

# SINGAPORE JUDICIAL COLLEGE

Annual Report 2019



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## ABOUT THE SINGAPORE JUDICIAL COLLEGE

Established under the Supreme Court of Singapore, the Singapore Judicial College serves the learning and developmental needs of judges and judicial officers



## VISION

To achieve excellence in judicial education and research



## MISSION

To provide and inspire continuing judicial learning and research to enhance the competency and professionalism of judges



# MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF JUSTICE

2019 marked the fifth year of the founding of the Singapore Judicial College ("SJC"). Within this short span of time, the SJC has not only established itself as the backbone of the system of training and development for members of the Singapore judiciary, but also seeded a vibrant and blossoming culture of continual learning within our community of Judges and Judicial Officers ("JOs"). The SJC has contributed enormously to the normalisation of continuing judicial education as a central feature of our judicial culture and that is an achievement in which the SJC can justly take pride.

The SJC's fifth anniversary provides an opportune moment to take stock of what the College has achieved and what lies ahead for it. On 5 January 2015, the SJC was launched to institutionalise and pull together the various judicial education programmes that had been discretely developed in the Supreme Court, the State Courts and the Family Justice Courts. In its first year alone, the SJC designed and conducted a suite of more than 40 programmes which enjoyed an overall attendance exceeding 1,000 participants. Perhaps the most important of these programmes was its Judiciary-wide Induction Programme

for all newly appointed Judges and JOs. The SJC continues to refine that judicial on-boarding programme, revamping it in 2018 to establish a structured year-long series of modules and workshops that draws upon the experience and expertise of resource persons and the Supreme Court bench as teaching faculty.

Over the years, the scope of the SJC's work has expanded to encompass various areas of specialism. In 2019, the SJC organised a number of "deep dive" sessions on topical but challenging areas of law and practice, ranging from an Insolvency Masterclass (a collaboration with the US Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of New York) to a series of intensive modules on legal technology, focusing on cryptocurrencies, blockchain, smart contracts and artificial intelligence (curated from the Singapore Management University's Graduate Certificate in LegalTech).

The SJC's International Wing has likewise grown from strength to strength. Today, it counts close to 1,500 foreign judges and officials from across 87 jurisdictions as alumni. This year, the SJC supported the Council of ASEAN Chief Justices by partnering with the

International Council for Commercial Arbitration (ICCA) to organise a colloquium on international arbitration and the New York Convention. In August, the Supreme Court of Singapore and the Supreme People's Court of the People's Republic of China ("SPC") signed a Memorandum of Understanding to advance continuing judicial education, with the SJC and the National Judges College of the SPC identified as the implementing bodies. These and other successful international engagements provide compelling evidence of the SJC's growing standing in the international judicial community as a leading institution for judicial education.

The core mission of the SJC is the promotion of continuing judicial learning and research so as to enhance the competency and professionalism of our Judges. That central goal and purpose has not changed. But as the SJC looks toward the next five years, I urge the College to view itself not merely as an educator but also an innovator in judicial education and indeed in the performance of the judicial function. As the online dispute resolution (ODR) and alternative dispute resolution (ADR) movements continue to converge, the SJC can be a powerful catalyst for change. It should challenge our Judges to rethink the ways in which they do judicial work and encourage them to see themselves both as administrators of justice and as facilitators of peace, engaged in the broader enterprise of

peacebuilding and capacity building in the interests of a more just, peaceful and legally literate society.

Let me congratulate the Board of Governors, the Dean, the Executive Director and the SJC team for yet another memorable and remarkable year of achievements. As the SJC matures and transitions from an era of formation to a period of transformation, I look forward to seeing how the next chapter of the SJC will unfold.

**CHIEF JUSTICE  
SUNDARESH MENON**  
Supreme Court of Singapore



# BOARD OF GOVERNORS



**Chairman**

**The Honourable Justice Andrew Phang**  
Judge of Appeal  
Supreme Court of Singapore



**Deputy Chairman**

**The Honourable Justice Quentin Loh**  
Judge  
Supreme Court of Singapore

## Members

**The Honourable Justice See Kee Oon**  
Presiding Judge  
State Courts of Singapore

**The Honourable Justice Debbie Ong**  
Presiding Judge  
Family Justice Courts of Singapore

**The Honourable Justice John Dyson  
Heydon AC**  
International Judge  
Singapore International Commercial Court

**Professor Joseph H H Weiler**  
University Professor  
New York University School of Law

**Professor Goh Yihan**  
Dean  
School of Law  
Singapore Management University

**Professor Jeffrey Pinsler SC**  
Faculty of Law  
National University of Singapore

**Foo Chee Hock SC**  
Dean  
Singapore Judicial College

**Paul Quan**  
Executive Director  
Singapore Judicial College

# FACULTY



**Dean**  
Foo Chee Hock SC



**Executive Director**  
Paul Quan



**Deputy Director, Secretariat**  
Jam Chee Chong



**Assistant Director, Secretariat**  
Charmain Lee



**Manager, Secretariat**  
Mazuindah Mazlan



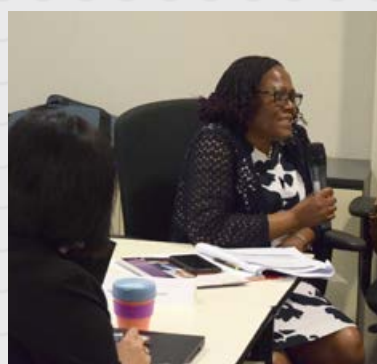
**PS to the Dean**  
Haryati Sungit

# CORE CURRICULUM

A signature induction programme for newly appointed judges anchors the core curriculum of the College. This consists of court-specific inductions, the College's core programmes interspersed with hearings and on-the-job training, culminating in the College's annual Judiciary-wide Induction Programme. International participants regularly attend the core curriculum of the College.



## Judiciary-wide Induction Programme







# CORE PROGRAMMES

The core programmes equip judges with or enhance their bench skills, such as judgment writing, case management, assessing witness credibility and handling unrepresented litigants, which are essential to judicial decision-making.

Various pedagogical techniques are used, for instance instructional lectures, case studies, role-plays as well as discussions, presentations and critiques.

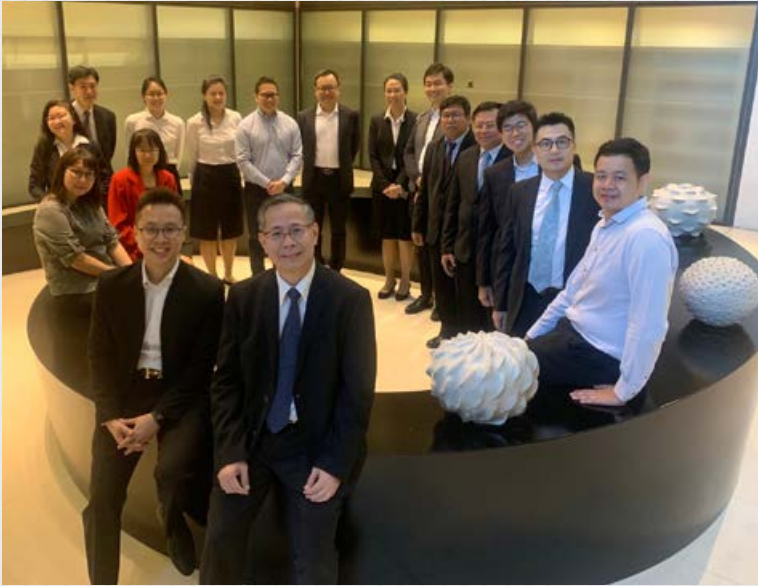


## Judgment Writing and Oral Judgment



20-21  
2019  
MAR

## Assessing Credibility of Witnesses



23-24  
2019  
APR

## Judgment Writing: Construction of Contract

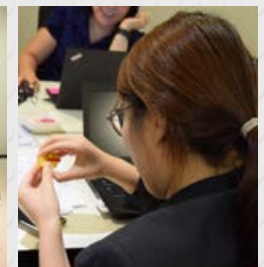




## Effective Engagement of Litigants-in-Person



## Case Management



# LOCAL WING

The Local Wing conducts core programmes and provides continuing judicial education for the Singapore Bench. It trains new judges through a signature induction programme. It also enhances the bench skills of serving judges and apprises them of the changing landscape in which they make judicial decisions.



## "DEEP-DIVE" SERIES

The College conducted a series of "deep-dives" which delved into several focus areas.



### Insolvency Masterclass

Delivering a masterclass on cross-border insolvency: Justice Vinodh Coomaraswamy from the Supreme Court of Singapore with Judge Martin Glenn from the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of New York



# LAWTECH SERIES

The College conducted several primers and other sessions to introduce judges to the emerging areas in LawTech and the latest applications of technology. Three “deep-dive” sessions were conducted with the support of the Singapore Management University.



## Judges and LawTech: A Virtual Reality Check (Singapore International Commercial Court Conference 2019)





## Legal Issues in Artificial Intelligence



Mr Yeong Zee Kin, Assistant Chief Executive (Data Innovation and Protection), InfoComm Media Development Authority of Singapore and Deputy Commissioner, Personal Data Protection Commission



## The State of Legal Innovation in Asia-Pacific



Mr Jerrold Soh, Lecturer of Law, Singapore Management University



## Fundamental Concepts and Use of Advanced Technologies in Crash Reconstruction



Ms Grace Wong, Senior Forensic Scientist, Forensic Chemistry and Physics Laboratory, Health Sciences Authority





## Digital payments, Cryptocurrencies, Initial Coin Offering & Anti-Money Laundering Issues



## Blockchain & Smart Contracts



## Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning & Robotic Process Automation



Mr Rajesh Sreenivasan,  
Partner, Rajah & Tann



Mr Jacob Turner,  
International Lawyer,  
Fountain Court Chambers



Assistant Professor Aurelio Gurrea-Martínez, Singapore Management University  
Ms Nydia Remolina, Research Associate, Singapore Management University's Centre for AI and Data Governance



## AI For Leaders (Judiciary)



Mr Laurence Liew, Director, AI Industry Innovation, AI Singapore

# PROBABILITY & STATISTICS SERIES

Following from last year's primer, three "deep-dive" sessions were conducted, culminating in a summation panel discussion with members of the Supreme Court Bench (Chief Justice Sundaresh Menon, Justice Tay Yong Kwang, Justice Audrey Lim) and members from the Faculty of Science, National University of Singapore (Professor Choi Kwok-Pui and Associate Professor Stella Tan Wei Ling).



## Risk Assessment Profiles



Adjunct Associate Professor Majeed Khader, Nanyang Technological University (also Chief Psychologist, Ministry of Home Affairs), discussing statistics in criminal offending and understanding risk predictions



## DNA in Criminal and Paternity Cases



# Fingerprint Evidence & Summation Session



# HIGHLIGHTS OF CONTINUING JUDICIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMMES

13 2019  
MAR

## Primer on Belt and Road Initiative



Professor Locknie Hsu, Singapore Management University, introducing the Belt and Road Initiative



7 2019  
NOV

## Belt and Road Initiative: A Practitioner's Perspective



Mr Mark Wong, Partner, Shook Lin & Bok LLP, sharing his experience on the Belt and Road Initiative



30  
2019  
JUL

## Judicial Law Reform



Mr James Lee, Reader in English Law and Vice-Dean, The Dickson Poon School of Law, King's College London, examining judicial development of the law

25  
2019  
JUL

## Judicial Temperament: Insights from an Ex-Practitioner



Judicial Commissioner (now Justice) Ang Cheng Hock, Supreme Court of Singapore, sharing how his experience as a practitioner with different judges helped shape his conduct of hearings

5  
2019  
AUG

## Current Developments in the Law of Restitution



Professor Graham Virgo QC, Senior Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Education, University of Cambridge, discussing recent developments in the law of restitution in the English courts

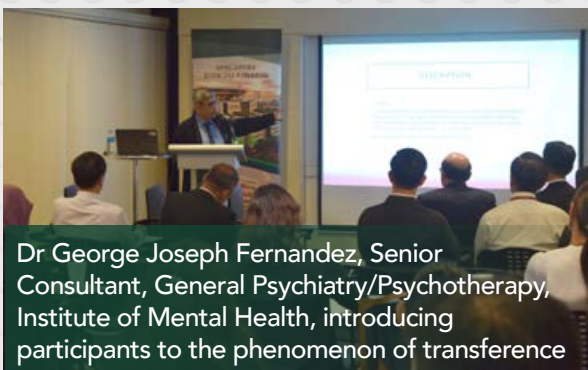
# SPECIAL PROGRAMMES

2019  
15 AUG

## Judges as Decision Makers



Dr Gwee Kenji, Principal Clinical Forensic Psychologist, Institute of Mental Health, introducing participants to the use of heuristics and common pitfalls



Dr George Joseph Fernandez, Senior Consultant, General Psychiatry/Psychotherapy, Institute of Mental Health, introducing participants to the phenomenon of transference



Dr Derrick Yeo, Consultant, Forensic Psychiatry, Institute of Mental Health, introducing the participants to the concept of mental health and effects of emotions on decision-making

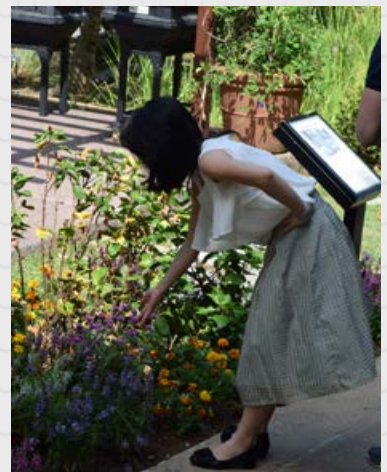
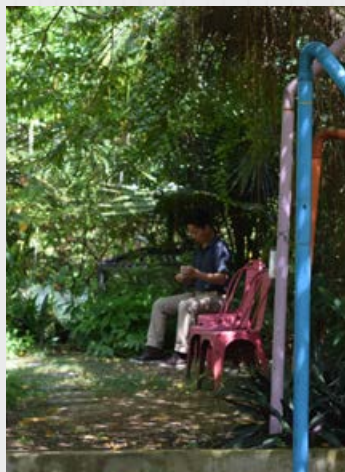
# Mindfulness for Judges (Part 1)



Dr Kinjal Doshi, Principal Clinical Psychologist, Singapore General Hospital introducing the participants to mindfulness practices



Dr Kinjal introducing the participants to the concept of forest bathing



## Mindfulness for Judges (Part 2)



Participants applying mindfulness practices in court



## The Science of Deception and Detecting Deception



Adjunct Associate Professor Majeed Khader, Nanyang Technological University (also Chief Psychologist, Ministry of Home Affairs), discussing the common pitfalls in detecting lies and improving skills in lie detection



## CUSTOMISED PROGRAMMES

Three local public bodies engaged the College to customise and deliver training programmes in the specific context of the work that their officers undertake.



### Judgment Writing Programme for Competition and Consumer Commission of Singapore



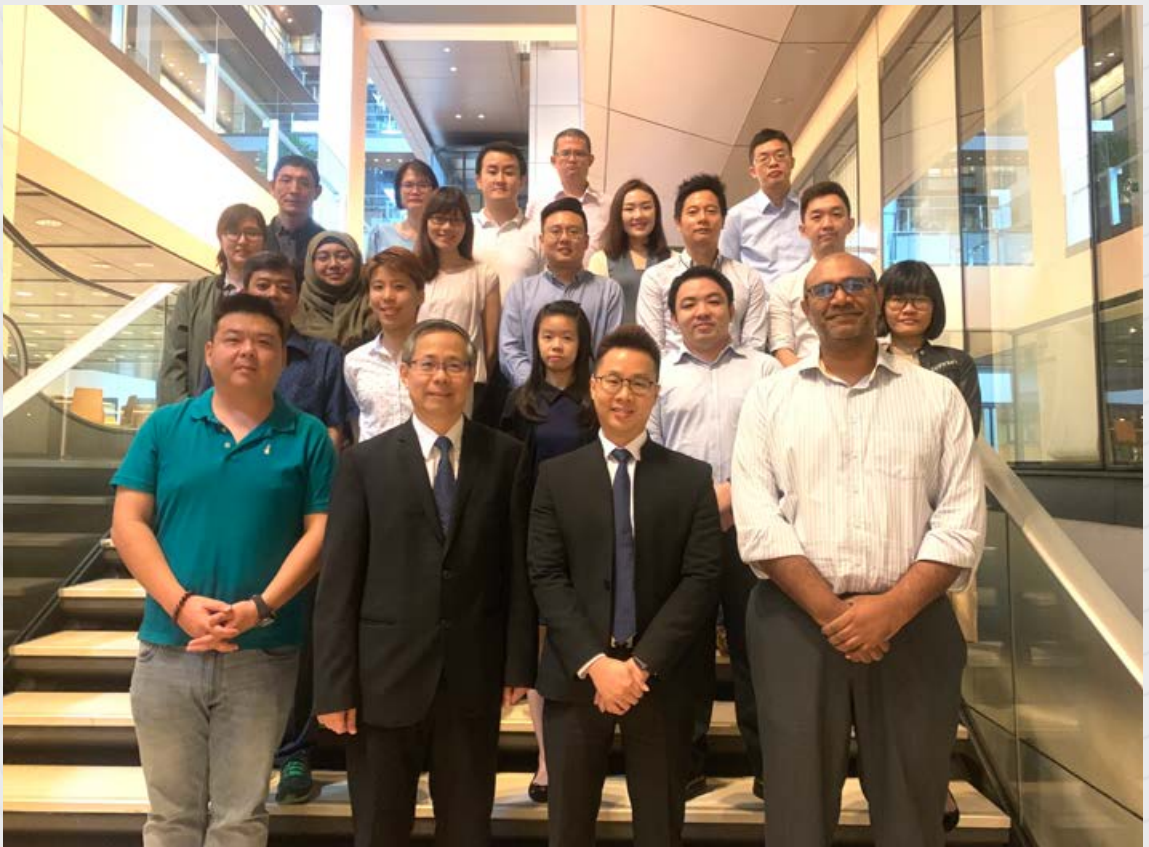


# Judgcraft Programme for Intellectual Property Office of Singapore



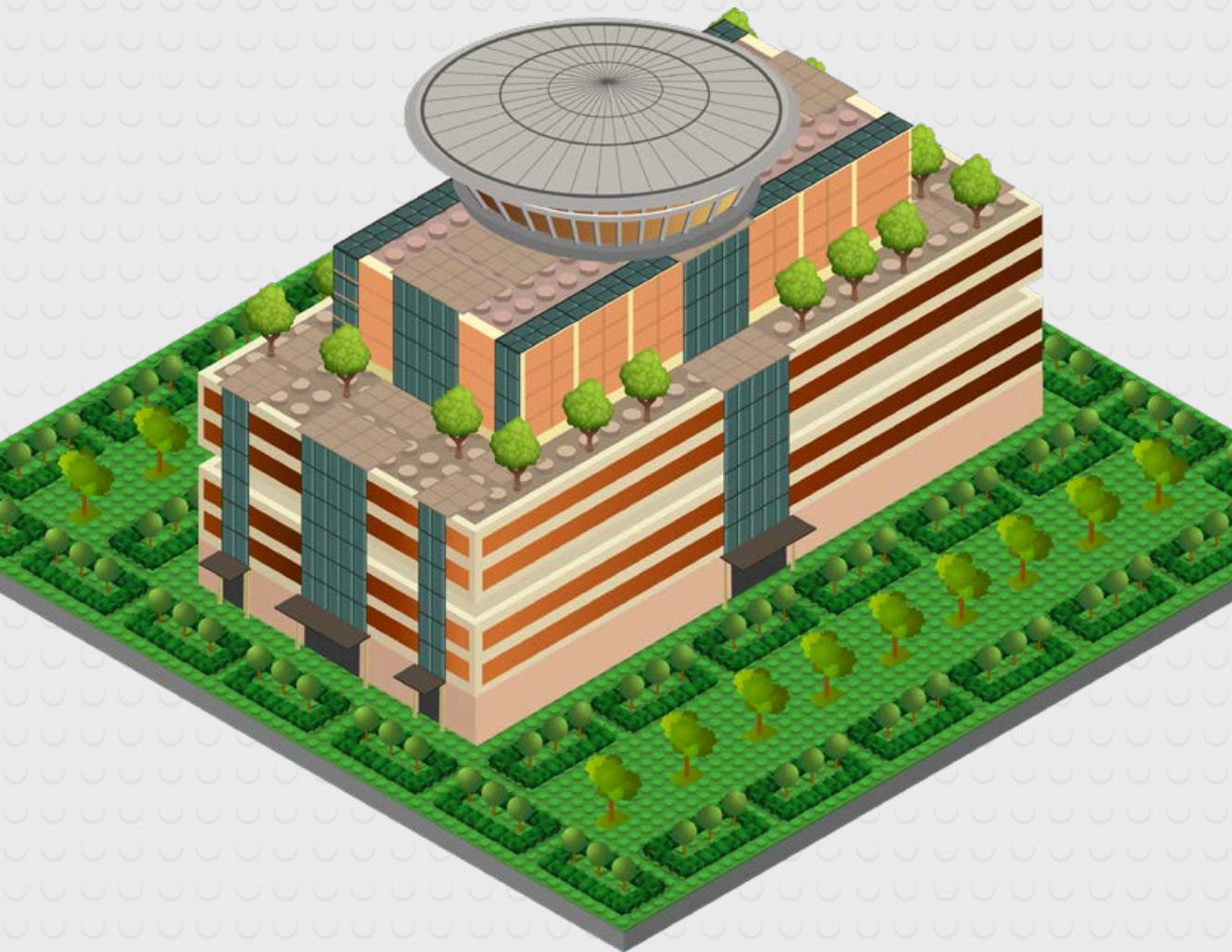


# Judgment Writing Programme for Personal Data Protection Commission



# INTERNATIONAL WING

The International Wing builds on the reputation of Singapore's legal and judicial system and offers training in specific areas of expertise that is associated with the Singapore Judiciary.



# CUSTOMISED PROGRAMMES

17  
21

2019  
JUN

## Court Technology Judicial Training Programme for Qatar Judiciary



A 5-day court technology programme customised for Mr Khalid Ali Al-Obaidli, the President of the Court of Appeal and a team of judges from the Supreme Judiciary Council of Qatar





# Colloquium on International Arbitration and the New York Convention



A 2-day colloquium organised with the International Council for Commercial Arbitration for the Council of ASEAN Chief Justices as part of the Council's judicial training programme for ASEAN judges



# SINGAPORE COOPERATION PROGRAMME COURSES

The College conducted three international programmes under the auspices of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' Singapore Cooperation Programme that saw participants from Algeria, Armenia, Gambia, Georgia, Honduras, Malawi and Saint Kitts & Nevis in attendance for the first time.

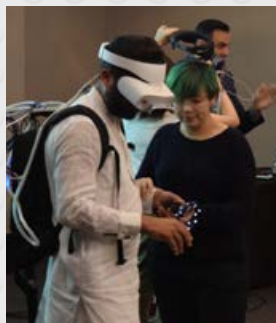


## International Dispute Resolution





# Technology and Courts of the Future



# International Trade Law





# INITIATIVE FOR ASEAN INTEGRATION PROGRAMMES

The College conducted case management and dispute resolution programmes for participants from Cambodia, Myanmar and Vietnam under the auspices of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' Initiative for ASEAN Integration.



## Ease of Doing Business: Dispute Resolution Mechanisms

Vietnam



## Judicial Case Management: Strategies and Innovation

Cambodia

Vietnam

Myanmar



# AREAS OF FOCUS FOR PROGRAMMES OF THE COLLEGE



# COURSE CATALOGUE 2019

AREA OF FOCUS	DATE	NAME OF PROGRAMME
<b>BENCH SKILLS</b> 	27 - 28 Feb	Judgment Writing and Oral Judgment <span style="color: green;">■</span>
	20 - 21 Mar	Assessing Credibility of Witnesses <span style="color: green;">■</span>
	23 - 24 Apr	Judgment Writing: Construction of Contract <span style="color: green;">■</span>
	16 - 17 May	Effective Engagement of Litigants-in-Person <span style="color: green;">■</span>
	22 - 24 Jul	Case Management <span style="color: green;">■</span>
	15 Aug	Judges as Decision Makers
	4 Dec	Financial Literacy Workshop
<b>JUDICIAL ETHICS</b> 	25 Jul	Judicial Temperament: Insights from an Ex-Practitioner
<b>LEGAL DEVELOPMENT</b> 	23 Jan	Schemes of Arrangement
	13 Feb	Noteworthy Developments in Insurance Law
	14 Feb	Civil Procedure Updates
	27 Mar	Criminal Procedure Updates
	17 Apr	Family Procedure Updates

■ International Programme

**AREA OF FOCUS****LEGAL DEVELOPMENT****DATE**

23 May

30 Jul

5 Aug

13 Aug

**NAME OF PROGRAMME**

Crime Trends Briefing

Judicial Law Reform

Current Developments in the Law of Restitution

Law of Evidence

**PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT AND RESILIENCE**

21 Aug

13 Sep

Mindfulness for Judges (Part 1)

Mindfulness for Judges (Part 2)


**SOCIAL AWARENESS**

13 Mar

7 Nov

Primer on Belt and Road Initiative

Belt and Road Initiative: A Practitioner's Perspective

AREA OF FOCUS	DATE	NAME OF PROGRAMME
<p><b>TECHNOLOGY AND SCIENCES</b></p> 	9 Jan	Judges and LawTech: A Virtual Reality Check
	22 Jan	Legal Issues in Artificial Intelligence
	30 Jan	Probability & Statistics and Risk Assessment Profiles
	9 Apr	The State of Legal Innovation in Asia-Pacific
	16 Jul	Fundamental Concepts and Use of Advanced Technologies in Crash Reconstruction
	12 Sep	Probability & Statistics and DNA in Criminal and Paternity Cases
	16 Sep	The Science of Deception and Detecting Deception
	18 – 19 Sep	Digital payments, Cryptocurrencies, Initial Coin Offerings and Anti-Money Laundering Issues
	10 Oct	Probability & Statistics and Fingerprint Evidence; Summation Session
	14 – 15 Oct	Blockchain and Smart Contracts
	4 Nov	AI For Leaders (Judiciary)
	5 – 6 Nov	Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning and Robotic Process Automation

TYPE OF PROGRAMME	DATE	NAME OF PROGRAMME
<b>CUSTOMISED PROGRAMMES</b> 	14 Mar	Judgment Writing Programme for Competition and Consumer Commission of Singapore
	21 May	Judgecraft Programme for Intellectual Property Office of Singapore
	17 – 21 Jun	Court Technology Judicial Training Programme for Qatar Judiciary ■
	9 & 26 Jul	Judgment Writing Programme for Personal Data Protection Commission
	18 – 19 Jul	Colloquium on International Arbitration and the New York Convention ■
<b>INDUCTION</b> 	21 – 25 Oct	Judiciary-wide Induction Programme ■
<b>MASTERCLASS</b> 	5 Apr	Insolvency Masterclass ■
<b>INITIATIVE FOR ASEAN INTEGRATION</b> 	19 – 22 Feb	Ease of Doing Business: Dispute Resolution Mechanisms ■
	6 – 9 May	Judicial Case Management: Strategies and Innovation (Cambodia, Vietnam, Myanmar) ■
	4 – 7 Jun	
	29 Oct – 1 Nov	
<b>SINGAPORE COOPERATION PROGRAMME</b> 	4 - 8 Mar	International Dispute Resolution ■
	27 - 31 May	Technology and Courts of the Future ■
	10 - 14 Jun	International Trade Law ■

■ International Programme

PROGRAMME OFFERINGS IN 2020: <http://www.supremecourt.gov.sg/sjc/programme-offerings>

# EMPIRICAL JUDICIAL RESEARCH

The Empirical Judicial Research initiative provides a unique opportunity for empirical work, including quantitative and data analysis, to produce innovative judicial practices and policies.



## Published Research

- International Divorces in Singapore: A Study of Trends from Cases Filed in the Family Court
- Singapore As A Centre for International Commercial Litigation: Party Autonomy to the Fore
- How Should the Courts Know Whether A Dispute is Ready and Suitable for Mediation? An Empirical Analysis of the Singapore Courts' Referral of Civil Disputes to Mediation
- Emphatic Plea for the Emphatic Judge
- An Empirical Study on the Singapore Court of Appeal's Citation of Academic Works: Reflections on the Relationship Between Singapore's Judiciary and Academia
- Tort of Defamation before the Singapore Courts 1965 - 2015: A Comparative and Empirical Study

## Forthcoming Research:

- Litigants in Person and Access to Justice in An Adversarial System
- A 50-year Quantitative and Qualitative Study of the Singapore Court of Appeal's Use of Academic Scholarship in Judgments
- Determinants of Litigation Outcomes — An Investigation into Whether Better Paid and/or Qualified Lawyers Win More Often in Court
- Still in Touch: The Relevance of Fingerprint Testing and Evidence in Criminal Cases
- Schemes of Arrangement in Singapore: Empirical and Comparative Analyses
- Child Custody Disputes Within the Context of Intimate Partner Violence Allegations: Prevalence, Current Solutions and Future Directions
- Dispute Settlement of ASEAN Projects / Transactions in the Belt and Road Initiative
- The State of Legal Innovation in Asia-Pacific
- Mediation in the Family Justice Courts - Examining the Durability of Settlements



# MASTER OF LAWS IN JUDICIAL STUDIES

Jointly offered by the College and Singapore Management University, the Master of Laws in Judicial Studies was officially launched in 2018 with the following distinct features:

- First of its kind in the region
- Higher judicial learning for judges by judges
- Advanced substantive law modules and judgecraft
- Management and innovation modules
- Practicum with the Singapore Judiciary
- Opportunity to undertake empirical judicial research that will benefit the home jurisdictions of candidates
- Entry to a new and growing alumni network of judges



# INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH



## Institutional exchange with US Federal Judicial Center and Southern District of New York Bankruptcy Court

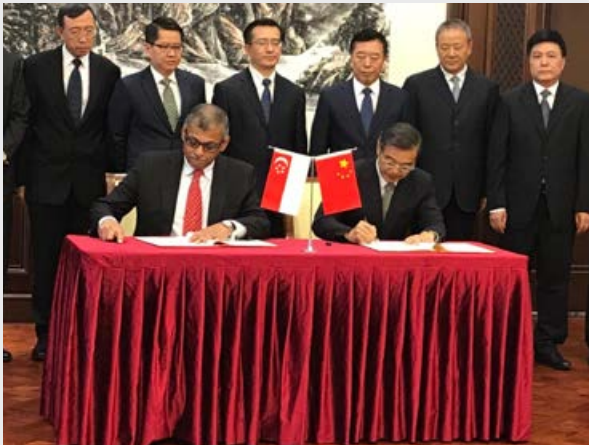
The College called on the US Federal Judicial Center (FJC) and discussed a myriad of judicial training topics such as curriculum and faculty development, pedagogy, publications, research and education technologies. The College also experienced judicial education at the state level through a learning journey to the Judicial College of Maryland, which the FJC organised for the College. At the invitation of Judge Glenn Martin, the College called on the Southern District of New York (SDNY) Bankruptcy Court during the same trip and discussed further opportunities for collaboration and joint instruction with the SDNY bankruptcy judges. The College also discussed and exchanged ideas on judicial training with the SDNY District Court.





## 3rd symposium with the National Judges College of the People's Republic of China

During the 3rd Singapore-China Legal and Judicial Roundtable, a memorandum of understanding (MOU) on advancing continuing judicial education was signed on 28 August 2019 between the Supreme Court of Singapore and the Supreme People's Court of the People's Republic of China, with the College and the National Judges College (NJC) being the implementing bodies. To kick off the series of training exchanges between the College and the NJC, Chief Justice Sundaresh Menon delivered a lecture at the NJC on 29 August 2019. At the 3rd symposium with the NJC on 30 August 2019, the College discussed with the NJC judicial training matters arising from the Roundtable and the strategies to implement the MOU on advancing continuing judicial education.





## 2019 International Organization for Judicial Training Conference

The College attended the biennial International Organization for Judicial Training Conference (IOJT) held in Cape Town, South Africa, with participants from the Family Justice Courts and the State Courts. The Executive Director of the College attended the IOJT Board of Governors meeting that was held on the side-lines of the Conference. The Dean and the Executive Director of the College also made presentations at the Conference.



## 4th Judicial Research and Training Institute International Conference

The Dean and the Executive Director of the College attended the 4th International Conference of the Judicial Research and Training Institute of the Supreme Court of the Republic of Korea held in Seoul, South Korea. The Dean and the Executive Director were invited to speak at the Conference, among other foreign speakers from Canada, China, Israel, the United Kingdom and the United States.



# INTERNATIONAL ALUMNI

Since 2015

Close to  
**1,500**  
foreign judges  
and officials  
from **87**  
jurisdictions are  
alumni  
of the College

## AFRICA

- Algeria
- Botswana
- Egypt
- Ethiopia
- Gambia
- Ghana
- Lesotho
- Liberia
- Malawi
- Mauritius
- Namibia
- Nigeria
- Seychelles
- Sudan
- Swaziland
- Tanzania
- Togo
- Tunisia
- Uganda
- Zambia
- Zimbabwe

## ASIA

- Afghanistan
- Armenia
- Azerbaijan
- Bahrain
- Bangladesh

- Bhutan
- Brunei
- Cambodia
- China
- Georgia
- Hong Kong
- India
- Indonesia
- Japan
- Jordan
- Kazakhstan
- Laos
- Malaysia
- Maldives
- Mongolia
- Myanmar
- Nepal
- Oman
- Pakistan
- Palestine
- Philippines
- Qatar
- Sri Lanka
- Taiwan
- Thailand
- Timor-Leste
- United Arab Emirates (Dubai)
- Uzbekistan
- Vietnam

## EUROPE

- Estonia
- Hungary
- Kosovo
- Latvia
- Lithuania
- Macedonia
- Malta
- Romania
- Russia
- Serbia
- Slovak Republic
- Ukraine
- United Kingdom

## OCEANIA

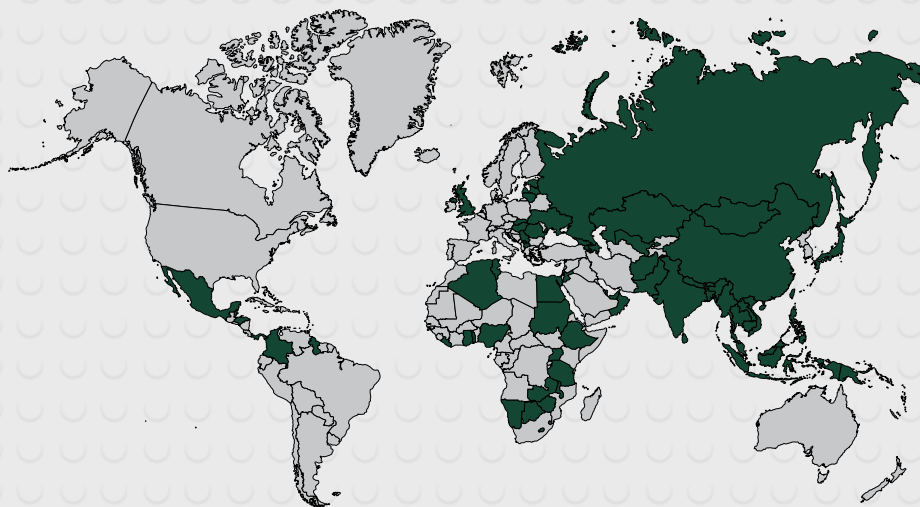
- Fiji
- Cook Islands
- Kiribati
- Micronesia
- Palau
- Papua New Guinea
- Solomon Islands
- Tonga

## NORTH AMERICA

- Bahamas
- Belize
- Grenada
- Honduras
- Mexico
- Panama
- Saint Kitts & Nevis
- Saint Lucia


## SOUTH AMERICA


- Columbia
- Guyana
- Trinidad and Tobago




# PARTICIPANT PERSPECTIVES

## ***Ms Kristel Kaeval, Lawyer, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Estonia***

 My gratitude to the Singapore Judicial College for organising the International Dispute Resolution course conducted from 4 to 8 March 2019. The substance of the course was very informative and helpful, not to mention acutely important. The organisational level was also very high. In addition, it was amazing how the College brought together all the participants and created a networking platform. The course was extremely useful and I recommend continuing with it if possible. Thank you very much for everything and all the best in your future courses!




## ***Ms Gan Kam Yuin, Assistant Registrar, Supreme Court***


 I joined the Legal Service after many years in private practice. I was surprised to realise that the Legal Service has a culture of encouraging, or even expecting, all Legal Service Officers to engage in continuing legal education.

I was amazed to discover the range and depth of the courses run by the SJC, which judicial officers can choose to attend. After I attended some of the courses, I realised how privileged we are to be able to feed on the smorgasbord of relevant and insightful programmes which the SJC has planned and curated. This year alone, I learnt about many of the different aspects of my new job, from how to write good judgments, to how to handle different types of litigants-in-person, to how to structure a case management conference. The credentials and eminence of the instructors testify to the emphasis that the SJC places on quality.


Finally, I enjoyed the opportunities to interact with old friends, and make new ones, since judicial officers from the State Courts, Family Justice Courts and even other countries regularly attend SJC courses. These interactions were enhanced by the readiness with which fellow judicial officers shared their own best practices and shortcomings.




### **Mr Hairul Hakkim Kuthibutheen, Magistrate, State Courts**

 It would be no exaggeration to say that the courses organised by the Singapore Judicial College have empowered me to meet the daily demands of judicial work. They are in the main, taught in a fun and interactive Socratic method with role-playing opportunities designed to immediately put to test the skills that are taught during the courses. Through the courses, I also had the privilege of meeting various judicial officers from foreign jurisdictions who provided valuable insight into the functions and work of their judiciaries.

As a new judicial officer in the State Courts, I was also able to openly share the challenges I face with the instructors. The instructors and fellow participants, many of whom are senior judges from various jurisdictions, gave very good advice that has served me well.

In particular, I found the course on dealing with litigants-in-person very insightful. It enabled me to appreciate the unique needs and demands of this category of litigants. I also learnt how best to react to their concerns and assist them without giving legal advice. I am happy to note that I was able to directly apply the lessons taught in the course when dealing with litigants-in-person and my experience thus far has been positive. 

### **Ms Toh Wee San, District Judge, Family Justice Courts**

 I truly appreciate the courses run by the Singapore Judicial College (SJC). They are always well run and facilitated by the instructors. The College not only offers bench skills programmes, which covers important topics like case management and managing challenging litigants-in-person. It also conducts training in pioneering topics such as in LawTech. The staff are also responsive. Thank you SJC and keep up the good work! 