

## **TGIF:**The NTU Linguist Chatroom



## Join us! Friday, 26 January 2018, 3.30pm @ HSS Conference Room (HSS-05-57)

## **Doing Justice to and in Linguistics**

When scholars and governments talk about models of language management for linguistically diverse societies, states such as Switzerland, Canada, and Belgium are often invoked as key exemplars. Political philosophers especially look to these few Western nations as they seemingly embrace their linguistic diversity by according far-reaching language recognition and language rights to the various existing language groups, thereby realizing *linguistic justice*. The conversation on linguistic justice however has been dominated by political scientists and philosophers so far, and linguists almost entirely side-lined in this debate. In addition, Singapore, as well as many Asian postcolonial states, have also largely been left out of many of these discussions found in the literature. In this talk, I aim to offer some thoughts about how linguists, especially those of us working in and on Asia, can contribute meaningfully to the issue of linguistic justice, and how theorizing linguistic justice along linguistic lines can provide a new avenue for linguistics to move in a different direction.

## **Speaker**



Tan Ying Ying is Head and Associate Professor of Linguistics and Multilingual Studies at the Nanyang Technological University. She is first Singaporean to have received the prestigious Fung Global Fellowship from Princeton University, where she spent an academic year working on her research on language policy. Besides writing on language planning and policy, she is also a sociophonetician who has published on accents, prosody, and intelligibility. She works primarily on languages in Singapore, focusing on Singapore English, Mandarin Chinese, Malay, and Min languages such as Teochew and Hokkien. Her work has appeared in top-tiered journals such as the *International Journal of the Sociology of Language*, *Journal of Multilingual and Multicultural Development, World Englishes, English World-Wide, Interventions: Journal of Postcolonial Studies*, and *Social Identities*.

