

LAU KWAN HO

Associate Professor of Law
Yong Pung How School of Law
Singapore Management University

CURRICULUM VITAE

Lau Kwan Ho is an Associate Professor at the Yong Pung How School of Law, Singapore Management University (SMU). He is a graduate of the National University of Singapore (NUS) and the New York University School of Law. Prior to joining SMU, he was a Senior Associate at Allen & Gledhill LLP and a Justices' Law Clerk with the Supreme Court of Singapore. He was also in-house counsel at the Government of Singapore Investment Corporation (GIC).

Kwan Ho's main research areas are in contract law and private law. He writes as well on judicial decision making in the common law and on the development of the legal profession. He has given expert evidence on Singapore law in foreign court proceedings. Between 2021 and 2024 he served as the Deputy Director of the Centre for Commercial Law in Asia.

His work has been cited by courts in Singapore and Hong Kong; by sitting Commonwealth judges in extra-judicial speeches (including the Chief Justice of Singapore and the Judge in Charge of the English Commercial Court); by regulatory bodies (including the Legal Services Regulatory Authority of Ireland); and in academic treatises and articles (including *Treitel on the Law of Contract* and *Clerk & Lindsell on Torts*).

APPOINTMENT

- | *Associate Professor of Law*, SMU 2025 –
- | *Assistant Professor of Law*, SMU 2018 – 2025

OTHER POSITIONS

External

- | Singapore Academy of Law
 - *Member*, Future of the Legal Profession Committee 2025 –
 - *Ordinary Member* 2012 –
- | *Fudan Law School Fellow*, Fudan University Law School 2024
- | *Senior Fellow*, Melbourne Law School, The University of Melbourne 2023 –

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| <i>Professorial Fellow</i> , AGC-Legal Service Academy, Singapore | 2022 – |
| <i>Special National Rapporteur</i> , International Academy of Comparative Law | 2021 – 2023 |
| <i>Course Coordinator and Facilitator</i> , Part A Bar Examinations Course, Singapore Institute of Legal Education | 2020 – 2025 |
| <i>Advocate and Solicitor</i> , Supreme Court of Singapore | 2014 – |

Editorial Positions

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|--|--------|
| <i>Member</i> , Editorial Board, PinPoint Press (Australia) | 2026 – |
| <i>Member</i> , Journals Editorial Board, Singapore Academy of Law | 2026 – |
| <i>Member</i> , Editorial Board, Brawijaya Law Journal | 2025 – |
| <i>International Editor</i> , Indonesia Journal of Law | 2024 – |

University

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| <i>Member</i> , Undergraduate Curriculum and Branding Committee, Yong Pung How School of Law, SMU | 2024 – |
| <i>Member</i> , University External Engagement Council, SMU | 2024 – 2025 |
| <i>Member (Executive Committee)</i> , University Senate, SMU | 2022 – |
| <i>Deputy Director</i> , Centre for Commercial Law in Asia, SMU | 2021 – 2024 |
| <i>Member</i> , Futures Thinking Group, SMU | 2020 – 2022 |
| <i>Member</i> , Futures Committee, Yong Pung How School of Law, SMU | 2020 |
| <i>Member</i> , Publicity Committee, Yong Pung How School of Law, SMU | 2019 – 2022 |
| <i>Member</i> , Curriculum Review Committee, Yong Pung How School of Law, SMU | 2018 – 2021 |

Professional

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| <i>Assessor</i> , Panel of Assessors for COVID-19 Temporary Relief, Ministry of Law, Singapore | 2020 – 2021 |
| <i>Legal Counsel</i> , Government of Singapore Investment Corporation (GIC) | 2016 |
| <i>Senior Associate / Associate</i> , Allen & Gledhill LLP | 2014 – 2018 |

| *Justices' Law Clerk*, Supreme Court of Singapore 2012 – 2014

VISITING APPOINTMENTS

Asia

| *Visiting Lecturer*, Faculty of Law, Universitas Pelita Harapan 2026

| *Visiting Professor*, College of Law, National Taiwan University 2025

| *Visiting Professor*, School of Law, Fudan University 2024, 2026

| *Visiting Professor*, Faculty of Law, Brawijaya University 2024, 2025

| *Visiting Professor*, School of Law, Sun Yat-sen University 2024

| *Visiting Lecturer*, Faculty of Law, University of North Sumatra 2023

| *Visiting Academic*, Faculty of Law, The University of Hong Kong 2022

| *Visiting Scholar*, Faculty of Law, The Chinese University of Hong Kong 2022

Australia

| *Visiting Professor*, Melbourne Law School, The University of Melbourne 2024, 2026

| *Visiting Academic*, ANU College of Law, Australian National University 2022

| *Visiting Academic*, Faculty of Law and Justice, UNSW Sydney 2022

USA

| *Summer Visiting Lecturer*, Center for Global Law and Policy, Santa Clara University 2024, 2025, 2026

EDUCATION

| LL.M., New York University 2012

| LL.B. (First Class Honours), National University of Singapore 2012

HONOURS AND AWARDS**Research**

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| <i>Lee Kong Chian Fellowship, SMU</i> | 2021, 2022, 2023 |
| <i>D.S. Lee Foundation Fellowship, SMU</i> | 2020 |

TeachingUniversity

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| <i>Most Promising Teacher Award, SMU</i> | 2022 |
| <i>Nominee for Most Promising Teacher Award, SMU</i> | 2021 |
| <i>Nominee for Undergraduate Innovative Teacher Award, SMU</i> | 2020 |

School

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| <i>Postgraduate Teaching Award, Yong Pung How School of Law, SMU</i> | 2024 |
| <i>Dean's Teaching Excellence Award, Yong Pung How School of Law, SMU</i> | 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024 |
| <i>Top LGST Teacher Award, School of Law, SMU</i> | 2020 |
| <i>Most Promising Teacher Award, School of Law, SMU</i> | 2019 |

COURSES TAUGHT

- | Business Law
- | Commercial Law in Asia
- | Contract Law
- | Corporate Law
- | Frontier Global Legal Issues

EXTERNAL GRANTS

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| <i>Southeast Asia-Taiwan Sustainable Trade Law and Relations, Ministry of Education (Collaborator)</i> | 2024 |
| <i>Research Programme in Computational Law, National Research Foundation (Co-Investigator)</i> | 2020 |

CONFERENCE ORGANISATION

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| <i>Asia-Pacific Private Law Conference series (with The University of Hong Kong)</i> | Annual |
| <i>Conference on Sustainable Banking and Financial Regulation in Asia: Principles, Practice and Innovation (with UNSW Sydney)</i> | 2022 |
| <i>Conference on Sustainable Development and Commerce in ASEAN Cities (SMU)</i> | 2021 |
| <i>Conference on Global Public-Private Law Approaches to the COVID-19 Pandemic (SMU)</i> | 2020 |
| <i>Third Asian Private Law Workshop (with The University of Hong Kong)</i> | 2020 |

REFEREE WORK

- | Monograph (contract law): Routledge publishers
- | Articles (contract and commercial law)
 - *Asian Journal of Comparative Law*
 - *Erasmus Law Review*
 - *Legal Studies*
 - *Oxford University Commonwealth Law Journal*
 - *Singapore Academy of Law Journal*
 - *Singapore Journal of Legal Studies*
 - *Singapore Law Blog*
 - *Singapore Law Journal*
- | Articles (legal systems and processes)
 - *Asia Pacific Law Review*
 - *Discover Artificial Intelligence*
 - *Singapore Journal of Legal Studies*

PUBLICATIONS

CONTRACT LAW, PRIVATE AND COMMERCIAL LAW

Book

1. Damian Clifford, Kwan Ho Lau and Jeannie Marie Paterson (eds), *Data and Private Law* (Hart Publishing, 2023)

Articles

2. “Terms Implied by Law: To Exclude or Not to Exclude?”
[2026] *Journal of Business Law* 18–31 [ABDC: A]
3. “A Call for Clarity in Contractual Accessions to Shareholder and Partnership Agreements”
(2025) 45 *Legal Studies* 96–112
4. “Novation and Advance Consent”
[2022] *Cambridge Law Journal* 581–609 [ABDC: A*]
5. “Negligence and the Unfair Contract Terms Act: Experiences in Hong Kong and Singapore Compared”
[2021] *Journal of Business Law* 596–624 [ABDC: A]

Shorter Articles and Notes

6. “Recovering Cost of Cure Damages: The Necessity of Showing an Intention to Cure”
(2024) 140 *Law Quarterly Review* 342–346 [ABDC: A*]
7. “Damages on the Reliance Measure: Musings in Singapore”
(2024) 2 *Contract and Commercial Law Review* 50–55
8. “Contractual Novations: The ‘Partial Novation’ Phenomenon and Is Advance Consent Absolute?”
[2023] 1 *Journal of International Banking and Financial Law* 8–11
9. “No Oral Modification Clauses: Autonomy, Certainty or Presumption?”
[2021] *Cambridge Law Journal* 443–446 [ABDC: A*]
10. “Neither Contract Nor Tort: *Salomon* Triumphant?”
[2020] *Lloyd’s Maritime and Commercial Law Quarterly* 13–20 [ABDC: A]
11. “Negotiating Damages Once Again”
[2019] *Lloyd’s Maritime and Commercial Law Quarterly* 508–517 [ABDC: A]
12. “Contractual Estoppel and the Fork in the Road”
[2019] *Lloyd’s Maritime and Commercial Law Quarterly* 334–343 [ABDC: A]

13. “Taking Bills of Exchange into Arbitration”
(2018) 134 *Law Quarterly Review* 548–552 [ABDC: A*]
14. “Injunctive Relief: But Let’s Agree Not to Have It?”
(2016) 79 *Modern Law Review* 468–476 [ABDC: A*]
15. “Basis Clauses and the Unfair Contract Terms Act 1977” (with Tan Ben Mathias)
(2014) 130 *Law Quarterly Review* 377–382 [ABDC: A*]
16. “Should Claims on a Bill of Exchange Be Stayed in Favour of Arbitration?”
[2014] *Lloyd’s Maritime and Commercial Law Quarterly* 146–151 [ABDC: A]
17. “Unilateral Transfers of Contractual Obligations”
(2013) 129 *Law Quarterly Review* 491–495 [ABDC: A*]

Book Chapters and Others

18. “Illegality and Public Policy”, in *Principles of Singapore Business Law*, 4th ed (Loo Wee Ling, ed) (Cengage Learning, 2026) (forthcoming)
19. “Contract Law in the Digital Era: Navigating Familiar Ways and Forging Fresh Paths in a New World”, in *Asia-Pacific Contracts Law, Vol 1: The Digital World in Context* (Ying Khai Liew and Lusina Ho, eds) (Hart Publishing, 2026) (with Lim How Khang) (forthcoming)
20. “Contract Law”, in *Law and Technology in Singapore*, 2nd ed (Simon Chesterman, Goh Yihan and Andrew Phang Boon Leong, eds) (Academy Publishing, 2025) (with Goh Yihan)
21. “Singapore”, in *New International Commercial Courts: A Comparative Perspective* (Man Yip and Giesela Rühl, eds) (Intersentia, 2024)
22. “Data Rights Incursions: Two Hurdles in the Pursuit of Damages”, in *Data and Private Law* (Damian Clifford, Kwan Ho Lau and Jeannie Marie Paterson, eds) (Hart Publishing, 2023)
23. “Introduction to Data and Private Law”, in *Data and Private Law* (Damian Clifford, Kwan Ho Lau and Jeannie Marie Paterson, eds) (Hart Publishing, 2023) (with Damian Clifford and Jeannie Marie Paterson)
24. “Third Parties”, in *The Law of Contract*, 7th ed (Roger Halson, ed) (LexisNexis, 2022) (with Greg Tolhurst)
25. “Contract Law”, in *Law and Technology in Singapore* (Simon Chesterman, Goh Yihan and Andrew Phang Boon Leong, eds) (Academy Publishing, 2021) (with Goh Yihan)
26. “Illegality and Public Policy”, in *Principles of Singapore Business Law*, 3rd ed (Loo Wee Ling, ed) (Cengage Learning, 2019) (with Anne Magdaline Netto)

27. Book Review of *Australian Banking and Finance Law and Regulation* by Han-Wei Liu and Weiping He (Cambridge University Press, 2024) (with Bryan Leow) (2025) 12 *Brawijaya Law Journal* 176
28. Book Review of *Rectification of Documents* by John Tarrant (Federation Press, 2020) (2020) 32 *Singapore Academy of Law Journal* 1264
29. Book Review of *Legal and Equitable Property Rights* by John Tarrant (Federation Press, 2019) [2020] *Singapore Journal of Legal Studies* 358

COURTS, PROCEDURE, LEGAL PROFESSION AND EDUCATION

Articles

30. “Revisiting the Precedential Status of Crown Court Decisions” (2021) 85 *Journal of Criminal Law* 17–25
31. “Precedent Within the High Court” (2020) 40 *Legal Studies* 397–418
32. “On Mandatory Criminal Sentences, Legislative Interpretation, and the Prospective Application of the Law: A View from Singapore” (2020) 41 *Statute Law Review* 96–124 [ABDC: A]
33. “The High Court as *De Facto* Court of Appeal: A Revisitation of Leave Requirements in the Criminal and Family Court Jurisdictions” [2019] *Singapore Journal of Legal Studies* 108–123 [ABDC: A]
34. “Enlarged Panels in the Court of Appeal of Singapore” (2019) 31 *Singapore Academy of Law Journal* 907–943
35. “The 1994 Practice Statement and Twenty Years On” [2014] *Singapore Journal of Legal Studies* 408–418 [ABDC: A]
36. “Enhancing Sentences in the Absence of a Prosecution Appeal” [2014] *Singapore Journal of Legal Studies* 229–237 [ABDC: A]
37. “Creating Access to Quality Legal Representation – The Queen’s Counsel (Re)Appears in Singapore” (2012) 42 *Hong Kong Law Journal* 481–529 [ABDC: A]

Shorter Articles and Notes

38. “High Court Masters and the Upper Tribunal” (2021) 40 *Civil Justice Quarterly* 249–255 [ABDC: A]
39. “The Use of Domestic Precedents in Proving Foreign Law” [2014] *Lloyd’s Maritime and Commercial Law Quarterly* 461–465 [ABDC: A]

Book Chapters and Others

40. “Judges in Singapore”, in *Status prawny sędziego: Państwa pozaeuropejskie. Tom I (Legal Status of a Judge: Non-European Countries. Volume I)* (Bogusław Przywora and Aleksander Wróbel, eds) (Institute of Justice Press Poland, 2020)
41. “Hearing Essential and Urgent Court Matters During the COVID-19 Pandemic”, in *Law and COVID-19* (Aurelio Gurrea Martínez, Mark Findlay and Goh Yihan, eds) (SMU School of Law e-Book, 2020) (with Daryl Xu) (<https://ssrn.com/abstract=3686357>)
42. “A New Appellate Structure in the Supreme Court: Bigger, and Better” *Singapore Law Gazette* (December 2019) (with Paul Tan) (<https://lawgazette.com.sg/feature/new-appellate-structure-supreme-court>)
43. “A Study in Separate Judgments”, in *Singapore Law: 50 Years in the Making* (Goh Yihan and Paul Tan, eds) (Academy Publishing, 2015)
44. Book Review of *Pioneer, Polymath and Mentor: The Life and Legacy of Yong Pung How* by Andrew Phang (gen ed) (Academy Publishing, 2024) (with Bryan Leow) (2025) 2 *Contract and Commercial Law Review* 186
45. Book Review of *Comparing Online Legal Education: Past, Present and Future* by Luke Nottage and Makoto Ibusuki (eds) (Intersentia, 2023) (with Bryan Leow) (2024) 58 *The Law Teacher* 433

CONFERENCE AND SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS

CONTRACT LAW

1. “Damages for Loss of Chance in Contract Law: A Common Law Perspective”
(Centre for Common Law seminar, Renmin Law School; Beijing, China) Nov 6, 2025
2. “Evaluating the Growing Distance Between AI-driven Transactions and the Human Participant”
(Institute of Law for Science and Technology seminar, National Tsing Hua University; Hsinchu, Taiwan) Nov 4, 2025
3. “The Exclusion of Terms Implied by Law”
(5th Asia-Pacific Private Law Conference; Bangkok, Thailand) May 26, 2025
4. “Can Terms Implied by Law be Excluded? A Critical Examination”
(Centre for Commercial Law and Financial Regulation seminar, Reading Law School; Reading, England) May 22, 2025
5. “Contract Law in the Digital Era in Singapore” (with Lim How Khang)
(Symposium on Asia-Pacific Contracts Law: The Digital World in Context; Hong Kong, China) Jan 10, 2025
6. “Accessions to Shareholder and Partnership Agreements”
(Hong Kong Centre for Maritime and Commercial Law seminar, The City University of Hong Kong; Hong Kong, China) Dec 5, 2024
7. “Common Law Damages for Breach of Contract: Some Recent Developments”
(Fudan University Law School seminar; Shanghai, China) Oct 22, 2024
8. “Contract Law in the Age of Generative Artificial Intelligence”
(Centre for AI and Digital Ethics & Melbourne Centre for Commercial Law research talk, The University of Melbourne; Melbourne, Australia) Aug 7, 2024
9. “Contract Law in the Digital Era: Navigating Familiar Ways and Forging Fresh Paths” (with Lim How Khang)
(21st ASLI Annual Conference; Bangkok, Thailand) May 29, 2024

10. “Adhering to Shareholder Agreements”
(Melbourne Centre for Commercial Law research talk,
The University of Melbourne; Melbourne, Australia) Aug 9, 2023
11. “An Exploration of Contract Law of the Future (aka Who
Says It Has to Evolve?)”
(Allens Hub for Technology, Law and Innovation
seminar, UNSW Sydney; Sydney, Australia) Nov 16, 2022
12. “Contractual Novations and the Giving of Advance
Consent”
(Herbert Smith Freehills China International Business
and Economic Law Centre research seminar, UNSW
Sydney; Sydney, Australia) Nov 9, 2022
13. “Technology and Contract Law: Visions of the Future”
(Faculty of Law research seminar, The Chinese
University of Hong Kong; Hong Kong, China) Oct 26, 2022
14. “Consent in Novation”
(Asia-Pacific Private Law Conference 2021; Hong Kong,
China) May 20, 2021
15. “A Tortious Study of the Unfair Contract Terms Act in
Hong Kong and Singapore”
(Third Asian Private Law Workshop; Singapore) May 28, 2020
16. “Advance Consent in the Law of Novation”
(Contracts Conference 2019; Melbourne, Australia) Dec 5, 2019
17. “The Curious Case of the Commercial Loan and the Law
of Novation”
(Society of Legal Scholars Annual Conference 2019;
Preston, England) Sep 4, 2019
18. “What’s in a Canon of Construction? A Study of the
Contractual Exclusion of the *Contra Proferentem* and
Ejusdem Generis Principles in English Law”
(14th Annual International Conference on Contracts;
New Orleans, USA) Mar 9, 2019
19. “The Tort of Negligence and the Unfair Contract Terms
Act: Experiences in Hong Kong and Singapore
Compared”
(Torts Conference 2018; Melbourne, Australia) Dec 6, 2018

PRIVATE LAW AND COMMERCIAL LAW

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| 20. “Generative AI and Private Law Inquiry” (with Jerrold Soh) (SMU-Notre Dame Commercial and Private Law Workshop; Singapore) | Aug 6, 2025 |
| 21. “‘Norman Hay’ or ‘Dalamd’: How to Calculate Damages for Insurance Broker’s Negligence” (with Özlem Gürses) (The Intersection between Tort and Insurance Law – Insurance Brokers’ Liabilities and Subrogation Conference; London, England) | May 19, 2025 |
| 22. “Leading the Way in International Dispute Resolution: 10 Years of the Singapore International Commercial Court” (Institute of Asian Studies seminar, Universiti Brunei Darussalam; Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei) | Apr 22, 2025 |
| 23. “Private Law Damages for Incursions of Data Rights: A Model Case for State Intervention?” (Obligations Conference X; Banff, Canada) | Jul 13, 2023 |
| 24. “An <i>Amerind</i> in Jersey? A Comparative Analysis of ‘Trust Creditor’ Remedies” (with Eu-Jin Teo) (UWA Private and Commercial Law Annual Conference 2022; Perth, Australia) | Dec 9, 2022 |
| 25. “Damages in Data Rights Claims” (Second Data Rights and Private Law Workshop; Canberra, Australia) | Nov 23, 2022 |
| 26. “Damages and Wrongful Incursions of Data Rights” (with Goh Yihan) (UWA Private and Commercial Law Annual Conference 2021; Perth, Australia) | Dec 10, 2021 |
| 27. “Damages in Data Rights Claims” (with Goh Yihan) (Data Rights and Private Law Colloquium; Canberra, Australia) | Dec 1, 2021 |
| 28. “Challenges for CBDCs, Stablecoins and Digital Payments: Singapore and Beyond” (with Nydia Remolina León) (UNSW seminar on Digital Bank and Digital Currencies: A New World of Banking & Money?; Sydney, Australia) | May 21, 2021 |

COURTS AND LEGAL EDUCATION

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| 29. “Technology-Enhanced Teaching of Contract Law” (Asian Law Schools Association (ALSA) Legal Education Conference 2024; Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia) | Oct 12, 2024 |
| 30. “Lessons from Blended Learning in a Singapore Law School” (Workshop on Reimagining Law Schools: Challenges and Opportunities; Reading, England) | Sep 10, 2024 |
| 31. “Lessons from a Blended Learning Experience in a Singapore Law School” (China & ASEAN Law Education and Legal Talent Training in the Digital Era Conference; Guiyang, China) | Aug 24, 2024 |
| 32. “Masters and <i>Stare Decisis</i> in the High Court” (Society of Legal Scholars Annual Conference 2020; Exeter, England) | Sep 3, 2020 |

PROFESSIONAL SEMINARS

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| 1. “Reviewing Contractual Indemnities” (AGC-Legal Service Academy; Singapore) | Nov 12, 2025 |
| 2. “A Review of Case Law Updates on Waiver in Contract Law” (SMU Law Academy; Singapore) | Aug 15, 2025 |
| 3. “Recent Developments on Waiver in Contract Law” (AGC-Legal Service Academy; Singapore) | Apr 25, 2025 |
| 4. “Legal Updates on Restrictive Covenants in Employment Contracts” (AGC-Legal Service Academy; Singapore) | Nov 7, 2024 |
| 5. “Reviewing Developments Pertaining to the Incorporation of Terms in Contracts” (SMU Law Academy; Singapore) | Sep 20, 2024 |
| 6. “Exemption Clauses and the Imposition of Pre-Contractual and Contractual Liabilities” (AGC-Legal Service Academy; Singapore) | Aug 8, 2024 |
| 7. “Recent Case Law Developments Pertaining to Non-Absolute Contractual Obligations” (SMU Law Academy; Singapore) | Jun 28, 2024 |

8. “Legal Developments in the Field of Contract-Related Remedies”
(SMU Law Academy; Singapore) Mar 22, 2024
9. “Contract-Related Remedies: Some Recent Developments”
(AGC-Legal Service Academy; Singapore) Nov 7, 2023
10. “Principles and Practice in the Incorporation of Terms”
(AGC-Legal Service Academy; Singapore) Jul 18, 2023
11. “Contractual Estoppel: A First Look at *First Tower Trustees* in Hong Kong”
(Asian Institute of International Financial Law, The University of Hong Kong; Hong Kong, China) Jan 5, 2023
12. “Consenting in Advance to Novation: Risks, Benefits and Pitfalls”
(Centre for Comparative and Transnational Law, The Chinese University of Hong Kong; Hong Kong, China) Oct 28, 2022
13. “Non-Absolute Contractual Obligations: Endeavours and Discretionary Clauses”
(AGC-Legal Service Academy; Singapore) Sep 27, 2022
14. “Recent Case Law Developments on the Variation of Contracts”
(SMU Law Academy; Singapore) Sep 23, 2022
15. “Contract Law in a World of New Technology”
(Singapore Judicial College; Singapore) Sep 21, 2022
16. “Contractual Variations: Some Recent Developments”
(AGC-Legal Service Academy; Singapore) May 26, 2022
17. “A Comparative Overview and Update of Contract Law in Singapore 2019” (with Goh Yihan)
(SMU Law Academy; Singapore) Oct 22, 2019
18. “A Comparative Overview and Update of Contract Law in Singapore” (with Goh Yihan)
(SMU Law Academy; Singapore) Aug 8, 2019