

TAN WEI LING STELLA

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Associate Professor Stella Tan has post-graduate qualifications in science and law from NUS, where she was a Dean's Lister at NUS' Law Faculty. She also holds a post-graduate forensic science qualification from the Henry C. Lee Institute of Criminal Justice and Forensic Science, where she graduated top of her postgraduate class under the tutelage of Dr Henry Lee, a renowned forensic expert, in the United States of America. Prior to joining NUS in 2018 as a full-time faculty member, she was a Deputy Senior State Counsel at the Attorney-General's Chambers. Prof Tan was the lead prosecutor for a wide range of cases, including murder, sexual assault and drugs. She also held the appointment of Director (Prosecution and Legal Policy) at the Health Sciences Authority, where she provided legal advice and practical training to forensic experts.

Prof Stella Tan is currently the Director of the Forensic Science undergraduate and post-graduate programmes at the Faculty of Science. She holds concurrent appointments as Senior Director in the Office of Student Conduct and as Assistant Dean (Undergraduate & Student Life) in the Faculty of Science. She has also been involved in the Faculty of Science's Study Abroad Programmes, where she is responsible for academic matters, student selection, and budget. As an accomplished alumnus, she was awarded the NUS Outstanding Young Alumni Award 2007.

She runs modules in both the Faculty of Science and the Faculty of Law. The modules which Prof Tan teaches are as follows: LSM1306 Forensic Science, SP3202 Evidence in Forensic Science, SP4261 Articulating Probability and Statistics in Court, SP4262 Forensic Human Identification, SP4263 Forensic Toxicology and Poisons, SP4264 Criminalistics: Evidence and Proof, SP4265 Criminalistics: Forgery Expose with Forensic Science, SP4266 Forensic Entomology, FSC5199 Research Project in Forensic Science, FSC5101 Survey of Forensic Science, FSC5201 Advanced CSI Techniques, FSC5202 Forensic Defense Science, FSC5203 Digital Forensic Investigation, FSC5204 Forensic Psychiatry and Psychology, FSC5205 Forensic Science in Major Cases and LL4362V/FSC4206 Advanced Criminal Litigation – Forensics On Trial.

She sits on the Restricted Human Research Committee under the Human Biomedical Research Act, and the Mitochondrial Genome Replacement Technology Review Group of the Bioethics Advisory Committee. She is a member of the Selection Committee of the Chao Tzee Cheng Professorship in Pathology and Forensic Science, and is a member of the NUS Alumni Awards Selection Committee. She is also a Deputy Officer-in-Charge in the NUS National Police Cadet Corps and represents Singapore at the ISO Technical Committee 272 for international standards in forensic science.

Prof Stella Tan is also the Principal Investigator of the NUS Forensic Science Laboratory, where her collaborators include the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Singapore Police Force and Central Narcotics Bureau. Her interest in nurturing students won her consecutive Dean's Meritorious Teaching Awards in AYs 2007/2008 and 2009, as well as the Best Supervisor award for Undergraduate Research Opportunities Programme in 2019.

Prof Stella Tan has also published papers in the recent years. A few of the significant publications are "Evaluation of the performance of IND/Zn and DFO on various porous substrates in Singapore context. Forensic Science International" in 2020; "Building an Interactive Immersive Virtual Reality Crime Scene for Future Chemists to Learn Forensic Science Chemistry. Journal of Chemical Education" in 2020 and "Forensic Pedology: From Soil Trace Evidence to Courtroom. In Soil Analysis: Recent Trends and Applications (pp. 305-323). Springer, Singapore." in 2020. She is currently working on a Law and Forensic Science paper titled "Still in Touch: The Relevance of Fingerprint Testing and Evidence in Criminal Cases". Furthermore, she has also co-authored papers on stem cell research, therapeutic cloning and germline modification for the National Bioethics Advisory Committee.

In addition to lecturing at NUS, Prof Stella Tan delivers forensic science lectures at the Singapore Judicial College to Singapore's esteemed Judges. She was also an invited lecturer at the Singapore Academy of Law Forensic Expert Witness and Criminology Course in 2017, 7th Asian Forensic Science Network Symposium in 2015 and Singapore Academy of Law Forensics Conference in 2005.

Besides her academic appointments, Prof Stella Tan has been appointed Hall Master-Designate of Raffles Hall from 1 January 2020, and Hall Master of Raffles Hall from 1 July 2020, where she has been a resident fellow since 2018. She is advisor to the hall's annual musical production and combined hall ensemble concerts as well as other cultural programmes. Together with the Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music, she co-teaches the hall's module on "Exploration in Musical Production". She is also a mentor to the RHcares Programme.