Honorary NUS Law post for ex-CJ Chan

By IAN POH

FORMER chief justice Chan Sek Keong was yesterday appointed by the National University of Singapore (NUS) law faculty as its first Distinguished Fellow.

Mr Chan – among NUS' pioneer batch of law graduates in 1961 when it was then the University of Malaya – will pursue research and writing projects, and engage students through lectures and informal “fireside chats”.

“[I am] delighted to be able to return to the NUS Law School where it all began,” said the 75-year-old, adding that it will give him many opportunities to discuss law with students and encourage them to approach it “in all its manifestations”.

NUS Law dean Simon Chesterman called the appointment – on an honorary basis and for an initial period of three years – a “tremendous honour”.

Mr Chan retired last November after a legal career lasting more than 50 years, with 26 of them in the legal service. He was appointed Singapore’s first judicial commissioner in 1986, before becoming a Supreme Court judge two years later. Before his six-year stint as CJ, he also served as Attorney-General from 1992 to 2006.

The university had also conferred on Mr Chan an honorary Doctor of Laws in 2010.

pohian@sph.com.sg