

Centre for Asian Legal Studies Faculty of Law

Lawyers & Access to Justice: Challenging Pro Bono

Faculty of Law, National University of Singapore 8 & 9 June 2017

AUTHOR BIOGRAPHIES

(sorted in alphabetical order by family name)



Nick CHEESMAN currently holds an Australian Research Council grant to document where, when and how torture occurs in Myanmar (Burma) and Thailand. Through this research, he aims to reinterpret the relationship between torture and the state, and ultimately, answer the question of whether torture can ever be eliminated, or merely suppressed. For the 2016-17 U.S. academic year he is working on this project at the Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton. The study follows his doctoral dissertation on the politics of law and order in Myanmar, which in 2013 was awarded the ANU's Crawford Prize for academic excellence, and the prize of the Asian Studies Association of Australia for best thesis on Asia. In 2015 Cambridge University Press published a book building on the dissertation, Opposing the Rule of Law: How Myanmar's Courts Make Law and Order. Before coming to the ANU in 2008, he worked in Hong Kong with a regional organization aimed at protecting and promoting human rights. Earlier he convened a people's tribunal on food scarcity and militarization in Myanmar, for a Thailand-based non-profit group. I also lived and worked in a refugee camp for a number of years.



Alice Esther DAWKINS recently completed an Honours Thesis in Asian Studies at the Australian National University. Alice is currently completing an Honours Thesis in Law in Yangon, Myanmar, where she is supported by a New Colombo Plan Scholarship. She is currently a Research Fellow at the Tharthi Myay Foundation (previously Partners Asia). She delivers workshops weekly with the Myanmar Lawyers' Network and also lectures in political science at Yangon University. She is fluent in Mandarin and functional in Burmese and French.

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Hualing FU is a Professor at The University of Hong Kong. Professor Fu's research interest includes constitutional law and human rights, with a special focus on China. He teaches Corruption, Human Rights in China, and Legal Relations between Hong Kong and Mainland China. He has published widely on human rights lawyering, anti-corruption enforcement, and legal institutions.



JaeWon KIM is a Professor of Law at Sungkyunkwan University Law School, and Director of the Korea Program at Harvard Law School Project on Disability. Professor Kim holds law degrees from both Korea and the U.S. and received a JSD degree from Cornell University, where he was a Clarke Fellow. Professor Kim is a member of the Washington D.C. Bar, and his teaching and research interests are in the areas of law and society, legal ethics, disability law, and comparative law.



Helen KRUUSE lectures Legal Theory I, Civil Procedure and Legal Ethics as an elective and as part of the Legal Skills course. Helen's research interests lie in family law, children's rights and legal ethics. Her experiences include articles in East London at the firm Bate, Chubb and Dickson; two years in legal services at the London Borough of Brent; and teaching in the Department of Private Law, University of Cape Town as well as the Department of Public Law and Jurisprudence, University of the Western Cape. Recent journal publications include teaching in legal ethics, post-mortem gamete retrieval and housing policy. She is also an editor of the South African Law Journal.



Takgon LEE is an attorney working at Dongcheon Foundation. Dongcheon Foundation is a public interest foundation offering pro bono and legal aid services for socially disadvantaged and minorities, focusing in various areas including, but not limited to, refugees, migrants, gender, social enterprises, welfare, North Korean refugees, and disabled. It supports, fosters and connects non-profit organizations, activists, and pro bono lawyers while engaging in researches on public interest law, pro bono counselling, and legal and policy reforms. At Dongcheon Foundation, Takgon focuses on legal aid to and policy reforms on refugees, migrants, and pro bono coordination. Takgon received Juris Doctor from Korea University Law School on 2013 and an M.A from Korea University College of Law on 2010. He was admitted into Korea Bar Association on 2013, and California Bar Association on 2015.

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Seh Lih LONG was called to the Malaysian Bar in 2003 and co-founded the Malaysian Centre for Constitutionalism and Human Rights (MCCHR). She has 14 years of work experience in the field of human rights, both at the national and international level. In the area of human rights, Seh Lih specialises in women's rights, human rights and business, freedom of religion, human rights education (in the formal sector), rights of persons with disabilities, electoral law and strategic management planning. Seh Lih has worked with the Human Rights Commission of Malaysia (SUHAKAM) and the United Nations in Afghanistan and Timor-Leste before joining as a staff member of the MCCHR in 2012.



Setsuo MIYAZAWA is a legal sociologist who received LL.B., LL.M., and S.J.D. from Hokkaido University and M.A., M.Phil., and Ph.D. in sociology from Yale. He has been a full-time faculty member at Hokkaido University, Kobe University, Waseda University, Omiya Law School, and Aoyama Gakuin University in Japan before reaching mandatory retirement at Aoyama Gakuin in 2016. He still teaches in Japan as an adjunct lecturer at Waseda and Aoyama Gakuin in the spring. He has also taught as a visiting professor at the law schools of York University (Canada), the University of Washington, Harvard (Mitsubishi Visiting Professor of Japanese Legal Studies), UC Berkeley (Sho Sato Visiting Professor), UCLA, NYU (Global Law Faculty), the University of Hawaii, the University of Pennsylvania, and Fordham. His first visit to Hastings was in 2008, and he joined full time faculty at Hastings in the fall 2013. He teaches at Hastings in the fall and serves as the Senior Director of the East Asian Legal Studies Program which was established in 2015. He has also organized an annual symposium on Japanese law at Hastings since 2012.



Hung Quang NGUYEN is now acting as the Managing Partner of NH Quang & Associates law firm. He possesses deep experience in policy consultancy on institutional changes and public system reform such as research on Vietnamese court system, lawyers' roles, administrative procedure reform, development projects. He conducts policy and law assessment and implementation, research framework development, TOR construction, and comment. And he has also involved in providing privatization consultancy such as drafting and commenting legislations on entrepreneurs, acting as the facilitator between law makers, implementation agencies, and beneficiaries. Quang has been contributing to the social development with his role as a member in the Advisory Board of Transparency International Vietnam (Towards Transparency) since March 2009 and member of the Governing Board of the Center for Social Entrepreneurship Development (Spark Center) initiated by the Netherlands Development Organization (SNV). Quang was the visiting scholar at Law School of Monash University (Australia) in 2008, Law School of Melbourne University and Deakin University of

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Law in 2000. In 2006, he participated in Stanford Summer Fellow on Democracy, Development and the Rule of Law Program, Stanford University, the United States of America. In addition, Quang is the respected author of numerous publications on Vietnam's legal environment, and has co-authored some other articles. Among them include An Historical Overview of Land Law and Land Disputes in Vietnam with Toan Le in "Resolving Land Disputes in East Asia: Exploring the Limits of Law" Hualing Fu & John Gillespie 2014, Global Principles for Cooperation in International Insolvency Cases published by The American Law Institute and International Insolvency Institute in 2009-2010, or The Vietnamese Judiciary: The Politics of Appointment and Promotion with Professor Penelope (Pip) Nicholson in 2005, etc.



Hiroshi OTSUKA's major is Socio-Legal Studies. Associate Professor Otsuka received LL.B., LL.M. from Kobe University. He has been a fulltime faculty member at Nara Women's University (Faculty of Human Life and Environment). He teaches as an adjunct lecturer at Kindai University Law School, Ryukoku University. He has also taught at Doshisha Law School, Ritsumeikan University, and Kansai University of International Studies. His current research fields are social movements, public interest lawyering, consumer law. Especially the role of lawyers in consumer movements is his most important research theme.



Alpha Carole PONTANAL is a lawyer from the Philippines with almost seven years' experience in non-profit programme management and human rights, and legal aid. She currently manages a project focusing on land rights issues concerning agrarian reform and indigenous peoples in the Philippines. Previously, Alpha worked in the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao on human rights, peace processes and transitional justice.



George Baylon RADICS received his PhD from the Department of Sociology at the National University of Singapore. He currently teaches Law in Society, Selected Topics in Law and Justice, Social Thought and Social Theory, and Sociology of Emotions. After receiving his PhD, Dr. Radics studied law at the University of Washington, where he obtained his law degree with a concentration in Asian law. Dr. Radics served as a research attorney at the Supreme Court of Guam for two years after graduating from law school. His articles have been published in a number of journals, including the University of Pennsylvania Asian Law Review, Columbia Human Rights Law Review, Santa Clara Journal of International Law, and the Philippine Sociological Review. Dr. Radics has actively been engaged in research on the Philippines for the past 15 years.

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Sarasu Esther THOMAS is working as an Associate Professor at National Law School of India University. Her areas of specialization include Human Rights Law and Family Law. Dr. Sarasu Coordinates a number of Research Projects on Human Rights, Reproductive Rights and Sex Selection, Water Law, Trafficking and Rights Based Lawyering. She has served on the Board/ Advisory Committees/ Working Groups/ Drafting Committees etc of Several Non-Governmental Organization, Universities and Governmental Bodies including the Steering Committee of the Planning Commission of India, National Advisory Council and the National Commission for Women. In addition to her research and teaching commitments, she coordinates the Centre for Women and the Law and the Human Rights Lawyering Project. She is the Chief Editor of National Law School Journal and the March of the Law.



Helena WHALEN-BRIDGE Helena Whalen-Bridge is an Associate Professor with the National University of Singapore Faculty of Law. Formerly a practicing attorney in the U.S., Japan and Singapore, she ran the first-year NUS Legal Skills Programme for 6 years and now teaches Legal Ethics, Access to Justice, and Legal Narrative. Helena received the NUS Teaching Excellence Award and is a longstanding member of the Law Faculty's Teaching Excellence Committee. Her research interests include legal ethics and pro bono, legal narrative and legal education. Her publications include Understanding Lawyers' Ethics in Singapore (2016 LexisNexis, with Alvin Chen), "The Conceptualisation of Pro Bono in Singapore" (2014) Asian Journal of Comparative Law, and "Challenges to Pro Bono Work in the Corporate Context: Means Testing and the Non-Profit Applicant" Legal Ethics (2010). Helena is a founding member of the Law Society of Singapore's Project Law Help. She has been the Faculty Advisor for the Law Faculty's student Pro Bono Group since its inception in 2005, and in 2016 edited the story of student pro bono in Singapore, Pro Bono in Singapore: The PBG Story (Singapore: NUS Faculty of Law, 2016).



YUNITA is the head of advocacy division of LBH Jakarta, one of the prominent legal aid organizations giving pro bono service in Jakarta, Indonesia. She has giving pro bono service since 2010, where she handled various cases using structural legal aid approach. Previously, she also became the head of education, empowerment, and paralegal sub-division, which she has managed to educate and empowerment the various communities, including paralegal.