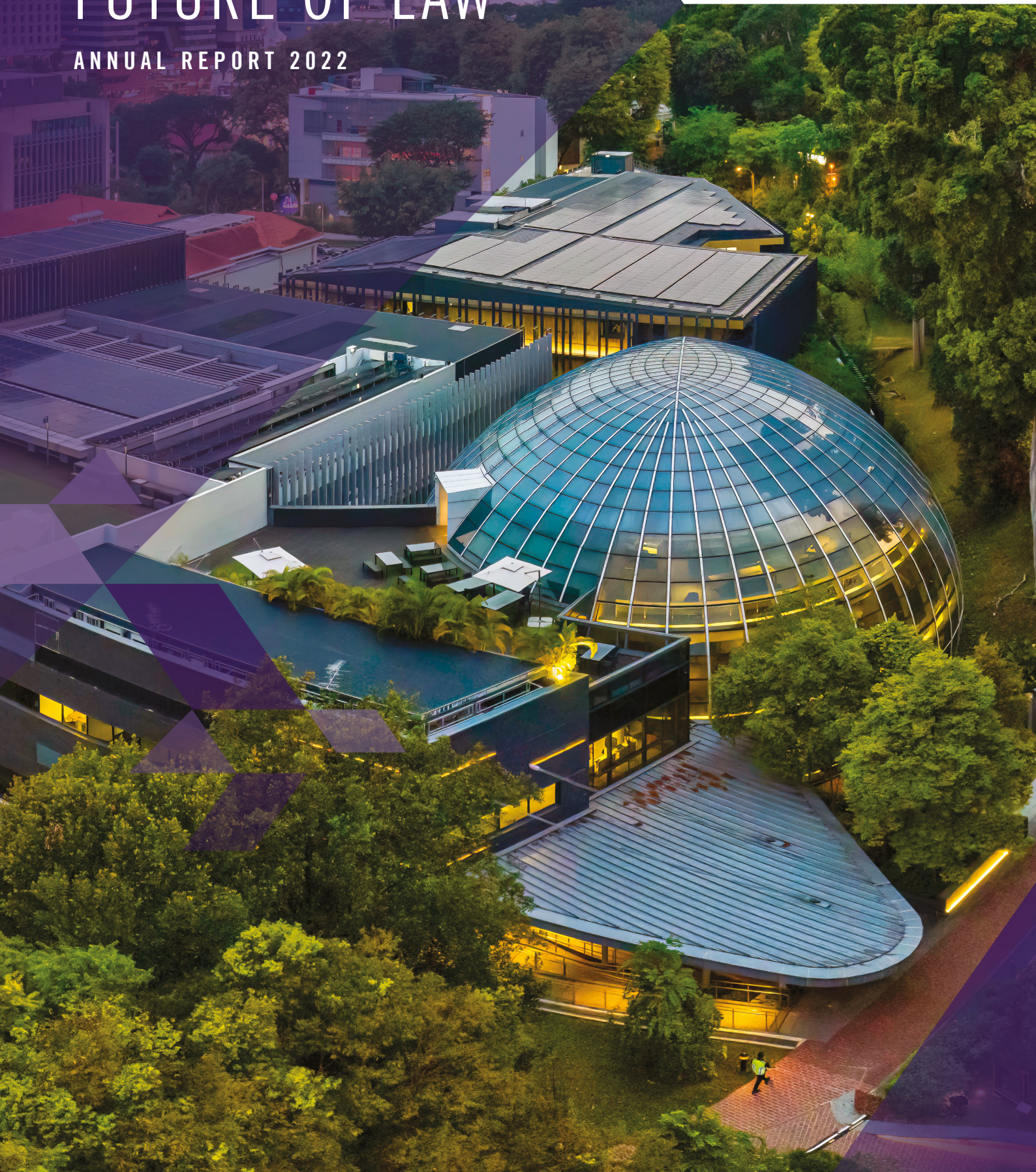


SHAPING THE FUTURE OF LAW

ANNUAL REPORT 2022



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ANNUAL REPORT COMMITTEE:

PROFESSOR YIP MAN
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR CHEN SIYUAN
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR EDWARD TI
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR KENNY CHNG
MR ADRIAN JOHN NEO



PROFESSOR LEE PEY WOAN
Dean, Yong Pung How School of Law

It is my great pleasure to present to you the Singapore Management University (SMU) Yong Pung How School of Law combined Annual Report for 2022. This report highlights the notable achievements of our faculty, students and alumni in the past year.

This year marks the sixteenth anniversary of the establishment of the Yong Pung How School of Law. Here, we celebrate the remarkable resilience and unwavering commitment to excellence demonstrated by our faculty members, students and valued partners in the past year. The post-pandemic environment and the acceleration of technology in the same period served to remind us of the critical importance of aligning our research and legal education with the actual needs of the society. Our faculty members continue to achieve significant research impact, influence the development and trajectory of laws and policies, and bridge theory and practice by demonstrating acute sensitivity to real-world issues and debates. In 2022, our faculty and researchers authored more than 160 publications, including 16 books and edited collections, 78 journal articles, 8 case notes and 50 book chapters. Our leading research has been cited at all levels of the Singapore Courts. Recent alumni and students of our school also published more than 30 academic articles and notes. The Yong Pung How School of Law's mooted programme continues its proud tradition of excelling in international moots pertaining to a wide range of legal areas, and I am proud to share that as a school, we have one of the strongest mooted programmes globally, and on some benchmarks, the best in the world.

Aligning our school's research with the increasing global focus on sustainability, we have launched the Sustainability Development and Commerce Initiative that is housed under our Centre for Commercial Law in Asia to investigate how law and policy can shape investment decisions, commercial contracting practices, urban planning and corporate decision-making. Our research centres have organised multiple international and regional research events on cutting-edge developments in artificial intelligence, FinTech, private law and insolvency law, as well as dispute resolution. I am grateful for the support and dedication of all our esteemed event partners, which include leading academic institutions, law firms and technology companies.

The Yong Pung How School of Law continues to lead and innovate in the realm of legal education. We have launched three specialisation tracks—in Corporate Transactions, Law and Technology and Dispute Resolution—for the LLB programme. These specialisation tracks will provide students the opportunity to strengthen their knowledge in specific fields of law, allowing them to customise their legal education in a manner that best fits their interests and aspirations. We have also introduced a Law Capstone requirement to the LLB programme, which will be specially designed to help students look across traditional legal and disciplinary boundaries to solve problems they will be faced with in the legal practice of the future. Through the dedication of my colleagues at our law school, we have continued to produce graduates who are highly regarded in the legal sector—indeed, around 20 alumni were appointed to partner-level positions in law firms last year.

In most recent news, I am delighted to share that the family of the late Chief Justice Yong Pung How generously donated S\$20 million to the school in January 2023. The funds will be used to set up financial aid and fellowship programmes as well as a research fund. In addition, it is my great pleasure to announce that as of 1st July 2023, Deputy Attorney General (DAG) Ang Cheng Hock SC has assumed the Chair of the YPHSL's Advisory Board. I look forward to working closely with him to bring the law school to even greater heights. I would also like to express my gratitude to the immediate past Chair of the Advisory Board, Mr V K Rajah SC, who led the Board since 2017, and was among the founding Advisory Board members when the law school was inaugurated in 2007. Finally, I would like to express my gratitude to our faculty members, students, alumni and partners for your tireless efforts to bring our law school to greater heights. I am also indebted to my predecessors—Professor Andrew Phang, the late Professor Michael Furnston, Professor Yeo Tiong Min SC (Hon) and Justice Goh Yihan—for the foundation that they and other senior faculty collectively laid.

I warmly invite you to read this Annual Report and to partner with us in our journey towards excellence and innovation.



SERVICE TO
COMMUNITY



MEANINGFUL & IMPACTFUL
RESEARCH



INNOVATIVE & PRACTICE-RELEVANT
LEGAL TRAINING

OUR PEOPLE





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Attorney-General's Chambers
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Corporate, External and Legal Affairs
Microsoft Asia



MR CHARLES LIM SING SIONG
General Counsel (Managing Director), Legal and Compliance
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Partner and Global Co-Head, International Arbitration & Trade
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Partner - Corporate
Linklaters Singapore Pte Ltd



MS WANG YANJUN
Group Chief Corporate Officer
Sea Ltd

DISTINGUISHED FELLOWS



MR V K RAJAH SC
Member, Duxton Hill Chambers (Singapore Group Practice)
Former Attorney-General of Singapore
Former Judge of Appeal of the Supreme Court of Singapore



DR CHAO HICK TIN
Former Attorney-General of Singapore
Former Judge of Appeal of the Supreme Court of Singapore

54 FACULTY MEMBERS*

BY DESIGNATION

- 18 Professors
- 21 Associate Professors
- 10 Assistant Professors
- 1 Senior Lecturer
- 3 Lecturers
- 1 Professorial Research Fellow

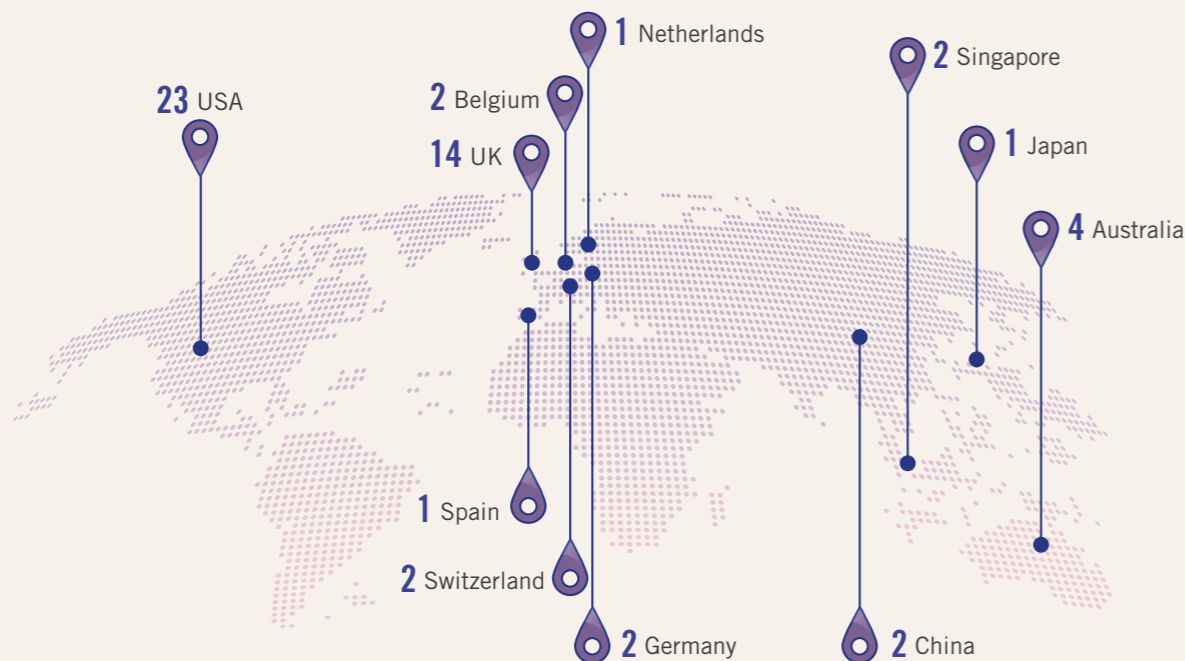
BY TRACK

- 45 Tenure
- 2 Practice
- 2 Education
- 4 Lecturers
- 1 Professorial Research Fellow

BY HIGHEST QUALIFICATION

- 23 PhD/LLD/DPhil/SJD/Doctor of Law
- 27 LLM/JSM/MA/BCL/MIT
- 4 LLB/BA/JD/D.jur./Dr.iur.

BY COUNTRY OF HIGHEST QUALIFICATION



LEE PEY WOAN
Dean
Professor of Law
BCL (Oxford);
LLB (King's College London)



ALVIN SEE WEI LIANG
Associate Dean
(Undergraduate Curriculum
and Teaching)
Lee Kong Chian Fellow
Associate Professor of Law
BCL (Oxford);
LLB (Leeds)



YIP MAN
Associate Dean (Faculty
Matters & Research)
V3 Group Professor in Family
Entrepreneurship
Professor of Law
BCL (Oxford);
LLB (NUS)



ZHANG WEI
Associate Dean (Postgraduate
Curriculum, Teaching and
International Relations)
Associate Professor of Law
Ph.D. in Jurisprudence and
Social Policy (Berkeley);
LLM (Harvard); MA in Civil
Law (Waseda University);
LLB (Fudan University)



CHEN SIYUAN
Associate Dean (Student and
Alumni Affairs)
Director, Moots
Associate Professor of Law
LLM (Harvard);
LLB (NUS)



NADJA ALEXANDER
Director, Singapore
International Dispute
Resolution Academy
Professor of Law
D.jur. (University of Tübingen)



JASON GRANT ALLEN
Director, Centre for AI & Data
Governance
Associate Professor of Law
PhD in Law (Cambridge);
LLM (Universität Augsburg);
BA, LLB (University of
Tasmania)



STEPHEN BULL
Associate Professor of Law
(Practice)
LLM (Harvard);
BA, LLB (Victoria University
of Wellington)



CHAN WING CHEONG
Director, Pro Bono Centre
Professor of Law
LLM (Cornell);
BA in Jurisprudence (Oxford)



DARIUS CHAN
Deputy Director, Singapore
International Dispute
Resolution Academy
Director, SMU Law Academy
Associate Professor of Law
(Practice)
LLM (NYU);
LLB (NUS)



GARY CHAN KOK YEW
Vice Provost (Faculty Matters)
Professor of Law
LLM (University of London);
LLB (NUS)



WARREN B. CHIK
Deputy Director, Centre for AI
and Data Governance
Associate Professor of Law
LLM (UCL);
LLM (Tulane); LLB (NUS)

**KENNY CHNG**

Deputy Director, SMU Law Academy
Lee Kong Chian Fellow
Assistant Professor of Law
LLM (Harvard);
LLB (SMU)

**ADELINE CHONG SWEET LING**

Member, University Tribunal
Associate Professor of Law
PhD (Nottingham);
LLB (Birmingham)

**MAARTJE DE VISSER**

Joint Appointment with College of Integrative Studies
Basket Coordinator For Ethics & Corporate/Social Responsibility
Lee Kong Chian Fellow
Associate Professor of Law
PhD (Tilburg); MJur (Oxford);
LLM (Maastricht)

**MARK FINDLAY**

Professorial Research Fellow
LLD (Nottingham Trent);
Dip in Criminology (MSc) (Edinburgh);
LLM (Sydney);
LLB, BA (ANU)

**MICHELLE LIM**

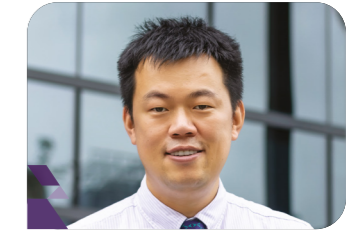
Associate Professor of Law
PhD, B.Sc,
LLB (University of New England)

**LIU HAN-WEI**

Associate Professor of Law
PhD (The Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies (IHEID));
LLM (Columbia University);
MJur (Oxford);
LLM, LLB (National Chengchi University)

**LIU KUNG-CHUNG**

Professor of Law
PhD (Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich);
LLM, LLB (National Taiwan University)

**LIU NENGYE**

Associate Professor of Law
Doctor of Law (Ghent University);
LLM, LLB (Wuhan University)

**HENRY GAO**

Professor of Law
JD (Vanderbilt);
LLM (UCL);
LLB (China Youth Politics Institute)

**GOH YIHAN, SC**

Professor of Law
LLM (Harvard);
LLB (NUS)

**AURELIO GURREA-MARTINEZ**

Lee Kong Chian Fellow
Associate Professor of Law
JSM (Stanford); MSc in Law and Finance (Oxford);
PhD (CEU San Pablo University); LLB, BBA (University of Granada)

**PASHA L. HSIEH**

Professor of Law
PhD in Political Science (Free University of Brussels);
JD, LLM (Penn);
LLB (National Chengchi University)

**NICHOLAS LIU**

Assistant Professor of Law
LLM (Harvard);
JD (SMU);
BA in English Literature (NUS)

**DAVID LLEWELYN**

Professor of Law (Practice)
BCL (Oxford);
LLB (Southampton)

**LOO WEE LING**

Associate Professor of Law (Education)
LLM (Sydney);
LLB (NUS)

**LOW KEE YANG**

Associate Professor of Law
PhD,
LLM (King's College London);
LLB (NUS)

**LOCKNIE HSU**

Professor of Law
LLM (Harvard);
LLB (NUS)

**PEARLIE KOH**

Associate Professor of Law
LLM (Melbourne);
LLB (NUS)

**LAU KWAN HO**

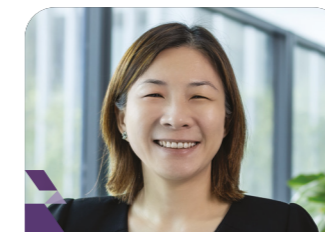
Deputy Director, Centre for Commercial Law in Asia
Lee Kong Chian Fellow
Assistant Professor of Law
LLM (NYU);
LLB (NUS)

**LIM HOW KHANG**

Director, Centre for Computational Law; Director, BSc (Computing & Law) Programme
Assistant Professor of Law and Computer Science (Practice)
LLB (NUS); MIT (Minor Thesis), BCompSci (Monash)

**MARK MCLAUGHLIN**

Visiting Assistant Professor of Law
PhD (China University of Political Science & Law)

**ONG EE ING**

Senior Lecturer of Law
JD (George Mason University);
MA in English Literature,
BA in English and American Literature (Brown University)

**BENJAMIN JOSHUA ONG**

Director, Undergraduate Admissions
Member, SMU Institutional Review Board
Assistant Professor of Law
BCL,
BA in Jurisprudence (Oxford)

**VINCENT OOI**

Lecturer of Law (FDS)
BA in Jurisprudence (Oxford)



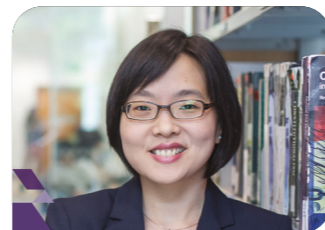
ANDREW PHANG
Distinguished Term Professor of Law
SJD, LL.M (Harvard); LLB (NUS)



RACHEL PHANG
Lecturer of Law (FDS)
LL.M (Berkeley); LLB (NUS)



DAN W. PUCHNIAK
Director, Centre for Commercial Law in Asia
Professor of Law
LL.D, LL.M (Kyushu); LL.B (Victoria); BA (Manitoba)



DORCAS QUEK ANDERSON
Associate Professor of Law
LL.M (Harvard); LL.B (NUS)



THAM CHEE HO
Professor of Law
DPhil, BCL (Oxford); LLB (NUS)



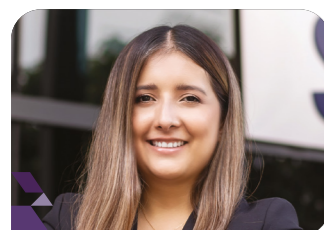
EDWARD TI
Associate Professor of Law
PhD in Land Economy (Cambridge); MSc in Real Estate; LLB (NUS)



HENG WANG
Professor of Law
PhD, LL.M, LL.B (Southwest University of Political Science and Law); BA (Sichuan International Studies University)



WALTER WOON, SC
Lee Kong Chian Visiting Professor of Law
LL.M (Cambridge); LL.B (NUS)



NYDIA REMOLINA LEON
Head, Industry Relations, Centre for AI and Data Governance
Assistant Professor of Law
JSM (Stanford); LLB (Pontifical Javeriana)



SAW CHENG LIM
Associate Professor of Law
LL.M (Cambridge); LL.B (NUS)



STEFANIE SCHACHERER
Assistant Professor of Law
Dr. iur. (Universities of Geneva and Vienna (co-tutelle)); LL.M (KCL); LL.M, LL.B (University of Geneva)



DANIEL SEAH
Assistant Professor of Law (Education)
PhD (UCL); MJur (Birmingham)



YEO TIONG MIN, SC
Yong Pung How Chair Professor of Law
DPhil, BCL (Oxford); LLB (NUS)



AARON YOONG
Lecturer of Law (FDS)
LLB (SMU)



JERROLD SOH
Deputy Director, Centre for Computational Law (CCLAW)
Assistant Professor of Law
LL.M (Harvard); LL.B, BSocSci in Economics (NUS)



EUGENE TAN KHENG BOON
Associate Professor of Law
JSM (Stanford); MSc in Comparative Politics (LSE); LLB (NUS)



TAN SEOW HON
Associate Professor of Law
SJD, LL.M (Harvard); LL.B (NUS)

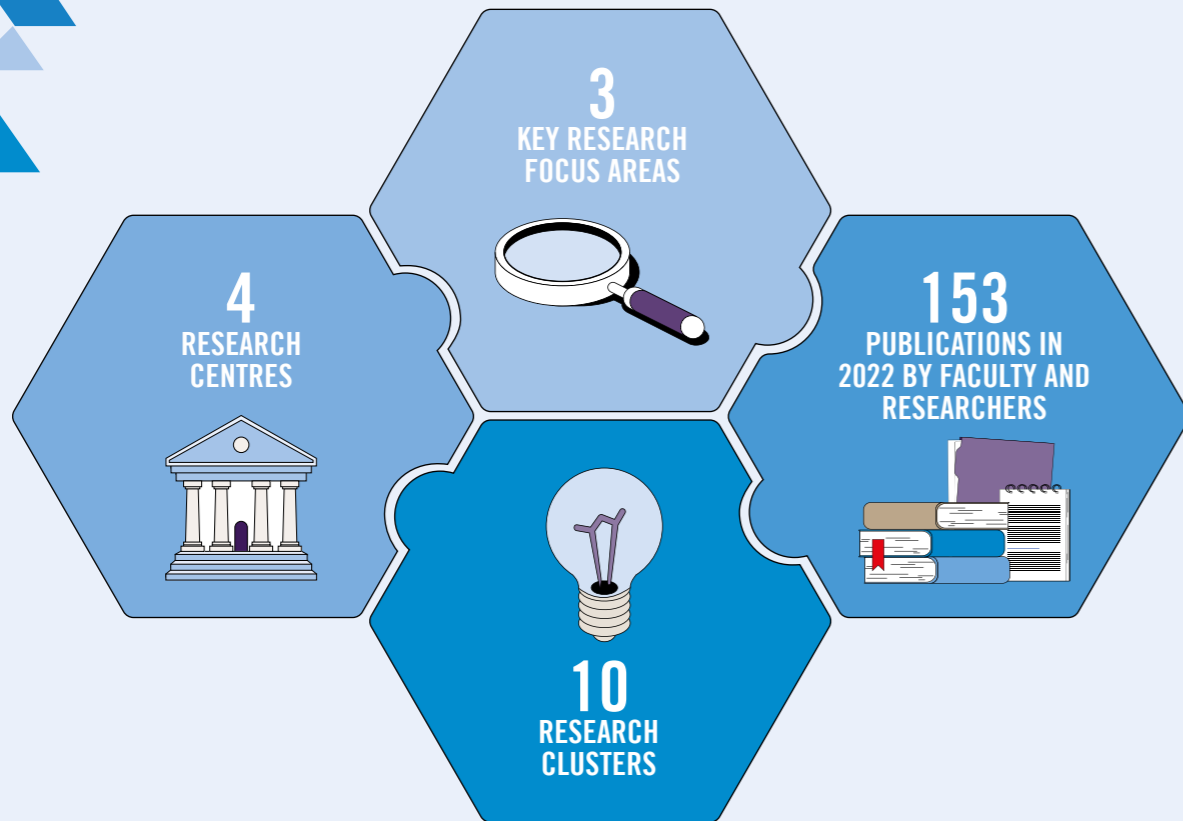


TANG HANG WU
Associate Provost (Research Governance)
Lee Kong Chian Professor of Law
PhD, LL.M (Cambridge); LL.B (NUS)



RESEARCH

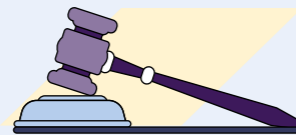




OUR KEY FOCUS AREAS ARE:



Law and Technology



Transnational Commercial Law



Dispute Resolution

PUBLICATIONS IN 2022 INCLUDE:



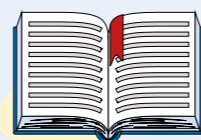
16
Books and Edited Collections













79
Journal Articles



8
Case Notes and Shorter Notes



50
Book Chapters (chapter in book)

	ASIAN AND COMPARATIVE LEGAL SYSTEMS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comparative Law in Asia New Frontiers of Singapore Law Chinese Commercial Law 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Law and Society Asian Legal Systems
	PUBLIC INTERNATIONAL LAW, REGIONAL AND TRADE LAW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> East Asian Trade Law Transborder Trade & Investment Law 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ASEAN Economic Law International Economic Law
	CORPORATE, FINANCE AND SECURITY LAW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transnational Corporate Governance Cross-Border Insolvency 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Securities Regulation Banking, Finance and the Law
	PRIVATE LAW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Theory & Practice in Contract Law Law of Equity & Trusts Wealth Management & Philanthropy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unjust Enrichment & Restitution Tort Law Property Law and Urban Planning
	INNOVATION, TECHNOLOGY AND THE LAW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Empirical and Statistical Methods in Legal Research Computational Law Data Protection & Privacy Law Law of Technology 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intellectual Property Law in Asia and beyond Taxation in the Digital Economy
	DISPUTE RESOLUTION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Law of Evidence Theory & Practice on Rules of Court Civil & Criminal Procedure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arbitration Alternative Dispute Resolution International Commercial Courts Private International Law
	LEGAL THEORY, ETHICS AND LEGAL EDUCATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Nature of Legal Obligation and Rules Theories of Adjudication Applied Legal Theory 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ethics and the Law Law & Economics Empirical Studies on Legal Education
	PUBLIC INTEREST LAW, COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Family Law & Justice Criminal Law & Justice Animal Law 	
	PUBLIC LAW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comparative Constitutional and Administrative Law Constitutional and Administrative Law Theory 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Methods of Constitutional Interpretation Constitutional Institutions
	SUSTAINABILITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustainability and Technology Sustainability, Urban Planning and Land Policy Green Finance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Law and Biodiversity Environmental Law

CENTRE FOR COMPUTATIONAL LAW (CCLAW)

Led by **Assistant Professor Lim How Khang** (Director) and **Assistant Professor Jerrold Soh** (Deputy Director), CCLAW is Singapore's first and only research centre focused on applied research in the intersection between law and technology. The Centre's flagship project is the Research Programme in Computational Law (the Programme), supported by a major grant of S\$15 million by the National Research Foundation (NRF), Singapore. The Programme aims to make computational law a reality: from designing and implementing a domain-specific language for law (DSL), to building technologies that will bring computational capabilities to any process that involves legal or quasi-legal elements. The Programme represents a step along the technology-transfer pathway from academic research to commercial impact. Over the past year, CCLAW published 7 academic and 2 industry papers and presented its research at the ACM SIGPLAN Symposium on Principles of Programming Languages (POPL), the International Conference on Legal Knowledge and Information Systems (JURIX), as well as other international venues.



Computational Legal Studies Conference

In March 2022, CCLAW hosted the inaugural Computational Legal Studies (CLS) Conference focusing on computational methods for legal scholarship. The conference theme *Past, Present, and Future* invited scholars to introspect on where the field is now, and where we may be headed. The hybrid conference attracted submissions from scholars across the United States, Europe, and Asia and was keynoteed by leading law and technology scholars, namely, Professor Arthur Deyre, Professor Charlotte Alexander, Professor Daniel Katz, and Professor Kevin Ashley.

SubTech Conference

CCLAW hosted the 17th International Conference on Substantive Technology in Legal Education and Practice (SubTech) in July 2022. The hybrid conference brought together legal academics, technologists, and practitioners, who work in the confluence of legal education and the technology of law. Founder of SubTech, Mr Marc Lauritsen, delivered a welcome address and presented on the history and uniqueness of SubTech. Through the lens of SubTech 2022's theme *Training lawyers (and computers) in the age of Computational Law*, innovative technologies supporting legal education, law practice, and the societies they serve were explored and discussed amongst conference delegates through a series of Birds of a Feather (BoF) sessions and lightning talks. Physical conference delegates also attended engagement sessions with representatives from The Law Society of Singapore and the Singapore Academy of Law.



Must I notify? Use case with Singapore Infocomm Media Development Authority






"Must I notify" is the informal name we gave to an app developed in partnership with the Singapore Infocomm Media Development Authority (IMDA). The app is built off an L4 formalisation of the notification provisions of the Singapore Personal Data Protection Act (PDPA), and provides a form that helps users determine if a given data breach is a notifiable data breach. Currently, changes to the PDPA's provisions take several months to be translated into updates on the citizen-facing website explaining the new obligations. But since our app's front end can be almost entirely generated out of the rules engine, future changes to the PDPA can be captured simply by tweaking the relevant formalised rules. The app was delivered with a full suite of unit tests, source code, and documentation which allows the IMDA agency to use it as an internal tool.

Legal Tech Essentials

CCLAW co-hosted the 2022 Legal Tech Essentials: Global Edition in partnership with Professor Daniel Katz, Chicago-Kent College of Law and Professor Dirk Hartung, Bucerius Law School Center for Legal Technology and Data Science. The Essentials was a series of curated online seminars on legal technology, legal operations, and legal innovation and delivered by distinguished legaltech speakers such as Professor Richard Susskind, Personal Data Protection Commission (PDPC) Deputy Commissioner, Mr Yeong Zee Kin and Supreme Court Chief Transformation and Innovation Officer, Mr Tan Ken Hwee. The event reached over 3,000 global audience from more than 80 countries.

Meet the Hosts

Legal Tech Essentials is hosted by the **Bucerius Center for Legal Technology and Data Science** at Bucerius Law School in Hamburg, Germany and the **Centre for Computational Law** at Singapore Management University's Yong Pung How School of Law.

 Daniel Martin Katz Chicago-Kent / Illinois Tech Bucerius Law School	 Dirk Hartung Bucerius Law School
 Lim How Khang SMU Law	 Jerrold Soh SMU Law
 Lauritz Gerlach Bucerius Law School	

Join our 2022 program now!

Legal Tech Essentials 2022

In a curated, intensive, remote, and free lecture series, discover the future of the legal market. Hear academic lectures and personal stories, ask questions, and gain insight into current advances in Legal Technology, Legal Operations, and Legal Innovation. Now coming to even more institutions.

2022: 11: 10 through 2022: 12: 08

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All fields are required.

First Name * Last Name *

Organization *

Email Address *

Which of these describes your role best? *
 Student
 Academic
 Practitioner

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 We use Mailchimp as our marketing platform. By clicking "Sign up" you acknowledge that your information will be used for this purpose. Mailchimp is currently a part of our Marketing and Analytics platform.

Insurance Initiative Project with Stanford's CodeX and AXA

CCLAW has partnered with the Stanford's Center for Legal Informatics (CodeX) to work on formalising insurance contracts in an initiative supported by AXA Insurance. The project's overarching goal is to develop a shared industry toolset for computable insurance contracts. Such tools could facilitate the computer-assisted evaluation of insurance claims, comparisons across different coverage types, and much more.

AXA had identified the RPCL's developmental DSL L4 as potentially useful to this endeavour. As a proof of concept, RPCL's researchers delivered an L4-based encoding of one of AXA's motor insurance contracts. L4 was capable of encoding the formalization without major changes to the language syntax and semantics. Presentations featuring this use case have been instrumental in demonstrating credibility and functionality to future use case candidates, including insurance companies operating in Singapore. This use case formed the basis for a formally recognised research collaboration between Stanford's CodeX and SMU's CCLAW.

CENTRE FOR AI AND DATA GOVERNANCE (CAIDG)

CAIDG was headed by **Professor Mark Findlay** (Director, till 31 Dec 2022) and **Associate Professor Warren Chik** (Deputy Director). The Centre focused on three streams of research: AI and Society; AI and Business; and AI in Specific Industries. These research streams benefit from a S\$4.5 million grant from NRF and the Infocomm Media Development Authority (IMDA) of Singapore. In 2022, its fourth full year of operations, CAIDG members published 18 working papers and 15 research articles and organised 7 seminars.

In September 2022, the team wrapped up a project on *Conversations at the Intellectual Property and Artificial Intelligence Interface: Understanding the Needs of Singapore's Innovation Community* supported by the Intellectual Property Office of Singapore (IPOS) and the Infocomm Media Development Authority (IMDA). The objective of this research project was to understand the perceptions of key stakeholders concerning regulatory stimulation at the IP/AI interface. The report aimed to present the findings from a series of focus group discussions with four groups of stakeholders representative of the AI ecosystem, namely (1) AI practitioners; (2) In-house counsel of companies utilising AI; (3) Legal practitioners from law firms dealing with intellectual property and AI technologies; and (4) Policymakers from ministries and statutory boards involved in regulations or the enforcement of IP. With this knowledge, policymakers would be better able to harmonise positive regulatory potentials, those of IP in particular, for the commercialisation and integrity of AI-related innovations to be more sustainable while balancing the needs of the public and innovators via a healthy, open and competitive market for ideas. The full report is available on CAIDG's website.

The team also completed their work on the Singapore Academy of Law Journal Special Issue on AI and Data Governance that will be published in early January 2023. Professor Findlay was invited as the guest editor for this special issue and he was assisted by **Assistant Professor Nydia Remolina Leon**, Senior Research Associate Jane Loo, and Research Associate Ong Li Min. The articles in the volume explore a wide range of topics relating to the governance of AI, and data collection and use. These include, but are not limited to, the development of rules on the fair use of algorithms, how AI is used by social media platforms and web applications, and what human rights issues may be engaged by the use of AI. All of the articles explore current and engaging topics which are cross-disciplinary in scope. The digital copy is available at the Singapore Academy of Law website.

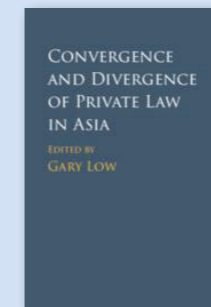
The close of 2022 marked the end of Professor Findlay's term as the centre director. In 2023, CAIDG welcomes **Associate Professor Jason Grant Allen** as the new centre director. Associate Professor Allen joined YPHSL in Aug 2022. Prior to joining YPHSL, he was a senior research fellow at the Humboldt University of Berlin Centre for British Studies, and a founding partner of Stirling & Rose Digital Law, an Australian law firm specialising in technology law. He holds a PhD in Law from the University of Cambridge and is called to the bar in New York and Tasmania. The centre thanks Professor Findlay for his contributions, and looks forward to Associate Professor Allen's leadership in the next phase of CAIDG's development.



CENTRE FOR COMMERCIAL LAW IN ASIA (CCLA)

Professor Yip Man was the Director of CCLA from January 2021 to December 2022 with **Assistant Professor Lau Kwan Ho** as Deputy Director. From January 2023, CCLA was led by **Professor Dan Puchniak** (Director) and **Assistant Professor Lau Kwan Ho** (Deputy Director). CCLA aims to advance commercial growth in Asia marked by sustainability, inclusion and innovation, through excellent research.

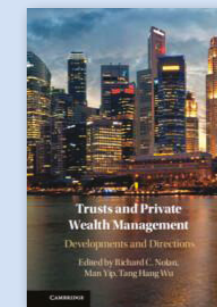
Research publication highlights:



Convergence and Divergence of Private Law in Asia (Cambridge University Press, 2022)



Special Issue of *Legal Issues of Economic Integration* (March 2022)



Trusts and Private Wealth Management: Developments and Directions (Cambridge University Press, 2022)



Special Issue of *Asian Journal of WTO & International Health Law and Policy* (March 2022)

CCLA highlights of 2022 include:

- Webinar on "Facilitating Philanthropy: Taxation, Structures and Legacy Giving" (23 February 2022)
- Yong Pung How Professorship of Law Lecture (25 May 2022)
- 2nd Asia-Pacific Private Law Conference (26-27 May 2022)
- Research Seminar Series on "Advancing Sustainable Business Operations in the Asia Pacific" (August & November 2022)
- Conference on "Sustainable Banking and Financial Regulation in Asia" (31 August 2022)
- Dentons Rodyk Dialogue (31 October 2022)
- Singapore Global Restructuring Initiative (SGRI) Inaugural Conference (14-15 November 2022)
- Herbert Smith Freehills-SMU Asian Arbitration Lecture (23 November 2022)
- Jones Day Professorship of Commercial Law Lecture (1 December 2022)

Yong Pung How Professorship of Law Lecture

The 2022 edition of the Yong Pung How Professorship of Law Lecture was delivered on 25 May 2022 by **Professor Yeo Tiong Min, SC (Hon)**, who holds the Yong Pung How Chair Professorship of Law. Over 900 people tuned in for the online lecture titled *The Effect of Choice of Court Agreements on Third Parties* in which Professor Yeo spoke on the third-party effects of choice of court agreements, including the position under the SICC Rules and the Choice of Court Agreements Act 2016, from the perspective of both conflict of laws and the Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Act 2001 in domestic Singapore law. The highly informative lecture was followed by an engaging question session with the audience.



Dentons Rodyk Dialogue

The Dentons Rodyk Dialogue 2022 on the theme of *Building a Safe and Inclusive Digital World Together: Vision and Transformation* was held at the SMU Hall in hybrid format on 31 October 2022. Guest of Honour, Mrs Josephine Teo (Minister for Communications and Information; Second Minister for Home Affairs), delivered an insightful speech on the importance of online safety and inclusivity. This and other important issues relating to the impact of modern technologies were also discussed and debated by other distinguished speakers: Mr Glenn Gore (Group CEO, LemmaTree and Affinidi), Mr Hsu Li Chuan (Senior Partner, Dentons Rodyk), Mr Gilbert Leong (Senior Partner, Dentons Rodyk) and Professor Locknie Hsu (SMU).



Herbert Smith Freehills-SMU Asian Arbitration Lecture

This year's edition of the Herbert Smith Freehills-SMU Asian Arbitration Lecture took place at the SMU Mochtar Riady Auditorium on 23 November 2022. Professor Diane Desierto (Notre Dame Law School) delivered an insightful lecture on *Human Rights, Environmental and Climate Change Law in the Substance and Procedure of International Arbitration*. The lecture was followed by an engaging and constructive panel discussion with the Guest of Honour, Ms Daphne Hong (Solicitor General, Attorney-General's Chambers), Professor Desierto, Mr Antony Crockett (Partner, Herbert Smith Freehills) and Ms Gitta Satryani (Partner, Herbert Smith Freehills).



Jones Day Professorship of Commercial Law Lecture

On 1 December 2022, the Jones Day Professor of Commercial Law, Professor Chris Brummer (Georgetown University), delivered his lecture titled *Regulation as Enforcement* at the SMU Mochtar Riady Auditorium. Drawing on recent developments in cryptocurrency law, he discussed the ways in which regulation by enforcement raised important questions about the nature of the administrative state. A panel discussion followed the lecture, where the audience heard from Guest of Honour, Mr Lam Chee Kin (Managing Director & Head, Group Legal, Compliance and Secretariat, DBS Bank Ltd), Professor Brummer, Mr Yeong Zee Kin (Assistant Chief Executive (Data Innovation and Protection), Infocomm Media Development Authority) and Dean Professor Lee Pey Woan (SMU).

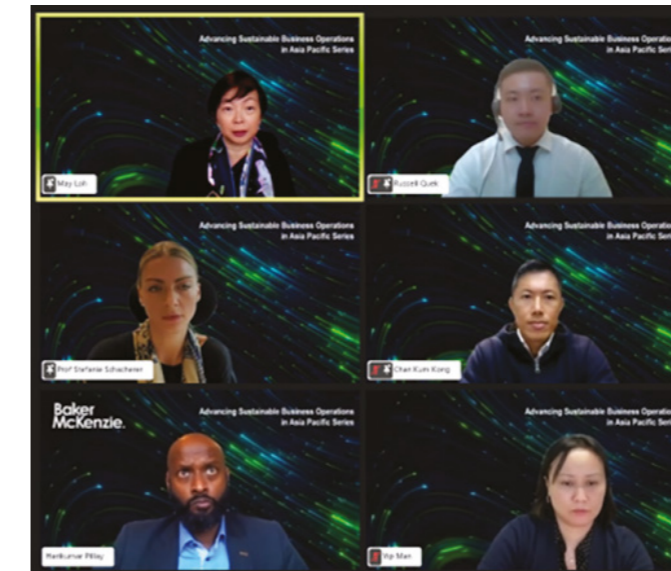


2nd Asia-Pacific Private Law Conference

The 2nd edition of the Asia-Pacific Private Law Conference series was held at the SMU Yong Pung How School of Law in hybrid format on 26 and 27 May 2022. Academics working in and on the region spoke and commented on 15 research papers relating to a wide range of private law topics. Convened by the Faculty of Law, the University of Hong Kong and CCLA, Singapore Management University, the conference series serves as a premier platform to strengthen the community of private law scholars based or working in the Asia-Pacific region.

Conference on Sustainable Banking and Financial Regulation in Asia

On 31 August 2022, CCLA and UNSW Sydney's Herbert Smith Freehills China International Business and Economic Law (CIBEL) Centre co-organised a conference on *Sustainable Banking and Financial Regulation in Asia: Principles, Practice and Innovation*. Held in hybrid format at the SMU Yong Pung How School of Law, the conference saw Guest of Honour, Justice Ang Cheng Hock (Supreme Court of Singapore), deliver an insightful opening address. Three exciting panels were then held on various themes relating to banking and financial regulation, including how innovation and convergence were shaping new norms of sustainability and responsibility. CCLA also launched its Sustainable Development and Commerce Initiative at this conference.



Research Seminar Series — Advancing Sustainable Business Operations in the Asia-Pacific

Baker & McKenzie, Wong & Leow and CCLA have established a research seminar series on Advancing Sustainable Business Operations in the Asia-Pacific to further research in sustainability and commercial law. The first and second seminars were held online in August and November 2022, focusing respectively on business opportunities and sentiments on the advancement of ESG initiatives across the Asia-Pacific region, and on key issues surrounding ESG reporting and disclosures for businesses operating in the region. Significant thought leadership was exhibited by a diverse range of speakers, including from law firms, banks, regulators, NGOs, academia and the wider corporate world.

Singapore Global Restructuring Initiative (SGRI) Inaugural Conference

The SGRI Inaugural Conference was held at the SMU Ngee Ann Kongsi Auditorium on 14 and 15 November 2022. We were delighted to hear from speakers including Mr Edwin Tong, SC (Minister for Culture, Community and Youth; Second Minister for Law) and Justice Christopher Sontchi (Singapore International Commercial Court).

The conference saw prominent insolvency experts from 17 jurisdictions and 6 continents discuss some of the most relevant topics and challenges in corporate restructuring and insolvency, including insolvency and ADR, insolvency law and new technologies, cross-border insolvency, and MSEs and insolvency.



SINGAPORE INTERNATIONAL DISPUTE RESOLUTION ACADEMY (SIDRA)

Led by **Professor Nadja Alexander** (Director) and **Associate Professor Darius Chan** (Deputy Director), SIDRA is a platform for thought leadership in international dispute resolution theory, practice and policy. As a research centre at the Yong Pung How School of Law, SIDRA leads the way through projects, publications and events that promote dynamic and inclusive conversations on how to constructively engage with and resolve differences and disputes at global, regional and national levels. In particular, SIDRA differentiates itself through its focus on applied research that has practical impact on industry. Specifically, SIDRA is mandated with three research programmes:

- The International Dispute Resolution Survey research programme
- The Singapore Convention on Mediation research programme
- The Belt & Road Initiative research programme

SIDRA Highlights of 2022 include:

- Launch of the SIDRA International Dispute Resolution Final Report 2022
- Launch of the Singapore Convention on Mediation Commentary (Second Edition)
- Workshops and webinars related to mediation and dispute resolution, in particular the Belt and Road Initiative

RESEARCH PROGRAMME — INTERNATIONAL DISPUTE RESOLUTION SURVEY



Launch of the SIDRA International Dispute Resolution Final Report 2022

In September 2022, SIDRA launched its International Dispute Resolution Survey Final Report 2022 (SIDRA Survey Report 2022) at the Singapore Convention Week 2022. The Survey is commissioned by Singapore's Ministry of Law and contains the findings of the second iteration of the SIDRA Survey, an international survey that examines how and why businesses and lawyers make decisions about resolving cross-border disputes. The Report sheds light on user experiences with arbitration, litigation, mediation, mixed mode (hybrid) dispute resolution and investor-state dispute settlement mechanisms. The survey was answered by 139 respondents from 25 countries, with a total of 181 responses.



During the launch, Research Associate Angela Abala, presented an overview of the Report. This was followed by a panel discussion comprising Justice Philip Jeyaretnam (Singapore International Commercial Court), Tai-Heng Cheng (Sidley Austin LLP Singapore) and Harpreet Kaur Dhillon (Twitter), moderated by Professor Nadja Alexander (Director of SIDRA).

RESEARCH PROGRAMME — SINGAPORE CONVENTION ON MEDIATION



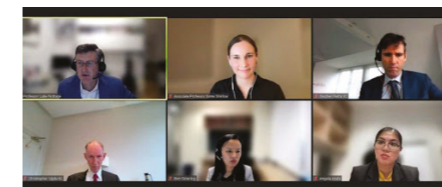
Launch of the Singapore Convention on Mediation Commentary (Second Edition)

The second edition of the *Singapore Convention on Mediation: A Commentary* was launched in August 2022. Authored by **Professor Nadja Alexander**, Research Fellow Shouyu Chong and former Research Associate Vakho Giorgadze, the Commentary offers an in-depth, comprehensive analysis of the Singapore Convention on Mediation, with the new expanded second edition drawing on legal and case illustrations from ratifying States and other major jurisdictions that have signed the Convention.



SMU-Temasek Foundation Mediation and Dispute Resolution Programme in Asia 2022

Professor Nadja Alexander was the programme director of the SMU-Temasek Foundation Mediation and Dispute Resolution Programme in Asia in 2022, jointly organised by SMU in partnership with the Temasek Foundation. The programme comprised closed-door Deep Dive Workshops, tailoring each to individual jurisdictions and designing them to address the most pressing topics of mediation, including the issues surrounding the Singapore Convention on Mediation. The programme drew from a strong bench of expertise, with **Associate Professor Darius Chan**, **Global Visiting Assistant Professor Mark McLaughlin**, Principal Research Fellow Mariam Gotsiridze and Research Associate Zhang Yuying joining Professor Alexander in delivering the content, with Research & Development Lead Rachel Tan and Research Associates Angela Abala and Wooseok Shin facilitating. They were also joined by speakers from the Singapore International Arbitration Centre and overseas.



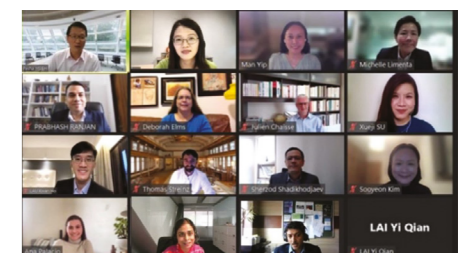
2022 Public International Law Webinar series

On 3 November 2022, Research Associate Angela Abala spoke as a panelist on the role of proportionality in international law in the Public International Law Webinar series, organised by, amongst others, Fietta LLP, Duxton Hill Chambers, the University of Sydney, and Rajah and Tann Asia. She discussed the applicability of the principle of proportionality in the context of exceptions clauses in investment treaties in times of crises, such as COVID-19, wars and climate change.

RESEARCH PROGRAMME — BELT & ROAD INITIATIVE

Trade and Investment Integration

In October 2022, Visiting Assistant Professor Yueming Yan presented her research on developing labour standards in Asia-Pacific free trade agreements (FTAs) at the SMU – Asia-Pacific Law Review Workshop. Her empirical investigation found a clear trend of incorporating labour provisions in Asia-Pacific FTAs and great diversity in the content of labour commitments.



Opportunities and Growth Drivers in ASEAN's Post-Pandemic Landscape amidst Geopolitical Uncertainties, RHT-CABA ASEAN Summit 2022

In October 2022, **Associate Professor Darius Chan** discussed the updates and challenges in settling disputes across China and ASEAN. Together with speakers like Professor Leslie Chew SC (RHTLaw Asia) and Vivek Kathpalia (Cyril Amarchand Mangaldas), he addressed traditional and alternative dispute resolution mechanisms, including international commercial arbitration, recourse against arbitral awards and enforcement of foreign judgements.



Chinese Investment Disputes and Non-Adversarial Dispute Settlement, European China Law Studies Association Annual Conference, University of Copenhagen

On 21 September 2022, **Global Visiting Assistant Professor Mark McLaughlin** presented research on China's new investment complaints handling system and the Chinese approach to investor-state mediation. The paper explores the role of non-adversarial dispute resolution mechanisms to resolve investment disputes in China and in Belt and Road countries.



EU-China Data Realms and the Comprehensive Agreement on Investment, Asian Society of International Law Conference — “Power and the Development of International Law”

In July 2022, **Global Visiting Assistant Professor Mark McLaughlin** presented research on the protection and regulation of data within the EU-China Comprehensive Agreement on Investment. The presentation examined the link between data protection and investment flows, and undertook a comparative analysis of China's Personal Information Protection Law and the EU's General Data Protection Regulation.

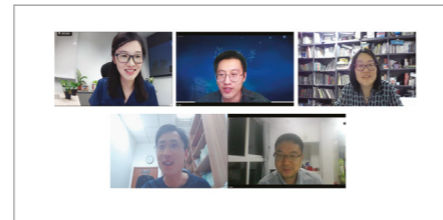


Is Data an Investment? Postgraduate and Early Professionals/Academics Network of the Society of International Economic Law (PEPA/SIEL)

On 9 June 2022, **Global Visiting Assistant Professor Mark McLaughlin** presented research examining whether data can be considered a protected investment, and therefore 'arbitrated', under investment treaties. This was part of a broader examination of the role of data protection and dispute resolution in the context of the Belt and Road. The theme of the panel was *International Economic Law and Digital Technologies*.

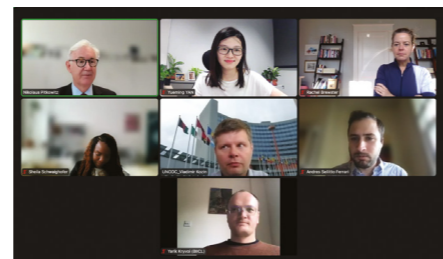
Is China International Commercial Court International? An Empirical and Comparative Investigation, Fudan University Transnational Corporation Legal Forum, Transnational Corporation and International Commercial Dispute Resolution Series

On 22 April 2022, Visiting Assistant Professor Yueming Yan discussed an important 'hardware' in settling disputes that may arise from the Belt & Road Initiative or from projects in countries that participate in it – the China International Commercial Court. Commentators present included Professor Wenliang Zhang (Renmin University) and Professor Lu Bu (Soochow University).



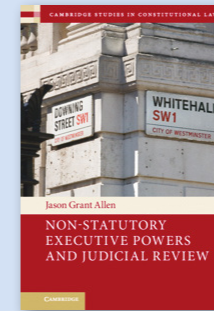
Rethinking International Investment Law's Responses to Corruption: An Examination from the Global Governance Theory, Symposium on Supranational Responses to Corruption.

In April 2022, Visiting Assistant Professor Yueming Yan spoke about the current anti-corruption movement in international investment law through the lens of global governance. This is an especially pertinent issue given the rise of mega projects such as the Belt and Road Initiative. Other speakers present included Rachel Brewster (Duke University), Yarik Kryvoi (British Institute of International and Comparative Law) and Vladimir Kozin (UNODC), with Arbitrator Nikolaus Pitkowitz (Pitkowitz & Partners) moderating.

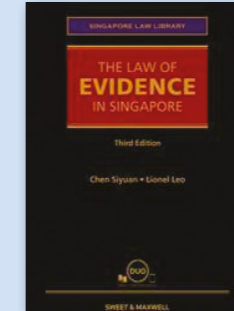


PUBLICATIONS OF FACULTY AND RESEARCH ASSOCIATES

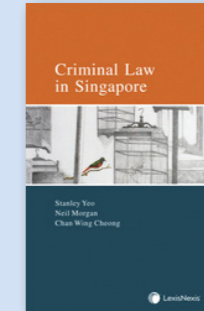
Books and Edited Collections



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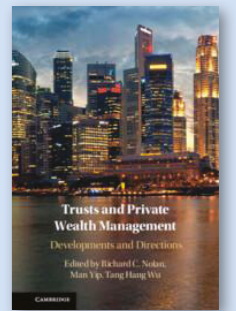
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- Jason Grant Allen, *Non-Statutory Executive Powers and Judicial Review* (Cambridge University Press 2022)
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2. Iris Chiu and J.G. **Allen**, “Exploring the Assetisation and Financialisation of Non-Fungible Tokens (NFTs): Opportunities and Regulatory Implications” (2022) 37 *Banking and Finance Law Review* 401
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4. Darius **Chan** and Koh Zhi Jia, “A Requirement, A Factor, or A Figure of Speech? Role of Prejudice When Challenging Awards Under the Model Law” (2022) 30 *Journal of International Arbitration* 185
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6. Darius **Chan** and Teo Jim Yang, “Re-formulating the test for ascertaining the proper law of an arbitration agreement: A comparative common law analysis” (2022) 17(3) *Journal of Private International Law* 439
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14	Saw Cheng Lim	Saw Cheng Lim, Chan Zheng Wen Samuel and Chai Wen Min, “Revisiting the Law of Confidence in Singapore and a Proposal for a New Tort of Misuse of Private Information” (2020) 32 <i>Singapore Academy of Law Journal</i> 891-963	<i>Lim Oon Kuin v Rajah & Tann Singapore LLP</i> [2022] SGCA 29 (see [33])
15	Saw Cheng Lim	Saw Cheng Lim, Chan Zheng Wen Samuel and Chai Wen Min, “Revisiting the Law of Confidence in Singapore and a Proposal for a New Tort of Misuse of Private Information” (2020) 32 <i>Singapore Academy of Law Journal</i> 891-963	<i>Writers Studio Pte Ltd v Chin Kwok Yung</i> [2022] SGHC 205 (see [135])
16	Eugene K B Tan	Parliamentary speech made for Second Reading of the Misuse of Drugs (Amendment) Bill (<i>Singapore Parliamentary Debates</i> , Official Report (14 November 2012) vol 89	<i>Jumadi bin Abdullah v Public Prosecutor and other appeals</i> [2022] 1 SLR 814 (CA)
17	Tang Hang Wu	<i>Tan Sook Yee’s Principles of Singapore Land Law</i> (LexisNexis, 2019) (with Kelvin Low)	<i>Aviation Hub Pte Ltd v Higgins, Daniel</i> [2022] SGHC 281 at [16]
18	Tang Hang Wu	<i>Tan Sook Yee’s Principles of Singapore Land Law</i> (LexisNexis, 2019) (with Kelvin Low)	<i>Chiap Seng Productions Ltd v Newspaper Seng Logistics Pte Ltd</i> [2022] SGHC 202 at [68], [98]

No	Faculty	Research Cited (published in 2020–2022)	Cited In (published in 2022)
19	Tang Hang Wu	<i>Principles of the Law of Restitution in Singapore</i> (Academy Publishing, 2019)	<i>Zaiton bte Adom v Nafsiah bte Wagiman and another</i> [2022] SGHC 189 at [135], [193], [203]
20	Tang Hang Wu	<i>Principles of the Law of Restitution in Singapore</i> (Academy Publishing, 2019)	<i>Esben Finance Ltd v Wong Hou-Liang Neil</i> [2022] 1 SLR 136, [59], [60], [78], [218], [219], [228], [233]
21	Tang Hang Wu	“The Role of the Law of Unjust Enrichment in Singapore” (2021) <i>Chin J Comp Law</i> 1	<i>Esben Finance Ltd v Wong Hou-Liang Neil</i> [2022] 1 SLR 136, [60], [66], [250]
22	Tang Hang Wu	“Beyond the Torrens Mirror: A Framework of the In Personam Exception to Indefeasibility” (2008) 32 <i>Melb Uni LR</i> 672	<i>Trouton v Trouton</i> [2022] QSC 210
23	Yip Man	Man Yip, ‘The Singapore International Commercial Court: The Future of Litigation?’ in XE Kramer & J Sorabji (eds), <i>International Business – Courts A European and Global Perspective</i> (Eleven Publishing, 2019) 129-158.	The Lord Burnett of Maldon, Lord Chief Justice, ‘The Hidden Value of the Rule of Law and English Law’ Blackstone Lecture 2022 (Pembroke College, Oxford, 11 February 2022), p 9
24	Yip Man and Gary Chan	Gary Chan and Man Yip (eds), <i>AI, Data Governance and Private Law: Translating Theory into Practice</i> (Hart Publishing, 2022)	<i>Janesh s/o Rajkumar v Unknown Person (“CHEFPIERRE”)</i> [2022] SGHC 264 at [5] and [56].
25	Yip Man and Alvin See	Alvin See, Man Yip and Goh Yihan, <i>Property and Trust Law in Singapore</i> (Wolters Kluwer, 2018)(with Alvin See and Goh Yihan) Alvin See and Man Yip, ‘Restitution of Mistakenly Transferred Bitcoins’ [2022] LMCLQ 46.	<i>Janesh s/o Rajkumar v Unknown Person (“CHEFPIERRE”)</i> [2022] SGHC 264 at [67].

FACULTY OUTREACH ACTIVITIES



Professor Chan Wing Cheong was invited to teach two workshops in July 2022 at the National University of Laos under the Inter-University Cooperation Project between Laos and Luxembourg. Together with Professor Stanley Yeo from the National University of Singapore, they taught a workshop on Criminal Law and a workshop on Teaching Skills.

District Judge Yarni Loi spoke at Professor Chan's Family Law class in April 2022. She explained the new therapeutic justice direction taken by the Singapore Family Justice system and answered the students' queries about Family Law practice.



Professor Henry Gao was invited by the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the Asian Development Bank to speak on digital trade issues at the Aid for Trade Global Review 2022.

Professor Gao was invited by the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office of the UK government to teach a Trade Faculty Masterclass on China, the US and the WTO on 13 January 2022. He was also invited by Singapore's MTI Academy to speak on Digital Trade Regulation in Trade Agreements: Three Digital Kingdoms on 12 September 2022.

Professor Gao was invited to join the expert group consultation of the Lancet and Financial Times Commission *Growing up in a digital world: Governing health futures 2030* on *Data Solidarity: Harnessing the value of data for public good* and contributed to the White Paper on Data Solidarity.

Professor Gao was invited to join the task force on *Shaping international cooperation for the global common good* by the T7, the official think tank engagement group of the Group of 7 (G7).



Associate Professor Chen Siyuan, as one of the Professorial Fellows for the Attorney-General's Chambers (AGC), delivered two lectures online on the Rules of Court 2021 before hundreds of Legal Service Officers.

These lectures are part of a broader series in which Associate Professor Chen has been sharing his latest research on local and common law developments in procedure and evidence with the AGC, ministries, and statutory boards.



Associate Professor Aurelio Gurrea-Martinez organised 2 major conferences in 2022. One of them was the Inaugural Conference of the Singapore Global Restructuring Initiative, held in Singapore on 14 and 15 November 2022. The event gathered prominent scholars, judges, regulators and policymakers from more than 15 jurisdictions from Asia and the Pacific, Europe, Africa, North America and South America. The other event, organised in collaboration with the University of Chicago, the University of Cambridge, INSOL International and Asian Development Bank, was an insolvency conference held in Manila on 15 and 16 December 2022. The conference gathered leading scholars from various Universities around the world, including Harvard Law School, Berkeley Law, University of Chicago, University of Sydney, University of Tokyo, University of Cambridge, and City University of Hong Kong. It also put together various regulators, judges and policymakers as well as prominent practitioners from various law firms from Singapore, Hong Kong and the United States and sought to analyse how Asian countries can strengthen their insolvency systems.



Associate Professor Gurrea-Martinez was also invited to various conferences, seminars and events, including a seminar held at the University of Chicago in June 2022 and a conference on corporate law and technology organised by Nottingham Trent University where Associate Professor Gurrea-Martinez was invited to deliver the keynote address. He was also invited to speak about corporate and insolvency law before various regulators, governmental agencies and judicial bodies. Among others, he was part of a training programme on insolvency organised by the Supreme Court of Brunei; he was invited to speak about insolvency law in a course organised by the Mexican Judicial College; he was one of the speakers of a training programme organised by the World Bank Group's Insolvency and Debt Resolution Team and the Department of Trade, Industry and Competition of the Republic of South Africa; and he was a speaker at the conference on *The Renewed Role of Legal Harmonization in the Post-Pandemic Recovery of International Trade and Commerce* organised by the United Nations Commission for International Trade Law Regional Centre for Asia and the Pacific and University of Macau. In January 2022, Associate Professor Gurrea-Martinez was also invited to testify before the Parliament of Ecuador to express his views on a corporate law reform to be implemented in Ecuador.



Associate Professor Adeline Chong was invited to deliver the keynote address on the second day of the inaugural Asian Private International Law Academy Conference in Doshisha University, Kyoto (December 2022). She spoke on the topic 'Private International Law and Differences between Common Law and Civil Law Concepts'.

Associate Professor Chong was invited to speak at the Hague Conference on Private International Law's Conference on Commercial, Digital and Financial Law. She spoke on *Trend in Jurisprudence Interpreting the Trusts Convention* (online, September 2022).

Associate Professor Chong took part in the Asia-Europe Law and Business Symposium on the panel on *Principles for the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Judgments* which was organised by the Singapore Academy of Law and French Embassy Singapore (online; May 2022).

Associate Professor Chong was a co-convenor of the Journal of Private International Law – Singapore Management University Virtual Conference on Conflicts of Jurisdiction. This event was jointly organised with the editors of the Journal of Private International Law (Professor Jonathan Harris KC of King's College, London and Professor Paul Beaumont FRSE of the University of Stirling) and supported by the Hague Conference on Private International Law. The conference was held online across two days (23 to 24 June 2022) and provided an important forum for the exchange of views on a subject of considerable practical importance and topicality. It was also designed to evaluate and assist with the ongoing work of the Hague Conference on Private International Law (HCCH) on Jurisdiction. The speakers were leading private international law scholars and experts from around the world, many of whom are directly involved in the ongoing negotiations at the HCCH. There were 189 attendees on Day 1 and 135 attendees on Day 2 of the conference.



Professor Pasha Hsieh's monograph, *New Asian Regionalism in International Economic Law* (Cambridge University Press), was cited in the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific report on sustainable development. The Chinese edition of the book was published in 2022. He was also invited by the American Society of International Economic Law Interest Group to discuss the book, along with the commentator, Professor Tannia Voon of the University of Melbourne.

Professor Hsieh and **Assistant Professor Dorcas Quek Anderson** organized a webinar that featured speakers from scholars and government officials of the EU, Indonesia, Japan, Singapore, and Vietnam. The special issue titled *Shaping Interregionalism: The Roadmap to the ASEAN-EU FTA in the Post-Pandemic Era* was published in *Legal Issues of Economic Integration*, 49:2 (2022).

Professor Hsieh was invited as a Visiting Professor and taught *Law of International Trade: EU and ASEAN Perspectives* at National Taiwan University College of Law in November 2022.

FACULTY OUTREACH ACTIVITIES



Associate Professor Liu Nengye, as an invited speaker, spoke in a number of international conferences in order to celebrate the 40 years' anniversary of the adoption of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. These include conferences organised by the Centre for International Law, National University of Singapore (March 2022), Koguan Law School, Shanghai Jiao Tong University (April 2022), Korea Institute of Ocean Science and Technology (May 2022) and School of Law, Dalian Maritime University (June 2022).

Associate Professor Liu taught a seminar on *The Development of International Law of the Sea* for master students at the School of Oceanography, Shanghai Jiao Tong University (September 2022, virtual).

Associate Professor Liu organized the Roundtable *Achieving a Just and Sustainable Future in the Global South* (November 2022) at SMU. The Roundtable involved **Associate Professor Michelle Lim**, **Assistant Professor Stefanie Schacherer** and Professor Shawkat Alam (Macquarie University) as panellists. The event attracted a diverse range of professionals from law firms, the insurance sector and business consultancies.



In August 2022, **Assistant Professor Benjamin Joshua Ong** taught a seminar on Media Law for the Singapore Academy of Law's Data and Digital Economy Law Course (which is part of its Specialist Accreditation Scheme).

In 2022, Assistant Professor Ong set the moot problem for the inaugural Rajah & Tann Moot Court Competition. Competitors debated issues relating to the use of AI to assess employees' performance and the legal limits to an employer's power to award discretionary bonuses.

Assistant Professor Ong was a speaker at an online session on *Domestic Approaches to COVID-19: The Philippines and Singapore* organised by the International Disaster, Emergency and Law Network in June 2022.

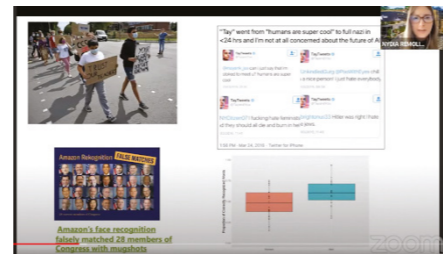


Assistant Professor Nydia Remolina Leon taught a seminar on *Artificial Intelligence in the Financial Sector: legal and regulatory challenges* for the Latin American Federation of Banks (FELABAN).

Assistant Professor Remolina gave an expert testimony on Fintech Regulatory Strategies in the Ecuadorian Congress Hearing about the Fintech Bill organised by the National Assembly of Ecuador (Ecuador Congress) on 1 July 2022.

On 3 August 2022, Assistant Professor Remolina also spoke at the 2022 Singapore Economic Review Conference, in a session organised by the Asian Development Bank and the Cambridge Centre for Alternative Finance. As a speaker, she shed light on the pandemic's impact on digital transformation in financial services and the role of Fintech in boosting financial inclusion and economic recovery.

Assistant Professor Remolina spoke at the International Conference on Digital Self-Determination organised by the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA). In this conference, Assistant Professor Remolina, Professor Mark Findlay, and Research Associate Wenxi Zhang presented the finding of an open finance studio conducted by the Centre for AI and Data Governance. This research work was partially funded by the FDFA.



Home Affairs and Law Minister K Shanmugam engaged with students on the repeal of the Penal Code Section 377A in **Associate Professor Eugene K B Tan** and Assistant Professor Benjamin Joshua Ong's *Governance Through Law in Singapore: Institutions, Jurisprudence, and Values* module for the Politics, Law, and Economics programme.

Associate Professor Tan gave a talk on *Thoughts on Singapore's Nominated Member of Parliament Scheme & Role of Tech in Law* to first-year students in Temasek Polytechnic's Diploma in Law & Management Studies programme in January 2022.

Associate Professor Tan organised and moderated the panel discussion on *Access to Justice: A human-centered approach* at Asian Law Students' Association Conference on 26 January 2022.

Associate Professor Tan chaired and moderated the NUS Students' Political Association Top Guns Forum: *Towards our Shared Future* on 13 May 2022 involving Minister in the Prime Minister's Office Ms Indranee Rajah, Leader of the Opposition Mr Pritam Singh, Chairman of the Singapore Democratic Party Professor Paul Tambyah, and Secretary-General of the Progress Singapore Party Mr Francis Yuen.



Professor Tang Hang Wu's *Financial Planning Mechanisms Available to Persons with Special Needs In Singapore* in *Special Needs Planning* (Lusina Ho and Rebecca Lee, eds), (Cambridge University Press, 2019) 212-236 was relied on by The Straits Times' *Man with a mental disability was cheated of \$200,000* (Date 12 June 2022). The Straits Times devoted an entire feature on that book chapter on the perils of not planning for dependents with special needs and the importance of the Special Needs Trust. The manager of the Special Needs Trust Company, Ms Esther Tan, reported that the number of inquiries to set up a special needs trust rose after the Straits Times Article.



Professor Yip Man was invited by the Singapore Judicial College to deliver a webinar, *Year In Review 2021 Series: Restitution* on 3 August 2022. During the webinar, which was attended by judicial service officers, Professor Yip examined restitution cases decided by the Singapore Courts in the year 2021, as well as a selection of interesting foreign cases decided in other major common law jurisdictions for comparative review.

NOTABLE EXTERNAL APPOINTMENTS



Professor Chan Wing Cheong was appointed to the following committees in 2022: Member, Selection Panel for Singapore Law Reports (State Courts, Family Courts and Youth Courts); Member, SMU Investigation Panel on Sexual Harassment and Other Workplace Harassment, Discrimination and Bullying; Member, Pro Bono Programme for Law Students Review Committee; Chairman, Management Committee, TRANS Family Services; Member, Adult Protection Team; and Chairman, Review Board under the Vulnerable Adults Act.



In March 2022, **Professor Henry Gao** testified at the hearing on the new EU anti-coercion instrument at the invitation of the European Parliament as one of three expert witnesses from around the world, along with former Assistant US Trade Representative for China Affairs Claire Reade and Elvire Fabry, Senior Research Fellow at the Jacques Delors Institute and a former senior EU official. His testimony was greatly appreciated by Bernd Lange, Chair of European Parliament Committee on International Trade, who noted in a personal note of appreciation that “Your contribution took a significant part in our event and the knowledge you’ve shared successfully fostered the debate in the Parliament on this very delicate subject”.

Professor Gao was also invited by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) to advise the Least Developed Countries in Southeast Asia on challenges and opportunities on e-commerce issues in free trade agreement negotiations, and the United Nations International Trade Centre (ITC) to advise the Government of Malaysia on gaps on the e-commerce regulatory framework in Malaysia, the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) to advise the Government of Mongolia on key issues in free trade agreement negotiations, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) to advise countries in the region on regulatory issues on digital services trade in Asia Pacific, and the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB) to train the government officials in Argentina on issues on trade in services and e-commerce.



Professor Pasha Hsieh was appointed as a member of the Business Studies Panel (Joint Research Schemes) of the Research Grants Council of Hong Kong. Since 2022, he been invited to review joint research grants submitted by scholars from Hong Kong universities and their counterparts in China, France, and Germany.

Professor Hsieh was appointed as a member of the organizing committees for the Society of International Economic Law Bogotá Global Conference and the 8th Asian International Economic Law Network Conference.



Assistant Professor Nydia Remolina Leon was appointed as a member of the Editorial Board, Area 4 - Focus on Ethics, Equity and Trust in Policy Data Interactions, of the *Data & Policy Journal* (Cambridge University Press). *Data & Policy* is a peer-reviewed, open access journal dedicated to the impact of data science on policy and governance.



Associate Professor Eugene K B Tan was reappointed as Singapore’s Alternate Representative to the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR) for a 3-year term (2022–2024). AICHR is the ASEAN body tasked with overall responsibility for the promotion and protection of human rights in ASEAN.

Associate Professor Tan prepared the Singapore country report for the 2022 Global Philanthropy Environment Index. This global study, conducted by the Lilly School of Philanthropy, Indiana University, aims to understand how and where the philanthropic environment is changing and evolving and most importantly, how to maximize philanthropy’s ability to help solve pressing challenges.

Associate Professor Tan was the Academic Advisor (2021–2022) for the *Corporate Giving Survey 2021: Giving During the Crisis 2020-2021 | New Opportunities to Reimagine Giving* (published in 2022) conducted by the National Philanthropy and Volunteer Centre which examined the resiliency of corporate giving and corporate social responsibility in Singapore during the COVID-19 pandemic.



Professor Tang Hang Wu was reappointed as a Member of the Strata Titles Board in October 2022 where he has served for over 15 years. In this role, he mediates and arbitrates condominium disputes and has been a panel member on many significant Strata Titles Board’s decisions including *Lee Lay Ting v The Management Corporation Strata Title Plan No. 3414* (2014), *Ahmad bin Ibrahim and others v The MCST Plan No. 4131 (“Belysa”)*, 2018, *Rosalina Soh Pei Xi v Hui Mun Wai and Another (“Suites @ Newton”)*, 2019, *Pang Loon Ong and others v The MCST Plan No. 4288*, 2019, *Lee Soh Geok v The MCST Plan No. 4417 (“Citylife@Tampines”)*, 2020 and *Foo Siang Yean & others v MCST Plan No. 2245* (2022).



Associate Professor Edward Ti was appointed as a Fellow of the Cambridge Centre of Property Law (CCPL) in September 2022. The CCPL exists to further research and scholarship in the general field of the law of real property—land law, landlord and tenant law, aspects of trusts law and related matters connected with real property such as planning and environmental regulation. Fellows are drawn from a wide variety of disciplines, but a common feature is the application of legal principles to practical problems.

Associate Professor Ti was also reappointed as a Member of the Strata Titles Board in October 2022. The Board mediates and arbitrates on strata related matters.



Professor Yip Man was appointed to the following committees in 2022: the Digital Trust Policy Workstream under SGTech and the Singapore Academy of Law Journals Advisory Committee. She has also been appointed as a member of the Joint Experts (China-Singapore) team under the Ministry of Law to study the feasibility of co-developing a dispute resolution mechanism.

EXTERNAL RESEARCH GRANTS



Professor Pasha Hsieh was awarded a Korea Foundation Research Grant as the principal investigator for the project entitled *Enhancing the ASEAN-Korea Strategic Partnership in New Asian Regionalism*.



Associate Professor Liu Nengye was awarded a grant by Chiang Ching-Kuo Foundation for International Scholarly Exchange (2021–2023). This grant funds his trips to attend intergovernmental negotiations on biodiversity beyond national jurisdiction (BBNJ IGC 4&5) at the United Nations Headquarters as a representative of the International Law Association.

Associate Professor Liu was awarded a Visiting Fellowship by Asian Law Institute, and conducted a research stay at the Faculty of Law, National University of Singapore in November 2022.

NOTABLE AWARDS OR INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION



Professor Pasha Hsieh was awarded the Jean Monnet Chair in EU-ASEAN Law and Relations by the European Commission.



The Lee Kong Chian Professorships and Fellowships were established by the Lee Kong Chian Fund for Research Excellence founded by the Lee Foundation. The chair in 2022 was held by Professor Gary Chan.



Established by the Yong Shook Lin Trust, the Yong Pung How Professorship of Law is conferred on an eminent individual who has distinguished himself or herself in the legal profession. The chair is presently held by Professor Yeo Tiong Min, SC (Hon).



The V3 Group Fellowship in Family Entrepreneurship was conferred on Professor Yip Man in 2022.

THE HOLDERS OF THE LEE KONG CHIAN FELLOWSHIPS IN 2022 WERE:



Assistant Professor
Kenny Chng



Associate Professor
Maartje De Visser



Associate Professor
Aurelio Gurrea-Martinez



Assistant Professor
Lau Kwan Ho



Associate Professor
Alvin See

EMPIRICAL EVIDENCE ON ONLINE PLATFORM USERS AND IMPLICATIONS FOR COMPETITION AND REGULATION IN DIGITAL MARKETS

21 January 2022

Speaker: Pinar Akman (Professor of Law, University of Leeds and Director, Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence on Digital Governance)

Chair: Assistant Professor Nydia Remolina Leon (SMU)

On 21 January 2022, the SMU Yong Pung How School of Law held the first Global Faculty Seminar of the year. Professor Pinar Akman (University of Leeds), Director of the Jean Monnet Centre of Digital Governance, presented her paper *A Web of Paradoxes: Empirical Evidence on Online Platform Users and Implications for Competition and Regulation in Digital Markets*. Professor Akman conducted a novel empirical study of more than 11,000 online platform users in 10 countries across 5 continents in 6 languages. Consumers were surveyed in the UK, US, Germany, France, Italy, Australia, China, Brazil, India, Singapore.

This is the first cross-continental empirical study of consumers of online platforms regarding features of demand relevant to competition and regulation. Consumers were probed about their use of online platforms; how often they change defaults; their perceptions of quality and choice; the extent to which they understand how online platforms work and are funded; their attitudes towards advertising, including personalised, targeted advertisements; and how much they value 'free' platform services.

This study is a significant academic contribution to some of the most pressing policy debates: how digital markets and online platforms should be regulated.

PRE-LITIGATION DISPUTE RESOLUTION REFORMS IN ENGLAND & WALES

11 February 2022

Speaker: Andrew Higgins (Associate Professor, University of Oxford and a Fellow in Law at Mansfield College)

Chair: Associate Professor Dorcas Quek Anderson (SMU)

GOVERNMENTAL RESPONSES TO MITIGATE THE IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON SMALL AND MEDIUM SIZED ENTERPRISES: THE CASE FOR A SIMPLIFIED INSOLVENCY REGIME IN HONG KONG

23 March 2022

Speaker: Wan Wai Yee (Professor & Associate Dean, Research and Internationalisation, School of Law, City University of Hong Kong)

Chair: Assistant Professor Aurelio Gurrea-Martinez (SMU)

REGULATING RELIGIOUS FRAUD: CHINA, TAIWAN AND HONG KONG

24 March 2022

Speaker: Jianlin Chen (Professor and Associate Dean, International, The University of Melbourne, Australia)

Chair: Professor Pasha Hsieh (SMU)

INDO-PACIFIC STRATEGIES AND INTERNATIONAL LAW

30 September 2022

Presenters:

- Desiree LeClercq, Assistant Professor, Cornell University
- Arie Afriansyah, Associate Professor, University of Indonesia
- Stefanie Schacherer, Assistant Professor, SMU Yong Pung How School of Law
- Yurika Ishii, Associate Professor, National Defense Academy of Japan

Commentators:

- Luke Nottage, Professor, University of Sydney; Visiting Professor, SMU Yong Pung How School of Law
- Han-Wei Liu, Senior Lecturer, Monash University
- Nengye Liu, Associate Professor, SMU Yong Pung How School of Law
- Michelle Lim, Associate Professor, SMU Yong Pung How School of Law

This event was organized by the SMU Yong Pung How School of Law and is funded by the EU Jean Monnet Chair programme and the Korea Foundation.

Name	Designation	University	Date
Dr. Niels Petersen	Professor of Public Law, EU Law and International Law	Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität Münster	20 March to 2 April 2022
Professor Kuan-Chun Johnny Chang		CTBC Business School	25 July to 14 August 2022
Professor Wan Wai Yee	Associate Dean (Research and Internationalisation)	School of Law City University of Hong Kong	4 July to 5 August 2022
Professor Jianlin Chen	Associate Dean (International)	The University of Melbourne	15 August to 2 September 2022
Professor Luke Nottage	Professor of Comparative and Transnational Business Law Co-Director, Australian Network for Japanese Law	Sydney Law School The University of Sydney	18 September to 1 October 2022

REGULATING ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT LAW

25 February 2022

Speaker: Visiting Assistant Professor Mark McLaughlin (SMU)



Commentators: Han-Wei Liu, Senior Lecturer, Monash University and Jason Grant Allen, Senior Research Fellow, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin Centre for British Studies

FAIR LENDING AND THE ROLE OF FINANCIAL REGULATORS IN ALGORITHMIC CREDIT SCORING

17 March 2022

Speaker: Assistant Professor Nydia Remolina Leon (SMU)



Commentator: Joseph Lee, Reader in Corporate and Commercial Law, University of Manchester Law

INSTITUTIONALIZING THE TRADE-LABOR NEXUS IN FREE TRADE AGREEMENTS

13 May 2022

Speaker: Visiting Professor Yueming Yan (SMU)



Commentator: Kathleen Claussen, Associate Professor of Law, University of Miami, School of Law

NON-STATUTORY EXECUTIVE POWERS AND JUDICIAL REVIEW & SMART LEGAL CONTRACTS: COMPUTABLE LAW IN THEORY AND PRACTICE

3 August 2022

Speaker: Associate Professor Jason Grant Allen (SMU)



Chair: Assistant Professor Kenny Chng (SMU)

VISIT BY THE CHIEF JUSTICE OF CANADA

The SMU Yong Pung How School of Law was honoured to host the Right Honourable Richard Wagner, the Chief Justice of Canada, for a tour as part of his visit to Singapore in November 2022.





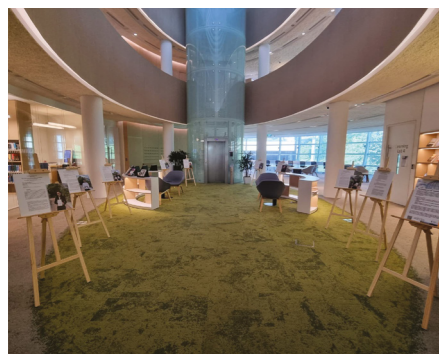
**KWA GEOK CHOO
LAW LIBRARY**



DISPLAYS AND EVENTS

Between 4 and 22 April 2022, the Kwa Geok Law Library exhibited volume 2 of the Singapore Law Journal, a journal run by Lexicon, a student-run publication under the Yong Pung How School of Law.

The return to school in 2022 also saw our first “Grab a Book” event held at both the Li Ka Shing and Kwa Geok Choo Law Libraries on 13 October 2022. This event was made possible by the generous donations of books by our users, including Yong Pung How School of Law faculty.



TEACHING / OUTREACH

The law librarians continued to support YPHSL's students through our involvement in orientation, in-class instruction, research consultations and workshops. Highlights in 2022 include training first-year students on research skills in the Law Kickstarter orientation programme, a legal research bootcamp for LLM students, as well as resource and research support for LLB and JD students participating in the Ian R. Taylor International Moots Programme.

To encourage peer-to-peer and self-guided learning, the SMU Libraries introduced Law Library Peer Advisors (LPA) as a pilot programme from August 2022. The Law LPAs assisted 1st year LLB students in navigating library resources and conducting legal research. The Law LPAs, in turn, received guidance from the law librarians to refine their own legal research skills. The pilot programme was well-received, with both students and the Law LPAs giving positive responses.

FACULTY RESEARCH

Transformative Agreements

In 2022, SMU Libraries negotiated a series of Transformative Agreements, including a Read and Publish Agreement with Cambridge University Press (SMU CUP Transformative Agreement). This marked a significant shift from traditional subscription deals that only provided read access to academic publications, and where authors had to pay separate fees to make their articles Open Access (OA). OA articles generally have higher research visibility as they can be read by anyone around the world without subscribing to the journal.

Under the SMU CUP Transformative Agreement, corresponding authors affiliated with SMU can publish the eligible articles as OA in any Gold OA Cambridge University Press journal, at no additional cost to the author. Five articles by Yong Pung How School of Law faculty have benefited from the CUP Agreement thus far:

- *Re-examining Judicial Review of Delegated Legislation* by Assistant Professor Kenny Chng
- *New Investment Rulemaking in Asia: Between Regionalism and Domestication* by Jean Monnet Chair Professor Pasha Hsieh
- *Falsehoods, Foreign Interference, and Compelled Speech in Singapore* by Assistant Professor Kenny Chng
- *Legal Dispositionism and Artificially-Intelligent Attributions* by Assistant Professor Jerrold Soh
- *Characterisation and Choice of Law for Knowing Receipt* by Associate Professor Adeline Chong

Ink views and downloads



133,484
Total link downloads in 2022 for YPHSL publications



596
Total number of new publications added for YPHSL



60.2%
Percentage of new publications in full text PDFs

SERVICE UPDATES

SMU Libraries continued to provide regular services as Singapore transitioned to living in the new normal. While most classes resumed in-person instruction, users also became more accustomed to using online facilities such as “Ask Library” chat service or the various library research guides.



The Kwa Geok Choo Law Library received **200,766** visitors in 2022

SMU Libraries handled **1,414** online enquires via “Ask Library” chat



The “Law Research Navigator” research guide accessed by users a total of **72,874** times



**ACADEMIC
PROGRAMMES**



OVERVIEW OF ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES

The Yong Pung How School of Law offers 5 programmes and is home to a vibrant community of undergraduate and postgraduate students.

Programme	Description
BACHELOR OF LAWS (LLB)	The LLB is a 4-year meritorious honours programme with 36 course units (CU) worth of courses. The LLB curriculum, regularly revised to meet the needs of a fast-changing economy, was originally formulated by legal academics and practitioners after extensive discussions, and endorsed by the Ministry of Law and Singapore's then Board of Legal Education.
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (COMPUTING & LAW)	The SMU Bachelor of Science (Computing and Law) degree is unique and the first of its kind in Singapore. Offered in partnership with the SMU School of Computing and Information Systems, it produces professionals equipped with both technological and legal skills who can identify new opportunities, deliver new services, and reimagine the way we create value. In an increasingly complex world, a multi-disciplinary education is immensely valuable. The SMU Bachelor of Science (Computing and Law) programme provides a rare opportunity to be trained in two intellectually demanding disciplines that will prepare graduates well for a fast changing world.
JURIS DOCTOR (JD)	The JD programme is a postgraduate qualifying law degree for students who have undergraduate degrees in other disciplines and those who have studied law in civil law countries and in other jurisdictions.
MASTER OF LAWS (LLM)	The LLM programme, with three specialised tracks has been carefully designed to expand the legal knowledge of a legal professional in classic and novel areas of the law, while simultaneously equipping legal professionals with the skillsets required to render accurate advice on cross-border transactions or deliver high-quality adjudication and judicial administration.
PHD IN LAW, COMMERCE AND TECHNOLOGY	The PhD in Law, Commerce and Technology programme emphasises the interdisciplinary study between law, business and technology. In particular, students can choose to specialise in either of its two tracks, Law and Commerce, and Law and Technology. The Law and Commerce track focuses on the study of legal and regulatory responses to business, commercial and financial activities. The Law and Technology track focuses on the study of legal and regulatory responses to technology developments. Both tracks are open to students working on topics involving the three-way intersection of law, commerce and technology.

UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMMES

Curriculum reform

The curriculum review that begun in late 2019 has seen significant progress. Official approvals have been obtained for the launch of three specialisation tracks—in *Corporate Transactions, Law and Technology and Dispute Resolution*—as well as the introduction of a Law Capstone requirement, to the LLB programme.

Specialisation tracks

Applicable to the cohort of 2022 and onwards, the optional specialisation tracks were designed in recognition that there are a variety of pathways to legal practice and each segment of the legal industry may demand, beyond the foundational competence that all law graduates are expected to have, additional and specific knowledge and skillsets. Therefore, rather than prescribing a one-size-fits-all law curriculum, informed students will be given the opportunity to strengthen their knowledge and skillset specific to their selected fields. This new scheme builds upon the existing law LLB curriculum but requires more specific selection of electives. A student declaring a track will need to complete at least 5 Credit Units (CU) worth of track-specific electives from the following baskets:

- 3CU of Track-specific Law Electives (for subject matter knowledge)
- 1CU of Track-specific Law Related Electives (for multi/interdisciplinary knowledge)
- 1CU of Track-specific Law Capstone (for finishing touch and experiential learning)

Law capstone

Beginning with the cohort of 2021, every student pursuing the LLB degree must complete a Law Capstone course to graduate. Each LLB Track has Track-specific Law Capstone courses. There are two unique features of a Law Capstone course. First, unlike foundational law courses (for example, Contract and Property) that focus on a narrower range of topics, the Law Capstone adds the polishing touch, helping students to look across traditional boundaries by working on projects. Second, every Law Capstone course will also be an SMU-X course so that the entire cohort of students will be exposed to a good degree of experiential learning. SMU-X courses will be taught in even smaller classes (typically 30 and below) with the help of industry mentors. The Law Capstone is designed to prepare our students for the future of legal practice which we expect to increase in complexity.

Law Kickstarter 2022

The third edition of the Week 0 Introduction to Law orientation programme, now rebranded as the **SMU Law Kickstarter**, took place prior to term start on 1 to 10 August 2022. The goal was to equip incoming students with the right mindset and skillset as they officially commence their study of law. Students were given early access to the eLearn platform and to introductory materials on the Singapore Legal System prepared by Associate Professor Alvin See and

Assistant Professor Benjamin Joshua Ong, and on legal research skills prepared by Mr Rajendra Munoo, Head of Learning & Engagement at the SMU Li Ka Shing Library.

This was followed by the *Common Law Reasoning* seminars introducing students to the basics of reading case law and statutes, as well as the seminar-style pedagogy at SMU. These seminars were led by Associate Professors Alvin See and Dorcas Quek Anderson; Assistant Professors Benjamin Joshua Ong, Kenny Chng and Nicholas Liu; and Senior Lecturer Ong Ee Ing. This was complemented by Assistant Professor Kenny Chng's virtual session on the immensely profound question, *What is Law?*, where he introduced students to some of law's theoretical and moral complexities as well as their practical implications.

Three other events soon followed to help students gain perspectives about legal practice after law school. In *Lawyering for Good: An Introduction to Pro Bono Work*, Assistant Professor Dorcas Quek Anderson hosted Mr Abraham Vergis SC (Law Society's Pro Bono Ambassador 2021; Managing Partner of Providence Law Asia LLC) and SMU alumna Ms Priscilla Chia (LLB 2015), where our students learnt about the importance of doing good through legal practice.

In *Tomorrow's Lawyers: Navigating the Different Pathways to Success in the Legal Profession*, Associate Professor Darius Chan hosted an online sharing session by a full alumni panel: Mr Gerald Tan (JD 2013; Regional Legal Counsel (APAC), Amadeus GDS Singapore); Ms Stephanie Tan (LLB 2013; Legal Counsel (APAC), Takeda Pharmaceuticals); Ms Deborah Wong (LLB 2015; Partner, Shook Lin & Bok LLP); and Mr Gan Ee Kiat (JD 2019; Deputy Public Prosecutor/State Counsel, Attorney-General's Chambers). The speakers shared about the various career pathways in law and their personal journeys in legal practice. In *Far Horizons: Careers Beyond Lawyering?*, Lee Kong Chian Visiting Professor Walter Woon, SC spoke to our students about careers beyond lawyering, sharing his experience in the fields of diplomacy, civil service, politics and even the arts.

Finally, the new edition of the orientation programme also subsumed student-led initiatives. The SMU Law Society (The Bar) organised two helpful programmes—*Conquering Law School* and *SMU Law Mentorship*—where senior law students shared essential tips in navigating the new environment, managing studies, and participating meaningfully in student life. We express our gratitude to everyone who participated in this orientation programme.

Elective Offerings

In 2022, 55 different electives were offered, of which 2 were new electives. This was the highest number of elective offerings on record. There were 10 SMU-X courses with elements of industry mentorship to bring experiential learning to the next level. A substantial number of our electives were taught by industry partners which ensured a healthy dose of diversity and practicality in our course offerings. We express our gratitude for their contributions.

POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMMES



Postgraduate Programmes AY22-23

The postgraduate programmes held a series of “Postgraduate Lunch Talk” sessions in early 2023 for our students to allow them to have a better understanding of what legal counsels do in Singapore.

Kicking off the series in January is Mr Lam Chee Kin (Managing Director & Head, Group Legal & Compliance, DBS Bank Ltd) who delivered a talk titled *What’s it like being a counsel in an internationalised financial institution in 2023?*



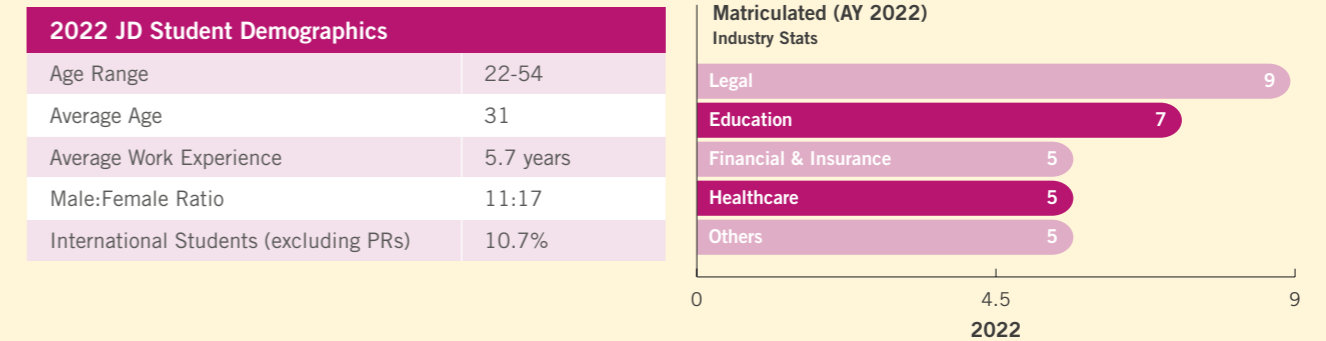
This was followed by a talk in February by Ms Ivy Yong, Managing Director and Asia-Pacific General Counsel of J.P. Morgan’s Private Bank, who shared what it means to be a “T-shaped lawyer”.

The series rounded off with a final talk in March by Mr Charles Lim (GIC’s General Counsel, Legal and Compliance Department) who spoke on *In-House Counsel as a Strategic and Trusted Business Partner*.



Juris Doctor Programme (JD) In AY22-23

Post-COVID, the programme received 101 applicants, which was slightly down from 136 applicants in 2022. Nevertheless, this number was still higher than in the pre-pandemic years of 2017- 2019. For 2022, 30 students matriculated into the programme. The demographics of the cohort can be seen below:



Changes made to the curriculum last year were implemented and from the 2022 JD admit cohort onwards, students will take 8 electives and 17 core modules. Students from the admit year 2021 and 2022 also selected their tracks preference in term 2 with the first track declaration as follows:



POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMMES

MASTER OF LAWS (LLM) IN AY22–23

LLM in Judicial Studies

The second batch of LLM in Judicial Studies candidates proudly graduated from the Yong Pung How School of Law in the summer of 2022. The 7 candidates hailed from Pakistan, Indonesia, and the Philippines.

The LLM in Judicial Studies continues to attract serving judges and judicial aspirants from around the world. In August 2022, we welcomed a third intake of the programme.

LLM in Cross-Border Business and Finance Law in Asia

A total of 22 full-time and part-time candidates from the LLM in Cross-Border Business and Finance Law in Asia track successfully graduated from the programme, with 4 placed on the Dean's List.

As our signature track, the LLM in Cross-Border Business and Finance Law in Asia remains a very popular choice among working professionals and relatively fresh graduates. A total of 27 students were enrolled in this track for AY2022/2023, with a third of them choosing the part-time mode.

Our ongoing partnerships with Bocconi University, Lucerne University, Queen Mary University of London, Fudan University and Tsinghua University ensure a steady stream of international students into our LLM programme. Through our marketing strategies as well, these students from overseas continue to make up the bulk of our yearly cohorts.

The option for direct entry into the Juris Doctor programme was introduced in 2021. Several LLM students from this cohort had expressed interest to take this route and benefit from tuition fee discounts, course exemptions, and a shorter JD programme.

In September 2022, the LLM programme office organized a trip to the Singapore Parliament House for all LLM students, who were brought around the building in a guided tour by an assigned Parliamentary Guide. The students learnt about the various aspects of Parliament, such as its functions, historical developments and how laws are made.

In March 2023, the LLM students went on a company visit to Sea Limited, a tech conglomerate headquartered in Singapore. Sea currently functions as a holding company for Garena, SeaMoney, and Shopee, and the students sat with the legal counsels of the company for a lively discussion on the different areas of practice.



Dual LLM in Commercial Law (Singapore & London)

The partnership agreement with our partner university Queen Mary University of London has been renewed for 3 more academic years from July 2022. This agreement is to jointly deliver the Dual LLM in Commercial Law programme in both the London and Singapore campuses. Two more students in AY22–23 have graduated from the track in the summer of 2022.

Following a pause of intake for curriculum review, the LLM programme office continues to work closely with QMUL in attracting students to take advantage of a unique opportunity to study commercial law in two of the world's major business and financial centres.

LLM in Law and Technology

The new LLM track in Law and Technology saw 20 applications with an inaugural intake at 6 students. Numbers were modest, but based on the growth of interest in tech-related legal practices, and the need for regulation to keep up with technology development, we expect the intake figures to increase in the next few years.

Intake for LLM (AY22–23)

LLM in Cross-Border Business and Finance Law in Asia	26
LLM in Judicial Studies	3
LLM in Law and Technology	6



PHD IN LAW, COMMERCE AND TECHNOLOGY PROGRAMME IN AY22–23

The application window for the inaugural batch of PhD in Law, Commerce and Technology students in Academic Year 2022–2023 opened in February 2022 and we received 27 applications. 3 students were selected through a competitive admissions process. The students commenced their programme in August 2023.

YONG PUNG HOW SCHOOL OF LAW TEACHING AWARDS FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2021–22

POSTGRADUATE TEACHING AWARD WINNERS



Juris Doctor Recipient:
Asst Prof Kenny Chng



Master of Laws Recipient:
Assoc Prof Saw Cheng Lim

UNDERGRADUATE TEACHING AWARD WINNERS



Most Outstanding Teacher Award:
Asst Prof Kenny Chng



Most Promising Teacher Award:
Asst Prof Daniel Seah



Most Outstanding LGST Teacher Award:
Ms Ong Ee Ing



Most Outstanding Adjunct Award:
Mr Azfer Ali Khan

DEAN'S TEACHING EXCELLENCE AWARD WINNERS



Prof Gary Chan



Assoc Prof Maartje de Visser



Asst Prof Lau Kwan Ho



Assoc Prof Dorcas Quek Anderson



Assoc Prof Tan Seow Hon



Prof Tang Hang Wu

**PROFESSIONAL
& COMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENTS**



SMU LAW ACADEMY



The SMU Yong Pung How School of Law has had a continuing legal education programme accredited by the Singapore Institute of Legal Education (SILE) since 2010. In 2018, the SMU Law Academy (SMULA) was established to consolidate these continuing legal education programmes within a single arm. Since its inception, SMULA has organised 264 seminars, delivering a first-class continuing legal education experience for thousands of lawyers, in-house counsel, civil servants, and others. SMULA's most popular events attract hundreds of attendees.

In 2022, SMULA cemented its reputation as a leading provider of structured continuing legal education programmes and certifications, formulated in close collaboration with industry partners and targeted at specific needs. Led by Associate Professor Darius Chan and Assistant Professor Kenny Chng, and managed by Ms Esther Aiw and Ms Anne Teo, SMULA launched in 2022 approximately 24% more programmes and courses compared to 2021.

A notable example is the **SMU-IPAS Graduate Certificate in Insolvency and Restructuring**. Developed together with the Insolvency Practitioners' Association of Singapore (IPAS) and offered in collaboration with the SMU Academy, this Graduate Certificate in Insolvency and Restructuring is a postgraduate course providing participants with foundational knowledge of insolvency and restructuring that is practical and relevant for recently qualified accountants, lawyers and financial professionals who choose to specialise in this field. The inaugural run of this course was successfully held over March to June 2022.

In 2022, SMULA was also proud to launch the **SMU-Singapore Judicial College (SJC) Judicial Executive Programme**. This programme aimed to provide judges from ASEAN jurisdictions with foundational knowledge about: (a) leadership skills and facilitating innovation; and (b) key contemporary legal and regulatory issues linked to the proliferation of cross-border transactions, spurred on by ongoing efforts to integrate the economies of the ASEAN states. Participants learnt leadership skills that they could harness to better manage internal judicial processes and improve on the efficiency and quality with which judicial services are delivered to the general public in their respective jurisdictions. The course also helped participants gain insights into the available strategies and approaches that they can embrace in response to, or anticipation of, technology adoption and innovation. The programme was run in November 2022.

In addition, 2022 saw the launch of the **SMU-RHT Legal Training Institute (RHT LTI) Part A Bar Course**. Jointly offered by the SMU Academy, SMU Law Academy and RHT LTI, this course provides specialised training to set the next generation of lawyers up for success in the SILE Part A Examinations. Passing the SILE Part A Examinations is a necessary requirement for candidates from overseas scheduled universities to get called to the Singapore Bar. The SMU-RHT LTI Part A Bar Course incorporates both academic and practical expertise, allowing participants to establish a well-rounded and solid foundation in preparation for the SILE Part A Examinations. Indeed, this programme is particularly notable as the first-ever collaboration between an autonomous university and private education institute to offer the Part A Examination preparatory course.

Finally, the **SMULA Recent Highlights Series** was launched in 2022. The series provides participants with a convenient platform to obtain timely and practical bite-sized analysis of the latest developments in various areas of the law. Taught by leading and experienced experts curated from academia and practice, each topic in the series is distilled into a short-duration online webinar so that busy legal professionals can be effectively updated with the most material developments affecting their practice. The series commenced with webinars on insolvency law, tort law, and minority shareholders' remedies in 2022.

SMULA looks forward to actively building more connections and developing more products that are targeted at specific industry needs.

SMU LAW ACADEMY "RECENT HIGHLIGHTS" SERIES
Recent Highlights in Insolvency Law

 Sim Kwan Kiat Head, Restructuring & Insolvency Practice Rajah & Tann	 Raelene Pereira Partner Rajah & Tann	 Wilson Zhu Partner Rajah & Tann
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PRO BONO CENTRE

Pro Bono has an important place in the nurturing of our future lawyers. It should be an integral part of every SMU law student's training now and being a lawyer in the future. Through a wide range of programmes, the Pro Bono Centre (PBC) aims to help students gain a deeper understanding of the needs of our society and the less privileged, and cultivate in them a sense of service – of what it means to give without expecting anything in return.

PBC's flagship programme is its Helpdesk and Legal Clinic, run at SMU by students and volunteer lawyers. Through this service, low income and disadvantaged persons obtain legal consultation free of charge on their personal matters, without any citizenship or other restrictions. The most common matters raised are family, tenancy, employment and criminal issues. In 2022, the Legal Clinic served a total of 176 applicants, which is a 20 percent increase from the previous year.

Although the average number of pro bono hours completed per student by the Class of 2022 (LLB and JD) registered a slight drop to 42.6 hours, this was not unexpected owing to fewer pro bono opportunities due to the Covid-19 restrictions. However, this is still more than double the required 20 pro bono hours mandated by SILE.

Student-initiated pro bono projects have flourished at SMU. The Pro Bono Mediation Clinic, offered in collaboration with the SMU Mediation and Negotiation Club, successfully concluded a case with the parties signing a mediation agreement. Project Lighthouse was initiated by two students to support lawyers who take on cases from CLAS, LASCO and LAB. Students who take part learn valuable skills such as client interview, drafting of documents and court strategy, and become sensitised to common issues faced by the public.

Spirit of Pro Bono Hero Award winners
(for completing the most number of pro bono hours in their respective cohorts):



Sarah Teo (JD)



Meher Malhotra (LLB)



KIT PANG
Spirit of Pro Bono Leadership Award

Project Lighthouse was started by like-minded students with a heart to serve. I hope that more students will have the opportunity to assist lawyers taking on pro bono cases and help a greater number of people.

Doing good starts incrementally, semester by semester.



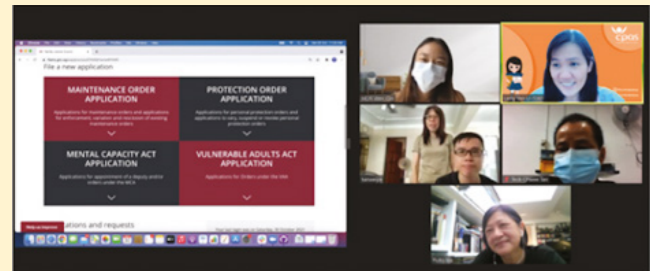
NEO YU FAN
Spirit of Pro Bono Endeavour Award

I decided to initiate and co-lead Project Lighthouse because I wanted a meaningful summer, and beyond that, a meaningful experience in Law School. While browsing through the different pro bono opportunities available to students, I found that there was no opportunity for students to play a more involved role in pro bono work.

The question that came to me was, "If not me, then who, and if not now, then when?"

PBC aims to help students find purpose in their law studies and in their future careers. To this end, we launched a video *Pro Bono in SMU in August 2022* featuring the pro bono efforts of students, volunteer lawyers and placement partners to showcase how each of them has made a difference by helping the vulnerable gain access to legal services. A physical pro bono fair was also held for the first time for student clubs and partner organisations to tell students, particularly law freshmen, about pro bono opportunities.

[Click to watch video ▶](#)



Other notable activities by students in 2022 include:

- Giving more than 20 legal awareness talks on a variety of topics such as LPA, Wills, Rights of the Intellectually Disabled, Protection and Guardianship of Children, Divorce, and the Singapore Legal System. The talks were given to various organisations including schools, hospitals, non-profit organisations and charities
- Helping in LPA certification for beneficiaries of Cornerstone Community Services and MINDS
- Assisting caregivers of MINDS, SUN-DAC and the Cerebral Palsy Alliance Singapore to apply for deputyship orders using iFAMS
- Helping more than 20 parents of special needs children from SNTC draft their Wills
- Supporting accused persons at the State Courts with their mitigation pleas
- Assisting volunteer lawyers at legal clinics run by partners such as Pro Bono SG, religious organisations, NTUC, and SCWO
- Attending Basic Conversational Mandarin for Law Students in order to better connect with Mandarin speaking applicants during pro bono placements

OUTREACH TO SCHOOLS

The COVID-19 pandemic had resulted in limited in-person outreach and engagement events. Primarily most outreach activities at the time were predominantly conducted virtually. Thankfully, with the gradual easing of safety measures, the school was subsequently able to participate in limited hybrid format events followed by direct in-person outreach activities.

The year began with SMU's primary key annual outreach and engagement event – SMU Open House 2022. School talks by the Dean and Associate Deans were conducted virtually for the wider audience, while the annual Law Symposium comprising 4 in-person sample seminars were conducted by faculty for a limited number of participants in line with safe distancing safety measures. The school was also assigned a booth space to engage with participants after these seminars.

As part of Admissions-centred outreach and engagement events, the school organised the Scholars' Engagement Dinner for prospective scholars and their parents and participated in the SMU-wide *Destination: SMU* event for all offerees. Both events saw an overwhelming response and attendance. Offerees at *Destination: SMU* were also given the opportunity to view a moots demo for the first time at the David Marshall Moot Court and interact with current students in a relaxed, casual environment, which was well-received.



As the pandemic eased and ongoing safety measures were gradually removed, the second half of 2022 saw a resumption of outreach activities to Junior Colleges, International Baccalaureate Institutions and even secondary schools. These activities comprised of presence at the respective institutions career or university fairs, talks to key feeder schools and at schools who had specifically requested for talks, Learning Journey visits by schools to the SMU Yong Pung How School of Law, and direct talks or engagement events by our students with student clubs / societies from the targeted institutions.

STUDENTS & ALUMNI



SMU LAW STUDENTS' SOCIETY – THE BAR

The SMU Law Students' Society, affectionately known as The Bar, serves to advance our students' professional and academic interests while seeking to forge a stronger sense of community among the students within the SMU Yong Pung How School of Law. The Bar's Executive Committee elected for the year 2023 would like to extend its gratitude to outgoing President Tan Qing Zhe and his team for their dedicated efforts throughout 2022 to improve student life, particularly following the end of the COVID-19 pandemic and the full resumption of in-person activities.



Events held in 2022 included:

Law Camp and Law Bash: Coda: The Bar's annual freshmen camp was held in July, reverting to a full-scale and physical format after the COVID hiatus. Returning too was The Bar's annual pageant. Both of these events allow freshmen to make new friends and find batchmates who may turn out to be their pillars of support in law school. As usual, there was food and drinks to go around for these events and the highlights included the War Games, Murder Mystery/Moot Court, and Beach Games.

Law Graduation Week: the milestone event for graduating students, 2022's celebration was a source of many memorable evenings of merriment amidst good company, coupled with fine food, drinks and music.

Valentine's Day: roses were sold so that our friends could celebrate romance with their loved ones. To celebrate friendships, succulents were sold, in addition to law-themed cards. There were also photo booths and giveaways.

Kickstarter: what started off as a simple initiative has now become one of the key events for our freshmen. This event was held shortly after Law Camp for freshmen to better assimilate into a holistic student life. Talks on study tips, stress management, and a well-balanced student life were organised.

Mentorship: this programme grouped freshmen with dedicated mentors who were willing to share with and help their juniors on various challenges freshmen could face in law school.

Rajah & Tann End of Semester Welfare: at the end of the AY, the Bar ran a welfare drive to give away delectable treats such as Old Chang Kee, Acai and many more, to encourage the student body as they took on their final examinations.

The Bar also planned many networking events with various law firms and legal organisations, as we believe every student should be provided with the opportunity to develop professionally. In tandem, The Bar organised an Internship Sharing Session featuring seniors to help students navigate their career choices and prospects.

CONSTITUTIONAL LAW AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE CLUB (CCJC)

Led by Ezra Lim, Bill Puah, and Erica Wee, CCJC saw a year packed with events and developments for the various projects under its purview. First, CCJC conducted **Dialogues on Constitutional and Criminal Law** in various junior colleges. The speakers delivered presentations and invited participants to engage in lively discussions on topics ranging from criminal justice, doxing, and fundamental liberties of Singaporeans. CCJC also started a project which aims to raise awareness about the legal rights of intellectually disabled persons. A talk for caregivers has since been given and there are plans to reach out to more stakeholders eventually. In terms of publications, CCJC has completed the first drafts on the **Administrative Law and Evidence Law Guidebooks**. These publications aim to educate the general public on their rights and the processes involved therein. The team is looking to publish the first chapter of the Evidence Law Guidebook in the second half of 2023 and finalise the content for the Administrative Law Guidebook. CCJC has also begun work on our **CrimLaw Connects Projects**, which aims to raise interest in Criminal Law Practice by inviting Practitioners to SMU to conduct Q&A sessions with students.



CORPORATE AND COMMERCIAL LAW CLUB (COCO)

Led by Emelyn Aw, Adam Lau, and Joel Chan, CoCo kickstarted the summer break with the second edition of the **WongPartnership Transaction Competition**, which attracted over 35 teams from SMU and NUS. The panel of final round judges comprised Ng Wai King from WongPartnership LLP, Khoo Ken Hui from Temasek Holdings, and Karen Wee from Singtel. 2022 also saw CoCo launch the **Allen & Gledhill Contract Drafting Competition**, Singapore's first contract drafting competition. It was well-received by the student body for providing a realistic experience of corporate legal practice.



The top two teams were invited for the final round negotiation judged by Professor Lim Lei Theng, Professor Lee Pey Woan, and Hilary Low. Another highlight of the year was the **Restructuring Negotiation Competition**, which was supported by BlackOak LLC. The participants were presented with a fact scenario involving a distressed group of companies and were tasked to pitch a rescue plan. The Grand Finals held in SMU were graced by Justice Aedit Abdullah, Professor Lee Pey Woan, Darius Tay from BlackOak LLC, and Lim Wei Yang from Kirkland and Ellis LLP. Throughout the year, CoCo also published monthly newsletters on updates on corporate and commercial practice. This aligns with CoCo's aim to bridge the information gap between students and the legal industry through exposure to the industry's norms and practices.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS CLUB (IRC)

Led by Nicole Chan and Quek Lin Yuan, IRC had to cope with the restrictions surrounding large gatherings in early-2022. The improvised **Exchange Buddy Programme** entailed IRC members bringing exchange students on excursions to local attractions (such as Newton Food Centre) and also assisting these students with questions and concerns throughout the semester. In March, IRC and the NYU Asia Law Society collaborated to host the **SMU-NYU Dialogue** during NYU's delegation trip to Singapore. Moderated by IRC members, the panellists comprised a mix of NYU students and YPHSL alumni and faculty. Among the panellists from SMU were Chow Zi En'17 and Assistant Professor Lau Kwan Ho, who were both also alumni of NYU. Discussions centred around academic matters, legal education, student life, career opportunities, and professional experiences in Singapore and New York. Attendees (NYU delegates and SMU students) described the session as enriching and eye-opening. In August, hosted the **Ho Chi Minh University of Law** during their visit to YPHSL as part of their ASEAN study tour. The group was welcomed by Associate Professor Chen Siyuan, followed by a sharing by IRC members about Singapore's legal system. Students and staff of HCMUL were then led on a campus tour of YPHSL's most iconic facilities, including the Kwa Geok Choo Law Library, the Pro Bono Centre, and the David Marshall Moot Court. IRC members also conducted a tour of other prominent and historic sites in Armenian Street.



This cross-cultural exchange sprouted enlightening discussions about Vietnam and Singapore's judicial and education system. In September, IRC threw its annual **Exchange Welcome Party** for incoming exchange students, providing delicious food and handing out IRC merchandise such as lanyards and name tents. Our law exchange students remain a close-knit community and keep in touch with each other even long after their exchange programme at SMU. One has even returned to Singapore to continue their studies after having enjoyed their time at SMU.

LEXICON: A STUDENT PUBLICATION



Lexicon, as the legal publications club of YPHSL, was led by Grace Nai, Megan Chua, Alexis Lok, and Nicolette Ang. In 2022, Lexicon organised the second edition of the **Lexicon Writing Competition**, which saw impressive entries from rising Year 2 law students. Moreover, continuing its collaboration with the Supreme Court, Lexicon published 11 case briefs as part of its **Supreme Court Case Summary Initiative**, and three articles under the **Rule of Law Series**. 2022 saw over 40 publications on Lexicon's website, reaching an audience of 30,000 visitors. With over 150,000 site views and counting, Lexicon has come a long way since its establishment in 2017. Another key achievement was preparing the publication of the third volume of the **Singapore Law Journal**. This volume would feature a compilation of speeches delivered at the Valedictory Reference convened to celebrate Justice Phang's many years of service to the legal industry and include contributions from faculty and student writers on significant legal developments in international law, criminal law, Singapore constitutional law, and more.

LEGAL INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY CLUB (LIT)

Led by Jade Lee and Elizabeth Santosh, LIT had a productive and eventful 2022. LIT published a series of newsletters, covering a range of topics relevant to the legal industry. One notable edition focused on Non-Fungible Tokens and their implications for the legal sector, including discussions on money laundering, traceability, and copyright. To keep students abreast of legal technology developments around the region and locally, LIT's Monthly Roundup posts provided insights into emerging trends and developments in the legal tech field. Topics covered included the launch of a new legal tech platform by LUPL, the role of lawyers in the metaverse, and issues related to crypto theft. Additionally, the expansion of legal tech courses was highlighted.

The highlight of the year was the **SMU LIT Hackathon: The Big Leap Forward**, which saw the participation of over 140 students from local universities and polytechnics. The largest inter-varsity, three-day hackathon featured cash prizes totalling over \$11,500 and was graced by Permanent Secretary (Law) Loh Khum Yean on the opening day. To provide participants with hands-on experience and valuable insights into pioneering legal tech solutions, pre-Hackathon workshops were conducted by established legaltech platforms in Singapore, including INTELLEX and tesseract.io. Participants were tasked to develop legal technological solutions to address problem statements featuring real-world challenges faced by the legal industry, under the sub-themes of efficiency of work processes, access to justice, and data privacy and security. The winners of the Hackathon went on to present their solutions to Create+65, Clifford Chance's first global innovation lab.

LIT also actively participated in the **Pro Bono Fair**, showcasing past impactful Access to Justice projects from previous Hackathons. Finally, LIT continued its close collaboration with ALITA, with most members being part of the Secretariat team. LIT contributed to projects such as the ALITA SOLIA Awards and TechLaw.Fest 2022 which recognize innovative legal tech solutions in the Asia-Pacific region.



SMU LAW OUTREACH CLUB (SLOC)

Led by Nicole Chia, Jordan Chia, and Lindsay Lu, SLOC continued its tradition of student-driven initiatives conducted in collaboration with various socio-legal stakeholders. Highlights of 2022 included:

- **Pro Bono Fair:** a fair where SLOC showcased a number of its signature projects.
- **Deputyship Project:** a collaboration with the Community Justice Centre at the State Courts, which aims to assist caregivers of persons who lack mental capacity to file deputyship applications under the Mental Capacity Act, through the new Automated Court Documents Assembly Deputyship System. The Deputyship Project aims to make the application process easier for families who often face challenges with the tedious application and have difficulties accessing legal aid.
- **Law on Life:** an annual talk which aims to broaden the perspectives of law students on how the law interacts with our daily lives. In 2022, the theme was *Life as a Young Lawyer*. Alumni Wilbur Lim'12, Nadia Ahmad Samdin'13, and Su Jin Chandran'21 shared about unconventional career pathways as well.
- **Moot Parliament Programme:** a collaboration with the Ministry of Education aimed at helping secondary school students understand legislation, SLOC planned bill-writing workshops for student-mentors and students, guided students in drafting bills, and facilitated a debate and symposium.
- **Project iFAMS:** SLOC organised regular sessions where volunteers assisted parents with children who lack mental capacity in their applications for deputyship under the Mental Capacity Act, using the Family Justice Court's Integrated Family Application Management System.
- **Project SPARK:** an events which aims to raise awareness on sexual harassment and assault. SLOC partnered with SG Her Empowerment, which focuses on gender-based online harms.
- **Project Starfish:** SLOC members conducted legal research for Society of Starfish Singapore on their liabilities, vetted documents, and created a handbook on legal specifications guarantees.
- **Silver Oak Project:** SLOC project directors gave talks on topics such as Wills, Lasting Power of Attorney, and CPF Nominations in Mandarin, to cater to the needs of the elderly at CareElderly@Golden Ginger.
- **The Recourse Initiative:** a collaboration with the NUS Criminal Justice Club to assist convicts who believe that they have been wrongly convicted of their crimes. The team discussed cases with professors, researched on leads, interviewed applicants in prison, and wrote recommendations on how cases should be handled.



SMU LAW SPORTS AND RECREATIONAL LAW CLUB (SPARC)

Led by Jayme Low and Lim Shi Han, SPARC continued its tradition of organising events with the aim of fostering a vibrant sporting culture within the university and forgoing connections through competition and recreation. One such event was the **SMU-NUS Law Games**, which featured a variety of sports including football, frisbee, captain's ball, touch rugby, and floorball, with over 200 participants from both universities.

Within SMU, SPARC's signature event **MaRUNA**—a scenic evening run along Marina Bay—continues to grow in popularity among students. SPARC also organised **HaveFunLaw**, which is an event demonstrating SPARC's commitment to provide a diverse range of sports and games for students. This year's edition saw students coming together at Fort Canning Park to engage in activities like ultimate frisbee and touch rugby. Leading up to the exams, SPARC also organised an **Evening Yoga** session at the rooftop of SMU YPHSL. Led by SPARC's own student-instructor, participants took the chance to de-stress and learn various yoga moves in the process. To conclude the academic year, SPARC organised a new cycling event held at Marina Bay. The event received positive feedback from participants, who appreciated the opportunity to engage in a fun and active pursuit before bidding farewell to the academic year.





SMU MEDIATION AND NEGOTIATION CLUB (SMNC)

To introduce and promote Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) to incoming freshmen, SMNC organised an **orientation event** where freshmen could network with the school's ADR community and hear from their seniors about their experiences in the various ADR competitions. SMNC also organised mock mediation rounds so that participants could get a hands-on experience. In 2022, SMNC launched **Mediation Week**, which included a workshop (skills such as Match Pace Lead, Allowing Ventilation, and Reframing were taught), and *Why Mediation* talk by Rachel Tan (Research and Development Lead at SIDRA), and an alumni networking event, accompanied throughout the week by a physical booth selling merchandise.

Another annual event that took place was the **SMNC Mediation & Advocacy Competition**. This is a beginner-friendly competition targeted at all students of SMU and seeks to raise awareness on alternative dispute resolution means. The competition problems are written by SMNC, and mediation training workshops are organised by SMNC to guide beginner teams. Every year, SMNC sees at least 120 participants. SMNC also runs **Mediation Clinics**, and this year, events were run for SMU's CCA fraternities (including SMUSA, ACF, ICON, SMUX), during which we gleaned insights into the CCAs' leadership organisation and existing dispute resolution mechanisms, the nature of the disputes commonly faced, receptiveness towards campus mediation, and areas for future collaboration. SMNC has crafted a pilot project with ACF, aiming to launch a conflict resolution workshop to equip incumbent EXCO members of various ACF clubs with fundamental negotiation and mediation skills.



MOOT COURT CLUB (MCC)

Led by Slevin Chua and Mayleen Low, the MCC continued to support students in their preparations for moot assignments, local moot competitions, and regional moot competitions, and provided logistical support for the **Ian R. Taylor International Moots Programme**. This year, MCC also helped host the **International Maritime Law Arbitration Moot**, the world's oldest and largest international maritime arbitration. The moot adopted a virtual format and saw a turnout of more than 20 teams. Despite the many moving parts, MCC members and volunteers ensured that the competition ran smoothly. The SMU team that took part reached the semi-final, winning two awards in the finals and two awards in the general rounds.

INTERNATIONAL MOOT COURT COMPETITIONS

2022 was another tremendous year for SMU's Ian R. Taylor Moots Programme. The crowning achievement was coming in #1 worldwide in the **NICA Rankings**, which ranks law schools worldwide based on their performance in a full range of international moot court competitions, and points are proportionate to the scale of each competition. SMU had more than twice the number of points as the second-placed team; teams in the Top 20 included Oxford, Harvard, and King's. This #1 ranking was unsurprising, following a strong start to the season, with SMU winning two Grand Slams in the form of the **Frankfurt** (Zhang Yuqian/Keith Toh/Justin Lai/Neela Alagusundaram) and **Vis East** (Dawn Wee/Elizabeth Wee/Jeremy Chai/Samuel Tay) competitions, securing the tournament record in both competitions in the process. SMU also made its third championship final appearance in the **Red Cross International Humanitarian Law Competition** (Meher Malhotra/Alyssa Tang/Meredith Soh/Bill Puah) – and won it.



Jessup team with their championship finalist plaque in Washington DC. In the last nine years, SMU has reached the final thrice.

Along the way, SMU also made its third championship final appearance in the **Jessup** (Chang Wen Yee/Joel Soon/Brian Wong/Robbie Tan/Allen Chong/Joel Fun), but the final lap of the season was particularly strong, with our students securing maiden wins in the **Perera** (Vinessa Martin/Kit Pang/Linus Koh/Angelina Chew) and **Mandela Human Rights** (Duncan Lim/Ling Shu Yi) tournaments, with the latter returning to the in-person format. In total, SMU won six championships over the season, breaking its previous world record of five championships. Other notable results of the season include reaching the championship finals of the **Price Media Law** (Laura Sim/Chong Kai Sheng/Natalia Ma/Neo Yu Fan/Deborah Lim/Cai Jiaming) and **Stetson Environmental Law** (Ruth Tan/Jeanette Tang/Ling Shu Yi) regional qualifiers and placing third in our **Jackson WTO** (Ethan Lee/Rei Tan/Laszlo Ho/Ivy Hu) debut.



Frankfurt team in action. SMU has been to the championship final thrice since its debut in 2015, winning twice. SMU Frankfurt teams have been coached by Daniel Liu'13 from inception; Luis Duhart'17 came onboard as an assistant after graduating.



Vis East team in action. SMU has been to the championship final thrice, winning twice. The Vis coaching team comprised Deya Dubey'14, Andre Soh'17, Jayakumar Suryanarayanan'20, Soh Kian Peng'21, and Chai Wen Min'21.



Red Cross team, coached by Kartik Singh'18, Lyndon Seow'20, and Tan Bae Huey'20. SMU has been to the championship final thrice.

INTERNATIONAL MEDIATION AND NEGOTIATION COMPETITIONS



APIIT champions

2022 was also a ground-breaking year for our students participating in mediation and negotiation competitions. Highlights include placing second in **CDRC Vienna** (Wang Yi Qin/Miraculin Chrysolite/Raelee Toh/William Leow), winning the negotiation championship in **ALSA International Mediation** (Jolene Tan/Anastasia Teow/Yong Xin), winning the mediation championship in the **International Online Mediation Competition** (Li Xingyu/Loh Tze Siang/Kaelynn Kok), placing third in negotiation at Lex Infinitum (Slevin Chua/Julian Loke/Ivy Hu), placing second in mediation at **NUJS** (Prakhunwicha Sararaksh/William Leow/Koo Guo Xiang), placing second in **FDI Mediation** (Ong Pin Ern/Chloe Lee), and winning the **APIIT International Negotiation Competition** (Ava Leong/Catherine Ezhilvalavan/Niyanta Chowdhury).

SPECIAL FEATURE ON ALUMNI

As part of the celebrations of the law school's 15-year anniversary, our student clubs connected with alumni with similar interests to tap into their expertise and resources. These alumni were also interviewed; these are some excerpts:

The Bar: Louis Lau '21, Justices' Law Clerk

On how law school and his time in The Bar prepared him for life after university:

“ To start, there is simply no choice when it comes to the assignments that you are tasked with completing. This means getting up to speed on unfamiliar, sometimes even entirely new areas of law, in a very short span of time, but fortunately my time in law school prepared me somewhat for this. I found myself doing moots, research assistant roles for professors and other co-curricular commitments, on top of studying, sometimes having these activities at once. This forced me to be disciplined and efficient in my time management, and also trained me to be able to think and work quickly. But a life in legal practice is so much more than just the technical aspects. People-to-people relationships form the core of legal practice. Whether it is in private practice having to manage a client's expectations, or in public service managing the superior's expectations, a good part of work involves having the know-how to interact with and manage people. My time having served in The Bar helped me to hone my communication skills and my empathy towards others, and this has helped me better understand and therefore work with others.



Louis was president of The Bar in 2019 and has worked with the Supreme Court since 2021

”

CoCo: Janice Jiang '22, corporate lawyer

On her key experiences in law school that contributed most to her growth:

“ One of the key experiences in SMU was being a part of CoCo, especially during the COVID years. I learnt a lot about organising events, liaising with sponsors and professors, and the subject matter that we were promoting. I had fun – we organised a field trip to Asia Pacific breweries (I got to try Tiger beer from the tap, which tasted good) and started newsletters to expose the students to different fields of law. Another cool thing I did was joining a hackathon with my friends who studied Information Systems. They did the coding while I came up with the concept and identified problems within the justice system that could be solved with technology. We stayed overnight in school and over the course of a weekend, we designed a chatbot that parses through judgments on LawNet. It was a fun experience that sparked my interest in technology. Afterwards, I started learning basic Python so I can better communicate with programmers in the future.

”

CCJC: Chooi Jing Yen '15, public law litigator

On some of his more memorable cases he has handled:

“ My first murder case—dubbed the ‘Gardens by the Bay murder’ by the media—involved an accused who had strangled his mistress in his car and thereafter burned her body. The Judge asked for the accused's car to be brought to the High Court basement area. She then requested that the accused re-enact what had happened in the car as this would be relevant to his defence. Halfway through the re-enactment, the accused slammed the steering wheel and refused to proceed further. The psychological distress that I witnessed my client go through at having to re-live the moment he killed his mistress, whilst trying to defend himself, left a deep impression.



”

IRC: Chow Zi En '17, Attorney-General's Chambers

On advice for those interested in pursuing a career in international law:

“ Always be ready to take up opportunities that come your way, or to search for them! It was the opportunities at SMU (and later on at NYU) that allowed me to discover and develop my passion for international law. For instance, my participation in various international law moot competitions at SMU catalysed and confirmed my interest in this area of law. Further, doing a directed research paper in place of a module at SMU and taking up the role of a Graduate Editor with the NYU Journal of International Law and Politics equipped me with the skills to formulate a policy position in international law and defend it.



”

LIT: Kenneth Lim '15, inhouse counsel

On how in-house is different from practice:

“ We solve different types of problems. We solve them differently too. An IHC is involved in many settings where the issues at play are not purely ‘legal’. In fact, the IHC's role often involves identifying whether a situation/problem has legal dimensions in the first place. People ‘don't know what they don't know’, so colleagues don't always come forward with clearly defined ‘legal issues’ for our opinion. The nature of an IHC's role also means that you have a lot more reason to hear what different parts of the organisation are doing; what they hope to do; how they plan on doing it, etc. All of this is context that will help ensure that advice you give to your ‘one client’ is relevant and immediately usable.

”

SLOC: Nick Chiam '17, Intellectual Property lawyer

On pro bono:

“ I have realised that anyone with the heart to help the disadvantaged and disenfranchised will quickly find that the demand is endless. With so many people in need, it is easy to feel overwhelmed by the burden to meet every need, and we can end up feeling quite burnt out. But the perspective that one takes towards doing pro bono can help to reduce that mental burden. We should all realise that we cannot change the world alone. We should have the peace of heart that we are each exactly where we need to be, in our station in life, from moment to moment, interacting with exactly the people that we are meant to help. If we are meant to help more people, we need to trust that we will come to meet them eventually.

”

MCC: Shriram Jayakumar '18, commercial litigator

On whether moot court is essential for litigation:

“ Litigation life is much easier with a moot court background. During traineeships, we understood the points of research and drafting of submissions faster because moots had ingrained those core skills in us. The toughest part of litigation lies in your first two years, where tasks such as discovery, document review, trial preparation, and constant communication may overwhelm you. The better you can cope with those, the more likely you'll survive that phase without burning out. If you're not involved in moots, participate in something that hones your research and drafting skills. In my case, I co-founded Lexicon. Having had to edit many articles and help launch the Supreme Court initiative during the club's infancy, I learnt so much in a short time about legal formatting, grammar, and the effective expression of ideas. During your initial years of practice, these areas will land you in hot water if you're not careful.

”



Shriram was an avid mooter in his student days, winning Best Oralist and the championship in the 2018 Jessup national round.

We warmly invite all SMU YPHSL alumni to update us about your achievements via email to siyuanchen@smu.edu.sg

NOTABLE STUDENT EVENTS & ACHIEVEMENTS



Commencement and top award winners

Samuel Chan was named the Kwek Hong Png University Valedictorian—the law school’s seventh since graduating its first batch since 2011—while Joel Fun was named the Kwek Hong Png School of Law Valedictorian. For the LLBs, Chang Wen Yee and Koh Zhi Jia jointly won the Kwa Geok Choo Top Law Student Award; for the JDs, the Wee Chong Jin Most Outstanding JD Graduate Award went to Brian Wong. Apart from their academic achievements, these students were all heavily involved in student competitions (three of them were in the 2022 Jessup team that brought SMU to its third Jessup final in nine years), CCAs, and community service. Many also produced multiple publications in local and overseas law journals. For the undergraduates, the Lai Kew Chai Prize for top first year law student, Rajah & Tann prize for top second year law student, and Punch Coomaraswamy prize for top third year law student went, respectively, to Lee Keeron, Ivan Tang, and Jeremy Chai.

NOTABLE ALUMNI EVENTS & ACHIEVEMENTS

Appointments



EIGHT JUSTICES' LAW CLERKS:

1. Joel Fun
2. Brian Wong
3. Chang Wen Yee
4. Allen Chong
5. Samuel Chan
6. Dhiraj Chainani
7. Don Ho
8. Noémi Chaw

- Dior Lin '11 as partner in Linklaters
- Deya Dubey '14 as partner in WongP
- Clayton Chong '14 as partner in WongP
- Adnaan Noor '14 as counsel in WongP
- Chew Xiang '12 as equity partner in R&T
- Doreen Chia '12 as partner in R&T
- Priscilla Soh '14 as partner in R&T
- Jason Lim '15 as partner in R&T

- Teo Xuan Lang '15 as associate director in Drew & Napier
- Kenny Lau '14 as director in Providence Law Asia
- Eugene Neo '16 as associate director in TSMP
- Vivian Siah '14 as associate director in TSMP
- Akesh Abhilash '13 as of counsel in Harry Elias
- Sui Yi Siong '14 as of counsel in Harry Elias
- Benjamin Bala '15 as counsel in Helmsman
- Deborah Wong '15 as partner in Shook Lin & Bok

We thank the following alumni for returning to teach as adjuncts:

- Chia Chen Wei '18 (Business Law)
- Nick Chiam '17 (Ethics)
- Chow Zi En '17 (LRW II)
- Fong Wei Li '12 (Law & Psychology)
- Gerome Goh '20 (LRW II and Ethics)
- Shriram Jayakumar '18 (LRW II)
- Louis Lau '21 (Business Law)
- Charles Li '12 (Topics in Financial Crime)
- Eden Li '15 (International Moots I)
- Dominic Liew Jr '18 (LRW II)
- Low Jia Na '21 (LRW II)
- Lu Huiyi '21 (LRW II and Ethics)
- Ian Mah '20 (Business Law)
- Melissa Ng '18 (International Moots II)
- Samuel Ng '12 (Ethics)
- Dennis Saw '17 (LRW II)
- Keziah Simon '20 (Ethics)
- Soh Kian Peng '21 (Business Law)
- Patrick Tay '15 (Commercial Law)
- Rennie Whang '20 (LRW II and Ethics)
- Terence Yeo '20 (Business Law)
- Aaron Yoong '19 (Business Law)

Postgraduate studies

- **Columbia:** Shriram Jayakumar '18 and Chen Lixin '19

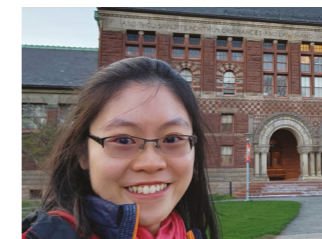


Shriram Jayakumar



Chen Lixin

- **Harvard:** Iris Ng '18, Nguyen Sinh Vuong '19 and Jasper Wong '15



Iris Ng



Nguyen Sinh Vuong



Jasper Wong

Alumni reunions

The following reunions were organised:



Mass Call party for the Class of 2021 on 9 September 2022



The 4th International Moots Alumni Group reunion and fundraiser on 30 December 2022

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AND DONORS**



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As we embark on our mission to develop meaningful legal research and educating lawyers of distinction, the SMU Yong Pung How School of Law, in close partnership with the SMU Office of Advancement, would like to acknowledge and extend our heartfelt gratitude to our benefactors and donors for their kind generosity and contributions. These invaluable gifts have enabled the school to empower students, create knowledge and impact communities.

Through various scholarships, bursaries, academic prizes and awards, your support made the pivotal difference in the programmes available for our students to experience a complete SMU education. They have immersed themselves in the numerous opportunities, not only within the law school but across the University, to explore and discover their passions and potential. Funding for research and academic pursuits have also enabled our faculty to grow thought leadership and be at the forefront of leading the conversations to innovate legal and policy solutions. All these have in turn led to wider collaborations to generate research of importance and excellence with the goal of shaping the future of legal studies and education, thereby creating meaningful and lasting impact for the profession and community-at-large.



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The SMU Yong Pung How School of Law would also like to express our gratitude to many other kind donors, who have requested to remain anonymous, for their generosity.



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Information is correct as of 31 July 2023