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## Constitutional Change in Singapore: Reforming the Elected Presidency

10 January 2018, Wednesday, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Lee Sheridan Conference Room, Eu Tong Sen Building, Level 1, NUS (Bukit Timah Campus)

*(Participation in the workshop is by invitation only.)*

This workshop, convened by Assistant Professors Jaclyn Neo & Swati Jhaveri, brings together scholars to examine key changes to the elected presidency. The workshop will consider the recent reform exercise, the nature of changes made to the Constitution, as well as the impact of those on the nature and function of the office of the elected Presidency and related bodies, such as the Council of Presidential Advisors.

### Programme

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| <b>9:00 am – 9:05 am</b>   | <b>Opening Remarks</b><br><b>Assistant Professor Jaclyn NEO</b> , Faculty of Law, NUS<br><b>Assistant Professor Swati JHAVERI</b> , Faculty of Law, NUS  |
| <b>9:05 am – 9:50 am</b>   | <b>Looking back at the Elected Presidency: Design Choices</b><br><b>Adjunct Professor Kevin TAN</b> , Faculty of Law, NUS<br><b>Dr LAM Peng-Er</b> , East Asia Institute, NUS  |
| <b>9:50 am – 10:35 am</b>  | <b>A Living Institution: The Elected Presidency, Pragmatic Incrementalism and Experiments in Separating Powers</b><br><b>Professor Li-ann THIO</b> , Faculty of Law, NUS   |
| <b>10:35 am – 11:20 am</b> | <b>Judicial Review of Constitutional Amendments – The Presidency in Court</b><br><b>Assistant Professor Swati JHAVERI</b> , Faculty of Law, NUS  |
| <b>11:20 am – 12:05 pm</b> | <b>Electing the Selected President or Selecting the Elected President: Majorities, Mandates and Missions</b><br><b>Adjunct Professor Kevin TAN</b> , Faculty of Law, NUS   |
| <b>12:05 pm – 1:00 pm</b>  | <b>Lunch</b>   |
| <b>1:00 pm – 1:45 pm</b>   | <b>From Eligibility to Election: The Mechanics of the Presidential Poll</b><br><b>Dr Jack LEE</b> , Singapore Academy of Law   |
| <b>1:45 pm – 3:00 pm</b>   | <b>Balancing the Politics of Representation and the Politics of Meritocracy: Minority Representation as an Additional Function to the Presidency</b><br><b>Assistant Professor Jaclyn NEO</b> , Faculty of Law, NUS<br><br><b>Squaring the Circle: The President as a Symbol of Multiracialism and National Unity as an Invented Tradition</b><br><b>Associate Professor Eugene TAN</b> , School of Law, SMU |
| <b>3:00 pm – 3:45 pm</b>   | <b>A Few Good &amp; Wise (Wo)Men: Raising the Bar in Qualifying Presidential Hopefuls and in Advising the President:</b><br><b>Associate Professor Eugene TAN</b> , School of Law, SMU   |
| <b>3:45 pm – 4:00 pm</b>   | <b>Closing Discussions</b><br><b>Assistant Professor Jaclyn NEO</b> , Faculty of Law, NUS<br><b>Assistant Professor Swati JHAVERI</b> , Faculty of Law, NUS  |
| <b>4:00 pm</b>             | <b>End of Workshop</b>   |