

ASIA LAW TALK

The Institute of Asian Pacific Business Law (IAPBL) and Pacific Asian Legal Studies (PALS)

Preserving the Global Commons in Global Markets: A Dialogue on Trade, Investment, and Environment

By Professor Yasuhei Taniguchi, Former WTO Appellate Body Member and Professor Diane Desierto, ALIC Co-Director

DATE: February 21, 2014

TIME: 12:00 pm

LOCATION Moot Court Room

Over the past decade, States have increasingly sought to insulate regulatory prerogatives to ensure domestic environmental protection, away from their parallel international obligations to guarantee continuous foreign market access and investment protection. While both the international trade and investment regimes contain 'safety valve' provisions to protect States' policy spaces (especially to ensure environmental protection), the results are varied from the trend of international adjudication at the World Trade Organization and international investment arbitrations (whether by tribunals formed under the International Centre for Settlement of Investments Disputes/ICSID or non-ICSID arbitral tribunals). This dialogue addresses general questions to former WTO Appellate Body Member Professor Yasuhei Taniguchi on the inextricable tensions and interactions of trade, investment, and environment. Finally, Professor Taniguchi will discuss new career trajectories for law students interested in preserving the global commons within global markets.

RSVP By Thursday, 2/20/14. Lunch will be provided if RSVP received by this date.

RSVP to Dana Lum (denokawa@hawaii.edu)



Professor Yasuhei Taniguchi, Professor Emeritus at Kyoto University in Japan, is internationally recognized for his expertise in comparative and transnational legal studies. He has a rich and fascinating background as a leading scholar in several areas of law, including Civil Procedure, Alternative Dispute Resolution, Insolvency Law, and International Trade Law. He served as a member of the Appellate Body of the World Trade Organization, with one year as its chair. While maintaining a post-retirement teaching career, he is presently of counsel to the Matsuo & Kosugi Law Firm in Tokyo and serves on numerous government advisory panels.

Dr. Diane A. Desierto is an Assistant Professor of Law at the University of Hawai'i Richardson School of Law. Her teaching and publication interests are in international economic law (international investment, trade, finance, law and development), international human rights law, international humanitarian law, ASEAN law, and international dispute settlement. Dr. Desierto concurrently has various international academic appointments and previously taught international law at Peking (Beijing) University School of Transnational Law, Shenzhen, China; the University of the Philippines College of Law; the Lyceum of the Philippines College of Law; and the Foreign Service Institute of the Philippine Department of Foreign Affairs.

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