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Yong Pung How School of Law

1-2021

Foreword

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Citation

GOH, Yihan. Foreword. (2021). *Singapore Law Journal (Lexicon)*. 1, iv-v.

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FOREWORD

Professor Goh Yihan, SC Dean, School of Law, Singapore Management University

The editorial team of the Singapore Law Journal must be one of the bravest group of people around. I say this because it takes much effort to start a law journal and then sustain it thereafter. Despite knowing the immense challenges ahead, the editorial team decided to go ahead with the journal, convinced that it will be a welcome addition to academic legal literature. With their enthusiasm and energy, I have every confidence that they will succeed and that the Singapore Law Journal will become an important addition to the academic landscape.

The Singapore Law Journal is born out of Lexicon, a student-run online publication that was started with the aim of promoting academic discourse amongst SMU students. In the three years since Lexicon has been set up, it has grown from strength to strength, gaining much visibility in the process. The team at Lexicon – which is now the editorial team of the Singapore Law Journal – wanted to take their ambitions to the next level, and that is the genesis of the Singapore Law Journal.

As is clear, the Singapore Law Journal is a student-run journal. The concept of such a journal is not new. Indeed, many law schools have their own student-run journal. For example, our sister law school, the National University of Singapore's Faculty of Law, publishes the Singapore Law Review. Our other sister law school, the Singapore University of Social Sciences School of Law has Legal Scribes. All told, the local space appears to be quite crowded. But despite that, I believe that there is always scope for another student-run law journal (or a law journal, for that matter). The diversity of academic discourse has always been its lifeblood; it is through constructive debates found in the pages of academic journals that big ideas in the law get developed, leading ultimately to practical ideas that shape the law as it is practised. The articles in the Singapore Law Journal will no doubt contribute to that discourse, and provide a new avenue for academics, lawyers and students alike to share their thoughts through its pages.

But more than simply a platform for academic discourse, the Singapore Law Journal is a labour of love borne out of passion and enthusiasm found in the next generation of lawyers we have at SMU School of Law. We should never underestimate the enthusiasm of youth, and the impact that desire to make a difference can make. I have every confidence that, under the able leadership of the editorial team, the Singapore Law

Journal will become SMU's flagship law journal and encourage students to write and participate in the debates within its pages. Indeed, the very first issue of the journal contains some thought-provoking articles and commentaries that will surely add to the richness of academic discourse about Singapore law.

This journal also exemplifies the strong support that SMU faculty has for its student endeavours. Thanks are due to Professor Gary Chan, Associate Professors Alvin See and Chen Siyuan, as well as Assistant Professors Kenny Chng and Benjamin Ong for their support for the journal. I would also like to thank the Supreme Court for allowing the journal to republish three student case briefs previously published as part of SMU Lexicon's collaboration with the Supreme Court, where SMU law students report on selected Court of Appeal judgments.

I would like to extend my heartiest congratulations to the editorial team, as well as the team's faculty advisor, Senior Lecturer Ong Ee Ing, for working so hard to bring the Singapore Law Journal to fruition. Their bravery will no doubt be rewarded with every success in this new journal.