

Constitutionalism and Legal Change in Myanmar Workshop 2014

13 and 14 February 2014

Lee Sheridan Conference Room, Bukit Timah Campus, National University of Singapore

Workshop Programme

Thursday, 13 February 2014 (Day 1)

- 8.30am** **Transport pick-up from Amoy Hotel**
- 9.00am – 9.30am** **Registration** (Lee Sheridan Conference Room, Eu Tong Sen Building)
- 9.30am – 9.50am** **Welcome and introduction**
- PROFESSOR SIMON CHESTERMAN**
DEAN
FACULTY OF LAW, NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE
- PROFESSOR ANDREW HARDING**
DIRECTOR
CENTRE FOR ASIAN LEGAL STUDIES AND ASIAN LAW INSTITUTE
FACULTY OF LAW, NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE
- 9.50am – 11.00am** **Session 1: Keynote Address**
- MS JANELLE SAFFIN**
LAWYER & CONSULTANT
FORMER MEMBER OF THE AUSTRALIAN PARLIAMENT
- 11.00am – 11.15am** **Morning Tea** (Outside Lee Sheridan Room)
- 11.15am – 1.15pm** **Session 2: Constitutional Change: History and Process**
- CHAIRPERSON: **MS JANELLE SAFFIN**
- PROFESSOR MYINT ZAN**, FACULTY OF LAW, MULTIMEDIA UNIVERSITY, MALACCA
From 'Almost Incurable or Cautious Pessimism' towards 'Incautious Optimism?': Rule of Law Concepts in Burma's Constitutions and Actual Practice
- MR AUNG AUNG HLAING**, VARIETIES OF DEMOCRACY, MYANMAR
Constitutional Amendment Process in Myanmar
- PROFESSOR ANDREW HARDING**, CENTRE FOR ASIAN LEGAL STUDIES AND ASIAN LAW INSTITUTE
FACULTY OF LAW, NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE
Constitutional change in Myanmar: A problem of process
- 1.15pm – 2.45pm** **Lunch**

- 2.45pm – 4.15pm** **Session 3: Political Process and Authority**
CHAIRPERSON: ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR VICTOR V. RAMRAJ
- ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR BRIDGET WELSH, SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES, SINGAPORE MANAGEMENT UNIVERSITY
Contesting the Rules of the Game: Myanmar's 2015 Election and Electoral Integrity
- MS PRICILLA CLAPP, ASIA SOCIETY
Myanmar's 2008 Constitution: The Evolution of Leadership
- 4.15pm – 4.35pm** **Afternoon Tea** (Outside Lee Sheridan Room)
- 4.35pm – 6.05pm** **Session 4: Localism and Political Process (1)**
CHAIRPERSON: ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR BRIDGET WELSH
- DR MARCUS BRAND, UNDP MYANMAR
Towards "genuine federalism"? - Myanmar's difficult path towards constitutional devolution and decentralized governance
- DR ALISTAIR COOK, RESEARCH FELLOW, CENTRE FOR NON-TRADITIONAL SECURITY STUDIES, S. RAJARATNAM SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES, NANYANG TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY
Law, war and governance in Kachin State
- 6.05pm** **Group Photo (Day 1)**
- 6.15pm** **Bus to Welcome Dinner @ Bellwethers Bistro Bar, 120 Desker Road**
- 9.30pm** **Bus to Amoy Hotel**

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Friday, 14 February 2014 (Day 2)

- 10.00am Transport pick-up from Amoy Hotel
- 10.30am – 11.30am Myanmar Voices: A Discussion
- 11.30am – 12.00pm Morning Tea (Outside Lee Sheridan Room)
- 12.00pm – 1.30pm **Session 5: Localism and Political Process (2)**
CHAIRPERSON: DR MARCUS BRAND
DR JOERG MENZEL, LAW FACULTY, UNIVERSITY OF ERFURT
Minority Rights and Federalism: A comparative perspective

MS KYI PYAR CHIT SAW AND MR THET AUNG LYNN, RESEARCHERS, MYANMAR DEVELOPMENT RESOURCE
INSTITUTE/ CENTRE FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT
State and Region Governments in Myanmar
- 1.30pm – 3.00pm Lunch
- 3.30pm – 5.00pm **Session 6: Courts and Legal Process**
CHAIRPERSON: PROFESSOR ANDREW HARDING

DR MELISSA CROUCH, RESEARCH FELLOW, CENTRE FOR ASIAN LEGAL STUDIES, NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF
SINGAPORE
The Common Law and the Constitutional Writs in Myanmar

MR DOMINIC NARDI, PHD CANDIDATE, POLITICAL SCIENCE, UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
*Understanding the Myanmar Supreme Court's Docket: An Analysis of Case Topics from 2007
to 2011*
- 5.00pm – 5.20pm Afternoon Tea (Outside Lee Sheridan Room)
- 5.20pm – 6.20pm The Current Constitutional Process: A Discussion
- 6.20pm Group Photo (Day 2)
- 6.30pm Bus to Closing Dinner @ Shoebox Canteen, 36 North Canal Road
- 9.30pm Bus to Amoy Hotel