

FOREWORD

It is my great pleasure to present to you this special issue of the Singapore Academy of Law Journal (“SACLJ”). This year’s specialty focus is public law doctrines in global and local dimensions.

We are indeed privileged and grateful to have Emeritus Professor Hoong Phun Lee and Dr Jaclyn L Neo as the guest editors of this special issue.

Emeritus Prof Lee is a teaching associate of law at Monash University. His research interests include constitutional and administrative law, the Judiciary, national security, and the Malaysian Constitution. Among his many achievements are his appointments as Sir John Latham Chair of Law at Monash University since 1995 and Deputy Dean from 2003 to 2004 and 2006 to 2009. He is an advisory member for: SACLJ; the *Singapore Journal of Legal Studies*; the *Asian Journal of Comparative Law*; and the *Asian Law Journal*.

Emeritus Prof Lee has worked on numerous prominent publications on constitutional and administrative law, including: *Australian Administrative Law: Fundamentals, Principles and Doctrines*; *Constitutional Landmarks in Malaysia: The First 50 Years 1957–2007*; and *Constitutional Advancement in a Frozen Continent*. He is a much sought-after author and editor to say the least and, in 2011, was awarded the Australian Press Council Medal for meritorious participation in protecting free press.

Dr Neo is an assistant professor of law at National University of Singapore (“NUS”). Her main research and teaching areas are: constitutional and administrative law; comparative state and religion; and law, migration and citizenship. She has been awarded two NUS scholarships – to pursue her Masters of Laws and Doctor of the Science of Law from Yale Law School. She is an appointed executive committee member of the Law Centre for Asian Legal Studies and Asia-Pacific Centre for Environmental Law of the NUS Faculty of Law.

Dr Neo has an outstanding publishing portfolio. She readily contributes to local and international journals and books. Some of her latest representative publications include: “Change and Continuity: The Constitutional Head of State and Democratic Transitions in Malaysia”; “Calibrating Interpretive Incorporation: Constitutional Interpretation and Pregnancy Discrimination under CEDAW”; and “What’s in a Name? Malaysia’s ‘Allah’ Controversy and the Judicial Intertwining of Islam with Ethnic Identity”.

We are extremely grateful to Emeritus Prof Lee and Dr Neo for their immense patience and invaluable effort in bringing together and reviewing all the articles with meticulous care, as well as providing wholehearted support to all the contributors and the editorial team. The duo have profoundly contributed to the success of this publication.

The contributors of the articles in this special issue are well-established scholars from local and overseas universities. They are: Emeritus Prof Lee; Dr Neo; the Honourable Senior Judge Chan Sek Keong; Dr Yap Po Jen; Dr Yvonne Tew; Dr David Tan; Dr Alec Stone Sweet; Dr Jud Mathews; Prof Eugene K B Tan; Prof Swati Jhaveri; Prof Marilyn J Pittard; Dr Sarah Murray; Dr Peter Gerangelos; and Dr Kevin Y L Tan. Their work collectively draws a holistic picture of the major factors, challenges and doctrines courts in Singapore and beyond consider in public law cases, as well as the convergence and divergence of constitutional norms and values between jurisdictions.

Our utmost appreciation goes to the contributors for their kind contributions and collaboration, and having been excellent communicators throughout the entire publication process. Their insurmountable dedication to the project is exceptionally honourable, and their quality of writing is exemplary.

I would also like to thank the staff of Singapore Academy of Law for their commitment and enthusiasm in bringing this special issue to completion.

I commend this special issue to all readers. I hope you will find the discussions in the articles beneficial, and the articles themselves insightful, intriguing and inspiring, both in the local and global contexts of public law.

JUDITH PRAKASH
Chair, Publications Committee
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