

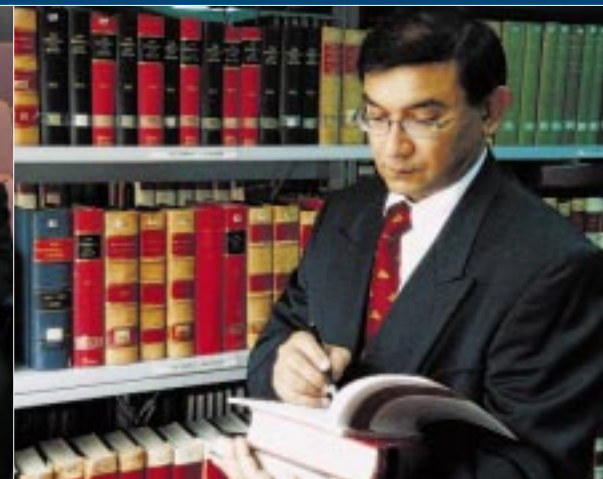
KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT AND KNOWLEDGE SHARING



Librarians at work



Listening to a lecture



District Judge doing legal research



(from left to right):

Ms Nooraeni Ahmad, Librarian, **Ms Siti Fatimah**, Library Officer, and **Ms Rosyati Ahmad**, Senior Library Officer



Judicial officers at lunchtime meetings

Judicial officers in discussion

Shelving books

The Research and Resource Centre

The Subordinate Courts Research and Resource Centre (RRC) contains a vast and comprehensive range of books – ranging from law reports published both locally and in foreign jurisdictions, books on law, philosophy, politics, performance management, business, economics, and a multitude of other disciplines. In addition, the RRC stocks numerous magazines and periodicals on legal developments and current affairs. The RRC also has online research facilities, in the form of CD-ROMs, as well as links to major law libraries around the world. This year, online services were developed to enable the RRC to provide information and services to the Judicial Officers, Subordinate Courts' staff and lawyers electronically. The arrival of new publications, for example, are now announced via the online services system.

Continuing Education

The e-Justice Judges' Corridor

The e-Justice Corridor is an online chatroom where members of the judiciary and court administrators from all over the world can enter to exchange views on legal and court administration issues. In 2001, enlightening discussions over the Corridor were carried out on topics such as judicial education, court budgets, and the role of a judge in civil society.

Currently, more than 150 judges and court administrators from 30 countries participate in the e-Justice Judges' Corridor.

Extracts from the e-Justice Corridor in the year 2001

As is our tradition in the e-Justice Corridor, I invite a robust and engaging response from you.

Senior District Judge Richard Magnus, Singapore

I am one of the puisne judges of the Supreme Court of South Australia. I have a particular interest in the topic of Continuing Judicial Education, both as a consequence of a long involvement in the activities of the Australian Institute of Judicial Education and also because of certain responsibilities which I have in relation to the strategic development of the unified courts administration system in this State.

It is an honour to have been requested to initiate and moderate a discussion of the theme of Judicial Education within the e-Judges' Corridor.

Justice Trevor Olsson, Supreme Court of South Australia

In a multiracial, multifait, multicultural society like ours, it is important for our judges to be well-informed about the community we serve, even if the various elements within the society appear to co-exist peacefully. Our awareness of contemporary norms, sensitivities and issues, as well as the way we deal with each individual appearing in our courts will affect the overall public perception of the quality of justice. We cannot afford to be isolated.

District Judge See Kee Oon, Singapore



(from left)

District Judge Irene Wu, Civil Justice Division

District Judge Malcolm Tan, Criminal Justice Division

I am very grateful for having access to this discussion and hope to get even more information from all different participating countries.

I will explain: I am an Austrian judge, appointed as international judge with the UN, currently working in Kosovo. Here we just start with the establishment of a code of ethics for judges, alternatives, new laws, etc. most important training for judges. I am therefore printing everything all of you are contributing, to bring it to the judicial services, drafting programmes.

So please, send everything you have! Thanks very very much!
Renate Winter, Kosovo

This hi-tech discussion forum was a new experience for me, as it was for most of you. It has proven an ideal way for allowing judges and magistrates from all over the world to brainstorm issues – in this case Restorative Justice. It has proven to be an exceptional learning tool, allowing all of us to garner new ideas and techniques.

Dr Willie McCarney (Lay Magistrate, Vice-President of the International Association of Youth and Family Judges and Magistrates) Northern Ireland

e-Learning

This year two video-conference sessions for judicial officers have been conducted in the evening, after office hours, with Professor Frank Sander of the Harvard Law School Conflict Management Group on the topic of mediation. Another two video-conference lectures-cum-discussions were held, also in the evening, after office hours, with Professor David Thomas, Q.C., a renowned criminal practitioner and academic, on sentencing issues.

A video-conference on the topic of domestic violence was held in May this year, which was attended by senior officers from the Corporate Services Department, as well as by the Director of the Family Court Conciliation and Resolution Unit. The speaker was Ms Lynn Levey, a research associate for the Research



Using online research facilities



At the Research and Resource Centre



The Key Elements in concert

Division of the National Centre for State Courts/Institute for Court Management. Her work focuses on improving the justice system in relation to family violence. She is also currently an adjunct professor at the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, V.A., United States of America. Due to the time difference, the video-conference was held at Singapore time 3:00 to 4:15 am.

External Education and Training Programmes

Judicial officers have been sponsored by the Subordinate Courts to attend external courses, both locally and overseas:

- District Judge Mavis Chionh attended the two-week Harvard Programme of Instruction for Lawyers in June 2001.
- Registrar Lau Wing Yum attended the Senior Management Programme in April/May 2001. This programme was conducted by the Institute of Public Administration and Management, and was based in Singapore, but involved study trips to Finland, Malaysia and Australia.
- District Judges Tan Puay Boon and Ng Peng Hong attended the 4th Leaders in Administration Programme (in Singapore) in September/November 2001.
- District Judge Wong Keen Onn attended the USA: Programme for Management Development, Harvard Business School from September to December 2001.

Other officers have attended local programmes and seminars, including those organised by the Singapore Academy of Law, such as the Technology Law Immersion Programme.

Publications

Judicial Education CD-ROM

The final prototype of the first Subordinate Courts' educational CD-ROM on aspects of civil procedure (summary judgment and injunctions) will be published shortly. Work on the CD-ROM has been ongoing in the year 2001.

Book on Evidence in Criminal Trials

The Subordinate Courts will be publishing a book on evidence in criminal trials. The drafting and editorial work on the book have been ongoing in the year 2001.

The Culture Hub

The Culture Hub was launched this year. The purpose of this scheme is to entrench within the court a psyche of learning and appreciation of the arts. Cultural performances, talks, concerts and musical workshops will be organised at lunchtime, for all Subordinate Courts staff to enjoy. The debut Culture Hub event was a very well-received concert by the acapella group "The Key Elements", who sang familiar pop and jazz songs. Further performances have been lined up for the near future.



(from left to right):

District Judge John Ng, State Coroner, **District Judge Christopher Goh**, Criminal Justice Division, **District Judge See Kee Oon**, Criminal Justice Division, **District Judge Julian Chin**, Deputy Registrar, Civil Justice Division, **District Judge Hoo Sheau Peng**, Criminal Justice Division, **District Judge Siva Shanmugam**, Criminal Justice Division, and **Magistrate Adam Nakhoda**, Deputy Registrar, Civil Justice Division