



### **Editor-in-Chief – Phua Chao Rong, Charles**

Phua Chao Rong, Charles is the Editor-in-Chief of Asian Journal of Public Affairs (AJPA) and is a National University of Singapore (NUS) Lee Kong Chian Graduate Scholar and PhD candidate at Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy (LKYSPP). He holds a BSc (Hons) and MSc (Research) with Merit in International Relations from the London School of Economics (LSE), UK. An award-winning essayist in the military, he has published 18 entries in *POINTER: Journal of the Singapore Armed Forces*, *Royal United Services Institute (UK) Journal*, *Military Review (US)*, *Institute of Policy Studies and Global-is-Asian (Singapore)*. His research interests include International Relations, Public Administration, Security Studies, Area Studies (US, Northeast and Southeast Asia), Strategy and Philosophy of Social Sciences. He is the Assistant Editor for Comparative Public Policy Series (Cambridge University Press) and was Chief of Ops and Planning Secretariat for the Public Policy in Asia Conference at LKYSPP, May 2014. He is named a Young Leader by Centre for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) Pacific Forum.

Charles is a practitioner. He serves as Head Research Trainer at Ministry of Defence, holding the rank of Major, whilst concurrently an honorary Aide-de-Camp to the President of the Republic of Singapore. He was deployed in Afghanistan as Deputy Team Head of Singapore's contingent in support of International Security Assistance Force (ISAF). He is the only Major on the editorial board of *POINTER*, comprising mostly Colonels.

He has a consistent community leadership and service record since 2002. He is currently the Founder/President of LKYSPP-Association of Public Administration (APA), which promotes the application of Public Administration (PA) theory to solve policy problems in Singapore, and to pitch useful ideas from PA-trained active citizenry to policymakers. He is an Assessor with the national Business Excellence Awards (akin to US Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Awards), International Exposition on Team Excellence (IETEX) and National Innovation Quality Control Circles (NIQCC) (akin to American Society of Quality [ASQ]). He was inducted in the Global Shaper Community of World Economic Forum in 2012, and was the immediate past Deputy Chairman of National Youth Achievement Award Gold Award Holders' Alumni (NYAA GAHA), which gave him the platform to run several national level youth projects including Sing! Singapore 2010 community song album in celebration of Youth Olympic Games 2010. He also ran several charity projects in the military, raising a total of \$60,000 and was awarded 17 Letters of Appreciation, Letters of Commendation, Certificates of Appreciation from the military leadership for his additional contributions. For his community service and leadership, he was awarded several awards. Most notably: Global Sachs Global Leaders Award (2004) for academic and leadership excellence at LSE, an award presented to 100 top undergraduates from 77 renowned universities worldwide. University of London Union Honorary Life Membership from HRH Princess Anne and the HSBC Youth Excellence Award for youth leadership and community service from President S R Nathan in 2005. During his stint in London, he was active in Commonwealth Youth Affairs - organised the Commonwealth Youth Forum 5 in Malta as Head Operations and Logistics, and even sang and produced the Goodenough Voices of the Commonwealth youth song album.

Charles aspires to be a theoretically-informed practitioner and envisions AJPA to be a conduit to enhance theorist-practitioner collaboration and interactions by focusing on policy-relevant research. He can be contacted at [cr.phua@u.nus.edu](mailto:cr.phua@u.nus.edu).



**Deputy Editor-in-Chief – Lourdes O. Montenegro**

**LOURDES O. MONTENEGRO** is an economist with extensive experience leading teams in contract research, authoring research grant proposals and reports, budgeting and planning research projects, and delivering training and custom analysis to clients from corporate, public sector and non-government organizations in the Philippines. Her research, consulting and advocacy work covers both environmental policy and technology policy. She led a policy research project for the Environment and Economy Program for Southeast Asia (EEPSEA) which was lauded for highlighting the environmental costs of coastal reclamation in Southeast Asia and positively influencing local government plans. She actively leads in efforts to encourage technology entrepreneurship and has co-organized both the Philippines 2012 ON3 Technology Startup Pitching Competition for Silicon Valley's Plug and Play Center as well as Startup Weekend Cebu 2013. She has recently co-authored a white paper on the role of dynamic spectrum access regulation for improving internet connectivity which was cited in a proposed law to expand public wireless internet provision in the Philippines. Lourdes read for an MPhil in Environmental Policy (Economics and International Environmental Law) at the University of Cambridge, U.K. prior to pursuing PhD research at the Lee Kuan Yew School.



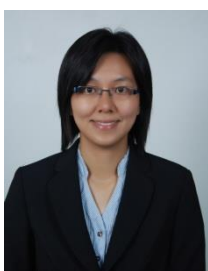
**Deputy Editor-in-Chief – M. Kerem Coban**

Mehmet Kerem Coban is a PhD Student at Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, NUS. His research interests include political economy of development, financial liberalisation and regulation, and development aid. Prior to his PhD studies, he interned in Global Risk Identification Programme (GRIP) in UNDP Office in Geneva, where he worked on designing and editing of publications; and the General Consulate of Turkey in Geneva. He obtained his Master's Degree in Development Studies at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies (IHEID), Geneva in 2013; and Bachelor's in International Relations in Kadir Has University, Istanbul in 2011. He was also engaged in community service as a member and the Secretary of Besiktas Rotaract in Istanbul. He can be contacted at [m.keremcoban@nus.edu.sg](mailto:m.keremcoban@nus.edu.sg).



**Senior Editor (Training) and Resource Person – Sarah Bales**

Sarah Bales is a health economist with extensive experience working in the Vietnamese health policy environment. In her years working in Vietnam she has been involved in designing, managing and analysing data from the Vietnam Living Standards Surveys and the National Health Survey. She has also been involved in regional collaborations on health equity including Equitap II and HEFPA, in which she has participated in research on health equity issues. She is currently a PhD candidate at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy writing a thesis on the impact of capitation payments on hospital efficiency, using the Vietnam case for empirical analysis. She has many years of experience as a peer reviewer for various international journals in her field and has published articles on various health economics issues.



**Senior Editor and Secretary – Tan Si Ying**

Si Ying practiced as a medical social worker for three years and was involved in conducting research projects examining the needs and social well-being of people living with HIV in Malaysia and Singapore for the past six years. She is trained in qualitative research and systematic review of health and social interventions, and

has specific interests in researching on social policies and interventions targeting on the marginalised populations affected by structural poverty and disease epidemic in the world.



**Senior Editor – Kidjie Saguin**

One of AJPA’s Senior Editor, Kidjie is a second-year Master in Public Policy student specializing in Social Policy. His research interests includes the political economy of development projects, and social implications and challenges for governance of migration. He recently joined United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD) as an intern working on the project “Social Policy and Migration”. Prior to pursuing his master’s degree, he worked for five years with the Development Academy of the Philippines managing research and consulting projects on good governance, corruption prevention, public sector reform, and public service delivery.

He holds a BA in Public Administration (cum laude) from the University of the Philippines and a Certificate of Advanced Studies in Management of Development Projects from the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology – Lausanne (EPFL).



**Senior Editor – Carolyn Law Choi Wu**

Carolyn Law Choi-Wu received her L.L.B degree from Fudan University, Shanghai, China. Her research focuses on intercultural governance, international relations, civic community in East Asia. In 2013, she joined the Center of Hong Kong and Taiwan Administration at Fudan University as a research assistant, where she did extensive research on the Taiwan-China relations and the political development of Hong Kong. She also worked as a research analyst at the Hong Kong Sustainable Development Institute, where she acted as a secretariat to support the UN Asia Pacific Exchange and Cooperation Foundation (APECF) for the implementation of cultural exchange projects in the Asia-Pacific region. She is currently a senior editor at Asian Journal of Public Affairs (AJPA).



**Senior Copy Editor – Mallika Sridhar**

Mallika has received her degree in Telecommunication Engineering from University of Pune, India. Since then she has taken up volunteering activities with NGO’s, focusing on women empowerment and childcare. She was part of the Young India Fellowship, a liberal arts program in India, prior to commencing her MPP at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy on the Chang Yung-Fa Scholarship. Her research interests focus on socio-political relations, urban governance, decentralization and public management in the developing world. Currently in her second year, her internship experience with Janaagraha involved research assistance for the formulation of the best practices of municipalities across India. Her current project with the World Bank delves into the domain of unskilled migration in the ASEAN, its social implications and challenges to regional governance. During her time as an integration engineer at Ericsson, she conceptualized and worked towards developing an active CSR strategy for her business division. She loves to read and has articles published in the Times of India editorial.



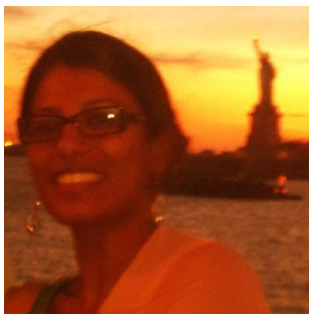
### **Editor and Director (Sponsorship) – Sakshi Balani**

Sakshi is an Editor and Director (Sponsorship) at the Asian Journal of Public Affairs, Lee Kuan Yew School. For the past three years, Sakshi has worked as a research analyst on Indian domestic policies on agricultural and rural development with PRS Legislative Research, a non-profit in New Delhi, India. She advised Indian legislators on her analysis of laws and policies in these sectors, and was instrumental in the enactment of the food security and land acquisition laws in India. Prior to this, Sakshi worked with the United Nations in New York, U.S.A on international policies related to indigenous rights. She looks forward to applying her policy expertise to the private sector as a consultant and work with government and public sector agencies on issues of economic development and natural resources.



### **Editor and Director (IT) – Jaya Jung Mahat**

Jaya Jung Mahat is an editor and the IT head of AJPA. Prior to joining AJPA, he was working with a youth-led social entrepreneurship firm in Nepal. Jaya has over eight years of working experiences with over a dozen local, regional and global institutions. His major areas of expertise include stakeholders' engagement, organizational management, youths, development communication, social accountability, social marketing, networking, Social Media management and advocacy campaigning. His primary research interests are in the areas of international development, social policy, program evaluation and social innovations.



### **Editor, Copy Editor and Director (Strategic Planning) – Divya Titus**

Divya Titus is an Editor, Copy Editor and Director (Strategic Planning) with the Asian Journal for Public Affairs. She is currently a Li Ka-shing Scholar and Master of Public Policy candidate at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy. She holds a B.A. in Economics from St. Xavier's College, Mumbai and has successfully completed the Indian Leadership Exchange Program at the Leonard N. Stern School of Business, NYU.

Prior to her study at the Lee Kuan Yew School, Divya was associated with the incubation centre of the Indian Institute of Management at Ahmedabad, as a Research Analyst with their social investment arm. During her time at the Centre, she developed and organized a series of workshops in partnership with the German developmental agency GIZ on sensitizing grassroots support organizations to the needs of social enterprises. Through the workshops, she screened and contacted over 250+ grassroots support organizations, created a curriculum for 75+ organizations and managed a network of 130+ support organizations pledging support worth more than Rs. 10 crores to social enterprises. Before her time with the Centre, Divya was part of the ICICI Fellowship which is a leadership program where Fellows spend 15 months working on grassroots development projects with NGOs. As an ICICI Fellow, she organized health camps and workshops for 600 adolescent girls across 5 villages in the state of Uttarakhand. She also supervised the formation of learning centers which provided primary education to more than 1000 out of school girl children across 30 villages in the state of Uttarakhand. Additionally, she also conducted research in the Banni Grasslands, in the state of Gujarat; the data of which was used by the Banni Breeders Association in their advocacy campaign to have titles under Forest Rights Act, 2006 granted to them.

She can be contacted at [divyatitus@nus.edu.sg](mailto:divyatitus@nus.edu.sg)





**Editor, Copy Editor and Director (Public Relations & Marketing) – Ketaki Purohit**

Ketaki Purohit is a lawyer registered with the Bar Council of India, and the Bar Council of Maharashtra & Goa. She received a BA.LL.B (Honours) from the National University of Juridical Sciences, India in 2011. She has worked as an attorney at a premier transaction firm in India–J. Sagar Associates, Mumbai, where she was a part of several cross border Mergers and Acquisitions. She also liaised extensively with Indian regulatory organizations including the Reserve Bank of India and the Ministry of Corporate Affairs. More recently, she served as a *Law Clerk & Research Assistant* under the Hon’ble Justice Kurian Joseph, judge, Supreme Court of India. She assisted on matters pertaining to human rights, civil liberties and criminal justice reform and policy. Presently, she is a Li Ka-shing Scholar and Master of Public Policy candidate at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy. She is also working as a Research Assistant under Professor Rahul Sagar at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, Singapore, on a project relating to socio-political and critical thinking in modern Indian history. Her areas of interest are law and policy, poverty and development in conflict, and international humanitarian law. She can be contacted at [ketakipurohit@nus.edu.sg](mailto:ketakipurohit@nus.edu.sg).

**Editor and Director (Partnerships)–Safa M. Khan**

Raised in Saudi Arabia and India, Safa attended high school at the Mahindra United World College in India and received a Davis Scholarship to Middlebury College, graduating with a B.A. in Economics in 2012. Safa was one of 97 Indians selected in 2012 to attend the Young India Fellowship, a yearlong, multidisciplinary program based in New Delhi. During this time, she also interned for the McKinsey Global Institute. She spent the last year in Kabul, Afghanistan, working for the School of Leadership Afghanistan.



**Editor, Copy Editor and Co-Director (Strategic Planning) –Shruti Moghe**

Shruti Moghe is a trained journalist with Bachelors in Journalism from University of Delhi. She started her career with the BBC Media Action and throughout her career has worked on communication for development and on governance projects on the issues of human rights and health funded by USDS, Google Foundation and Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. She has worked across India on projects on Bonded Labour, HIV/AIDS, Maternal and Child Health. Shruti brings with her over 5 years of experience in media and communication for social change. She is also a published writer with articles published in national daily *Hindustan Times* and magazine *Governance Now*. She is an avid traveller and likes to read.



**Editor and Co-Director (Public Relations and Marketing & Sponsorship) –Hanis Farhanah Yusof**

Hanis Farhanah Yusof is an Editor and Co-Director (Public Relations and Marketing & Sponsorship) for the Asian Journal of Public Affairs (AJPA). Hanis is an LBKM scholar and holds a Bachelor's of Business Administration with Merit from the National University of Singapore. Her research interests include Education Policy, Singapore's Social Policy, Poverty and Inequality as well as Healthcare Policy.

Hanis has been actively involved in research on Singapore's Urban Policy and Planning and has had the opportunity to present research findings to various government stakeholders in Singapore. She has also heavily active in community work through various grassroots organisations in Singapore.

Coming from a private sector background, Hanis has also presented in industry conferences and won the Young Researcher Award for best conference paper in her category in the Market Research Society of Singapore's annual conference in 2012.

Hanis aspires to find more ways and avenues to put public policy into practice and hopes that AJPA can be a path for her to be able to translate her research into practice.



**Editor and Director (Special Projects)– OlaOla EL-TALIAWI, MPPA**

Ola is the Editor and Director of Special Projects of the Asian Journal of Public Affairs (AJPA). She is currently undertaking her Ph.D. studies at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy (LKYSPP), National University of Singapore (NUS). Her main research interests include gender, social policy, state-society relations, and public sector reform.

Ms. El-Taliawi holds a Bachelor's degree with high honors in International Business from Sadat Academy for Management Sciences (Egypt), in collaboration with University of New Brunswick (Canada) (2005); and a Master's degree in Public Policy and Administration with a concentration in Public Policy Reform Design from the American University in Cairo (AUC) (2010). Her Master thesis entitled "*Gender and Leadership in Egypt's Public Administration: the case of the Ministry of Finance*" was nominated for the Frank G. Wisner Award for Scholarly Excellence. She undertook her internship at the Division for Advancement of Women (DAW) at the United Nations Headquarters in New York in 2008, where she attended and reported on the 63<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly plenary.

Throughout her academic journey, Ola was elected to several student bodies, including as President of the *Public Policy and Administration Student Forum* at the American University in Cairo (2008-2009). She also volunteered for numerous causes including the organization of the "*Stand Up – Take Action Against Poverty*" Campaign at the UN Headquarters, NY (2008). In recognition for her extra-curricular efforts that started at a young age, she was awarded the "Gamila Habachy Scholarship Award" upon graduation from high school (2001); that was granted to her for "all-round personality, leadership skills, commitment to duty and sense of responsibility".

Ms. El-Taliawi's seven year work experience, which she hopes to bring to AJPA, spans across the public, private and non-profit sectors, where she worked as a Lecturer, Researcher and Consultant. In 2006, she started her work as a tenured Lecturer at Sadat Academy for Management Sciences (Egypt), during which she also undertook several simultaneous consulting assignments in the fields of

decentralization, micro and small enterprises, and others. Among her works is a report entitled “The Youth Employment Crisis: highlights of the 2012 ILC Report”; commissioned for the International Labor Organization (ILO) and presented at the Youth Employment Forum (2012). With regards to administrative and managerial experience, Ola worked for three years coordinating the work of a USD 409,000 grant program at AUC, which provided her with valuable organizational experience. In her capacity as Chief of Staff of the Association for Public Administration (APA) at LKYSPP, she hopes to engage both AJPA and APA scholars to turn much-needed theories into practice by contributing to Singapore’s policy conversations. She can be contacted at [ola\\_g@nus.edu.sg](mailto:ola_g@nus.edu.sg)