



Media Release

Justice Judith Prakash named Distinguished Fellow at SMU Yong Pung How School of Law

Students and faculty to benefit from her expertise, knowledge and experience

Singapore, 7 June 2024 (Friday) – Senior Judge of the Supreme Court, Justice Judith Prakash, will bring her extensive legal experience to the Singapore Management University (SMU) as a Distinguished Fellow at the SMU Yong Pung How School of Law (YPSHL). Her term is for a period of two years, effective from 15 May 2024.

Being an eminent luminary of the legal profession and judiciary in Singapore, the appointment provides SMU faculty and students access to her expertise, knowledge and experience. As a Distinguished Fellow at SMU YPSHL, she will share her expertise and insights that will contribute to shaping the strategic direction of the law school and its programmes. She will also mentor students and faculty, and advise them on the School's programmes and initiatives.

Professor Lee Pey Woan, Dean of SMU Yong Pung How School of Law, said, "It is a huge privilege for SMU to be associated with Justice Judith Prakash. She is an eminent and respected figure, and a true exemplar of excellence and integrity in the legal field. Her remarkable achievements and unwavering commitment to justice make her an inspiration to my colleagues and students. Our law faculty and students will benefit immensely from the opportunity to tap on her wisdom."

On her appointment, **Justice Judith Prakash, said,** "I am honoured and excited by this appointment. It's a great chance take part in bringing up new generations of lawyers."

About Justice Judith Prakash

Justice Prakash graduated from the University of Singapore in 1974 and was admitted as an advocate and solicitor in Singapore the following year. Thereafter she was in private practice until 1992. Starting as a shipping lawyer, she subsequently practised commercial law in the areas of banking and finance and company law. She joined the Supreme Court as Judicial Commissioner in 1992 and became a High Court Judge in 1995.

She was awarded the Public Service Medal in 2005 and the Ministry of Education Gold Award for Service to Education in 2014. She was the first woman to be appointed a permanent judge of the Singapore Court of Appeal in 2016, and was inducted into the Singapore Women's Hall of Fame in the same year.

In 2017, she was appointed Judge of the Dubai International Financial Centre Courts where she served on a part-time basis for three years to hearing appeal cases. Until 2022, Justice Prakash was the Lead Judge for arbitration matters. She has sat on many cases involving arbitration issues, both at first instance and on appeal, and is one of the Supreme Court's specialist arbitration judges. Many of her judgments, particularly on arbitration and commercial law, have been influential both domestically and internationally.

Justice Prakash has previously served on the Advisory Board of the Yong Pung How School of Law between 1 April 2011 and 30 March 2017. She delivered the Herbert Smith Freehills–SMU Asian Arbitration Lecture in 2019.

About SMU Yong Pung How School of Law

SMU's law school was renamed Yong Pung How School of Law (YPHSL) on 11 April 2021 to celebrate and honour the late Dr Yong Pung How, Singapore's former Chief Justice and SMU's third Chancellor.

The law school had proudly welcomed its first cohort of 116 students in August 2007. Taught by a dynamic faculty with postgraduate degrees from renowned universities, the School aims to nurture its students to become excellent lawyers who will contribute significantly to society. Trained with the ability to contextualise legal expertise and to think across disciplines and geographical borders coupled with SMU's interactive pedagogy, SMU's law graduates are confident, articulate and analytically agile.

The School offers a four-year full-time Bachelor of Laws programme, a five-year double-degree programme which combines law with Accountancy, Business, Economics, Computing & Information Systems or Social Sciences; a three-year Juris Doctor programme; a Master of Laws programme; a PhD programme in Law, Commerce and Technology; as well as continuing legal education. From Academic Year 2020-2021, the School also jointly offers a new Bachelor of Science (Computing & Law) with the SMU School of Computing and Information Systems. This new degree will produce IT and legal professionals who are adept at bridging technology and law.

Research at the SMU YPHSL has a strong focus in three main inter-related areas – Law and Technology, Transnational Commercial law in Asia, and Dispute Resolution. The School has also set up legal research centres focusing on A.I. and data governance, computational law, commercial law, and international dispute resolution. www.law.smu.edu.sg

About Singapore Management University

A premier university in Asia, the Singapore Management University (SMU) is internationally recognised for its world-class research and distinguished teaching. Established in 2000, SMU's mission is to generate leading-edge research with global impact and to produce broad-based, creative, and entrepreneurial leaders for the knowledge-based economy. SMU's education is known for its highly interactive, collaborative, and project-based approach to learning.

Home to over 13,000 students across undergraduate, postgraduate professional and postgraduate research programmes, SMU comprises eight schools: School of Accountancy, Lee Kong Chian School of Business, School of Economics, School of Computing and Information Systems, Yong Pung How School of Law, School of Social Sciences, College of Integrative Studies and College of Graduate Research Studies. SMU offers a wide range of bachelors', masters', and PhD degree programmes in the disciplinary areas associated with its schools, as well as in multidisciplinary combinations of these areas.

SMU emphasises rigorous, high-impact, multi- and interdisciplinary research that addresses Asian issues of global relevance. SMU faculty members collaborate with leading international researchers and universities around the world, as well as with partners in the business community and public sector. SMU's city campus is a modern facility located in the heart of downtown Singapore, fostering strategic linkages with business, government, and the wider community. www.smu.edu.sg

For media queries, please contact:

HUANG Peiling

Associate Director, Corporate Communications

Office of Corporate Communications & Marketing, SMU

Tel: (65) 6828 0964 | Hp: (65) 9845 3361 | Email: plhuang@smu.edu.sg