

## CML Lunch Seminar Life and Practice at the English Shipping Bar

9 October 2024

Centre for Maritime Law, Block B, NUS Law (Bukit Timah Campus)



CML was pleased to have Mr Matthew Chan (Barrister, 20 Essex) share his experience as a Singaporean practicing at the English shipping bar to maritime law researchers and students from NUS Law. The lunchtime seminar was held at CML on 9 October 2024, where Mr Chan spoke about his work in chambers, of which charterparty disputes, bill of lading claims, shipbuilding disputes, and ship sale and purchase matters form a substantial part. He discussed some of his cases including *Fimbank plc v KCH Shipping Co Ltd (The Giant Ace)* [2023] EWCA Civ 569, [2023] 2 Lloyd's Rep 457 (on appeal before the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom and awaiting judgment) where he was junior counsel for one of the parties. Mr Chan also shared why he opted to practise law as a barrister as opposed to a solicitor, drawing a contrast between the two types of lawyers in various situations. Participants were curious about a barrister's working life as an independent practitioner and asked general questions about life as a barrister in chambers, such as working with and being led by King's Counsel and interactions with other colleagues in chambers such as senior barristers and clerks.