



ANNUAL REPORT 2013/14

# Leading *Edge*

SINGAPORE ACADEMY OF LAW

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# *Our Mission & Vision*

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## **VISION**

Singapore –  
The legal hub of Asia

## **MISSION**

Driving legal excellence  
through thought  
leadership, world-class  
infrastructure and  
solutions.

The Singapore Academy of Law (“the Academy”) is the promotion and development agency for Singapore’s legal industry. Our vision is to make Singapore the legal hub of Asia.

We aim to drive legal excellence through developing thought leadership, world-class infrastructure and legal solutions. We do this by building up the intellectual capital of the legal profession by enhancing legal knowledge, raising the international profile of Singapore law, promoting Singapore as a centre for dispute resolution and improving the efficiency of legal practice through the use of technology.

As a body established by statute, the Academy also undertakes statutory functions such as stakeholding services and the appointment of Senior Counsel, Commissioners for Oaths and Notaries Public.

The Academy is headed by the Honourable the Chief Justice Sundaresh Menon. We have over 10,000 members comprising members of the Bench, the Bar, Legal Service Officers, corporate counsel, legal academics and foreign lawyers.

# *The President's Review*

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2013 was a watershed year for the Singapore Academy of Law ("the Academy"). It marked 25 years of the Academy's existence as a membership body of the legal profession in Singapore. It was an occasion for us to recall the very many ways in which we have grown as an institution and to reflect on how we can continue to play a meaningful role in the changing legal landscape.

The Academy's 25th Anniversary programme was very successful and well-received. More than 8,600 people were impacted through the various events that were held throughout 2013.

The stature of the Academy and its ability to connect with the profession and the public was raised through several groundbreaking events. These included a high-profile Law Week 2013 organised jointly with the State Courts and the Law Society of Singapore and an exhibition on family and criminal law in June 2013, a special Charity Concert which raised more than \$335,000 in aid of the Yellow Ribbon Fund ("YRF") in September 2013 and the launch of an e-book *Legal Tenor: Voices from Singapore's Legal History* in November 2013. The SAL-Chancery Bar Association Conference held in April 2013 gave the Academy the opportunity to host a landmark conference and stake a claim in an integral area of commercial law. While there were challenges in having to navigate uncharted territories, these events provided valuable lessons and ultimately proved to be immensely rewarding. On the whole, the Academy was seen to be innovative and multifaceted in its approach in reaching out to its members and the public at large.

Going forward, the Academy will function as a promotion and development agency with the vision to make Singapore a legal hub in Asia. With this long term goal in view, the Academy's Committees and Secretariat have commenced on new initiatives that will help propel Singapore forward in its quest to develop as a centre of legal excellence.

We have developed a commercial law and practice framework which will provide the road map to raise Singapore's standing as a premier centre for commercial law. Our focus will be on upgrading foundational skills and professional standards, and identifying specialist areas of commercial practice where Singapore can establish its brand.

# Going forward, the Academy will function as a promotion and development agency with the vision to make Singapore a legal hub in Asia.

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The Academy will engage our universities, foreign law firms and major local firms and harness all these resources to ensure the success of this endeavour. Within this framework, signature conferences will provide the platform for thought leadership in areas where Singapore can play a critical role in drawing together the best legal minds from the region and beyond.

Several high level conferences were held in the past year on topics ranging from rule of law, criminal law and commercial litigation. We were privileged to have eminent legal personalities from Singapore and overseas as speakers and panellists at these events. We will continue to host regional forums and legal dialogues in areas of strategic importance. Towards the end of next year, the Academy will collaborate with international stakeholders to hold a conference on the need for and the challenges we can expect to face in the convergence of commercial laws that are relevant to transnational commerce.

E-legal education will bring greater convenience and access to resources than before. The new e-Lex portal that was launched in August this year will provide our members with easy access to private CPD points through online learning anywhere, anytime.

The Academy's work will continue to grow in tandem with Singapore's ambition to be a regional dispute resolution hub. To be successful in this regard, it is important that Singapore has a vibrant domestic dispute resolution scene. On the mediation front, the Singapore Mediation Centre ("SMC") has unveiled several developments, key among which is to give companies easier access to industry-specific expertise for commercial mediation cases. In its push for mediation in Singapore to be professionalised, SMC has revamped its panels and mediation fees. SMC has also come up with a new brand identity and will further promote domestic mediation by channelling resources into positioning mediation as a strategic tool for managing business disputes.

For last two decades, LawNet has been Singapore's leading legal research website. A new LawNet platform will be launched in the first quarter of 2015 that will provide greater flexibility, more choices and better content. The new LawNet will provide a much-awaited feature that will allow users to make their own private

annotations to the database and port those annotations wherever they may go in the law. It will also offer a premium content service that gives users access to a selection of tiered services, depending on their unique research requirements.

While sharpening our focus as a promotion and development agency, the Academy is also expanding work in Corporate Social Responsibility ("CSR"), which will command the bandwidth and resources previously used for the organising of social activities. On this note, the Senate has dissolved the Membership and Social Committee and reconstituted it as a CSR committee. This committee will take the lead in harnessing the energies of the legal fraternity to implement meaningful and sustainable CSR programmes including those in support of the Yellow Ribbon Fund and other worthy causes.

On behalf of the Academy, I wish to thank our members and staff for their contributions which have made possible the achievements in the past year. I look forward to your continuing support.

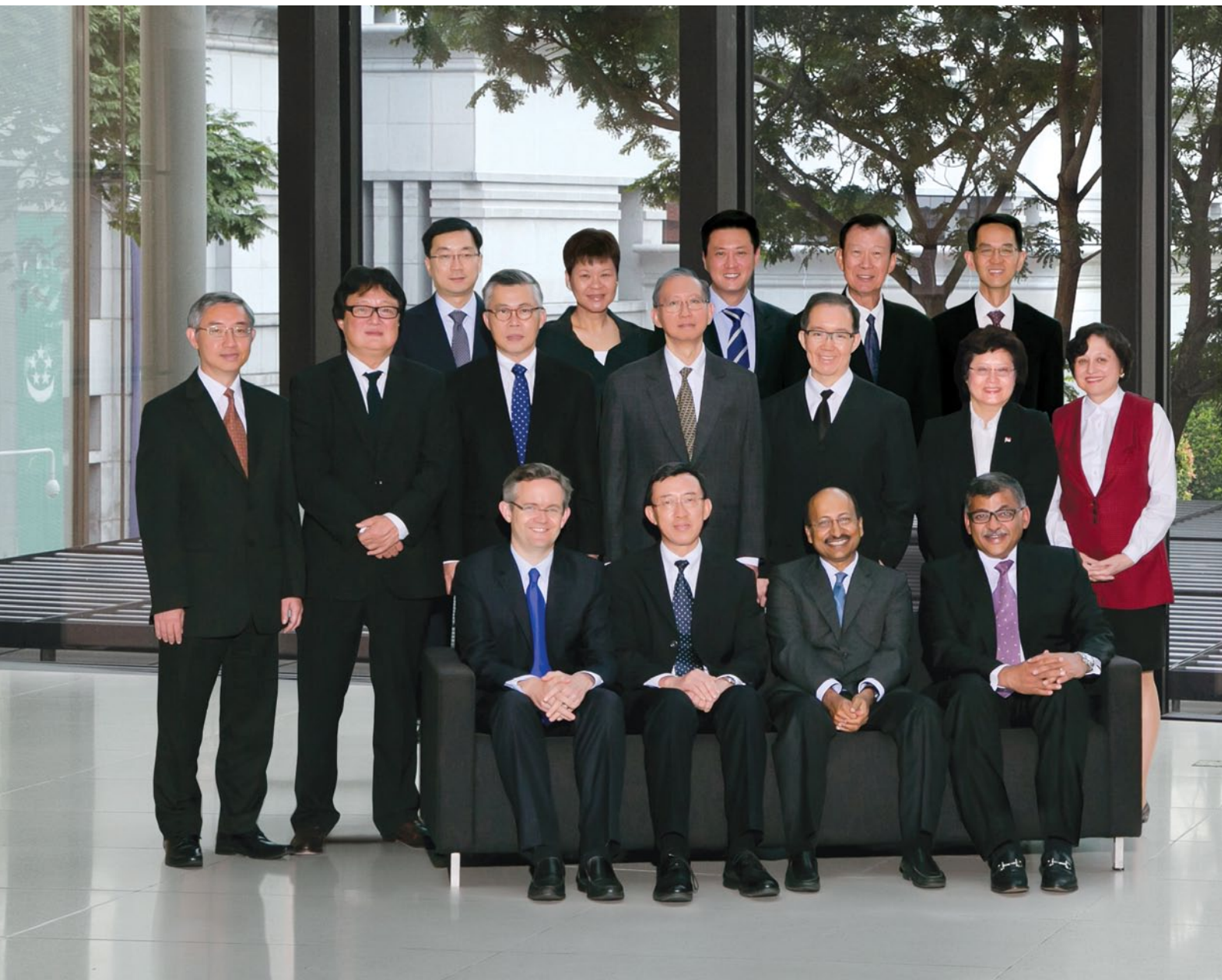
**The Honourable the Chief Justice  
Sundaresh Menon**

*President*

Singapore Academy of Law



# *The Senate*



*Seated from left to right*

**Professor Simon Chesterman**

Vice-President

**Judge of Appeal Justice Andrew Phang Boon Leong**

Vice-President

**Attorney-General V K Rajah, SC**

Vice-President

**Chief Justice Sundaresh Menon**

President

**Judge of Appeal Justice Chao Hick Tin**

Vice-President

**Mr Lok Vi Ming, SC**

Vice-President

**Professor Yeo Tiong Min, SC (*honoris causa*)**

Vice-President



The Academy is governed by the Senate which is headed by the Honourable the Chief Justice Sundaresh Menon as President. On 1 September 2014, the Senate elected as Vice-Presidents of the Academy: The Honourable Attorney-General V K Rajah, SC; the Honourable Judge of Appeal Justice Chao Hick Tin; the Honourable Judge of Appeal Justice Andrew Phang Boon Leong; President of the Law Society of Singapore, Mr Lok Vi Ming, SC; Dean of the Faculty of Law of the National University of Singapore, Professor Simon Chesterman; and Dean of the School of Law of Singapore Management University, Professor Yeo Tiong Min, SC (*honoris causa*). The Senate also comprises the High Court Judges, the Solicitor-General, academia and the practising profession.



*Standing from left to right (first row)*

Judicial Commissioner Edmund Leow  
 Judicial Commissioner George Wei  
 Justice Steven Chong  
 Justice Chan Seng Onn  
 Justice Tay Yong Kwang  
 Justice Belinda Ang Saw Ean  
 Justice Judith Prakash  
 Justice Choo Han Teck

Justice Woo Bih Li  
 Justice Lee Seiu Kin  
 Justice Quentin Loh  
 Justice Vinodh Coomaraswamy  
 Justice Tan Siong Thye

*Standing from left to right (second row)*

Mr Kelvin Wong  
 Professor Ng-Loy Wee Loon

Mr Thio Shen Yi, SC  
 Mr Giam Chin Toon, SC  
 Judicial Commissioner See Kee Oon  
 Judicial Commissioner Lee Kim Shin  
 Solicitor-General Lionel Yee, SC  
 Mr Philip Jeyaretnam, SC  
 Mr Aedit Abdullah, SC  
 Mrs Lee Suet Fern  
 Professor Tang Hang Wu

# *The Executive Committee*

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**Chief Justice  
Sundaresh Menon**  
PRESIDENT



Chief Justice Sundaresh Menon assumed his position as Chief Justice and President of the Singapore Academy of Law on 6 November 2012. He served as Judge of Appeal on 1 August 2012 and as the Attorney-General from 1 October 2010 to 24 June 2012. He joined the Singapore Legal Service as Judicial Commissioner in 2006. After his stint at the Bench, he returned to Rajah & Tann becoming the Managing Partner of that firm in August 2009, a position he held until his appointment as the Attorney-General.

**Attorney-General  
V K Rajah, SC**  
VICE-PRESIDENT



Attorney-General V K Rajah, SC was the Managing Partner of Rajah & Tann from 1986 to 2003. He was among the first batch of lawyers in Singapore to be appointed Senior Counsel in 1997. He was appointed a Supreme Court Judge on 1 November 2004 and elevated to Judge of Appeal on 11 April 2007. He assumed office as the Attorney-General of the Republic of Singapore on 25 June 2014.

**Judge of Appeal Justice  
Chao Hick Tin**  
VICE-PRESIDENT



Justice Chao Hick Tin began his legal career at the Attorney-General's Chambers where he rose to head the Civil Division. He was made a Judicial Commissioner in 1987, thereafter serving as a Judge in 1990 and a Judge of Appeal in 1999. Justice Chao was appointed Attorney-General in April 2006 and returned to the Court of Appeal where he was made its Vice President in April 2008.



## 1 SEPTEMBER 2014 – 31 AUGUST 2015

**Judge of Appeal Justice  
Andrew Phang Boon Leong**

VICE-PRESIDENT / CHAIRMAN  
Council of Law Reporting



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.

**Mr Lok Vi Ming, SC**

VICE-PRESIDENT



Mr Lok Vi Ming, SC is the President of the Law Society of Singapore. He is also a partner in Rodyk & Davidson LLP's Litigation & Arbitration Practice Group and heads the firm's Aviation Practice. He was appointed Senior Counsel in January 2005.

**Professor  
Simon Chesterman**

VICE-PRESIDENT



Professor Simon Chesterman is Dean of the National University of Singapore, Faculty of Law. He joined NUS Law in 2007. He is also Editor of the Asian Journal of International Law and Secretary-General of the Asian Society of International Law. Professor Chesterman's teaching experience includes periods at the University of Melbourne, Oxford, Southampton, Columbia, Sciences Po, and New York University.

**Professor Yeo Tiong Min,  
SC (*honoris causa*)**

VICE-PRESIDENT



Professor Yeo Tiong Min, SC (*honoris causa*) became the first person to be appointed Senior Counsel (*honoris causa*), or Honorary Senior Counsel in January 2012 for his outstanding contributions to the development of the law and the legal profession in Singapore. He is Dean of the School of Law of the Singapore Management University. He was made the first Yong Pung How Professor of Law at the University in 2007.

### Justice Judith Prakash

CHAIRPERSON  
Law Reform Committee,  
Publications Committee



Justice Judith Prakash was appointed a Judge in April 1995, having served as a Judicial Commissioner from April 1992. She was called to the Bar in 1975 and was in private practice, primarily in the areas of shipping and commercial law, for 18 years. She is a member of the Advisory Board to the School of Law, SMU.

### Justice Belinda Ang

CHAIRPERSON  
Singapore Mediation Centre  
Board of Directors



Justice Belinda Ang was first appointed Judicial Commissioner in February 2002, and Judge in January 2003. Prior to her appointment, she was in private practice. She was appointed a Senior Counsel in 1998. Justice Ang currently sits in the Rules of Court Working Committee, Rules Committee, Judicial Learning Committee and Executive Committee of the Singapore Academy of Law.

### Justice Woo Bih Li

CHAIRMAN  
SAL Staff Committee B



Justice Woo Bih Li was appointed Judicial Commissioner in May 2000, and Judge in January 2003. Before his appointment to the Bench, he was the Senior Managing Partner of Bih Li & Lee. He was appointed a Senior Counsel in 1997.

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### Justice Vinodh Coomaraswamy

CHAIRMAN  
Promotion of Singapore Law Committee



Justice Vinodh Coomaraswamy was appointed a Judge of the Supreme Court on 24 June 2013. Prior to his elevation to the Bench, he was a Judicial Commissioner from 1 August 2012 to 23 June 2013. He was appointed Senior Counsel in 2005. He was in private practice with Shook Lin & Bok LLP from 1992 to 2012.

### Judicial Commissioner George Wei

CHAIRMAN  
Legal Heritage Committee



Judicial Commissioner George Wei was appointed Judicial Commissioner in August 2013. He is an expert in intellectual property law in Singapore and was previously Professor of Law at both the National University of Singapore and the Singapore Management University.

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### Justice Lee Seiu Kin

CHAIRMAN  
Electronic Litigation Committee



Justice Lee Seiu 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. He served as Judicial Commissioner between 1997 and 2002. Justice Lee chairs the Electronic Litigation Committee of the Academy. He chaired the LawNet Management Committee from 2003 to 2011.

### Justice Chan Seng Onn

CHAIRMAN  
LawNet Management Committee



Justice Chan Seng Onn was appointed a Judge on 2 July 2007. He began his career in the Singapore Legal Service in 1987 as a State Counsel in the Attorney-General's Chambers and served as Senior State Counsel in 1994. He was appointed Judicial Commissioner on 15 October 1997 and Solicitor-General on 1 June 2001. He has served as President, Industrial Arbitration Court since October 2007.

### Justice Quentin Loh

CHAIRMAN  
Professional Affairs Committee,  
Promotion of Singapore Law  
Committee



Justice Quentin Loh was appointed as Judge on 1 June 2010. He was the Deputy Managing Partner of Rajah & Tann LLP, one of Singapore's leading law firms, from December 2003 to 12 August 2009, before he was appointed a Judicial Commissioner of the Supreme Court of Singapore on 1 September 2009. He was appointed Senior Counsel in 1999 and is a member of the Advisory Board to the School of Law, SMU.

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### Mr Giam Chin Toon, SC

CHAIRMAN  
Board of Commissioners for Oaths and Notaries Public



Mr. Giam Chin Toon, SC is the Managing Partner of Wee Swee Teow & Co. and a Director in the Board of the Singapore Mediation Centre. He was among the first group of lawyers to be appointed as Senior Counsel in 1997. He was a former President of the Law Society of Singapore. He also serves as Singapore's non-resident Ambassador to the Republic of Peru.

### Mrs Lee Suet Fern

CHAIRPERSON  
Committee on Legal Education and Studies

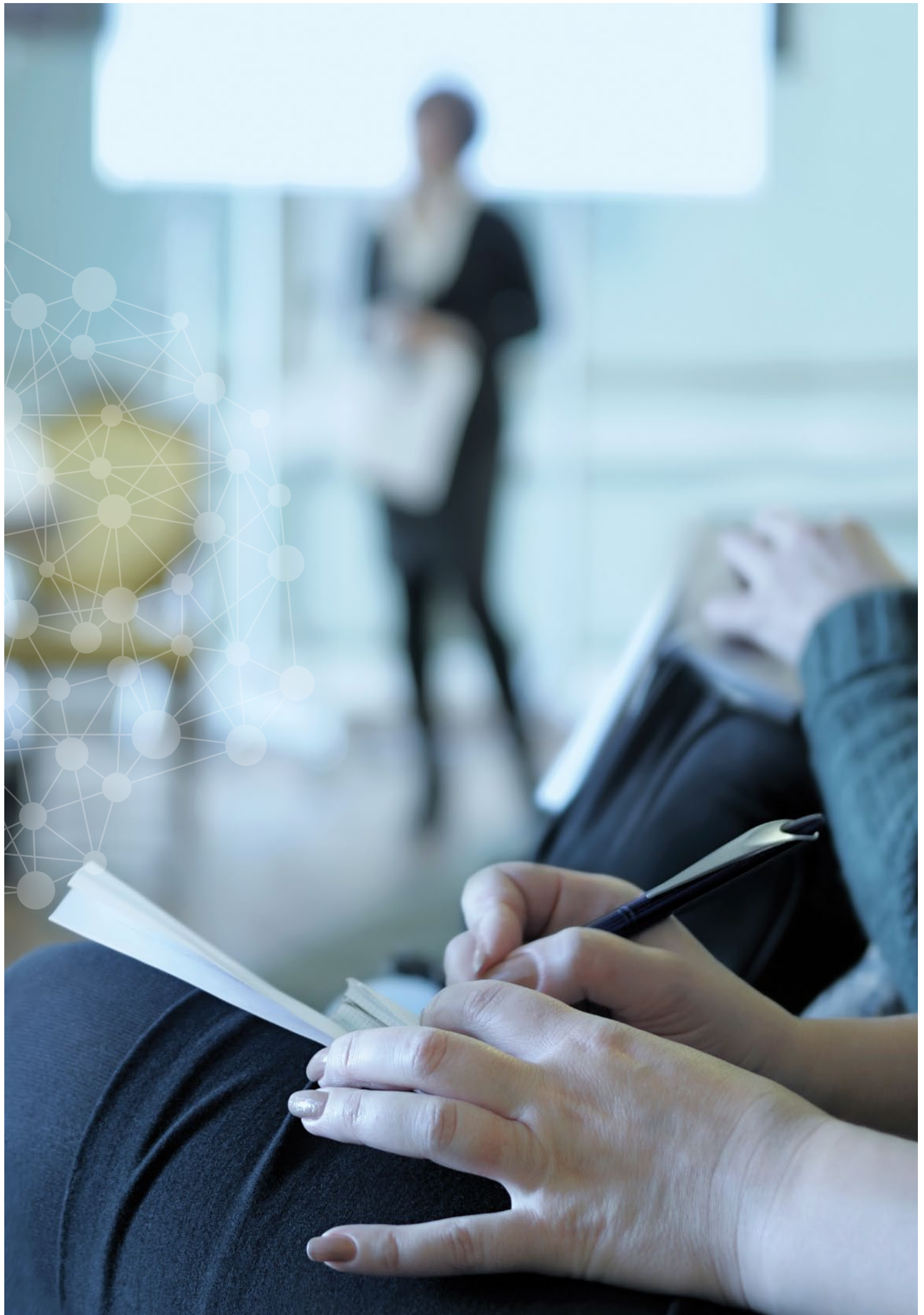


Mrs Lee Suet Fern is the senior director of Stamford Law and has been a corporate law practitioner for over 30 years. Amongst others, she chairs the board of the Asian Civilisations Museum and sits on various global corporate boards. She is a former President of the Inter-Pacific Bar Association.





Leading.  
*Learning:*  
*Legal Knowledge*





- a. The Honourable Robert Shenton French, AC, Chief Justice of the High Court of Australia, delivering the Singapore Academy of Law Annual Lecture 2013
- b. Professor Maryanne Gary, the SAL Distinguished Speaker 2013, who delivered a lecture on "Implications of Scientific Memory Research for the Law"
- c. Panel discussion at the 2nd Criminal Law Conference



# *Legal Knowledge*

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**The work of the Legal Knowledge Cluster comprises the following committees:**

- a. Publications Committee
- b. Council of Law Reporting
- c. Committee on Legal Education and Studies
- d. Law Reform Committee
- e. Legal Heritage Committee
- f. LawNet Management Committee
- g. Electronic Litigation Committee

## 01 LEGAL JOURNALS

**The Publications Committee is chaired by the Honourable Justice Judith Prakash. The committee published the September 2013 and March 2014 issues of the Singapore Academy of Law Journal.**

A special issue of the *Singapore Academy of Law Journal* on Constitutionalism and Criminal Justice was published on 27 December 2013. Associate Professor Chan Wing Cheong and Professor Michael Hor were the guest editors of the issue which contained 10 articles from foreign and local contributors.

The fourteenth volume of the *Singapore Academy of Law Annual Review of Singapore Cases* was published in June 2014. Thirty-nine contributors authored the 24 chapters.

The Secretariat undertook an international outreach exercise from July 2012 to January 2013. Letters inviting international law librarians and faculty members of universities in United Kingdom, Ireland, Australia, New Zealand, China, India, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, South Africa, Canada, Vietnam and Indonesia, and members of the Australian and Malaysian judiciary to subscribe to the journals were sent. Of the 416 recipients, 41 replied positively; an estimated 10% take-up rate for the free subscription.

## 02 LAW BOOKS AND MONOGRAPHS

### **The Commissioning Panel is chaired by the Honourable Judge of Appeal Justice Andrew Phang Boon Leong.**

During the period under review, five titles were published:

- *Criminal Law for the 21st Century – A Model Code for Singapore* – Published on 19 July 2013.
- *Legal Tenor: Voices from Singapore’s Legal History (1930–1959)* – Published on 1 November 2013 (e-Book) and 13 January 2014 (print). The e-Book was launched by the Honourable the Chief Justice Sundaresh Menon on 1 November 2013 at the Academy’s 25th Anniversary Appreciation Dinner.
- *Data Protection Law in Singapore – Privacy and Sovereignty in an Interconnected World* – Published on 15 January 2014. The book was launched by the Minister for Communications and Information, Dr Yaacob Ibrahim, on 26 March 2014 at the Supreme Court Viewing Gallery.
- *Juvenile Justice – Where Rehabilitation Takes Centre Stage* – Published on 13 February 2014. The book was launched on 16 May 2014 at the Social Service Institute.
- *Personal Property Law* – Published on 16 May 2014.

The current list of commissioned titles (excluding published titles) numbers 30.

Upcoming titles for 2014/15 include volumes on empirical study on the development of Singapore law, criminal law, criminal evidence, jurisdictional issues in arbitration, Security of Payments Act and adjudication, and international issues in Singapore family law.

The following titles were published under Academy Publishing’s contract publishing work during the period under review:

- *Know the Law NOW!* – Published for the Law Society in July 2013.
- *Selected Essays on International Arbitration* – Published for Mr Michael Hwang, SC on 31 October 2013.
- *Asian Journal on Mediation* in November 2013 and the *Singapore Construction Adjudication Review 2012* in February 2014 for the Singapore Mediation Centre.
- *Report of the Law Reform Committee on Hague Convention on Choice of Court Agreements 2005 (March 2013)* and *Report of the Law Reform Committee on Litigation Funding in Insolvency Cases (February 2014)* published in January and March 2014 respectively.

## 03 LAW REPORTING

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

For the period 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2014, 24 fortnightly parts of the *Singapore Law Reports* (“SLR”) were produced. A total of 210 cases were reported, comprising 154 High Court decisions and 56 Court of Appeal decisions. Of the cases reported, 34 were criminal cases and the remaining 176 were civil cases.

As at 30 June 2013, there were 123 subscribers (with 134 subscriptions) to the SLR.

## 04 SINGAPORE ACADEMY OF LAW ANNUAL LECTURE 2013

The Honourable Justice Robert Shenton French, AC, Chief Justice of the High Court of Australia delivered the 20th Singapore Academy of Law Annual Lecture on “The Rule of Law – A Many Coloured Dream Coat” on 17 September 2013 at the Supreme Court Auditorium. The lecture was attended by more than 500 people. The Annual Lecture Organising Committee is chaired by the Honourable Justice Vinodh Coomaraswamy.

**The Committee on Legal Education and Studies (“CLES”) was chaired by former Solicitor-General Mrs Koh Juat Jong, SC (up to 31 January 2014) and thereafter by Mrs Lee Suet Fern.**

In the period under review, the Committee organised 28 continuing legal and public education events attended by a total of 3,794 participants, a 22% increase from the previous year. A total of 3,819 Continuing Professional Development (“CPD”) hours were awarded at these events to Regulated Lawyers requiring CPD points.

A series of 11 seminars were conducted in July 2013 in conjunction with Law Week, in celebration of the Academy’s 25th Anniversary. About 370 participants attended the opening ceremony which included a seminar on “Pro Bono Services” and an average of 90 attended each of the seminars which featured updates from the *Annual Review of Singapore Cases 2012*.

A series of four seminars covering topics on Family Law were held between August and September 2013 primarily for the benefit of small firms. An average of 126 participants attended each of these seminars which were co-organised by the Academy and the State Courts.

The SAL Distinguished Speaker was Professor Maryanne Gary whose lecture on “Implications of Scientific Memory Research for the Law” held on 4 December 2013 captivated an audience of 237 participants.

The 2nd Criminal Law Conference was organised together with the Attorney-General’s Chambers, the Association of Criminal Lawyers and the Law Society of Singapore on 16 – 17 January 2014. The Conference saw a participation of 334 and featured a distinguished panel of 36 speakers from Singapore and overseas.

The 2nd Rule of Law Symposium – “The Importance of the Rule of Law in Promoting Development” was organised with the Bingham Centre for the Rule of Law, with support from the Ministry of Law and the Attorney-General’s Chambers. More than 430 participants attended the conference on 23 May 2014 which featured 20 speakers including Chief Justice Sundaresh Menon, Minister Mr K Shanmugam, Attorney-General V K Rajah, SC, Solicitor-General Lionel Yee, SC, Chief Justice (Hong Kong) Geoffrey Ma GBM, Ambassador Ms Patricia O’Brien and Lord Phillips of Worth Matravers KG PC.

The fifth run of the Junior College Law Programme (“JCLP”) was conducted from 18 to 29 November 2013. There were 24 speakers and panellists at the JCLP Conference and 68 organisations provided mentors for the job-shadowing programme to about 400 students from 23 pre-university institutions.

CLES also collaborated with the universities and other institutions to organise various legal education events during the period under review. These include:

- Three seminars with the Singapore Management University (“SMU”) School of Law namely, “Contemporary Problems with Unauthorised Agency” by Professor Francis Reynolds, QC, “Fiduciaries and their Flawed Decisions” by Professor Richard Nolan and “New Developments in Private International Law: A Busy 12 Months for the UK Supreme Court” by Professor Adrian Briggs;
- “The First Decade of UK Gaming Regulation and Beyond: Key Lessons and Perspectives” with the Casino Regulatory Authority (“CRA”);
- “Data Protection Law and Information Security” in conjunction with the launch of the book *Data Protection Law in Singapore – Privacy and Sovereignty in an Interconnected World* by Academy Publishing; and
- “Parenthood in the 21st Century: The Status of Children (Assisted Reproduction Technology) Act” was organised in synergy with the Academy’s Law Reform Committee.

The E-Seminar portal will be launched in the third quarter of 2014 to enable Academy members to have online access to video recordings of its seminars and conferences. Viewers may use the portal to earn private CPD points.



To enable better co-ordination in dates among organisations providing legal education seminars, CLES initiated a Master Calendar of Legal Education in November 2013. Twenty-three organisations including the Attorney-General's Chambers, the Law Society of Singapore, the law faculties of the National University of Singapore and the Singapore Management University, and the IP Academy have subscribed to the Master Calendar.

## 06 LAW REFORM

### **The Law Reform Committee chaired by the Honourable Justice Judith Prakash met four times during the period under review.**

Matters considered by the Committee included:

- a. reform of the Inheritance (Family Provision) Act;
- b. building and construction law;
- c. responsible lending in consumer finance;
- d. review of trustees' classification and apportionment rules to allow total return investment;
- e. choice of law and jurisdiction in trusts; and
- f. privilege against self-incrimination in intellectual property proceedings.

The Committee organised a seminar, "Parenthood in the 21st Century: The Status of Children (Assisted Reproduction Technology) Act" on 23 April 2014 to address legal, ethical and practical challenges raised by this new legislation.

## 07 LEGAL HERITAGE

### **The Legal Heritage Committee was chaired by the Honourable Justice Andrew Ang (up to 26 February 2014) and thereafter by the Honourable Judicial Commissioner George Wei.**

In the period under review, a total of eight hours of oral history was recorded bringing the total number of recorded hours to 203.5 since the project began in 2005. One oral history interview was completed and five are in progress. The total number of completed interviews as at 30 June 2014 is 32.

An exhibition, #Law & Community was held from 22 – 26 July 2013 as part of Law Week 2013 to celebrate the Academy's 25th anniversary. The exhibition which showcased the history and developments in the Singapore criminal justice system and family law was aimed at creating public awareness of the law. More than 2,000 visitors including members of the legal community, the public and students visited the exhibition which featured information, photographs, artefacts, videos and interactive kiosks. The Academy has obtained permission from the various agencies to reproduce the exhibition online on the legal history database [www.singaporelegalhistory.org](http://www.singaporelegalhistory.org).

*Legal Tenor: Voices from Singapore's Legal History (1930 – 1959)* is the first audio book by Academy Publishing. It features audio recordings of 15 of Singapore's earliest lawyers including David Marshall, former Chief Justice Wee Chong Jin, JB Jeyeretnam, Joseph Grimberg, SC, Howard Cashin and former judges, Choor Singh, FA Chua and Abdul Wahab Ghows as they recollected their experiences in the practice of law in the decades leading up to 1959. A print version of the book was launched at the Opening of Legal Year in January 2014.

## 08 LAWNET

### **The LawNet Management Committee is chaired by the Honourable Justice Chan Seng Onn.**

The new LawNet3 system is targeted for launch in the first quarter of 2015. During the period under review, the Committee focused on four key areas: preparing data for the transition, redesigning the system to better meet subscriber needs, enhancing content and preparing for change management activities.

Focus group discussions were held with representatives from the Attorney-General's Chambers, the judiciary, practitioners, librarians, academics and students. The feedback was collated and taken into consideration during the design phase of LawNet3. One of the major changes that will be incorporated is the reorganisation of the portal according to major practice areas such as Legal Research, Civil Practice, Criminal Practice and Conveyancing.

The Committee also worked on developing a premium content section on the new portal. Negotiations were held with various parties to either provide content to be hosted in LawNet or incorporate subscription links to their content under the premium content section. These include selected Academy Publishing titles, additional resources from the Supreme Court (taxation, assessments of damages and pleadings data). A Sentencing Information Repository is also planned as a new offering in the Criminal Practice module in LawNet3.

As at 30 May 2013, the Legal Workbench subscriber base stood at 4,692; an increase of 1% for firms on Preferential rate (which also includes corporate counsels) and a 4% decrease for corporations under the Standard rate. There are 75 firms in Malaysia subscribing to Legal Workbench as at 31 May 2014 compared to 81 in the same period last year. The Secretariat is looking at working with a partner who will take over the management and marketing of Legal Workbench in Malaysia with the aim of improving the subscription numbers.

## 09 eLITIGATION

### **The Electronic Litigation Committee is chaired by the Honourable Justice Lee Seiu Kin.**

The eLitigation system was rolled out to the State Court's Civil Justice and Family Divisions on 30 September and 2 December 2013 respectively.

The new Practising Certificate ("PC") module in eLitigation was fully utilised during the annual PC renewal exercise from March to April 2014. It provided a one-stop portal where lawyers seeking to renew their practising certificates need to fill up only one consolidated e-form and authorise a single payment.

Work has commenced on several new enhancements to the system. This includes a new Singapore International Commercial Court ("SICC") module to cater for the registration of foreign lawyers and to allow these lawyers to perform filing and service transactions online. The Family Courts module will also be enhanced to be aligned with changes arising from the Family Justice Bill.

An award for the electronic discovery call for collaboration was made on 3 October 2013 to the Singapore Law Cloud Consortium to partner the Academy in offering a technology and skills development programme to improve the productivity and cost efficiency of law firms in managing large volumes of documents. Preparations to implement the project were carried out between October 2013 and April 2014. The project has since halted due to the withdrawal of the consortium's local lead after it had experienced difficulties with its foreign technology provider. Discussions have been ongoing between the Academy and the consortium to resolve this matter.

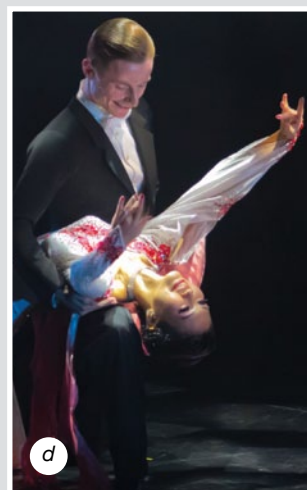
Following the success of the inaugural International Conference on Electronic Litigation in 2011, a steering committee has been formed to plan a Technology Law Conference series based on four themes, namely electronic litigation, international commercial law and technology, intellectual property and media and telecommunications law.



Leading  
*Performance:*  
*Legal Industry*







- a. The Right Honourable Lord Woolf delivering the 2nd Singapore Mediation Lecture
- b. Panel discussion at the Singapore Mediation Lecture
- c. PAC-Litigation Internship Programme: Students speaking with members from the Professional Development & Practice Chapter
- d. Performers at "The LeX Factor – Law Has Talent"



# *Legal Industry*

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**The work of the Legal Industry Cluster comprises the following committees:**

- a. Board of Commissioners for Oaths and Notaries Public
- b. Promotion of Singapore Law Committee
- c. Singapore Mediation Centre
- d. Professional Affairs Committee
- e. Membership and Social Committee

## **01** APPOINTMENT OF COMMISSIONERS FOR OATHS AND NOTARIES PUBLIC

**The Board of Commissioners for Oaths and Notaries Public (“the Board”) is chaired by Mr Giam Chin Toon, SC.**

In the year under review, 613 commissioners for oaths and 182 notaries public were appointed for the period 1 October 2013 to 30 September 2014, and 1,145 commissioners for oaths and 389 notaries public for the period 1 April 2014 to 31 March 2015.

## **02** AUTHENTICATION SERVICES

The number of authentication certificates issued in FY 2013/2014 totalled 45,804. Of the 45,804 certificates, 5,839 were submitted under the Express Authentication Service. This is an increase of 4% over the number 44,005 of authentication certificates issued in FY 2012/2013.

## **03** APPOINTMENT OF SENIOR COUNSEL

**The Senior Counsel Selection Committee is chaired by The Honourable the Chief Justice Sundaresh Menon.**

There were no Senior Counsel appointments in 2014.

## **04** SAL INNOVATIONS AND IDEAS SCHEME (SALIIS)

**The SAL Innovations and Ideas Scheme (“SALIIS”) was established in March 2012.**

The objectives of the scheme are to encourage members of the legal community to develop and implement new schemes/ ideas that can benefit the legal industry and/ or wider community and to set aside funding to develop these ideas. SALIIS funding is open to application from all Ordinary, Associate and Associate-Student members of the Academy and a Committee for Innovation and Ideas (“CII”) was formed to oversee and manage the scheme.

In the period under review, one project was awarded with the SALIS funding. The successful project is called Singapore Law Blog. The Singapore Law Blog, targeted at local and international legal community, provides legal updates, commentaries and op-eds in relation to legal developments in Singapore and other Commonwealth jurisdictions such as the U.K., the U.S., Hong Kong, Australia and Canada. The blog can be found at <http://www.singaporelawblog.sg/>

## 05 POST-QUALIFICATION OVERSEAS ATTACHMENTS AND PRIZES

Seven applications were received in 2014 for the Overseas Attachments. The Overseas Attachment Selection Committee is considering the applications and will be awarding the successful applicants in July 2014.

The winners of the Prizes for 2013/2014 were:

- a. Mr Lee Wei Lun Ivan, top final-year student at the Faculty of Law, National University of Singapore;
- b. Mr Yu Qing, the top student in a Law Elective for the degree of Master of Business Administration, Nanyang Technological University; and
- c. Mr Jared Kang Chern Wey, the top student in the Diploma in Law & Management, Temasek Polytechnic.

## 06 PROMOTION OF SINGAPORE LAW

**The Promotion of Singapore Law Committee (“PSLC”) is chaired by Justice Vinodh Coomaraswamy and organised under four desks chaired by Lok Vi Ming, SC (China Desk), Cavinder Bull, SC (India Desk), Dr Wong Kien Keong (Indonesia Desk) and Minn Naing Oo (Myanmar Desk).**

A number of activities were carried out to promote the use of Singapore law as a neutral governing law in cross-border transactions and Singapore as a neutral venue for Alternative Dispute Resolution (“ADR”). These include:

- a. Seminars held overseas and in Singapore. The PSLC China Desk participated in seminars on international arbitration in Tianjin in July 2013. In Singapore, the PSLC Committee organised two seminars in November last year. The seminar on the enforcement of arbitral awards involving parties from China, India and Indonesia was attended by more than 90 corporate counsel and lawyers while 75 post graduate students from the NTU Mayor class participated in a seminar on ADR.
- b. Road shows to Jakarta and Taipei in September and November respectively. During the three-day road show to Jakarta, the PSLC Indonesia Desk conducted mock arbitration for 210 lawyers and law undergraduates at the University of Indonesia. Meetings were also held with members of the Indonesian Advocates Association and Indonesian Corporate Counsel Association on possible future collaborations with PSLC. In Taipei, the PSLC China Desk met with lawyers, corporate counsel and law undergraduates. The committee members explored collaboration opportunities with representatives from the National Chengchi University, Taipei Bar Association and National Taipei University.
- c. A presentation on ADR in Singapore and the benefits of using Singapore law as a neutral governing law for cross-border contracts was conducted for a four-member delegation from the Guangdong Provincial Higher People’s Court in August 2013.
- d. The Singapore Law Visitors Programme was held in December 2013. The five visitors: Sir Christopher Greenwood, QC, International Court of Justice The Hague, The Honourable James Spigelman, AC QC, Former Chief Justice of New South Wales, Australia, Justice Erich Schwarzenbacher, Austrian Supreme Court, The Honourable Mr Justice Arjan Sikri, The Supreme Court of India and The Right Honourable Lord Hoffmann, Former Lord of Appeal in Ordinary Brick Court Chambers participated in a programme which included presentations on Singapore’s dispute resolution services and court infrastructure. They also spoke at the Singapore International Arbitration Forum and Singapore International Arbitration Academy’s Conference.



07 **MEDIATION  
& OTHER  
ALTERNATIVE  
DISPUTE  
RESOLUTION  
SERVICES**

- e. Familiarisation programmes were held in December 2013 and June 2014 for 15 foreign interns from Clifford Chance and 12 Juris Doctorate students from Santa Clara University respectively. The programme included sessions to familiarise them on dispute resolution services in Singapore, with the objective of promoting Singapore as a legal solutions hub.

The SingaporeLaw website is a one-stop web portal, providing updated and relevant information on Singapore law. The website makes available authoritative articles and commentaries, written by legal academics and practitioners, on the legal system of Singapore and the principles of Singapore law. The website showcases selected Singapore case law, giving a flavour of how Singapore courts rule on a variety of cases they handle. Page views of website increased by 10.5% compared to last year and articles on Singapore commercial law were the most popular.

Singapore Law Watch (“SLW”) continued to be a widely used legal news service. The average number of email subscribers and page views per month increased by close to 23% and over 17% respectively compared to last year.

**The chairperson of the Board of Directors of the Singapore Mediation Centre is the Honourable Justice Belinda Ang Saw Ean.**

The Singapore Mediation Centre (“SMC”) mediated 226 matters during the period under review as compared to 182 last year.

The number of adjudication cases administered by SMC under the Building and Construction Industry Security of Payment Act also rose to 336 from 205 in the previous year.

In the period under review, there were no cases lodged under the Singapore Domain Name Dispute Resolution Policy which provides a framework for resolving “.sg” domain name disputes. There were six cases lodged in the same reporting period in the previous year.

SMC administered one case under its Neutral Evaluation Scheme. Three cases were administered since the scheme was launched on 2 May 2012.

SMC conducted 38 workshops. There was increased interest in SMC’s public workshops. A total of 345 participants attended the two “Strategic Conflict Management for Professionals” modules which were conducted over 15 workshops. Sixteen participants attended the inaugural run of the public workshop, “Negotiation: From Deal-Making to Deal-Management” on 21 and 22 October 2013.

To increase the competitive edge of its workshops, SMC embarked on the process to obtain Workforce Skills Qualifications (“WSQ”) accreditation. WSQ accreditation will make SMC workshops more price-competitive as it will enable company-sponsored trainees from Small and Medium Enterprises to enjoy savings of up to 76.9% off workshop fees. It will also raise the standard of SMC workshops and provide a strategic advantage in the domestic market.

The 2nd Singapore Mediation Lecture was delivered by The Right Honourable Lord Woolf, former Chief Justice of England and Wales on 10 October 2013. The lecture was attended by over 400 participants including members of the legal industry, mediators, civil servants, entrepreneurs and students.

SMC launched two new services during the period under review:

- Collaborative Family Practice (“CFP”) service was launched on 10 July 2013. SMC engaged Ms Catherine Gale, an Australian Collaborative Family Lawyer and Board member of the International Academy of Collaborative Professionals to train its first batch of 19 CFP lawyers. CFP is a voluntary process where, instead of going to court, parties each hire a specially trained CFP lawyer to help them negotiate an agreement that suits their family. SMC has administered 18 cases under this service, four of which were settled. Four were withdrawn and the remaining ones are in progress.

- Healthcare Mediation Scheme in collaboration with the Ministry of Health Holdings Pte Ltd (“MOHH”). This scheme is designed to offer mediation services for disputes between patients and healthcare institutes, initially from a select group of public hospitals. A pilot phase of the scheme was launched on 28 April 2014 with mediation fees subsidised by MOHH. One case has been successfully mediated under this scheme.

There were three new publications during the period under review. The *Asian Journal on Mediation* was published in November 2013. The 2012 volume of the *Singapore Construction Adjudication Review* was published in February 2014. SMC collaborated with Contributing Editor Renate Dendorfer-Ditges to publish the Singapore chapter in a book titled, *Getting the Deal Through – Mediation 2014*. The book was published by Law Business Research Ltd (UK) in October 2013.

Two strategic agreements were signed during the period under review:

- Memorandum of Understanding (“MOU”) with the Barcelona Official Chamber of Commerce (“BCC”) on 14 April 2014. The two organisations undertook to exchange best practices and information, promote mediation among businesses, particularly in cross-border connections and to educate and advocate in the field of mediation.
- Memorandum of Intent (“MOI”) with the Personal Data Protection Commission (“PDPC”) on 28 April 2014. Under the MOI, SMC will provide mediation services to settle disputes that arise between an individual and an organisation in relation to the Personal Data Protection Act.

SMC embarked on an exercise to revitalise its brand for the domestic mediation market. A brand consultant was engaged to assist SMC in this exercise and their recommendations were accepted by the SMC Board on 5 February 2014. The brand implementation plans include the launch of a new corporate identity that will feature on all SMC collaterals and website, and a plan to communicate SMC’s brand message to its mediators and partners, and to the business community through the media and events.

SMC ended FY 2013/2014 with a net profit after tax of S\$132,227 as compared to a net profit after tax of S\$163,525 in FY 2012/2013.

## 08 PROFESSIONAL AFFAIRS

### **The Professional Affairs Committee (“PAC”) is chaired by Justice Quentin Loh.**

The following activities of the various chapters and sub-committees of the PAC during the period under review are highlighted:

- a. Foreign Lawyers Chapter (“FLC”) focused on developing plans to involve foreign lawyers in pro bono work in Singapore and to organise quarterly or half-yearly talks by foreign lawyers on topics of international law.
- b. Professional Practice and Development Chapter (“PDPC”) focused on the following activities:
  - i. The fifth run of the Litigation Internship Programme was held from 8 July to 26 July 2013 for 30 interns from NUS and SMU.
  - ii. A discussion paper was prepared on an accreditation scheme where legal specialists other than Senior Counsel can be recognised for their expertise in specialised fields of law. Discussions on this are ongoing.
  - iii. A feasibility study on the introduction of a regulatory framework for corporate or in-house counsel. A survey was conducted in March 2014 to obtain the views of corporate counsel in Singapore and the findings of this survey will be discussed with the Singapore Corporate Counsel Association (“SCCA”).
- c. Professional Values Chapter (“PVC”) organised the following activities:
  - i. Work has started on the organisation of a 3rd Biennial Ethics Event which will tentatively be held in the first quarter of 2015. The event is aimed at providing a forum for representatives from the Bar, the Legal Service and in-house counsel to address ethical obligations and conduct within the legal industry.

- ii. The PVC studied a consultation paper by the Ministry of Law on the issue of third party funding of litigation and will consolidate their inputs for submission to the Ministry.
- d. Young Members' Chapter ("YMC") organised the following events:
  - i. A forum, "My First Six Years" featuring senior corporate counsel was organised by the YMC and SCCA in July 2013 to address the concerns over changes in expectations, continuing education and career development of young lawyers who moved in-house at an early stage of their careers. More than 120 young lawyers and students attended the event.
  - ii. Four Family Law Practice seminars were held in August and September 2013. Topics discussed include (i) Mediation Advocacy, (ii) Advocacy in Family Law, (iii) Parental Child Abduction, Relocation and The Hague and (iv) Drafting of Pleadings and Affidavits.
  - iii. The YMC is working with various bodies to hold training workshops and events targeted at young lawyers. These include:
    - A one-day hands-on Conflict Management workshop with the Singapore Mediation Centre scheduled in August 2014;
    - A half day Legal Practice workshop for NUS and SMU students in August 2014;
    - An interactive forum with the Ministry of Law, SCCA and the Foreign Lawyers Chapter ("FLC") on career options in the Singapore legal industry; and
    - A one and a half day course on Criminal Forensic training with the Institute of Mental Health ("IMH") in September 2014.

**09 MEMBERSHIP  
AND SOCIAL  
ACTIVITIES**

**The Membership and Social Committee was chaired by the Honourable Justice Lai Siu Chiu (up to 30 October 2013) and thereafter by Mr Thio Shen Yi, SC.**

The Committee organised eight events for members in the period under review.

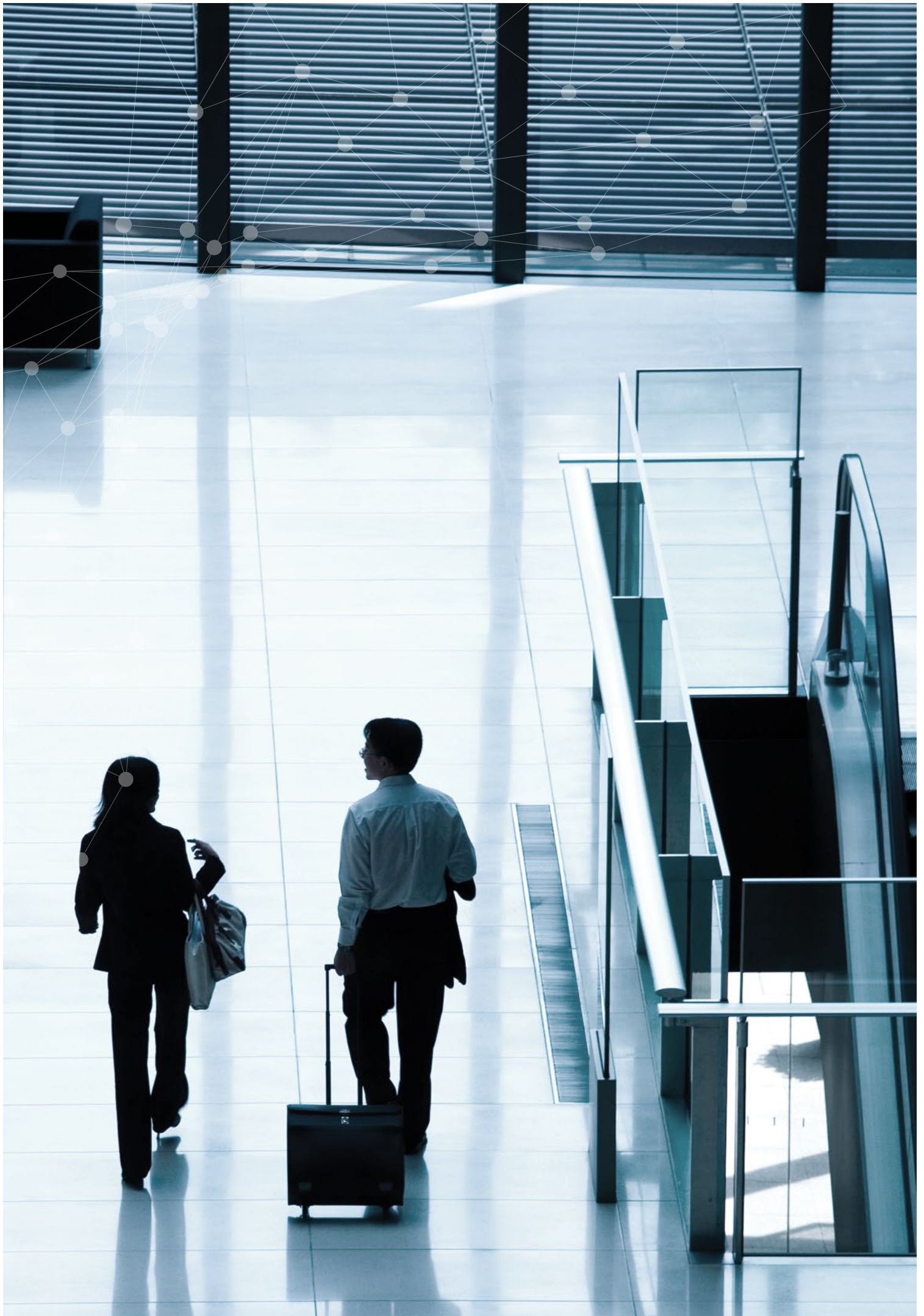
A charity concert, "The LeX Factor – Law Has Talent", in support of the Yellow Ribbon Fund (YRF-SAL STAR [Skills Training Assistance to Restart] Bursary) was held on 12 September 2013 at the School of The Arts Drama Theatre. Close to 400 patrons were treated to a magnificent evening of songs and dances by over 70 talented individuals and groups from the legal profession, ex-offenders and beneficiaries from YRF.

A total of \$303,000 was raised from direct donations and sale of concert tickets. President Dr Tony Tan Keng Yam who was the Guest-of-Honour at the event witnessed the cheque presentation from the Honourable the Chief Justice Sundaresh Menon to Mr Philip Tan, Chairman of YRF. Donations continued to come in after the concert, and the total amount raised stood at \$335,571.50 as at end June 2014.

The Academy's total membership as at 30 June 2014 stood at 10,799, representing an increase of 7% over the previous year's figure of 10,129. Out of the 10,799 members, 2,548 have been granted a waiver of membership fees pursuant to Rule 4 of Academy Rules, on the basis of their no longer being in the profession of law, are continuously absent from Singapore, or are not gainfully employed. There is a waiver sub-committee which is currently chaired by Mr Tan Boon Khai. He is assisted by Mr Lawrence Quahe and Mr Peter Sim.



Leading  
*Change:*  
*Corporate Services*





# Corporate Services

## 01 STAKEHOLDING SERVICE

The total number of payment-in transactions handled decreased from 14,282 in FY 2012/2013 to 9,195 in FY 2013/2014. The total number of payment-out transactions handled decreased from 13,843 in FY 2012/13 to 10,637 in FY 2013/14. The stakeholding and conveyancing money held as at 31 March 2014 was \$425.3 million (last financial year: \$504.4 million).

There was a 28% decrease in interest income and service fee, from \$1.6 million in FY 2012/2013 to \$1.2 million in FY 2013/14. The decrease in interest income was mainly due to the decrease in money held by the Academy. Income relating to the \$50 million with the fund manager is now classified as investment income. If the net investment gain from investment of stakeholder funds is taken into consideration (\$1.5 million), total income generated by the money held by the stakeholding department amounted to \$2.7 million.

In addition to stakeholding and conveyancing moneys, there were two cases paid in to the Academy pertaining to order of court. The amount held under order of court was \$0.8 million as at 31 March 2014. Total holding by the Stakeholding Department was \$426.1 million.

## 02 INVESTMENTS

For FY 2013/2014, the Academy surplus funds managed by the fund manager made a profit of \$1.1 million as compared to a profit of \$1.0 million in the previous financial year. The increase was mainly due to capital gain during disposal of the financial assets. As at 31 March 2014, the market value was \$32.2 million, \$0.2 million lower than the book value of \$32.4 million.

As at 31 March 2014, a total of \$50 million of stakeholder funds was placed out with the fund manager. The decisions relating to the movement of the counters in the nondiscretionary fund management account for the stakeholder fund was mainly undertaken by the seven-man Investment Committee chaired by the President of the Academy. For the financial year ended 31 March 2014, the net investment gain for the stakeholder fund with the fund manager was \$1.5 million. As at 31 March 2014, the market value of the portfolio was \$54.6 million, \$4.6 million higher than the principal amount placed with the fund manager.

## 03 SAL GROUP FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

### Financial Performance of SAL Group

In FY 2013/2014, total operating income for the SAL Group increased by 15.7% from \$14.13 million in FY 2012/2013 to \$16.34 million in FY 2013/2014. Total operating expenditure increased by 31.2% from \$11.76 million in FY 2012/2013 to \$15.43 million in FY 2013/2014. The operating surplus for the SAL Group decreased by 61.5% from \$2.37 million in FY 2012/2013 to \$0.91 million in FY 2013/2014.

There was a net investment gain of \$2.60 million in FY 2013/2014 (FY 2012/2013: \$2.60 million). After taking into account the grant utilised/amortised of \$37,554 in FY 2013/2014 (FY 2012/2013: \$38,231), the surplus before consolidated fund contribution and income tax was \$3.55 million compared to a surplus of \$5.0 million in FY 2012/2013, a decrease of 29.0%.

With a consolidated fund contribution of \$0.50 million and income tax expense of \$6,640 for FY 2013/2014 (FY 2012/2013: consolidated fund contribution of \$0.82 million and income tax expense of \$6,522), SAL Group ended with a surplus of \$3.05 million compared to a surplus of \$4.18 million in FY 2012/2013, a decrease of 27%.

### **Financial Performance of the Academy**

In FY 2013/2014, the Academy's own operating income decreased by 4.0% from \$11.76 million in FY 2012/2013 to \$11.30 million. Total operating expenditure for the Academy increased by 15.3% from \$9.53 million in FY 2012/2013 to \$10.99 million in FY 2013/2014.

There was a net investment gain of \$2.60 million in FY 2013/2014 (FY 2012/2013: \$2.60 million). The Academy ended with a surplus of \$2.91 million before consolidated fund contribution compared to a surplus of \$4.83 million in FY 2012/2013, a decrease of 39.8%. After consolidated fund contribution, the Academy's surplus was \$2.42 million compared to a surplus of \$4.01 million in FY 2012/2013, a decrease of 39.7%.

The operating surplus in FY 2013/2014 was lower mainly due to \$0.4 million drop in stakeholding interest income as a result of the decrease in stakeholding money held, one-time \$0.3 million 25th anniversary celebrations, new \$0.5 million grant for Singapore Mediation Centre ("SMC") and \$0.6 million increase in manpower expenditure. Of the manpower expenditure increase, \$0.35 million was mainly due to new staffing requirements to support the Academy's and SMC's new strategic directions, additional \$0.25 million bonus payout from civil service bonus and one-off 25th anniversary bonus. The overall manpower expenditure constitutes 41% of its operating income dollar, within the 40% to 80% range for a knowledge-based company.

The approved staff establishment for the Academy and SMC as at 31 March 2014 was 98 of which 78 positions were filled by full-time staff.

## **04 CONCLUSION**

The year under review was another hectic one for the Academy. Significant progress and new initiatives were made across the clusters in the Academy. Moving forward, the Academy will continue to build on its work of FY 2013/2014 and develop strategies and services to meet the new challenges ahead.

# Key Executives



1. **Ms Serene Wee**  
Chief Executive
2. **Mr Paul Neo**  
Chief Operating Officer
3. **Mr Sriram Chakravarthi**  
Chief Legal Counsel  
Senior Director, Strategic Policy

## SINGAPORE MEDIATION CENTRE

4. **Mr Loong Seng Onn**  
Executive Director

## LAWNET

5. **Ms Tay Bee Lian**  
Senior Director

## ACADEMY PUBLISHING

6. **Mr Bala Shunmugam**  
Director



#### LEGAL EDUCATION AND STUDIES

7. **Ms Carolyne Lim**  
Assistant Director

#### LAW REFORM

8. **Ms Melissa Goh**  
Assistant Director

#### CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS & EVENTS MANAGEMENT

9. **Ms Foo Kim Leng**  
Deputy Director

#### SAL TECHNOLOGY

10. **Mr Gay Wei Ping**  
Chief Technology Officer

#### HUMAN RESOURCE & ADMINISTRATION

11. **Ms Teo Lay Eng**  
Assistant Director

#### STAKEHOLDING, FINANCE (MEMBERSHIP) & INVESTMENT

12. **Ms Low Hui Min**  
Chief Financial Officer



# Financial *Review*



**THE SINGAPORE ACADEMY OF LAW AND ITS SUBSIDIARY**  
**SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
*For the financial year ended 31 March 2014*

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**REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITOR ON THE SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

To the Members of the Singapore Academy of Law

The accompanying summary financial statements of the Singapore Academy of Law (“the Academy”) and its subsidiary (the “Group”), which comprise the summary consolidated balance sheet of the Group and the summary balance sheet of the Academy as at 31 March 2014, the summary consolidated income and expenditure statement and summary consolidated statement of comprehensive income of the Group, and the summary income and expenditure statement and summary statement of comprehensive income of the Academy for the financial year then ended, and related notes, are derived from the audited financial statements of the Academy and its subsidiary for the financial year then ended. We expressed an unmodified audit opinion on those financial statements in our report dated 15 August 2014.

The summary financial statements do not contain all the disclosures required by the Singapore Financial Reporting Standards. Reading the summary financial statements, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the audited financial statements of the Academy and its subsidiary.

**Management’s Responsibility for the Summary Financial Statements**


Management is responsible for the preparation of a summary of the audited financial statements in accordance with the Section 21 of the Singapore Academy of Law Act (Cap. 294A, 1997 Revised Edition) (the “Act”). In preparing the summary financial statements, Section 21 of the Act requires that the summary financial statements be derived from the annual financial statements for the financial year ended 31 March 2014 and be in such form and contain such information as may be specified by rules made thereunder applicable to summary financial statements.

**Auditor’s Responsibility**

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the summary financial statements based on our procedures, which were conducted in accordance with Singapore Standard on Auditing 810, *Engagements to Report on Summary Financial Statements*.

**Opinion**

In our opinion, the summary financial statements are consistent, in all material respects, with the audited financial statements of the Academy and its subsidiary for the financial year ended 31 March 2014 from which they are derived in accordance with the requirements of Section 21 of the Act.



PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP  
Public Accountants and Chartered Accountants

Singapore, 15 August 2014

**THE SINGAPORE ACADEMY OF LAW AND ITS SUBSIDIARY**  
**SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
*For the financial year ended 31 March 2014*

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**IMPORTANT NOTE**

These summary financial statements as set out on pages 2 to 7 are derived from the Singapore Academy of Law (“the Academy”) and its subsidiary (“the Group”)’s financial statements and the independent auditor’s 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 independent auditor’s 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 independent auditor’s 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 Institute\*;
- (g) to refer to the Law Society or the Institute\* proposals and suggestions regarding matters which in the opinion of the Senate require consideration by the Law Society or the Institute\*;
- (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;
- (ka) to hold moneys, whether as stakeholder or in any other capacity, for the purposes or members of the legal profession in Singapore or under any written law; and
- (l) to exercise the functions and duties conferred on the Academy under any written law.

\* “Institute” refers to the Singapore Institute of Legal Education established under section 3 of the Legal Profession Act (Cap.161).

**THE SINGAPORE ACADEMY OF LAW AND ITS SUBSIDIARY**  
**SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
*For the financial year ended 31 March 2014*

**SUMMARY INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2014**

	THE GROUP		THE ACADEMY	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
	\$	\$	\$	\$
<b>Operating income/(expenditure)</b>				
Operating income	<b>16,344,174</b>	14,131,424	<b>11,298,433</b>	11,763,301
Operating expenditure	<b>(15,432,025)</b>	(11,759,611)	<b>(10,987,597)</b>	(9,527,937)
<b>Surplus from operating activities</b>	<b>912,149</b>	2,371,813	<b>310,836</b>	2,235,364
<b>Investment income/(expenditure)/ Other gains from investment – net</b>				
Investment income	<b>2,477,338</b>	2,627,513	<b>2,477,338</b>	2,627,513
Other gains from investment – net	<b>289,930</b>	132,446	<b>289,930</b>	132,446
Investment expenditure	<b>(164,205)</b>	(163,757)	<b>(164,205)</b>	(163,757)
<b>Surplus from investing activities</b>	<b>2,603,063</b>	2,596,202	<b>2,603,063</b>	2,596,202
<b>Total operating and investment income/(expenditure)</b>				
Total income	<b>19,111,442</b>	16,891,383	<b>14,065,701</b>	14,523,260
Total expenditure	<b>(15,596,230)</b>	(11,923,368)	<b>(11,151,802)</b>	(9,691,694)
<b>Surplus from operating and investing activities</b>	<b>3,515,212</b>	4,968,015	<b>2,913,899</b>	4,831,566
Grants utilised	<b>37,554</b>	38,231	–	–
<b>Surplus before income tax and contribution to Consolidated Fund</b>	<b>3,552,766</b>	5,006,246	<b>2,913,899</b>	4,831,566
Contribution to Consolidated Fund and income tax expense	<b>(502,006)</b>	(827,894)	<b>(495,366)</b>	(821,372)
<b>Surplus after income tax and contribution to Consolidated Fund</b>	<b>3,050,760</b>	4,178,352	<b>2,418,533</b>	4,010,194

**THE SINGAPORE ACADEMY OF LAW AND ITS SUBSIDIARY**  
**SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
*For the financial year ended 31 March 2014*

**SUMMARY STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2014**

	THE GROUP		THE ACADEMY	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
	\$	\$	\$	\$
<b>Surplus after income tax and contribution to Consolidated Fund</b>	<b>3,050,760</b>	4,178,352	<b>2,418,533</b>	4,010,194
<b>Other comprehensive income:</b>				
Financial assets, available-for-sale, net of contribution				
- Fair value gains/(losses)	<b>(2,438,269)</b>	1,194,391	<b>(2,438,269)</b>	1,194,391
- Reclassified on disposal	<b>(201,389)</b>	(652,725)	<b>(201,389)</b>	(652,725)
<b>Total comprehensive income/(loss)</b>	<b>411,102</b>	4,720,018	<b>(221,125)</b>	4,551,860

**SUMMARY BALANCE SHEETS AS AT 31 MARCH 2014**

	THE GROUP		THE ACADEMY	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Property, plant and equipment	<b>823,452</b>	510,288	<b>776,346</b>	469,133
Intangible asset	<b>1,227,770</b>	1,441,295	<b>1,227,770</b>	1,441,295
Deferred contribution	<b>200,510</b>	-	<b>200,510</b>	-
Available-for-sale financial assets	<b>15,738,164</b>	30,230,350	<b>15,738,164</b>	30,230,350
Other current assets	<b>465,877,625</b>	529,621,546	<b>460,484,871</b>	525,914,604
Current liabilities	<b>(434,481,953)</b>	(512,451,316)	<b>(431,427,765)</b>	(510,494,218)
Non-current liabilities	<b>(30,549)</b>	(408,246)	-	(340,143)
	<b>49,355,019</b>	48,943,917	<b>46,999,896</b>	47,221,021
Accumulated surplus	<b>50,333,982</b>	47,283,222	<b>47,978,859</b>	45,560,326
Fair value reserve	<b>(978,963)</b>	1,660,695	<b>(978,963)</b>	1,660,695
	<b>49,355,019</b>	48,943,917	<b>46,999,896</b>	47,221,021



**THE SINGAPORE ACADEMY OF LAW AND ITS SUBSIDIARY**  
**NOTES TO THE SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
*For the financial year ended 31 March 2014*

**1 STAKEHOLDING FUNDS**

Included in current assets and current liabilities are stakeholding funds, held in accordance with the Singapore Academy of Law (Stakeholding) Rules, amounting to \$425,133,739 [Note 1(a)] (2013: \$505,828,709) and \$426,069,493 (2013: \$505,209,477) respectively.

(a) Stakeholding funds comprise the following:

Included in current assets:

Cash at bank  
 Deposits with financial institutions  
 Financial assets, available-for-sale  
 Financial assets, available-for-sale – accrued income  
 Amount due to the Academy

Represented by:

Stakeholding funds included in current liabilities  
 Fair value (losses)/gains on financial assets, available-for-sale

**THE GROUP AND ACADEMY**

2014	2013
\$	\$
<b>145,743,420</b>	309,658,694
<b>232,000,000</b>	146,000,000
<b>52,524,307</b>	53,764,687
<b>374,754</b>	382,637
<b>(5,508,742)</b>	(3,977,309)
<b>425,133,739</b>	505,828,709
<b>426,069,493</b>	505,209,477
<b>(935,754)</b>	619,232
<b>425,133,739</b>	505,828,709

The Academy has engaged a professional fund manager to manage a portion of the Stakeholding funds [Note 1(b)].

(b) Stakeholding funds with fund manager comprise the following financial assets/liabilities:

Funds with fund manager:

Available-for-sale financial assets (included in current assets)  
 Cash and cash equivalents (included in current assets)  
 Accrued income (included in current assets)

Less: Fund management fee payable  
 (included in current liabilities)

**THE GROUP AND ACADEMY**

2014	2013
\$	\$
<b>52,524,307</b>	53,764,687
<b>1,673,927</b>	449,216
<b>374,754</b>	382,637
<b>54,572,988</b>	54,596,540
<b>(17,991)</b>	(17,957)
<b>54,554,997</b>	54,578,583

**THE SINGAPORE ACADEMY OF LAW AND ITS SUBSIDIARY**  
**NOTES TO THE SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
*For the financial year ended 31 March 2014*

**2 FUNDS OF THE ACADEMY WITH FUND MANAGER**

Included in the available-for-sale financial assets, current assets and current liabilities of the Group are funds of the Academy placed with a fund manager amounting to \$32,191,380 (2013: \$32,760,262).

Funds with fund manager comprise the following financial assets/liabilities:

	<b>THE GROUP AND ACADEMY</b>	
	<b>2014</b>	2013
	<b>\$</b>	\$
Funds with fund manager:		
Available-for-sale financial assets	<b>15,738,164</b>	30,230,350
Cash and cash equivalents (included in current assets)	<b>16,416,268</b>	2,422,488
Derivative financial instruments [included in current assets/(liabilities)]		
– assets	–	5,213
– liabilities	–	(4,080)
Accrued income (included in current assets)	<b>58,103</b>	127,808
	<b>32,212,535</b>	32,781,779
Less: Fund management fee payable (included in current liabilities)	<b>(21,155)</b>	(21,517)
	<b>32,191,380</b>	32,760,262

**3 GRANTS**

Included in the non-current liabilities of the Group are government grants amounting to \$30,549 (2013: \$68,103).

**4 ACCUMULATED SURPLUS**

The accumulated surplus of the Group and the Academy include other funds of \$7,133,672 (2013: \$7,028,462) and \$7,204,140 (2013: \$7,099,211) respectively that are set up by SAL for specific purposes. There was a transfer of \$100,000 (2013: \$190,000) from general fund to other funds during the financial year.

**5 CHANGES IN STRUCTURE OF THE ACADEMY**

There are no material changes in the structure of the Academy for the financial year ended 31 March 2014.

**THE SINGAPORE ACADEMY OF LAW AND ITS SUBSIDIARY**  
**NOTES TO THE SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
*For the financial year ended 31 March 2014*

**6 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

These were the following significant related party transactions at terms agreed between the parties concerned:

(a) Income and expenditure for services

	THE GROUP		THE ACADEMY	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Secondment fees and other income received from subsidiary	-	-	<b>892,735</b>	615,436
LawNet levy income received from related government bodies	<b>438,738</b>	336,851	<b>438,738</b>	336,851
Food and beverage income received from subsidiary	-	-	<b>93,130</b>	89,441
Seminar fees, workshop income, food and beverage and other income received from related government bodies	<b>87,633</b>	96,004	<b>87,633</b>	69,119
Office rental, secondment and other charges paid to related government bodies and related entities	<b>732,448</b>	685,956	<b>668,042</b>	635,480

(b) Key management personnel compensation

THE GROUP AND ACADEMY	
2014	2013
\$	\$
<b>1,892,724</b>	1,640,801

DATED THIS 15 AUGUST 2014

CHIEF JUSTICE SUNDARESH MENON  
 PRESIDENT  
 THE SINGAPORE ACADEMY OF LAW

## **EXTRACT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE FULL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

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An unmodified audit report dated 15 August 2014 has been issued on the full financial statements of the Singapore Academy of Law and its subsidiary for the financial year ended 31 March 2014. The audit report is reproduced as follows:

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

#### **REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Singapore Academy of Law ("the Academy") and its subsidiary (the "Group") set out on pages xx to xx\*, which comprise the consolidated balance sheet of the Group and the balance sheet of the Academy as at 31 March 2014, the consolidated income and expenditure statement, statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in funds and reserves and statement of cash flows of the Group, and the income and expenditure statement, statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in funds and reserves of the Academy for the financial year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

#### *Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements*

Management is responsible for the preparation of financial statements that give a true and fair view in accordance with the provisions of the Singapore Academy of Law Act (the "Act") and Singapore Financial Reporting Standards, and for 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.

#### *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 about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

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 of financial statements that give a true and fair view 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, the consolidated financial statements of the Group and the income and expenditure statement, the statement of comprehensive income, the statement of changes in funds and reserves and the balance sheet of the Academy 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 Group and of the Academy as at 31 March 2014, and of the results, changes in funds and reserves of the Group and of the Academy and the cash flows of the Group for the financial year ended on that date.



# **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE SINGAPORE ACADEMY OF LAW *(continued)***

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## **REPORT ON OTHER LEGAL AND REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS**

In our opinion, the accounting and other records required by the Act to be kept by the Academy and by its subsidiary incorporated in Singapore of which we are the auditors, have been properly kept in accordance with the provisions of the Act.

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP  
Public Accountants and Chartered Accountants  
Singapore, 15 August 2014

## STATISTICS ON COMPOSITION OF MEMBERS

