



MAKING OUR



Management

Achievement

Research

Knowledge

Judicial Education • Empirical Research • Thought Leadership

Cover Rationale

A strong judiciary is dependent on the quality of its Judges and Judicial Officers (JOs). The Singapore Judicial College (SJC) plays a critical role in spearheading judicial training that maintains its relevance in changing times. The theme for its 2016 Annual Report, "Making Our Mark", focuses on how the SJC continues on its mission to make a positive and lasting contribution to the judicial community, in Singapore and internationally.

MAKING OUR MARK

Since 2015, the SJC has introduced

6

Areas of Focus in Judicial Education in response to evolving training needs



The International Wing delivered

14

training programmes for foreign judges and officials in 2016



In 2016, the Local Wing conducted over

40

high impact educational programmes for Judges and Judicial Officers



Since 2015, the SJC's Board of Governors has approved

7

Empirical Judicial Research proposals





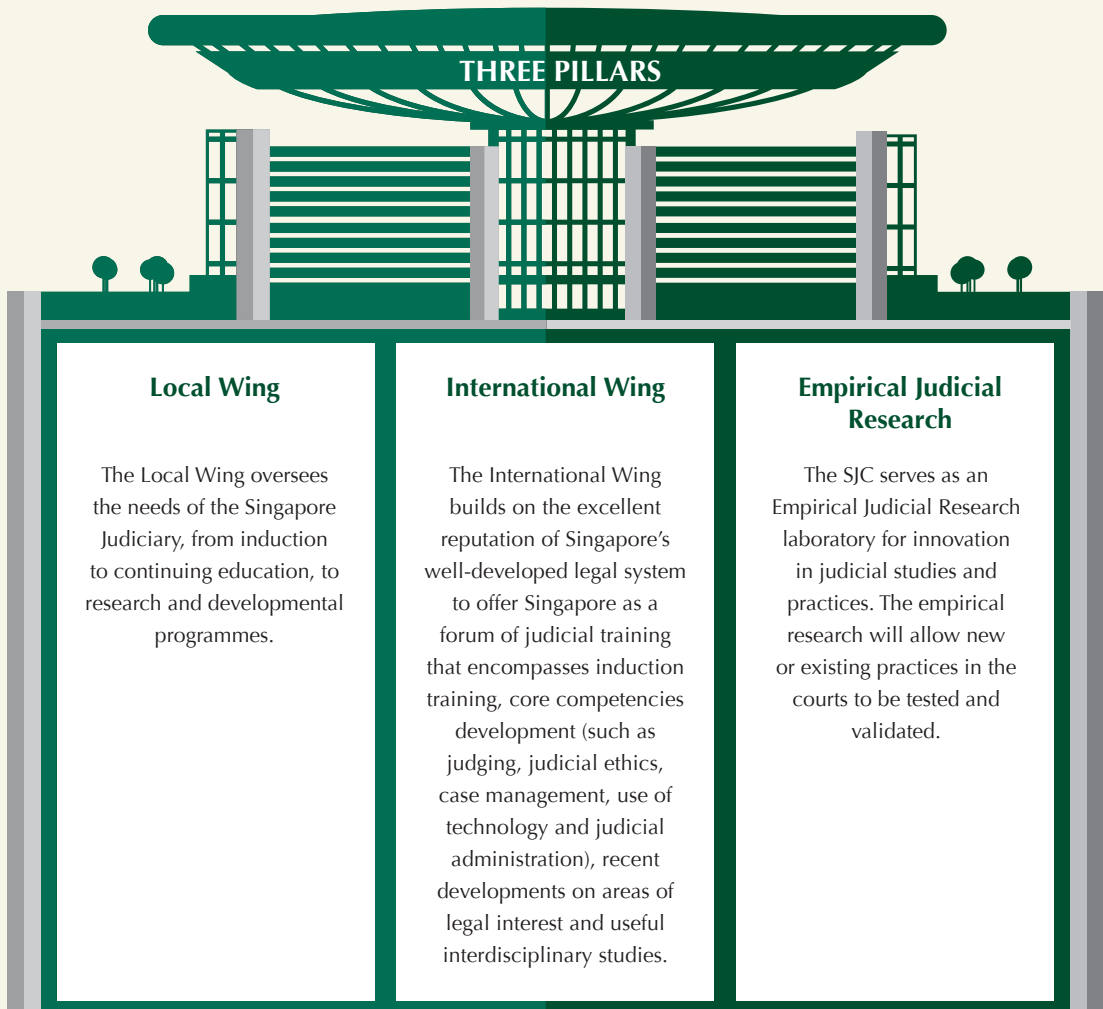
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ABOUT THE *Singapore Judicial College*

Established under the auspices of the Supreme Court of Singapore, the Singapore Judicial College (SJC) is dedicated to the training and development of Judges and Judicial Officers (JOs). The SJC consists of a Local and an International Wing and Empirical Judicial Research.



CHIEF JUSTICE'S RESPONSE AT THE *Opening of the Legal Year 2016*



"I turn to the Judiciary. At the last Opening of the Legal Year, I stressed the importance of continuing education for our judges. A year later, it is my great pleasure to commend and congratulate the SJC for the tremendous progress that it has already made. It offered more than 40 programmes last year, recording a cumulative attendance exceeding 1,000. The SJC also conducted the inaugural "Judiciary-Wide Induction Programme" for newly appointed Judicial Commissioners and JOs. This was attended by 27 of our colleagues and three judges from overseas.

The SJC also enjoyed notable success in its international programmes. It presented nine courses for foreign judges and these attracted more than 250 participants from over 40 countries across Asia, the Middle-East and the Pacific, including courses that were conducted in Phnom Penh, Yangon, Vientiane, Hanoi and the Solomon Islands. The last of these was a 2-day workshop on eFiling for more than 65 judges, lawyers and court officials.

The excellent work of the SJC in its inaugural year has been captured

in its first Annual Report, which has been made available to you. For the coming year, I have asked the College to focus on enhancing judicial case management skills because robust case management is a critical tool for reducing the costs and time incurred in litigation and we can expect to see this being used to a greater degree. Immediately after these proceedings, we will launch the SJC Business Centre."

— An excerpt from the Response by Chief Justice Sundaresh Menon, on the work of the SJC at the Opening of the Legal Year 2016

Monday, 11 January 2016

FOREWORD FROM THE *Chief Justice*



Chief Justice
Sundaresh Menon

— When we envisioned the SJC, we had high expectations. Two years on, I am heartened that the SJC has not disappointed. The theme of this annual report “Making Our Mark” could not be more appropriate since the SJC has made its presence felt both at home and abroad.

In the 2015 Annual Report, I mentioned the notable achievements of the Singapore Judicial College (SJC) in its first year of operation, and expressed confidence that it would scale even greater heights moving forward. Far from resting on the laurels of its accomplishments, I am heartened that the SJC team is growing in experience and professionalism and forging ahead in the areas of judicial education and empirical judicial research.

On the local front, the SJC offered more than 40 judicial education programmes in 2016. As a result, each of our judges would have attended an average of at least five training sessions during the year. It is critical that the SJC’s curricula meet the training needs of our judges. To this end, I am pleased to note that the SJC continues to actively engage our judges in order to ascertain their evolving training needs, understand the challenges faced on the ground and propose new areas of training. Arising from

such feedback, two new areas of focus were added this year, that is, “Technology & Sciences” and “Court Leadership”. In 2017, our judges can look forward to programmes on “Judicial Resilience” which will include cognitive dissonance, judicial wellness and cultivating judicial self-discipline. With the increasing number of programmes offered, we must build up a pool of trained instructors to support our “Judges to Train Judges” philosophy. I must commend the SJC for having assembled a Basic Judicial Educators’ Workshop in February 2016 for interested judges to be exposed to what judicial education is all about. I have no doubt that the wide spectrum of training opportunities available to our judges will raise the bar in the quality of justice delivered.

In the international arena, the SJC continues to make an impact, designing and delivering a total of 14 programmes in 2016 for our global legal fraternity. Since its inception, the SJC has welcomed more than

600 international participants from more than 60 countries to its courses. The programmes funded under the Singapore Cooperation Programme are invariably oversubscribed. Some of our foreign counterparts have also sought the SJC’s assistance to run similar programmes in their respective jurisdictions so that more could benefit from the training. One of the aspirations of the SJC is to forge deeper friendships with our foreign counterparts. The International Wing is making positive strides in this regard. This is evident from the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding in March 2016 between the Office of the Judiciary of the Kingdom of Thailand and SJC to advance continuing judicial education opportunities between the two judiciaries.

Even as the SJC continues to reach new milestones in the provision of judicial training both in Singapore and overseas, I am heartened that the empirical judicial research initiative

is progressing well. The SJC's Board of Governors has approved seven proposals from the Faculty of Law of the National University of Singapore, School of Law of the Singapore Management University and Family Justice Courts. I look forward to the publication of the first projects which I hope to launch soon. I am most grateful for the strong support from our friends in academia for this important undertaking.

When we envisioned the SJC, we had high expectations. Two years on, I am heartened that the SJC has not disappointed. The theme of this annual report "Making Our Mark" could not be more appropriate since the SJC has made its presence felt both at home and abroad. I congratulate the governors and management of the SJC and express my deepest appreciation to my colleagues, Justice Andrew Phang,

Judicial Commissioner Foo Chee Hock and District Judge Tan Boon Heng for their drive, leadership and grit which has made all this happen in such a short time.

**Chief Justice
Sundaresh Menon**
Supreme Court of Singapore

Reflections

JUSTICE ANDREW PHANG, JUDGE OF APPEAL

Chairman of the Board of Governors

When the SJC introduced the empirical judicial research initiative in 2015, the focus on empirical data in judicial research was a unique proposition designed to push the boundaries of innovation in judicial studies and practices. I am encouraged by the strong take-up and look forward to the first fruits of the hard work of our researchers. The output, with an Asian perspective, will be of great significance to Singapore in validating current practices and highlighting areas for improvement. It is hoped that other Judiciaries (particularly in the Asia-Pacific and the Middle East) may also find these research outcomes helpful.

JUDICIAL COMMISSIONER FOO CHEE HOCK

Dean

The International Wing of the SJC broadened its offerings and extended its reach in 2016. A new international programme, "Court Dispute Resolution: A One-Stop Judicial Training on Alternative Dispute Resolution" was designed and delivered with our faculty and instructors from the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators. Our two flagship programmes - "Strategies of Case Management: Challenges, Solutions and Innovation" and "End-to-End Court Technology" - continued to be well-received in their second run as we developed and deployed our distinctive pedagogy to promote optimal learning. As our network of international alumni grows healthily and we expand our institutional exchanges and collaboration, we are confident that the International Wing will strengthen its position and presence globally.

DISTRICT JUDGE TAN BOON HENG

Executive Director

The Local Wing moved up another gear in 2016. More high impact and skills-based judicial training workshops and forums emphasising 'hands-on' learning were added for the benefit of our judges. They include judgment writing, basic Judicial Educators' training, and effective engagement of Litigants-In-Person, techniques of case management, understanding the sciences and exercising court leadership. For selected equipping sessions, we have implemented enhanced learning analysis by studying participants' feedback obtained six months after the training. The focus is on whether our judges have had the opportunity to apply the skills learnt and the corresponding assessment of their effectiveness.

To achieve excellence in
judicial education and research

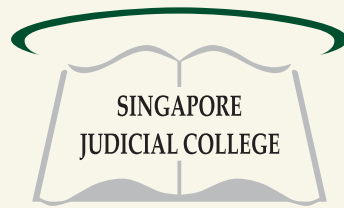
VISION

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

MISSION



ABOUT THE *Corporate Logo*



The SJC's logo features a stylised disc that alludes to the iconic architecture of the Supreme Court Building. The disc is also a distinct feature of the Supreme Court's corporate logo, reinforcing the shared vision of fairness and impartiality in the administration of justice.

A book, an icon of knowledge, is positioned below the disc, and reinforces the College's vision built on a strong structure with solid foundations that are designed to withstand assault and the ravages of time.

The solid colours dark green, black, grey and white embody growth through judicial training and scholarship in a nurturing and dignified environment.

ASPIRATIONS OF THE *Singapore Judicial College*



Centre of Excellence

Thought leadership
and scholarship
in the areas of
judicial training and
development

Share 'Know How'

Impart value-neutral
technical skills
relevant to judges,
contextualised
within an Asian
society

Bridge Building

Forge friendships
with our foreign
counterparts

The Board of Governors



Chairman

Justice Andrew Phang

Judge of Appeal, Supreme Court of Singapore



Deputy Chairman

Justice Quentin Loh

Judge, Supreme Court of Singapore

Members

Justice John Dyson Heydon AC QC

*Retired Judge, High Court of Australia
International Judge, Singapore International
Commercial Court*

Judicial Commissioner See Kee Oon

Presiding Judge, State Courts of Singapore

Judicial Commissioner Valerie Thean

Presiding Judge, Family Justice Courts of Singapore

Professor Joseph H H Weiler

President, European University Institute

Professor Jeffrey Pinsler, SC

Faculty of Law, National University of Singapore

Associate Professor Goh Yihan

School of Law, Singapore Management University

Judicial Commissioner Foo Chee Hock

Dean, Singapore Judicial College

District Judge Tan Boon Heng

Executive Director, Singapore Judicial College

Our Staff



¹ Judicial Commissioner

Foo Chee Hock

Dean

² District Judge Tan Boon Heng*

Executive Director

³ Mr Ng Shun Geng

Assistant Director, Secretariat

⁴ Mr Jam Chee Chong

Deputy Director, Secretariat

**On secondment from the State Courts*

Judicial Education Liaisons

The SJC works closely with the appointed Judicial Education Liaisons (JELs) from the Supreme Court, State Courts and Family Justice Courts (FJC) for the benefit of the Judiciary as a whole. The JELs are as follows:



Janice Wong

Assistant Registrar, Supreme Court



Jasbendar Kaur

District Judge, State Courts



Yarni Loi

District Judge, Family Justice Courts

Areas of Focus in Judicial Education

To provide more synergy in the SJC's programmes, key areas of judicial education have been identified through understanding the nature of past judicial training and consultation with judges on their training needs. The areas of focus are set to expand to fulfil the requirements of evolving training needs.

JUDICIAL ETHICS

- Impartiality
- Integrity
- Propriety
- Equality
- Competence & Diligence

SOCIAL AWARENESS

- Perceptions of Justice
- Judgments in Social Context
- Managing Litigants Sensitively

COURT LEADERSHIP

- Judicial Administration
- Court Reforms
- Research & Innovation



BENCH SKILLS

- Judging
- Mediation
- Procedures
- Case Management
- Court Technology

LEGAL DEVELOPMENT

- Development in Substantive Law
- Law in a Multi-Disciplinary Context

TECHNOLOGY & SCIENCES

- Court Technology
- Deoxyribonucleic Acid (DNA) Evidence
- Handwriting Forensic
- Forensic Science
- Forensic Medicine
- Bio-Sciences & The Law

*JUDICIAL RESILIENCE

- Judicial Wellness
- Managing Judicial Stress
- Maintaining Judicial Discipline

**A new area of focus "Judicial Resilience" will be introduced with effect from 2017*



The Local Wing Training Programmes

Working with the Judicial Education Liaisons of the Supreme Court, State Courts and Family Justice Courts (FJC), the Local Wing of the SJC oversees the needs of the Singapore Judiciary, from induction to continuing education programmes. The SJC augments the local programmes by organising high impact courses such as the “Judiciary-Wide Induction Programme” for newly appointed Judges and Judicial Officers (JOs), as well as refresher programmes on fundamental areas including Civil Procedure, Judicial Review, Intellectual Property, Family Law and Insolvency Law.

Training Calendar 2016

Category	Date	Title	Instructor(s)
Local Wing			
Bench Skills	12-13 Jan	Judgment Writing Workshop	Emeritus Professor Edward Berry, University of Victoria, British Columbia
	2 Feb	Managing Media Pressure in Judicial Duties	Panellists: (1) Chief Justice Sundaresh Menon, Supreme Court (2) Justice Quentin Loh, Supreme Court (3) District Judge Jasvender Kaur, State Courts (4) District Judge Victor Yeo, State Courts
	11 Feb	Effective Case Management in the Family Justice Courts: Lessons from Commercial Cases	Justice Quentin Loh, Supreme Court
	22 Mar	Costs Management and Guidelines	Justice Chao Hick Tin, Judge of Appeal, Supreme Court
	5 May	Good Courtroom Communication	Justice Choo Han Teck, Supreme Court
	26 May	Grounds of Decision, the Dreaded and Desired: Through the Practitioners' Lenses	Panellists: (1) Mr Edmond Pereira, Advocate & Solicitor, Edmond Pereira Law Corporation (2) Mr Adrian Tan, Advocate & Solicitor, Morgan Lewis Stamford LLC (3) Ms Malathi Das, Advocate & Solicitor, Joyce A Tan & Partners
	29 Aug	Effective Engagement of Litigants-In-Person (LIPs)	Panellists: (1) Justice Chan Seng Onn, Supreme Court (2) Judicial Commissioner Foo Chee Hock, Dean, SJC (3) Dr George Joseph Fernandez, Senior Consultant, General Psychiatry / Psychotherapy, Institute of Mental Health (4) Dr Jaydip Sarkar, Consultant, General & Forensic Psychiatry, Institute of Mental Health (5) District Judge Jasbendar Kaur, State Courts (6) District Judge Yarni Loi, Family Justice Courts (7) District Judge Tan Boon Heng, Executive Director, SJC
	22 Sep	Reining in on the Conduct of Proceedings	(1) Justice Quentin Loh, Supreme Court (2) Registrar Vincent Hoong, Supreme Court
	3 Oct	Costs Budgeting and Scheduling	(1) Senior Assistant Registrar Christopher Tan, Supreme Court (2) Assistant Registrar Teo Guan Kee, Supreme Court
Legal Development	24 Oct	Case Management	Senior Assistant Registrar Cornie Ng, Supreme Court
	26 Jan	Recent Trends in Judicial Review: New Zealand Experience	Justice Matthew Palmer, Wellington QC, High Court of New Zealand
	4 Feb	Highlights of Civil Procedure 2015	District Judge Tan Boon Heng, Executive Director, SJC
	15 Feb	Whither Joint / Co-Parenting in Matrimonial Disputes	Professor Leong Wai Kum, Faculty of Law, National University of Singapore
	29 Feb	The Enforcement of Market Misconduct Offences in Singapore	Ms Gillian Tan, Director, Secondary Markets Conduct & Enforcement Division, Monetary Authority of Singapore
	10 Mar	Highlights of Recent Significant Developments on Intellectual Property (IP) Liabilities	Associate Professor Ng Siew Kuan Elizabeth, Faculty of Law, National University of Singapore
	15 Apr	International Issues on Family Law	Judicial Commissioner Debbie Ong, Supreme Court
	25 Apr	Amendments to the Bankruptcy Act	(1) Ms Jill Tan, Official Assignee & Public Trustee, Insolvency & Public Trustee's Office (2) Mr Quek Sze Hao, Senior Assistant Director, Policy Advisory Division, Ministry of Law (3) Ms Kalaselvi Rengasamy, Director, Individual Insolvency & Debt Repayment Scheme Division, Insolvency Office (4) Mr Jonathan Chua, Deputy Director, Individual Insolvency & Debt Repayment Scheme Division, Insolvency Office
	9 May	Introducing Continuing Judicial Learning through Gamification: "Civ Pro Challenge"	Facilitator: District Judge Tan Boon Heng, Executive Director, SJC
	8 Jul	Recent Developments and Trends in Civil Litigation	Mr Edwin Tong, SC, Partner, Allen & Gledhill LLP
	21 Jul	Principles, Policies and a Practical Approach to <i>Forum Non Conveniens</i>	Professor Yeo Tiong Min, School of Law, Singapore Management University
	23 Aug	Use of Assets Subject to a Floating Charge to Fund Insolvencies	Professor Louise Gullifer, Harris Manchester College, Oxford University, United Kingdom
	5 Sep	Briefing on the Administration of Justice (Protection) Bill	District Judge Tan Boon Heng, Executive Director, SJC
	15 Sep	Recent Developments on Unjust Enrichment	Professor Tang Hang Wu, School of Law, Singapore Management University
	27 Sep	An Overview of Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Environmental Law	Emeritus Professor Koh Kheng Lian, Faculty of Law, National University of Singapore
	7 Nov	Sentencing Cases Involving Vulnerable Victims	Panellists: (1) Chief Justice Sundaresh Menon (2) Justice Chao Hick Tin, Judge of Appeal, Supreme Court (3) Judicial Commissioner See Kee Oon, Presiding Judge, State Courts (4) Principal District Judge Bala Reddy, Community Justice & Tribunals Division, State Courts
	10 Nov	Recent Developments in Judicial Review: Principles, Pragmatism, Prospect	Professor Thio Li-ann, Faculty of Law, National University of Singapore

Category	Date	Title	Instructor(s)
Judicial Ethics	27 Jul	When to Recuse?	Justice Vinodh Coomaraswamy, Supreme Court
	18 Aug	Judicial Ethics and Dilemmas on the Bench	Panellists: (1) Chief Justice Sundaresh Menon, Supreme Court (2) Lord David Neuberger, President of the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom (3) Justice Chao Hick Tin, Judge of Appeal, Supreme Court (4) Justice Andrew Phang, Judge of Appeal, Supreme Court
Social Awareness	26 Jan	Family Violence - Sharing by the Police	Mr She Zhaozuo, 2 Operations Officer, Operations Department / Community Involvement Division, Singapore Police Force
	8 Apr	Crime Briefing 2015: Key Trends and Areas of Concern	(1) Ms Jane Goh, Analyst, Police Intelligence Department, Singapore Police Force (2) Mr Lee Rong Cheng, Psychologist, Police Psychological Services Division, Singapore Police Force
	6 Dec	Mental Health: Suicide and Serious Violence Risk Assessment & Managing Them in the Court Context	Dr Derrick Yeo Chen Kuan, Consultant Psychiatrist, Department of General & Forensic Psychiatry, Institute of Mental Health
Technology & Sciences	25 Jan	Forensic Document Examination: Handwriting Examination is Only the Tip of the Iceberg	(1) Ms Nellie Cheng, Senior Forensic Scientist, Health Sciences Authority (2) Mr Yap Bei Sing, Consultant Forensic Scientist, Health Sciences Authority
	21 Mar	The Autopsy: Medico-Legal Considerations	Dr Marian Wang, Consultant (Forensic Pathologist), Health Sciences Authority
	19 Apr	Metabolism of Drugs	Dr Lui Chi Pang, Senior Consultant Forensic Scientist, Drug Abuse Testing Unit, Analytical Toxicology Lab, Health Sciences Authority
	4 Jul	Crime Scene Reconstruction	Mr Peter Wilson, Senior Consultant Forensic Scientist, Forensic Chemistry and Physics Lab, Health Sciences Authority
	21 Nov	Courts of the Future	Mr Joseph Yew, Cluster Director (Justice, Law & Foreign Affairs Cluster), Govtech
Court Leadership	5 Jan	A Roundtable on Equipping for Court Leadership	Panellists: (1) Registrar Vincent Hoong, Supreme Court (2) Deputy Presiding Judge Jennifer Marie, Registrar, State Courts (3) Deputy Presiding Judge Chia Wee Kiat, Registrar, Family Justice Courts
	14 Apr	Court Leadership Traits	Panellists: (1) Senior Assistant Registrar Christopher Tan, Supreme Court (2) Principal District Judge Ong Hian Sun, Criminal Justice Division, State Courts (3) Principal District Judge James Leong, Centre for Dispute Resolution, State Courts (4) District Judge Jen Koh, Deputy Registrar, Family Justice Courts
	6 Sep	Challenges of Court Leadership	Panellists: (1) Senior Assistant Registrar Cornie Ng, Supreme Court (2) District Judge Victor Yeo, Senior Director, Strategic Planning and Technology Division, State Courts (3) District Judge Wong Peck, Group Manager, Civil Registry, State Courts (4) Principal District Judge Muhammad Hidir, Family Justice Courts
Special Programmes	11-12 Feb	Basic Judicial Educators' Workshop	(1) Judicial Commissioner Foo Chee Hock, Dean, SJC (2) District Judge Tan Boon Heng, Executive Director, SJC
	29 Mar	Introduction to Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction (MBSR)	Dr Choo Wei Chieh, Mindfulness Instructor, Lifesteps Pte Ltd
	13 Sep	Cognitive Studies Affecting Decision Making	Mr Francois Bogacz, Chief Executive Officer, Neuroawareness
	11-14 Oct	Judiciary-Wide Induction Programme	Organised by the SJC
International Wing			
	15 Jan	Training for the Guangdong Judicial Group	Conducted by the SJC
	18-20 Jan	Training for the Omani Judiciary	(1) Judicial Commissioner Foo Chee Hock, Dean, SJC (2) District Judge Tan Boon Heng, Executive Director, SJC (3) Assistant Registrar Jay Lee, Supreme Court
	23-25 Feb	Court Dispute Resolution: A One-Stop Judicial Training on Alternative Dispute Resolution	Conducted by the SJC
	4-8 Apr	Strategies of Case Management: Challenges, Solutions and Innovation	Conducted by the SJC
	11-15 Jul	End-to-End Court Technology	Conducted by the SJC
	26-29 Apr 17-20 May 31 May-3 Jun 27-30 Jun	Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI): International Framework for Court Excellence Workshops: Phnom Penh, Cambodia Yangon, Myanmar Hanoi, Vietnam Vientiane, Lao PDR	District Judge Tan Boon Heng, Executive Director, SJC
	1-4 Aug 31 Oct- 3 Nov	Parliamentary Law, Rules and Practices: Vientiane, Lao PDR Yangon, Myanmar	District Judge Tan Boon Heng, Executive Director, SJC
	11-14 Oct	Judiciary-Wide Induction Programme	Conducted by the SJC
	17-20 Oct	Court Excellence and Court Dispute Resolution: A Tale of Two Workshops, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar	District Judge Tan Boon Heng, Executive Director, SJC
	15-16 Nov	Judicial Ethics and Court Leadership	(1) Judicial Commissioner Foo Chee Hock, Dean, SJC (2) District Judge Tan Boon Heng, Executive Director, SJC

The Local Wing Training Programmes

The Special Series

As part of the SJC's ongoing commitment to constantly refresh and reinvigorate our suite of continuing training programmes for our judges and JOs, three main streams of speaker series have been launched. They include the Supreme Court Bench Series, Professorial Series and Practitioners' Series.



Supreme Court Bench Series

talks conducted by Judges and Judicial Commissioners of the Supreme Court



Professorial Series

talks conducted by law academics, including faculty from other relevant disciplines



Practitioners' Series

talks conducted by JOs and selected private practitioners on procedures and practice



The Supreme Court Bench Series



2 February 2016 | Venue: Supreme Court | Organised by the SJC

Managing Media Pressure in Judicial Duties

Panellists:

Chief Justice Sundaresh Menon, Supreme Court

Justice Quentin Loh, Supreme Court

District Judge Jasvender Kaur, State Courts

District Judge Victor Yeo, State Courts

The panellists shared their personal experiences in managing media pressure, including how judges should conduct themselves in a hearing that attracts media attention.

15 April 2016 | Venue: State Courts | Organised by the FJC under the auspices of the SJC

International Issues on Family Law

Judicial Commissioner Debbie Ong, Supreme Court

Judicial Commissioner Debbie Ong shared her thoughts on current issues in family law and practice with international dimensions. Participants developed a deeper understanding of the challenging international legal issues that have an impact on Singapore's courts.

5 May 2016 | Venue: Supreme Court | Organised by the SJC

Good Courtroom Communication

Justice Choo Han Teck, Supreme Court

Justice Choo Han Teck shared how judges can communicate to all persons in the courtroom to ensure clarity, reduce potential misunderstanding/bad aftertaste and instil confidence in the judicial process by using a variety of techniques.



L-R - Justice Chan Seng Onn and Justice Vinodh Coomaraswamy

27 July 2016 | Venue: Supreme Court | Organised by the SJC

When to Recuse?

Justice Vinodh Coomaraswamy, Supreme Court

Justice Vinodh Coomaraswamy explored the principles which govern an application for recusal in order to offer practical guidance to Judges and JOs. Participants gained an appreciation of when a judge should recuse himself and how he should decide whether to do so.

18 August 2016 | Venue: Supreme Court | Organised by the SJC

Judicial Ethics and Dilemmas on the Bench

Panellists:

Chief Justice Sundaresh Menon, Supreme Court

Lord David Neuberger, President of the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom (UK)

Justice Chao Hick Tin, Judge of Appeal, Supreme Court

Justice Andrew Phang, Judge of Appeal, Supreme Court

Participants were privileged to hear the views of the distinguished panellists presiding at the apex courts of the UK and Singapore on how to respond to various challenging scenarios touching on judicial ethics. The views expressed provided good guidance to our Judges and JOs should they encounter similar circumstances.

22 September 2016 | Venue: Supreme Court | Organised by the SJC

Reining in on the Conduct of Proceedings

Justice Quentin Loh, Supreme Court

Registrar Vincent Hoong, Supreme Court

The panellists helped participants to acquire a better understanding as to how to control the pace of proceedings through the sharing of the techniques and ethos presented.



The Professorial Series



15 February 2016 | Venue: Supreme Court | Organised by the SJC

Whither Joint/Co-Parenting in Matrimonial Disputes

*Professor Leong Wai Kum, Faculty of Law,
National University of Singapore (NUS)*

Participants acquired a deeper appreciation of: (i) the implications of shared parenting; (ii) the core and sub principle(s) of parental responsibility; and (iii) the need for the courts to deliver judgments that emphasise parental responsibility.



10 March 2016 | Venue: Supreme Court | Organised by the SJC

Highlights of Recent Significant Developments on Intellectual Property (IP) Liabilities

Associate Professor Ng Siew Kuan Elizabeth, Faculty of Law, NUS

Associate Professor Ng Siew Kuan Elizabeth examined recent significant judicial developments on the boundaries of protectable subject-matter and remedies in IP Law. Participants acquired a better appreciation of the comparative approaches adopted in the key jurisdictions on the nature, extent and limits of protectable subject-matter.

21 July 2016 | Venue: Supreme Court | Organised by the SJC

Principles, Policies and a Practical Approach to *Forum Non Conveniens*

Professor Yeo Tiong Min, School of Law, Singapore Management University (SMU)

Professor Yeo Tiong Min examined the key differences in the doctrine of *forum non conveniens* as developed in several major jurisdictions, in addition to significant developments within Singapore. He also examined its relationship to choice of court agreements, choice of law, and foreign judgments.

15 September 2016 | Venue: Supreme Court | Organised by the SJC

Recent Developments on Unjust Enrichment

Professor Tang Hang Wu, School of Law, SMU

Participants benefited from Professor Tang Hang Wu's quick survey of the leading decisions on restitution both from Singapore and the key jurisdictions.

27 September 2016 | Venue: Supreme Court | Organised by the SJC

An Overview of Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Environmental Law

Emeritus Professor Koh Kheng Lian, Faculty of Law, NUS

The talk covered a brief survey of the recent Kuala Lumpur Declaration on ASEAN 2025 as well as other ASEAN environmental instruments. Participants gained an introductory understanding of the laws available within ASEAN to protect our environment, the extent to which these laws have been applied, and their efficacy.

10 November 2016 | Venue: Supreme Court | Organised by the SJC

Recent Developments in Judicial Review: Principles, Pragmatism, Prospect

Professor Thio Li-ann, Faculty of Law, NUS

Participants benefited from a survey of the latest trends in judicial review in Singapore and the attitude of, and approach adopted by the courts.



The Practitioners' Series

26 January 2016 | Venue: Supreme Court | Organised by the SJC

Recent Trends in Judicial Review: New Zealand Experience

Justice Matthew Palmer, Wellington QC, Judge of the High Court of New Zealand

Justice Matthew Palmer gave an update on the trends of judicial review in New Zealand, compared and contrasted with the Singapore experience.

26 May 2016 | Venue: Supreme Court | Organised by the SJC

Grounds of Decision, the Dreaded and Desired: Through the Practitioners' Lenses

Panellists:

Mr Edmond Pereira, Advocate & Solicitor, Edmond Pereira Law Corporation

Mr Adrian Tan, Advocate & Solicitor, Morgan Lewis Stamford LLC

Ms Malathi Das, Advocate & Solicitor, Joyce A Tan & Partners

The SJC brought together three senior and experienced litigators practising Civil, Criminal and Family Law to share their top three dreaded and desired observations from the recent Grounds of Decision delivered (complete with anonymity). Through this light-hearted interaction, Judges and JOs were able to reflect on the feedback when preparing their written Grounds of Decision.

21 November 2016 | Venue: Supreme Court | Organised by the Supreme Court Registry under the auspices of the SJC

Courts of the Future

Mr Joseph Yew, Cluster Director (Justice, Law & Foreign Affairs Cluster), Govtech

In this session, participants were transported to a Day in 2020 to envision how technology would transform and enhance the way judges and lawyers manage court proceedings.



Enhancing Case Management Skills

In 2016, the SJC provided the following training programmes to enhance judicial case management skills.



11 February 2016 | Venue: Supreme Court | Organised by the FJC under the auspices of the SJC

Effective Case Management in the FJC: Lessons from Commercial Cases

Justice Quentin Loh, Supreme Court

Justice Quentin Loh shared his insights on case management tips on handling Litigants-In-Person, the perils of handling parties and witness-conferencing. Participants gained a heightened awareness as to how to better manage the case flow of the more common matters dealt with in the FJC.

22 March 2016 | Venue: Supreme Court | Organised by the Supreme Court Registry under the auspices of the SJC

Costs Management and Guidelines

Justice Chao Hick Tin, Judge of Appeal, Supreme Court

As the Chairman of the Costs Panel, Justice Chao Hick Tin shared his thoughts on the basis on which the Costs Guidelines (published in June 2015) was drawn and the rationale for their publication. Participants learnt how the Costs Guidelines should be used and on how they could more effectively promote the management of costs of litigation.

4 – 8 April 2016 | Venue: Rendezvous Hotel | Organised by the SJC

Strategies of Case Management: Challenges, Solutions and Innovation

*Judicial Commissioner Foo Chee Hock, Dean, SJC
District Judge Tan Boon Heng, Executive Director, SJC*

In addition to the programmes organised under the Local Wing, the SJC International Wing organised a 5-day course for International Judges, JOs and government officials.

— For the coming year, I have asked the College to focus on **enhancing judicial case management skills** because robust case management is a critical tool for **reducing the costs and time incurred in litigation** and we can expect to see this being used to a greater degree.

**Chief Justice
Sundaresh Menon**
*Response at the Opening
of the Legal Year 2016*

5 May 2016 | Venue: Supreme Court | Organised by the SJC

Good Courtroom Communication

Justice Choo Han Teck, Supreme Court

Justice Choo Han Teck shared how judges can communicate to all persons in the courtroom to ensure clarity, reduce potential misunderstanding/bad aftertaste and instil confidence in the judicial process by using a variety of techniques.



29 August 2016 | Venue: Supreme Court | Organised by the SJC

Effective Engagement of Litigants-In-Person (LIPs)

Panellists:

Justice Chan Seng Onn, Supreme Court

Judicial Commissioner Foo Chee Hock, Dean, SJC

Dr George Joseph Fernandez, Institute of Mental Health (IMH)

Dr Jaydip Sarkar, IMH

District Judge Jasbendar Kaur, State Courts

District Judge Yarni Loi, FJC

District Judge Tan Boon Heng, Executive Director, SJC

To better equip our judges for the rising trend of LIPs, a 1-day workshop was organised, specifically focused on the handling of LIPs with personality disorders. Participants learnt skills, techniques and best practices in handling LIPs, giving Judges and JOs greater effectiveness in engaging or disengaging LIPs.



22 September 2016 | Venue: Supreme Court |

Organised by the SJC

Reining in on the Conduct of Proceedings

Justice Quentin Loh, Supreme Court

Registrar Vincent Hoong, Supreme Court

The panellists helped participants to acquire a better understanding as to how to control the pace of proceedings through the sharing of the techniques and ethos presented.

3 October 2016 | Venue: Supreme Court | Organised by the SJC

Costs Budgeting and Scheduling

Senior Assistant Registrar Christopher Tan, Supreme Court

Assistant Registrar Teo Guan Kee, Supreme Court

The programme helped participants acquire familiarity with costs scheduling and costs budgeting, as currently practised in the High Court, as well as the issues and possible outcomes in asking parties to undertake the costs budgeting and costs scheduling exercise.

24 October 2016 | Venue: Supreme Court | Organised by the Supreme Court Registry under the auspices of the SJC

Case Management

Senior Assistant Registrar Cornie Ng, Supreme Court

Participants had the opportunity to leverage on Senior Assistant Registrar Cornie Ng's experience with case management and the conduct of pre-trial conferences in the context of the docketing of cases in the High Court.

New Areas of Focus in 2016

To fulfil the evolving training needs of our Judges and JOs, two new areas of focus were introduced in 2016 – “Technology & Sciences” and “Court Leadership”. Senior Consultants from the Health Sciences Authority (HSA) were invited to speak on critical areas of Technology and Sciences.

TECHNOLOGY & SCIENCES



25 January 2016 | Venue: Supreme Court | Organised by the SJC

Forensic Document Examination: Handwriting Examination is Only the Tip of the Iceberg

Ms Nellie Cheng, HSA

Mr Yap Bei Sing, HSA

HSA introduced participants to the range of techniques in Forensic Document Examination (FDE) to assist to ascertain documentary authenticity in the context of disputed evidence presented in court.

21 March 2016 | Venue: Supreme Court | Organised by the SJC

The Autopsy: Medico-Legal Considerations

Dr Marian Wang, HSA

Dr Marian Wang, one of six forensic pathologists in the HSA, who has been helping to solve cases of suspicious deaths since 2007, gave participants a basic understanding on what an autopsy entails and a better appreciation of its contribution to the various aspects of death investigation, administration of justice, and public health.

19 April 2016 | Venue: Supreme Court | Organised by the SJC

Metabolism of Drugs

Dr Lui Chi Pang, HSA

Participants acquired a basic understanding pertaining to the metabolism of drugs, as well as a better appreciation of HSA urine drug testing procedures and practical issues in court cases.

4 July 2016 | Venue: Supreme Court | Organised by the SJC

Crime Scene Reconstruction

Mr Peter Wilson, HSA

Mr Peter Wilson drew on his ‘Singapore experience’ to give participants a basic understanding of how crime scenes are reconstructed from the perspective of forensic science.



L-R - Justice Tay Yong Kwang, Peter Wilson

COURT LEADERSHIP



5 January 2016 | Venue: State Courts | Organised by the SJC

A Roundtable on Equipping for Court Leadership

Panellists:

Registrar Vincent Hoong, Supreme Court

Deputy Presiding Judge Jennifer Marie, Registrar, State Courts

Deputy Presiding Judge Chia Wee Kiat, Registrar, FJC

The Registrars shared their experiences, providing participants with a better understanding of what it takes to assume court leadership, its opportunities and challenges.

14 April 2016 | Venue: State Courts | Organised by the SJC

Court Leadership Traits

Panellists:

Senior Assistant Registrar Christopher Tan, Supreme Court

Principal District Judge Ong Hian Sun, Criminal Justice Division, State Courts

Principal District Judge James Leong, Centre for Dispute Resolution, State Courts

District Judge Jen Koh, Deputy Registrar, FJC

Each of the panellists shared his or her personal insights on the critical traits that a JO aspiring to court leadership ought to exhibit.

6 September 2016 | Venue: State Courts | Organised by the SJC

Challenges of Court Leadership

Panellists:

Senior Assistant Registrar Cornie Ng, Supreme Court

District Judge Victor Yeo, Strategic Planning and Technology Division, State Courts

District Judge Wong Peck, Group Manager (Civil Registry), State Courts

Principal District Judge Muhammad Hidhir, FJC

In the third and final of three series on “Court Leadership” training for 2016, the panellists shared their personal insights on the challenges of court leadership to better prepare JOs when assuming leadership roles and responsibilities.



L-R - PDJ Muhd Hidhir, DJ Victor Yeo, DJ Wong Peck, SAR Cornie Ng



The Local Wing Training Programmes



Judgment Writing Workshop

12 – 13 January 2016 | Venue: Supreme Court | Organised by the SJC
Emeritus Professor Edward Berry, University of Victoria, British Columbia

A total of 41 JOs from the Supreme Court, State Courts and FJC attended a 1-day “Judgment Writing Workshop” conducted by Emeritus Professor Edward Berry. In addition, Professor Berry held conversations on Judgment Writing with our JOs from the FJC and the International Judges from the Singapore International Commercial Court on 13 January 2016.

Basic Judicial Educators’ Workshop

11 – 12 February 2016 | Venue: Supreme Court | Organised by the SJC
Judicial Commissioner Foo Chee Hock, Dean, SJC
District Judge Tan Boon Heng, Executive Director, SJC

Conducted by Judicial Commissioner Foo Chee Hock (Dean, SJC) and District Judge Tan Boon Heng (Executive Director, SJC), the “Basic Judicial Educators’ Workshop” was designed to be part of a strategic process to augment the capabilities of the SJC. The workshop provided the SJC with a pool of resource persons who can eventually support as faculty. The interactive 2-day workshop primed participants on the areas of judicial education and the roles of a Judicial Educator.



Introduction to Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction (MBSR)

29 March 2016 | Supreme Court | Organised by the SJC
Dr Choo Wei Chieh, Mindfulness Instructor, Lifesteps Pte Ltd

The speaker introduced the concept of MBSR to help participants develop the capacity to observe events with greater awareness, an attitude of openness, exploration and acceptance. Through the exercise, participants were in a better position to assess whether the MBSR is worth adopting to effectively manage the stressors in their lives.



Introducing Continuing Judicial Learning through Gamification: “Civ Pro Challenge”

9 May 2016 | Venue: Supreme Court | Organised by the SJC
District Judge Tan Boon Heng, Executive Director, SJC

This activity was the SJC’s maiden attempt to introduce online gaming platforms to help participants refresh their learning on a broad range of topics on Civil Procedure in a fun and invigorating setting. Jointly developed with the SMU’s Centre for Teaching Excellence, the SJC’s “Civ Pro Challenge” saw seven teams consisting of District Judges, Magistrates, Assistant Registrars and Justices’ Law Clerks from the Supreme Court, State Courts and FJC, participate in this learning activity. They found the gaming platform fun, engaging and an effective way to learn.



Judicial Commissioner Foo Chee Hock, Dean, SJC, (L) with the winning team



Mr Bernie Koh (Centre for Teaching Excellence, SMU) explaining the structure and rules of the game

The Local Wing Training Programmes

Judicial Ethics and Dilemmas on the Bench

18 August 2016 | Venue: Supreme Court | Organised by the SJC

Panellists:

Chief Justice Sundaresh Menon, Supreme Court

Lord David Neuberger, President of the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom (UK)

Justice Chao Hick Tin, Judge of Appeal, Supreme Court

Justice Andrew Phang, Judge of Appeal, Supreme Court

Participants benefited from the insights of the distinguished panellists presiding at the apex courts of Singapore and the UK on how to respond to various challenging scenarios touching on judicial ethics.



Cognitive Studies Affecting Decision Making

13 September 2016 | Venue: Supreme Court | Organised by the SJC

Instructor: Mr Francois Bogacz, Chief Executive Officer, Neuroawareness

Mr Francois Bogacz shared with our Judges and JOs on cognitive studies on the human brain. He introduced them to cognitive dissonance and how it would affect their decision making process.



L-R - Justice Belinda Ang, Mr Francois Bogacz



Effective Engagement of Litigants-In-Person (LIPs)

29 August 2016 | Venue: Supreme Court | Organised by the SJC

Panellists:

Justice Chan Seng Onn, Supreme Court

Judicial Commissioner Foo Chee Hock, Dean, SJC

Dr George Joseph Fernandez, Institute of Mental Health (IMH)

Dr Jaydip Sarkar, IMH

District Judge Jasbendar Kaur, State Courts

District Judge Yarni Loi, FJC

District Judge Tan Boon Heng, Executive Director, SJC

A total of 50 JOs from the Supreme Court, State Courts and FJC participated in the 1-day workshop to acquire skills to more effectively manage LIPs with personality disorders at hearings as well as respond to their written correspondence. Two psychiatrists from IMH spoke on “Identifying, and Effective Engaging/Disengaging LIPs with Personality Disorders” and “Techniques and Best Practices of Handling Correspondence with Querulous LIPs”.

Besides briefings, consultation and discussion, skills-based activities were weaved into the 1-day programme consisting of (a) role play for our participants to engage and manage difficult LIPs and (b) analysis and responding to a demanding LIP’s correspondence, with the IMH psychiatrists providing valuable inputs on the appropriateness and efficacy in engaging LIPs, especially those with personality disorders.

The day’s learning ended with an enlightening and entertaining panel discussion on “Tried and Tested Ways to Effectively Manage Challenging LIPs” led by Justice Chan Seng Onn and moderated by Judicial Commissioner Foo Chee Hock (Dean, SJC).



Dr George Joseph Fernandez, Senior Consultant, General Psychiatry/Psychotherapy, IMH



Dr Jaydip Sarkar, Consultant, General & Forensic Psychiatry, IMH



L-R - JC Foo Chee Hock, Justice Chan Seng Onn, DJ Jasbendar Kaur, DJ Yarni Loi



The International Wing Training Programmes

The International Wing of the SJC offers a wide range of judicial training programmes for our foreign counterparts which includes induction, core competencies (such as case management, use of court technology, judicial administration, judicial ethics and bench skills), recent developments on areas of legal interest and useful interdisciplinary studies.

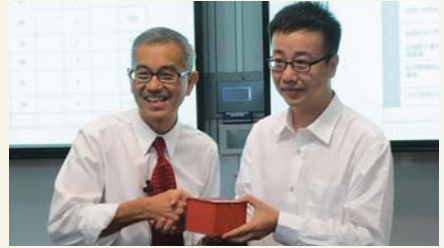


The International Wing Training Programmes

Training for the Guangdong Judicial Group

15 January 2016 | Singapore Management University, Singapore

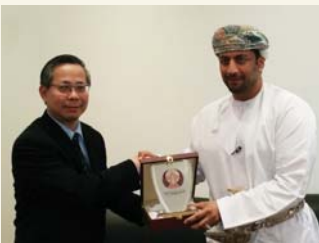
The International Wing of the SJC kicked-off 2016 with a breakthrough. The SJC conducted its first lectures, "Judicial Education: The Singapore Brand" and "Introduction to the International Framework for Court Excellence", fully in Mandarin for 25 judges from the Guangdong Judicial Group. The delegation was headed by Judge Zhong Jianping, President of the Maritime Court of Guangzhou City.



Training for the Omani Judiciary

18 – 20 January 2016 | Muscat, Oman

The Omani Judiciary requested to learn more about the Singapore legal and judicial system, together with selected areas of best practices. Judicial Commissioner Foo Chee Hock (Dean, SJC), District Judge Tan Boon Heng (Executive Director, SJC) and Assistant Registrar Jay Lee (Supreme Court) shared with 30 participants from the various courts across Oman, Singapore's experience in case management, harnessing Court Technology (in particular, eFiling), and developing better judicial education. In addition, they introduced the participants to the International Framework for Court Excellence.



Court Dispute Resolution: A One-Stop Judicial Training on Alternative Dispute Resolution

23 – 25 February 2016 | Supreme Court, Singapore

The SJC conducted a 3-day workshop titled “Court Dispute Resolution: A One-Stop Judicial Training on Alternative Dispute Resolution”. It was organised with the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CI Arb), an initiative under the auspices of the ASEAN Chief Justices’ Meeting Working Committee on Judicial Training and was sponsored by the Singapore Cooperation Programme and the Supreme Court of Singapore.

The workshop gave 18 ASEAN judges an overview of the comprehensive suite of court-initiated dispute resolution channels to manage different needs. It included mediation and international arbitration, featuring instructors from the Singapore Mediation Centre (SMC) and CI Arb, as well as learning journeys to the Supreme Court, State Courts, SMC, Singapore International Mediation Centre, Singapore International Arbitration Centre, and Maxwell Chambers.



Strategies of Case Management: Challenges, Solutions and Innovation

4 – 8 April 2016 | Rendezvous Hotel, Singapore

In conjunction with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' Singapore Cooperation Programme, a total of 31 Judges, Judicial Officers (JOs), and government officials from 27 countries attended the 5-day programme which examined the various approaches to case management and the International Framework for Court Excellence. In addition to the interactive 'classroom' sessions, participants went on learning journeys to the Supreme Court, State Courts and FJC to experience first-hand deployment of case management strategies.



End-to-End Court Technology

11 – 15 July 2016 | Rendezvous Hotel, Singapore

This 5-day workshop “End-to-End Court Technology” was held in conjunction with the Singapore Cooperation Programme. It introduced participants to the thinking behind the various technological systems used in the Singapore Judiciary. A total of 28 Judges, JOs, and government officials from 25 countries were introduced to the systems that have made the Singapore Judiciary and legal profession more integrated, effective, efficient, user-centric and ‘paper-less’. In addition to the classroom sessions, learning journeys to the courts and vendors’ premises were woven into the curriculum.



Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI): International Framework for Court Excellence (IFCE) Workshops

26 – 29 April 2016 | Phnom Penh, Cambodia

17 – 20 May 2016 | Yangon, Myanmar

31 May – 3 June 2016 | Hanoi, Vietnam

27 – 30 June 2016 | Vientiane, Lao PDR

The SJC conducted 4-day workshops on the IFCE for judges and justice-related officials in several ASEAN countries. In all, more than 130 judges, court administrators and officials were trained on the IFCE over the four workshops held in Cambodia, Myanmar, Vietnam, and Lao PDR. The participants found the IFCE extremely helpful for them to work on improving the performance of the courts. Instead of reinventing the wheel, judges and justice-related officials can attempt to use the IFCE checklist to identify areas for improvement, close the gaps, and map out action plans for the courthouses they evaluate.

Besides the benefits of adopting the IFCE, participants also learnt from the experience of the Singapore Judiciary in implementing the various aspects of the IFCE in enhancing the administration of justice.

These workshops were sponsored by the Singapore Cooperation Programme under the auspices of the IAI.



Cambodia-Singapore Training Centre, Phnom Penh



Myanmar-Singapore Training Centre, Yangon



Vietnam-Singapore Training Centre, Hanoi



Lao PDR-Singapore Training Centre, Vientiane

The International Wing Training Programmes

Parliamentary Law, Rules and Practices

1 – 4 August 2016 | Vientiane, Lao PDR

31 October – 3 November 2016 | Yangon, Myanmar

In conjunction with the Singapore Cooperation Programme, under the auspices of the IAI, the SJC conducted 4-day workshops on Singapore “Parliamentary Law, Rules and Practices”.

A total of 49 participants attended the training. Participants learnt about the organisational structure, key office holders, functions, sittings, the legislative process and select committees of the Singapore Parliament. Participants also had an opportunity to navigate Singapore’s Statutes Online and Parliamentary Reports.

The content delivered provided the participants with a platform to interact on Singapore’s experience which may generate new ideas that may serve as possible areas of reform in the participant’s country. At the end of the workshops, participants mapped a strategic plan for reform to help them adopt, adapt and generate ideas when they are required to put up recommendations for changes to their Parliaments.



Judiciary-Wide Induction Programme

11 – 14 October 2016 | Supreme Court, Singapore

Facilitated by instructors that include members of the Supreme Court Bench and high-level Singapore government officials, the SJC conducted its annual 4-day “Judiciary-Wide Induction Programme” covering a wide range of topics relevant to the work of a judge.

In addition to newly appointed Judicial Commissioners and JOs of Singapore, the programme was attended by foreign judges from Bangladesh, Thailand, Taiwan, Japan, and United Arab Emirates (Dubai).



Court Excellence and Court Dispute Resolution: A Tale of Two Workshops

17 – 20 October 2016 | Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar

The SJC, in conjunction with the Singapore Ministry of Law, conducted a 4-day workshop to introduce participants to two critical areas: (i) Court Excellence; and (ii) Court Dispute Resolution. A total of 30 participants were trained.

In addition to introducing participants to the International Framework for Court Excellence, participants acquired the basic knowledge and understanding of how Court Dispute Resolution can be implemented in their courthouses. They also learnt the function of a Judge-Mediator through role play.



Judicial Ethics and Court Leadership

15 – 16 November 2016 | Supreme Court, Singapore

The SJC conducted a 2-day workshop for 10 judges from the Supreme Judiciary Council of the State of Qatar. Judicial Commissioner Foo Chee Hock (Dean, SJC) and District Judge Tan Boon Heng (Executive Director, SJC) shared with the participants universal principles of judicial conduct and ethics, and the application thereof to specific scenarios. In addition, they were introduced to Category 1 of the International Framework for Court Excellence on Court Leadership. Finally, the participants were briefed on Singapore's experience in implementing eFiling and the work of the Singapore Mediation Centre.

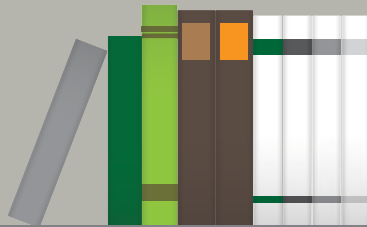


ABOUT THE *Empirical Judicial Research Programme*

An important and unique dimension of the SJC is the Empirical Judicial Research initiative. This will serve as a test bed for innovation in judicial studies, practices and policies. Probably the first of its kind in Asia, this initiative pushes the frontiers for local judicial research to incorporate quantitative analysis. The research findings and recommendations are expected to bear a special significance, not only to Singapore, but potentially other parts of Asia and the Middle-East. New or existing practices in the courts can then be tested and the underlying premises of prevailing policies or practices validated.

To date, seven projects have been approved. The first fruits of this initiative are expected to be published in early 2017.

7 Projects accepted

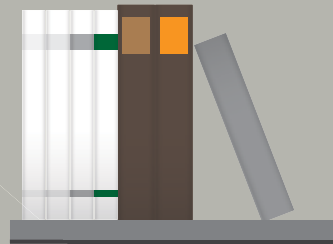


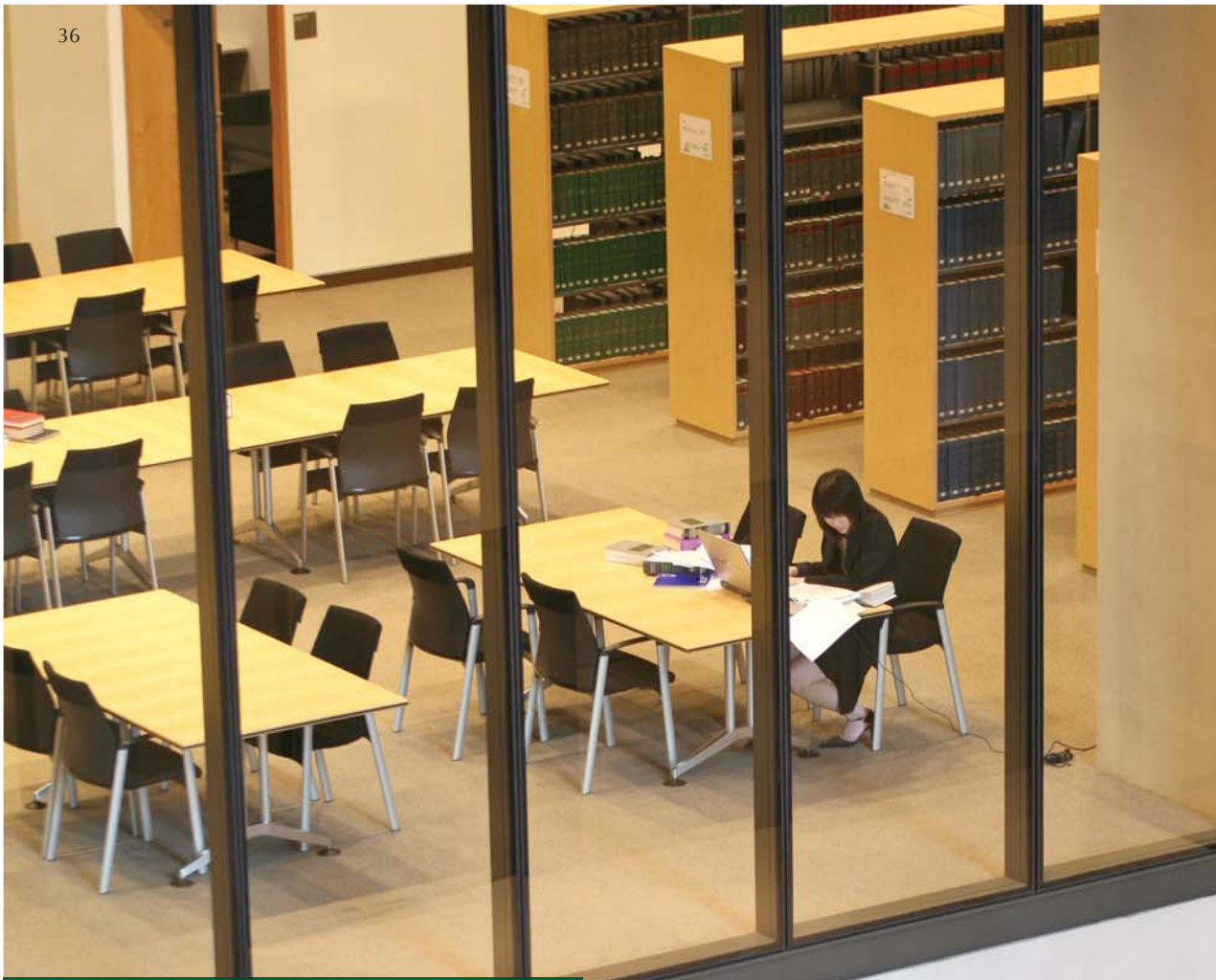
Approved submissions from:

- Family Justice Courts
- Faculty of Law, National University of Singapore
- School of Law, Singapore Management University

Projects

- ¹ **Judgments** (Citation of Legal Scholarship)
- ² **Defamation** (A Comparative Analysis)
- ³ **Empathy** (In Singapore's Judges)
- ⁴ **Singapore International Commercial Court** (Attractiveness to International Litigants)
- ⁵ **Litigants-In-Person** (Access to Justice)
- ⁶ **Divorces** (Profiling of International Divorces)
- ⁷ **Mediation** (Best Time to Attempt)





Significant Events

It was a fruitful year with the official opening of the SJC Business Centre by Chief Justice Sundaresh Menon, the signing of two Memorandums of Understanding between the SJC and our collaborators as well as institutional exchanges with judicial colleges in Australia and the United Kingdom (UK).



Significant Events

Official Opening of the SJC Business Centre

11 January 2016 | Supreme Court, Singapore

Chief Justice Sundaresh Menon officially launched the SJC Business Centre in conjunction with the Opening of the Legal Year 2016. The ceremony was witnessed by the SJC Board of Governors, Mr Vincent Hoong (Registrar, Supreme Court), and Ms Juthika Ramanathan (Chief Executive, Office of the Chief Justice). Besides housing the Secretariat, a reception and lounge area, the SJC Business Centre has a training room which can accommodate up to 20 persons.



Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs)

Office of the Judiciary of the Kingdom of Thailand

18 March 2016 | Judicial Training Institute, Bangkok, Thailand

The SJC and the Office of the Judiciary of the Kingdom of Thailand entered into an MOU to advance continuing judicial education opportunities between the judiciaries. Justice Andrew Phang, Judge of Appeal and Chairman of the SJC Board of Governors, signed the MOU on behalf of the SJC. Representing the Thai Judicial Training Institute was Justice Athikom Intuputi, Secretary-General of the Office of the Judiciary of the Kingdom of Thailand.

The signing of the MOU was witnessed by Chief Justice Veerapol Tungsuwan, President of the Supreme Court of the Kingdom of Thailand, and Mrs Chua Siew San, Ambassador of the Republic of Singapore to the Kingdom of Thailand, among others. The ceremony was attended by more than 300 Thai judges and court officials. Both the SJC and the Thai Judicial Training Institute presented on how each developed better continuing judicial education programmes for their judges.

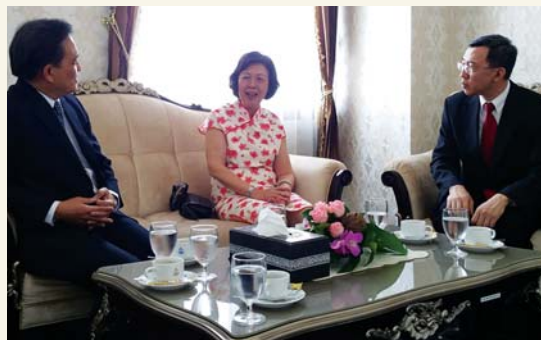
Academy of Justice of Kazakhstan

1 November 2016

The SJC signed an MOU with the Academy of Justice of Kazakhstan that took effect from 1 November 2016.



Academy of Justice under the
Supreme Court of the Republic of Kazakhstan



L-R - Chief Justice Veerapol Tungsuwan, Mrs Chua Siew San, Justice Andrew Phang



L-R - Justice Andrew Phang and Justice Athikom Intuputi

Institutional Exchanges

UK Judicial College

2 March 2016 | Northamptonshire, England

The SJC had an institutional exchange with the UK Judicial College at the Highgate House. Besides sharing the work of the SJC in developing better judicial education, Judicial Commissioner Foo Chee Hock (Dean, SJC) and District Judge Tan Boon Heng (Executive Director, SJC) introduced the International Framework for Court Excellence to the representatives of the UK Judicial College, including Judge John Philips (Courts Judiciary Director of Studies), Ms Sheridan Greenland (Executive Director) and Ms Michelle Austin who oversees leadership and management training of the judges. The UK Judicial College presented its judicial education initiatives post-2011 and latest thinking on pedagogy, in particular a skills-based approach to continuing judicial education.

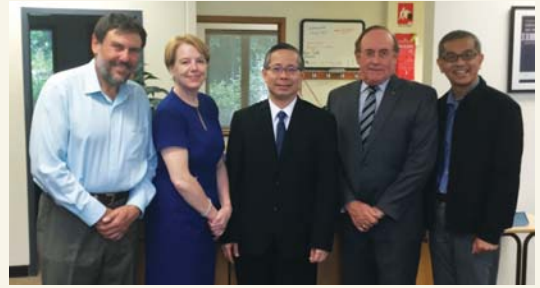


L-R - Justice Haddon-Cave, Judicial Commissioner Foo Chee Hock

Judicial Commission, National Judicial College of Australia and Judicial College of Victoria

14 – 17 March 2016 | Canberra and Melbourne, Australia

Judicial Commissioner Foo Chee Hock (Dean, SJC) and District Judge Tan Boon Heng (Executive Director, SJC) attended the Asia-Pacific Judicial Educators' Meeting, hosted by the National Judicial College of Australia in Canberra. District Judge Tan presented "Judicial Education: The Singapore Brand". They also took the opportunity to participate and share experiences in an institutional exchange with the Judicial Commission of the New South Wales (NSW). In addition, Judicial Commissioner Foo participated in an institutional exchange with the Judicial College of Victoria (Melbourne).



L-R - Mr Ken Grime (Acting CEO, National Judicial College, Australia), Judicial Commissioner Foo Chee Hock



L-R - Judicial Commissioner Foo Chee Hock, Mr Ernie Schmatt (CEO, Judicial Commission NSW)



L-R - Ms Samantha Burchell (CEO, Judicial College of Victoria), Judicial Commissioner Foo Chee Hock

International Alumni



Since 2015

more than



foreign judges and officials

from more than



attended one or more of the courses
conducted by the SJC

- | | | | |
|--------------|------------|------------------|------------------------------|
| Azerbaijan | Indonesia | Oman | Sudan |
| Bahamas | Japan | Palestine | Swaziland |
| Bahrain | Jordan | Pakistan | Taiwan |
| Bangladesh | Kazakhstan | Palau | Tanzania |
| Belize | Kiribati | Panama | Thailand |
| Bhutan | Lao PDR | Papua New Guinea | Timor-Leste |
| Brunei | Latvia | Philippines | Trinidad and Tobago |
| Cambodia | Liberia | Qatar | Tunisia |
| China | Lithuania | Romania | Uganda |
| Cook Islands | Malaysia | Saint Lucia | Ukraine |
| Egypt | Maldives | Serbia | United Arab Emirates (Dubai) |
| Fiji | Mauritius | Seychelles | Uzbekistan |
| Grenada | Micronesia | Slovak Republic | Vietnam |
| Guyana | Myanmar | Solomon Islands | Zambia |
| Hong Kong | Nepal | Sri Lanka | Zimbabwe |
| India | Nigeria | | |

Visits by Distinguished Guests

Date	Details
1 Apr 2015	Mr Kairat Mami Chairman of the Supreme Court of the Republic of Kazakhstan, H.E. Yerlan Baudarbek-Kozhatayev, Ambassador of the Republic of Kazakhstan to the Republic of Singapore, and delegation from the Judiciary
8 May 2015	Mr Montri Sillapamahabundit Judge and Secretary of the Court of Appeal Region, and delegation from the Thai Judiciary
29 May 2015	Mr Cho Inyong Judge, Director of Planning and Cooperation, Supreme Court of Korea, and delegation from the Judiciary
30 Jun 2015	Mr Kanagasabapathy Sripavan Chief Justice of Sri Lanka
10 Jul 2015	Mr Tomas Wodak Retired County Court Judge, Australia
29 Jul 2015	Mr Mohamed Chande Othman Chief Justice of Tanzania, and delegation
18 Aug 2015	Mr Chen Zexian Professor, Director of Institute of International Law, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, and delegates
25 Sep 2015	Mr Tsai Ching-Hsiang President, Taiwan Academy for the Judiciary, Ministry of Justice, and delegates
26 Oct 2015	Mr Wang Lansheng Deputy Director-General, IT Center of the Supreme People's Court of China, and delegates
27 Oct 2015	Mrs Le Thi Thu Ba Minister, Member of the Executive Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam, and delegates
30 Oct 2015	Dr Sa'ad Mufleh Khalid Al Louzi and Mr Natheer Shihadeh Judges, Amman Court of First Instance Administrative Court, Jordan
25 Nov 2015	Mr Kwon Chang-hwan Judge, Goyang Branch of Uijeongbu District Court of Korea, and delegates
26 Nov 2015	Mr Anthony Gates Chief Justice of Fiji
27 Jan 2016	Mr Masayuki Nagata Personnel Affairs Bureau, General Secretariat, Supreme Court of Japan
26 Feb 2016	Dame Janice M. Pereira Chief Justice of the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court, and delegates
2 Mar 2016	Mr Bounkeut Sangsomsak Minister, Lao PDR Ministry of Justice, and delegates
22 May 2016	Mr Ilyas Saparbekovich Ispanov Chief of Dept for Provision of Courts' Activities, Supreme Court of Kazakhstan, and delegates
27 May 2016	Mr Abdullah Saeed Chief Justice, Supreme Court of the Maldives
13 Jun 2016	Mr Zhou Jiye Vice President, Jiangsu High People's Court, China, and delegates
22 Jun 2016	Mr Nguyễn Trí Tuệ Senior Judge/Member of Judge Council, Supreme People's Court of Vietnam, and delegates

Training Calendar 2017

Category	Date	Title	Instructor(s)
Local Wing			
Bench Skills	9 Feb	Memory Distortion and the Implications of Memory Issues for Eyewitness Testimony	Dr Rebecca Nichols, Nanyang Technological University, University Scholars Programme Department, Department Member
	2 Mar	Challenges in Evaluating Child Witness Testimony	Dr Rebecca Nichols, Nanyang Technological University, University Scholars Programme Department, Department Member
	9 May	Judicial Intervention in Proceedings, the Dreaded and Desired: Through the Practitioners' Lenses	Panellists: (1) Ms Molly Lim, SC (2) Mr Tan Chee Meng, SC (3) Mr Chan Leng Sun, SC
	11-12 May	Judgment Writing Workshop	(1) Judicial Commissioner Foo Chee Hock, Dean, SJC (2) District Judge Tan Boon Heng, Executive Director, SJC (3) Others
	28-29 Sep	Assessing Credibility of Witnesses Workshop	(1) Judicial Commissioner Foo Chee Hock, Dean, SJC (2) District Judge Tan Boon Heng, Executive Director, SJC (3) Others
Legal Development	5 Jan	Highlights of Civil Procedure 2016	District Judge Tan Boon Heng, Executive Director, SJC
	7 Feb	Singapore's Wildlife Protection Laws and the Regulation of Transnational Trade in Endangered Species	Professor Lye Lin Heng, Director, Asia-Pacific Centre for Environmental Law (APCEL), National University of Singapore
	14 Feb	Copyright Law: Clarifying Core Concepts	Dr Burton Ong, Associate Professor, Faculty of Law, National University of Singapore
	6 Mar	Latest Developments in Cross-Border Insolvency and Restructuring	(1) Judicial Commissioner Aedit Abdullah, Supreme Court (2) Judicial Commissioner Kannan Ramesh, Supreme Court
	16 Mar	Recent Developments in the Law of Contractual Interpretation and Illegality in Singapore and the United Kingdom	Panellists: (1) Justice Andrew Phang, Judge of Appeal (2) Sir Bernard Rix, International Judge, Singapore International Commercial Court (3) Associate Professor Goh Yihan, School of Law, Singapore Management University
	23 Mar	Lessons from Atypical Sentences in Recent Years	(1) District Judge Kessler Soh, State Courts (2) District Judge Lim Keng Yeow, State Courts
	28 Mar	Directors' Duties and Liabilities - Developments and Trends	(1) Associate Professor Lee Pey Woon, School of Law, Singapore Management University (2) Associate Professor Pearlie Koh, School of Law, Singapore Management University
	11 Apr	Criminalising Copyright Infringement in Singapore	Professor Ng-Loy Wee Loon, Senior Counsel (Honoris Causa), Faculty of Law, National University of Singapore
	25 May	Family Justice Rules: Some Notable Differences from Rules of Civil Procedure	(1) District Judge Tan Shin Yi, Family Justice Courts (2) District Judge Yarni Loi, Family Justice Courts
	17 Jul	The Proper Purpose Rule: Directors' Duties & Powers	Professor Hans Tjio, Co-Director, Centre for Banking & Finance Law, Faculty of Law, National University of Singapore
Judicial Ethics	31 Aug	"The Rule in Browne v Dunn"	Justice Vinodh Coomaraswamy, Supreme Court
	20 Jul	Unpacking Judicial Arrogance	Panellists: (1) Chief Justice Sundaresh Menon (2) Justice Chao Hick Tin, Judge of Appeal, Supreme Court (3) Justice Judith Prakash, Judge of Appeal, Supreme Court
Social Awareness	17 Jan	Mindfulness & Empathy	(1) Dr Choo Wei Chieh, Mindfulness Instructor, Lifesteps Pte Ltd (2) Ms Sheryl Bathman, Director, Counsellor & Psychotherapist, MBSR Programme Instructor, Lifesteps Pte Ltd
	20 Apr	Crime Trends Briefing	Heads from the Criminal Investigation Department, Singapore Police Force
	21 Jul	Social Awareness Seminar Relating to Court Management of Child and/or Family Issues	to be announced

Category	Date	Title	Instructor(s)
Technology & Sciences	24 Jan	Marks & Prints: The Lines and Patterns that Establish the Missing Links in Crimes	Dr Alaric Koh, Acting Deputy Laboratory Director, Forensic Chemistry & Physics Laboratory, Health Sciences Authority
	21 Mar	Trace Evidence: Nothing Is Too Small In the Eyes Of the Court – Let the Microscopic Witnesses Speak For Themselves	Mr Lim Thiam Bon, Acting Division Director, Forensic Chemistry & Physics Laboratory, Health Sciences Authority
	4 May	The Changing Drug Scene and the Chasing Game	Ms Wendy Lim, Acting Laboratory Director, Illicit Drugs Laboratory, Health Sciences Authority
	25 Jul	Statistics and Measurements in Drug Analysis	Ms Merula Mangudi, Deputy Laboratory Director, Illicit Drugs Laboratory, Health Sciences Authority
	26 Sep	The Science Behind Analytical Toxicology	Dr Yao Yi Ju, Division Director, Analytical Toxicology Division, Health Sciences Authority
Court Leadership	14-15 Sep	Court Leadership Colloquium	(1) Judicial Commissioner Foo Chee Hock, Dean, SJC (2) District Judge Tan Boon Heng, Executive Director, SJC (3) Others
Judicial Resilience	2 Feb	Judicial Occupational Hazards	(1) District Judge Lim Choi Ming, Family Justice Courts (2) Mr Raymond Chong, Senior Counsellor (Counselling and Psychological Services), Family Justice Courts
	18 Apr	Developing Judicial Self-Discipline	Panellists: (1) Judicial Commissioner See Kee Oon, Presiding Judge, State Courts (2) Judicial Commissioner Valerie Thean, Presiding Judge, Family Justice Courts (3) Registrar Vincent Hoong, Supreme Court
	27 Jun	Judicial Wellness	Justice Chao Hick Tin, Judge of Appeal, Supreme Court
Special Programmes	14-15 Mar	International Judicial Educators' Workshop	(1) Judicial Commissioner Foo Chee Hock, Dean, SJC (2) District Judge Tan Boon Heng, Executive Director, SJC
	31 Oct-3 Nov	Judiciary-Wide Induction Programme for Newly Appointed Judicial Commissioners and Judicial Officers	Organised by the SJC
International Wing			
	20-22 Feb	eFiling Workshop for the Fiji Judiciary, Fiji	(1) Judicial Commissioner Foo Chee Hock, Dean, SJC (2) District Judge Tan Boon Heng, Executive Director, SJC
	14-15 Mar	International Judicial Educators' Workshop, Singapore	(1) Judicial Commissioner Foo Chee Hock, Dean, SJC (2) District Judge Tan Boon Heng, Executive Director, SJC
	3-7 Apr	Strategies of Case Management: Challenges, Solutions and Innovation, Singapore	(1) Judicial Commissioner Foo Chee Hock, Dean, SJC (2) District Judge Tan Boon Heng, Executive Director, SJC
	25-28 Apr	International Framework for Court Excellence, Cambodia	District Judge Tan Boon Heng, Executive Director, SJC
	16-19 May	International Framework for Court Excellence, Myanmar	District Judge Tan Boon Heng, Executive Director, SJC
	30 May-2 Jun	International Framework for Court Excellence, Lao PDR	District Judge Tan Boon Heng, Executive Director, SJC
	20-23 Jun	International Framework for Court Excellence, Vietnam	District Judge Tan Boon Heng, Executive Director, SJC
	10-14 Jul	End-to-End Court Technology, Singapore	(1) Judicial Commissioner Foo Chee Hock, Dean, SJC (2) District Judge Tan Boon Heng, Executive Director, SJC (3) Others
	21-25 Aug	Leadership in Court Governance	(1) Judicial Commissioner Foo Chee Hock, Dean, SJC (2) District Judge Tan Boon Heng, Executive Director, SJC
	28-29 Sep	Assessing Credibility of Witnesses Workshop, Singapore	(1) Judicial Commissioner Foo Chee Hock, Dean, SJC (2) District Judge Tan Boon Heng, Executive Director, SJC
	31 Oct-3 Nov	Judiciary-Wide Induction Programme for Newly Appointed Judicial Commissioners and Judicial Officers, Singapore	Organised by the SJC

Note: This forecast is subject to approval and changes.

Bouquets

The programme was an eye opener on how to improve the administration of justice in order to better serve our people. It provided a new way of looking at things and new approaches which can be adopted.

Nirmala Devat
Puisne Judge, Judiciary of Mauritius
"End-to-End Court Technology"
(2016)

The programmes you have lined up for the international community in the field of law are very relevant. To hear first-hand the experiences of our ASEAN members and the other western/eastern countries really spells the difference.

Fernando Sagun, Jr
Executive Judge, Regional Trial Court,
Quezon City, Philippines
"Court Dispute Resolution: A One-Stop Judicial Training on Alternative Dispute Resolution"
(2016)

I want to...express my gratitude to the providers of the course, members of the SJC, for the friendship and knowledge I gained by sharing our individual and collective experiences. It was a wonderful week both within and outside the seminar rooms. I do look forward to hearing from you all and that we all continue to share our experiences.

Shiraz Aziz
Resident Judge, Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECs) Supreme Court
"Strategies of Case Management"
(2016)

The course has been very well organised and we enjoyed it. I hope that this is a good start for international co-operations among ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) judicial bodies.

Patma Thoomma Chanyapoon
Judge of the Research Justice Division,
Supreme Court of Thailand
"Court Dispute Resolution: A One-Stop Judicial Training on Alternative Dispute Resolution"
(2016)

The areas of training covered by SJC are interesting, varied and extensive. I found the panel sessions chaired by the Chief Justice to be most beneficial and enriching.

Victor Yeo
District Judge / Principal Director
Strategic Planning and Technology
Division, State Courts of
Singapore

Everything was perfectly organised. The instructors were friendly, hospitable and extremely competent.

Oleksiy Ivanov
Head, Support Department of the Fourth
Court Chamber, Ukraine
"End-to-End Court Technology"
(2016)

I think that SJC is doing a great job. The range of courses is very wide such that there is at the very least one course that would interest everyone.

Wong Peck
District Judge/ Group Manager,
State Courts of Singapore

...what I found especially useful and interesting were the sessions in which personal practices experience and tips for handling cases were shared...There are not that many opportunities for us to learn from senior members of the Bench or Bar, and I would be interested in similar sessions moving forward.

Wong Baochen
Assistant Registrar, Supreme
Court of Singapore

It's been a great learning experience for me personally. This training will definitely benefit all the participating countries in bringing about reforms in the Judiciary and ultimately the citizens will reap the fruits of Justice. All this was possible because of the SJC.

Sonam Gyeltshen
District Judge, District Court of Paro, Bhutan
"End-to-End Court Technology"
(2016)

I would like to take this chance to express my heartfelt gratitude for the opportunity to be part of this programme. The 5-day stint has been nothing short of amazing. Aside from the insurmountable knowledge and exposure gained, I have also formed valuable friendships. It is my prayer that the friendships do not end the second we board our planes homebound.

Yasmin Abdul Razak
Deputy Registrar, The Court of
Appeal of Malaysia
"Strategies of Case Management"
(2016)

It is an important facilitative avenue. It helped participants (Judicial Officers) from developing countries to interact and work under very able and efficient workshop facilitators.

Ibrahim Hamisi Juma
Judge of Appeal of Tanzania
"End-to-End Court Technology"
(2016)

This programme has been very well planned, designed and structured. I am fully satisfied with the content and management of the programme.

Ahmad Kamar Bin Jamaludin
Judicial Officer, Malacca Sessions Court,
Malaysia
"End-to-End Court Technology"
(2016)

Local Collaborations



Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Technical Cooperation
Directorate



Ministry of Law



Singapore Cooperation
Enterprise



Civil Service College



Civil Service College
International

International Collaborations



National Judicial College
of Australia



NATIONAL JUDICIAL INSTITUTE
INSTITUT NATIONAL DE LA
MAGISTRATURE

National Judicial Institute
(Canada)



JUDICIAL
COLLEGE

Judicial College (UK)



Office of the Judiciary,
Kingdom of Thailand



Academy of Justice under
the Supreme Court of the
Republic of Kazakhstan



Dubai International
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Resolution Authority
Academy of Law

Memberships



International Organisation for Judicial Training



International Consortium for Court Excellence

Acknowledgements

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IN CONSULTATION WITH

Chief Justice Sundaresh Menon
Justice Andrew Phang, Judge of Appeal

WITH WARMEST APPRECIATION TO

Every stakeholder, partner and alumnus who has
contributed in one way or another to the work of the SJC
and this Annual Report 2016

Setting the Pace



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