

Bust of David Marshall to grace SMU court named after him

BY LEONARD LIM

THE family of the late David Marshall has donated a bust of the country's first chief minister to the Singapore Management University (SMU).

The 1956 sculpture by London-based Hungarian sculptor-writer Peter Lambda will take pride of place in the university's law faculty moot court.

Mr Marshall's wife Jean said the university was a natural choice in the family's search for a long-term home for the bust, when they learnt that the moot court was to be named after him.

The 85-year-old, speaking after attending a private ceremony at SMU yesterday, added: "We hope that present and future students in this campus will celebrate and be inspired by the qualities of passion, hard work, courage and integrity which marked David's life-time achievements and legal career."

Mr Marshall, who had four children, was a top criminal lawyer known for his great oratory. The founder of the Workers' Party in 1957 was also one of the



country's strongest advocates of self-government.

He was also Singapore's ambassador to France, Spain, Portugal and Switzerland for 15 years before retiring from the diplomatic service in 1993. He died in 1995 after a long battle with lung cancer.

A David Marshall Moot Court Endowment Fund will be established to support

SMU's initiatives to groom legal talent, the school said yesterday.

Ms Jill Ann Koh, 22, a fourth-year SMU law student who has taken part in two moot competition, said: "We've only been participating in moot competitions for two years.

"It's a great honour to have such a distinguished name now associated with us,

and it will lend a bigger name to our moot-ing culture."

Professor Michael Furnston, dean of SMU's four-year-old School of Law, called Mr Marshall one of Singapore's most famous sons and a legal legend.

"The bronze sculpture will serve to remind us of the late Mr Marshall and the legacy he leaves behind," he said.

Mr David Marshall's widow Jean with SMU president Arnaud De Meyer (left) and SMU School of Law dean Michael Furnston, looking at the 1956 sculpture of Mr Marshall. The sculpture was done by London-based Hungarian sculptor-writer Peter Lambda and it has been donated by the Marshall family to SMU's law faculty moot court which will be named after Mr Marshall, Singapore's first chief minister.

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