NUS | National University of Singapore | Centre for Technology, Robotics, Artificial Intelligence & the Law | Faculty of Law

SAL ACADEMY PUBLISHING

SEMINARS ON LAW AND TECHNOLOGY (SLATE)

TRAIL is proud to present, in association with the Singapore Academy of Law (SAL), a series of Seminars on Law and Technology (SLATE). Building on the SAL Journal Special Issue on Law and Technology, each SLATE session explores a theme in the current debates surrounding the interactions between law and technology, by way of presented papers and discussions. SLATE will be of interest to academics, practitioners, and entrepreneurs who desire a more nuanced exploration of the legal issues involved in the creation and adoption of new technologies.

SLATE II
AI: What, When, and How to Regulate?
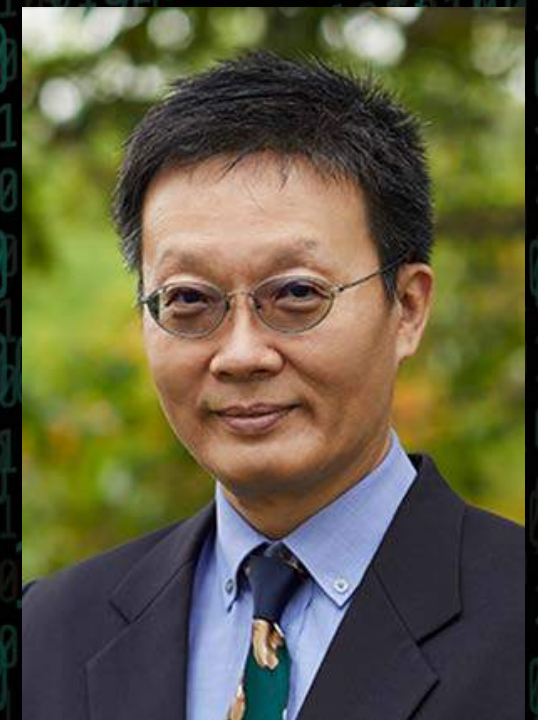### With Lessons from Estonia

SIMON CHESTERMAN
NUS Law
(Speaker)

TANEL KERIKMÄE
Tallinn University of Technology
(Speaker)

KATRIN NYMAN-METCALF
Tallinn University of Technology
(Speaker)

DANIEL SENG
NUS Law
(Moderator)

The efficiency of modern data processing, backed by computerisation, poses many practical challenges to existing regulatory models in many sectors. Attempts to slow the speed of data exchanges potentially imperils the freedom of information upon which the modern digital economy and AI systems depend. Conversely, permitting them to remain unchecked ignores the risk of computerised systems creating runaway responses to each other with little opportunity for human intervention. It is clear that new rules and institutions will be required to govern processes which show little prospect of slowing down, much less stopping.

In considering whether and how specific sectoral guidelines should be introduced, some general lessons can be drawn from Estonia, a world leader in e-governance, which has had to grapple with such practical questions in relation to laws and regulations. While specialised legislation may appear attractive at first glance, the risk of obsolescence and lack of ongoing oversight suggests that such an approach should be treated with caution. Consideration must be given to the context within which AI systems are used; some legal frameworks can remain largely unchanged, whereas others may require amendments to address novel issues, including meta-legal implications such as the future of society and the role of humans.

This seminar is based on two articles published in the 2021 Singapore Academy of Law Journal Special Issue on Law and Technology.

When: Wednesday 9 June 2021, 3PM to 5.10PM (SGT)

Mode: Zoom

Registration link: https://bit.ly/2RW3rMW or QR code

Closing date: Monday 7 June 2021

Enquiry: Alexandria Chan at rescle@nus.edu.sg

ACCREDITED CPD Activity — SILE

Registration fee: $160.50 (including 7% GST)

NUS Staff & Students (Complimentary)

Registration is compulsory

Public CPD Points: 2

Practice Area: Telecomms, Media & Technology

Training Level: Foundation

BIOGRAPHY OF SPEAKERS

SIMON CHESTERMAN, NUS LAW (Speaker)

Simon Chesterman is Dean and Provost's Chair Professor of the National University of Singapore Faculty of Law and Senior Director of AI Governance at AI Singapore. He is also Editor of the Asian Journal of International Law and Co-President of the Law Schools Global League. From 2006-2011, he was Global Professor and Director of the New York University School of Law Singapore Programme. Prior to joining NYU, he was a Senior Associate at the International Peace Academy and Director of UN Relations at the International Crisis Group in New York. He has previously worked for the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs in Yugoslavia and interned at the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda.

He is the author or editor of twenty-one books, including We, the Robots? Regulating Artificial Intelligence and the Limits of the Law (CUP, 2021). He is a recognized authority on international law, whose work has opened up new areas of research on conceptions of public authority – including the rules and institutions of global governance, state-building and post-conflict reconstruction, the changing role of intelligence agencies, and the emerging role of artificial intelligence and big data. He also writes on legal education and higher education more generally.

TANEL KERIKMÄE, TALLINN UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY (Speaker)

Tanel Kerikmäe is Professor of Law and Director of the Tallinn Law School, Tallinn University of Technology. He holds academic degrees in law, political science, and governance from Tartu, Tallinn, and Helsinki, and was awarded Doctor of Laws honoris causa at the Jaroslav Mudryi National Law University and honorary professor at the Ho Chi Minh City University of Law. He has taught at Nagoya, Luzern, and Riga, serves as a board member of several prestigious law journals, such as the Baltic Yearbook of International Law, is the chief editor of the TalTech Journal of European Studies, has been published by Ashgate, Springer, Kluwer, Oxford, and Cambridge, among others, and is an elected foreign member of the National Academy of Legal Sciences of Ukraine.

His research interests and expertise lie in the field of European law and policy, specifically legislative drafting, legal analysis, and institutional reform. He notably served as the head of the research group preparing the legal strategy for the Estonian Artificial Intelligence for Government Office, and has been involved in several other law and technology-related initiatives and development projects. He has also been active as an expert consultant to various international organisations such as UNESCO, WHO, ICF, and Deloitte, and has been an invited speaker at various high-level forums including Brussels, Tokyo, Beijing, Budapest, and Auckland.

KATRIN NYMAN-METCALF, TALLINN UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY (Speaker)

Katrin Nyman-Metcalf is Adjunct Professor at the Institute of Law, School of Business and Governance, Tallinn University of Technology, and senior legal expert at the Estonian e-Governance Academy. She holds a PhD in Public International Law (the law of outer space) (1999) and a Master's degree (1986) from the University of Uppsala in Sweden.

She is involved in international consultancy, primarily in the area of information and communication technology law, including e-governance. Her projects include regular legal analysis of media and communications legislation for institutions such as the OSCE and the European Commission; work on setting up regulatory systems and professional training, especially for post-conflict societies; and support for e-governance. Her research interests include publications on how law and technology interact, with a special emphasis on IT and communications, as well as outer space; international (global and regional) decision-making and the changing structure of governance; the implementation of human rights; and the rule of law.
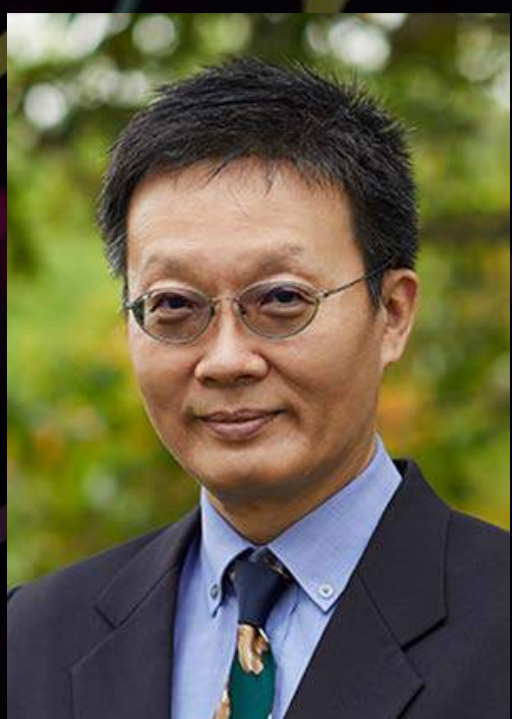
DANIEL SENG, NUS LAW (Moderator)

Daniel Seng teaches and researches on information technology law and infocommunications law. He is the Director of the Centre for Technology, Robotics, Artificial Intelligence & the Law at NUS. He graduated with firsts from NUS and Oxford, where he received the Rupert Cross Prize in 1994. He received his doctoral degree from Stanford Law School, where he used machine learning, natural language processing and big data techniques to conduct research on copyright takedown notices. While he was at Stanford, he was a non-residential fellow with the Center for Legal Infomatics (CodeX). He was amicus curiae to the Court of Appeal of Singapore in the case of Chwee Kin Keong & Ors v Digilandmall.com Pte Ltd, the leading Singapore case on unilateral mistake in the digital environment.

He has presented papers at various local, regional and international conferences and written on evidence, information technology and intellectual property laws. He was a member of various Singapore governmental committees that undertook legislative reforms in information technology and intellectual property laws, and a Special Consultant to the World Intellectual Property Organization, where he has researched, delivered papers and published monographs on copyright exceptions for academic institutions, music copyright in the Asia Pacific and the liability of Internet intermediaries.

SAL and TRAIL are proud to present the Special Issue on Law and Technology. The Special Issue explores various topics related to technology law as well as broader issues on regulation and the use of technology in the law. SLATE will feature presentations by the contributors to the Special Issue on their specialist subjects, followed by discussions with commentators.

Scan the QR code to find out more, or visit https://tinyurl.com/x9vzyw4x.