

**Special Anniversary Edition**

**December 2016**

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60

Be Part of NUS Law's  
**60<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY  
CELEBRATIONS**

Walk Down Memory Lane  
**NUS LAW MILESTONES**

Honorary Doctorate for  
**HALIMAH YACOB '78**  
**SPEAKER OF PARLIAMENT**

Saving the Environment  
**APCEL'S 20<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY**

Student Commitment to  
**PRO BONO WORK LAUDED**

NUS Giving  
**WITH THANKS FROM  
THE NEXT GENERATION**

**PLUS**

**NUS Law Moot Wins  
Commencement 2016  
Book Launches**

**REUNIONS!**  
**Classes of 1976, 1986, 1996  
2001 & 2006**



**THE ALUMNI MAGAZINE OF  
THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE  
FACULTY OF LAW**

 **NUS** | Law  
National University  
of Singapore

From left: Professor Tommy Koh '61, Judge of Appeal Judith Prakash '74,  
Chief Justice Sundaresh Menon '86, Rachel Eng '91,  
Tan Min-Liang '02 and Afzal Ali '14



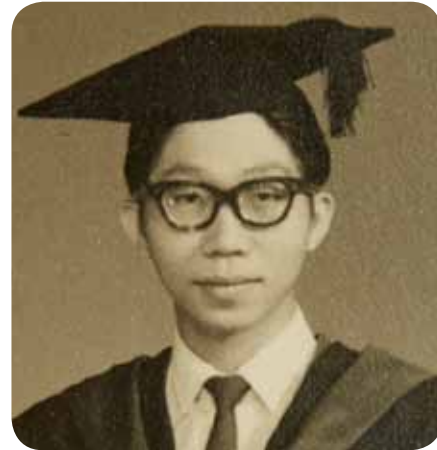
# SIX DECADES OF

“

The four years I spent studying law at NUS are the golden years of my life. My favourite memory is the pioneering spirit and camaraderie of the class of 1961. We were very close to one another and to our teachers. As the pioneering class, we were excited and determined to make the law school succeed.

”

Tommy Koh  
Class of 1961  
Professor & Ambassador-at-Large



“

I enjoyed my time as a law student immensely and it is hard to separate out one happy memory in particular. I cherish the memory of many outstanding women who made a lifelong impression on me. I refer in particular to Dr Thio Su Mien who was in her last term as Dean when I enrolled: I had not known before that one could be both an intellectual and glamorous; then there was Professor Tan Sook Yee who taught us land law and mesmerised the whole class with her wit; Dr Rowena Daw was the youngest PhD in the faculty and not only full of enthusiasm but treated her students as her equals which was a new experience for me; Dr Koh Kheng Lian who was helpful and keen for us to understand the technicalities of contract law; and of course Ms Elizabeth Sreenivasan who ruled over the law library with an iron hand (which ensured a clean and peaceful study environment), and embodied the discipline that is essential to a successful life in the law.

”



Judith Frakash  
Class of 1974  
Judge of Appeal

“

My time in the law school was filled with many memories. Inevitably, these revolve around the people we met: classmates, teachers and for a few of us who were very blessed, our future spouses! Recently, we celebrated the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of our graduation and nearly half the class gathered. The years quickly melted away as we were brought back to a time when life seemed simpler and freer. It reminded me that law school was the season in our lives when we moved from being fresh-faced students to determined young professionals and we were very happy.

”

Sundares Menon  
Class of 1986  
Chief Justice



# NUS LAW MEMORIES



“

My favourite memory of law school is the time spent with my friends at the law school foyer. At the Kent Ridge law campus, the foyer was like a main thoroughfare which cut across the law faculty. The foyer was a place where we hung out in between lessons, it was where we met, hoping to bump into our favourite seniors!

”



Rachel Eng  
Class of 1991  
Deputy Chairman of WongPartnership LLP

“

My favourite memory at NUS Law was the first day when I stepped into campus and it dawned on me that it was the beginning of my career. Clearly the law can lead you to different places. :D

”

Tan Min-Liang  
Class of 2002  
CEO of Razer Inc.



“

I distinctly remember the party organised for Year One law students at the end of the semester of the first year of law school. It was at the upper quadrangle with good food and drinks and almost the entire batch was there having a great time. We were unwinding after a demanding semester while also celebrating the fact that we were no longer going to be freshmen!

”



Afzal Ali  
Class of 2014  
Justices' Law Clerk



## Celebrating 60 Years of Legal Education

NUS Law celebrates 60 years of growth, success and achievements in 2017.

In September 1957, the Faculty began teaching its first LL.B. cohort who would graduate in 1961. This pioneer batch of 22 students became the first graduates in Law of this University and included Professor Tommy Koh, former Chief Justice Chan Sek Keong, Emeritus Professor Koh Kheng Lian, former Dean Thio Su Mien, former Solicitor-General Koh Eng Tian and former Police Commissioner Goh Yong Hong.

NUS Law leads Asia as the region's top law school every year, and it has been ranked regularly among the world's 20 best law schools. About 250 graduates join a long list of distinguished NUS Law alumni every year.

The measure of any educational institution is in the success of its alumni. As our cover illustrates, members of the NUS Law family occupy the ranks of the judiciary, government, private practice, business, the arts and media communities as well as almost every niche of professional life in Singapore.

Our alumni are an important part of the work of the faculty and we invite you to join us as we celebrate this milestone in the history of the faculty.

Six special events are being planned to reflect upon the many significant milestones and achievements that have taken place at the faculty in the last six decades. The celebration will kickoff with Law IV, an annual fundraising musical event presented by the graduating class of NUS Law.

NUS Law's 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Signature Events:

- Law IV Musical
- Book Launch: History of the Faculty
- Public Seminar on NUS Law's impact on Legal Developments in Singapore
- Launch of the new Centre for Pro Bono and Clinical Law
- Gala Appreciation Dinner
- Alumni Movie Night

We invite you to be part of the celebrations and to share your memories of NUS Law. Please update your particulars on our website to stay abreast of our activities.

[www.law.nus.edu.sg/alumni](http://www.law.nus.edu.sg/alumni)



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# DEANS' DIARY

Greetings from the National University of Singapore Faculty of Law!

This special anniversary issue of *LawLink* heralds the start of our celebration of NUS Law's six decades at the forefront of legal education and research. We thought it fitting that the opening message should come from all of the Singapore-based former Deans of the Faculty, as well as the current Dean.

In 1957, a pioneer batch of just 22 law students (including two of the undersigned) entered what was then known as the Law Department of the University of Malaya, located on the Bukit

Timah Campus. Though small, this cohort produced some of the finest minds in the legal fraternity — an auspicious start for what was soon rechristened the Faculty of Law.

In the succeeding years, NUS Law has gone from strength to strength and there is much to celebrate. From humble beginnings, the student population has grown to an intake of 250 per year, together with 120 graduate students. They are taught by 70 faculty members representing most of the major jurisdictions around the world. We recently celebrated the 10,000<sup>th</sup> member of our alumni community, which includes

men and women who have gone on to hold the most senior ranks in legal practice, the judiciary, government, and academia — as well as in business and the arts.

In addition to outstanding graduates, NUS Law produces cutting edge research. This research informs legal policy debates within Singapore, contributing to its well-deserved reputation in the rule of law. The impact of that research also stretches around the common law world and beyond.

The academic reputation that we have earned, combined with the reputation of our graduates among employers, are the reason why NUS Law is consistently ranked as the leading law school in Asia and in the top 20 worldwide.

Looking ahead, while NUS Law has a proud tradition of rigorous legal training, we aspire to continual improvement of our educational offerings. Beyond good

doctrinal skills, our students also need to be creative thinkers, able to cross literal and metaphorical boundaries in their work.

We have therefore created a host of opportunities to develop these skills, including courses taught by the best faculty from around the world, overseas exchange programmes, competitions in various fields of law, and new avenues for pro bono and clinical work. These help ensure that a law degree from NUS will be much more than just a doorway to legal practice — it will be a life-transforming experience.

Running a world-class programme like this costs money. Though we continue to be strongly supported by government, typical undergraduate tuition now stands at S\$12,500 per year. We are committed to ensuring that no deserving student should be denied an undergraduate education in law for financial reasons, and around ten percent of our students

receive some kind of financial aid based on their family's per capita income.

In addition, we want all of our students to be able to make the most of their time here and be able to participate in the programmes and activities offered, regardless of their financial background. Student support is therefore the focus of our 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary fund-raising campaign and we are launching the **NUS Law Student Support Fund**. To find out how you can take part in this campaign and contribute to the Fund, please see the back of this magazine.

To celebrate our 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, we are also planning a series of six signature events: the Law IV musical, a book launch tied to the history of the Faculty, a public

seminar on NUS Law's impact on legal developments in Singapore, the launch of a new Centre for Pro Bono and Clinical Law, a Gala Appreciation Dinner, and an Alumni Movie Night.

Our graduating cohort, the Class of 2017, will flag off the celebrations with their Law IV production, "Judicial Review". In line with our focus on student support, the class has decided that all proceeds will go towards setting up the Class of 2017 Pro Bono Award, to encourage and enable future generations of law students in their pro bono and community service efforts.

More details on this and other events will be coming soon — we look forward to seeing you at some or all of them!

**“The academic reputation that we have earned, combined with the reputation of our graduates among employers, are the reason why NUS Law is consistently ranked as the leading law school in Asia and in the top 20 worldwide.”**

**“Student support is therefore the focus of our 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary fund-raising campaign and we are launching the NUS Law Student Support Fund.”**

*With our very best wishes,*



Thio Su Mien '61  
Dean (1968–1971)



Tommy Koh '61  
Dean (1971–1974)



S. Jayakumar '63  
Dean (1974–1980)



Tan Sook Yee  
Dean (1980–1987)



Tan Lee Meng '72  
Dean (1987–1992)



Chin Tet Yung  
Dean (1992–2001)



Tan Cheng Han '87  
Dean (2001–2011)



Simon Chesterman  
Dean (2012–present)

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\* Listed are those who have cumulatively given S\$10,000 and above to NUS Law since 2000.  
\* Some donors have asked to remain anonymous.



# HISTORY OF THE FACULTY

As NUS Law celebrates its 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary since the first law students were admitted to the Bukit Timah campus of the University in 1957, LawLink explores the illustrious history of the faculty.

The roots of the Faculty of Law lie in the establishment of the Department of Law in the then University of Malaya in 1956. The first law students were admitted in 1957. In 1959, the Department attained Faculty status with Professor Lionel Astor ("Lee") Sheridan serving as the founding Dean.

The pioneer class of law students graduated in 1961, counting among its most illustrious members Professor Tommy Koh (Ambassador-at-Large and



The Faculty of Law Staff in 1992.



The Faculty of Law Academic Staff in 1963.

former Dean), former Chief Justice Chan Sek Keong, former Dean Thio Su Mien, former Solicitor-General Koh Eng Tian, former Police Commissioner Goh Yong Hong and Emeritus Professor Koh Kheng Lian.

In the early 1960s, the governments of Singapore and Malaya announced their desire for the Singapore and Kuala Lumpur divisions of the University of Malaya to become autonomous national universities in their respective territories. Thus, on 1 January 1962, the University of Singapore was born. In 1980, the University of Singapore and Nanyang

University (Nantah) were merged to form the National University of Singapore (NUS). With that, the Faculty of Law became part of the modern NUS, simultaneously moving to the Kent Ridge campus.

A quarter century later, it was announced that the Bukit Timah campus would be returned to NUS. The Faculty of Law, the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, and several research institutes made the move from Kent Ridge back to the hallowed grounds of the Bukit Timah Campus, opening its doors there once again on 17 July 2006.



Faculty of Law Academic Staff and Senior Administrators at the Faculty Retreat in 2016.

## Bukit Timah Campus

The buildings of Bukit Timah Campus hold a wealth of memories for the generations of students that have passed through its portals. Besides contributing strongly to the identity of the area, these buildings help to chronicle the evolution of the University's campus over the years.

Conservation efforts sought to keep the campus' rich history alive while providing modern amenities befitting a world-class educational institution. The efficient restoration and adaptation of the conserved campus buildings to meet the functional needs of the current occupants was commended with a URA Architectural Heritage Award in 2007.

Six other buildings of old Raffles College have been preserved as National Monuments – Central Administration Block/Oei Tiong Ham Block, Mannaseh Meyer Block, Eu Tong Sen Block, Federal Block, Library Block and Block A (Old Arts Block).

The Bukit Timah Campus was gazetted on 20 October 2006 and 23 May 2008 for conservation.



Aerial view of the campus of the University of Malaya campus in Bukit Timah Road, circa 1952.



Eu Tong Sen and Federal Buildings, 2015.

Bukit Timah Campus text courtesy of the Urban Redevelopment Authority - Conservation Portal (<http://ura.sg/consportal>).



# MILESTONES

## The First Decade 1956-1965

1956



### Arrival of Lionel A. Sheridan

Lionel ("Lee") Sheridan takes up his duties as the first Professor of Law and Head of the Law Department at the University of Malaya.

1957



### Admission of first law students

The first law students are admitted to the Department of Law. Among them are former Chief Justice Chan Sek Keong '61, former ambassador to the United Nations Professor Tommy Koh '61, Emeritus Professor Koh Kheng Lian '61, former Dean Thio Su Mien '61, former Solicitor-General Koh Eng Tian '61 and former Police Commissioner Goh Yong Hong '61.

1959



### Lee Sheridan elected as first Dean

The Department of Law attains Faculty status and Lee Sheridan is elected as its first Dean.

### Origins of the Singapore Journal of Legal Studies

The *University of Malaya Law Review* is published (the journal was later renamed the *Malaya Law Review* and subsequently, the *Singapore Journal of Legal Studies*, which continues to this day).

1961



### Pioneer class graduates

The pioneer batch of 22 law students graduates; 8 of them subsequently join the Faculty as assistant lecturers or part-time teachers and 2 of them go on to serve as Dean of the Faculty.

1962



### First local graduate called to the Singapore Bar

T. P. B. Menon '61 is the first local graduate to be called to the Singapore Bar.



### B. L. Chua appointed as Dean

Lee Sheridan leaves to take up the Chair of Comparative Law at Queen's University in Belfast. Chua Boon Lan (B. L. Chua) succeeds Sheridan as Dean of the Faculty.



### First honorary Doctorate in Law awarded

Dr Bashir Ahmad Mallal, founder of the *Malayan Law Journal*, is the first person to be conferred an Honorary LL.D. by the University of Singapore.

1963



### Harry E. Groves appointed as Dean

Harry E. Groves succeeds B. L. Chua as Dean.



### Leslie C. Green takes over as Dean

On 16 September, Singapore joins the Federation of Malaysia. In November, Leslie C. Green succeeds Harry Groves as Dean, taking up the position officially in 1964.

1965



### Faculty names James Louis Montrose as Dean

On 9 August, Singapore becomes an independent republic. In September, Leslie Green leaves the Faculty and is succeeded by James Louis Montrose.



Former Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew (LL.D. '13, Honoris Causa) addressing the Students' Law Society at their Annual Dinner and Dance in November 1959.

## The Second Decade 1966-1975

1966



### Geoffrey W. Bartholomew takes over as Dean

James Montrose completes his term as Dean and Ford Foundation Visiting Professor and is succeeded by Geoffrey W. Bartholomew. As Dean, Geoffrey Bartholomew champions the localisation of the Faculty by encouraging local graduates like Thio Su Mien and Tommy Koh to take up leadership positions in the Faculty.

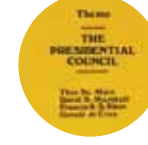
1968



### Thio Su Mien '61 becomes youngest Dean

Thio Su Mien '61, the Faculty's first alumnus to join its teaching staff in 1962, is appointed Vice Dean. At the close of Geoffrey Bartholomew's term as Dean, Thio Su Mien is elected Dean, making her the first woman, the first local graduate, and the youngest person ever to be Dean of the Faculty.

1969



### Birth of Singapore Law Review

The student journal, *Me Judice*, is transformed into the *Singapore Law Review* (SLR). The SLR continues to this day as a student-run publication.

1971



### Tommy Koh '61 takes over as Dean

Thio Su Mien leaves for private practice and is succeeded as Dean by her classmate, Tommy Koh '61. He holds the distinction of being the first graduate to have attained First Class Honours from the Faculty. At the time of his appointment, Koh had just returned from his stint as Singapore's Permanent Representative to the United Nations.

1973

### Faculty participates in Jessup Moot

The Faculty sends its first team to the Philip C Jessup International Law Moot Competition in the United States, which is held annually in Washington DC. The Jessup Moot is now regarded as the most prestigious international moot competition in the world. To date, NUS Law holds the record as the law school with the most number of victories at the moot – four in total.

1974



### S. Jayakumar '63 succeeds Tommy Koh as Dean

S. Jayakumar who, joined the Law Faculty in 1964, takes over from Tommy Koh as Dean. He had just returned from a 3-year stint as Singapore's Permanent Representative to the United Nations.



Student volunteers at Legal Aid Bureau, circa 1970.



S. Jayakumar, Dean of NUS Law, with his students, circa 1975.



# MILESTONES

## The Third Decade 1976-1985



Crest of the National University of Singapore, created on the merger of University of Singapore and Nanyang University in 1980.

1980



**Faculty appoints Tan Sook Yee as Dean**  
S. Jayakumar leaves the Faculty to enter politics. He is succeeded by Tan Sook Yee as Dean. She has been teaching Property Law at the Faculty since 1964.

1981



**First local graduate on High Court bench**  
Lai Kew Chai '66 becomes the first local graduate to be elevated to the High Court bench.

1982



**First Philip C. Jessup win**  
Represented by V. K. Rajah '82, Davinder Singh '82, Jimmy Yim '82 and Steven Chong '82, the Faculty wins the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Competition for the first time. All four team members became Senior Counsel. V. K. Rajah and Steven Chong also served as Attorney-General; and as Judge of Appeal and Judge of the Supreme Court respectively.

1985



**Second Jessup win**  
NUS Law wins the Jessup Competition for the second time, represented by Anjali Iyer '85, Lim Kien Thye '85, Mohan Pillay '85, Prithpal Singh '85 and Eleanor Wong '85.

**Inaugural Singapore Law Review Lecture**  
Justice Punch Coomaraswamy delivers the inaugural Singapore Law Review Lecture. It remains the longest-running legal academic lecture series in Singapore.

## The Fourth Decade 1986-1995

1987



**Tan Lee Meng '72 appointed Dean**  
Tan Lee Meng '72 succeeds Tan Sook Yee as Dean. As Dean, he recruits many young local faculty who later became the core of NUS Law. In 1992, he was appointed the University's Deputy Vice-Chancellor, and later a Judge of the Supreme Court of Singapore. In 2013, he retired from the Bench and returned to NUS Law as Professor. The President appointed him as a Senior Judge of the Supreme Court in 2015.

1992



**Chin Tet Yung takes over as Dean**  
Tan Lee Meng is succeeded by Chin Tet Yung as Dean.



**First local graduate appointed Attorney-General**  
Chan Sek Keong '61 is the first local graduate to become Singapore's Attorney-General. He goes on to become Chief Justice in 2006.

1993



**David Marshall Professorship established**  
NUS Law establishes the David Marshall Professorship as its first named Chair (Professorship) in honour of David Marshall, pre-eminent criminal lawyer and also Singapore's first Chief Minister and subsequent Ambassador to France. Professor Francis Reynolds of Oxford becomes the first David Marshall Professor.

1994



**NUS Law wins the Jessup Competition a third time**  
Represented by Ang Cheng Hock '94, Jayanthi Sadanandan '95, Tan Ken Hwee '94, Michael Ewing-Chow '94, and Christopher Daniel '94, NUS Law wins the Jessup Competition for the third time.



**Development of exchange programmes**  
NUS Law begins to develop student exchange programmes with leading law schools in Canada, Australia, England, and the United States.



The Singapore Law Review, revived in 1983 after a hiatus of 10 years.

## The Fifth Decade 1996-2005

1996



**Establishment of the Asia-Pacific Centre for Environmental Law**  
The Asia-Pacific Centre for Environmental Law (APCEL) is established by NUS Law together with the Commission on Environmental Law (CEL) of the World Conservation Union (IUCN), in collaboration with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).



**C J Koh Professorship**  
NUS Law receives a \$2 million donation from retired lawyer and philanthropist, C J Koh, to set up the C J Koh Professorship in Law. Mr Koh's additional bequests finance the renovation and expansion of the Law Library at Kent Ridge, which was renamed the C J Koh Law Library. When Law Faculty moved to Bukit Timah in 2006, the C J Koh Law Library moved along with it.

2001



**Tan Cheng Han '87 becomes Dean**  
Tan Cheng Han '87 succeeds Chin Tet Yung as Dean. He serves as Dean for 10 years and is the longest-serving Dean in the Faculty's history. He is currently the Chair of NUS Law's Centre for Law & Business. His other appointments include being Chairman of the Singapore Media Literacy Council, and Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Move-On and Filming Orders.



**First law school to win the Jessup Competition four times**  
NUS Law becomes the first law school in the world to win the prestigious Philip C Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition four times. The Faculty is represented by Sangeeta Subrahmanyam '01, Chan Ho Ming '01, Kabir Singh '02, Davinia Aziz '02 and Jason Chan '02.

2002



**Yong Shook Lin Professorship established**  
NUS Law receives a gift of \$2 million from Chief Justice Yong Pung How LL.D. '01 and Mrs Yong Wei Woo to establish the Yong Shook Lin Professorship in Intellectual Property Law.



**First issue of LawLink**  
The first issue of LawLink – NUS Law's alumni magazine – is produced. It succeeds an earlier publication, *Just Inn*.

2003



**Asian Law Institute launched**  
The Faculty establishes the Asian Law Institute (ASLI) with nine other leading law schools in Asia. The ASLI Secretariat is housed at the Faculty.



**NUS Law signs a MOU establishing a partnership with ECUPL**

The Faculty launches a specialist Masters (LL.M.) programme in International Business Law with its ASLI partners, Peking University and the East China University of Politics and Law. It is taught in English with one semester in Singapore and one in Shanghai, and has graduated over 450 lawyers who will link China to the region, and Asia to the world.

2004

**Singapore Year Book of International Law**  
The *Singapore Journal of International and Comparative Law* (which had been established in 1997) is reorganised into two journals – the *Singapore Year Book of International Law*, which commenced publication in 2004; and the *Asian Journal of Comparative Law* which commenced publication in 2006.

2005

**Double degree programmes**  
NUS Law launches two double honours degree programmes with the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, and NUS Business School consecutively: Economics and Law, Business Administration and Law.

**Return to Bukit Timah Campus**  
It is announced that the Bukit Timah Campus will be returned to NUS. NUS Law makes its historic move home to Bukit Timah, where it all began, the following year.



Main walkway to the Faculty of Law foyer in Kent Ridge, late 1980s.



NUS Law returns to the Bukit Timah Campus in 2006.



# MILESTONES

## The Sixth Decade 2006-2015

2006	2009	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015			
 <p><b>First local graduate appointed Chief Justice</b> Chan Sek Keong '61 is the first local graduate to be appointed Chief Justice. In 2012, he was succeeded as Chief Justice by another NUS Law graduate, Sundaresh Menon '86.</p>	 <p><b>NUS establishes the Centre for International Law</b> A university-level research institute, the Centre was formed in response to the growing need for international law thought leadership and capacity building in the Asia-Pacific region.</p>	 <p><b>Pioneer class celebrates 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary</b> NUS Law's pioneer class celebrates the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of their graduation with the establishment of the Lionel A. Sheridan Professorship in honour of the Faculty's founding dean.</p>	 <p><b>Remembering Madam Kwa Geok Choo</b> NUS Law launches a series of initiatives to recognise Madam Kwa, including a professorship in property law, a bursary, a scholarship, and the Kwa Geok Choo Distinguished Visitors Programme.</p>	 <p><b>Simon Chesterman takes over as Dean</b> Simon Chesterman is appointed Dean. He joined NUS Law from NYU in 2007, becoming Vice Dean of Graduate Studies in 2010, overseeing all of the graduate programmes at NUS Law, including the Master of Laws and Doctor of Philosophy degrees.</p>	 <p><b>Singapore International Arbitration Academy launched</b> NUS Law and the Centre for International Law stage the inaugural Singapore International Arbitration Academy.</p> <p><b>Expanding Pro Bono</b> NUS Law establishes a Pro Bono Office to oversee the growing number of student pro bono activities and to look into the implementation of a more comprehensive programme.</p>	 <p><b>Honorary Degree for Lee Kuan Yew</b> NUS awards an Honorary Doctor of Laws degree to Singapore's founding Prime Minister. Dean Simon Chesterman serves as the public orator, delivering a citation in Mr Lee's honour.</p>	 <p><b>Centre for Law &amp; Business launched</b> The Centre for Law &amp; Business seeks to enhance and promote research and educational opportunities for faculty, students, legal practitioners and business executives who share a common interest in the fields of Law, Business and Economics.</p>	 <p><b>Centre for Legal Theory launched</b> The Centre brings together academics interested in a variety of theoretical approaches to law. It organises the Singapore Symposium in Legal Theory.</p>	 <p><b>Saw Swee Hock Centennial Professorship launched</b> A generous gift from Professor Saw Swee Hock, President's Honorary Professor of Statistics at NUS, sees the creation of the Saw Swee Hock Centennial Professorship in Law. Professor Alec Stone Sweet gives up his tenured position at Yale University to take up the Professorship at NUS Law in 2016.</p>
 <p><b>The Asian Journal of International Law is launched</b> The journal of the Asian Society of International Law is produced by NUS Law, with Simon Chesterman and Simon Tay '86 as two of the three founding editors. It replaces the Singapore Year Book of International Law.</p>		 <p><b>Sat Pal Khattar Tax Professorship established</b> Sat Pal Khattar '66 makes a generous gift to establish the Sat Pal Khattar Professorship in Tax Law. It strengthens NUS Law's tax offerings and highlights its importance as a field of study. This endowed chair is a fitting tribute to Sat Pal Khattar's own contributions to tax law over the course of his long and illustrious career.</p>	 <p><b>Centre for Asian Legal Studies created</b> The Centre is the first of its kind to be established in Asia, building on NUS Law's collaborations with other law schools around the region as the Secretariat of the Asian Law Institute (ASLI).</p>	 <p><b>Mentoring the future</b> The Law Alumni Mentor Programme (LAMP) is launched, linking first and second year students with recent alumni to provide insights and guidance to the practice of law.</p>	 <p><b>NUS Law hosts inaugural Global Deans Forum</b> Organised by NUS Law and the International Association of Law Schools, the Forum attracts more than 80 law school leaders who adopt the "Singapore Declaration on Global Standards and Outcomes of a Legal Education".</p>	 <p><b>Centre for Banking &amp; Finance Law launched</b> The Centre will enhance Singapore's status as an international financial centre in three ways: as a convenor, as a thought-leader and as a platform for ideas on improving banking and financial systems at the national, regional and global levels.</p>	 <p><b>Centre for Maritime Law launched</b> This Centre was established through a partnership between NUS Law and the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA) with the aim of enhancing research and training in maritime law. The MPA made an additional gift to establish the MPA Professorship in Maritime Law. Professor Stephen Girvin is appointed the inaugural MPA Professor in Maritime Law.</p>	 <p><b>Innocence Project</b> The Innocence Project (Singapore) is featured in the Straits Times after a student team successfully secured a discharge amounting to an acquittal for a man wrongfully convicted for drug consumption.</p>	

Class of 1961 celebrates its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary at the Bukit Timah Campus.

Class of 1961 celebrates its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary at the Bukit Timah Campus.



The first graduating class, the Class of 1961, at the Bukit Timah Campus.



Students at the Bukit Timah Campus in 2014.



# APCEL'S 20<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY



Mr Masagos Zulkifli, Minister for the Environment and Water Resources, delivered the opening address on 11 November.

The Asia-Pacific Centre for Environmental Law (APCEL) celebrated its 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on 10 November 2016 at the Shaw Foundation Alumni House, NUS (Kent Ridge Campus), together with two degree programmes on the environment – the MSc (Environmental Management) [MEM] and the Bachelor in Environmental Studies (BES) programmes which celebrated their 15<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversaries respectively. The highlight of the celebrations was a joint conference on “Attaining the Sustainable Development Goals – Environmental Law, Policy and Management” that took place from 9 to 11 November 2016.

The conference welcomed distinguished keynote speakers from around the world, who came to share their expertise and bring fresh perspectives, with an emphasis on connectivity, exchanging ideas and fostering critical discourse.



Mr Desmond Lee '01, Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Home Affairs & Ministry of National Development, delivered the opening address at APCEL's 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration on 10 November.



From left: Emeritus Professor Koh Kheng Lian '61, Honorary Director of APCEL, Professor Tommy Koh '61, Ambassador-at-Large and Advisory Committee Co-Chair of APCEL, Associate Professor Lye Lin Heng '73, Director of APCEL, Mr Masagos Zulkifli, Minister for the Environment and Water Resources, Associate Professor Sekhar Kondepudi, Director of MEM programme, Professor Lam Khee Poh, Dean of School of Design & Environment, and Emeritus Professor Cheong Hin Fatt, Head of Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, former Dean of School of Design and Environment



From left: Professor Simon Chesterman, Dean of NUS Law, Associate Professor Lye Lin Heng '73, Director of APCEL, Mr Desmond Lee '01, Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Home Affairs & Ministry of National Development, Emeritus Professor Koh Kheng Lian '61, Honorary Director of APCEL and Professor Tommy Koh '61, Ambassador-at-Large, Advisory Committee Co-Chair of APCEL and Advisory Committee Chair of the MEM programme

The Asia-Pacific Centre for Environmental Law was established in 1996 at the initiative of NUS Law and the Commission on Environmental Law of the World Conservation Union, in collaboration with the United Nations Environment Programme, in response to the need for capacity building in environmental legal education and the need for promotion of awareness in environmental issues.

Mr Desmond Lee '01, Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Home Affairs & Ministry of National Development, graced the event as APCEL's guest-of-honour and delivered the opening remarks on 10 November.

On the last day of the conference, MEM celebrated its 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with Mr Masagos Zulkifli, Minister for the Environment and Water Resources, as the guest-of-honour.



# PRO BONO WORK LAUDED



From left: Ms Lim Wei Zhen '17, Ms Lye Yuan Jun '15, Mr Ng Bin Hong '14 (Pro Bono Champion Award), Professor Simon Chesterman, Dean of NUS Law, Ms Indranee Rajah '86, Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Finance & Ministry of Law, Mr Joshua Matthew Goh '17, Mr Lennart Ng '16 and Mr Kenneth Chan Jian Da '18, Head of Innocence Project (Singapore)

At the inaugural NUS Law Pro Bono Awards Ceremony on 2 March 2016, NUS Law celebrated the outstanding contributions of seven law students towards pro bono work, and awarded grants to support four deserving student pro bono projects. Ms Indranee Rajah '86, Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Finance & Ministry of Law, graced the occasion as guest-of-honour.

The awards for individuals were presented in two categories, namely the Pro Bono Champion Award and the Pro Bono Leadership Award. The two grants presented to student pro bono projects were the NUS Law Class of 1992 Pro Bono Award and the RHTLaw Taylor Wessing Subhas Anandan Pro Bono Award.

The NUS Law Class of 1992 Pro Bono Award, established with a \$20,000 gift by the NUS Law Class of 1992, grants up to three catalytic pro bono projects a maximum of \$2,500 each. "We wanted something that could actually make a meaningful impact on community and also leave an effect on the beneficiaries as well as the volunteers," said Mr Gregory Vijayendran who represented the NUS Law Class of 1992.

**NUS Law Class of 1992 Pro Bono Award 2016**

- Innocence Project (Singapore)**
- Military Justice Project**
- NUS Adult Protection Research Team**



The RHTLaw Taylor Wessing Subhas Anandan Pro Bono Award was named after RHTLaw Taylor Wessing's late Senior Partner Mr Subhas Anandan '70, a fervent champion of pro bono work. The Award provides \$25,000 in financial support to projects for five years, starting from 2016. The first Award went to the Criminal Justice Club.



From left: Associate Professor Lim Lei Theng '92, Mr Rajan Menon '71, Senior Partner of RHTLaw Taylor Wessing, Mrs Vimala Anandan, Ms Indranee Rajah '86, Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Finance & Ministry of Law, Professor Simon Chesterman, Dean of NUS Law and Mr Gregory Vijayendran '92

**RHTLaw Taylor Wessing Subhas Anandan Pro Bono Award 2016**

- Criminal Justice Club**

Mr Rajan Menon '71, Senior Partner, RHTLaw Taylor Wessing said that it was the "Club's ethos and dedication to criminal law and criminal justice" in Singapore that the award sought to recognise and encourage.

In his welcome address, Professor Simon Chesterman, Dean of NUS Law, highlighted the myriad of benefits pro bono work brings: making a difference in someone's life, gaining real experience through working on actual cases, and being reminded that the rewards of being a lawyer go beyond financial rewards. He added that NUS Law students are constantly "looking for ways to actively

give back to the community, to get meaningful experience in the practice of law, and to develop an understanding of what it means to be a true advocate of justice."

During her speech, Ms Indranee Rajah '86 paid tribute to the winners, particularly alumnus Mr Ng Bin Hong '14, who received the Pro Bono Champion Award for his unstinting efforts and legal research relating to vulnerable adults. Government officials are currently reviewing some of Mr Ng's recommendations on the Mental Capacity Act.

**Pro Bono Champion Award 2016**

- Mr Ng Bin Hong '14**

The Pro Bono Leadership Awards recognise law students who have shown outstanding leadership and commitment



Ms Indranee Rajah '86, Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Finance & Ministry of Law, with Mr Ng Bin Hong '14, recipient of the inaugural NUS Pro Bono Champion Award.

towards pro bono work on a sustained basis, and whose contributions have led to significant developments in pro bono work for law students.

**Pro Bono Leadership Award 2016**

- Joshua Matthew Goh '17**  
Military Justice Project
- Lennart Ng '16**  
Military Justice Project
- Lim Wei Zhen '17**  
Students for Migrant Workers
- Kenneth Wang Ye '16**  
Innocence Project (Singapore)
- Lye Yuan Jun '15**  
PDPA Project
- Mitchell Yeo '14**  
PDPA Project

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# LEGAL AID BUREAU APPRECIATION AWARDS

Congratulations to members of the alumni who were awarded in recognition of their pro bono work! The Legal Aid Bureau handed out the Appreciation Awards on 28 January 2016.

We wish the award recipients the heartiest congratulations and may their work continue to inspire others!

AWARDS	AWARD RECIPIENTS
Legal Aid Bureau Novo Award For outstanding service as Assigned Solicitors by lawyers with less than 2 years PQE	Mr Chong Yue-En '09
Legal Aid Bureau 5-year Appreciation Award For contributions as Assigned Solicitors	Mr Ng Thin Wah '88
Legal Aid Bureau 10-year Appreciation Award For contributions as Assigned Solicitors	Mr Liaw Jin Poh '91
Legal Aid Bureau 20-year Appreciation Award For contributions as Assigned Solicitors	Mr Abdul Rohim Bin Sarip '88
Legal Aid Bureau 2-year Amicus Award For contributions as Volunteer Assistant Directors of Legal Aid	Mrs Ang Ger Ean Grace '90
	Ms Nila Ibrahim Beazer '80
Legal Aid Bureau 5-year Amicus Award For contributions as Volunteer Assistant Directors of Legal Aid	Associate Professor Lim Lei Theng '92
	Ms Michele Sharmini Rasanayagam '84



# PRO BONO GROUP CELEBRATES 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY



Associate Professor Helena Whalen-Bridge LL.M. '03



The NUS Pro Bono Group (PBG) celebrated its 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on 4 March 2016 with the launch of a booklet titled “Pro Bono in Singapore: The PBG Story”, chronicling developments within the group over the years. PBG alumni also joined in the celebrations led by PBG founder Joseph Wong '06 and PBG President Cheryl Lim '18 (Exco 2015/16).

Ten years since its founding, PBG’s story is an ongoing narrative. While the group can be proud of their contribution to the pro bono landscape in Singapore, there is still much to be done and this dedicated volunteer student group continues to honour the legacy of its founding members.



From left: Professor Tan Cheng Han '87, former Dean of NUS Law, Shawn Teo Kai Jie '18, Cheryl Lim Phuy Yi '18, Mr Thio Shen Yi, President of the Law Society, Associate Professor Helena Whalen-Bridge LL.M. '03, Mr Lim Tanguy, Director of the Pro Bono Services Office at the Law Society, Professor Simon Chesterman, Dean of NUS Law, and Douglas Leow '17



# HALIMAH YACOB '78 CONFERRED HONORARY DOCTOR OF LAWS



NUS Chancellor and President of Singapore, Dr Tony Tan Keng Yam, presents the Honorary Doctor of Laws to Mdm Halimah Jacob '78.

Speaker of Parliament, Mdm Halimah Jacob '78 (LL.B.) '01 (LL.M.), was conferred the Honorary Doctor of Laws at this year's main Commencement ceremony on 7 July at the University Cultural Centre. The honorary degree is in recognition of her outstanding contributions to Singapore and the community, and was presented to Mdm Halimah by NUS Chancellor and President of Singapore, Dr Tony Tan Keng Yam.

In NUS Law Dean Professor Simon Chesterman's citation for Mdm Halimah, he shared how she led the way with a number of firsts, including being the first Malay woman to be elected into

Parliament in 2001; her appointment as the first female Speaker of Parliament in 2013; and the first Singaporean to be on the governing body of the International Labour Organisation.

Among the awards she has received are Berita Harian's "Achiever of the Year" in 2001, the AWARE Heroine Award in 2011, and her induction into the Singapore Women's Hall of Fame in 2014.

During her three decades of service with the labour movement, she has supported the rights of low-wage workers, encouraged flexible work arrangements and family care leave.

Addressing new graduates, Mdm Halimah urged them to view difficult circumstances as opportunities, to make a mark in their chosen careers, and to always give back to society. "Look for a cause, a passion and champion it. Also, remember that we are where we are today because we have the support of so many people along the way."

Mdm Halimah further encouraged them to "have the humility to accept that not everything that happened to us was because of how smart or how good we are, but because we had a lot of help."

# KWA GEOK CHOO LECTURE: PROFESSOR LOUISE GULLIFER



NUS Law held the 10<sup>th</sup> Kwa Geok Choo Distinguished Visitors Lecture on 25 August 2016 at the NUS Bukit Timah Campus. The faculty welcomed Professor Louise Gullifer, who delivered a lecture titled, "'Sales' on Retention of Title: Is the English Law Analysis Broken?". Chairing the lecture was Associate Professor Gary Bell.

In recent years, the English law position on retention of title clauses in sale agreements appeared to have shaken down to a functionally satisfactory balance of interests, although arrived at by a conceptually rather complex route. As such, a trade supplier can obtain effective proprietary protection against non-payment of the price while the goods supplied remain in existence, but loses it once the goods have been converted into products and proceeds: these assets are then available to collateralise finance provided from other sources.

Professor Gullifer highlighted two previous cases (the Court of Appeal decision in *Caterpillar (NI) Limited v John Holt & Company (Liverpool) Limited* [2013] EWCA (Civ) 1232 and the Supreme Court decision in *PST Energy 7 Shipping LLC v O W Bunker Malta Ltd* [2016] UKSC 23, which have yet again raised questions about the correct interpretation of such clauses, the analysis of the proprietary interests in the goods resulting from the use of such clauses and the interaction between contracts containing such clauses and the Sale of Goods Act 1979. The lecture critically examined these decisions and their wider ramifications. It questioned whether the current approach of English law to trade finance was fit for purpose, and examined the options for reform with reference to comparative systems of law.

NUS Law established the Kwa Geok Choo Distinguished Visitors Programme as one of several initiatives to pay tribute to the late Madam Kwa Geok Choo, wife of Singapore's founding Prime Minister, Mr Lee Kuan Yew (LL.D. '13, Honoris Causa). Under this programme, leading law academics are invited to teach a course at NUS and deliver public lectures on topical legal issues.



From left: Professor Simon Chesterman, Dean of NUS Law, Professor Louise Gullifer and Associate Professor Gary Bell

## About the Speaker

Louise Gullifer is Professor of Commercial Law at Oxford University and Fellow and Tutor in Law at Harris Manchester College, Oxford, where she has been the Senior Law Tutor since 1999. She has been teaching at Oxford since 1991, and before that she practised as a barrister: she is an honorary member of 3 Verulam Buildings and is a Bencher of Gray's Inn.

She teaches commercial and corporate finance law subjects at undergraduate and graduate level, and also teaches Roman law to first year students. Her research interests focus broadly on commercial law and corporate finance and she writes extensively in areas such as security and title financing, corporate finance, corporate insolvency, personal property and set-off. Among other works, she is co-author of *The Law of Security and Title Financing* (2nd edition, Oxford University Press) and has prepared the last two editions of *Goode on Legal Problems of Credit and Security*. Together with Professor Orkun Akseli, she has edited the book *Secured Transactions Law Reform: Principles, Policies and Practice*. This book is a comparative study of secured transaction law reform in a number of jurisdictions. Professor Gullifer is executive director of the Secured Transaction Law Reform Project and is the Oxford Law Faculty Academic Lead for the Cape Town Convention Academic Project.



# YONG SHOOK LIN LECTURE: PROFESSOR KAL RAUSTIALA



Professor Kal Raustiala

NUS Law welcomed Professor Kal Raustiala, as speaker for this year's Yong Shook Lin Professorship in Intellectual Property (IP) Public Lecture. The lecture titled "The Piracy Paradox: Can Imitation Spur Innovation? Reflections from the American Fashion Industry", had over

150 members of the law and fashion industries attending the event. Organised in conjunction with this year's IP Week, the event took place at NUS Law's Bukit Timah Campus on 16 August 2016.

Professor Raustiala persuasively argued against the conventional wisdom that copying kills creativity. The common understanding is that the protections afforded by IP law are essential lest creators, fearing that copyists will steal their profits, forego creating in the first place. He explored the story of the American fashion industry which challenges every aspect of this conventional rationale. In the US fashion designs can be freely and legally copied by anyone.

While brands protect their trademarks, and certain fabric patterns fall under copyright, the vast majority of designs can — and often are — knocked off by competitors seeking a piece of a profitable trend. Indeed, megafirms like "Forever

21" base their entire business model on the freedom to copy. Yet the American fashion industry has not only survived in the face of rampant piracy; it has thrived. How it does this — and what it means for IP law and theory — are critical questions as innovation increasingly becomes the core driver of advanced economies the world over.

Joining Professor Raustiala in the discussion were a distinguished panel of experts in the field. Associate Professor Elizabeth Ng Siew Kuan, Deputy Chair and Director (IP), Centre for Law & Business, chaired the panel with:

- Dr Stanley Lai Tze Chang SC, Partner, Head of IP Practice, Allen & Gledhill LLP
- Ms Priscilla Shunmugam '06, Director, Ong Shunmugam
- Associate Professor David Tan, Vice Dean (Academic Affairs), NUS Law
- Mr Daren Tang Heng Shim '97, Chief Executive, IPOS, Singapore

## About the Speaker

Kal Raustiala is a professor at the UCLA Law School and the UCLA International Institute. He currently serves as the Faculty Director of the UCLA International Education Office, and since 2007 as director of the UCLA Ronald W. Burkle Center for International Relations. From 2012 to 2015 he served as UCLA's Associate Vice Provost for International Studies. A graduate of Duke University, Professor Raustiala holds a J.D. from Harvard Law School and Ph.D. in political science from the University of California, San Diego. Professor Raustiala's research focuses on international law and intellectual property.

A life member of the Council on Foreign Relations and Vice President of the American Society of International Law, he serves on the editorial board of the



From left: Dr Stanley Lai Tze Chang SC, Professor Simon Chesterman, Dean of NUS Law, Associate Professor David Tan, Vice Dean (Academic Affairs), Professor Kal Raustiala, Mr Daren Tang Heng Shim '97, Ms Priscilla Shunmugam '06, and Associate Professor Elizabeth Ng Siew Kuan

American Journal of International Law. Raustiala is a frequent media contributor whose writing has been featured in the New York Times, the Wall Street Journal,

the Financial Times, the Los Angeles Times, the New Republic, the New Yorker, Wired, the International Herald Tribune and Le Monde.

# LUCY REED JOINS NUS

NUS Law is delighted to welcome Lucy Reed who joined in July 2016 as Director of the Centre for International Law (CIL) and Professor of Practice.

Professor Reed holds degrees from Brown University and Chicago Law School and has been a partner at Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer since 1998. Since 2009, she has been helming Freshfields' global international arbitration group and public international law group. This builds on extensive experience working with the United States Government (as legal adviser in the State Department from 1985 to 1993) and in Asia (as general counsel of the Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organisation). In 2014, she was conferred the Asia Women in Business Award for Best in Dispute Resolution.

In addition to her rich professional background, Professor Reed has long had a deep engagement with the academic world. She has taught at American University and University of Miami School of Law, and in 2001 was invited to deliver the prestigious Hague Lectures at the Academy of International Law. A measure of the esteem in which she is held by practitioners and scholars alike was her election as President of the American Society of International Law from 2008 to 2010.

Lucy Reed succeeds Associate Professor Bob Beckman, who has served with distinction as Director of CIL since its founding in 2009, and who will continue to head its programme on Ocean Law and Policy.

In a testimonial from Chief Justice Sundaresh Menon '86, he states: "I am delighted that the Centre has been able to hire Lucy as its next Director. Lucy is one of the most highly respected practitioners and thinkers in the world in the areas of international law and international arbitration and her appointment will



bring an extremely valuable perspective to the Centre. I also congratulate Bob Beckman on completing his tenure at the Centre. Bob taught me at NUS Law and has been a good friend through the years. He has done tremendous work in laying the foundations on which Lucy can now continue to build and strengthen a world class institution."

Professor Tommy Koh '61, Ambassador-at-Large and Chairman of CIL's Governing Board, added: "Bob Beckman has done a wonderful job as the founding director. In the short space of seven years, he has put CIL on the world map as a leading centre for international law. Lucy is eminently qualified to succeed Bob, to consolidate what has been achieved and to take CIL to a higher peak."

Professor Simon Chesterman, Dean of NUS Law says that "Lucy Reed is the very model of a practitioner-scholar. She has reached the top of the profession, serving as counsel to private and public clients including governments and international organisations. At the same time, she has

a deep and abiding engagement with the academic world, as both a speaker and an author. Bob Beckman has done an extraordinary job leading CIL over the past seven years. We are tremendously lucky that he will continue to head its Ocean Law and Policy programme, as well as working with Lucy as CIL writes its next chapter."

Professor Reed welcomed her new appointment by saying "It is an honour and a privilege to be appointed to the Centre and NUS Law. I have had the good fortune to learn and practise international law in many different private and public sector roles, and it is a dream-come-true to have this unique opportunity to bring all the strands together. I am also pleased to be staying in Singapore, where the legal and diplomatic communities have been extraordinarily welcoming, and to be able to engage from here with the panoply of international law issues we face regionally and globally. I thank Bob Beckman and the CIL Board, among others, for providing such a strong platform."



# JUDICIARY VISITS

## Sir Christopher Clarke Lord Justice of Appeal



From left: Liu Guiliang '18, President of the NUS Law Club, Associate Professor Sandra Booyen '03 (LL.M.) '09 (Ph.D.), Lord Justice Christopher Clarke, Professor Simon Chesterman, Dean of NUS Law, Associate Professor Eleanor Wong '85, Vice Dean (Student Affairs) and Associate Professor Stephen Phua '88

The Right Honourable Lord Justice Christopher Clarke was hosted by Professor Simon Chesterman, Dean of NUS Law, at the Bukit Timah Campus on 21 September 2016. Lord Clarke had an informal discussion with faculty and students on a range of legal issues. He was in Singapore to deliver the Singapore Academy of Law Distinguished Speaker Lecture titled: "Changing Course at the Top" at the Supreme Court.

### About Lord Justice Clarke

Sir Christopher Clarke was called to the Bar in Middle Temple in 1969. He was appointed as a QC in 1984. From 1990 - 2004 he was a Recorder and a Deputy High Court Judge from 1993 - 2004. He was a Judge of the Court of Appeal of Jersey and Guernsey from 1998 - 2004. From 2005 - 2013, he was a High Court Judge, sitting in the Commercial Court. He was appointed as a Lord Justice of Appeal in 2013.

## Lord Thomas of Cwmgiedd Lord Chief Justice of England and Wales



Professor Simon Chesterman, Dean of NUS Law, with Lord Thomas of Cwmgiedd, Lord Chief Justice of England and Wales.

NUS Law was honored to host The Right Honourable The Lord Thomas of Cwmgiedd, Lord Chief Justice of England and Wales, at the NUS Bukit Timah Campus on 1 September 2016. In a lively discussion chaired by Professor Simon Chesterman, Dean of NUS Law, members of the faculty and law students engaged with Lord Thomas on various aspects of the law and the role of the judiciary.

### About Lord Thomas

Lord Thomas read law at Trinity Hall, Cambridge, after which he became a Commonwealth Fellow at the University of Chicago Law School. He was called to the Bar by Gray's Inn in 1969 and became a Bencher at the Inn in 1992. He practised at the Commercial Bar in London from 1971 and became a Queen's Counsel in 1984.

He was appointed a Judge of the High Court of England and Wales in 1996 and was assigned to the Queen's Bench Division and to the Commercial Court. From 1998 - 2001 he was one of the Presiding Judges of the Wales and Chester Circuit. He was Judge in Charge of the Commercial Court in London from April 2002 to July 2003, when he was appointed as a Lord Justice of Appeal. He has been Lord Chief Justice of England and Wales since 2013.

## Lord Neuberger of Abbotsbury President of the UK Supreme Court

NUS Law faculty members and students were honoured to welcome The Right Honourable The Lord Neuberger of Abbotsbury, President of the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom, at the NUS Bukit Timah Campus on 18 August 2016.

Over 50 people had gathered at the Moot Court to attend Lord Neuberger's talk on the topic "Whether the Identity of the English Common Law has been eroded by EU Laws and the European Conventions on Human Rights". Chaired by Professor Damian Chalmers, Lord Neuberger expanded his topic to the impact of Brexit on UK law, which encouraged a lively discussion during the question and answer session.

### About Lord Neuberger

The Right Honourable The Lord Neuberger of Abbotsbury (in the county of Dorset) became President of the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom on 1 October 2012, previously he was Master of the Rolls from 1 October 2009. He was called to the Bar (Lincoln's Inn) in 1974 and made a Bencher of Lincoln's Inn in 1993. Appointed Queen's Counsel in 1987, his first judicial appointment was as a Recorder from 1990 - 1996. In 1996, he was appointed a High Court Judge, Chancery Division and then Supervisory Chancery Judge for the Midland, Wales and Chester and Western Circuits for 2000 - 2004. He was appointed as Lord Justice of Appeal in January 2004, a Lord of Appeal in Ordinary ('Law Lord') in January 2007 and given a life peerage. Lord Neuberger led an investigation for the Bar Council into widening access to the barrister profession and also served on the panel on fair access to the professions led by Alan Milburn.



From left: Professor Damian Chalmers, Lord Neuberger of Abbotsbury, President of the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom, and Professor Simon Chesterman, Dean of NUS Law



Professor Damian Chalmers and Lord Neuberger





# BOOK LAUNCH

## Criminal Law in Myanmar



From left: Associate Professor Dan Puchniak, Director of the Centre for Asian Legal Studies, Professor Neil Morgan (author), Professor Michael Hor '84 (author), Dr Myint Soe (Guest-of-Honour), Professorial Fellow Stanley Yeo '76 (author), Associate Professor Chan Wing Cheong (author), Mr Terence Lim, Managing Editor, of LexisNexis, Assistant Professor Mark McBride (author)

*Criminal Law in Myanmar*, a commentary on the Myanmar Penal Code, was launched on 15 September 2016 at NUS Law. The book was written by Associate Professor Chan Wing Cheong (NUS Law), Professor Michael Hor '84, Assistant Professor Mark McBride (NUS Law), Professor Neil Morgan and Professorial Fellow Stanley Yeo '76 (NUS Law).

The first of its kind, the work describes and critically evaluates the general principles of criminal responsibility contained in the Code with a view to assisting the application of the law. The book also discusses the major offences against the person and property and considers leading cases from Myanmar, India, Malaysia and Singapore along with relevant cases from other jurisdictions.

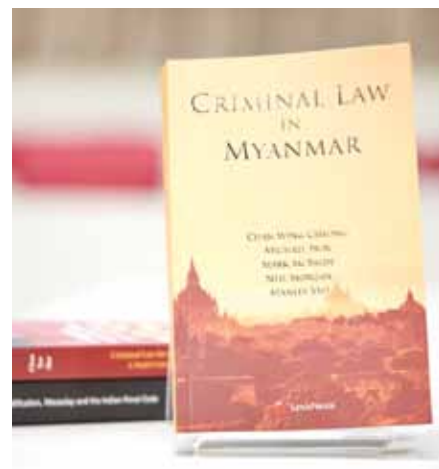
The book launch was jointly organised by the Centre for Asian Legal Studies and

the publisher LexisNexis. Dr Myint Soe, a former legal academic at the University of Rangoon and a leading Singapore legal practitioner graced the event as the guest-of-honour.

"It is excellent and provocative in recommending reforming a Penal Code that had laid dormant for over fifty years," said Dr Myint Soe in his speech.

Mr Terence Lim, Managing Editor of LexisNexis, said that *Criminal Law in Myanmar* is a remarkable ground-breaking achievement and milestone, and the book is a testament of LexisNexis' continued commitment to advancing the rule of law around the world.

The book promises to be a leading reference text on criminal law for government officials, judges, legal practitioners and students for many



years to come. Given that the period of research for the book coincided with the momentous developments in Myanmar's recent political history, the authors have dedicated the book to "the People of Myanmar, in celebration of a new age of Democracy and Justice".

## Constitutional Interpretation in Singapore



From left: Mr Peter Low '77, Mr Ramasamy Nachiappan '13, Associate Professor Dan Puchniak, Director of the Centre for Asian Legal Studies, Professor Simon Chesterman, Dean of NUS Law, Senior Judge Chan Sek Keong '61, Assistant Professor Jaclyn Neo '03 (NUS Law), Associate Professor Maartje de Visser (SMU) and Adjunct Professor Kevin Tan '86 (NUS Law)

*Constitutional Interpretation in Singapore: Theory and Practice*, edited by Assistant Professor Jaclyn Neo '03, was launched on 26 July 2016 at NUS Law. The book arose from a conference on constitutional interpretation held in 2015.

The book touches on the recent growth of constitutional cases in Singapore. It examines the underpinnings of Singapore's constitutional system, explores how Singapore courts have dealt with issues related to rights and power, and sets developments in Singapore in the wider context of new thinking and constitutional developments worldwide. It argues that Singapore is witnessing a shift in legal and political culture as both judges and citizens display an increasing willingness to engage with constitutional ideas and norms.

Former Chief Justice Chan Sek Keong '61 was guest-of-honour at the launch. Speaking to more than 50 people, the Senior Judge touched on current themes in constitutional law in his speech such as the basic structure doctrine and the balance of power among the legislature, executive, and judiciary. He also shared interesting insights into the origins of the

Singapore Constitution, and recounted his engagement with constitutional law from the perspective of his former roles as Attorney-General and Chief Justice of Singapore.

The book launch also featured an engaging panel discussion. The panelists were Mr Peter Low '77 (Peter Low LLC), Associate Professor Maartje de Visser (SMU), and Mr Ramasamy Nachiappan '13, Assistant Registrar of the Supreme Court, with Assistant Professor Jaclyn Neo and Adjunct Professor Kevin Tan '86 as moderators.



From left: Adjunct Professor Kevin Tan '86 (NUS Law), Professor Andrew Harding LL.M. '84 (NUS Law), Assistant Professor Jaclyn Neo '03 (NUS Law), Assistant Professor Jack Tsen-Ta Lee '95 (SMU), Assistant Professor Swati Jhaveri (NUS Law), Associate Professor David Tan, Vice Dean (Academic Affairs) and Associate Professor Eugene Tan '95 (SMU)



Associate Professor Maartje de Visser expressed hope that constitutional law in Singapore would continue to develop positive trends, and called for further research into how other branches of government as well as civil society interpret the constitution to provide an even more holistic perspective on constitutional interpretation.

Mr Low offered a practitioner's view on the value of having a tome on constitutional interpretation, calling it a "*chili padi*" of a book. Mr Nachiappan identified three major themes in the book that could be relevant for judicial work – the identification of trends in constitutional law, the thoughtful critique of certain fundamental principles and ideas in constitutional law, and lastly, the conflict between certain constitutional principles and suggestions on how to achieve a via media among these struggles.



# BOOK LAUNCH

## Alternative Visions of the International Law on Foreign Investment: Essays in Honour of M. Sornarajah



Professor M. Sornarajah

*Alternative Visions of the International Law on Foreign Investment: Essays in Honour of Muthucumaraswamy Sornarajah*, was launched on 7 April 2016 at NUS Law.

Ambassador-at-Large Professor Tommy Koh '61 chaired a panel discussion and led the audience in launching the Festschrift for Professor M. Sornarajah. The audience saw Professor Sornarajah through the eyes of the panelists – Professor Lim Chin Leng (University of Hong Kong), Assistant Professor Jean Ho '03 (NUS Law), Associate Professor Wang Jiangyu (NUS Law), Associate Professor Joel Lee (NUS Law), and NMP and Assistant Professor Mahdev Mohan '04 (SMU).



From left: Professor Lim Ching Leng (University of Hong Kong), Mr Joe Ng (Cambridge University Press), Professor M. Sornarajah and Professor Simon Chesterman, Dean of NUS Law

This book explores the forces that are reshaping the international law on foreign investment today. It begins by explaining the liberal origins of contemporary investment treaties before addressing a current backlash against these treaties

and the device of investment arbitration. It describes a long-standing legal-intellectual resistance to a neo-liberal global economic agenda, and how tribunals have interpreted various treaty standards instead.

It introduces the reader to the changes now taking place in the design of a range of familiar treaty clauses, and it describes how some of these changes are now driven not only by developing and emerging economies but also by the capital-exporting nations.

The book also explores the life, career and writing of Professor Sornarajah, a scholar whose work has been dedicated to the realisation of many of these changes, and his views about the hold global capital has over legal practice.



From left: Associate Professor Joel Lee (NUS Law), Assistant Professor Jean Ho '03 (NUS Law), Professor Tommy Koh '61, Ambassador-at-Large, Professor Lim Chin Leng (University of Hong Kong), Assistant Professor Mahdev Mohan (SMU) and Associate Professor Wang Jiangyu (NUS Law)

## Studies in the Contract Laws of Asia: Remedies for Breach of Contract



From Left: Professor James Penner, Vice Dean (Research), Associate Professor Burton Ong '99 (NUS Law), Professor Mindy Chen-Wishart (NUS Law and University of Oxford), Professor Alexander Loke '90 (City University of Hong Kong) and Professor Tan Cheng Han '87, Chairman of the Centre for Law & Business

The Centre for Law & Business announced the launch of *Studies in the Contract Laws of Asia: Remedies for Breach of Contract* (Volume I of the series) edited by Professor Mindy Chen-Wishart (NUS Law and University of Oxford), along with Associate Professor Burton Ong '99 (NUS Law), and Professor Alexander Loke '90 (City University of Hong Kong). The launch was attended by Honourable Judges from the Supreme Court of Singapore and officials from various government bodies on 28 March 2016 at NUS Law.

The book provides an authoritative account of the contract law regimes of selected Asian jurisdictions, including the major centres of commerce where until now, limited critical commentaries have been available in the English language. In this new six part series of scholarly essays from leading scholars and commentators, each volume will offer an insider's perspective into specific areas of contract law, including: remedies, formation,

parties, contents, vitiating factors, change of circumstances, illegality, and public policy, and will explore how these diverse jurisdictions address common problems encountered in contractual disputes. Concluding each volume will be a closing discussion of the convergences and divergences across the jurisdictions.

Volume I of this series examines the remedies for breach of contract in the laws of China, India, Japan, Korea, Taiwan, Singapore, Malaysia, Hong Kong, Korea, and Thailand. Specifically, it addresses the readiness of each legal system in their action to insist that parties perform their obligations; the methods of enforcing the parties' agreed remedies for breach; and the ways in which monetary compensation are awarded. Each jurisdiction is discussed over two chapters; the first chapter will examine the performance remedies and agreed remedies, while the second explores the monetary remedies. A concluding chapter offers a comparative overview.



Professor Mindy Chen-Wishart (NUS Law and University of Oxford)



From Left: Justice Vinodh Coomaraswamy and Senior Judge Tan Lee Meng '72 of the Supreme Court



# COMMENCEMENT 2016



The members of the Class of 2016 join a long list of distinguished alumni of NUS Law.

Ambassador Ong Keng Yong '79, executive deputy chairman of the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (Nanyang Technological University) graced the ceremony as the guest-of-honour on 13 July 2016.

Over 300 students obtained their degrees at the ceremony, which took place at the

University Cultural Centre. Ambassador Ong shared an inspiring speech on life after graduation with words of encouragement and advice.

Graduating as valedictorian, Lester Ho '16, thanked professors and loved ones.

"Fellow graduates, we have had the great fortune of meeting wise professors and brilliant peers. It heartens me to know that we are surrounded by people who are

smarter and more talented than us. Some of us here will become great lawyers, judges, or legislators. Others will lead multi-national corporations or perhaps start their own businesses. A few will even partake in the arts by writing books, plays, and poems. The possibilities are endless. But regardless of how we choose to shape the world, I am certain that we will all be unprecedented in our own ways. So if I

may make one humble request, it is that we endeavour to make this world a better, kinder, and softer place," said Lester in his valedictorian speech.

A farewell dinner was held to celebrate the new graduates at Mischief at the Esplanade.

We wish our graduates every success.





# FAREWELL DINNER CLASS OF 2016



# STUDENTS DEVELOP INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY FOR LAWYERS

Members of alt+Law, a NUS student-led legal technology interest group, were invited to present their take on legal innovation to Ms Indranee Rajah '86, Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Finance & Ministry of Law, after alt+Law won the Legal Futures Competition organised by the Ministry of Law last year.

The members of the winning team (Group Category) are Norvin Chan '16, Eric Hu '16, Stella Chen '15 (SMU) and Chia Yee Hui (Idea Ink). The winner of the Legal Futures Competition (Individual Category) was Norvin Chan '16.

The presentation team, comprising Lee Ji En '17, Norvin Chan '16, Khoo Yong Jie '16, Job Chong '16, Bu Fan '18, Jerrold Soh '18, and Kenneth Chan '17 discussed several current projects with Ms Rajah. Also present was Ms Joan Janssen '88, 2Director-General (Legal Group) who led the MinLaw team behind last year's Singapore Legal Futures Conference.

alt+Law current projects include:

- a legal document version control system based on programming best practices built by Yong Jie
- a statute collaboration interface being developed by Jia Qing
- automated legal information downloaders programmed by Yong Jie and Norvin
- an exploratory report into legal data analysis prepared by Bu Fan and Jerrold
- a statistical analysis project on sentencing precedents done by Wu Guo Wei '16 and Norvin as part of Associate Professor Daniel Seng's '92 course titled Artificial Intelligence, Information Systems and the Law (LL4283V)
- a computerised legislation database created by Norvin and Yong Jie

These projects were presented as part of a larger narrative that technology can



From left: Kenneth Chan '17, Yap Jia Qing '20, Lee Ji En '17, Norvin Chan '16, Jerrold Soh '18 and Khoo Yong Jie '16

empower lawyers to focus on more complex work and on delivering accessible justice.

Ms Rajah noted that these projects were "very interesting" and "dovetailed nicely" with the Government's vision of a highly innovative legal industry - that embraces technology - but whose lawyers remain well-versed in traditional legal skills. They also discussed the role of lawyers in the future of law, and how alt+Law's projects could be developed into practice.

After the meeting, the team was invited to present to the Committee on the Future Economy (CFE) Working Group on the Legal and Accounting Services Sectors,

co-chaired by Mr Chaly Mah, retired Chief Executive Officer of Deloitte Southeast Asia. The team shared the grassroots' perspectives on the future of lawyers with the results of a survey they conducted which reflected law students' concern over the need for greater technology adoption in law firms.

Norvin, Yong Jie, Bu Fan and Jerrold also presented projects on legal analytics and document version control they have built, based on needs in the legal industry they saw from first-hand experience. Jia Qing presented alt+Law's proposal to organise a Legaltech Festival in mid-2017, and Ji En closed with recommendations on encouraging legal innovation in Singapore.



The alt+Law group with Ms Indranee Rajah '86, Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Finance & Ministry of Law.



# MOOT WINS

## NUS Law Continues to Excel in International Competitions

### Asia Cup Moot Court Competition



From left: Ong Chee Yeow '18, Ephraim Tan '18, Dana Chang '18, Professor Simon Chesterman, Dean of NUS Law, Charlotte Wang '18 and Kiu Yan Yu '18

After an absence of six years, the NUS Law team marked its return to the Asia Cup Moot Court competition with stunning success. The team, comprising Kiu Yan Yu '18, Dana Chang '18, Ephraim Tan '18, Ong Chee Yeow '18 and Charlotte Wang '18, pulled off a clean sweep of the top prizes including the Best Overall Team, Best Memorial and Best Oralist (Dana Chang '18).

This is only the third time in the Cup's 19-year history that a team has managed to achieve such a feat.

The Asia Cup Moot is a regional moot court competition hosted by Japan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs that attracts teams from law schools all around Asia. The 2016 edition of the Cup featured 43 law schools in total, out of which

13 went on to represent their country in the oral rounds held in Tokyo, Japan from 23 to 24 August 2016.

This year's moot problem centred on the law of the sea, involving a State's claim of historic fishing rights in another State's territorial sea and its EEZ. Oralists had to present on issues such as historic fishing rights in UNCLOS, principles of good faith in international law, and the powers of the ICJ to order specific remedies.

The journey to the finals in Tokyo was an arduous one. The team first had to compete against SMU for the privilege of representing Singapore in the international rounds. There, they mooted against teams from Tokyo University and West Bengal National University of Juridical Sciences in the preliminary

rounds, before advancing to face regional powerhouse Ateneo Law School (the most successful law school in the history of the competition) in the finals. After an intense final round, the NUS Law team emerged triumphant, bringing home the trophy for the first time since 2005.

"Beyond what we have accomplished in the competition, I am prouder still of what we have become – a tightly knit group that is nothing short of a family. Despite having entered the competition at a fairly late juncture, we still managed to pull through due to the hard work put in by everyone on the team. Special thanks, of course, also goes out to NUS Law's mooting alumnus and faculty. Their input and guidance has made every difference to the outcome of this competition," said Ong Chee Yeow '18.

### Nuremberg Moot Court Competition



From left: Joshua Hiew '17, Mehaerun Simaa '16 and Victor Leong '16 (Photo courtesy of Nuremberg Moot Court Competition)

Victor Leong '16, Joshua Hiew '17, Mehaerun Simaa '16 and Hairul Hakkim '16 did NUS Law proud by emerging overall champions at the Nuremberg Moot Court Competition. The team won after defeating teams from the United States, Pakistan, Rwanda, the United Kingdom and Brazil.

Joshua Hiew '17 received the additional honour of being awarded Best Speaker for the Final Round.

The Nuremberg Moot Court Competition was organised by the International Nuremberg Principles Academy and the Friedrich-Alexander University, Erlangen-Nuremberg. It took place in the historic Nuremberg Courtroom 600, in Nuremberg, Germany, from 28 to 30 July 2016. The competition aims to encourage university students to become familiar with International Criminal Law by arguing a

fictitious case in front of the International Criminal Court.

Participants of the competition get the opportunity to moot in front of expert panels which comprise former and presiding judges, and defence counsel from the International Court of Justice, the International Criminal Court, the International Criminal Tribunal of Yugoslavia, The International Criminal Tribunal of Rwanda and the Special Tribunal for Lebanon.

This is a particularly notable victory as the team made their way to the competition at their own expense. The team had hoped to get partial funding but as several team members had already graduated, they were no longer eligible and they ended up paying for themselves. They largely self-coached



and pushed themselves to play to their "weaknesses" rather than their strengths. They were driven by passion and the desire to further their learning experience. Associate Professor Eleanor Wong '85, Vice Dean (Student Affairs) cheered the team's victory and said that the team epitomises the NUS Law mooting spirit. She commended the team on the self-initiative and commitment they displayed in pursuing their goal.



# MOOT WINS

## NUS Law Continues to Excel in International Competitions

### IASLA Space Law Moot Court Competition



From left: Manfred Lum '18, Kiu Yan Yu '18, Ephraim Tan '18 and Ong Chee Yeow '18

The NUS Law team emerged as champions at the International Air and Space Law Academy (IASLA) Space Law Moot Court Competition. The team featured Year 2 students Kiu Yan Yu '18, Ong Chee Yeow '18, Ephraim Tan '18 and Manfred Lum '18. Dr Ricky Lee, the Principal Administrator of the IASLA Space Law Moot, presented the trophy to NUS Law on 23 June 2016.

Earlier this year, the team had won the Asia-Pacific round of the competition which was held in Sydney, Australia. At the regional rounds, the team successfully defended the Regional Championship title amid fierce competition from regional teams, including Australian National University, Gujarat National Law University and Hong Kong University.

This year's IASLA moot problem at the regional rounds involved issues of astronomical proportions – first, the



From left: Dr Ricky Lee, Principal Administrator of the IASLA Space Law Moot, Ephraim Tan '18, Ong Chee Yeow '18, Kiu Yan Yu '18 and Associate Professor Robert Beckman, Director of the Centre for International Law and Associate Professor Eleanor Wong '85, Vice Dean (Student Affairs)

legality of mining rare metals from asteroids, and second, the liability of a State for its nationals who have conducted terrorist attacks on another State's persons

and property in outer space. It was a challenging yet rewarding journey for the team, who had no prior experience with Space Law or Public International Law.

# RAG & FLAG DAY 2016

By Yew Boon Lee '20

One of the defining experiences for all NUS Law students is participating in the annual NUSSU Rag and Flag event.

On Flag Day, students collect donations from the general public for various beneficiaries. After which, students show their appreciation for the public's generosity by showcasing a public performance on Rag Day.

This year, NUS Law freshmen raised over \$15,000 on Flag Day for Lighthouse School, a school for children with special needs.



The Rag performance was held on 6 August 2016 at University Town. In keeping with the theme of "Big World, Bigger Dreams", freshmen put up a seven-minute dance performance set against colourful props made out of recycled materials.

This performance was a culmination of over two months of hard work and preparation - many freshmen had no prior dance or prop-making experience. These efforts paid off when NUS Law was awarded the Gold Award, our first in many years.

The Law Rag Committee would like to thank the school for its ongoing support. More importantly, we would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to all the NUS Law students who willingly took time over the holidays to practice for this performance. The success of NUS Law Rag and Flag would not have been possible without them.



# LAW IV: BUILT TO ORDER



Law IV is an annual fundraising musical event presented by the graduating class of NUS Law.

Over 60 students were involved in the making of this year's original musical "Built to Order". It was staged at the Auditorium (NUS Bukit Timah Campus) from 19 to 21 February 2016. The Honourable Justice Andrew Phang '82 was the guest-of-honour on opening night.

The musical centred around the lives of four young individuals as they navigate their way through early adulthood – having a job, getting married and buying a home.

It was a real team effort and thanks to the talented cast and crew of Law IV: Built to Order, the performances were enjoyed by over 700 people.



In the run up to this year's musical fundraiser, Professor Simon Chesterman, Dean of NUS Law, challenged the Law IV team to raise at least \$10,000 for their adopted charity. If the students succeeded, Professor Chesterman would work the *kopi* stall (coffee stall) at the Summit canteen for an hour.

The Law IV team did NUS Law proud by raising \$28,000 for their adopted charity, the Autism Resource Centre, a not-for-profit charity, dedicated to serving children and adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder, to help them lead meaningful and independent lives in society.

True to his word, Professor Chesterman worked at the *kopi* stall and made local favourites such as *kopi*, *kopi-o*, *teh-C peng kosong* for the thirsty lunch crowd on 2 March 2016. The queue for drinks on that afternoon stretched out of the door, with colleagues and students alike eager for a *kopi* made by the Dean.

# REMY CHOO ZHENG XI '10 WINS IBA AWARD



Mr Remy Choo Zheng Xi '10 speaking at NUS Law's 2016 Freshmen Inauguration Ceremony

Congratulations to NUS Law alumnus Mr Remy Choo Zheng Xi '10 on receiving a global award in recognition of his work in human rights litigation!

Mr Choo, a director at Peter Low LLC, is the first Singaporean to receive the International Bar Association's (IBA) Outstanding Young Lawyer of the Year Award. He was presented with his prize at the association's annual conference in Washington, D.C., on 19 September 2016.

The award is open to all lawyers under the age of 35 and recognises the honorees for their professional excellence, ethical reputation and service to the community.

In a Facebook post, he wrote that he hoped this award will encourage other young lawyers to see that doing good



and doing well are not mutually exclusive, and mixing both can be a formula to a fulfilling and sustainable legal practice experience.



From left: Associate Professor Eleanor Wong '85, Vice Dean (Student Affairs), Mr Remy Choo Zheng Xi '10 and Professor Simon Chesterman, Dean of NUS Law, at the Freshman Inauguration Ceremony 2016

Mr Choo was also named the civil society advocate of the year at the Singapore Advocacy Awards last year.

An alumnus of NUS Law, he continues to be actively engaged with the faculty. Most recently he was the guest-of-honour at NUS Law's Freshmen Inauguration Ceremony in August 2016.



# REUNIONS

Class Reunions hosted by NUS Law are eagerly anticipated events. It is at these reunions that everyone gets to catch up with old classmates and professors, and of course to reminisce about their days as law students.

## CLASS OF 1976

By Bernard Doray on behalf of the Organising Committee (Chandra Mohan, Chairman, Bobby Chia, Teo Eng Leong '77, Thomas Toh, Edmond Pereira, David Lingam and Bernard Doray)



The reunion of the Class of 1976 (Matriculation Class of 1972) was held on 22 October 2016. It was an enchanting evening for old classmates who reminisced about their time at law school over cocktails at the garden deck of the Bukit Timah Guild House. Happy memories never wear out, they are like threads that hold the patchwork of friendships together. Those memories were revived and glistened like stars under a clear night sky.

Neither the inches we had gained nor the unwelcome wrinkles of four decades dampened the reunion celebration of 34 alumni from the class which included Judicial Commissioner Foo Tuat Yien, Senior Counsel Deborah Barker and District Judge Low Wee Ping and others who came from as far as Sydney, Japan, Hong Kong and Malaysia. Not forgetting Chandra Mohan, the untiring driving force who organises our reunions; he is helped by the enthusiasm of two classmates in

particular, Bobby Chia (who suffered a minor stroke a month before the reunion) and Teo Eng Leong (who was in a wheelchair and was "air lifted" to dinner on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Guild House by pure muscle of several classmates notwithstanding their age).

The group observed a minute of silence before dinner, to remember eight classmates who had passed on, namely, Yap Boon Chin, Peter Chelvan, R. Yogendran, Lee Pooi Kong, B. Ganeshamoorthy, Choong Phooi Ying, Vachila Marimuthu '78 and Moghan Muthiah.

Deborah Barker and Edmond Pereira were masters of ceremony for the evening and marked the reunion celebration with a toast, which was followed by opening remarks by the inimitable Chandra Mohan. Eng Leong and Deborah staged resonant performances of "Falling in Love" and



"Crazy". Then it was time to tuck into a scrumptious buffet while a river of beer, wine and scotch flowed. A selection of music from the 70's compiled by Bobby Chia sent waves of nostalgia around the room. The evening became surreal as a montage of images in rapid succession showed ladies in denim and young men sporting long hair and football gear in law school morph into groomed faces of accomplished men and women at past anniversary gatherings.

Judicial Commissioner Foo Tuat Yien, Teo Eng Leong, Jann Tan and David Lingam were given the honour of cutting the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary cake to a grand round of applause. Everyone then settled down in groups not unlike tutorial classes of yore except this time locked in friendly banter and sporadic laughter. Professor Simon Chesterman, Dean of NUS Law joined in the evening of chats and laughs, and listened to the alumni as they recalled their experiences at the law school.

The evening continued with rambunctious singalongs of popular oldies and favourites in English, Mandarin and other vernacular languages and ended with everyone receiving a generous goody bag filled with memorabilia. Everyone carried home another treasure trove of memories.

*Au revoir* classmates till we meet again.

## UPCOMING REUNIONS

Calling alumni from the **Class of 1992**, some of your classmates are planning a reunion to celebrate your 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on the evening of Friday, 21 April 2017 - please save the date! More details will be provided once they are finalised but meanwhile, please help to spread the word!

Finally a shout out to all classes who will be celebrating their milestone anniversaries in 2017 (ie. **Classes of 1967, 1972, 1977, 1982, 1987, 2002 and 2007**), please contact Jo-Ann Chan '97 ([joann.chan@nus.edu.sg](mailto:joann.chan@nus.edu.sg); 6601 2248) if you are keen on celebrating your anniversaries and we can help you to plan the gathering. **Class of 1997**, do look out for news from your classmates on reunion plans!

Meanwhile, please update your contact details with us at: [http://law.nus.edu.sg/alumni/alumni\\_update\\_particulars.asp](http://law.nus.edu.sg/alumni/alumni_update_particulars.asp) so that we can keep you informed about the latest news and events.



## CLASS OF 1986

By Laina Raveendran Greene



On 27 August, the NUS Law Class of 1986 held its 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary reunion. The class has been quite active about organising reunions over the years, and many look forward to them (especially those who live and work overseas). These gatherings give us a sense of belonging and a chance to reunite, relive good memories and make new ones.

Even during our time at law school in Kent Ridge, our class was united thanks to an active group among us who organised activities such as carolling over Christmas. Once, we even planned a “co-ordinated attack” on a certain lady professor who would call on us to answer questions with



“the lady over there in the red dress” or the “gentleman in the blue shirt”. We all decided to wear black and white to throw her off, but she walked in totally unfazed and without batting an eye at the sea of white tops and black skirts/pants, simply called on “the lady with the red shoes” – we had all forgotten to co-ordinate our footwear!

Our professors told us that the Class of 1986 has always been very different from other classes – they probably say that to all

the classes! In truth, our class counts high-ranking government and judicial officials, partners of law firms, entrepreneurs, arts practitioners and members of many other professions among its ranks. It was very reassuring that despite the many notable achievements, everyone was just as warm, down-to-earth and welcoming as ever. We had a wonderful time reconnecting and learning more about each other’s lives since we last met, and even made a pact to try to organise more regular get-togethers.



Words cannot express our gratitude to hosts Susan and Adrian Peh ‘86 for their warm hospitality, which made the night very relaxing and enjoyable for all. We were also delighted to have our former professors grace the occasion, including Professor M. Sornarajah, Associate Professor Ho Peng Kee ‘79, Justice Andrew Phang ‘82 and the present Dean of NUS Law, Professor Simon Chesterman. We were so touched that some of these and many more of our former professors sent us their greetings via video recordings, which were compiled into a lovely video montage - another memorable highlight of the evening.

Finally, thanks must go to all classmates who made it a point to turn up - it would not have been the same without you! It was a great reunion and we look forward to many more!



CLASS OF 1996



On 23 July 2016, the Class of 1996 celebrated their 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with a reunion held at the NUSS Kent Ridge Guild House. More than 50 classmates attended the dinner for a fun and memorable night of catching up with old friends and reliving good times together. Professor Simon Chesterman, Dean of NUS Law, Associate Professor Lye Lin Heng '73 and Associate Professor Yeo Hwee Ying '80 were also present to mingle with the class. Special thanks to Lyn Lee '96 for the Awfully Chocolate cakes which were enjoyed by all!



CLASS OF 2001



The Class of 2001 held their 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary reunion on 30 July 2016 at the University Club at the Shaw Foundation Alumni House. About 50 classmates gathered for a delightful afternoon of renewing ties and sharing stories past and present. They soon filled up the venue with much laughter and joy. The class was also delighted to be joined by Professor Simon Chesterman, Dean of NUS Law, Professor Tan Cheng Han '87, former Dean of NUS Law, and their former Contract Law professor, Justice Andrew Phang '82.



## CLASS OF 2006



The Class of 2006 gathered at the University Club at the Shaw Foundation Alumni House on 8 October 2016 to celebrate their 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary since graduation. Classmates spent a cosy evening catching up and reliving fond memories over a delicious meal. In addition, they were thrilled to have their former lecturers Professor Leong Wai Kum, Professor Hans Tjio, Professor Alan Tan '93, Associate Professor Eleanor Wong '85, Vice Dean (Student Affairs), Associate Professor Joel Lee and Associate Professor Burton Ong '99 join in the merriment.



## HONG KONG



On a cool Friday evening of 15 April 2016, over a hundred NUS alumni from various faculties gathered at the AVA Restaurant Slash Bar at the Hotel Panorama in Tsim Sha Tsui, Hong Kong. This Hong Kong Alumni Reunion was organised by the NUS Office of Alumni Relations in collaboration with the NUS Hong Kong Alumni Chapter.

Eleven NUS Law alumni attended this networking event, together with Ms Goh Mia Yang '92, Associate Dean, and Ms Jo-Ann Chan '97, Associate Director of Alumni Relations & Development at NUS Law.

Over a sumptuous dinner in the cosy setting, our alumni reconnected with old friends and formed new bonds as they traded stories on life and work in Hong Kong, and shared insider tips too.

We hope to meet again and catch up with many more law alumni at the next Hong Kong reunion.





# LAW ALUMNI MENTOR PROGRAMME (LAMP)



The Law Alumni Mentor Programme (LAMP) 2016 got off to a great start on 14 October 2016. About 130 Mentors and Mentees networked over a sumptuous dinner at the Oei Tiong Ham Lobby (Bukit Timah Campus).

Jointly organised by the Centre for Future-ready Graduates@Law and the NUS Law Alumni Office, LAMP is a popular programme which links first and second year NUS Law students with alumni mentors who can share their experiences and insights, as well as offer practical guidance and encouragement. Students get a close-up glimpse into life as a lawyer and are better equipped to make decisions about their professional development.



Associate Professor Eleanor Wong '85, Vice Dean (Student Affairs), was happy to welcome many former students back as mentors and thanked them for giving their precious time to help their juniors. She also announced that a second meetup will be organised in 2017, to further enhance the contact time between mentors and mentees.

If you would like to share your valuable experiences and make a difference to our students, do join us as a LAMP Mentor! Drop us a note at [lawlink@nus.edu.sg](mailto:lawlink@nus.edu.sg) and we will keep you updated.





# WITH THANKS FROM THE NEXT GENERATION

Scholarships & Bursaries are made possible by the generosity of donors and they afford deserving students a much needed lightening of their financial burdens. LawLink spoke to student recipients who shared their gratitude for the opportunities afforded by the generosity of our donors.



“ I would like to express my deepest appreciation to Allen & Gledhill for awarding me this scholarship. Through this scholarship, my financial burden has been lightened and I am one step closer to achieving my dream of becoming a lawyer. I will continue to work hard and hope to give back to the community in the future, just as your organisation has done. ”

**Faraaz Amzar Mohamed Farook '18**  
Year 3 Student, Recipient of the Allen & Gledhill Scholarship

“ Coming from a low-income family background, this scholarship has gone a long way in ameliorating my financial hardship. More importantly, securing this scholarship has been a milestone, as it has ratified my belief that no matter what my circumstances, hard work and grit will take me far. The Class of 1986 have not only given me financial support, they have also given me hope that others like me will not be without help. I sincerely thank the Class of 1986 for their generosity and faith in me. ”



**Stephanie Ng Wenli '18**  
Year 3 Student, Recipient of the Class of 1986 Scholarship



“ I would like to express my sincere gratitude for placing your faith in me to use this scholarship well. Apart from mooting and academics, I hope to continue the pro bono project that I started two years ago to help the intellectually disabled familiarise themselves with legal issues. This scholarship itself is a reminder for me of the difference that we can make to the lives of others, just as Mr Wee and his family have made a difference to mine. ”

**Daniel Ng Weiliang '17**  
Year 4 Student, Recipient of the H. L. Wee Scholarship

NUS continues to be committed to a needs-blind, merit-based admissions policy. Any student still requiring financial assistance, even after receiving both government and NUS study loans, can apply for a student bursary.



“ Thank you for the gift of the Ella Cheong Bursary that you've made to NUS Law. I am grateful for your assistance at a time when my family is undergoing a sharp transition. Your kind gift is a timely reminder that we (past, present and future) members of the legal profession should always help each other as well as those in need – as a beacon of hope for the public. This gift will go a long way in allowing me to focus on my studies without financial encumbrances. ”

**Eric Bea '19**  
Year 2 Student, Recipient of the Ella Cheong Bursary

“ I am humbled to be a recipient of the Helen Yeo Bursary this year. This will go towards my tuition fees as well as my residential college fees as part of the University Scholars Programme. This eases my financial obligations during this difficult time for my family and allows me to focus on my final year of undergraduate studies. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to you for this opportunity. ”



**Ijechi Nazirah Nazri Nwaozuzu '18**  
Year 3 Student, Recipient of the Helen Yeo Bursary



“ Finances have always been a concern in my family. However, your support in sponsoring the Kwa Geok Choo Bursary goes a long way in helping us. With this bursary, my family has one less source of worry. I am able to focus on my studies and my pro bono work with the school, channeling the support I've received to helping others. I would sincerely like to thank the donors for their kind support in sponsoring this bursary. It is my honour to be a recipient of the Kwa Geok Choo Bursary, and I am grateful for the help given. ”

**Allen Sng Kiat Peng '18**  
Year 3 Student, Recipient of the Kwa Geok Choo Bursary









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