



Lunchtime Talk: A Career in Public International Law: International Criminal Litigation & Rule of Law Advocacy

Brief Synopsis: Litigation or corporate law – are these the only two avenues available to a law student seeking to practice law after graduation? What is international criminal litigation? What is the Universal Periodic Review at the United Nations? What are legal interventions such as amicus briefs, field research, trial observations, capacity building exercises and court submissions? Why are international political and rule of law developments, including law reform initiatives, increasingly relevant to the work of lawyers? The speaker hopes to provide some important insights into the career of a public international lawyer by sharing her journey from a private practice litigator in Singapore to an international lawyer, advocating for the protection and promotion of the rule of law, at the United Nations and in various developing countries such as Burma, Cambodia, Colombia and Zimbabwe.

Event Details

Date:	24 January 2018, Wednesday
Time:	1300H to 1400H (Please do not be late) Lunch will be provided.
Venue:	Blk B, 4 th Level, Seminar Room 4-2 National University of Singapore, Faculty of Law
Registration:	https://tinyurl.com/y8pp9g5f

SPEAKER



Vani Sathisan
Advocate & Solicitor
Supreme Court of Singapore

Vani Sathisan is an Advocate & Solicitor of the Supreme Court of Singapore who had trained in commercial and criminal litigation at Drew & Napier LLC. Before studying law at NUS, Vani graduated from Middlebury College as a Shelby Davis United World College Scholar with a B.A. in Political Science. She founded an on-campus student organization 'Dialogues for Peace' that led political discussions between students and Pulitzer-prize winning journalists and politicians; spent 6 months in Washington D.C. examining foreign affairs issues through direct interaction with ambassadors, lobbyists, and State Department officials; and discussed post-conflict development and transitional justice with the Heads of State of Bosnia, Serbia and Croatia.

Throughout law school and private practice, she worked as a pro bono litigation associate assisting an international litigation team to represent survivors of mass crimes at the United Nations-backed Khmer Rouge Tribunal in Cambodia. She also undertook research on Business and Human Rights issues in Southeast Asia before moving to Burma, where she was based for 3 years as the International Legal Adviser for the International Commission of Jurists (ICJ).

Vani co-led the ICJ's first office in Burma and worked closely with the Executive, Legislature, and Judiciary, as well as with various UN Special Rapporteurs and Working Groups, on responsible investment issues. Some of her work included training the Supreme Court judges on drafting and implementing a Judicial Code of Conduct in line with the Bangalore Principles; training prosecutors from the Attorney-General's Office on Bilateral Investment Treaties and Public Policy; building the capacity of national Bar Associations; and briefing diplomatic missions in Geneva, Bangkok and Rangoon and presenting at the UN Human Rights Council.

Vani just completed her LLM in International Law at the School of Oriental and African Studies in London on a Chevening Scholarship funded by the British Foreign and Commonwealth Office.