

# NUSGIVING

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Faculty of Law Lee Sheridan Legal Education Fund *(used to fund bursaries, scholarships and visiting professorial appointments)*

NUS Law Fund *(enables the Dean to channel resources where they are most needed within NUS Law)*

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Thank you for your support!



## Letter from the Dean



March 2019

### Dear Members of the NUS Law Community,

Students occasionally ask their professors if we get bored at NUS Law — teaching the same subjects, year in, year out. I try not to laugh on such occasions, but like most of my colleagues I find it an amusing question. Among other things, the law changes. More importantly, however, our students change. Every year, we have an influx of outstanding young men and women who remind us why we became teachers in the first place.

This goes far beyond the classroom. As I write these words, I have recently watched a terrific Law IV musical that was written, scored, choreographed, and performed by the **Class of 2019**. On the same weekend, we celebrated the victory of our Jessup team in the National Rounds, capping off another outstanding year of mooting. Our students are brilliant, yet they are also committed to service. Among other recognition in the past year, our pro bono students won awards from the university and the judiciary.

So no, we don't get bored.

I'm also inspired by and proud of my colleagues and our alumni. I try not to let these annual letters get too long, but I hope that this, my eighth as Dean, gives a sense of some of the highlights and achievements of the past year — as well as how we are adapting to the changing legal market.

### New NUS Law Academy



L-R: Associate Professor Umakanth Varottil Ph.D. '10 (Director, NUS Law Academy & Director of Graduate Coursework Studies, NUS Law), Mr Edwin Tong, SC '94 (Senior Minister of State for Law and Health), Professor Simon Chesterman (Dean, NUS Law) and Professor Susanna Leong (Vice Provost (Lifelong Education), NUS)

An example of that adaptation is the **NUS Law Academy** which offers skills-based, industry-relevant courses to enable working professionals to hone their skills and update their legal knowledge. **Edwin Tong, SC '94** (Senior Minister of State for Law and Health) launched the NUS Law Academy at the graduation ceremony for the inaugural Graduate Certificate in Criminal Justice programme.

## NUS Alumni Head Four Law Schools in the Region



Leslie Chew, SC '78



Michael Hor '84



Tan Cheng Han, SC '87



Goh Yihan '06

As I look around the region, it is striking that no fewer than four of our alumni have been chosen to lead law schools. **Leslie Chew, SC '78** is the founding dean of Singapore's third law school, the Singapore University of Social Sciences School of Law. **Michael Hor '84** has served as dean at the University of Hong Kong Faculty of Law since 2014 while **Tan Cheng Han, SC '87** will head the School of Law at City University of Hong Kong starting July 2019. **Goh Yihan '06** was appointed dean of the Singapore Management University School of Law in 2017. In one sense these are competitor law schools, but we are tremendously proud that our graduates and colleagues are being asked to chart the future of legal education.

## Inaugural Muslim Law Practice Course

Our first priority at NUS Law, though, remains being Singapore's national law school. An innovation in 2018 was the launch of a new Muslim Law Practice Course, which fills a gap in systematic legal training in Muslim law practice in Singapore. The course is a collaboration between NUS Law, the Syariah Court of Singapore, and the MUIS Academy, with the support of the Ministry of Culture, Community, and Youth. Dr Mohamad Maliki Bin Osman, Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Defence and Ministry of Foreign Affairs attended the closing ceremony and presented certificates to course participants.



Dr Mohamad Maliki Bin Osman



Dr Mohamad Maliki Bin Osman (centre) with lecturers and course participants

## The Right Honourable Sir Geoffrey Vos Visits NUS Law



Sir Geoffrey Vos

As always, we welcomed high profile visitors to NUS Law. It was an honour to host The Right Honourable Sir Geoffrey Vos, Chancellor of the High Court of England and Wales. He engaged members of the Faculty and students with a thought-provoking discussion on legal education and the future of law as a career. Sir Geoffrey was appointed Chancellor of the High Court of England and Wales in 2016.

## Faculty Promotions

None of the achievements mentioned in this letter would have been possible without the work of our extraordinary faculty and staff. Among other achievements, three of our faculty were promoted in 2018.

**Joel Lee** was appointed Professor of Professional Practice. A graduate of Victoria University of Wellington and Harvard Law School, he pioneered the teaching of negotiation and mediation in Singapore and has played a significant role in furthering the development of mediation in Singapore in education as well as in practice. At the national level, he has taken on leadership roles in the Singapore International Mediation Institute (of which he was founding Chair of the Board), the Singapore Institute of Legal Education, and the Singapore Mediation Centre. Internationally, he has been a vital link to the International Mediation Institute and serves as General Editor of the *Asian Journal on Mediation*.



Joel Lee



David Tan

**David Tan** (Vice Dean (Academic Affairs)) was promoted to full Professor. He has established a reputation for himself as one of the leading scholars in the field of entertainment law, with his scholarship characterised by an interdisciplinary approach drawing on cultural studies and semiotics. He has brought a strategic eye to our academic curriculum – enhancing the compulsory modules while offering a rich and diverse array of electives – reviewing our class of honours for the LL.B. programme and launching the Graduate Certificate in Intellectual Property & Technology Law. He has published over 50 articles, comments, book chapters and review essays since joining NUS Law in 2008. Among his achievements is his well-received book *The Commercial Appropriation of Fame: A Cultural Analysis of the Right of Publicity and Passing Off*, published in 2017 by Cambridge University Press.

**Jaelyn Neo '03** was promoted to Associate Professor with tenure. She first joined the Faculty in 2008. She was a recipient of two graduate scholarships from the National University of Singapore (NUS) under which she completed her Masters of Law (LL.M.) and Doctor of the Science of Law (J.S.D.) at Yale Law School. Jaelyn is currently the Deputy Director of the Asian Law Institute (ASLI) and sits on the editorial boards of the *Singapore Journal of Legal Studies* (SJLS), the *Asian Journal of Comparative Law*, and the *Asian Yearbook of International Law*. She has published widely in leading journals in her field, including the *Oxford Journal of Law and Religion* and the *International Journal of Constitutional Law*. Before joining the faculty, Jaelyn practiced in the litigation department at WongPartnership, and is currently a consultant at the firm. She is a member of the Law Society's Public and International Law Committee and a member of the Singapore Academy of Law's Law Reform Committee.



Jaelyn Neo '03



## Faculty Achievements



Lye Lin Heng '73

**Lye Lin Heng '73** was awarded a Certificate of High Recognition by the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP), Institute for Governance and Sustainable Development, Washington DC (IGSD) and Sea & Earth Advocates, Philippines; for her leadership for founding the Masters in Environmental Management Program at the National University of Singapore and her contributions to Training the Trainers (TTT) programs for law professors in Environmental Law. She was also awarded the Ministry of National Development's Dedicated Long Service Award for serving as a member of the Strata Titles Board.



Vincent-Joël Proulx

**Vincent-Joël Proulx** won the best paper award from the Japan Chapter of the Asian Chapter of International Law at its Global Annual Conference: "Asia and International Law in Challenging Times". Co-authored with Elsa Sardinha, the paper was titled "Requiem for a Deal, or the End of American Influence in the Investment Chapters of Asia-Relevant FTAs?"



Andrew Simester

**Andrew Simester** travelled to Uppsala University in Sweden to attend a ceremony conferring an Honorary Doctorate in recognition of his international contributions to criminal law and theory. The degree of Juris Doctor Honoris Causa was first awarded at Uppsala in 1600, and the ceremony of conferral is largely unchanged since that time. Andrew is one of only a few academics working in the common-law tradition to receive this honour, which comes from the oldest university in Scandinavia; one that boasts some of the world's greatest scholars, including Carl Linnaeus and Anders Celsius, as well as numerous Nobel Laureates.



Swati Jhaveri

**Swati Jhaveri** was admitted as a candidate for the Doctor of Philosophy (DPhil) programme at the University of Oxford. Her thesis looks at developing a positive theory of the executive as a constitutional actor and is supervised by Aileen Kavanagh, Professor of Constitutional Law and Jeffrey Hackney, Fellow and Tutor in Law. She also received the University-level Annual Teaching Excellence Award.

At the Faculty level, we had the pleasure of announcing our Annual Teaching Excellence Award recipients – **Alan Tan '93, Walter Woon, SC '81, Paul Myburgh, Eleanor Wong '85** (Vice Dean (Student Life & Global Relations)), **Jean Ho '03, Tan Zhong Xing '12, Justin Tan '10 and Benny Tan '12.**



Annual Teaching Excellence Award recipients

**Tan Zhong Xing '12** was awarded the Hart Publishing Prize for the best paper by an early career scholar at the Ninth Biennial Conference on the Law of Obligations held at Melbourne Law School and co-hosted by Melbourne Law School and the Faculty of Law at the University of Oxford. His paper was titled "Contract Law in an Emerging Age of Proportionality: From Form to Substance and Beyond".



Tan Zhong Xing '12

**Sandra Annette Booyesen LL.M. '03 Ph.D. '09** was appointed Convenor of the Banking Section for the Society of Legal Scholars in the United Kingdom.

**Lynette Chua '03** was appointed Head of Studies for the Double Degree Programme (DDP) in Law and Liberal Arts at the Yale-NUS College. In this capacity, she will be advising students in the Law and Liberal Arts DDP, providing a link between NUS Law and the Yale-NUS College, and supervising some of the compulsory Capstone projects that they undertake. The appointment is with effect from January 2019 and runs to the end of 2020.



Lynette Chua '03

**Jean Ho '03** was appointed to the Editorial Advisory Board of the *Asian International Arbitration Journal*.

**Koh Kheng Lian '61, LL.M. '66, Ph.D. '72** was invited by Professor Nicholas A. Robinson, Executive Governor, International Council of Environmental Law (ICEL), to be ICEL's "Representative to ASEAN". She was also invited by Professor Melda Kamil Ariadno, Dean, Faculty of Law, University of Indonesia, to serve as a member of the newly-established ASEAN Society on Environmental Law (ASEL).



Jean Ho '03

**Wang Jianguyu** was appointed senior guest fellow at the Center for Philippines Studies at Hainan Normal University, Haikou, China and guest professor at the National Institute for South China Sea Studies, Haikou, China.



Wang Jianguyu

**Helena Whalen-Bridge LL.M. '02** was nominated to the Board of the International Association of Legal Ethics.

**Walter Woon, SC '81** was elected as a Beaufort Visiting Scholar for Michaelmas Term 2019 by St John's College, University of Cambridge.

**Yeo Hwee Ying '80** was elected to the Presidential Council of Association Internationale de Droit des Assurance (AIDA), the leading international insurance law organisation with national chapters in 58 jurisdictions across the common and civil law worlds. She is the only Asian academic on the AIDA Presidential Council.



Helena Whalen-Bridge LL.M. '02



## Recruiting and Retaining the Best Faculty

We welcomed the latest faculty to join NUS Law, laying strong foundations for the future of legal education and research.

**Dian A.H. Shah** joined us as Assistant Professor. Dian was previously a Research Fellow of the Centre for Asian Legal Studies, and a Senior Lecturer at the Faculty of Law, University of Malaya, where she taught constitutional law. Dian completed her Masters of Law (LL.M) and Doctor of Juridical Science (J.S.D) at Duke University Law School, after graduating with an LLB from Warwick University. Her research interests span the fields of law and religion, comparative constitutional law, and human rights; her current work focuses on the interaction of law, religion, and politics in plural and divided societies.



Dian A.H. Shah

She is the author of *Constitutions, Religion and Politics in Asia: Indonesia, Malaysia and Sri Lanka* (CUP 2017) and the editor (with **Andrew Harding LL.M. '84**) of *Law and Society in Malaysia: Pluralism, Religion and Ethnicity* (Routledge 2018). Her articles have appeared in leading publications such as the *International Journal of Constitutional Law* (I-CON) and the *Oxford Journal of Law and Religion*. She has also served as Deputy Editor of the *Asian Journal of Comparative Law* and edited its special issue on "The Law and Politics of Religion and Constitutional Practices in Asia" (2019).

Named after NUS Law's founding Dean, **Lionel Astor ("Lee") Sheridan Ph.D. '63**, we appointed two Sheridan Fellows in 2018.



Benny Tan Zhi Peng '12

**Benny Tan Zhi Peng '12** has served as Lecturer from July 2016 and prior to that as a Legal Skills Programme Instructor. He graduated from NUS Law in 2012 and was placed on the Dean's List in his final undergraduate year. He then practised as a Deputy Public Prosecutor and State Counsel at the Attorney-General's Chambers. He has published articles in both local and international journals, and his pieces have been cited by the High Court and Court of Appeal of Singapore. He won the Best Feature Article prize awarded by the Law Society of Singapore for articles in the Law Gazette in 2015 and 2016. Benny has also been appointed by the Supreme Court to the Young Amicus Curiae panel (2016, 2017), where he was called upon to assist the courts in cases involving novel or complex issues of the law.



Benjamin Wong Yongquan '15

**Benjamin Wong Yongquan '15** graduated from NUS Law with an upper second in 2015 and was also placed on the Dean's list for his final year. Among other achievements, he was runner-up for Best Oralist in the Herbert Smith Freehills Competition Law Moot. Benjamin has served as Teaching Assistant from July 2016 and was a Research Assistant (part-time) at the Centre for Law and Business (CLB). He currently teaches in the area of contract law.

In 2018, we recognised the commitment of some of our longest serving faculty.



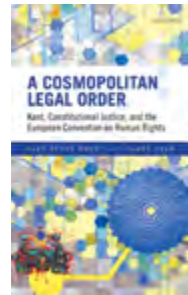
They include **Robert Beckman** for 40 years of service; **Walter Woon, SC '81** for 35 years of service; **Tan Yock Lin** for 35 years of service; **Hans Tjio** for 30 years of service; **Dora Neo** for 30 years of service; **Simon Tay '86** for 25 years of service; **S Jayakumar '63** for 20 years of service; **Tracey Evans Chan '97** for 20 years of service; **Eleanor Wong '85** for 15 years of service; **Jaclyn Neo '03** for 10 years of service; **Jean Ho '03** for 10 years of service; **Cheah Wui Ling '03** for 10 years of service; **Swati Jhaveri** for 5 years of service; and **Lin Lin** for 5 years of service. (I also had the unusual experience of presenting a certificate to myself for 10 years of service.)

We also recognised some of our most dedicated adjunct professors, who have completed at least 10 academic years of teaching at NUS Law. They include **Kevin Tan '86**, **Edwin Lee '93** and **Ian de Vaz '95**.

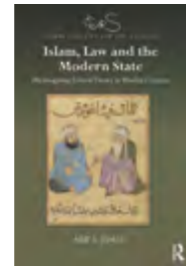


## Research Excellence

NUS Law continues to produce outstanding scholarship across the spectrum of legal research. In addition to dozens of scholarly articles and book chapters, as well as scores of conference papers, the following books were published in 2018:



*A Cosmopolitan Legal Order: Kant, Constitutional Justice, and the European Convention on Human Rights*  
by **Alec Stone Sweet** and  
Clare Ryan  
(Oxford University Press)



*Islam, Law and the Modern State: (Re)imagining Liberal Theory in Muslim Contexts*  
by **Arif Jamal**  
(Routledge)



*Essentials of Corporate Law and Governance in Singapore*  
by **Lan Luh Luh '89**  
(Sweet & Maxwell)



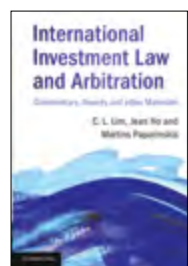
*State Responsibility for Breaches of Investment Contracts*  
by **Jean Ho '03**  
(Cambridge University Press)



*Governing Climate Change: Global Cities and Transnational Lawmaking*  
by **Jolene Lin**  
(Cambridge University Press)



*The Misery of International Law: Confrontations with Injustice in the Global Economy*  
by John Linarelli,  
Margot E Salomon and  
**M Sornarajah**  
(Oxford University Press)



*International Investment Law and Arbitration: Commentary, Awards and other Materials*  
by C.L. Lim, **Jean Ho '03** and  
Martins Paparinskis  
(Cambridge University Press)



*The Politics of Love in Myanmar: LGBT Mobilization and Human Rights as a Way of Life*  
by **Lynette Chua '03**  
(Stanford University Press)

Our faculty also edited major works on a variety of topics of national and international significance. These include:



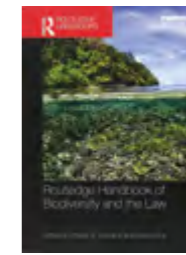
*Constitutional Courts in Asia: A Comparative Perspective*  
by Albert H. Y. Chen and  
**Andrew Harding LL.M. '84**  
(Cambridge University Press)



*Questioning the Foundations of Public Law*  
by Michael A Wilkinson and  
**Michael Dowdle**  
(Hart Publishing)



*Contemporary Issues in Mediation (Volume 3)*  
by **Joel Lee** and **Marcus Lim '12**  
(World Scientific Publishing)



*Routledge Handbook of Biodiversity and the Law*  
by Charles R. McManis  
and **Burton Ong '99**  
(Routledge)



*Formation and Third Party Beneficiaries*  
by **Mindy Chen-Wishart**,  
Alexander Loke and  
Stefan Vogenauer  
(Oxford University Press)



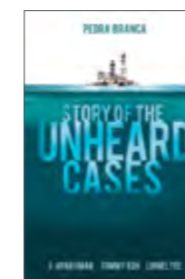
*SAL Journal 2017 Special Issue (Public Law Doctrines in Global and Local Dimensions)*  
by **Lee Hoong Phun '72** and  
**Jaclyn Neo '03**  
(Academy Publishing)



*Globalisation of Corporate Social Responsibility and its Impact on Corporate Governance*  
by Jean J. du Plessis,  
**Umakanth Varottil Ph.D. '10**  
and Jeroen Veldman  
(Springer)



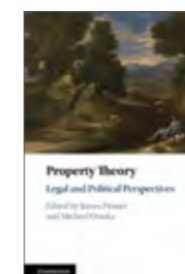
*The Regionalisation of Competition Law and Policy within the ASEAN Economic Community*  
by **Burton Ong '99**  
(Cambridge University Press)



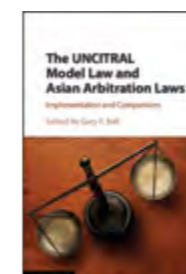
*Pedra Branca: Story of the Unheard Cases*  
by **S. Jayakumar '63**,  
**Tommy Koh '61** and Lionel Yee  
(Straits Times Press)



*The South China Sea Arbitration: The Legal Dimension*  
edited by **S. Jayakumar '63**,  
**Tommy Koh '61**, **Robert Beckman**,  
**Tara Davenport Grad. Dip.Sing.Law '03 LL.M. '10** and  
**Hao Duy Phan** (Edward Elgar)



*Property Theory: Legal and Political Perspectives*  
by **James Penner** and  
Michael Otsuka  
(Cambridge University Press)



*The UNCITRAL Model Law and Asian Arbitration Laws: Implementation and Comparisons*  
by **Gary F. Bell**  
(Cambridge University Press)

We also welcomed the following new editions of leading texts in various fields.



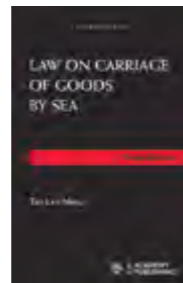
*Banking Law (Third Edition)*  
by **Poh Chu Chai '73**  
(LexisNexis)



*Elements of Family Law in Singapore (Third Edition)*  
by **Leong Wai Kum**  
(LexisNexis)



*Contract Law (Sixth Edition)*  
by **Mindy Chen-Wishart**  
(Oxford University Press)



*Law on Carriage of Goods by Sea (Third Edition)*  
by **Tan Lee Meng '72**  
(Academy Publishing)



*Criminal Law in Malaysia and Singapore (Third Edition)*  
by **Chan Wing Cheong,**  
Neil Morgan and  
**Stanley Yeo '76**  
(LexisNexis)



*The Law of Security and Title-Based Financing (Third Edition)*  
by Hugh Beale, **Michael Bridge,**  
Louise Gullifer and Eva Lomnicka  
(Oxford University Press)



*Data Protection Law in Singapore: Privacy and Sovereignty in an Interconnected World (Second Edition)*  
edited by **Simon Chesterman**  
(Academy Publishing)

## Impact

In addition to producing scholarship that changes the way law is thought about, many colleagues also had a direct impact on how it is practised.

*International Investment Law and Arbitration: Commentary, Awards and Other Materials* (Cambridge University Press 2018) (with CL Lim & M Paparinskis) by **Jean Ho '03** was cited and quoted with approval by the Singapore Court of Appeal in *Swissbourgh Diamond Mines (Pty) Limited & Ors v. Kingdom of Lesotho* [2018] SGCA 81, at paras. 207-208.



Teo Keang Sood

**Joel Lee's** works were cited by the Singapore Court of Appeal in *Lee Tat Development Pte Ltd v Management Corporation Strata Title Plan No 301* [2018] SGCA 50 and *Vinmar Overseas (Singapore) Pte Ltd v PTT International Trading Pte Ltd* [2018] SGCA 65.

**Teo Keang Sood's** book on *Strata Title in Singapore & Malaysia* was cited by the Singapore High Court in *Wu Chiu Lin v MCST Plan No 2874* [2018] SGHC 43 at [45] and [60]; *Teo Mei Ling Karen & Ors v Low Kwang Tong & Anor* [2018] SGHC 186 at [36] and MCST Plan No 940 v *Lim Florence Marjorie* [2018] SGHC 254 at [86] and [91], and by the Malaysian Court of Appeal in *Ekuiti Setegap Sdn Bhd v Plaza 393 Management Corp* (established under The Strata Titles Act 1985) [2018] 4 MLJ 284 at [37] and [73]. His book on *Land Law in Malaysia* was also cited by the Malaysian Court of Appeal in *Liputan Simfoni Sdn Bhd Pembangunan Orkid Desa Sdn Bhd* [2018] 3 MLJ 386 at [100].

**Hans Tjio** served as amicus curiae before the full bench of the Singapore Court of Appeal in *Diablo Fortune Inc v Duncan* [2018] SGCA 26. He was also invited as the Distinguished Visiting Professor by the National Taiwan University in December 2018, teaching Comparative Securities Regulation and giving public lectures on financial regulation in Singapore and cash-out mergers in Singapore.



Hans Tjio



Wee Meng Seng '93



Dan W. Puchniak

A chapter on "Singapore Derivative Actions: Mundanely Non-Asian, Intriguingly Non-American and at the Forefront of the Commonwealth" co-authored by **Wee Meng Seng '93** and **Dan W. Puchniak** in *The Derivative Action in Asia: A Comparative and Functional Approach* (Cambridge University Press, 2012) was cited in 2017 by the Singapore Court of Appeal in *Chong Chin Fook v Solomon Alliance Management Pte Ltd* [2017] SGCA 5; *Thio Syn Kym Wendy and Others v Thio Syn Pyn* [2018] SGCA 46.



Walter Woon, SC '81

Various publications by **Walter Woon, SC '81** have been cited in 166 cases in Singapore and Malaysia, including the Singapore Court of Appeal in *Ho Yew Kong v Sakae Holdings Ltd* [2018] SGCA 33 and *Goh Chan Peng v Beyonics Technology Ltd* [2017] SGCA 40.



The article on “Revisiting the Alter Ego Exception on Corporate Veil Piercing” (2015) 27 SAclJ 177 by **Yeo Hwee Ying '80** was cited by the Singapore High Court in *Sun Electric Pte Ltd v Menrva Solutions Pte Ltd* [2018] SGHC 264 for her “interesting” analysis rationalising the important Singapore Court of Appeal decision in *Alwie Handoyo v Tjong Very Sumito* [2013] 4 SLR 308. Her analysis of residual fiduciary duties owed between partners prior to final settlement during the dissolution state in her book *Law of Partnerships in Singapore Including LLP and LP* (LexisNexis, 2015) was cited and endorsed by the Singapore High Court in *Tongbao Shipping v Woon Swee Huat* [2018] SGHC 165.



Koh Kheng Lian '61 LL.M.'66, Ph.D. '72

**Koh Kheng Lian '61, LL.M. '66, Ph.D. '72** contributed a chapter “A New Thinking to Cooperation in Tackling the Indonesian Haze” in Euston Quah and Tsiat Siong Tan, eds., *Pollution Across Borders - Transboundary Fire, Smoke and Haze in Southeast Asia* (World Scientific, 2018) and her article, “‘Singapore Smart City’ and ‘ASEAN Smart Cities Network’ – A Different Style of Sustainability” will be published in a forthcoming publication sponsored by Konrad Adenauer Stiftung. She also delivered some eight papers in international conferences on a wide range of topics in environmental law.

Our faculty also had an impact on the practice of law outside Singapore.

An article on “Definitional imbrolios: A critique of the definition of religion and essential practice tests in religious freedom adjudication” by **Jaclyn Neo '03** was cited and discussed with approval in a seminal judgment by the Supreme Court of India on the constitutionality of prohibiting women between 10 and 50 years of age from entering the famous Sabrimala Temple in Kerala (*Indian Young Lawyers Association & Ors v The State of Kerala & Ors*).

**Arif Jamal** and **Jaclyn Neo '03** launched the Muslim Law Practice Course (MLPC), which was the first Muslim law course to be taught at NUS Law. The course was launched by **Justice Debbie Ong '89**, Presiding Judge of the Family Justice Courts, and Senior Parliamentary Secretary **Amrin Amin '03**. The MLPC is a collaboration between the NUS Law's Centre for Asian Legal Studies, MUIS Academy, and the Syariah Court of Singapore.

**Vincent-Joël Proulx** was cited in the Second Annual Report of the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Counter-terrorism and Human Rights (2018) and the Fourth Report: ‘Legal Aspects of the Use of Nuclear Energy for Peaceful Purposes’, International Law Association Sydney Conference 2018, Committee on Nuclear Weapons, Non Proliferation & Contemporary International Law with Professor Jonathan L. Black-Branch as Chair and Professor Dieter Fleck as Rapporteur.

**Jaclyn Neo '03** co-founded the Singapore chapter of the International Society of Public Law (ICON-S) with Maartje de Visser of the Singapore Management University (SMU). This is currently the Society's only country chapter in Asia. The Centre for Asian Legal Studies supported the launch workshop on “Constitutional Interpretation In and Outside the Courts” at which the Honourable **Chan Sek Keong '61, LL.D. '10 (Honoris Causa)** delivered a keynote speech. **Kevin Tan '86**, **Andrew Harding LL.M. '84**, and Mark Findlay of SMU are founding advisory board members of ICON-S.



Arif Jamal



Chan Sek Keong '61, LL.D. '10 (Honoris Causa)



Kevin Tan '86

As coordinators of the Comparative Constitutional and Administrative Law Research Cluster at the Centre for Asian Legal Studies, **Swati Jhaveri** and **Kevin Tan '86** set up a speaker series for the discussion of constitutional and administrative law issues relevant to Singapore and the region. The Cluster convened a conference on “Contemporary Issues in Public Law Litigation”, the first conference that brought together academics and practitioners to discuss issues relating to the litigation of public law.



Tan Hsien-Li Ph.D. '09

Hsien-Li was also selected to teach the “Asia and International Law” sessions at the United Nations (UN) Regional Course in International Law for Asia and the Pacific at the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific in Bangkok.

**Arif Jamal's** book *Islam, Law and the Modern State: (Re)imagining Liberal Theory in Muslim Contexts* was featured at the “Religion in the Public Sphere – Thoughts for Contemporary Muslim Context” organised by the National University of Singapore (NUS) Department of Malay Studies in collaboration with Women and Law in Islam (WALI). His book was also discussed at a seminar hosted by the Centre for Asia-Pacific Initiatives (CAPI) entitled “Islam, Law, and the State in the Making of the Modern World” at the University of Victoria, Canada.

The article “Related Party Transactions in Commonwealth Asia: Complicating the Comparative Paradigm” by **Dan W. Puchniak** and **Umakanth Varottil Ph.D. '10** was selected for presentation at the 2019 Global Corporate Governance Colloquia, which is widely recognised as the world's leading corporate governance conference.



Ruby Lee '85

**Ruby Lee '85** presented the NUS Law Clinical Legal Education Programme to a captivated audience at the Singapore Service Learning Symposium at the Enabling Village.

**Lynette Chua '03** was invited to deliver a keynote address, “Legal Mobilization and Authoritarianism,” at the 3rd Annual Asian Law & Society Association conference at Bond University, Gold Coast, Australia.

**Helena Whalen-Bridge LL.M. '02** was an invited expert on legal education for United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, where she contributed two university modules, on Integrity, Ethics and the Law, and Professional Ethics, to the Education for Justice Initiative, a project supporting academics teaching world-wide.



Umakanth Varottil Ph.D. '10



## Student Achievements

The lifeblood of NUS Law is our students. While the academic calendar is marked by classes and exams, our students go far beyond academics – with rich traditions from Orientation to Rag & Flag, from the Law IV Musical to Commencement. This year, NUS Law took home the Gold Award for NUS Rag & Flag and raised over \$39,000 for their beneficiary, the Lighthouse School.

Our students celebrated numerous wins at the NUS Student Achievement Awards 2018. Organised by the NUS Office of Student Affairs, this platform aims to recognise exceptional individuals and student groups who have made noteworthy contributions to student life in the university. NUS Law's **Hairul Siddeeq S/O Mohamed '19** (President, NUS Pro Bono Group) was presented the Leadership Gold while the **Pro Bono Group** received the Community Service Gold Award. Our students also received other awards under the Leadership, Competitions and Community Service categories.

2018 saw NUS Law participate in over 30 mooting competitions in more than 15 countries. On the local front, **Ryan Kwan '20** and **Elizabeth Teoh '20** emerged as Champion and runner-up respectively at the Gowling WLG Intellectual Property (IP) Moot organised by the NUS Law Mooting and Debating Club, in partnership with the Intellectual Property Office of Singapore (IPOS).

The NUS Law team of **Lydia Lee '20**, **Joel Sherard Chow '20**, **Goh Qi Qing '20** and **Lucas Lim '20** emerged winners at the International Commercial Arbitration Moot. Lydia was awarded Champion, Joel the first runner-up while Qi Qing and Lucas were joint second runners-up.

NUS Law students swept the top prizes at the Advocacy Cup. At the finals on 29 March, **Daniel Lye '20** was awarded Champion, **Valerie Seet '20** first runner-up while **Shalini Rajasegar '19** and **Lim Jun Heng '20** emerged joint second runners-up.



Dentons Rodyk Moot



NUS B.A. Mallal Moot

The 10th anniversary of the Dentons Rodyk Moot was celebrated with a showcase of the top 5 mooters from the year 1 LARC Programme. **Natalee Ho '20** emerged as Champion while **Wee Jong Xuan '21** and **Dion Chan Khoon Hong '21** received the first runner-up and second runner-up awards respectively. **Abigail Fernandez '21** and **Shaun Cheng Si Yuan '21** received the Merit Award.

NUS Law presented thoughtful and intriguing submissions on the constitutionality and breach of 377A of the Penal Code at the NUS B.A. Mallal Moot in October. The finalists consisted entirely of NUS Law students with **Ong Kye Jing '21** emerging as Champion. **Abigail Fernandez '21** received the first runner-up title while **Ng Weiqi '21** and **Benedict Tedjopranoto '20** received the second runner-up titles.

The NUS team of **James Lek '20**, **Sim Hong '19**, **Suriya Prakash '20** and **Yu Kai Yan '20** won the BlackOak Transactional Competition. The team emerged as Champions and this is the second consecutive win from NUS.

**Natalee Ho '20** and **Gwendolyn Oh '21** emerged as Champions of the Attorney-General's Cup. Additionally, Natalee also won the Best Oralist award. This is the fourth consecutive win for NUS Law.



Attorney-General's Cup

On the regional and international front, our mooters emerged as Champions at the 11th Frankfurt Investment Arbitration Moot held in Germany. The team consisted of **Low Jia Rong '19**, **Emmanuel Aw '19**, **Violet Huang '20** and **Tan Fong Han '20**. Our students also received the Gary Born Award for the Best Non-OECD team.

**Suah Boon Choong '18**, **Samuel Lee Kai Chuan '19**, **Colin Wu Guolin '18** and **Benedict Teow Kang Yong '19** came in second at the ELSA WTO Moot-Asia Pacific Regional Round 2018. Boon Chong was also awarded the Best Speaker for the Semi-Finals.



Inaugural INTA Asia-Pacific Moot Court Competition

NUS Law won the first and second place at the inaugural INTA Asia-Pacific Moot Court Competition held in February, ahead of 21 teams from eight countries. The winning team consisted of **Loo Fang Hui '18**, **Jonathan Teo '18**, **Sheryl Tan '19** and **Tan Ming Ren '20**. **Faraaz Amzar '18**, **Benedict Tedjopranoto '20**, **Colin Tan '20** and **Sheiffa Safi Shirbeeni '19** took home the runners-up title.

NUS Law team comprising **Phoon Wuei '20**, **Joel Sherard '20**, **Natalie Ng '20** and **Daniel Ling '20** came in Top 3 at the Stetson International Environmental Moot Court Competition (SEA Rounds) Joel was also awarded the Best Oralist at the SEA rounds.



25th Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot

**Charlotte Wang '18**, **Glenn Sim '19**, **Marcus Liew '19** and **Ryo Yap '19** received mentions in various categories at the prestigious 25th Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot was held in Vienna, Austria in March. Ryo was also awarded an Honourable Mention for the Martin Domke Award for Best Individual Oralist.



International Air and Space Law Academy Moot Court Competition

**Chen Shilun '18**, **Ephraim Tan '18**, **Mark Lim '19** and **Uma Jitendra Sharma '19** took home Honourable Mention for Oral Performance and Honourable Mention for the Claimant's Memorandum at the Willem C.Vis East. Uma was awarded the Neil Kaplan Award for Best Oralist while Ephraim placed second runner-up for Best Oralist. Mark was also awarded an Honourable Mention as Oralist.

Congratulations to **Abigail Wong '20**, **Yvette Tay '20**, **Gwendolyn Oh '21** and **Sophia Yew '20** for emerging champions of the International Air and Space Law Academy Moot Court Competition, Asia-Pacific Regional Round held in Sydney, Australia. This is our fourth consecutive win at the Regional Round.



NUS Law participated for the first time in the 3rd International Carey Moot Court Competition in Prague, Czech Republic in June. The team of **Joelle Loy '20, Violet Huang '20, Adeline Tan '20, and Daniel Ling '20** emerged as Champions. Adeline was also awarded the Best Oralist Award. Additionally, they won top prizes in numerous categories such as Best Team Oral Arguments, Award for Best Team and Award for Best Written Memorial.

**Janessa Sit '18 and Leanne Cheng '19** clinched the overall first runner-up title at the International Law Student Competitions International Negotiation Competition held in Cardiff, Wales.



Asia Cup Moot Competition

**Ryan Kwan '20, Elizabeth Teoh '20, Fiona Ng '20 and Abigail Fong '20** won the Asia Cup Moot Competition held on 29 August in Japan. Ryan was also named Best Oralist. This is the third consecutive year that NUS has won overall Champion, and sets a new record in the moot with six Championship wins (2018, 2017, 2016, 2005, 2004 and 2001).



Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) International Arbitration Moot

Team NUS Law took top position at the Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) International Arbitration Moot with **Seah Ern Xu '19, Ryo Yap '19, Marcus Liew '19 and Glenn Sim '19** emerging at Champions. This was the first time that NUS Law participated in this competition.

NUS Law team comprising **Ang Rae Ann '20 and Benjamin Sng '20** took home the first runner-up title in the Linklaters-Denis Chang's Chambers Competition Law Moot.

Our mooters swept the top prizes at the ALSA International Moot Court Competition held in Myanmar. The Champion team comprised of **Ong Shaw Shiuian '19, Chester Su '19, Chuan Limin '19 and Teh Chee Yang '19. Ong Kye Jing '21, Wileen Saw '21, Timothy James Chong '21 and Isabella Tan '21** brought home the first runner-up award.

**Eden Low '20, Gina Ding '19 and Carol Yuen '19** participated in the inaugural Regional International Humanitarian Law Role-Play Competition organised by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and University Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM). Team NUS Law emerged as Champions.

**Lee Shao Xun '19, Ahvineesh Nanoo '20 and Samuel Wittberger '21** were victorious at the IV NLS Negotiation, Mediation and Client Consulting Competition held in Bangalore, India.



ALSA International Moot Court Competition



Regional International Humanitarian Law



1st ICC International Commercial Mediation Competition

NUS Law was first runner-up at the 1st ICC International Commercial Mediation Competition held in Hong Kong. **Leanne Cheng '19, Mark Lim '19, Tan Su '20, and Samuel Teo '21** will compete in the ICC Mediation Competition in Paris in 2019.



13th LAWASIA International Moot Competition

**Sia Bao Huei '21, Abigail Fernandez '21 and Yohanes Ng '21** were first runners-up at the 13th LAWASIA International Moot Competition. Yohanes was awarded the Mah Weng Kwai Trophy for Best Mooter.



Law IV 2018



International Academy of Dispute Resolution Mediate'18 Tournament

NUS Law team comprising **Chu Khe Han '21, Louis Chew '21 and Nikhil Angappan '21** was placed first runner-up at the International Academy of Dispute Resolution Mediate'18 Tournament, the first of its kind in Ukraine.



17th Intercollegiate Negotiation Competition

**Brendan Tan '21, Dikaios Pang '21, Jeremy Teo '21, Tan Yann Xu '21 and Brenan Mah '21** were first runners-up at the 17th Intercollegiate Negotiation Competition held in Japan.

Every year, the graduating class of NUS Law puts on a musical production both as a swan song to their years in school and to raise funds for charity. The **Class of 2018** continued this tradition with "Law IV 2018: Valediction", which was performed over 3 nights in February. Among the invited guests were beneficiaries from Hagar Singapore, who enjoyed a night of catchy tunes and laughter. The efforts of our graduating class were not in vain, with more than \$9,000 raised at the end of the production.

The student-led Singapore Law Review (SLR) organised the 30th edition of the SLR Annual Lecture. The lecture title, "The Obsolescent Judge" was delivered by **Justice Aedit Abdullah '94**. Justice Abdullah queried the continued relevance of judges in light of rapid advancements in technology and outlined how smart systems involving artificial intelligence (AI), data mining and blockchain technology are impacting the legal system.



SLR Annual Lecture



To better prepare our students for the profession, **NUS Centre for Pro Bono and Clinical Legal Education (PBCLE)** aims to expose them to challenges of delivering quality legal service while serving the disadvantaged in the community.

PBCLE and our students collaborated with the State Courts, Hagar International and the Community Justice Centres to produce two books targeted at children attending court as witnesses – *Who Will Be In Court* and *Sarah Goes to Court*. They also worked with litigants in person to complete 32 deputyship applications (and another 21 in progress).

PBCLE and our students presented more than 30 legal awareness talks on lasting powers of attorney (LPA) in both the PBCLE's Law Awareness Programme and under the CDC-NUS LPA Community Outreach Programme. They presented the first Malay talk at the Jamiyah Nursing Home to more than 200 participants. In conjunction with the talks, our students facilitated the execution of more than 50 LPAs for the beneficiaries of Caregivers Alliance and Trans Focus Centre and 14 under the CDC-NUS LPA Programme.

The **Clinical Legal Education Programme** continued to assist legally aided clients. The clinic's corporate portfolio expanded to include transactional work for the National Gallery of Singapore and Alzheimer's Disease Association.



Victoria Tay '20

**Victoria Tay '20** received the Outstanding Court Volunteer (Student Category) award at the Judiciary Volunteers Appreciation Awards Ceremony. This is the second time an NUS student has won this award.



State Courts Judicial Clerkship Programme

In the 2nd year of the **State Courts Judicial Clerkship Programme**, six students had the privilege of working closely with judges of the State Courts to gain perspectives on judicial work, while assisting the courts with bench memoranda.

Last but certainly not least, one of the hallmarks of a great university is academic excellence and we were able to celebrate the achievements of our students at the annual Dean's List and Awards Ceremony in September 2018. Over 100 students made it to the Dean's List, and more than 40 awards and prizes were presented, with some students winning multiple awards.



Dean's List and Awards Ceremony

## Alumni Relations & Development

Over the years, our alumni have been vital to the success and reputation of the Faculty, and have continued to make us proud with many stellar achievements worthy of recognition. The following is illustrative of a fraction of their accomplishments.



Indranee Rajah, SC '86

**Indranee Rajah, SC '86** was promoted to Minister in the Prime Minister's Office and Second Minister in the Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Education.

**Edwin Tong, SC '94** was appointed Senior Minister of State in the Ministry of Law and the Ministry of Health, while **Amrin Amin '03** was appointed Senior Parliamentary Secretary in the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Home Affairs.

In judicial appointments, **Dedar Singh Gill '83, Tan Puay Boon '86, Ang Cheng Hock, SC '95** and **Mavis Chionh, SC LL.M. '05** were all appointed as Judicial Commissioners of the Supreme Court in 2018.



Edwin Tong, SC '94



Amrin Amin '03



Foo Chee Hock '84



Mavis Chionh, SC LL.M. '05

I am also proud to note that all four Senior Counsels appointed at the Opening of the Legal in 2019 are alumni from NUS Law: **Foo Tuat Yien '76, Foo Chee Hock '84, Gregory Vijayendran '92** and **Siraj Omar '97**.

**Rachel Eng '91** was appointed Managing Partner of Eng and Co. LLC and **Veronica Lai '92** was appointed as Chief Corporate Officer of StarHub.

During the National Day Awards 2018, **Juthika Ramanathan '82** was awarded The Public Administration Medal (Gold), while **Tan Kiat Pheng '93, Tan Li Ching, Jill '97, Jasbendar Kaur d/o Resham Singh '91** and **Chua Hwa Kuan, Samuel '06** were all awarded the Public Administration Medal (Silver). Many other alumni were recognised, including Long Service Award recipients **Deena Bte Abdul Aziz Bajrai '93 LL.M. '98, Tan Ken Hwee '94, Anandan s/o Bala '94, Gnanasighamani Kannan '94, Hay Hung Chun, Dip. Sing. '95, Han Ming Kuang '95, and Teo Weng Kuan, Eugene, LL.M. '15**.





Davinder Singh, SC '82

Our alumni continued to make their mark in the region in 2018, with **Davinder Singh, SC '82** being recognised with the Asian Legal Business (ALB) South East Asia Dispute Resolution Lawyer of the Year Award and **Shirin Tang '00** receiving the ALB Southeast Asia Woman Lawyer of the Year Award.

A number of our alumni were recognised in ALB's 40 under 40 list for 2018 (which recognises outstanding legal professionals in the region under the age of 40) including **Smitha Menon, Grad.Dip.Sing. Law '03, Beatrice Yeo Poh Tiang, Grad.Dip.Sing.Law '05, Loke Wanqing '05, Paul Tan Beng Hwee '05, and Mahesh Rai '08.**

Meanwhile, **Martin Marini '84, Grad. Dipl. in Law '88**, General Counsel at the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore, **Edmund Chan '88**, General Counsel at Exxonmobil Asia Pacific Pte Ltd, and **Joyce Sia '91**, Head of Group Legal and Secretariat at United Overseas Bank, all received the Singapore Chief Legal Officer Award 2018 in their respective fields from the Singapore Corporate Counsel Association.



Shirin Tang '00

In addition to serving as role models to inspire our students, we are deeply grateful for the strong support we receive from our alumni each year. Alumni return to the Faculty to give of their time and expertise as mentors, adjunct professors, coaches for moot competitions, speakers at our career talks and advisors to student groups such as the Pro Bono Group.



Law Alumni Mentor Programme

The number of mentors for our **Law Alumni Mentor Programme (LAMP)** has risen steadily over the years, and we are extremely thankful for the 163 alumni who are volunteering this year, our seventh run of LAMP. The programme links first and second year law students, as well as LL.M. students, with alumni mentors who can share their experiences and insights, as well as offer practical guidance and encouragement.

Our alumni and other supporters also made important financial contributions to support future generations of NUS Law students.



Nesadevi Sandrasegara '61

The **Nesadevi Sandrasegara Scholarship** was established with a generous gift from an anonymous donor, to help to attract outstanding students to join NUS Law, and support them during their undergraduate studies.

Another anonymous donor made an endowed gift to establish the **Lee Seng Tee Scholarship** and the **Betty Wu Lee Bursary** at the Faculty. Both the new Scholarship and Bursary will be awarded to deserving law students from Academic Year 2019/2020 onwards.

The **Class of 1992** came together to establish the **NUS Law MCA Fund**, which supports the work of the NUS Centre for Pro Bono and Continuing Legal Education in programmes involving deputyship applications under the Mental Capacity Act (MCA). These programmes provide our students with hands-on legal experience in MCA cases, under the supervision of qualified lawyers.

The law firm **I.R.B. Law LLP** also recently decided to establish the **I.R.B. Law Prize in Trial Advocacy**, which is a compulsory module for half of our second year cohort.

The **Elizabeth Ng Siew Kuan Prize in International Patent Law, Policy and Practice** was established with generous donations from friends, colleagues and former students to honour the memory of Associate Professor Elizabeth Ng Siew Kuan, who passed away in February 2018. Siew Kuan was an outstanding educator, scholar and friend who, in her 31 years with the Faculty, pioneered many of the IP courses now on offer and was deeply engaged with the profession both locally and internationally. She is still greatly missed.

Anniversary reunions have always been a hallmark in our calendar. There were a good number of reunions held last year, with the **Classes of 1978, 1988, 1998 and 2008** celebrating their milestone anniversaries. In addition, reunions held in Hong Kong and Shanghai allowed us to reconnect with alumni living and working there.

In celebration of their 40th Anniversary, the **Class of 1978** set up the **Law Class of 1978 Grant** to help needy students at the Faculty. The **Class of 2008** also gave generously to establish the **Class of 2008 Bursary** at their 10th Anniversary reunion, a tremendous effort for such a young class.



Reunion of Class of 1978



This year, the **Classes of 1989, 1999 and 2009** are already planning for their celebrations, so please keep a lookout for more details if you are from these classes. In addition, an alumni reunion will be held in **Kuala Lumpur** on the evening of Saturday, 13 April 2019. If you are based in or around KL or heading there for work or pleasure, do save the date and join in the fun! (sign up at: <https://tinyurl.com/KLReunion>) We are also planning to organise a Hong Kong reunion for law alumni in the last quarter of the year and look forward to catching up with more of our alumni there.

If you belong to the **Classes of 1969, 1974, 1979, 1984, 1994 or 2004**, please contact us if you are interested in celebrating your own anniversary and we can help you to plan the gathering. We are often able to provide logistical support as well as a subsidy - so do take advantage of it! We also hope to be able to meet with our overseas alumni on a regular basis, so if you are currently residing overseas and would like to work with us on a reunion in your area, we would love to hear from you. For reunion planning, please get in touch with **Jo-Ann Chan '97** ([joann.chan@nus.edu.sg](mailto:joann.chan@nus.edu.sg); 6601 2248).

I cannot overstate how much our alumni have contributed to the successes of NUS Law. Your achievements inspire and challenge us all, raising our profile and establishing our reputation. The opportunities you create for our students, through advice, internships, and employment are what transform these young men and women into lawyers. Your financial support makes possible our mission of being one of the very best law schools in the world - while making sure that no deserving student is left behind.

The **NUS Law Student Support Fund** is still the focus of our fund-raising efforts this year, with the goal of enabling all of our students to make the most of the opportunities available without being held back by finances. If you would like to make a contribution, a donation form is attached to this letter. If you would like to discuss any of the ways in which you might advance the mission of NUS Law, please feel free to contact **Jo-Ann Chan '97** ([joann.chan@nus.edu.sg](mailto:joann.chan@nus.edu.sg); 6601 2248) or myself directly.

### Stay in Touch

I hope that you find these annual updates on NUS Law interesting. If you would like to know more, or if you think there may be ways in which you could get involved with the Faculty, please do not hesitate to let me know.

On behalf of all of us at NUS Law, we wish you and your loved ones the best for 2019. May it bring you peace, happiness and fulfilment.



**Simon Chesterman**  
Dean, NUS Law

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## Giving to the Next Generation: NUS Law Student Support Fund

Given the rising cost of a legal education (tuition alone now stands at \$12,650 per year) and the steady rise in the number of bursary applications each year (around 10% of our students currently receive some kind of financial aid), it comes as no surprise that student support is an important part of our fund-raising.

The NUS Law Student Support Fund is used to support financially disadvantaged students, student learning and student activities at NUS Law, enabling all our students to develop to their full potential regardless of financial circumstances. The Dean will have discretion to allocate funds where they are most needed for the greatest benefit of our students.



“ Thank you for your generosity. Your gift will benefit deserving students and support meaningful learning opportunities at NUS Law. ”

**Stephanie Ng Wenli '18**  
*Scholarship Recipient*