

MISSION STATEMENT

Building up the intellectual capital, capability and infrastructure of members of the Singapore Academy of Law.

Promotion of *ESPRIT DE CORPS* among the members of the Singapore Academy of Law.

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Singapore Academy of Law Annual Report 2007/08

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CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF COMMITMENT IN SERVICE TO SINGAPORE'S LEGAL COMMUNITY



This year, the Singapore Academy of Law ("SAL") celebrates its 20th anniversary.

The founding of the Singapore Academy of Law in 1988 marked a milestone in Singapore's legal history as being the only institution of its kind to bring together all the branches of the legal profession into one corporate body.

Over the past 20 years, SAL has evolved from a membership-based body to a service-based institution focusing on three key areas – enhancing legal knowledge, improving the efficiency of legal practice through the use of legal technology and developing and supporting the legal industry. The activities in each of these areas are directed towards raising the standard and quality of legal practice and building a strong legal identity in Singapore. SAL's 20 years of achievements are a testament to its commitment to the legal community, and to the development of an excellent legal system.

20th
Anniversary
1988 - 2008



○ 1988 EVOLUTION

A close-up photograph of a wood surface, showing concentric growth rings. The wood has a warm, golden-brown hue. The rings are clearly defined, with alternating light and dark bands. The texture is smooth but shows natural wood grain variations.

REVOLUTION ○ 2008

GROWING FROM STRENGTH

1988

- Singapore Academy of Law (“SAL”) Act came into effect on 1 November.

1989

- SAL premises were set up at the City Hall.
- Commencement of legal education seminars and law reform programme.
- SAL published the inaugural issue of the *SAL Journal* (“SALJ”), a bi-annual legal journal of articles and commentaries for members.

1990

- Former Prime Minister Mr Lee Kuan Yew officiated at the opening of SAL at the City Hall. The title of Honorary Member for Life and Fellow for Life was conferred on Mr Lee Kuan Yew.
- First SAL Conference, “Legal Services in the 1990s”, was held.
- Former Chief Justice Dr Wee Chong Jin retired as President of SAL on 27 September. Chief Justice Yong Pung How became President of SAL on 28 September.

1992

- Inaugural issue of the *Singapore Law Reports* was published by Butterworths Asia, by authority of SAL.
- The title of Honorary Member for Life and Fellow for Life was conferred on former Chief Justice Dr Wee Chong Jin and Dr David Marshall.

1994

- Inaugural SAL Annual Lecture was held.

1995

- SAL collaborated with the then Television Corporation of Singapore to produce a documentary, “The Passage of Law”.
- Inaugural issue of Academy Digest (Supreme Court Series) was published.
- SAL inaugurated a Five-year Series conference on the developments in Singapore law, “Review of Judicial and Legal Reforms in Singapore between 1990 and 1995”.
- First SAL legal heritage exhibition was held at City Hall Chamber.
- The Singapore Academy of Law (Amendment) Act 1995 was passed. SAL’s functions were expanded to include development of legal infrastructure and services in Singapore.

TO STRENGTH

1996

- Powers of appointment of commissioners for oaths and notaries public were transferred to SAL from Supreme Court and Attorney-General's Chambers respectively. Authentication service for notaries public signatures was introduced.
- The SAL Scholarship Scheme was introduced.
- LawNet was transferred to SAL from Attorney-General's Chambers.

1997

- First batch of 12 Senior Counsel was appointed in Singapore.
- SAL incorporated the Singapore Mediation Centre ("SMC") to promote mediation services for civil disputes in the High Court. SMC was launched by former Chief Justice Yong Pung How.
- SAL commenced Stakeholding Service for new residential and commercial properties in Singapore.

1998

- SAL launched Legal Workbench, an online legal research service for the *Singapore Law Reports*, *Malayan Law Journal*, Versioned Legislation Database, *Parliamentary Reports*, *Academy Digest (Supreme Court Series)* and Unreported Judgments. Legal Workbench was launched by former Chief Justice Yong Pung How.

1999

- SAL took over responsibility for the promotion of international arbitration in Singapore, with the transfer of Singapore International Arbitration Centre ("SIAC") from Trade Development Board to SAL.

2000

- Supreme Court's Electronic Filing System was introduced on LawNet.
- SAL held the Millennium Law Conference to address trends and landscape issues facing the legal profession.
- LawNet celebrated its 10th anniversary with the launch of new databases in Legal Workbench for commercial precedents, SAcLJ Online, Legal Journals Index and Heritage Law Reports.

2001

- SAL published the inaugural issue of *SAL Annual Review of Singapore Cases* which evaluates decisions by Singapore Courts in the preceding year on principal areas of law.
- SAL set up the Legal Development Fund, to fund courses in new areas of law.
- Second conference in the Five-year Series, "Developments in Singapore Law between 1996 and 2000", was held.

- SMC launched Singapore Domain Name Dispute Resolution Policy (“SDRP”) which provides a framework for resolving “.sg” domain name disputes.
- SAL held its first Strategic Planning Retreat to set future directions and consolidate its services and programmes.

2002

- The Council of Law Reporting was formed to oversee law reporting in Singapore.

2003

- SAL assumed full publishing responsibilities for the *Singapore Law Reports*, and commenced the *Singapore Law Reports (Reissue)* project.
- SAL inaugurated the Expert Series lunch-talk to introduce the legal profession to experts in other fields of study and work.
- SIAC was transferred to Singapore Business Federation to create an alliance with the business community.
- SAL conducted a review of the Electronic Filing System.
- SAL inaugurated the SAL Visiting Fellows Programme to bring in distinguished academics from common law jurisdictions.

2005

- SMC was appointed an Authorised Nominating Body under the Building and Construction Industry Security of Payment Act 2004 (“SOP Act”) to administer the adjudication process under the SOP Act.
- SAL and SMC were relocated to the new Supreme Court building. The SAL Restaurant in City Hall was closed and replaced by the Academy Bistro in the new building.
- SAL held its second SAL Strategic Planning Retreat to address its response to landscape issues facing the legal profession.

2006

- Third conference in the Five-year Series, “SAL Conference 2006 – Developments in Singapore Law between 2001 and 2005”, was held.
- SAL launched the SingaporeLaw website, a one-stop web portal to provide updated and relevant information on Singapore law.
- Former Chief Justice Yong Pung How retired as President of SAL on 10 April. Chief Justice Chan Sek Keong became President of SAL on 11 April.
- The title of Honorary Member for Life and Fellow for Life was conferred on former Chief Justice Yong Pung How.

- SMC launched its Small Case Commercial Mediation Scheme.
- SAL celebrated the 180th anniversary of the Second Charter of Justice with a monograph of the same title.

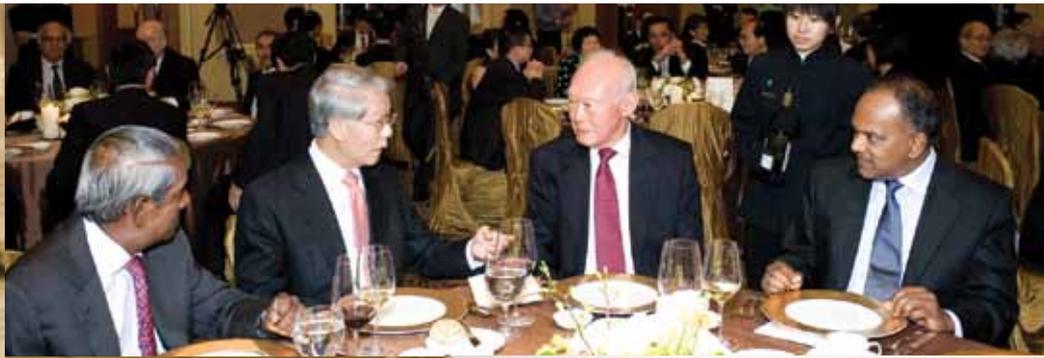
2007

- SAL was restructured into three legal clusters and a corporate services cluster to focus on different aspects of work. The legal clusters are Legal Knowledge, Legal Technology and Legal Industry.
- New SAL website was launched, providing online events registration, online bookshop, digital library, and an integrated backend for accounts and membership.
- SMC became a founding member of the International Mediation Institute (“IMI”) based in the Netherlands. IMI aims to put in place international competency standards for mediators.
- Academy Publishing, the publishing arm of SAL, was launched by Chief Justice Chan Sek Keong to publish authoritative texts on Singapore law.
- Academy Publishing published *Ethics and Professional Responsibility* which provided, for the first time in Singapore, a set of codified principles for legal ethics. This book is the first title published by Academy Publishing
- New *Inter Se*, an SAL bi-annual periodical for members, was published.

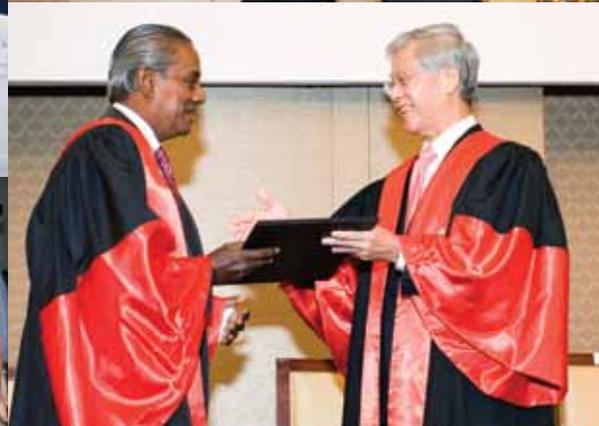
- New portal LawNet2 was launched by Chief Justice Chan Sek Keong to provide integrated search and access to Singapore, Malaysian and English case law.
- The Executive Committee held an inaugural Appreciation Dinner for all SAL committees and boards.
- SMC celebrated its 10th anniversary with the signing of an MOU in Singapore with regional mediation bodies to form the Asian Mediation Association, to promote the use of mediation in international cases in Asia.

2008

- SAL launched the Singapore Law Watch, a free “one-stop” daily legal news service for the legal community and public.
- SAL celebrated its 20th anniversary with a special edition, legal heritage themed Member’s Diary and an exhibition entitled “Legal Legacies: The Story of Singapore Law”, which included a final salute tour of the old Supreme Court building.
- SAL inaugurated the SAL Merit Awards and Singapore Law Merit Awards at its 20th Anniversary cum Appreciation Dinner.
- The title of Honorary Member for Life and Fellow for Life was conferred on Deputy Prime Minister and Co-ordinating Minister for National Security Professor S Jayakumar.

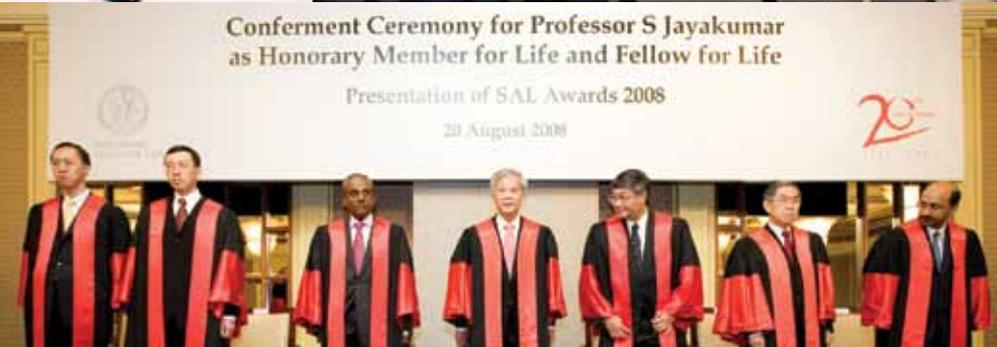


Presentation of SAL Awards 2008
20 August 2008



Conferment Ceremony for Professor S Jayakumar
as Honorary Member for Life and Fellow for Life

Presentation of SAL Awards 2008
20 August 2008



SPECIAL EVENTS IN 2008

20TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

SAL undertook several special projects to commemorate its 20th anniversary. To kick start the celebrations, in mid December 2007, SAL presented members with a limited edition Member's Diary which featured a legal heritage theme.

An e-album was launched on the main SAL website on 1 January 2008, depicting SAL's milestones, historical photos and events over the last 20 years.

The highlight event of SAL's 20th anniversary celebrations was a month-long legal heritage exhibition held from 4 July to 1 August 2008. Legal Legacies: The Story of Singapore Law, held at the new Supreme Court, with guided tours of the old Supreme Court, was very well received and more than 5,000 people visited the exhibition.

The SAL Appreciation Dinner was held on 20 August 2008 for SAL Senate and Committee members.

CONFERMENT OF HONORARY MEMBER FOR LIFE AND FELLOW FOR LIFE

The Senate elected Deputy Prime Minister and Co-ordinating Minister for National Security Professor S Jayakumar as Honorary Member for Life and Fellow for Life of the Singapore Academy of Law. The conferment ceremony was held on 20 August 2008, in conjunction with the SAL Appreciation Dinner 2008.

PRESENTATION OF SAL AWARDS

The SAL Awards were inaugurated at the SAL Appreciation Dinner. Two types of awards were given. The SAL Merit Awards were given to five recipients for outstanding service in promoting and advancing the objectives of the Academy. The Singapore Law Merit Awards were given to three recipients for outstanding contributions to the development of Singapore law.

PRESIDENT'S REVIEW

Over the last 20 years, SAL has helped to raise the quality of our legal services and the international profile of our legal system through its many seminars and conferences, and services like LawNet and mediation.

This has been an eventful year for the Singapore Academy of Law, not least because it commemorated its 20th anniversary with a range of activities that culminated in a special ceremony to confer the title of Honorary Member for Life and Fellow for Life on Professor S Jayakumar, Deputy Prime Minister and Co-ordinating Minister for National Security for his invaluable contributions to the legal profession and the nation.

Held in conjunction with this ceremony was an appreciation dinner for the SAL's latest Honorary Life Member as well as for all the members of the SAL who had made significant contributions to the growth of the SAL in stature and reputation in promoting professional legal education and training in Singapore.

The occasion was graced by Minister Mentor Lee Kuan Yew who was the real founder of the SAL as acknowledged by Professor Jayakumar in his informative and encouraging speech on the accomplishments of the SAL in the last 20 years.

The various milestones in the development of the SAL are neatly summarised in the opening pages of this annual report. It can be readily seen that we have made steady progress year by year in ensuring that there is full collaboration and co-operation

among all the sectors of the legal community, from the Judiciary to the Bar to the legal service officers and the law academics. Today, SAL has grown into an organisation that is involved in many, if not all, important areas of the domestic legal services sector.

Some of our major achievements in the year under review are examples of how SAL continues to expand its functions and introduce new services to keep up with the times.

In July 2007, we launched the new LawNet portal (LawNet2). In addition to a more powerful search engine and a revamped look, there are many features and tools in LawNet2 that allow subscribers to search, save and manage information.

In January this year, SAL introduced another web-based facility, the Singapore Law Watch ("SLW"). SLW is a free 'one-stop' daily legal news service that tracks the latest legislative changes, the latest Singapore Supreme Court judgments, current legal news in the media, as well as articles and commentaries on the impact of all these developments. With an average of 5,000 to 6,000 visitors a month from readers in Singapore, Asia, the UK and the USA, we are confident that SLW will grow to be the website of choice for anyone who wishes



to keep the pulse on the latest legal developments in Singapore.

Today, members of the legal profession are increasingly sophisticated users of technology. With more than 80% of Singapore practitioners holding IDs to Legal Workbench, online subscriptions of the Singapore Law Reports have outstripped subscriptions for the print copy. But, even with the popularity and proliferation of online material and legal databases, we believe that the legal textbook will continue to have an edge over screen texts in terms of convenience and efficiency in providing access to the law in a digested and readable form.

In May 2007, SAL saw the fruition of a new idea, that of publishing law books and legal texts. Academy Publishing began operation as a new division within SAL to publish books and other texts on the law of Singapore and Malaysia (where the source of Malaysian law is the same as that of Singapore law).

Besides making legal materials more affordable, we hope that Academy Publishing will help to create a learning environment by providing an alternative avenue for academics and practitioners to publish their writings and share their knowledge with the profession and the public.

This year, we started the SAL Awards to honour members who have made key contributions in promoting the objectives of the Singapore Academy of Law. We hope that these awards will spur more members to take pride in the work of SAL and contribute to its singular role in the legal services sector in Singapore.

Over the last 20 years, SAL has helped to raise the quality of our legal services and the international profile of our legal system through its many seminars and conferences, and services like LawNet and mediation. We have other goals to achieve and many projects are in the pipeline.

I wish to thank all those members of SAL who have given their time and resources to serve in the various committees and sub-committees during the year. Without them, SAL would not have been able to discharge its functions creditably and efficiently.

Looking ahead, I am confident that SAL will make further progress in advancing and promoting its goals and in improving the legal environment in Singapore.

**CHIEF JUSTICE CHAN SEK KEONG
PRESIDENT
SINGAPORE ACADEMY OF LAW**



THE SENATE

The Senate is headed by the Honourable the Chief Justice Chan Sek Keong as President of the Academy. The Vice-Presidents of the Academy are the Honourable Attorney-General Professor Walter Woon; the Honourable Justice Chao Hick Tin; the Honourable Justice Andrew Phang Boon Leong; the Honourable Justice V K Rajah; President of the Law Society of Singapore, Mr Michael Hwang, SC and the Dean of the Faculty of Law of the National University of Singapore, Professor Tan Cheng Han, SC

The Senate also comprises the High Court Judges, the Solicitor-General, academia and the practising profession.

Seated from left to right:

Professor Tan Cheng Han, SC, Justice V K Rajah, Justice Chao Hick Tin, Chief Justice Chan Sek Keong, Justice Andrew Phang Boon Leong, Mr Michael Hwang, SC

Standing from left to right (1st row):

Justice Woo Bih Li, Justice Choo Han Teck, Professor Hans Tjio, Ms Malathi Das, Justice Lai Siu Chiu, Justice Belinda Ang Saw Ean, Justice Kan Ting Chiu, Mr Sundaresh Menon, SC, Professor Yeo Tiong Min, Mr Yap Teong Liang

Standing from left to right (2nd row):

Mr Tan Chee Meng, SC, Justice Lee Seiu Kin, Justice Tay Yong Kwang, Mr Goh Joon Seng, Mr Joseph Grimberg, SC, Mr Giam Chin Toon, SC, Justice Andrew Ang, Justice Chan Seng Onn, Justice Tan Lee Meng

Not in picture:

Attorney-General Professor Walter Woon, Justice Judith Prakash, Solicitor-General Mrs Koh Juat Jong

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

CHIEF JUSTICE CHAN SEK KEONG

President of the
Singapore Academy
of Law

The President became Chief Justice on 11 April 2006, having served as (a) Judicial Commissioner from July 1986 to June 1988; (b) Judge of the Supreme Court from July 1988 to April 1992; and (c) Attorney-General from May 1992 to April 2006. He also holds concurrent appointments as the President of the Legal Service Commission and Chairman of the Presidential Council for Minority Rights.



ATTORNEY- GENERAL PROFESSOR WALTER WOON

Vice President
Chairman
Board of Legal Education

Attorney-General Professor Walter Woon was appointed the Attorney-General of Singapore on 11 April 2008. Before his appointment, he served as the Solicitor-General from 2007 to 2008.



JUSTICE CHAO HICK TIN

Vice President
Chairman
Publications
Committee

Justice Chao Hick Tin is the Vice-President of the Court of Appeal. Justice Chao was reappointed Judge of Appeal on 11 April 2008. Before his reappointment, he was the Attorney-General from 2006 to 2008 and the Judge of Appeal from 1999 to 2006.



JUSTICE ANDREW PHANG BOON LEONG

Vice President
Chairman
Committee on Legal
Education and Studies
Council of Law Reporting
Commissioning Panel

Justice Andrew Phang, was appointed a Judge of the Supreme Court in December 2005, and appointed Judge of Appeal in February 2006. He was professor of law and chaired the department of law in the business school of Singapore Management University before he was appointed Judicial Commissioner in January 2005.



JUSTICE V K RAJAH

Vice President
Chairman
Professional Affairs
Committee
International Promotion of
Singapore Law Committee

Justice Rajah was appointed a Judge of Appeal of the Supreme Court on 11 April 2007. Prior to his elevation to the Bench in 2004, he was appointed Senior Counsel in 1997 and was the Managing Partner of Rajah & Tann.

MR MICHAEL HWANG, SC

Vice-President

Mr Michael Hwang, SC was elected as the President of The Law Society of Singapore in January 2008. Mr Hwang served as Judicial Commissioner of the Supreme Court of Singapore for 19 months from 1991. Mr Hwang was appointed one of the first 12 Senior Counsel of the Supreme Court of Singapore in 1997.



PROFESSOR TAN CHENG HAN, SC

Vice-President

Professor Tan Cheng Han, SC is Dean of the Faculty of Law, National University of Singapore. Professor Tan is also a Consultant at TSMP Law Corporation. He was appointed a Senior Counsel in 2004.



JUSTICE KAN TING CHIU

**Chairman
Legal Heritage
Committee**

Justice Kan Ting Chiu was appointed a Judicial Commissioner in May 1991 and became a Judge of the Supreme Court in May 1994. He joined the Singapore Legal Service in 1970, and resigned in 1976 as Senior Magistrate to go into private practice as a general litigator.



JUSTICE LAI SIU CHIU

**Chairperson
Membership and Social
Committee**

Justice Lai Siu Chiu was appointed a Judicial Commissioner on 2 May 1991 and a Judge of the Supreme Court on 2 May 1994. She was the first woman to be appointed to the Supreme Court Bench. Before her elevation to the Bench, Justice Lai was a senior partner at Allen & Gledhill, then and now the largest law firm in Singapore.



JUSTICE JUDITH PRAKASH

**Chairperson
Law Reform
Committee**

Justice Judith Prakash was appointed a Judicial Commissioner in April 1992 and appointed Judge in April 1995. She was called to the Bar in 1975 and practised law for 18 years before she was made a Judicial Commissioner.



JUSTICE TAN LEE MENG

**Chairman
Annual Lecture
Organising Committee
Staff Committee**

Justice Tan Lee Meng was appointed a Judge of the Supreme Court in August 1997. Before his elevation to the Bench, he was Dean of the Faculty of Law, National University of Singapore.



JUSTICE LEE SEIU KIN

**Chairman
LawNet Management
Committee
Electronic Litigation
Systems Committee**

Justice Lee Sei Kin was appointed a Judge of the Supreme Court in April 2006. Between October 2002 and April 2006 he was Second Solicitor-General of the Attorney-General's Chambers.



MR JOSEPH GRIMBERG, SC

**Chairman
Board of Commissioners
for Oaths and Notaries
Public**

Mr Joseph Grimberg, SC was appointed Judicial Commissioner of the Supreme Court in 1987. Mr Grimberg re-joined Drew & Napier as a Consultant in 1989 and is now the Senior Consultant. He was appointed a Senior Counsel in 1997.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

ACADEMY EVENTS AND NEW SERVICES:
1 APRIL 2007 ± 31 MARCH 2008

◦ 2007

APRIL

- Dinner Presentation in Mumbai: “Singapore: Your Partner for Legal Solutions Outside India”. Four major Indian organisations signed a Statement of Endorsement as an indication of their support for the use of Singapore law and Singapore as a dispute resolution venue outside of India. ▼



- Singapore Mediation Centre (“SMC”) became a founding member of the International Mediation Institute (“IMI”), formed in The Hague to establish global competency standards for mediators.

MAY

- Launch of Academy Publishing, a new publishing division of the SAL, by Chief Justice Chan Sek Keong.
- Launch of *Ethics and Professional Responsibility: A Code for the Advocate and Solicitor* by Professor Jeffrey Dan Pinsler, SC (Academy Publishing, Law Practice Series, 2007).
- Newly admitted advocates and solicitors were presented with a complimentary copy of the Ethics book to encourage them to start their careers as ethical and responsible lawyers. ▼



JULY

- SMC hosted the 2007 International Negotiation Competition (“INC”), an annual competition designed to foster negotiation skills in law students.

- The new LawNet portal (LawNet2) was launched. The advanced portal providing a suite of new legal research tools, integrated access to English law and due diligence databases through a single point of access was launched by Chief Justice Chan Sek Keong.
- *Confidentiality in Arbitration: How Far Does it Extend?* by Quentin Loh Sze On, SC and Edwin Lee Peng Khoo was published (Academy Publishing, Monograph Series, 2007).
- The Medical Mediation Scheme was jointly developed by SMC and the Ministry of Health to manage healthcare disputes.
- Launch of Asian Mediation Association (“AMA”). SMC and four other leading mediation centres in Asia signed an MOU to form AMA to promote the use of mediation to amicably settle the disputes of businesses operating in the region.



AUGUST

- Island Rover 2007: Car Rally and Makan-Heaven Treasure Hunt attracted 270 participants from various branches of the legal profession. ▼



- SMC’s 10th Anniversary Celebrations. The celebrations marked a decade of SMC providing mediation and other related dispute resolution services in Singapore. Professor Tommy Koh was a guest speaker at the SMC anniversary luncheon. ▼



- “10th Singapore Conferences on International Business Law – The Regulation of Wealth Management” was jointly organised by SAL and NUS Law Faculty. ▲

SEPTEMBER

- The Singapore Academy of Law Annual Lecture 2007 was delivered by The Honourable Murray Gleeson AC, Chief Justice of Australia. ▼



OCTOBER

- The Malaysian Bar was given a preview of LawNet2.
- *The Law in Corruption in Singapore: Cases and Materials* by Tan Boon Gin was published (Academy Publishing, Monograph Series, 2007)



NOVEMBER

- Inaugural Ethics Workshop “The Advocate & Solicitor and His Client” jointly organised by the SAL Professional Affairs Committee (Professional Values Chapter) and The Law Society Ethics Committee. ▼

- Launch of *Lives in the Law – A Festschrift* in honour of Peter Ellinger, Koh Kheng Lian and Tan Sook Yee, edited by Dora Neo, Tang Hang Wu and Michael Hor (Academy Publishing / NUS Faculty of Law, 2007). ▼



DECEMBER

- Theatre Magic for Children was the theme of SAL's annual charity event in 2007. Academy members and law firms participated in various ways to make the event an enjoyable experience for the children from Melrose Home. ▼

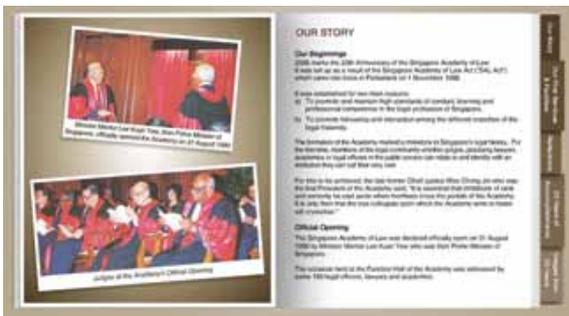
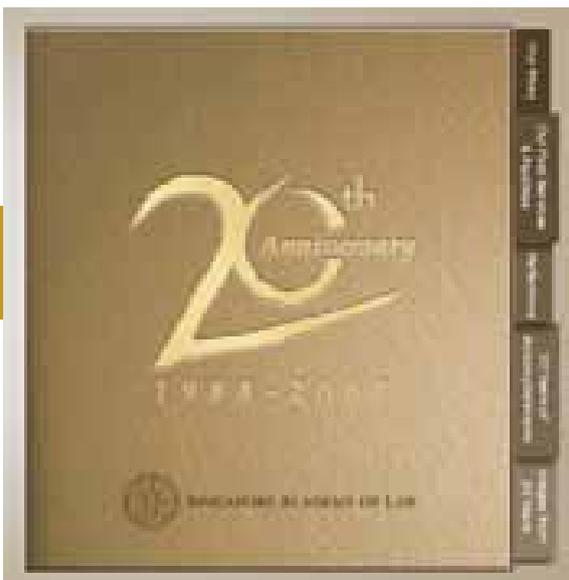


- A special edition 2008 Members' Diary with a legal heritage theme was produced and presented to members. ▼



JANUARY

- Six new Senior Counsel were appointed.
- To kick-start SAL's 20th anniversary celebrations, a special 20th anniversary logo was designed for use on SAL's stationery and website. An anniversary website in the form of an e-album was also launched on the SAL website on 1 January 2008. ▼



- Launch of Singapore Law Watch, a legal news service to keep readers abreast of the latest developments in law and practice.
- SMC collaborated with Singapore Sports Council and other ADR institutions to launch 'ADR Sports', a dispute resolution scheme specially developed to handle sports disputes.

MARCH

- SAL Law Debate 2008 – “Litigation: A Man’s Domain?” ▼



OUTPUT AT A GLANCE

LEGAL KNOWLEDGE

LEGAL EDUCATION AND STUDIES

20 legal education events conducted

1,086 persons attended

LAW REFORM

7 matters considered

LEGAL HERITAGE

1 oral history interview completed

PUBLICATIONS AND EDITORIAL SERVICES

Academy magazine (*Inter Se*):

2 issues published

Singapore Law Reports:

25 fortnightly parts published

181 cases reported (**129** High Court

decisions and **52** Court of Appeal decisions)

Academy Publishing Books:

4 books published

SAL Annual Review of Singapore Cases (2007):

1 issue published

Singapore Academy of Law Journal:

3 issues published

Pre-Impress Editing:

65 judgments received for editing

LEGAL INDUSTRY

MEMBERSHIP ACTIVITIES

- 268** new memberships signed up
- 331** waivers approved
- 14** social events; **1,300** persons attended

PROFESSIONAL AFFAIRS

- 5** talks and seminars
- 3** dialogue sessions
- 1** report submitted

APPOINTMENTS

- Senior Counsel:
6 persons appointed
- Commissioner for Oaths:
1,586 persons appointed
- Notaries Public:
477 persons appointed

AUTHENTICATION SERVICE

28,136 certificates issued

SMC MEDIATION

- 69** matters mediated
- 56** adjudications concluded

SMC TRAINING

46 workshops; **905** persons attended

LEGAL TECHNOLOGY

LAWNET SERVICES

Number of users (as at 31 March 2008): **3,762**

Number of transactional databases: **27**

Number of legal research databases:
Primary legal material (including legislation,
parliamentary and case material): **26**
(**2** new databases added)

Journals and legal articles: **36**
(**12** new databases added)

Textbooks, research reports and
precedents: **16**
(**5** new databases added)

LAWNET TRAINING CENTRE

94 classes conducted; **1,647** persons
attended

CORPORATE SERVICES

STAKEHOLDING SERVICES

- 4,806** payment-in cases
- 5,364** payment-out cases

THE YEAR IN PERSPECTIVE

LEGAL KNOWLEDGE

LEGAL EDUCATION AND STUDIES

The Committee on Legal Education and Studies is chaired by the Honourable Justice Andrew Phang Boon Leong.

The Academy turned in a year of quality legal education events, including seminars and a conference conducted by eminent academics. A total of 1,086 participants attended the events.

The Academy embarked on a calendar of monthly lunch-time talks on topics of current interests. Four talks under the auspices of the SAL Expert Series were organised during the period under review and they dealt with a range of topical issues such as the sub-prime debacle, the new geo-politics of Asia, Indonesia-Singapore relations and the US Presidential elections.

The highlight event of the year under review was the 10th Singapore Conference on International Business Law – The Regulation of Wealth Management held on 22-23 August 2007. The opening address was delivered by The Honourable the Chief Justice

Chan Sek Keong. A total of 87 delegates, 12 speakers, and four chairpersons attended this two-day conference which was jointly organised with National University of Singapore (“NUS”).

Other well-attended events included seminars on Company Charges, Comparative Contract Law, Equity and Insolvency and Commercial Contract Law.

SINGAPORE ACADEMY OF LAW ANNUAL LECTURE 2007

The Honourable Murray Gleeson AC, Chief Justice of Australia, delivered the 14th Singapore Academy of Law Annual Lecture on “Australia’s Contribution to the Development of the Common Law”. The lecture was held on 20 September 2007 at the Supreme Court Auditorium and was attended by 688 people.

POSTGRADUATE PRACTICAL LAW COURSE

The Board of Legal Education (“BLE”), a body created under the Legal Profession Act, is chaired by



the Honourable Attorney-General Professor Walter Woon. Members of the board are appointed by the SAL Senate. The BLE has its own Secretariat.

In 2007, the Board provided training for 268 law graduates in its Postgraduate Practical Law Course ("PLC"). All the PLC students were successful in their examinations. Emphasis continued to be placed on attendance.

The Board prepared a Code of Conduct to be issued under the proposed Legal Profession (Postgraduate Practical Course in Law - Students' Conduct & Discipline) Rules 2008.

SCHOLARSHIP AND PRIZES

The winners of the SAL prizes in NUS and Temasek Polytechnic for FY2007/2008 are Ms Tan Liang Ying, top final-year student at the Faculty of Law, NUS and Mr Wang Hup Ngee Henry, the top student in the Diploma in Law & Management, Temasek Polytechnic.



SAL Annual Lecture 2007

The Honourable Chief Justice of Australia Murray Gleeson AC was the guest speaker at the 14th Singapore Academy of Law Annual Lecture.

LAW REFORM

The Law Reform Committee is chaired by the Honourable Justice Judith Prakash and it held nine meetings during the period under review.

Matters considered by the Committee included a review of ancillary matrimonial orders after foreign divorce or annulment, reciprocal enforcement of maintenance orders, the leave to appeal in the Supreme Court of Judicature Act, loss of inheritance in the Civil Law Act, legal profession privilege, online gaming and Powers of Attorney Act.

The Committee also discussed the draft Mental Capacity Bill put up by the Ministry of Community Development, Youth and Sports and the Ministry of Law, and submitted its comments to the Ministry of Law.



Launch of Academy Publishing

The first work published under the auspices of Academy Publishing was one which was specially commissioned by Chief Justice Chan Sek Keong to start the Law Practice Series.

LAW REPORTING

The Council of Law Reporting is chaired by the Honourable Justice Andrew Phang Boon Leong.

The Academy published four volumes of the *Singapore Law Reports* ("SLR") in 2007. For the period 1 April 2007 to 31 March 2008, 25 fortnightly-parts of the SLR were produced. A total of 129 High Court decisions and 52 Court of Appeal decisions were reported, comprising 59% and 93% of all written decisions delivered by the High Court and Court of Appeal, respectively.

As at 31 December 2007, there were a total of 395 hard copy subscriptions to the SLR (comprising 358 Parts sets and 133 Bound Volume sets).

Online subscriptions now form the bulk of local SLR subscriptions with more than 80% of Singapore practitioners holding IDs to Legal Workbench.

The editing of all volumes in the *Singapore Law Reports (Reissue)* ("SLR(R)") series, comprising Supreme Court cases reported from 1965–2009, is now targeted for completion by mid-2009; editorial operations should be completed by

November 2009. The SLR(R) series is targeted for launch in January 2010. The consolidated indexes and tables for the series should be available in the first quarter of 2010.

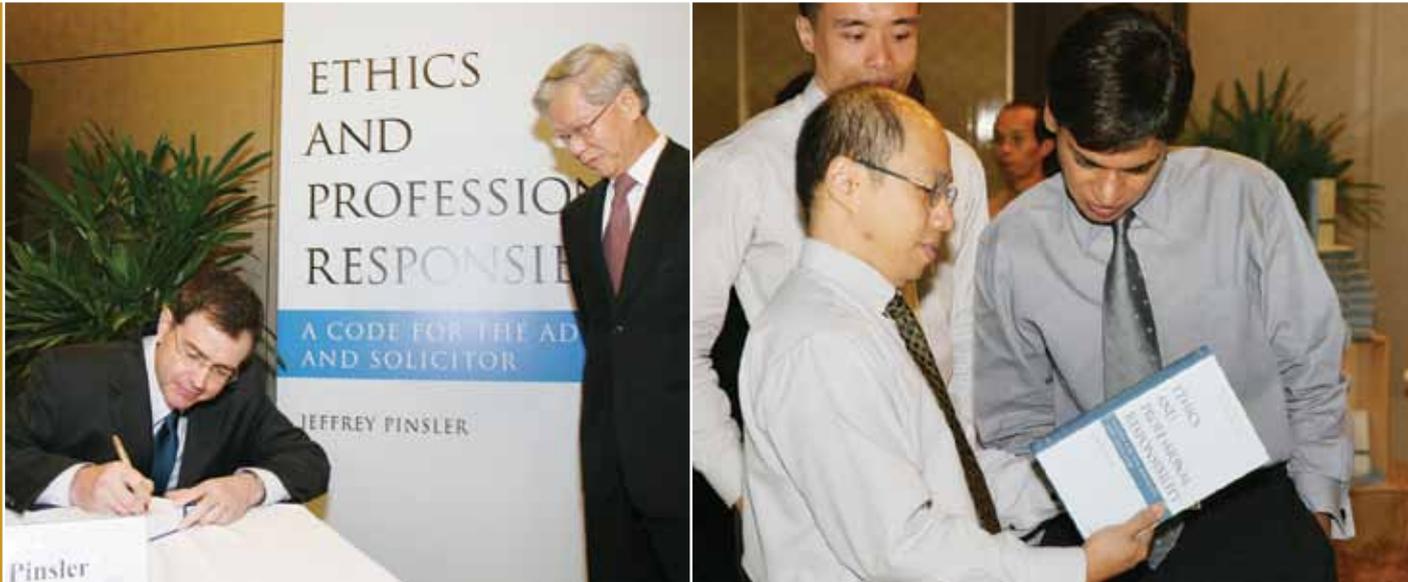
The pre-Impress editing workflow for Supreme Court judgments was re-organised: pre-Impress editorial services for High Court judgments ceased; similar services for Court of Appeal judgments were transferred from SAL to the Supreme Court with the secondment of SAL's Chief Editor to the Supreme Court.

LEGAL JOURNALS

The Publications Committee is chaired by the Honourable Justice Chao Hick Tin.

In FY2007/2008, the committee published the March 2007, September 2007 and March 2008 issues of the *Singapore Academy of Law Journal* ("SACLJ"). The SACLJ was elevated to a Tier 1 journal in both the NUS and SMU during the review period.

The Academy also published the seventh issue of the *Singapore Academy of Law Annual Review of Singapore Cases*.



From June 2007, *Inter Se* was re-formatted as *Inter Se Online*, a monthly e-periodical and *Inter Se Print*, a bi-annual print periodical. Two issues of *Inter Se Print* and 11 issues of *Inter Se Online* were published. However, with the advent of Singapore Law Watch, *Inter Se Online* was rendered superfluous and discontinued with the April 2008 issue.

LAW BOOKS AND MONOGRAPHS

The Commissioning Panel is chaired by the Honourable Justice Andrew Phang Boon Leong.

Academy Publishing was launched on 18 May 2007 to undertake the operational aspects of the publishing division within the Academy.

Academy Publishing aims to provide affordable local legal materials to the legal profession and law students, provide an alternative avenue to academics in the two law schools in Singapore to publish their writings and disseminate the laws of Singapore to a wider public in the region or internationally.

Four new titles were published in the period under review. These include *Ethics and Professional Responsibility: A Code for the Advocate and Solicitor* by Professor Jeffrey Pinsler, SC; *Confidentiality in Arbitration?: How Far Does It Extend?* by Mr Quentin Loh Sze On, SC and Mr Edwin Lee Peng Khoo; *The Law on Corruption in Singapore: Cases and Materials* by Mr Tan Boon Gin, a joint publication with the Subordinate Courts; and a festschrift titled *Lives in the Law*, co-published with the NUS, Faculty of Law, to honour Emeritus Professor Peter Ellinger, Emeritus Professor Koh Kheng Lian and Professor Tan Sook Yee.

LEGAL HERITAGE

The Legal Heritage Committee is chaired by the Honourable Justice Kan Ting Chiu.

The oral history interview of Professor Lionel Astor ("Lee") Sheridan was completed in the year under review.

Work on the comparing and compiling of the various legal databases into a master index has commenced. The committee also continued work on the publication on the former Chief Justice Wee Chong Jin.

THE YEAR IN PERSPECTIVE

LEGAL INDUSTRY

THE STEERING COMMITTEE ON STRATEGIC DIRECTION

The Steering Committee is chaired by the Honourable Justice V K Rajah and is charged with implementing the approved strategic plans of SAL.

During the period under review, the work of the Steering Committee included the facilitation and co-ordination of efforts to forge a greater sense of community among different segments of the legal community, initiation of the establishment of a Specialists Accreditation Committee to look into setting up an accreditation system to recognise legal specialists engaged in corporate work, production of a brochure to promote Singapore law and Singapore as a venue for dispute resolution, and launch of a project to systematise the dissemination of key Singapore judgments for publication overseas.

In furtherance of the strategic plan to provide and/or facilitate knowledge management, Singapore Law Watch (“SLW”), a new online service, was

conceptualised and developed by the Strategic Planning Directorate of SAL to offer a free one-stop overview of the latest legal news, legislation, judgments, directions, notices and commentaries on Singapore law. It was created to serve as a “central librarian” of sorts to law firms that do not have the resources to engage librarians or knowledge managers to compile the latest legal material from the internet, and is presented in a manner that allows information to be read “on the run”. SLW is a cross-cluster product, pulling together the competencies of the Legal Industry Cluster (namely, the Strategic Planning and the Singapore Law Directorates of the SAL Secretariat) and the Legal Technology Cluster (namely, the LawNet and E-Publishing Directorates of the SAL Secretariat).

SLW was launched by an announcement made by the Chief Justice at the Opening of the Legal Year on 5 January 2008. SLW has been welcomed by members of the legal profession as evidenced by a general upward trend in the volume of usage since its launch.



INTERNATIONAL PROMOTION OF SINGAPORE LAW COMMITTEE

The International Promotion of Singapore Law (“IPSL”) Committee is chaired by the Honourable Justice V K Rajah.

The IPSL Committee has a SingaporeLaw website, with free articles on various aspects of Singapore law. The English articles have been translated into Chinese. Translation of the articles into Bahasa Indonesia is in progress and is expected to be completed by the fourth quarter of 2008.

When web users search for the words, “Singapore Law” or related words, the SingaporeLaw website is usually ranked as the top search result of search engines, such as Google, Yahoo and MSN. This improved ranking is due to the support of law firms and corporations, and relevant government agencies, that created hyperlinks to the SingaporeLaw website on their corporate websites.

Visits to the SingaporeLaw website increased through the period under review, hitting a high of 13,186 unique visitors in March 2008.



Dinner Presentation in Mumbai: “Singapore: Your Partner for Legal Solutions Outside India”

Four major Indian organisations signed a Statement of Endorsement that provides the use of Singapore law and Singapore as a dispute-resolution venue outside of India.

During the period under review, the IPSL committee identified Mr Tarun Das, Chief Mentor, Confederation of Indian Industry as an Ambassador of Singapore law, to endorse Singapore law as the governing law of cross-border contracts when a neutral law is required, and the use of Singapore as a neutral dispute resolution venue.

The IPSL committee synergised its marketing efforts with the work of the Singapore Mediation Centre (“SMC”). SMC uses opportunities that arise from activities involving overseas participants to assist with the IPSL committee’s promotional efforts.



Asian Mediation Association was launched as part of SMC's 10th Anniversary Celebrations

Leading regional mediation centres inked groundbreaking MOU in Singapore to provide regional dispute resolution framework for Asian business.

Several events were organised in Singapore and overseas to promote the use of Singapore law and Singapore as a dispute resolution centre. These include:

- A Dinner Presentation in Mumbai on 13 April 2007 entitled "Singapore Your Partner for Legal Solutions Outside India". This event was hosted by the Honourable Justice V K Rajah and the Guest of Honour was Mr Tharman Shanmugaratnam, then Minister for Education and Second Minister for Finance. During the event, four major Indian organisations signed a Statement of Endorsement in support of the use of Singapore law as an alternative to Indian law, and of Singapore as a dispute-resolution venue when required.
- A seminar on 18 October 2007 entitled, "Developments in the Legal Profession in the People's Republic of China and their Impact on Doing Business There".

IPSL committee member Ms Thian Yee Sze also delivered a paper on the development of Singapore's legal system and Singapore's emergence as a key manufacturing hub and financial centre at a China-ASEAN Legal Co-operation seminar in China in September 2007.

THE SINGAPORE MEDIATION CENTRE (^{TS}SMC) AND ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION (^{TA}ADR)

The Academy incorporated a separate legal entity, SMC, in 1997 to promote mediation and ADR in Singapore and regionally.

The chairman of the Board of Directors of SMC is Justice Andrew Ang.

SMC mediated 69 matters in the period under review. An enhanced system was put in place for the Supreme Court Registry to refer suitable cases for mediation in January 2008. Following from that, there was a 35.7% increase in the number of matters mediated in February and March 2008 as compared to the same period in 2007. SMC will be working with the Supreme Court and the Family Court to put in place a similar case referral system for matrimonial proceedings involving net assets that exceed \$1.5m.

For the year under review, 56 adjudication cases (a 124% increase compared to last year) were registered with SMC, the sole appointed Authorised Nominating



Body under the Building and Construction Industry Security of Payment Act.

The training function of SMC continued to grow. In the period under review, SMC conducted 46 workshops. Under the auspices of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Singapore Co-operation Programme, various workshops were conducted and attended by participants from overseas.

In the international promotion of mediation, two roadshows to present on mediation in Singapore and to introduce SMC were held in China. Nine international mediators for the mediation of international cross-border disputes were accredited by the SMC Board of Directors.

In July 2007, SMC hosted the International Negotiation Competition ("INC"), an annual competition designed to foster the skills of negotiation in law students. This was the first time that INC was held in Asia.

In conjunction with the International Bar Association ("IBA") conference, SMC and the Singapore International Arbitration Centre co-hosted the IBA Young Lawyers Outreach Event for ADR Professionals in October 2007.

The International Mediation Institute ("IMI") was created in The Hague on 30 April 2007 with SMC as one of its founding members. The other members are American Arbitration Association, the International Centre for Dispute Resolution, the Singapore International Arbitration Centre and the Netherlands Mediation Institute. IMI's remit is to enable worldwide certification of the competency of mediators.

The Asian Mediation Association ("AMA") was launched on 17 August 2007 with SMC as one of its founding members. The other members are Hong Kong Mediation Centre, The Indonesian Mediation Center, Malaysian Mediation Centre and Philippine Mediation Center. The setting up of AMA was an SMC initiative, and SMC hosted the launch as part of its 10th anniversary celebrations.



Six new Senior Counsel were appointed in 2008

Appointment as Senior Counsel is a mark of eminence within the legal profession: an accolade given to those who possess outstanding ability as advocates, extensive knowledge of the law and the highest professional standing.



Professor Jeffrey Dan Pinsler, SC
National University of Singapore



Mr Sundaresh Menon, SC
Rajah & Tann LLP



Mr Hri Kumar Nair, SC
Drew & Napier LLC



Mr Thio Shen Yi, SC
TSMP Law Corporation



Mr Cavinder Bull, SC
Drew & Napier LLC



Mr Lee Eng Beng, SC
Rajah & Tann LLP

ADR Sports was launched on 7 January 2008 with the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between SMC, the Singapore Sports Council, the Singapore National Olympic Council, Singapore International Arbitration Centre and the Singapore Institute of Arbitrators.

The Ministry of Health and SMC collaborated in the development of the Medical Mediation Scheme and its launch in early 2008.

SMC ended FY 2007/2008 with a net profit before tax of \$125,790, bringing the retained earnings as at 31 March 2008 to \$1,177,504.

PROFESSIONAL AFFAIRS

The Professional Affairs Committee (“PAC”) is chaired by the Honourable Justice V K Rajah.

The PAC established five Professional Chapters to better keep abreast of key areas of interest. These are the Corporate Counsel Chapter, Offshore Lawyers Chapter, Professional Development and Practice Chapter, Professional Values Chapter and Young Members Chapter.

Some highlights of the work of the PAC include:

- The completion of the Court-Appointed Referees Sub-Committee Report.
- The Professional Values Chapter together with The Law Society Ethics Committee organised the inaugural Ethics Workshop “The Advocate & Solicitor and His Client” delivered by Professor Jeffrey Pinsler, SC on 15 November 2007. The workshop was attended by over 200 participants.
- The Corporate Counsel Chapter initiated dialogue with the Singapore Corporate Counsel Association (“SCCA”) to discuss the professional and practice issues faced by corporate counsel and the ways in which SAL and the SCCA can collaborate to better serve the needs of corporate counsel.
- The Professional Development and Practice Chapter (“PDPC”) initiated dialogues with The Law Society including the Small Law Firms Committee to understand the needs of small law firms in Singapore. The PDPC also commenced work on a profession-wide survey.

APPOINTMENT OF SENIOR COUNSEL

The Senior Counsel Selection Committee is created under the Legal Profession Act. It is chaired by the Honourable the Chief Justice Chan Sek Keong, with a Secretariat at the SAL.

Senior Counsel appointed by the selection committee for 2008 were Professor Jeffrey Pinsler, Mr Sundaresh Menon, Mr Hri Kumar Nair, Mr Thio Shen Yi, Mr Cavinder Bull and Mr Lee Eng Beng, bringing the total number of persons who have been conferred this distinguished title by the selection committee since 1997 to 50.



Island Rover 2007: Car Rally and Makan-Heaven Treasure Hunt

A total of 68 cars, with 270 participants from different branches of the legal profession took part in the Island Rover 2007: Car Rally and Makan-Heaven Treasure Hunt jointly organised by SAL and The Law Society. The event raised \$5,000 for the Singapore After-Care Association which provides programmes and services to help ex-offenders and their families.

APPOINTMENT OF COMMISSIONERS FOR OATHS AND NOTARIES PUBLIC

The Board of Commissioners for Oaths and Notaries Public ("the Board") is chaired by Mr Joseph Grimberg, SC.

In the year under review, a total of 1,143 commissioners for oaths and 353 notaries public were appointed for the period 1 April 2007 to 31 March 2008, 241 commissioners for oaths and 124 notaries public were appointed for the period 1 October 2007 to 30 September 2008, and 1,116 commissioners for oaths and 361 notaries public for the period 1 April 2008 to 31 March 2009.

AUTHENTICATION SERVICES

The number of authentication certificates issued in FY 2007/2008 totalled 28,136. This is an increase of 24.14% over the number of 22,665 authentication certificates issued in FY 2006/2007.

MEMBERSHIP AND SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

The Membership and Social Committee was chaired by the Honourable Justice Lai Siu Chiu.

The Committee organised more than a dozen events for its members and law students of NUS



and SMU, and an annual charity event. Some well-attended events included the four members' movie nights, the fifth SAL Debate 2008, and the "Island Rover 2007 Car Rally and Makan-Heaven Treasure Hunt". This year's annual charity event, "Theatre Magic for Children", was attended by 35 children from the Melrose Home and a total of \$25,370 was donated to the Children's Aid Society.

In an effort to reach out to foreign lawyers in Singapore, the Committee together with the Professional Affairs Committee co-hosted a dinner for foreign lawyers on 28 February 2008. A total of 40 representatives from 23 foreign firms attended the dinner.

The Membership Privileges Programme expanded further and currently includes participation from 50 merchants.

As at 31 March 2008, membership of the Academy stands at 7,735, a 3.6% increase from the previous year. 2,028 members have been granted a waiver of membership fees pursuant to rule 4 of the SAL Rules.

THE YEAR IN PERSPECTIVE

LEGAL TECHNOLOGY

LAWNET

The LawNet Management Committee is chaired by the Honourable Justice Lee Seiu Kin.

The new LawNet portal ("LawNet2") was launched on 5 July 2007, with substantive enhancements to user interface, search capabilities, as well as basic knowledge management tools.

LawNet2 introduced the official English series of The Law Reports and the Weekly Law Reports, which are integrated with existing LawNet materials to facilitate searches across Singapore, Malaysian and English case law.

The Legal Workbench was enhanced with additional materials including decisions by the Competition Commission of Singapore, publications by law firms and various journals and textbooks to broaden the content of "Legal Research".

The Singapore Law Reports referential data is provided to case citation service, JUSTCITE. This increases the visibility of Singapore case law which dovetails with the work of the International Promotion of Singapore Law Committee.

The subscription rates for the Legal Workbench ("LWB") were raised on 1 October 2007, the first such increase after nearly ten years. Free access to LWB was accorded to the NUS, SMU and Temasek Polytechnic law lecturers and students.

The number of LawNet2 subscriptions increased by 4.8% for law firms and 8.4% for non-law firms for the period from October 2007 to March 2008.

The LawNet Secretariat worked closely with the Malaysian Bar Council to promote LawNet services to the Malaysian legal community. A preview of the service was given at the 14th Malaysian Law Conference in October 2007.

The LawNet Training Centre ("LTC") extended its courses to include training for filing of businesses and companies returns.

During the year under review, LTC conducted 94 training classes for a total of 1,647 participants and achieved a profit of \$63,543.



In the year under review, the Singapore Law Watch (“SLW”), a joint project of the Strategic Planning Committee and LawNet, was launched.

SLW, a syndicated legal news service to keep readers abreast of the latest developments in law and practice is getting an average of about 5,000 – 6,000 visitors a month and about 50,000 page views from readers in China, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Malaysia, the UK, the USA and Singapore.

E-LITIGATION

The Electronic Litigation Systems (“ELS”) Committee is chaired by the Honourable Justice Lee Seiu Kin.

In the period under review, tender specification for the Integrated ELS (“iELS”) was completed and the Public Tender Exercise was launched.

Work proceeded for the “back-end” or Courts Processes, as well as the “front-end” aspects affecting lawyers and other potential users of the



Singapore Law Watch

Since its launch, page views of SLW have grown on an average of 20% each month.

iELS. An SAL officer was seconded to the Supreme Court to undertake a comprehensive review and analysis of existing court forms with the view to creating a complete set of the electronic version of these court forms.

For the processes at both the Subordinate Courts and the Supreme Court, detailed assessment of existing electronic and paper workflows was undertaken. Issues for potential enhancement and process optimisation have been identified, and joint review sessions involving representatives from the Subordinate Courts and the Supreme Court were conducted to consider these issues.

THE YEAR IN PERSPECTIVE

CORPORATE SERVICES

STAKEHOLDING SERVICES

The number of stakeholding transactions decreased in the period under review. The total number of payment-in transactions decreased from 5,194 cases in FY 2006/2007 to 4,806 cases in FY 2007/2008. The total number of payment-out transactions similarly decreased from 6,740 cases in FY 2006/2007 to 5,364 cases in FY 2007/2008.

INVESTMENTS

For FY 2007/2008, investment income for SAL's fund management account increased by \$0.4 million compared to the previous financial year. The increase was mainly due to capital gains, dividends and interest income. As at 31 March 2008, the market value was \$33.52 million. This is a drop of \$0.77 million compared to the book value of \$34.29 million.

SAL GROUP FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

In FY 2007/2008, income for the SAL group decreased by 1.0% from \$14,322,822 in FY 2006/2007 to \$14,177,746 and expenditure increased by 18.9% from \$7,834,586 to \$9,316,142. The net surplus for the SAL group, after income tax and contribution to consolidated fund, decreased by 26.0% from \$5,569,937 in FY 2006/2007 to \$4,121,737 in FY 2007/2008.

For SAL, income decreased by 1.8% from \$13,814,560 in FY 2006/2007 to \$13,569,004 in FY 2007/2008. Expenditure increased by 18.2% from \$7,236,038 in FY 2006/2007 to \$8,553,406 in FY 2007/2008. The net surplus for SAL, after income tax and contribution to the consolidated fund, decreased by 26.3% from \$5,436,712 in FY 2006/2007 to \$4,007,887 in FY 2007/2008.

The decrease in net surplus for the SAL group and SAL came mainly from lower stakeholding



interest income and higher manpower expenditure. However, these were offset by higher income earned from investment, LawNet and publication which resulted in an overall decrease in net surplus of \$1.4 million in FY 2007/2008.

The approved staff establishment for SAL and SMC as at 31 March 2008 was 86, of which 81 positions were filled by full-time staff and two positions were filled by part-time staff. The creation of a new department, ie. Academy Publishing and new programmes like Singapore Law Watch led to an increase of nine headcounts compared to the previous year.

SINGAPORE ACADEMY OF LAW (AMENDMENT) RULES 2007

Singapore Academy of Law Rules 17, 19 and 20 were repealed and the Singapore Academy of Law (Amendment) Rules 2007 came into operation on 21 August 2007.



Stakeholding Services

SAL provides stakeholding services in transactions involving the sale and purchase of newly developed private residential properties, commercial properties, executive condominiums and flats under HDB Design, Build and Sell Scheme.

KEY EXECUTIVES



MS TEH HWEE HWEE
Assistant Chief Executive



MR LOONG SENG ONN
Director
Alternative Dispute
Resolution and
International Promotion of
Singapore Law



MS LOW HUI MIN
Director
Stakeholding, Finance &
Investment



MS LAI WAI LENG
Assistant Director
Finance & Membership



MS DEANNA KWOK
Assistant Director
Law Reporting



MS CAROL LIEW
Assistant Director
Professional Affairs &
Membership Affairs



MS SERENE WEE
Chief Executive



MR LIM SENG SIEW
Director
LawNet Portal &
E-Publishing



MS HUNG NING SHING
Chief Editor
Pre-Impress Editorial
Services



MR GAY WEI PING
Chief Technology Officer



MR BALA SHUNMUGAM
Deputy Director
Publishing



MR CLIFFORD WONG
Assistant Director
LawNet Portal &
E-Publishing



MR ANDREW YEOH
Assistant Director
Editorial Operations



MS FOO KIM LENG
Senior Manager
Corporate
Communications &
Events Management



MS CLARE WONG
Senior Manager
Human Resource &
Administration

THE SINGAPORE ACADEMY
OF LAW
AND ITS SUBSIDIARY

(Incorporated in Singapore)

SUMMARY
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

*For the financial
year ended 31 March 2008*

The Singapore Academy of Law and its subsidiary

SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 March 2008

IMPORTANT NOTE

These summary financial statements as set out on pages 41 to 43 are derived from the Academy and the Group's financial statements and auditors' report thereon, which are available for inspection by all members of the Academy at the premises of the Academy during the Academy's office hours. Any member who wishes to have copies of the financial statements and auditors' report may notify the Academy; and the Academy shall furnish these free of charge to that member within 21 days of its receipt of the member's notification.

The summary financial statements do not contain sufficient information to allow for a full understanding of the results and state of affairs of the Academy and of the Group. For further information, the full financial statements and the auditors' report on those statements should be consulted.

Objectives of the Academy in accordance with the Singapore Academy of Law Act (Cap. 294A, 1997 Revised Edition) are:

- (a) to promote and maintain high standards of conduct and learning of the members of the legal profession in Singapore and the standing of the profession in the region and elsewhere;
- (b) to promote the advancement and dissemination of knowledge of the laws and the legal system;
- (c) to promote legal research and scholarship and the reform and development of the law;
- (d) to provide continuing legal education for its members;
- (e) to provide for the training, education and examination, by the Academy or by any other body, of persons intending to practise the profession of law;
- (f) to consider proposals and suggestions regarding matters which are referred to the Academy by the Law Society or the Board*;
- (g) to refer to the Law Society or the Board* proposals and suggestions regarding matters which in the opinion of the Senate require consideration by the Law Society or the Board*;
- (h) to promote good relations and social interaction amongst members and between members and law students and persons concerned in the administration of law and justice in Singapore;
- (i) to appoint persons as notaries public or commissioners for oaths and to authenticate their signatures;
- (j) to undertake activities and projects relating to the study, development and operation of laws and legal systems and the facilities, information technology and infrastructure in support thereof;
- (k) to provide consultancy and other services relating to the study, development and operation of laws and legal systems and the facilities, information technology and infrastructure in support thereof; and
- (l) to exercise the functions and duties conferred on the Academy under any written law.

* "Board" refers to the Board of Legal Education established under section 3 of the Legal Profession Act (Cap.161, 2001 Revised Edition).

The Singapore Academy of Law and its subsidiary

SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 March 2008

SUMMARY INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2008

	The Group		The Academy	
	2008	2007	2008	2007
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Total income	14,177,746	14,322,822	13,569,004	13,814,560
Total expenditure	(9,316,142)	(7,834,586)	(8,553,406)	(7,236,038)
Surplus from operations	4,861,604	6,488,236	5,015,598	6,578,522
Grants utilised	313,562	273,650	33,779	51,615
Surplus before income tax and contribution to consolidated fund	5,175,166	6,761,886	5,049,377	6,630,137
Income tax and contribution to consolidated fund	(1,053,429)	(1,191,949)	(1,041,490)	(1,193,425)
Surplus for the financial year after income tax and contribution to consolidated fund	4,121,737	5,569,937	4,007,887	5,436,712

SUMMARY BALANCE SHEETS AS AT 31 MARCH 2008

	The Group		The Academy	
	2008	2007	2008	2007
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Property, plant and equipment	1,522,676	1,592,714	1,510,493	1,578,030
Other investments	33,513,071	27,402,735	33,513,071	27,402,735
Other non-current asset	1,466,385	806,001	1,466,385	806,001
Current assets *	203,934,160	162,919,622	202,120,881	161,200,279
Current liabilities *	(201,968,361)	(155,402,491)	(201,635,728)	(155,327,226)
	38,467,931	37,318,581	36,975,102	35,659,819
General fund	32,266,361	28,067,259	31,030,328	26,945,076
Other funds	6,325,759	6,403,124	6,396,228	6,473,593
Accumulated surplus	38,592,120	34,470,383	37,426,556	33,418,669
Fair value reserves	(519,011)	2,241,150	(519,011)	2,241,150
	38,073,109	36,711,533	36,907,545	35,659,819
Grants	394,822	607,048	67,557	-
	38,467,931	37,318,581	36,975,102	35,659,819

* Included in current assets and current liabilities are stakeholding moneys amounting to \$197,543,786 (2007: \$150,799,562) held in accordance with the Singapore Academy of Law (Stakeholding) Rules.

CHANGES IN STRUCTURE OF THE ACADEMY

There are no material changes in the structure of the Academy for the financial year ended 31 March 2008.

DONATIONS

Tax deductible donations of \$26,710 (2007: \$22,806) were received by the Academy and the Group during the financial year. An amount of \$31,393 (2007: \$26,240) of the cumulative donations received has been utilised during the financial year.

The donations were utilised in accordance with the objectives of the Academy.

SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Summary of significant related party transactions between the Academy and its subsidiary and related government bodies, at terms agreed between the parties concerned, are as follows:

(a) Income and expenditure for services

	The Group		The Academy	
	2008	2007	2008	2007
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Secondment fees and development expenses received from subsidiary	-	-	451,271	438,900
LawNet levy income received from related government bodies	343,569	331,788	343,569	331,788
Food and beverage income received from subsidiary	-	-	56,453	35,941
Seminar fees, workshop income, food and beverage and other income received from related government bodies	68,555	62,561	64,817	62,461
Office rental, secondment and other charges paid to related government bodies and related entities	842,423	518,019	779,529	498,538
			The Group and Academy	
			2008	2007
			\$	\$
(b) Key management personnel compensation			2,075,177	1,490,670

DATED THIS 28TH AUGUST 2008



CHIEF JUSTICE CHAN SEK KEONG
PRESIDENT
SINGAPORE ACADEMY OF LAW

The Singapore Academy of Law and its subsidiary

SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 March 2008

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE SINGAPORE ACADEMY OF LAW

The accompanying summary financial statements set out on pages 41 to 43 have been derived from the full financial statements of The Singapore Academy of Law (the "Academy") and its subsidiary (the "Group") for the financial year ended 31 March 2008. The full financial statements of the Academy and the Group comprise of the balance sheets of the Company and of the Group as at 31 March 2008, the income and expenditure statements and statement of changes in funds and reserves of the Academy and of the Group, and consolidated cash flow statement of the Group for the financial year ended 31 March 2008. The summary financial statements are the responsibility of the Academy's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on whether these summary financial statements are consistent, in all material respects, with the full financial statements from which they were derived and whether they comply with the requirements of section 21 of the Singapore Academy of Law Act (Cap. 294A, 1997 Revised Edition) and regulations made thereunder, applicable to the summary financial statements.

We have audited the full financial statements of the Academy and the Group for the financial year ended 31 March 2008, from which these summary financial statements were derived, in accordance with Singapore Standards on Auditing. We expressed an unqualified opinion on the full financial statements from which the summary financial statements were derived, in our report dated 28 August 2008, which is as follows:

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE SINGAPORE ACADEMY OF LAW

We have audited the financial statements of The Singapore Academy of Law (the "Academy") and its subsidiary (the "Group") set out on pages 2 to 32, which comprise the balance sheets of the Company and of the Group as at 31 March 2008, the income and expenditure statements and statement of changes in funds and reserves of the Academy and of the Group, and consolidated cash flow statement of the Group for the financial year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with the provisions of the Singapore Academy of Law Act (the "Act") and Singapore Financial Reporting Standards. This responsibility includes:

- (a) devising and maintaining a system of internal accounting controls sufficient to provide a reasonable assurance that assets are safeguarded against loss from unauthorised use or disposition; and transactions are properly authorised and that they are recorded as necessary to permit the preparation of true and fair profit and loss accounts and balance sheets and to maintain accountability of assets;
- (b) selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and
- (c) making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Singapore Standards on Auditing. Those Standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance as to whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE SINGAPORE ACADEMY OF LAW (CONTINUED)

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion,

- (a) the income and expenditure statements, balance sheets and statement of changes in funds and reserves of the Academy and of the Group and the consolidated cash flow statement of the Group are properly drawn up in accordance with the provisions of the Act and Singapore Financial Reporting Standards so as to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Academy and of the Group as at 31 March 2008, the results and changes in funds and reserves of the Academy and of the Group, and the cash flows of the Group for the financial year ended on that date, and
- (b) the accounting and other records required by the Act to be kept by the Academy and by the subsidiary of which we are the auditors have been properly kept in accordance with the provisions of the Act."

In our opinion, the accompanying summary financial statements are consistent, in all material respects, with the full financial statements from which they were derived, and comply with the requirements of section 21 of the Singapore Academy of Law Act (Cap. 294A, 1997 Revised Edition) and the regulations made thereunder, applicable to summary financial statements.

For a better understanding of the Academy's financial position and the results of its operations for the period and of the scope of our audit, these summary financial statements should be read in conjunction with the full financial statements from which the summary financial statements were derived.



PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

SINGAPORE, 28 AUGUST 2008

The Singapore Academy of Law and its subsidiary

SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 March 2008

STATISTICS ON COMPOSITION OF MEMBERS

