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Headline: SMU law students could intern in New York firms, thanks to landmark MOU

## SMU law students could intern in New York firms, thanks to landmark MOU

**SINGAPORE** – Local law students could soon serve overseas internships at New York firms, in the first groundbreaking agreement between an American bar association and a Singapore varsity.

The Singapore Management University (SMU) School of Law and the New York State Bar Association – the largest voluntary state bar association in the United States – have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) creating a framework for law student

internships, exchange programmes and knowledge sharing.

While SMU students will get exposure at New York law firms, particularly those with multi-jurisdictional operations and practice, the School of Law and its faculty will serve as a key resource for Asian legal expertise for the bar association's membership.

Faculty members and students will also help the bar association's International

Section draw up white papers, research memoranda, international agreements and legislation.

A joint working team has been formed to develop and implement initiatives.

Chair of the bar association's International Section, Mr Michael Galligan, said: "This collaboration will provide law students in Singapore with the opportunity to gain more knowledge of the American legal system, and give the State Bar's legal practitioners a new

platform from which to view legal issues with a global perspective."

Dean of the school of Law, Professor Michael Furmston, said students would get "exposure to American law practice, legal education and the top minds in the profession".

The MOU was signed at the bar association's International Section's annual Seasonal Meeting, hosted in Singapore for the first time, from yesterday till Thursday.