 books and many papers in premier publishing houses and top journals in the United States, United Kingdom, Australia, Canada, Germany, Israel, Hong Kong, Mainland China, and elsewhere. He acts as a Chinese law expert in international litigations and serves as an arbitrator in China and overseas.

**Ms Neha Joshi
Legal Counsel, India/NY**



Neha is a Corporate Attorney, with dual qualifications from India & New York, and a Company Secretary as well. Currently, she is located in Boston, Massachusetts and working as a US Commercial Contracts Counsel with Takeda Pharmaceuticals Group. After earning her US LL.M., she has previously worked as a Legal Contract Reviewer in the US healthcare industry for 2 years. Prior to relocating to the US, Neha has also practiced M&A and General Corporate Law for 2.5 years with one of the top corporate law firms of India. Apart from law, she likes to keep herself busy with cultural activities and volunteer work for non-profit organizations.

Professor Kon Sik Kim
Seoul National University



Professor Kon Sik Kim is Professor of Law at Seoul National University (SNU). He specializes in corporate and securities law. A graduate of the SNU College of Law, he got an LL.M. from Harvard Law School, and a J.D. and a Ph.D. from University of Washington Law School. He served as Dean of the SNU College of Law and was in charge of setting up a new U.S.-style law school at SNU.

Associate Professor Dan W. Puchniak
National University of Singapore



Dan W. Puchniak is an Associate Professor at the National University of Singapore Faculty of Law and a Research Member of the European Corporate Governance Institute. Dan is an internationally recognized scholar in the field of comparative corporate law and governance in Asia. He has received numerous domestic and international awards for his academic research and teaching. His research has pioneered the emerging field of intra-Asian comparative corporate law and governance. Dan has advised international organizations on the development of corporate law in Asia, served as an expert in high stakes complex corporate law disputes in Asia, and his research has been cited several times by Singapore's apex court.

Ms Samantha Tang
National University of Singapore



Samantha is a Sheridan Fellow at the National University of Singapore (NUS), Faculty of Law. Prior to her appointment, she was a researcher at the Centre for Asian Legal Studies, and an Associate Editor for the Asian Journal of Comparative Law.

Samantha's research interests are the corporate law of Commonwealth jurisdictions, with a special focus on shareholder stewardship, and environmental, social and governance (ESG) investing. Her work has been published (or are forthcoming) in the Law Quarterly Review, Lloyds' Maritime and Commercial Law Quarterly, Journal of Corporate Law Studies, Asian Journal of Comparative Law, and Vanderbilt Journal of Transnational Law. Samantha's article, "Rethinking the Theory in Books: Derivative Actions in Singapore and Hong Kong", won the Best Conference Paper Prize at the 2017 Corporate Law Teachers Association Conference, the flagship corporate law conference in the Commonwealth.

Conference Convenor – Associate Professor Umakanth Varottil
National University of Singapore, Faculty of Law



Umakanth Varottil specializes in corporate law and governance, mergers and acquisitions and corporate finance. While his work is generally comparative in nature, his specific focus is on India and Singapore. He has co-authored or co-edited five books, published articles in international journals and founded the IndiaCorpLaw Blog. He has also taught on a visiting basis at law schools in Australia, India, Italy, New Zealand and the United States. He is a Research Member of the European Corporate Governance Institute. Prior to his foray into academia, Umakanth was a partner at a pre-eminent law firm in India. During that time, he was also ranked as a leading corporate/mergers & acquisitions lawyer in India by the Chambers Global Guide.