

Singapore Legal Futures Competition – Rules

Background

On Wednesday, 8 July 2015, more than 300 lawyers, academics and law students gathered in the Supreme Court Auditorium to hear from legal futurists and experts, such as the eminent author Professor Richard Susskind.

These international legal futurists discussed several key trends which will impact the future of law and the profession, such as the relentless advancement of technology, rise of interactive platforms, increasing globalisation, and a more diverse and vocal citizenry. These trends will shift some types of work out of the hands of lawyers and traditional ideas of what lawyers do and what law firms, or even courts, should look like, will change.

What are your views, thoughts and ideas on what the future holds for Singapore's legal profession, its laws and its legal system? Do you have a vision of what our lawyers, firms or institutions should be like in 20 years' time? Where will we be? Where should we be? And how do we get there?

Participants are encouraged to think "out of the box", and to be creative. Present your ideas by video, in any form – a straight presentation, a video montage, a performance — whatever method you feel best portrays your message.

We hope to receive entries which challenge current assumptions and are surprising, yet not improbable. Entries which include interesting policy proposals will also be well received.

1. Eligibility

(1) There are two categories of eligibility:

(a) A "Student Category" with the following criteria:

- (i) The participant is as of 8 July 2015, a Singapore citizen or a Singapore Permanent Resident;
- (ii) The participant is currently a full-time student enrolled in an LLB, GLB, JD, LLM or equivalent programme in an institution of higher learning; and
- (iii) The participant is to enter the Competition on an individual basis only.

(b) An "Open Category" with the following criteria:

- (i) Each participant is as of 8 July 2015, a Singapore citizen or a Singapore Permanent Resident; and
- (ii) Participants may enter the Competition on either an individual or group basis.

- (2) All staff of the Ministry of Law, and persons who are immediate family members of such staff, are not eligible to participate in the Competition.
- (3) For the purposes of these rules, an “immediate family member” refers to any person who is the parent, spouse, sibling, or child of such staff.
- (4) Only one video per participant, or participating group, shall be allowed.

2. Evaluation criteria

Competition entries will be judged on the following criteria (in no order of priority):

- a. originality;
- b. realism;
- c. perceptiveness;
- d. clarity;
- e. relevance to the Competition theme; and
- f. practicality and utility of proposals.

3. Video format

Every video must —

- a. be in English;
- b. be of a maximum duration of 3 minutes;
- c. be of at least HD (720p) resolution;
- d. in a common video format (e.g. mp4, mkv, mov);

4. Submission of entries

- (1) All videos must be uploaded at the following URL: bit.ly/legalfutures15.
**Due to a system limitation, there is a file size limit of 2GB for file uploads.*
- (2) All video uploads are to be followed up by a cover email to “[Legal Futures Comp@mlaw.gov.sg](mailto:Legal_Futures_Comp@mlaw.gov.sg)”, setting out the matters in sub-paragraph (6) below.
- (3) The deadline for submission is 5pm, Wednesday 9 September 2015. Except as provided in sub-paragraph (4), no submissions will be accepted after the deadline.
- (4) At the absolute discretion of the Competition judging panel, submissions after the above deadline arising from technical malfunction may be accepted.
- (5) Participants do not require prior endorsement of their higher institution of learning (where relevant) to participate in the Competition.
- (6) All participants, individual or otherwise, must include the following information in their e-mail submission:

- a. Name(s);
- b. NRIC of participant(s);
- c. E-mail addresses of participant(s);
- d. Mobile telephone number(s) of participant(s);
- e. Date of birth of participant(s);
- f. Nationality of participant(s);
- g. Institution of study and programme enrolled in (for Student Category only);
- h. Year of (expected) graduation of participant (for Student Category only);
- i. File size of the video
- j. File name of the video
- k. Category under which the video is being entered (i.e. Student or Open Category)
- l. The name of the participant who shall act as group representative ¹ (for Open Category group entries only)

5. Original work only

- (1) Each video must be the sole creation and original work of the participant(s). All source materials (e.g. graphics, movie clips, sound files, etcetera) used in the video must be credited where required by the laws of Singapore.
- (2) Participants must not submit a video which is in substance the same as one previously submitted for any other competition.
- (3) The video submitted for this Competition must not be used for any other competition that is launched within the duration of this Competition.

6. Intellectual property

By participating in this Competition, each participant or participating group grants the Government of the Republic of Singapore, care of the Ministry of Law (“MinLaw”), free of charge, a non-exclusive, irrevocable licence to —

- a. use his or her or the group’s video for promotional purposes or any other purpose; and;
- b. use his or her name or the group participants’ names in any advertising or promotional material or in any MinLaw publication,

without permission from or further notice or remuneration to the participant(s).

7. Decisions of the judging panel

All decisions of the Competition judging panel are final and non-appealable, and no correspondence will be entertained.

¹ The designated group representative –

- (i) shall be the designated contact person for any correspondence between MinLaw and the group; and
- (ii) shall be the person to whom any prize money shall be paid, for distribution (or otherwise) amongst the group, as may be decided by the group between themselves.

For the avoidance of doubt, MinLaw shall not be responsible for the distribution of the prize money (or otherwise) by the designated group representative.

8. Disqualification

Any Competition entry may be disqualified if it does not satisfy any of the requirements set out in paragraphs 1, 3, 4 and 5.

9. Prizes

- (1) Only prize winners will be notified via email of the outcome of their participation. In the case of group entries in the Open Category, the group representative will be notified on behalf of the group. All prize winners will be notified by 5pm, Friday 9 October 2015.
- (2) The prizes for each winning video in the “Student Category” are as follows —
 - (a) First prize: S\$500 cash prize and a 4-week internship at one, or more, of the legal divisions of MinLaw, as may be agreed between the prize winner and MinLaw (“the internship”);
 - (b) Second prize: S\$300 cash prize
 - (c) Third prize: S\$200 cash prize
- (3) The prizes for each winning video in the “Open Category” are as follows —
 - (a) First prize: S\$500 cash prize;
 - (b) Second prize: S\$300 cash prize
 - (c) Third prize: S\$200 cash prize.
- (4) For the purposes of these Competition rules, “legal divisions” refers to the Ministry of Law’s Legal Policy Division; International Legal Division; Policy Advisory Division, and Legal Industry Division.
- (5) The internship shall commence within one year from the date of the award of the prize, and at such time as may be agreed between the prize winner and MinLaw.
- (6) All winning entries may in part or in whole, or the link to such winning entries in part or in whole, be published on MinLaw’s corporate website and its related social media platforms.
- (7) The award of all or any of the prizes lies solely within the discretion of the Competition judging panel.
- (8) For the avoidance of doubt, the Competition judging panel reserves the right to decline to award any prize if it deems fit.