

## Profiles of speakers

**Associate Professor Gary F Bell** After an undergraduate degree in theology (B.Th.) at the Université Laval (Quebec City), Gary F. Bell obtained degrees in both the common law (LL.B.) and the civil law (B.C.L.) at McGill University in Montreal and an LL.M. at Columbia University in New York City. He was Editor in Chief of the McGill Law Journal, clerked for Justice Stevenson of the Supreme Court of Canada and taught at McGill University. He teaches in Comparative Law (Comparative Legal Traditions, International and Comparative Law of Sale, Indonesian Law). He writes on Indonesian law, on, the international sale of goods and on international arbitration.

**Professor Franz von Benda-Beckmann** is an honorary Professor at Leipzig University and at the Martin Luther University in Halle. He obtained his 1<sup>st</sup> law degree at the High Court in Schleswig, Ph.D. at the University of Kiel and 2<sup>nd</sup> law degree at the High Court of Hamburg. He first worked at the university of Leiden, heading a small research institute dealing with law in the former Dutch colonies. In 1981, he was appointed professor for law and rural development in developing countries. In summer 2000, moved to Halle to establish and head the project group Legal Pluralism at the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology together.

**Professor Keebet von Benda-Beckmann** is an honorary Professor at Leipzig University and at the Martin Luther University in Halle. She holds a law degree and obtained her Ph.D. at the university of Nijmegen. She first worked at the University of Leiden, then taught for a while in Wageningen, and in 1982 took a position in the anthropology and sociology of law at Erasmus University Rotterdam, where she later received a personal professorship in the anthropology of law in 1998.

**Dr Melissa Crouch** is a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Law Faculty, the National University of Singapore.. She was previously at the University of Melbourne where she worked with the Dean, Professor Carolyn Evans, on her ARC Discovery Grant 'Religious Autonomy and the Restriction of Rights or Freedoms by Religious Communities'. Melissa's work has been published in the Asian Journal of Comparative Law, Asian Studies Review and the Singapore Journal of Legal Studies. She is one of the editors of the Australian Journal of Asian Law.

**Assistant Professor Michael Dowdle** is at the Faculty of law of the National University of Singapore. He was formerly chair in Globalization and Governance at the Institut d'études politiques de Paris (Sciences Po) where he taught graduate and undergraduate courses on comparative constitutionalism and comparative regulation. Prior to that, he held faculty positions at the University of Washington School of Law, Qinghua University Law School, the Australian National University, and the New York University School of Law.

**Dr Giora Eliraz** is an associate researcher at the Harry S Truman Institute for the Advancement of Peace at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

**Professor H Patrick Glenn** is the Peter M. Laing Professor of Law, Faculty of Law and a Member of the Institute of Comparative Law at McGill University. He teaches and has research

interests in the areas of Comparative Law, Private International Law, Civil Procedure and the Legal Professions. His book *Legal Traditions of the World* (Oxford University Press, 2000) received the Grand Prize of the International Academy of Comparative Law. A fourth edition appeared in 2010. He is a former Director of the Institute of Comparative Law and in that capacity worked on projects on the reform of the Russian Civil Code and judicial education in China. He is a member of the Royal Society of Canada and the International Academy of Comparative Law and has been a Bora Laskin National Fellow in Human Rights Law, a Killam Research Fellow, and a Visiting Fellow of All Souls College, Oxford. In 2006, H. Patrick Glenn received the Prix Léon-Gérin, a prestigious award attributed by the Government of Québec, in recognition of his contribution in comparative law over his career. In 2010-2011 he held the Henry G. Schermers Fellowship of the Hague Institute for the Internationalisation of Law.

**Professor Andrew J Harding** is a leading scholar in the fields of Asian legal studies and comparative constitutional law. He commenced his academic career at NUS before moving to SOAS, University of London, where he became Head of School and Director of the Centre for South East Asian Studies. He joins NUS from the University of Victoria, B.C. Canada, where he was Professor of Asia-Pacific Legal Relations and Director of the Centre for Asia-Pacific Initiatives. Professor Harding has worked extensively on constitutional law in Malaysia and Thailand, and has made extensive contributions to scholarship in comparative law, and law and development, having published nine books as author or editor. He is co-founding-editor of Hart Publishing's book series 'Constitutional Systems of the World', a major resource for constitutional law in context, and has co-authored the book on Thailand in that series (2011). His book on Malaysia in the same series is in press.

**Professor Virginia M Hooker** is Virginia Matheson Hooker is Professor Emeritus at the Australian National University. She retired as Professor of Indonesian and Malay in the Faculty of Asian Studies, the Australian National University in January 2007. Her research has focussed on Islam in Southeast Asia, social change in Malaysia and Indonesia, and Indonesian political culture. Her most recent book, co-edited with Dr Greg Fealy, is an award-winning sourcebook on contemporary Islam in Southeast Asia. She has been a member of Humanities committees of the Australian Research Council and participated in a number of reviews of Asian Studies in Australia. She is known for her contribution to the development of Asian Studies, especially studies of Indonesia, in Australia.

**Dr Nadirsyah Hosen** is a senior lecturer at the Faculty of Law, University of Wollongong (Australia). He completed his first Ph.D. (Law) at the University of Wollongong and a second Ph.D. (Islamic Law) at the National University of Singapore. He is the author of *Shari'a and Constitutional Reform in Indonesia* (Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, Singapore, 2007), a co-editor (with Joseph Liow) of *Islam in Southeast Asia*, 4 volumes, (Routledge, London, 2009), and a co-editor (with Richard Mohr) of *Law and Religion in Public Life: The Contemporary Debate* (Routledge, London, 2010).

**Assistant Professor Arif A Jamal** is an Assistant Professor of Law at the National University of Singapore. He studied politics (B.A.) and law (LL.B.) in Canada and was called to the Bar of British Columbia. Thereafter, he undertook post-graduate work in the UK earning an LL.M. degree, focusing on Islamic law, at the School of Oriental & African Studies (SOAS) and

then completing his doctorate the Faculty of Laws at University College London (UCL). Before joining NUS, Arif taught at UCL Laws and at the School of Law at SOAS and he was also a Visiting Researcher with the Islamic Legal Studies Program at Harvard Law School. Arif has made numerous presentations on Muslim legal traditions to Canadian, British, German and EU diplomats. His publications include journal articles as well as book chapters and he is currently working on a book-length monograph.

**Professor Aharon Layish**, Ph.D. (1973), is Professor Emeritus of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. He has published extensively on Islamic, customary and Druze law and institutions, including: 1. *The Reinstatement of Islamic Law in Sudan under Numayri. An Evaluation of a Legal Experiment in the Light of Its Historical Context, Methodology, and Repercussions.* Leiden, 2002 (with Gabriel R. Warburg); 2. *Sharī'a and Custom in Libyan Tribal Society. An Annotated Translation of Decisions from the Sharī'a Courts of Ajdābiya and Kufra.* Leiden, 2005; 3. *Legal Documents from The Judean Desert. The Impact of the Sharī'a on Bedouin Customary Law.* Leiden, 2011. Executive Editor, *Islamic Law and Society* (1994-2011); President, *The Israel Oriental Society* (2004-6).

**Professor Ratno Lukito** is a Professor at State Islamic University Sunan Kalijaga Yogyakarta. He has a B.A. from the Faculty of Shariah of the Sunan Kalijaga State Islamic University and his M.A. from the Institute of Islamic Studies and Ph.D. from the Faculty of Law, McGill University, Montreal. Now, he is the Assistant Director for International Cooperation of the Graduate School of Sunan Kalijaga State Islamic University and serves as an assessor for the Indonesian National Board of University Accreditation and is a member of the International Commission on Folk Law and Legal Pluralism. He is the author of 9 books and over 30 articles on Islamic Law, especially as it relates to the Indonesian context. His 2008 book on conflicts between religious and secular law, and their resolution in the Indonesian context, was distributed by the Supreme Court of Indonesia to judges throughout the country. His latest publication is *Legal Pluralism in Indonesia: Bridging the Unbridgeable* (Routledge: 2011).