

April 2025

Dear Members of the NUS Law Community

I doubt that it will surprise readers to learn that life at NUS Law this year has been dominated by two events that occurred a year before: the release of the Government's report on the Legal Education Curriculum Reform last January, followed by the announcement in May that we will be moving back to Kent Ridge.

Planning for the move has proved very complex, mainly because the buildings into which we will move were not designed with a law faculty in mind—rather, they were custom-built to house a liberal arts college, where all the teaching is done in small tutorial groups. Fortunately, the University has been supportive of our proposals to ensure that when we move into our new campus, it will be suitable for a law school and a place in which our students will thrive. Two months ago, I was able to sign off on the relocation plans, which are significantly more extensive than originally envisaged. They include provision to relocate the Wee Chong Jin Moot Court and to expand the new location and seating of the CJ Koh Law Library. Work on the physical alterations is expected to begin in June. Given their increased scope, it seems likely that the move itself will take place later in 2025, with the precise date yet to be confirmed. Meanwhile, we are turning our attention to matters of interior design and layout, and to the logistics of the move itself. There is still a great deal of work to be done!



Professor Andrew Simester, Dean of NUS Law, delivering the welcome speech at this year's Open House held on 8 March

Much the same can be said of the curriculum reform. In terms of our revised degree structure, the new requirements will bind all students matriculating from August 2025. Some revisions are already in place, including a new, mandatory, Law and Technology course. Others are on the way: for example, our Legal Systems of Asia course has been revamped so that, next year, half of the course will be dedicated to teaching basic concepts of contract and property law in China and Indonesia. Even as these plans are implemented, however, there remains a lot to do. Going forward, the courses themselves will need to be reviewed, and tweaked where necessary, to ensure that they are best serving the needs of both our students and the profession. More generally, once the new requirements are in place, we plan to review the overall degree programme, with an eye to preserving as much flexibility as possible for our students. Already, about 5/8 of our degree comprises mandatory teaching, and the new courses will increase that proportion. Singapore's legal system will not be well-served by our producing identikit lawyers with no diversity of skills. Longer term, one of our key ambitions is to foster opportunities for specialisation and interdisciplinary training, so we must continue to work on maintaining a dynamic and innovative degree structure.

Technological innovation is a part of that ambition. We recently launched two AI chatbots, for example, as interactive learning tools for students enrolled in Trial Advocacy. Later this year, in what we believe is a world first, the *Singapore Journal of Legal Studies*, which recently went open-access, will start uploading podcasts of its published articles. These podcasts will be generated by AI using NotebookLM, and we plan to work with our friends at Google to make similar resources available to students, in order to enhance their preparation for classes.

Of course, resources of these kinds can increase efficiency, but they are not *substitutes* for human learning and teaching. It's a bit like giving Primary One maths students a calculator. In order to use the calculator properly, the students need to have a sense of what the answer *should* be. Without the mathematical training required to give them that instinct, they are unable to interpret the calculator's answers so as to recognise when those answers are wildly wrong. The same goes for Law. AI may produce time-saving summaries of, say, a case, an article, or a set of witness documents, but the result needs to be scrutinised and if need be corrected. And that can only be done by a trained legal professional, somebody who understands and can apply principles of legal reasoning. The role of law schools therefore remains vital—our purpose in developing legal minds and upholding the quality and integrity of the profession is more important than ever. The nature of legal education will continue to evolve in the years to come. But its fundamentally distinctive, *legal* character will endure.

Leadership Renewal



Senior Lecturer Justin Jerzy Tan '10 was appointed Vice Dean of Student Affairs with effect from 1 January 2025. He holds an LLB (First Class Honours) from NUS Law, BBA from NUS and an LLM in tax from New York University, where he was a Vanderbilt scholar. He practised tax law at Baker & McKenzie.Wong & Leow, advising on the international tax aspects of cross-border transactions. He has published articles on tax and torts, and is also a co-author of the 42nd and 43rd editions of Singapore's *Master Tax Guide and the Singapore Income Tax Concise Casebook*.



Professor Umakanth Varottil PhD '10 was appointed Vice Dean of Graduate Studies with effect from 1 July 2024. He specialises in corporate law and governance, mergers and acquisitions, and corporate finance. While his work is generally comparative in nature, his specific focus is on India and Singapore. He has co-authored or co-edited five books, published articles in international journals and founded the IndiaCorpLaw Blog. He has also taught on a visiting basis at law schools in Australia, India, Italy, New Zealand and the United States.



Professor Christian Witting was appointed Vice Dean of Academic Affairs and Undergraduate Studies with effect from 1 July 2024. His areas of expertise are tort law, corporate groups and corporate liability. He is the author of *Liability of Corporate Groups and Networks* (CUP, 2018), *Street on Torts* (OUP, several editions) and *Liability for Negligent Misstatements* (OUP, 2004). He is a co-editor of the *Research Handbook on Corporate Liability* (Edward Elgar, 2023) and has published in leading journals in the UK and Australia. His work has been cited by the UK Supreme Court, the Privy Council, Supreme Court of Canada, the High Court of Australia and the Singapore Court of Appeal, among others.

Faculty Achievements



In the latest report by Quacquarelli Symonds on World University Rankings by Subject (Law & Legal Studies), NUS Law was ranked among the top 10 law schools in the world. Rising two notches from 12th position, we are proud to retain our position as the top law school in Asia and reaffirm our status as Asia's Global Law School.

Professor Stavros Brekoulakis was appointed as the Vice President of the International Court of Arbitration at the International Chambers of Commerce in July 2024.



Earlier, in April, he delivered the 2024 Maxwell Lecture on "Impartiality and the Construction of Trust in Investor State Dispute Settlement". (This was the topic of his University College London Current Legal Problems Lecture, which had been shortlisted for the 2024 Global Arbitration Review Award for Best Public Lecture.) The Maxwell Lectures brings to the arbitration community opportunities to hear from and interact with leading arbitrators, practitioners and academics from around the world. He also spoke at the Congress of the International Council for Commercial Arbitration which took place in Hong Kong between 3 and 6 May 2024.

As the first Chair appointed under the Michael and Laura Hwang Professorship in International Arbitration, which was the result of a S\$2 million endowed gift from internationally recognised arbitrator Dr Michael Hwang SC, Professor Brekoulakis gave an inaugural lecture on "Law and the Expansion of Politics: The Case of International Arbitration" on 20 February 2025. It was attended by almost 200 legal practitioners, members of the academia and students, including Professor Lawrence Boo, considered one of Singapore's founding voices of arbitration.



Associate Prof Gary Bell (extreme left), with Prof Stavros Brekoulakis (extreme right) standing beside Prof Andrew Simester, Dean of NUS Law, as they presented tokens of appreciation to Dr Michael Hwang SC and his wife, Laura, at the end of Prof Brekoulakis' inaugural professorial lecture



Professor Mindy Chen-Wishart was honoured with a Lifetime Achievement Award at the 17th Annual International Conference on Contracts (KCON XVII) in June 2024. This award, presented at the largest annual international academic conference dedicated to contract law and related areas of commercial law, celebrates individuals who have dedicated their careers to legal academia and have made significant contributions to legal education, contract law scholarship, and the practice of commercial law. In addition, her alma mater, the University of Otago, conferred upon her an Honorary Doctor of Laws in July 2024.

In October 2024, she visited Chile at the invitation of the Faculty of Law of the University of Chile, where she participated in the International Congress on Contract Law. She also engaged in an academic dialogue with judges and the President of the Constitutional Court of Chile, Justice Daniela Marzi Munoz, discussing the functioning of the Courts on different continents, among other topics.



Associate Professor Mervyn Cheong '08 was appointed by Home Affairs Minister K Shanmugam to be on the Ministry's Criminal Law Advisory Committee (Hearing) in May 2024. His role is to hear representations made by or on behalf of persons, who have been ordered to be detained or placed under police supervision for criminal activities, and then, as a committee, make recommendations to President Tharman Shanmugaratnam on such orders made by the Minister.

He also received the LASCO Award for his pro bono work in November 2024. He has volunteered with the Legal Assistance Scheme for Capital Offences (LASCO) for more than a decade, and was one of the youngest Lead Counsel to be appointed under the scheme. Conferred by the Supreme Court, it recognises the pro bono contributions of lawyers in ensuring access to justice for those who are charged with capital offences.



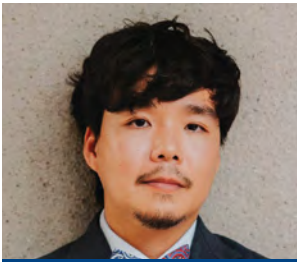
Professor Simon Chesterman served as Principal Researcher for the Office of the UN Secretary-General's Envoy on Technology, supporting the High-Level Advisory Body on Artificial Intelligence in writing its "Final Report: Governing AI for Humanity", released in September 2024 and which forms an important basis for the Global Digital Compact.

He also delivered the keynote address at the European Society of International Law's Annual Meeting in Vilnius, Lithuania, as well as lectures in Beijing, where he was appointed Peking University–Jones Day Chair Professor of Globalization & the Rule of Law.



Professor Lynette Chua '03 was awarded the (US-based) Law & Society Association International Prize for 2024. This is a major prize, awarded annually to a scholar—normally resident outside the United States—in recognition of scholarship that has contributed significantly to the advancement of knowledge in the field of law and society. The prize is not for one particular publication but for a body of scholarly work—notably, in Professor Chua's case, in the broad fields of legal mobilisation and legal consciousness. She is the first woman of Asian descent to win the award since it was established a quarter of a century ago.

The award reflects the fact that she is a leading figure internationally in the field of law and society. Her work has not only advanced sociolegal scholarship in the context of Asia but has been influential in leading to a rethink of approaches to law and society research in the United States and European contexts.



Benjamin Goh '14

Assistant Professor Benjamin Goh '14 was awarded the 2024 Zipporah B. Wiseman Prize for Scholarship on Law, Literature, and Justice, for his paper "Reciting Law After Auschwitz". This prize is administered by the Bernard and Audre Rapoport Center for Human Rights and Justice at the University of Texas School of Law, and is named in honour of the late Zipporah Batshaw Wiseman, for her important work at the intersection of law and literature.



Hans Tjio

Professor Hans Tjio was appointed as a Non-Executive and Independent Director of the Singapore Exchange Regulation (SGX Regco) Board in April 2024. The role of the SGX RegCo Board is to ensure that SGX RegCo performs its duties independently of the business functions of SGX and its regulated subsidiaries. The SGX RegCo Board is also responsible for the arrangements and processes for managing any conflicts between regulatory duties and commercial objectives within SGX.



Kenneth Khoo '15

Assistant Professor Kenneth Khoo '15 received the award for Best Academic Paper on Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) in the Junior Category at the 2024 Berkeley-ECGI Forum on Corporate Governance, on the strength of his paper co-authored with Roberto Tallarita. The Berkeley Center for Law and Business, in collaboration with the European Corporate Governance Institute (ECGI), hosted the academic symposium in November 2024, focusing on ESG-related topics. The co-authored paper, "Expanding Shareholder Voice: The Impact of SEC Guidance on Environmental and Social Proposals", was recognised with a prize of US\$10,000.



Joel Lee

Professor Joel Lee was appointed to the Family Justice Court's Therapeutic Justice Consultative Committee in March 2024. He was also recognised as a leader in commercial mediation, for both Singapore and South-east Asia, in the Commercial Mediation Report 2024 by Lexology Index (previously known as Who's Who Legal). This report identifies many leading mediation lawyers around the world who stand out for their excellence in handling contentious commercial proceedings.

His publication "Conflict of Laws" (2005) 6 SAL Ann Rev 144 was cited by the Court of Appeal on 13 November 2024 in the case *COSCO Shipping Specialized Carriers Co, Ltd v PT OKI Pulp & Paper Mills and others and anor matter* [2024] SGCA 50.



Ernest Lim '02

Professor Ernest Lim '02 was awarded the 2024 Sir Percy Spender Visiting Fellowship at Sydney Law School in recognition of full professors with an established record and international standing in law and legal studies. He was also one of the distinguished scholars appointed in 2025 as a research member to the European Corporate Governance Institute (ECGI), in recognition of his exceptional contributions to the field of corporate governance.



Associate Professor Dora Neo has been appointed as a member of the Advisory Committee of the UNIDROIT Asian Transnational Law Centre (ATLC) until December 2026. UNIDROIT, which is the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law, is an inter-governmental organisation headquartered in Rome that aims to modernise, harmonise and co-ordinate private and commercial law between states. The UNIDROIT ATLC's mission is to serve as a legal hub for Asian transnational law, promoting UNIDROIT's work and strengthening connections between UNIDROIT and relevant academic, legal and private sector stakeholders throughout the region.



Associate Professor Jaclyn Neo '03 was appointed to be on the Executive Committee of the International Society of Public Law (ICON-S), serving as the Anti-Sexual Harassment Officer. It is the world's largest and leading learned society for public law.



Professor Tan Cheng Han SC '87 received the C.C.Tan Award 2024 from The Law Society of Singapore on 1 November 2024. Since 2003, the Law Society has presented an annual award to a member of the Bar who exemplifies the highest ideals of the legal profession—honesty, fair play, gentlemanliness and personal integrity. The award is named after the first President of the Law Society, Mr Tan Chye Cheng, or C.C.Tan as he was widely known, who embodied these ideals. Professor Tan was also elected as a member of the Council of the Law Society of Singapore on 5 April 2025, till the end of the year. He is the first academic to be appointed to the Council and the appointment reflects the strong connection between the academic faculty at NUS Law and the wider legal community.

He was appointed as a member of the Asia Advisory Council of the American Arbitration Association-International Centre for Dispute Resolution (AAA-ICDR). The AAA is one of the largest arbitral institutions in the world and ICDR is the AAA's international arm. In addition, he was appointed as a member of the Regulatory Workstream under the Equities Market Review Group.



Associate Professor Tan Hsien-Li PhD '09 and **Professor Joseph Weiler** obtained, in June 2024, a \$150,000 annual grant from the Ministry of Law for the next five years (FY 2024/25 to FY 2028/2029) for capacity- and knowledge-building projects encompassing topics on ASEAN Legal Integration in the Contemporary Indo-Pacific, Global Trade Law in a Fragmenting Rules-based Order, and Encouraging ASEAN Law Usage by the Private Sector.

They were at the helm of three Centre for International Law (CIL)-NUS programmes in the second half of 2024. They co-directed the CIL-NUS flagship ASEAN Law and Policy Academy programme held from 29 July to 2 August 2024. Topics included ASEAN Centrality, Digital Connectivity, the new UN High Seas Treaty, ASEAN Compliance, and Mediation. More than 70 mid-to-senior level officials from the ASEAN public sector—with portfolios covering areas such as law, justice, foreign affairs, trade and economy—and academia were in attendance. They also co-organised the CIL-NUS Global Trade Law Academy online programme from 29 April to 6 June 2024. The General Course on WTO Law (entry-level) and four specialist courses (advanced level) drew almost 200 global participants wanting an insight into contemporary trade law issues.

Thirdly, both co-convened the pilot CIL-NUS ASEAN Private Sector Executive Programme on 18 February 2025 to support a primary ASEAN Economic Community goal and to complement the contemporary Singapore strategic initiatives that are aimed at making the national economy and ASEAN landscape more resilient amid the escalating trade wars and Trump 2.0 tariffs. More than 200 executives from the private sector and diplomatic economic attaches listened to Chief Justice Sundaresh Menon's opening address on Commercial Law Harmonisation and learnt from 25 experts on how to use ASEAN trade and investment agreements to enhance business competitiveness.



Assistant Professor Marcus Teo '18 was selected to be emplaced on the Young Independent Counsel Scheme for a period of one year, spanning 2025. Young Independent Counsels are independent third parties that courts can call on to assist in deciding novel or important issues of law that arise in litigation.



Professor Thio Li-ann received the Singapore Academy of Law Merit Award for her significant contributions in promoting and advancing the development of Singapore law on 16 November 2024. The award was presented by Chief Justice Sundaresh Menon '86.

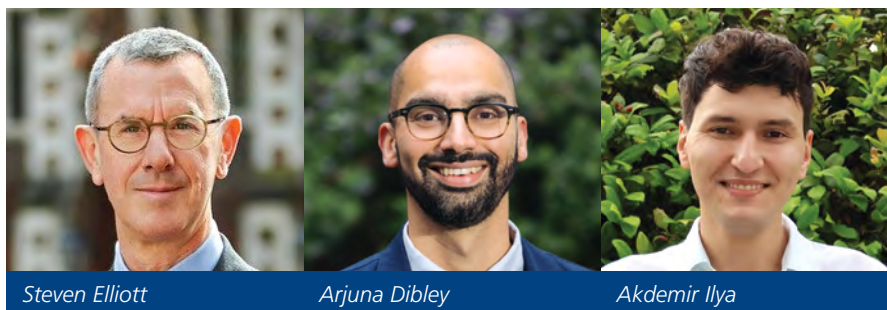


(from left) Umakanth Varottil PhD '10, Benny Tan '12, Benjamin Wong '15, Tan Weiming, Samantha Tang '14 and Helena Whalen-Bridge LLM '02 (absent: Sandra Booyesen LLM '03 PhD '09)

Congratulations to **Associate Professor Sandra Booyesen LLM '03 PhD '09**, **Assistant Professor Benny Tan '12**, **Assistant Professor Tan Weiming**, **Lecturer Samantha Tang '14**, **Professor Umakanth Varottil PhD '10**, **Associate Professor Helena Whalen-Bridge LLM '02** and **Lecturer Benjamin Wong '15** on being awarded the Faculty-level Annual Teaching Excellence Award for 2024! The award is given by NUS Law to recognise faculty members who have demonstrated a high level of commitment to teaching.

Recruiting and Retaining the Best Faculty

We welcome the latest faculty members to join NUS Law, laying strong foundations for the future of legal education and research, as well as celebrate the appointments of our current faculty.



Professor Steven Elliott joined us in January 2025, specialising in the field of international litigation and arbitration. He is an English barrister who practises commercial law as a member of One Essex Court in London and in Singapore. He has an international litigation and arbitration practice and has conducted numerous cases before apex courts in England and elsewhere. Before joining the Bar, he gained a doctorate from the University of Oxford on a trusts topic and served as a judicial assistant to the Lord Chief Justice as well as a clerk to the British Columbia Court of Appeal.

His research and writing, which concentrates on commercial remedies, has been referred to in decisions of apex courts in England as well as in several of the main Commonwealth jurisdictions, including Singapore. He is the general editor of *Snell's Equity* and a co-author of *The Law of Rescission*, amongst other works.

Assistant Professor Arjuna Dibley joined us in January 2025, specialising in corporate law, finance and innovation. He received his Doctor of the Science of Law (JSD) degree from Stanford University, as a General Sir John Monash Scholar. He also holds honorary appointments at the University of Oxford and the University of Melbourne. Prior to joining NUS, Dibley was the Head of the Sustainable Finance Hub at the University of Melbourne, and a Senior Research Fellow at Melbourne Law School. He has also practised law at Baker McKenzie and worked as a strategy adviser at Pollination, in Australia, Asia and the US.

His research is primarily at the intersection of law, economics and sustainability. He publishes traditional legal analysis in his areas of interest, as well as works with scholars from other natural science and social science disciplines, to publish in top scientific outlets such as *Nature* and *Science*. Recognising his unique research agenda, Dibley was awarded the Paul Bourke Award by the Academy of Social Sciences in Australia, as the leading Early Career Researcher in Law.

Dr Akdemir Ilya joined us as Lecturer in July 2024. He obtained his PhD in Juridical Science and Master's degree from UC Berkeley, and his Bachelor's degree from the University of Kent. His research and teaching interests lie at the intersection of law and technology, with a particular interest in exploring how today's data-driven methods and approaches can be used and/or misused in the legal domain. He teaches Law & Technology, Law & Data Science, and Law & Natural Language Processing.



Professor Lye Lin Heng '73 was appointed as Emeritus Professor in July 2024. She graduated in law from the University of Singapore, and holds Master's degrees in law from the University of London (King's College) and Harvard University. She is an Advocate and Solicitor of the Supreme Court of Singapore. At NUS Law, she held executive positions and initiated the NUS multi-disciplinary programme, the Master of Science in Environmental Management in 2001, chairing its Inter-Faculty Programme Management Committee from its inception until her retirement in 2019.

At the international level, she was a member of the Board of Governors of the IUCN Academy of Environmental Law, and co-chair of its Teaching and Capacity-Building Committee. She was a resource person in capacity-building programmes conducted by the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank and Singapore's Ministry of Environment. She is on the Advisory Committee of WWF Singapore, after stepping down as its Director.



Kenneth Khoo '15

Kenneth Khoo '15 was appointed as Assistant Professor of Law on 1 February 2025. He holds degrees from NUS, Master's degrees in economics and law from LSE and Yale Law School respectively, and received his JSD degree from Yale. In 2022, he visited Harvard Law School as a research fellow at the Program on Corporate Governance. He has research and teaching interests in hybrid areas where law and economics intersect, especially in commercial subjects like Corporate Law, Mergers and Acquisitions, Securities Regulations, and Competition Law. His work has been published in international journals like the *Journal of Empirical Legal Studies*, the *University of Pennsylvania Journal of Business Law*, the *Journal of Competition Law and Economics* and the *American Business Law Journal*.



Marcus Teo '18

Sheridan Fellow Marcus Teo '18 was appointed as Assistant Professor in July 2024. He holds degrees from NUS and the University of Cambridge, and specialises in the conflict of laws, public law and foreign relations law. His work has been published or is forthcoming in leading journals, including the *Cambridge Law Journal*, the *International and Comparative Law Quarterly*, the *Lloyd's Maritime and Commercial Law Quarterly* and the *Oxford Journal of Legal Studies*. His current work focuses on foreign relations doctrines in the conflict of laws, as well as the theoretical foundations of the conflict of laws and administrative law. He is a co-convenor of the Singapore Private International Law Discussion Group, and a consultant in public law and conflict cases before Singapore's courts.



Mark Ortega '13



Winona Kang



Justin Lim

Mark Ortega '13, Winona Kang and Justin Lim were appointed as Sheridan Fellows in July 2024. Mark teaches Equity & Trusts, Winona teaches Evidence Law and Justin teaches Principles of Property Law and Land Law.



Seah Ying Ying

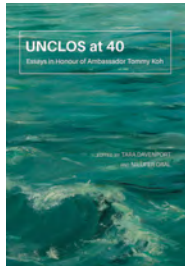


Kevin Tang '23

Seah Ying Ying and Kevin Tang '23 joined us as Teaching Assistants in July 2024. Ying Ying teaches Torts and Constitutional & Administrative Law, and Kevin teaches Evidence and Equity & Trusts.

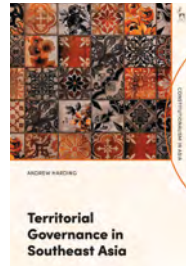
Research Excellence April 2024 to March 2025

NUS Law continues to produce outstanding scholarship across the spectrum of legal research. In addition to dozens of scholarly articles and book chapters, as well as scores of conference papers, the following books were published in 2024 and the first quarter of 2025:



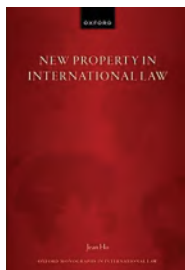
UNCLOS at 40, Essays in Honour of Ambassador Tommy Koh

by **Tara Davenport** Grad.Dip.
Sing.Law '03 LLM '10 and
Nilufer Oral
(NUS Press)



Territorial Governance in Southeast Asia

by **Andrew Harding** LLM '84
(Hart Publishing)



New Property in International Law

by **Jean Ho** '03
(Oxford University Press)



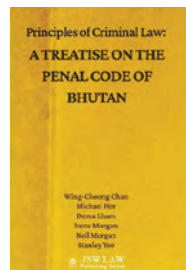
Litigating Climate Change in the Global South

by **Jolene Lin** '05 and
Jacqueline Peel
(Oxford University Press)



The Rule of Law in Singapore: Legal Communitarianism, Paternal Democracy and the Developmentalist State

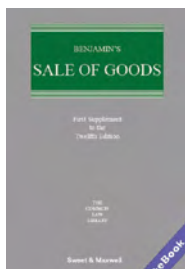
by **Thio Li-ann**
(Hart Publishing)



Principles of Criminal Law: A Treatise on the Penal Code of Bhutan

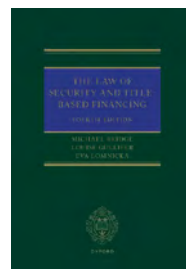
by **Stanley Yeo** '76, Michael
Hor '84, Chan Wing Cheong,
Neil Morgan, Dema Lham and
Irene Morgan
(JSW Law Publishing Series)

The Faculty also welcomed the following new editions:



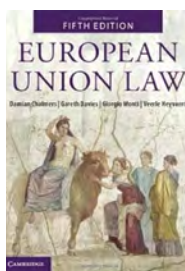
Benjamin's Sale of Goods (12th Edition; 1st Supplement)

by **Michael Bridge**
(Sweet & Maxwell)



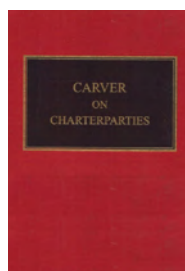
The Law of Security and Title-Based Financing (4th Edition)

by **Michael Bridge, Louise Gullifer** and Eva Lomnicka
(Oxford University Press)



*European Union Law:
Text and Materials (5th Edition)*

by **Damian Chalmers**,
Gareth Davies, Veerle Heyyaert
and Giorgio Monti
(Cambridge University Press)



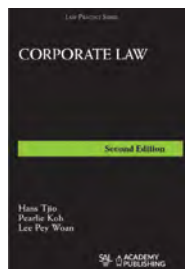
*Carver on Charterparties
(3rd Edition)*

by **Stephen Girvin** and
Howard Bennett (eds)
(Sweet & Maxwell)



*Singapore Master Tax Guide
2024-2025 (43rd Edition)*

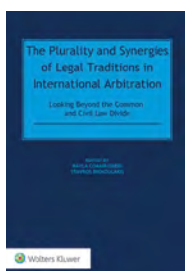
by **Justin Tan '10** and
Sam Sim '97
(Wolters Kluwer)



Corporate Law (2nd Edition)

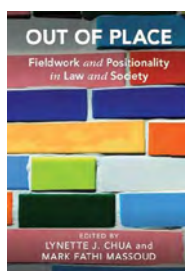
by **Hans Tjio**, Pearlie Koh '89
and Lee Pey Woan
(Academy Publishing)

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



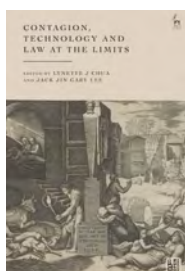
*The Plurality and Synergies of
Legal Traditions in International
Arbitration: Looking Beyond the
Common and Civil Law Divide*

by **Stavros Brekoulakis** and
Nayla Comair Obeid (eds)
(Wolters Kluwer)



*Out of Place: Fieldwork and
Positionality in Law and Society*

by **Lynette Chua '03** and
Mark Fathi Massoud (eds)
(Cambridge University Press)



*Contagion, Technology,
and Law at the Limits*

by **Lynette Chua '03** and
Jack Jin Gary Lee (eds)
(Hart Publishing)



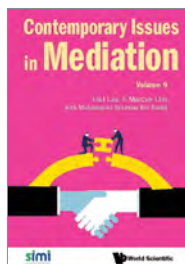
*Carbon-Free Shipping and
Shipping Carbon*

by **Stephen Girvin** and
Vibe Ulfbeck (eds)
(Bloomsbury Publishing)



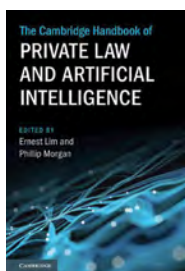
*Singapore Journal of Legal
Studies, special edition*

by **Andrew Halpin** and
David Duarte (eds)
(Faculty of Law, National
University of Singapore)



*Contemporary Issues in
Mediation (Volume 9)*

by **Joel Lee** and
Marcus Lim '12 (eds)
(World Scientific)



The Cambridge Handbook of Private Law and Artificial Intelligence

by **Ernest Lim '02** and Phillip Morgan (eds)
(Cambridge University Press)



Statelessness in Asia

by **Jaclyn Neo '03**, Michelle Foster and Christoph Sperfeldt (eds)
(Cambridge University Press)



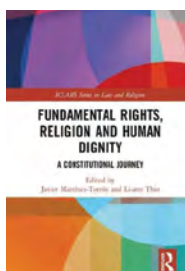
Modern Criminal Law: Essays in Honour of GR Sullivan

by **Andrew Simester** (ed)
(Bloomsbury Publishing)



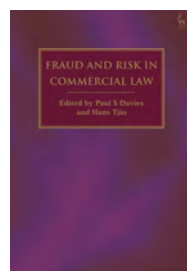
Singapore Academy of Law: Annual Review of Singapore Cases

by **Teo Keang Sood** and Yip Man '06 (eds)
(Academy Publishing)



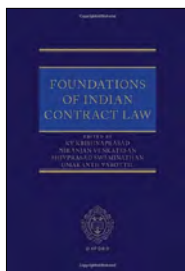
Fundamental Rights, Religion and Human Dignity: A Constitutional Journey

by **Thio Li-ann** and Javier Martínez-Torron (eds)
(Routledge)



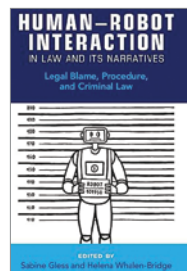
Fraud and Risk in Commercial Law

by **Hans Tjio** and Paul Davies (eds)
(Bloomsbury)



Foundations of Indian Contract Law

by **Umakanth Varottil PhD '10**, Kv Krishnaprasad, Shivprasad Swaminathan and Niranjana Venkatesan (eds)
(Oxford University Press)



Human-Robot Interaction in Law and its Narratives: Legal Blame, Procedure, and Criminal Law

by **Helena Whalen-Bridge LLM '02** and Sabine Gless (eds)
(Cambridge University Press)

Impact



NUS Law freshmen solemnly reciting the ethics pledge to express their commitment to uphold the values of the legal profession

NUS Law freshmen took an **ethics pledge** for the first time, in a promise to honour the values of the legal profession. Together with their families, about 220 first-year students participated in the NUS Law Freshmen Inauguration Ceremony (FIC), held for the first time at the NUS University Cultural Centre on 27 July 2024. Taking place annually before the start of each academic year, the FIC officially welcomes students into NUS Law and is the culmination of orientation activities organised by the Faculty. The event saw Justice Andrew Phang '82, Senior Judge of the Singapore Court of Appeal, delivering a heartfelt address that called on freshmen to pursue integrity and hold on to their ideals.



Ms Elizabeth Andersen, Director, World Justice Project, pictured with Ms Rahayu Mahzam '03, Minister of State for Digital Development and Information & Health, and Associate Professor Jaclyn Neo '03, Director, Centre for Asian Legal Studies

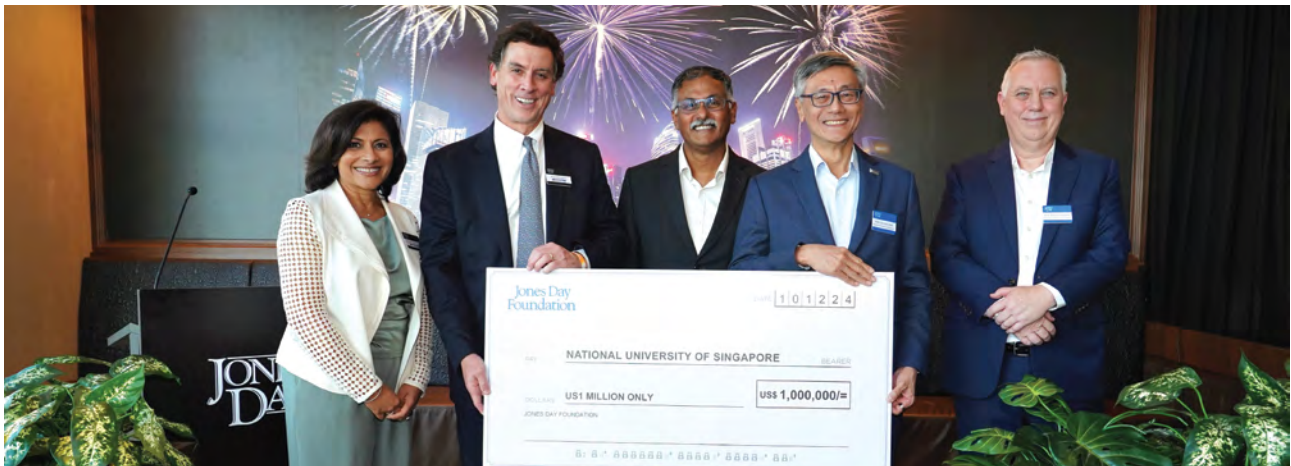
On the research centres front, the **Centre for Asian Legal Studies** (CALS), in collaboration with the World Justice Project and with the support of the Ministry of Law of Singapore, held a research conference on the theme of "Advancing the Rule of Law in Asia Pacific" at NUS Law on 28 June 2024. More than 50 participants from around the world attended the event, including academics, legal practitioners, civil society actors and government officials from various jurisdictions. The one-day conference was divided into three panels, each exploring different themes: Criminal Justice Challenges in the Asia-Pacific; Defending and Strengthening Judicial Independence; and Transparency, Anti-Corruption, and Accountability.

In August 2024, CALS held the inaugural International Forum on Asian Laws, in collaboration with the Oxford Programme in Asian Laws at the University of Oxford's Faculty of Law. The theme for the conference this year was "Diffusion of Laws in Asia". More than 60 participants and speakers attended, including academics and legal practitioners from various jurisdictions. A total of 22 papers were presented, with discussions exploring case studies of transnational movements of legal ideas, principles, rules and institutions in Asia, delving into the nuances and different perspectives on the successes and failures of transplanted systems.



Mr Lionel Yee, Deputy Attorney-General (second from left), with the conference convenors (from left): Professor David Tan, Co-Director, Centre for Technology, Robotics, Artificial Intelligence & the Law; Associate Professor Donal Hanley, Associate Director, McGill University's Institute of Air and Space Law; and Mr Jack Wright Nelson, Editor, Annals of Air and Space Law

In the same month, two NUS Law research centres—the **EW Barker Centre for Law & Business**; and the **Centre for Technology, Robotics, Artificial Intelligence & the Law**—joined forces with McGill University's Institute for Air and Space Law to lead discussions on emerging legal and policy issues around air and space navigation. Close to 40 international aerospace experts, spread over 10 panel sessions, led discussions on international law and space governance at the conference titled "New Horizons in Air and Space Law: Treaties, Technologies, and Tomorrow's Challenges".



(from left) Ms Sushma Jobanputra, Partner-in-Charge, Jones Day's Singapore Office; Mr Greg Shumaker, Global Managing Partner, Jones Day; Mr Murali Pillai SC '92 LLM '00, Minister of State for Law & Transport; Professor Tan Eng Chye, President, NUS; Professor Andrew Simester, Dean, NUS Law

NUS Law announced the establishment of a new legal fellowship, the **Stephen Brogan–Jones Day Legal Fellowship on the Rule of Law**, in December 2024. This Fellowship was established through a generous endowed gift of US\$1 million from the Jones Day Foundation, a nonprofit organisation funded by Jones Day's lawyers and staff.

The new Stephen Brogan–Jones Day Legal Fellowship on the Rule of Law will expand the partnership between the Jones Day Foundation, NUS Law and its Centre for Asian Legal Studies (CALS) by supporting rule-of-law scholarly research. The Fellowship is expected to be awarded to a leading judge, practitioner or academic annually in perpetuity.



Mr Aloysius Goh '03 LLM '09, CEO of SMILE; and Professor Andrew Simester, Dean of NUS Law

The NUS Faculty of Law signed a **Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU) with Sage Mediation Institute for Leadership Education**—an international mediation training and knowledge centre—on 7 March 2025, witnessed by more than 140 legal professionals from around the world.

The MOU marks a significant milestone towards enhancing practical legal education and equipping mediation professionals with the skills relevant to the rapidly changing times in dispute resolution, by setting the foundation for NUS Law's mediation

programmes to draw on Sage's experiences in commercial mediation. It will also provide graduates from NUS Law and NUS Law Academy a pathway for ongoing professional development and accreditation.

NUS Law successfully launched two **AI chatbots as interactive learning tools for students** enrolled in Trial Advocacy on 14 March 2025, representing the first time that Gen AI has been used to teach legal skills in the Faculty. The chatbots enabled 126 students to actively practise examination-in-chief and cross-examination during the lecture, and are available for use outside lecture time, giving students additional time to independently practise oral advocacy. In a full learning cycle involving teaching, practice, feedback and assessment, the AI chatbots are helpful in supporting practice and feedback.

Traditionally, trial advocacy lectures involved a small group of students demonstrating while the majority observed, or videos were played for critique. With the chatbots, all attending students get active practice. To elaborate, the examination-in-chief chatbot plays two roles: judge and witness. The cross-examination-in-chief chatbot plays three roles: judge, prosecutor and witness. These chatbots were developed with the expertise and support from the AI Centre for Educational Technologies, in a collaborative effort involving Associate Professor Mervyn Cheong '08 and Assistant Professor Ang Si Yi.

Student Appointments

Congratulations to seven of our alumni from the Class of 2024, who have been appointed as Justices' Law Clerks (JLCs) at the Singapore Supreme Court in September 2024.



(from left) Lim Jia Rong, Johan Ding, Kimberly Lim, Jerome Tan, Dakshayani Ravindran, Chua Kang Le and Darrick Poh

As JLCs, **Chua Kang Le, Johan Ding, Lim Jia Rong, Kimberly Lim, Darrick Poh, Dakshayani Ravindran** and **Jerome Tan** will undertake legal research, draft bench memorandums and provide assistance to Judges of the High Court and the Court of Appeal.



(from left) Celest Koh '24, Allison Tang '25, Samuel Wee '24 and Chloe Nicole Guai '25

Celest Koh '24, Samuel Wee '24, Allison Tang '25 and **Chloe Nicole Guai '25** have been appointed as Young IP Mediators by the Intellectual Property Office of Singapore for one year.

Student Achievements

Our students continue to make us proud with their strong performance at both local and international competitions.



Kwa Zhi Cheng '25 with Kate Orlovsky, Director of the Hague Office of the International Bar Association, and Joe Bell, Operations Director of the International Bar Association

Congratulations to **Kwa Zhi Cheng '25**, for clinching the Best Defense Counsel Speaker Award and the IBA Award for Best Oralist of the Preliminary Rounds at the 11th Edition of the International Criminal Court Moot Court Competition (ICCMCC). The competition was held in The Hague in June 2024, where teams discussed the contemporary issues in international criminal law and procedure, and interpretation of the Rome Statute.



(from left) Professor Joel Lee, NUS Law; Larry Teply, INC organiser; Leanne Chee '24; and Harindrar Jayanthinathan '24

Leanne Chee '24 and **Harindrar Jayanthinathan '24** placed first in the International Negotiation Competition (INC) held in Brazil in July 2024. The negotiation problem was centred on different legal deals undertaken by a multinational company, to improve its environmental and social responsibility.



(from left) Dorothy Wang '27, Qu Chenxin '27, Benedict Woon '27 and Ting Kaiwen '27

NUS Law emerged as first runner-up at the 9th ALSA International Moot Court Competition held in Sri Lanka in August 2024. Further, **Dorothy Wang '27** and **Ting Kaiwen '27** received honourable mentions for Best Speaker. The participants mooted on a contentious investor-state arbitration dispute, facing off against teams across Asia.



(from left) Brendan Wang '26, Tan Hewie '26, Chang Li-Ann '26 and Natalie Koh '26

At the Asia Cup International Law Moot held in Japan in August 2024, NUS Law emerged as overall champion. **Brendan Wang '26** and **Natalie Koh '26** also received individual awards for 2nd and 3rd Best Respondent Oralists, while **Tan Hewie '26** and **Chang Li-Ann '26** placed as 8th and 9th Best Applicant Oralists respectively. The competition focused on issues of public international law and international trade law.



(from left) Shaun Wittberger '27; Jeremiah Tan '26; Dinesh Dhillon '94, Partner and Co-Head of International Arbitration Practice at Allen & Gledhill LLP; Judicial Commissioner Kristy Tan '04; Associate Professor Eleanor Wong '87, NUS Law; Tan Kai Han '26; and Nicole Won '27

It was a clean sweep for NUS Law undergraduates at the B.A. Mallal Moot 2024 held locally in October 2024. **Jeremiah Tan '26** and **Tan Kai Han '26** took home the first and second prizes respectively, while **Shaun Wittberger '27** and **Nicole Won '27** were jointly awarded the second runner-up position. **Melvin Seto '25** earned the Best

Memorial Prize for the best written legal document to support his position in the case. The top four finalists engaged in the issues surrounding the criminal liability for alleged stock market manipulation by an AI chatbot.



(from left) Joshua Lim '27, Nathaniel Yeo '27, Ronn Chiew '26 and Tan Yan Ren '26

Ronn Chiew '26, **Joshua Lim '27**, **Tan Yan Ren '26** and **Nathaniel Yeo '27** clinched the first runner-up prize among 15 teams at the Cross Examination Moot held in Paris in November 2024. In addition to their outstanding journey to the finals, **Tan Yan Ren '26** was awarded the Best Cross Examiner Award for Quantum, for his cross-examination of quantum expert witnesses.



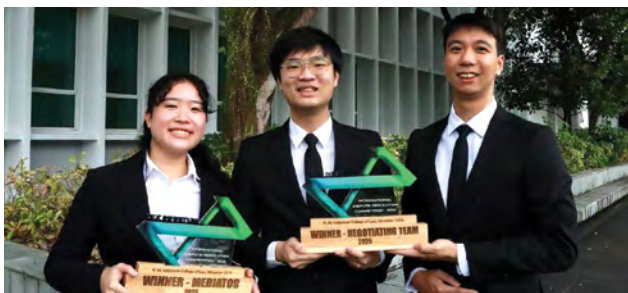
(from left) Li Tianao '27, Dr Christopher To, Taesha Tan '27 and Joan Goh '27 in Hong Kong

Joan Goh '27, **Li Tianao '27** and **Taesha Tan '27** were crowned champions at the third International Chamber of Commerce Mediation Competition Hong Kong. Held in December 2024, student teams negotiated to resolve international business disputes under the guidance of professional mediators using the ICC Mediation Rules.



(from left) Mervyn Lin '25, Joan Goh '27, Taesha Tan '27 and Li Tianao '27 in Paris

As a result of their victory at ICC Hong Kong, the NUS Law team, including **Mervyn Lin '25**, earned the opportunity to compete in the 20th International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) International Commercial Mediation Competition in Paris in February this year. The team emerged victorious as they tackled the mock mediation problem of unauthorised logging in protected timber harvesting zones.



(from left) Oh Yu Han '27, Mervyn Lin '25 and Seth Tay '25

NUS Law triumphed at the Lex Infinitum (VMSCL-International Dispute Resolution Competition) 2025. **Oh Yu Han '27** emerged as Champion Mediator and Best in Semi-Finals, and **Mervyn Lin '25** and **Seth Tay '25** won the overall Champion Negotiating Team award. Held in January this year in India, the final round was based on a dispute between the head of a small village and a representative from an activist group, addressing the challenges of economic development due to its social and environmental impact.



(from left) Jonathan Tan '27, Benedict Woon '27, Caleb Lim '27, Ke Mengdie JD '26, Karen Lee '26 and Yanagisawa Kenshi '25

NUS Law was awarded first place in the Japanese Division of the 18th Vis Japan Pre-Moot held at Doshisha University, Kyoto, on 22 March 2025. **Ke Mengdie JD '26**, **Karen Lee '26** and **Yanagisawa Kenshi '25** defeated the previous year's champion, marking a historic achievement as it is the first time NUS Law has won a moot competition in a language other than English. The subject matter of the moot was a dispute arising from a purchase and service agreement involving a turnkey green hydrogen plant project.



Dr Heloisa Pereira PhD '24

Dr Heloisa Pereira PhD '24 won the prestigious Wang Gungwu Medal and Prize AY2023 (Best PhD Thesis in the Social Sciences and Humanities) for her thesis titled "Climate Change in International Trade Law". The work addresses the critical issue of adapting the global economy to the climate crisis, highlighting the catastrophic consequences of failure: conflict, impoverishment and ecological damage.

Service to the Community



(from left) Huang Hung Yu '27, PBG President; Joseph Wong '06, PBG founder; Professor Helena Whalen-Bridge LLM '02, PBG faculty advisor; and Professor Tan Cheng Han '87, the founding Dean of PBG

Celebrating 20 years of service and impact, the NUS Pro Bono Group (PBG) commemorated its milestone anniversary on 21 February 2025 with a meaningful evening of reflection and recognition. Bringing together students, alumni, faculty and legal industry leaders, the ceremony honoured PBG's enduring commitment to access to justice and the power of student-driven initiatives.



The Centre for Pro Bono & Clinical Legal Education's 9th Pro Bono Awards Ceremony was held on 12 February 2025. Graced by guest-of-honour Mr Murali Pillai SC '92 LLM '00, Minister of State for Law & Transport, the event saw 18 students and one faculty member receiving awards across three categories. Seven pro bono projects were given financial grants.

The Pro Bono Innovation Award was presented to **Akhilaa Yogarajah '26** and **Fatema Maimoon '26** for their contributions to the Syariah Law Friends Project, which supports the Muslim community in navigating Syariah Law. As part of this project, Akhilaa and Fatema developed an internal document which highlighted and explained certain Malay/Arab terms or words from Syariah Law that were used during pro bono legal clinics. This document was crucial in helping non-Malay-speaking volunteers take better and more accurate notes and assist non-English-speaking clients more effectively. The pair also proactively expanded the volunteer pool by recruiting more Malay-speaking students to meet the demands of ongoing legal clinic work, and organised lectures to educate volunteers on Syariah Law.

The Pro Bono Special Recognition Award, which recognises students for their outstanding contributions to pro bono service under their respective projects, was presented to the following student leaders:

- **Lim Yuhang '26**, for Criminal Legal Aid Scheme
- **Goh Hwi Min, Millie '27**, for Golden Years Project
- **Joshua Poon '26; Tan Lyn Shann, Rachel '26; and Zheng Zhihui '26**, for Legal Education and Awareness Programme (LEAP)
- **Ernest Chua Jie Yu '26, Hewie Tan '26 and Tan Jiok Duan, Jadie '26**, for NUS-FIDReC Collaboration
- **Sarah Shah Hosseini '26 and Toh Min-Yi, Nellie '26**, for Project Law & You
- **Aaron Lai Wei Hao '26 and Goh Jue Yie '26**, for Project Law Help
- **Sana Kir '26**, for Project Legal Awareness for Youths (PLAY) Mentorship
- **Soham Ghose '27**, for Project Schools
- **Emanuele Huan Jie '26, Chloe Nicole Guai '25 and Hewie Tan '26**, for their leadership roles in Pro Bono Group

In addition, the Pro Bono Mentor Award was given to Assistant Professor **Benny Tan '12**, in recognition of his dedication to mentor and guide our law students in their pro bono efforts. Seven noteworthy pro bono projects also received support from generous donors in the form of three grants. They are:

1. NUS Law Class of 1992 Pro Bono Grant, presented by representative Fan Kin Ning '92
 - Building of Bridges
 - NUS-FIDReC Collaboration
 - Project Parachute
 - Project Law Help

Building of Bridges aims to educate migrant workers on their legal rights while the NUS-FIDReC Collaboration focuses on raising awareness among vulnerable consumers about scam prevention, financial disputes, and self-help remedies like mediation. In partnership with AWARE and NUS Care Unit, Project Parachute trains students in sexual assault response, updates legal guidebooks, and expands outreach via exhibitions and the Respect and Consent course for incoming NUS students. Lastly, Project Law Help assists voluntary welfare organisations in understanding key laws like POFMA, POHA, the Charities Act, PDPA, and the Employment of Foreign Workers Act.

2. NUS Law Class of 2017 Pro Bono Grant, presented by representative **Yee Guang-Yi '17**

- Project Law & You
- Project Legal Awareness for Youths Mentorship (PLAY) Mentorship

Project Law & You educates migrant domestic workers on their legal rights through workshops on salary disputes, scams and conflict resolution, while also conducting year-long legal research with the Ministry Of Manpower and Beyond Our Borders to refine policies affecting them. The PLAY Mentorship project focuses on mentoring at-risk Secondary 2 students through weekly legal workshops fostering confidence and legal awareness, in collaboration with SHINE Children and Youth Services.

3. RHTLAW Asia Subhas Anandan Pro Bono Grant, presented by representative Sharon Chong '09

- Thai-Ed with Love

Thai-ed with Love is an annual overseas pro bono initiative that is the result of a longstanding partnership with Thammasat University (TU). This year, in collaboration with HDF Mercy Centre, Thai-ed with Love's goal is to educate underprivileged children in Bangkok's Klong Toey slums on legal rights, protections and the consequences of crimes like human trafficking and domestic violence, while also connecting unregistered children to support channels for legal status.

This year's edition is also particularly significant as it marks a collaboration with law students from Malaysia for the first time. Together with the students from two Malaysian universities, specifically from the Universiti Malaya (UM) Legal Clinic and the International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM) Legal Aid Club, our students and their TU peers visited the Wat Sa Kaew Orphanage in Thailand and engaged directly with the children, sharing with them a brochure they'd prepared on domestic violence. The trip fostered a vibrant exchange of ideas related to the pro bono culture in Thailand, Singapore and, now, Malaysia.



NUS students and their peers from Malaysia and Thailand visited Wat Sa Kaew Orphanage in Thailand to engage with the children on the topic of domestic violence

Alumni Relations & Development

Alumni Achievements

As always, I am delighted to highlight the remarkable accomplishments of our alumni in this letter. Their success reflects tenacity and a dedication to excellence.

In terms of judicial appointments, **Sushil Sukumaran Nair '89** was recently appointed as Judicial Commissioner of the Supreme Court and **Jill Tan Li Ching '97** was appointed as Registrar of the Supreme Court. **Tan Boon Heng '93** was appointed as Principal District Judge of the State Courts, **Phang Hsiao Chung '92, LLM '96** was appointed as Principal District Judge of the Family Justice Courts and **Teo Guan Siew '04** was appointed as Deputy Registrar of the Supreme Court. In addition, **Leong Wai Hong '88** was elevated to Judge of the High Court in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. In January this year, **Goh Yihan SC '06** took on the appointment of Deputy Attorney-General in the Attorney-General's Chambers.



Following a refinement of the criteria for Senior Counsel in 2024, **Blossom Hing SC '96** and **Christopher Ong Siu Jin SC '97** joined their ranks at the start of this year in recognition of their advocacy skills, knowledge of the law and professional standing.

Alvin Koh Grad.Dip.Sing.Law '00, LLM '05 was appointed Chief Executive and Commission Member of the Competition and Consumer Commission of Singapore (CCCS). He was also appointed as a member of the Copyright Tribunal. Meanwhile, **Kevin Kwek '06** assumed the role of Chief Executive at the Singapore Mediation Centre (SMC).

Allow me to warmly congratulate all alumni who were acknowledged for their merit and service to Singapore during the National Day Awards 2024. **Chia Wee Kiat '91, LLM '04** was honoured with the Public Administration Medal (Gold), while the Public Administration Medal (Silver) was awarded to **Wong Kok Weng '87, Joseph Yeo Swee Teck '89, Sellakumaran s/o Sellamuthoo '96, Christopher Ong Siu Jin SC '97, Ong Luan Tze Grad.Dip.Sing.Law '04** and **Seow Zhixiang '09**. The Public Administration Medal (Bronze) went to **Edmund Chew '13**.

The Public Service Star was bestowed upon **Mohamed Muzammil bin Mohamed '80** and **John Ng Lee Chye '82, LLM '89**. Recipients of the Commendation Medal were **Alvin Sim Kia Hong '95, Christopher Eng Grad.Dip.Sing.Law '05** and **Tan Wee Hao '11**. The Public Service Medal was awarded to **Quek Mong Hua '79**, while the Long Service Medal was presented to **Low Kee Yang '82, Sheik Mustafa Hassan '89, Cornie Ng '91, Eugene Lee Yee Leng '93, Wong Li Tein '97, Burton Ong '99, Kenneth Yap Grad.Dip. Sing.Law '99** and **Alvin Koh Grad.Dip.Sing.Law '00, LLM '05**.

Rena Lee '92, LLM '98, who led global talks and helped broker the historic United Nations high seas treaty, was named one of *Time* magazine's Top 100 Most Influential People in 2024.

At the Asian Legal Business (ALB) SE Asia Law Awards 2024, several of our distinguished alumni were honoured for their outstanding achievements in the legal field. **Patrick Ang '89** was celebrated as Managing Partner of the Year (Singapore), **Blossom Hing SC '96** was recognised as Woman Lawyer of the Year (Law Firm) while **Anna Quah '97** and **Penny Koo '06** both received recognition as Woman Lawyer



of the Year (In-House). **Evelyn Wee '89** was named Dealmaker of the Year, **Lim Chong Kin '95, LLM '97** received the accolade of Data Privacy and Protection Lawyer of the Year, and **Koh Swee Yen SC '04** was named Dispute Resolution Lawyer of the Year, while **Sheila Ng '07** was awarded Young Lawyer of the Year (Law Firm).



Congratulations to **Faz Hussen '05**, who was awarded the Chief Legal Officer of the Year 2024 for Singapore Companies/Businesses by the Singapore Corporate Counsel Association, as well as to **Adeline Sim '03**, who earned the title of Young Business Leader of the Year 2023/2024 at the Singapore Business Awards 2024.

Some of our law alumni were also featured in ALB's 40 Under 40 List 2023, recognising 40 of the most accomplished lawyers across Asia who are below the age of 40. Among those recognised in the Law Firm category were **Kong Man Er Grad.Dip.Sing.Law '09**, **Nicholas Tan '10**, **Ushan Premaratne '10**, **Sam Ng '12**, **David Fong '13**, **Peh Zu Hao '13** and **Javier Yeo '15**.

My heartiest congratulations to all our alumni on their new appointments and well-deserved recognitions in their respective fields—we are proud of all that you have achieved!

Student Support

Our alumni continually show their dedication to NUS Law and our students by generously volunteering their time and expertise. They contribute as mentors, coach moot competition teams, speak at our career talks and provide guidance to student groups.

The Law Alumni Mentor Programme (LAMP), a hallmark initiative of NUS Law, has evolved substantially over the years. This academic year, we have a total of 242 mentors providing guidance to 247 mentees that comprise first- and second-year students, as well as Masters and Juris Doctor students. To all mentors and alumni volunteers, I sincerely thank you for your invaluable support in helping to pave the way for your juniors.



Students and mentors deep in conversation at the launch of LAMP AY 2024/2025

Moreover, our alumni and other supporters have made important financial contributions to enhance the work of the Faculty and support future generations of NUS Law students.



Connie Heng '95

Connie Heng '95, a highly regarded lawyer in capital markets, established the **Codayana Exchange Grant**. This Grant offers financial assistance to support financially needy students eligible for the Student Exchange Programme, enabling them to gain international exposure and enhance their academic and personal development.

In addition, **Shook Lin & Bok LLP** has established the **Shook Lin & Bok Prize in Finance Law** which will be awarded to the best student in the Credit & Security, Trade Finance Law, or Law of Money and Central Banking course; or, if none of them are offered, then another finance law course offered in the academic year.

On behalf of everyone in NUS Law, I would like to extend my heartfelt appreciation to all donors for their generous contributions that support our programmes and students in such meaningful ways.

Alumni Reunions and Events



The Class of 1994 had a blast sharing memories and music at their 30th anniversary reunion

Milestone anniversary celebrations are a joyous addition to our calendar and, in the past year, the **Classes of 1984, 1989, 1994, 2004, 2009 and 2014** held their reunions. **The Class of 1999** celebrated their Silver Jubilee, while the **Class of 2011** organised a belated reunion. A networking event was also arranged for the **Classes of 2020 and 2021** who missed their graduation ceremonies due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Additionally, at a university-wide alumni reunion organised by Office of Alumni Relations (OAR) in London on 9 November 2024, I had the pleasure of catching up with 14 law alumni and students who attended the event.



The Class of 2004 marked their 20th anniversary by establishing a grant to help law students

During reunions, we encourage classes to think about ways to support the next generation of law students, whether through time and sharing expertise, or through financial support. To this end, the **Class of 1984** showed their support by continuing to contribute to their **Class of 1984 Grant**, while the **Classes of 1994** and **1999** rallied support for the **Tan Yock Lin Memorial Fund**. In celebration of their 20th year since graduation, the **Class of 2004** collectively raised over \$15,000 and will be setting up a **Grant** to be named after the class to support financially needy law students.

In this past quarter, the **Class of 2010** held their milestone reunion and the **Class of 2013** celebrated their belated 10th anniversary, both at the Bukit Timah Campus. The **Classes of 1990, 2012** and **2015** are in the process of planning their celebrations, so please keep a lookout for invitations if you belong to these cohorts. If you are part of a milestone batch (i.e. the **Classes of 1965, 1970, 1975, 1980, 1985, 1995, 2000** or **2005**) and are keen to reconnect, please contact Madelyn Kia (madelyn.kia@nus.edu.sg; 6516-2117) and we will be happy to share more details on planning a reunion. This may be the last opportunity to hold your reunion at our historic campus!

In line with the University's efforts on sustainability, our publications will be distributed primarily in digital format from December 2025 onwards. If you prefer to receive a hard copy of future publications such as *LawLink* and *Letter from the Dean*, please opt in at <https://tinyurl.com/nuslawparticularsupupdate>. If you have changed your contact details and want to stay updated on our alumni events and activities, please update your particulars through the same link.

My colleagues and I look forward to staying in touch with you as an integral part of our NUS Law community!

I cannot emphasise enough the immense contributions our alumni have made to the success of NUS Law. Your achievements inspire and challenge us all, enhance our profile and solidify our reputation. The opportunities you create for our students, through advice, internships and employment are what transform these young men and women from students into lawyers. Your financial support enables us to pursue our mission of being one of the world's top law schools while ensuring no student is left behind.

This year, we continue to direct your attention to the **NUS Law Student Support Fund** which assists students in making the most of available opportunities without financial constraints. Since its inception, this fund has provided financial aid to numerous needy students for tuition fees and enabled their participation in enriching programmes and activities. If you would like to make a contribution, a donation form is attached to this letter. Alternatively, if you would like to explore other ways to advance NUS Law's mission, please contact Madelyn Kia (madelyn.kia@nus.edu.sg; 6516-2117) or myself directly.

Special Visits



*The Right Honourable Dame Helen Winkelmann GNZM,
Chief Justice of New Zealand*

NUS Law was privileged to have hosted The Right Honourable Dame Helen Winkelmann GNZM, Chief Justice of New Zealand, on 16 July 2024. The Centre for Asian Legal Studies, in collaboration with the Singapore Academy of Law, hosted a fireside chat on “Equitable Access to Justice: Challenges and Prospects” with Chief Justice Winkelmann, during which she spoke of the advancements made by the New Zealand courts to improve access to justice. Prior to the fireside chat, she met faculty members and students, and toured our historic campus.



Justice Katsuya Uga, Supreme Court of Japan

NUS Law also welcomed a delegation from the Supreme Court of Japan on 26 November 2024. The delegation included Justice Katsuya Uga and Judge Yotaro Oda, and the engagement offered a valuable platform for exchanging legal perspectives and deepening the understanding of the legal systems in both Japan and Singapore.



*Dr Kathrin Wahlmann, Minister of Justice in
Lower Saxony, Germany*

NUS Law was honoured to welcome the Minister of Justice, Dr Kathrin Wahlmann, and her delegation from the Ministry of Justice of Lower Saxony in Germany on 21 February 2025. The Centre for Technology, Robotics, Artificial Intelligence & the Law (TRAIL) hosted the delegation who were interested in TRAIL’s research on the legal and technical ramifications arising from the use of AI in the legal industry, with a focus on the courts in particular. Dr Wahlmann spoke on the need for courts to adopt AI to improve efficiency, with the discussion branching out to its risks and limitations.

Stay in Touch

I hope that you have enjoyed reading these annual updates. If you would like to know more, or if you think there may be ways in which you could get involved with the Faculty, do let me know.

On behalf of all of us at NUS Law, we wish you the very best.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andrew Simester".

Andrew Simester
Dean, NUS Law

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By email: lawlink@nus.edu.sg
To contact us, please call (65) 6516 3616

1. GIFT

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- ☐ A one-time gift of \$ _____

Singapore tax residents are eligible for a tax deduction that is 2.5 times the gift value from now until 31 December 2026.

To support:

- ☐ NUS Law Student Support Fund *(to support needy students, student learning and student activities at NUS Law, enabling students to develop to their full potential)*
- ☐ NUS Law Fund *(enables the Dean to channel resources where they are most needed within NUS Law)*
- ☐ Other: _____

2. PAYMENT METHOD

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