

Annex – Award recipients

THE PRO BONO LEADERSHIP AWARD

For outstanding leadership and contribution by a law student towards pro bono work on a sustained basis, where the leadership has led to significant developments in pro bono opportunities for law students.

(1) Ong Kye Jing, Class of 2021

The Recourse Initiative (Formerly known as the Innocence Project Singapore)
NUS Pro Bono Office In-Person Deputyship Programme
Moot Parliament Programme, NUS Pro Bono Group

Kye Jing is a stand-out as an Executive Committee member and Research Director of The Recourse Initiative, under which convicted persons may request a further investigation into their convictions. As an Exco member, his primary responsibility is to manage cases, and supervise the work of fellow law students in following-up on enquiries. As Research Director, he keeps members up-to-date on legal developments.

Kye Jing has managed and supervised eight cases for the Recourse Initiative. He helped to design and execute an admissions-cum-training programme for new members, attending nearly every training session over two runs of the programme. He has also drafted a new application form, and handles the file management of the project.

Additionally, Kye Jing has worked on the In-Person Deputyship Programme, where in a particularly complex matter, he and his team met and corresponded with the litigants-in-person to properly address the complexities that arose, including a deviation from standard court orders.

Apart from these two projects, Kye Jing has also engaged in other projects, achieves top grades in school, and wins moots and oral advocacy competitions.

(2) Joseph Lim Weisheng, Class of 2019

NUS Pro Bono Office In-Person Deputyship Programme

Joseph was Co-ordinator of the NUS Pro Bono Office In-Person Deputyship Programme, where NUS Law students work with litigants-in-person to prepare applications for deputyship for family members with mental incapacity. NUS Law students help to vet the documents prepared by the litigants-in-person, and after the documents are given the final approval by qualified lawyers, NUS Law students accompany the litigants-in-person to file the documents, and then to Court for the hearing.

Joseph has been an outstanding coordinator of the project, guiding his teammates and working on applications from the Down Syndrome Association (DSA), MINDS and Bishan Home. He also engages hands-on with some of the applications. He is a committed, industrious, and dependable leader who has been able to handle and resolve emergencies faced by his fellow law students.

(3) Sandra Faith Angelica Tan, Class of 2020
NUS Pro Bono Office In-Person Deputyship Programme
Deputyship Guidebook Project

Sandra has been working on the In-Person Deputyship Programme since 2017. She currently leads a group of 12 students on deputyship applications for MINDS, and is grooming the next batch of student leaders.

She stepped up to head the development of the Deputyship Guidebook project, coordinating among students to put together a resource that is intended to help litigants-in-person when they embark on a deputyship application on their own.

(4) Choo Qian Ke, Class of 2021
NUS Pro Bono Group

As President of the NUS Pro Bono Group, Qian Ke has shown exemplary leadership. She is hands-on and meticulous, and takes personal attention over the club's many and varied events, with a particular focus on promoting the activities of the club locally and internationally.

While juggling her studies as a double degree student and also engaging in moots competitions, Qian Ke has been a key leader in two international collaborative events – Thai-Ed with Love 2019, a collaboration with Thammasat University Faculty of Law, and the NUS-Chulalongkorn Law School Pro Bono Collaboration in Nan Province, both of which took place in 2019. Qian Ke is also spearheading the NUS Pro Bono Group's first international conference, a Regional Student Pro Bono Conference in collaboration with the Asian International Law Student's Association.

(5) Shawn Callen Kua Shao, Class of 2019
NUS Pro Bono Office In-Person Deputyship Programme

Shawn received the Special Recognition Award in 2018 for his work in the In-Person Deputyship Programme. He has continued to work on the programme, even in his final year, and has worked on many cases for MINDS and DSA. Together with Sandra, he has led teams of students in many deputyship applications, guiding them in their learning and provision of service to litigants-in-person.

(6) Thomas Lee Chee Seng, Class of 2021
Military Justice Project

The Criminal Justice Club's Military Justice Project (MJP) is focused on raising awareness of military law, and the development of legal aid for military law cases. As Head of the MJP, Thomas has led the group to maximise outreach and effectiveness.

Besides juggling his studies as a double-degree student, Thomas initiated a campus exhibition on military justice, with a view to expanding the outreach to schools to educate soon-to-be servicemen on what common mistakes to avoid, as well as to increase their awareness on their legal rights.

Thomas also led the MJP to the completion of headnotes of unreported Military Court of Appeal, which allows Defending Officers better access to such crucial materials to better represent accused servicemen before the Military Courts. These headnotes are due to be published before the end of 2019.

- (7) **Zachary Tan Yung Kiang, Class of 2021**
(8) **Lenon Ong Yuan Zheng**
NUS-Rajah & Tann PDPA Compliance Assistance Scheme

The NUS-Rajah & Tann PDPA Compliance Assistance Scheme is a pro bono project where, under the supervision of NUS Law academics and volunteer lawyers from Rajah & Tann, NUS Law students work with charities to understand and develop PDPA compliant practices in their daily operations. This includes close interaction with the charities to understand their operational needs, their interactions with the community, volunteers and other agencies, their approach to the collection, use, and disclosure of personal data, and the development of forms and training workshops to assist the charities to approach their work with a sensitivity to the needs of the protection of personal data.

As the student leaders of the PDPA project, Lenon and Zachary kept the team updated on the latest developments regarding the PDPA, and led team members on projects with the SPCA, the Singapore Christian Home, Diabetes Singapore, Justice Without Borders and the National Volunteer & Philanthropy Centre.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD

This is awarded to students who have demonstrated a commitment to and passion for pro bono work in a sustained manner. Student leaders who receive this award have gone beyond the demands of their office to lead and inspire. Recipients also include students who have shown persistent effort, commitment and a passion towards providing pro bono services.

- (1) **Mitchell Leon Siu Kin, Class of 2021**
The Recourse Initiative (Formerly known as the Innocence Project Singapore)

As Head of the Recourse Initiative, Mitchell has lead the team to an up-scaling of operations. Mitchell led a team that was invited to an international conference hosted by the Taiwan Innocence Project to share the work of the Recourse Initiative. He is also working on building networks with the Singapore Management University's School of Law and the State Courts.

- (2) **Lau Chung Kit, Darryl, Class of 2021**
The Recourse Initiative (Formerly known as the Innocence Project Singapore)

Under Darryl's leadership, the work of the Recourse Initiative has been facilitated by improved communications with partner institutions such as the Criminal Legal Aid Scheme and the Singapore Prison Service. While still supervising and guiding junior law students in their review of cases, Darryl has improved the scheduling of prison visits, and increased the opportunities for more requests from convicted persons to be followed-up.

- (3) **Jolyn Chee, Class of 2021**
NUS Pro Bono Group

Jolyn leads the Events sub-Committee of the NUS Pro Bono Group, and supports many legal clinics. She organised the Freestyle Event for the NUS Pro Bono Group as a first year to spread awareness in the struggles of rehabilitation of ex-offenders to the rest of NUS Law. Her enthusiasm and attitude makes her a source of inspiration for other members of the NUS Pro Bono Group.

- (4) Ho Kok Hean Benjamin, Class of 2021**
NUS Pro Bono Group
NUS Pro Bono Office In-Person Deputyship Programme

Benjamin leads the University Court Friends project and is a key member of the NUS Pro Bono Group Executive Committee. The University Court Friends project is a collaboration with the Community Justice Center (CJC). Benjamin coordinates NUS student volunteers with the CJC. He had also participated in the NUS Pro Bono Office In-Person Deputyship Programme. In performing these roles, Benjamin was a committed and dependable team player whose enthusiasm and attitude was a source of inspiration for his peers.

- (5) Nur Afiqah bte Md Ashefjah, Class of 2021**
NUS Pro Bono Group
NUS Pro Bono Office In-Person Deputyship Programme

Nur Afiqah has been active in both the NUS Pro Bono Group and the In-Person Deputyship Programme. In particular, she has coordinated a significant event, the first Legal Awareness talk on Lasting Powers of Attorney for the Malay-Muslim community at the Jamiyah Nursing Home.

THE PRO BONO MENTOR AWARD

This award recognises an outstanding supporter of NUS Law students' efforts in pro bono, including but not limited to acting as legally qualified supervisors on student pro bono activities.

RANJIT SINGH

Mr Ranjit Singh is a former Military Prosecutor in the Singapore Armed Forces (SAF) who has provided invaluable advice and mentorship to the MJP's Defending Officer Guidebook project – an ambitious project which intends to provide a comprehensive guide of military law and procedure for Defending Officers in the SAF.