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4  New Appointments in the Faculty
5  Faculty Update

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8  Philip Dykes SC and Peter Lo on the Role of the Profession in Legal Education
10  Activities with the Profession's participation

Faculty Events
17  The Common Law Lecture Series and other Major Conferences, Lectures and Events

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Meet Our New Management Team

The academic year 2004-05 has been another hectic year for the Dean and his colleagues at the Faculty. The terms of the deanship (the Dean and Associate Deans) and the headship (the two Heads of Department) all came to an end on 30 June 2005. The appointment exercises to fill these posts, some of which had commenced as early as last July, were some extra work that the Faculty had to cope with apart from the usual routines and the 35th anniversary celebration events.

On 26 April 2005, the University Council appointed, on the recommendation of the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Johannes Chan SC as the first appointed Dean of the Faculty of Law (a full-time executive position in the University, which was introduced as part of the governance review of the University) for a term of five years from 1 July 2005. In June 2005, Mr. Michael Jackson was appointed Head of the Department of Law, and Mr. Wilson Chow as the Head of the Department of Professional Legal Education (“PLE”), each for a term of three years also from 1 July 2005. Mr. Jackson succeeded Professor Roda Mushkat, who had been Head of the Department of Law from July 2002 to June 2005, and Mr. Chow succeeded Professor Michael Wilkinson, who had been in the post for nine years since 1996.

With the conclusion of the 35th anniversary celebrations, the Faculty is now turning to a new chapter. At this juncture, it is only natural that the profession and supporters of the Faculty would be interested to know more about its new leadership. We were grateful to the trio for taking time out of their incredibly tight schedules in July to do this interview.

In the following, E: Editors; J: Professor Johannes Chan; M: Mr. Michael Jackson; and W: Mr. Wilson Chow.

E: Johannes, having served as Dean of Law for three years and now with a five-year term ahead, what are your aspirations for the Faculty and its students in the new century?

J: We aspire to be one of the best law schools in the world. We set ourselves to compete with the top law schools overseas, not just the local or even regional ones. In order to attract the best students and teachers to join us, the only way is to foster our own excellence in teaching and research. Translating the above into action, that means we must adopt a much more pro-active approach in seeking out the best students and the best academics from all over the world. It also means that we should position ourselves strategically in the increasingly important interaction between China and the rest of the world, i.e., the focus of our research will be more comparative in nature. We are indeed in such a strategic position, as we have a highly international profile and at the same time, we have already established a strong academic network in China. Also, we will nurture our expertise in the following areas: Information Technology/Intellectual Property (IT/ IP), WTO and Negotiation and Dispute Resolution (DR). For IT/IP, we already have a fairly strong team and certainly have the capacity to do more in this area. We are now working with the Faculty of Medicine on research on some pharmaceutical products. For WTO, we have already established ourselves in the training and internationalization areas. Recently, there have been some exciting developments in our East Asian International Economic Law & Policy (EAIL) Programme (note: please refer to page 19 for further details). As for Negotiation and DR, it will tie in with our LLB, LLM and PCLL curriculum development.

E: Johannes, what do you see as the major changes which the Faculty has undergone since you joined the Faculty as a teacher in 1985?

J: The Faculty is much more pluralistic than before. There are inevitably divergent views and more dimensions to be taken into account on many issues. We work increasingly closely with other parts of the university and many organizations in the community. I am pleased to see that the Faculty is playing an increasingly important role in University's affairs and on many important public issues. The public have high expectation of academic institutions, and for our own development you need to have the confidence of the public. You can't take for granted that you will
have the public support, so we now put in more effort in external relations. We are fortunate to have a very strong and supportive body of alumni and friends, which also means we have to do even better to make the trust they reposed in us worthwhile.

Internally, the student composition is much more diversified. Now, students doing double degree programmes are as many as LLB students, if not more, and in the PCLL, students with non-HKU LLBs are also the majority. The Law Faculty is still attracting the best students. I would say that the top students we have today are better than those in the old days. That’s because many of them have better exposure during their earlier stage of education. But maturity is quite another matter, as many tend to be too well protected and thus have less experience with failures. That’s why we would like to broaden their horizons by various internships and overseas exchange programmes.

E: Michael, can you tell us a bit of your background before joining the Faculty, and what are the major challenges that you find in your new post?

M: I joined the Faculty in August 1984. Before that, I practised as a solicitor in the litigation field in New Zealand. I see the taking up of the present job as a big learning curve for myself. I have done quite a lot of administrative work, indeed almost every aspect of it, apart from the teaching duties in the past. The major challenges for me in the near future would be to complete the implementation of the 4-year LLB reforms, and to continue the internationalization of the Faculty by expanding our student exchange programmes, making sure that our programmes will meet international standards, and bringing in more staff with high international standing. The new human resource policy of the University will also have a profound effect on our staff. We do have a great team with individual talents and I hope to do my best to bring out the best in each of them.

E: Let us turn to Wilson then, can you also tell us your background and what you regard as your major tasks upon taking up the new post?

W: I joined the Faculty shortly after I was admitted as a solicitor in 1995. I was then the youngest member of the Department of PLE. I have been teaching Revenue Law, Conveyancing and Probate Practice. In fact, I am a graduate of the Faculty and a few of my colleagues like Dr. Felix Chan, Dr. Anne Cheung and Ms. Alice Lee were in the same year with me. Looking ahead, my major task would be to continue with the good work in our PCLL reforms which have been carried out by stages since 2002. We have to review the effectiveness of the changes introduced and coordinate more with the LLB curriculum so as to ensure that the whole reform process is a success. We must continue recruiting the best students and producing the best graduates who can meet the expectations of their employers and contribute to both the profession and the community. There are not only the large city firms but also many local firms. So we will also have to balance well the different interests and expectations of the different types of firms.

J: Perhaps I may add this as a concluding remark: from a law school whose role was mainly to train lawyers 35 years ago, we now see it also our mission to train leaders and responsible citizens in the community.

Fathers of young children
It transpired from the interview that the trio not only shares a common vision for the Faculty but also a common feature in their family life. That is, they all have a young family. Johannes’ daughter is about 2-1/2 years old. Michael has two children, a girl aged 7 and a boy aged 4. Wilson also has two children, a 7-1/2 year-old boy and a 2-1/2 year-old girl. At the end of the interview we concluded that one advantage that the three at least had would be when they had long meetings on faculty matters, they could bring their children along to form a play group, and hopefully that would make both the dads and the kids happy!
Our Associate Deans

Professor Christopher Sherrin

Professor Sherrin joined the Department of Professional Legal Education in 1993 as Chair of Professional Legal Education and was Head of the Department from 1993 to 1996. As a natural "spill over" of his Chair Professorship, Professor Sherrin has been serving as the director of research development in the Department. His main research interests are in the field of property and he has written extensively on the law of wills, intestacy, and trusts. His major publications range from "Williams on Wills" to "Halsbury's Laws of Hong Kong: Wills, Probate, Administration and Succession".

His experience as Head of Department makes him no stranger to the administration, and as the new Associate Dean responsible for research development, Professor Sherrin's academic leadership has found its best home, and will take the Faculty's research profile to its new heights.

Mr. Benny Tai

Mr. Tai is an alumnus of the Faculty and, similar to Mr. Zhang, has been serving as Associate Dean for the past 6 years, responsible for academic matters. Mr. Tai is well known in the local community as an active commentator on political, legal and social affairs. His major research interests are constitutional law and administrative law. Mr. Tai is also a very dedicated teacher, known for his innovation in teaching methodology. This is evident by the award of University Teaching Fellow in 1996 and the Certificate of Merit in IT in Education in 2002, both by the University of Hong Kong.

New Appointments in the Faculty

The Faculty is pleased to announce the following new appointments in the new academic year:

- Ms. Suzannah Linton, the new Director of our LLM (Human Rights) programme, a graduate of the Bristol University (LLB) and the University of Essex (LLM), Ms. Linton has a most successful international career and specializes in International Criminal Law, International Humanitarian Law and International Human Rights Law. Over the years, she has served as an expert advisor with various UN organs on human rights matters in Kosovo, Trinidad and Tobago. In 2005, she became a visiting fellow with the International Law Centre, Cambridge University.

- Ms. Puja Kapai, one of our most active and distinguished graduates, with a First Class Honours in her LLB and best known for her moot performance (she was the Best Mooter in our compulsory moot programme and won many prizes in international competitions), she completed her LLM with Harvard and was called to the Hong Kong Bar in 2002, she will teach, Inter alia, Contract and Legal System.

- Ms. Rebecca Lee, who has a distinguished academic record with the Faculty (having graduated with a First Class Honour from our LLB and completed her PCLL with an overall distinction) and completed her BCL at Oxford in 2002, she will teach, Inter alia, Contract and Business Associations; and

- Dr. Jing Leng, who has been doing research work in Canada before joining us, will teach Corporate Governance and Shareholder Remedies in our LLM programmes.

Mr. Zhang Xianchu

For those who have been in touch with the Faculty in China affairs, Mr. Zhang should be no stranger. Mr. Zhang is an Associate Professor in the Department of Law and has been serving as the Associate Dean responsible for China affairs and development for the past 6 years. An active scholar in corporate law, foreign investment law, financial market regulations and cross-border legal issues, Mr. Zhang has been instrumental to some of the major China initiatives in the Faculty, including the very successful Master of Common Law (MCL) programme, the judicial placement scheme, and the various exchange and collaboration schemes with the most prestigious Mainland universities. Mr. Zhang has also played an indispensable part in the discussion of the proposed Master of Common and Comparative Law (MCCL) programme with Peking University, under which the cream of graduate students of Peking University will receive common law training in the Peking University campus in Shenzhen.
## Faculty Update

### 1. Number of LLB Graduates in the past 35 years

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Male</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1972</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>19</td>
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<tr>
<td>1973</td>
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<td>1974</td>
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<td>1975</td>
<td>9</td>
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<td>1976</td>
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<td>1977</td>
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<td>1978</td>
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<td>1980</td>
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<td>1982</td>
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<td>1983</td>
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<td>69</td>
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<td>1984</td>
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<td>1985</td>
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<td>1992</td>
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<td>142</td>
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<td>1998</td>
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<td>2001</td>
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<td>2002</td>
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<td>112</td>
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<td>2003</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>138</td>
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<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>156</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total: 1339 (Female) 3310 (Male)


### 2. Student Population of the Faculty Today

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>2005-06</th>
<th>2004-05</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Laws</td>
<td>304</td>
<td>324</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>MIXED DEGREES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Business Administration (Law)</td>
<td>184</td>
<td>149</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(introduced in 1999)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Social Sciences (Government and</td>
<td>113</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laws) (introduced in 1999)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Civil Engineering (Law)</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(introduced in 2004)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>BACHELOR OF LAWS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In conjunction with Bachelor of Business</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration (Law)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In conjunction with Bachelor of Social</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sciences (Government and Laws)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>POSTGRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN LAWS (FULL-TIME ONLY)</strong></td>
<td>277</td>
<td>299</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>POSTGRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN LAWS (PART-TIME)</strong> (introduced in 2005)</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>POSTGRADUATE STUDIES (FULL-TIME AND PART-TIME)</strong></td>
<td>287</td>
<td>271</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total:</td>
<td>1316</td>
<td>1207</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3. JUPAS Admissions 2005-06

Admission grades achieved by applicants whose position in the merit order list is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>UE</th>
<th>CLC</th>
<th>AL</th>
<th>AL*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Upper Quartile (1/4 from the top)</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median (in the middle)</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower Quartile (3/4 way down)</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Average HKALE and HKCEE Grades of JUPAS candidates are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Use of English</th>
<th>LLB</th>
<th>Overall ranking amongst HKU programmes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>2/46</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chinese Language &amp; Culture</th>
<th>LLB</th>
<th>Overall ranking amongst HKU programmes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>2/46</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2 AL and 1 AS* subjects</th>
<th>LLB</th>
<th>Overall ranking amongst HKU programmes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>11/46</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>6 best HKCEE subjects</th>
<th>LLB</th>
<th>Overall ranking amongst HKU programmes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>5/46</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* UE = Use of English; CLC = Chinese Language & Culture; AL = Advanced Level; AS = Advanced Supplementary Level

4. Student Profile of PCLL Admissions in the Past Two Years

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Profile</th>
<th>Year 2004-05 No. of students admitted (%)</th>
<th>Year 2003-04 No. of students admitted (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HKU:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LLB</td>
<td>89 (32.36)</td>
<td>103 (38.87)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LLB in conjunction with BBA (Law)</td>
<td>16 (5.82)</td>
<td>13 (4.91)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LLB in conjunction with BSocSc (G&amp;L)</td>
<td>11 (4.00)</td>
<td>6 (2.26)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City U</td>
<td>2 (0.73)</td>
<td>4 (1.51)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CPE (SPACE)</td>
<td>24 (8.73)</td>
<td>24 (9.06)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CPE (UK)</td>
<td>22 (8.00)</td>
<td>10 (3.77)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>London U</td>
<td>34 (12.36)</td>
<td>39 (14.72)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overseas:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>10 (3.64)</td>
<td>16 (6.04)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>3 (1.09)</td>
<td>1 (0.38)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Zealand</td>
<td>2 (0.73)</td>
<td>3 (1.13)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UK</td>
<td>61 (22.18)</td>
<td>46 (17.36)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USA</td>
<td>1 (0.36)</td>
<td>0 (0.00)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL:</td>
<td>275 (100)</td>
<td>265 (100)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. Faculty Staff

Number of Academic Staff: 51
(i) Department of Law: 35
(ii) Department of Professional Legal Education: 16

Number of Administrative Staff: 28
(i) Faculty Office: 10
(ii) General Department Office: 18

Academic and administrative staff of the Faculty, September 2004.
6. The Law Library

The Law Library is one of the subject branch libraries of the University Libraries. It provides study and research facilities for the academics, students and postgraduates of the Faculty, and other staff and students of the University. Members of the legal profession may apply for access to the library at a fee via the Libraries Circle of Friends programme.

What's in it for alumni?
HKU alumni can apply for regular Graduate Borrower's Card or Graduate Reader's Card at a minimal fee. Except for the summer, the Law Library is open seven days a week, 9 am-11 pm, Monday to Friday; Saturday, 9 am-7 pm; Sunday, 10 am-5 pm. Through rigorous negotiations with the information vendors, remote access to over 10,000 e-journals and some 60,000 e-books, and full text databases such as Academic Search Premier and ProQuest, has been made possible for alumni holding the Circle of Friends Platinum membership. For information on resources available, please visit http://www.lib.hku.hk/friends/join.html.

Free digital initiative
The Historical Laws of Hong Kong Online (http://sunzi.lib.hku.hk/pls/oelawhk2/main.m?SID=) is a full-text image database providing access to past revised editions of Hong Kong Laws. The database comprises seven consolidations of the laws of Hong Kong: 1890, 1901, 1912, 1923, 1937, 1950, and 1964. Like many of the digital initiatives offered by the University Libraries, it is available free to the public. We invite you to use the database, particularly if you have research needs in the historical development of the law of Hong Kong.

Facts & Figures*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Library Collections</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total volumes</td>
<td>over 94,790</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Serial titles (journals, service issues, law reports)</td>
<td>over 2,370</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current subscriptions</td>
<td>over 700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total microforms</td>
<td>167,413</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volumes added annually</td>
<td>over 3,900</td>
</tr>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Library Services (2004-05)</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Items checked out</td>
<td>50,389</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manual loans</td>
<td>1,010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Items read in-house</td>
<td>87,544</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interlibrary loan, Loaned</td>
<td>266</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of users entering the library</td>
<td>176,611</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reference Questions</td>
<td>5,588, including walk-in 3,593 by telephone 1,758 by fax/email 237</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orientation, tours, instructions</td>
<td>215 sessions</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Facilities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Library seats</th>
<th>203</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Study rooms for research students</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion rooms</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Access Workstations</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self-service photocopiers</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Network printers</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scanners</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACENet computer nodes</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wireless LAN</td>
<td>Both floors of library premises</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* as at June 2005

Contact us

1/F, K K Leung Building
University of Hong Kong
Telephone (852) 2859-2914
Fax (852) 2548-0143
Email lawlib@lib.hku.hk

Irene Shieh
Law Librarian
Role of the Profession in Legal Education

I remember meeting my first real life barrister as a law student. It was not a particularly pleasant experience. I had started my Bar Finals course in London a week or so earlier and was about to embark on my first so-called ‘practical session’ with a barrister in a nondescript room in the Council of Legal Education’s premises off Holborn in London. I had managed to steer clear of barristers up until then. I had not read law for my degree and I had managed to study for what is now called the Bar Conversion course by what is now called ‘distance learning’. There were no desk-top computers then. You were lucky to see a computer as small and as compact as a desk. You ‘interacted’ with your tutor by the medium of the postal service. Barristers were therefore remote figures on the dim and distant horizon.

There was nothing dim and distant about this barrister. I was in a group of about six legal neophytes. The barrister was all briskness and no nonsense. He was there to teach us how to ‘do’ a guilty plea. He directed that I should be the first to mitigate. I stumbled and stuttered through my prepared plea in mitigation for an incompetent bank robber with a sick mother and a string of previous convictions only to be told snidely by the barrister at the end of it that the tariff for the offence was three years imprisonment but my mitigation would guarantee my imaginary client at least four years free accommodation in one of Her Majesty’s establishments.

I was desperately humiliated by his remarks which were made by him in front of my class-mates. I left the class in a gloomy mood and thought about packing in the course and finding a job that inadequate talents would allow me to do such as sweeping the streets or cleaning lavatories. I persevered and, for my pains, am now only occasionally humiliated by biting remarks of appeal court judges but I content myself with the fact that my skin is thicker and I at least get paid for the experience.

I think back to that experience and reflect that the barrister’s teaching technique was pretty awful. I would like to think he was not naturally unpleasant but was only being deliberately unpleasant for a purpose. I suppose he was trying to prepare us for the rough and tumble of early days at the Bar when we would have to perform in front of choleric county court judges and irritable stipendiary magistrates. However, knocking out of you all of what little confidence you have is not a good way to begin.

I would like to think that the barristers you will meet in your time at university who may assist you in practical training in moots and exercises are more understanding. You need to have your confidence established and built to a level where you can cope with being told that what you have said or done is utterly wrong. I would advise you thought to make the best of the opportunity of training with barristers who want genuinely to help you develop advocacy skills. You can do that by asking questions at every opportunity. If criticised in an exercise, ask the barrister the basis for the criticism and make sure you understand the criticism and be careful to learn from it. Advocacy skills can be learned with some effort. The job of a training barrister is really to help you to help yourself to achieve a basic competence.

I was walking down Holborn in July when I passed close by the scene of my humiliation all those years ago. I shuddered at the recollection of the experience but cheered myself up at the memory of another colleague’s humiliation. Such was his performance his imaginary client got five years!

Philip Dykes SC
Chairman,
Hong Kong Bar Association
Lawyers and Law Students

A great American judge, Oliver Wendell Holmes, observed in a famous saying that "The life of the law has not been logic; it has been experience".

All lawyers were once law students. There are various formal stages in the process whereby a law student becomes a lawyer, but the essential difference between the two is experience.

This is not to say that a lawyer will inevitably improve with age. There are brilliant young lawyers and silly middle-aged and old lawyers, some of them to be found in unexpected places. But it is true as a general proposition that the only reliable way to find out how the law works, or does not work, is by experience.

Therein lies the difference between study and practice. A practising lawyer has to deal with actual situations which may turn good or bad. Such situations will sometimes be similar to those found in books and examination papers, but there will often be ambiguities in the facts or the law, and the consequences of a mistake could be much more serious than a lower mark or even failing the paper.

Apart from the need to acquire experience there is also a need to keep up with developments. It follows that the study of the law is or should be a life-long occupation for lawyers and law students alike. In this respect what can the lawyer do for the law student?

To the extent that the law is a vocation rather than just an occupation, lawyers should initiate law students into the values and practices, and perhaps even the prejudices and mysteries of their profession. This, of course, is already being done from the day the student attends his first classes at university, because he is already being taught by lawyers. But there is more to legal education than formal learning, and this is where the practising lawyers come in.

Teaching and practice are two specialized areas of the law. The nurture of young minds, the development of thought, requires an approach and an environment far from the madding crowd's ignoble strife. The student must learn theories and historical background, because much will be incomprehensible without such a foundation, and if these things are not learnt during student days, chances are that they will never be learnt in subsequent years.

Further, principles such as "fiat justitia, ruat coelum" (let justice be done, though the heavens fall) can be more convincingly taught in a university than in a law firm. The value of such teachings is that before law students learn to be practical, they should learn to be principled. Although practising lawyers have to be practical, they should still have a sense of right and wrong. This will be good for the lawyer personally and good for society as a whole. A tough moral fibre is what enables a lawyer to acquire trust and respect within and without the profession, and to achieve something more than personal gain in life.

While the law students are still at school the practising lawyers can do two things for them. First, they can provide opportunities for them to connect practice to theory, and to acquire some idea of the shape of things to come. Then, they can tell the teachers what they think of their students.

In the latter context it frequently happens that practitioners and teachers will have different ideas. This is a good thing.

It is healthy to have different views and argue about them. In fact this is not unlike the practice of law. Further, as a matter of general education one should quickly learn that one does not live in a world of one's own, and there are other people and forces to be reckoned with. I consider that all lawyers have an educational responsibility towards their young, because of the noble ideal of justice which we should seek to achieve, and because they represent our future. My personal sentiments in the matter may be expressed in the words of Duncan to Macbeth:

I have begun to plant thee, and will labour
To make thee full of growing.

Macbeth Act 1 Scene 7.

In a short time many of our law students will have become lawyers. I urge them to put into practice the same sentiments towards their younger colleagues. It is only when we think beyond ourselves that we can hope to achieve something meaningful, both as lawyers and as individuals.

Peter Lo
President,
The Law Society of Hong Kong
# International Competitions Programme

One of the targets of the Faculty is to bring our students to the best international levels, and participation at international competitions will certainly help us achieve the goal. We believe that the training in the relevant areas of law and skills and the exposure to international legal communities, through taking part in the well-run international mootings and other competitions, will bring immense benefits to our students. With the generous help by the profession, both in terms of funding support and provision of training and advice, our students have been doing well in international competitions and won many prizes and acclaim. This year, the Faculty sent altogether 31 students to compete in eight different international competitions. They are:

### International Competitions in 2004-2005

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>International competition</th>
<th>Team members</th>
<th>When &amp; where</th>
<th>Results</th>
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| Australian Bar Association LAWASIA Moot | - Queenie Lau (PCLL)  - Leona Cheung (PCLL)  - Asa Collett (LML)  
Coach: Dr. Xue Hong | March 2005, Gold Coast, Australia | The HKU team was acclaimed Champion and Queenie Lau won the Best Mooter Prize. |
| The Philip C Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition | - Christopher Chain (LLB 3)  - Isaac Chan (PCLL)  - Elaine Ng (PCLL)  - Maggie Tsui (PCLL)  - Richard Yip (PCLL)  
Coach: Prof. Roda Mushkat, Simon Young and Terence Lau in HK | March-April 2005, Washington DC, USA | Competed against 103 teams from 80 countries, won three of the four preliminary moots and ranked 32nd overall. |
| ELSA Moot Court Competition on WTO Law | - Suchita Nanwani (PCLL)  - Ann Lui (PCLL)  - Thomas Wong (BSS (G&L) 2)  - Kitty Chan (BBA (Law) 2)  
Coach: Donald Lewis (and Henry Gao in HK) | April-May 2005, Geneva, Switzerland | Participated for the first time in the competition, finished in second place after losing a close moot in the final round to City University London, and Suchita Nanwani was awarded the prize for the Best Orator in the Final Elimination Round. |
| International Maritime Law Arbitration Moot | - Jeffrey Chau (PCLL)  - Gu Weixia (SJD)  - Vivien Hui (PCLL)  - Keith Lam (LLB 2)  
Coach: Dr. Felix Chan | July 2005, Sydney, Australia | The HKU team prevailed against other strong teams such as the University of Technology, Sydney (last year's champion) and proceeded to the Finals, and Vivien Hui was awarded the Best Speaker in the Finals. |
| Louis M Brown International Client Counselling Competition | - Scarlet So (PCLL)  - Kevin Li (PCLL)  
Coach: Vandana Rajwani | April 2005, Monoa, Hawaii | The HKU team ranked amongst the top six after competing against 13 other teams from around the world in the preliminary rounds and advanced to the semi-final rounds. |

Other competitions in which a total of 13 students had taken part:
- The William C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot
- The William C. Vis (East) International Commercial Arbitration Moot
- The Red Cross International Humanitarian Law Moot

- The three HKU team members in the LAWASIA Moot.  
- Our team in the Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition, with representatives from another university.  
- The HKU team in WTO Law Moot Court Competition with their coach, Mr. Donald Lewis (first from right), in Geneva.  
- The HKU team in the International Maritime Law Arbitration Moot with their coach, Dr. Felix Chan (first from left), in Sydney.
Semi-finals and Grand Final of the Compulsory Moots

The Compulsory Moots held in the third year of the LLB programme is no doubt one of the most exciting events for law students. This year's Semi-finals and Grand Final were held on 12 and 15 April. For the Semi-finals, we were honoured to have the following appeared as judges:

The Hon Mr. Justice Reyes
The Hon Mr. Justice McMahon
Mr. Stephen Wong of the Department of Justice
Mr. Andrew Li, Barrister
Mr. Ronald Tang, Barrister
Mr. Michael Yin, Barrister
Mr. Anthony Dymond, Solicitor; and
Mr. Nigel Francis, Solicitor.

For the Grand Final — the Bar Association and Deacons Cup, the Hon Mr. Justice Hartmann, Mr. Philip Dykes SC, and Mr. Joseph Kwan, partner of Deacons, had kindly acted as judges and presented the trophies to the winners. Our judges were very impressed by the standard of advocacy shown by the finalists and in the end, the trophy went to the team of Mr. Chain Siao Liang, Christopher and Ms. Yeung Man Yan, Megan. Congratulations to Mr. Chain and Ms. Yeung!

(The left) Mr. Philip Dykes SC, Ms. Megan Yeung, Mr. Christopher Chain, the Hon Mr. Justice Hartmann and Mr. Joseph Kwan.

The only book on private international law in Hong Kong

THE CONFLICT OF LAWS IN HONG KONG

Graeme Johnston
Partner, Herbert Smith

The conflict of laws is a unique yet complex branch of law, where each jurisdiction follows its own rules when tackling issues involving a foreign element. In Hong Kong, the subject has become increasingly important with the growth of commercial disputes with a cross-border dimension.

The Conflict of Laws in Hong Kong is an authoritative and comprehensive guide to private international law in Hong Kong. Highly practical and fully localised, it provides local and overseas lawyers with an excellent compilation of the relevant rules and principles.

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Newly Established Leslie Wright Scholarships and Fellowships

In 1997, the late Mr. Leslie Wright made a generous donation of HK$5,000,000 to the Faculty of Law, HKU. With great insights, he earmarked the donation as the "Leslie Wright China-Hong Kong Legal Education Fund". Over the years, income generated from the fund was used to support various research projects undertaken by scholars in Hong Kong and from the Mainland, and also numerous international conferences on legal issues of interest to scholars in the Mainland, Taiwan, and Hong Kong.

A Management Committee has been set up to oversee the management and use of the fund. Distinguished members of the profession were invited to sit on the Management Committee. The present members include The Hon Madam Justice Kwan, Mr. William Tsui and Mr. Robert Kotelawal SC, who was invited to fill the vacancy which had arisen when Mr. Patrick Yu resigned in early 2004.

In 2004, the Management Committee resolved, in accordance with the purposes of the fund, to use the income from the fund for awarding scholarships to worthy students from the Mainland and visiting scholars in the area of China law. Accordingly, the Leslie Wright Scholarships for Mainland Students ("the LW Scholarship") and the Leslie Wright Fellowships in the Faculty of Law at HKU were duly established.

The first ever LW Scholarship was awarded to Ms. Sang Jie (桑洁), a student who studied in the Master of Common Law Programme 2004-05, for her outstanding academic performance as well as extra-curricular activities. Mr. Jiang Jin-Song (蒋劲松) of the Politicial Science Institute, Academy of Social Science of China, who came to visit Hong Kong from February to March 2005, was awarded the Leslie Wright Fellow 2004-05.

The following is an article written by Ms. Sang Jie on how she found her studies in Hong Kong a worthwhile experience.

This year I have been fortunate to be the first recipient of the Leslie Wright Scholarship for Mainland Students from the Faculty of Law at the University of Hong Kong recognizing my efforts during the one-year study of Master of Common Law. I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to each member of the Management and Selection Committees and to all teachers in the Faculty who taught and helped me.

Applying to the University of Hong Kong to study law was really a coincidence, although I have been aware of the outstanding university and its excellent law school since I was a freshman. I remember the day when I was a senior student in the law school at Zhejiang University (浙江大学), I walked into my teacher Mr. Lin Laifan's office to have a talk and I saw a brochure lying on his desk introducing the Master of Common Law (MCL) program run by the Faculty of Law at HKU. After I read it I found myself very interested in this program because the common law system was new to me, a student who studied the civil law system over the past few years. Besides, the program gives students total freedom in course selection. My decision of applying for the MCL program was greatly supported by Mr. Lin and fortunately I succeeded in entering into HKU to study law.

Recalling my studies with the Faculty of Law, I would like to say that it was an experience filled with both pain and happiness. Sometimes the learning process was so tedious and frustrating that I wanted to tear the materials into pieces and quit, especially when I had great difficulty in understanding the 50-page long English judgements or some 5-line long sentences in the statutes. However, I persisted and every time when I arrived at the end, I found the process to be completely worthwhile and was proud of myself.

I believe that every student has his/her own learning method and while mine may not be the best, I would like to share my experience with others. I find it very important to make a sensible study schedule and to stick to it, because studying common law is very different from studying civil law in that the former requires students to read many cases and other relevant materials, as well as statutory laws. I clearly remember being very frustrated by the big pile of materials distributed in my first class of a LLM course. Sitting in front of them, I had no idea of where to start and had no confidence at all in finishing the readings before the next class.

However, I believed that there must be some efficient and effective learning approaches. I talked to my course advisor Mr. Zhang Xianchu, tried different ways myself, and gradually formed my own way. First of all, I posted my timetable on the note board above my desk. Before class I read the lecture outline and the most important cases, leaving others unread if time was rather tight. After class I prepared for the coming tutorial by going over the outline and reading all the cases and other relevant materials I had not read but the lecturer mentioned in class. Finally, after the tutorial I reviewed the key points and the whole picture of the outline once more by organizing and summarizing the answers to the tutorial questions. I did enjoy the tutorials because they gave me a good opportunity to open my mind and express individual opinions.

Making case notes is, as Mr. Zhang Xianchu told us, another very effective way to study common law. There are so many cases that you will forget some and get yourself confused after a short period of time if you do not make a case brief after reading it. If necessary, I might make
“my own outline” by organizing and summarizing all the contents in my way and make some drawings about the relations between the confusing aspects and about the problem solving routes with regard to the lecture outline. This helped me clarify my thoughts clearer and save time preparing for the exams. Besides, it was kind of fun and entertaining doing this job. To sum up, a persistent spirit, a well-planned schedule and good organizing and summarizing skills are very essential and vital to common law study.

In addition to self-learning, we also organized small study groups to learn together, share personal opinions, argue with each other and solve all possible problems. As an example, I was an active participant of the contract law, tort law and company law study groups. Do not shut out your classmates because sharing and cooperating can help correct your mistakes and bring you progress. Here, I want to say “thank you” from my depth of my heart to all of my MCL classmates for their generous support.

Upon completion of the program, I intend to practise my profession in a good law firm for a few years so as to gain the valuable working experience. In fact, I have embarked upon looking for a job with Hong Kong law firms since early June. After working for some years, I will probably continue my study in law. The Scholarship money I receive will be the part of my further-study funds. Receipt of this Scholarship award, and more importantly, the encouragement and support accompanied, has served to renew my enthusiastic commitment to the study and career.

Studying with the Faculty of Law at HKU has been a memorable experience. I will never forget the wonderful and intriguing lectures, the outstanding and nice teachers, and the excellent law library. As a law graduate, I would like to say: Seize and cherish every single moment you have at HKU!

Ms. Sang Jie (桑洁)
MCL student 2004-05

Ms. Sang with Mr. Zhang Xianchu (third from left) and some of her classmates in the MCL programme.

Master of Common Law (MCL) students meeting the China-Appointed Attesting Officers (CAAO)

At the invitation of the President of the Association of the China-Appointed Attesting Officers, Ms. Lucy Yen, about 30 students in the MCL programme had the invaluable opportunity to meet, in small groups, with Ms. Yen, Mr. Yung Ching Tat, Vice-President, Mr. Wilfred Lee, former President and now Treasurer, Mr. Simon Ip, Mr. Cheung Wing In, Mrs. Jennifer Wong and Ms. Wong Fung Yi, Council Members, of the Association in June and August 2005. These students all came from the PRC and the majority of them are judges from the Guangdong Province and government officials. The others are top law graduates from the universities in the Mainland. Our students and the CAAO had a useful exchange on the operation of the attestation of documents for use in the PRC, and an enjoyable lunch afterwards. The Faculty is deeply grateful to Ms. Yen (who is one of the first batch of graduates from the law school of HKU) and the Association for their extremely warm hospitality to the students.

Ms. Lucy Yen was explaining the work of the Association to the students.

Mr. C T Yung (first from left), Ms. Lucy Yen and Mr. Simon Ip (fourth and fifth from left) and Mr. Wilfred Lee (first from right) treated the students to a sumptuous lunch.

Ms. Fung Yi Wong (second from left in the front row) together with Ms. Yen & Mr. Yung, met with a group of judges enrolled in the MCL programme.

Mrs. Jennifer Wong (second from right), joined one of the meetings with MCL students.

Ms. Yen and Mr. W L Cheung (fourth from right) with another group of students.
The generosity shown by our alumni and friends to our students speaks strongly of the noble tradition of the profession, that is, we see it as our obligation to provide encouragement, support and guidance to those who follow or are about to follow our footsteps. The Law Alumni Association in particular, has organized, and will be organizing, the following events for our students:

Alumni Talk for Law Students: *First day in Legal Practice*

The first of a series of "Alumni Talks for Law Students" was held on 2 March 2005. The topic was *First Day in Legal Practice*, with Mr. Kenneth Kwok SC, President of the Association, as the moderator. Five alumni working in different sectors of the profession shared their experience of their first day in work with about 60 law students. Feedbacks from participants are encouraging as many students find the talk interesting and enlightening. Special thanks are due to:

Ms. Bonnie Chan (LLB 1989), Vice President, Business Development & Investor Services Division, HK Exchanges & Clearing Ltd.,
Ms. Cissy Leung (LLB 1988), Head of Legal Services, Hongkong Land Ltd.,
Ms. Elaine Liu (LLB 1987), Barrister-at-law,
Mr. Timothy Tso (LLB 1999), Government Counsel, Prosecutions Division, Department of Justice, and
Ms. Felicity Wong (LLB 1999), Solicitor, Sidley Austin Brown & Wood,

for making the first session of this series such a success.
Law Association HKUSU: We Owe it to You

Every year, the Law Association is able to continue providing its services to law students only with the generous support from the legal profession. From the practical Career Talks to the more glamorous social functions such as High Table Dinners, the Law Association and law students have benefited enormously from the support and guidance of the practitioners.

One important way in which the profession helps with the functions of the Law Association is their presence at activities held by the Association. An example is the inauguration ceremony of the current session on 8 March this year. Not only did the evening mark the beginning of a new year for the Association, we were also fortunate to have in our presence a number of distinguished guests, from different sectors of the legal profession, which made the event all the more successful.

Another event which would not have been such a success had it not been with the support from the profession was the High Table Dinner 2005. On the evening of 9 April, participating law students were fortunate to be in the company of an extraordinary list of distinguished guests, which included Legislative Councillors, the Hon Ms. Margaret Ng, the Hon Mr. Alan Leong SC, the Hon Mr. Ronny Tong SC, Mr. Philip Dykes SC, Chairman of Hong Kong Bar Association, Mr. Michael Lintern-Smith, President of the Law Society of Hong Kong, Mr. Kenneth Kwok SC, President of the HKU Law Alumni Association, the Hon Madam Justice Chu, H.H. Judge Longley, Mrs. Daisy Tong, and other guests from all sectors of the legal profession. The theme of the evening was “Words of Wisdom” and we are deeply grateful for the three legislators for sharing theirs with us. With the combination of good food, good music and good company, it was indeed a memorable evening for all who were present.

Apart from local activities, the success of overseas exchange activities also depends, to a large extent, on the generous support of the legal profession. The Legal Interflow Tour to Seoul organized by the Law Association in June could not have been possible without the support and assistance of Korean Judges, Lawyers and Korean Law Schools. Other functions of the Law Association, such as the Orientation Programmes in August and the Legal Exhibition in January 2006 would also require enormous support from the legal profession in order that they can be truly meaningful.

You may not have realized what all these help and encouragement mean to us. On behalf of the Law Association, I would like to take this opportunity to express our sincerest thanks to members of the profession for your selfless contribution to make our life as law students even more interesting and rewarding.

We look forward to seeing you more in our coming activities!

Henry Cheng (Year 2, LLB), Chairman, Law Association, HKUSU, Session 2005-06
Advocating Advocacy

The PLE Department has continuously supported the development of innovative and effective training methods in professional legal skills and is grateful for the valuable contribution of the Judiciary and legal profession in its support of the advocacy programme.

This was the second year the PCLL programme offered to all students' intensive formal training in Trial Advocacy.

Student Advocates Training

Students are given the opportunity to practise skills including case analysis: legal research; examination of procedural and evidential issues, and the development of a theory of the case. These skills are then applied in opening and closing addresses and during examination-in-chief and cross-examination of witnesses. Professional conduct and ethics are a pervasive theme throughout the entire programme.

The Department and external practitioner-tutors hope that providing practices in these skills in mock courtroom settings will improve student's technical abilities as advocates and give them increased confidence in all aspects of their professional lives. Hopefully the clients will also benefit.

Over the past two years students have had the benefit of being trained by local and overseas trainers including a team from the internationally-renowned Australian Advocacy Institute ("the AAI") led by Professor the Honourable George Hampel Q.C. Other trainers were Her Honour Judge Anne Ainsley-Wallace, Felicity Hampel QC and Professor Les A. McCrimmon.

The training methodology reflects that of the AAI, the National Institute for Trial Advocacy ("NITA") and similar methodology used by numerous professional bodies including the Scottish Faculty of Advocates; the Middle Temple and the New Zealand Law Society. The method concentrates on 'learning by doing' and providing immediate feedback and demonstrations with an opportunity to repeat the performance.

Students practise their advocacy skills in small groups and are provided with demonstrations, oral and written feedback by the practitioner-tutors immediately after their practice. This gives them the opportunity to make immediate improvements for the next practice.

Training-the-Trainers

The Department considers it vital that there be as much consistency and standardisation as possible amongst the tutor-practitioners. To this end it provides training to all advocacy tutors. Intensive weekend workshops have been conducted by the AAI and local trainers. Pupils from the Hong Kong Bar volunteer to act as the 'student' advocate during the sessions.

20 Trials of the same defendant!

The highlight of the training consisted of twenty mock trials held in the High Court. All students were required to appear as advocates in the conduct of the trial. We are grateful for the assistance of all the volunteers and pupils in the programme, especially to the witnesses who provided over 100 witness roles.

The Advocacy course spans both academic terms and includes training in non-trial civil and criminal advocacy. Over 1,150 oral assessments were conducted over six days last academic year. This could not be achieved without the crucially-important contribution from 140 judge-assessors drawn from members of the Judiciary and the legal profession. This experience closely mirrors the solemnity and reality of the court process and also maintains the high standards to be expected of those joining the profession.

Other innovations include; use of video review training; client interviewing skills; live advocacy demonstrations by members of the Judiciary and legal profession. All training sessions during the trial advocacy course are digitally-recorded and made available in the Law Library for future training and for use by students and staff.

Advocacy training expanded this year to include the training of members of the local profession. The AAI and trainers from HK conducted a trial advocacy workshop for members of the Department of Justice. In collaboration with HK Advocacy Institute training workshops were conducted for members of the Law Society and Securities and Futures Commission.

Observers from a Government Department also attended the trial advocacy training at HKU.

Training Overseas

In June 2005 the National Institute for Trial Advocacy provided further training.

Consultants Vandana Rajvani and Raymond Pierce experienced a gruelling schedule in Seattle, USA over nine days appearing in six 'cases' including professional negligence and commercial arson trial.

An impressive aspect of the course was conducting a trial before a Federal Court Judge and live jury (drawn from the local area). Participants were given the rare and valuable opportunity to watch the jury deliberations in the case and were later provided feedback on their performance in 'court' by both the judge and members of the jury. The insight provided was quite startling and we will endeavour to incorporate a similar session into the PCLL programme.

The Department is dedicated to the development of the advocacy programme and welcomes comments and suggestions and looks forward to keeping readers apprised of new developments.
Launching of the Prestigious Common Law Lecture Series

In 2005, the Faculty proudly launched the Common Law Lecture Series. The Lecture Series provide a unique opportunity for the local profession, students, and academy to hear from speakers who are among the finest legal minds in the world.

We are very fortunate to have the Honourable Sir Anthony Mason, AC, KBE, Non-Permanent Judge of the Court of Final Appeal, delivered the Inaugural Lecture of the Series in March 2005, on "The Role of the Common Law in Hong Kong". Sir Anthony provided an incisive analysis of the operation of the common law in the constitutional framework set by the Basic Law. In particular, he closely compared and contrasted constitutional interpretation in China and the common law tradition, and pondered upon the implications of these differences for Hong Kong.

The second lecture in the Series was delivered in May by the Honourable Mr. Justice Robert Ribeiro, Permanent Judge of the Court of Final Appeal, on "Vexatious Litigants". In his thorough examination of the judicial responses in Hong Kong to the growing problem of vexatious litigants, Mr. Justice Ribeiro powerfully demonstrated how the common law is at work to prevent abuse of process whilst safeguarding the constitutional right of access to courts as guaranteed by the Basic Law.

Forthcoming lectures in 2005 include: Lord Millett on Property and Restitution: Drawing the Boundary (7 November 2005); and another by Lord Hoffmann on 13 December 2005.

The Faculty is greatly indebted to the Hong Kong Judiciary for its kind support for the Lecture Series.

Information about forthcoming lectures and their publication is available from the following website: www.hku.hk/lawccls.

Inaugural Common Law Lecture, 15 March 2005

Sir Anthony Mason with Professor Roda Mushkat.

Ms. Lusina Ho (left) and Sir Anthony Mason.

Common Law Lecture, 20 May 2005

The Hon Mr. Justice Ribeiro, PJ.

The Hon Mr. Justice Ribeiro, PJ, with the Hon Chief Justice Li (left) and Professor Chan, the Dean.

(From left) The Hon Mr. Justice Ribeiro, PJ, the Hon Mrs. Justice Bokhary, the Hon Mr. Justice Bokhary, PJ and Professor Wilkinson.
China's Participation in the WTO: Changing China, Changing the World, 21 & 22 February 2005

The two-day conference organized by the EAIEL Programme had brought together in Hong Kong senior officials from the Ministry of Commerce of the PRC, leading WTO academics from around the world and WTO experts from multinationals and professional services. The keynote address was delivered by His Excellency Mr. Shi Guangsheng, Member of the National People's Congress Standing Committee, former Minister of Commerce of the PRC.

Opening Ceremony of the 2005 Asia-Pacific Regional Trade Policy Course (RTPC), 20 April 2005

Opening ceremony of the 2005 Asia-Pacific Regional Trade Policy Course (RTPC), 20 April 2005.
Recent Developments in the EAIEL programme

commencing this September for three years. The AusAID TARP involves WTO-related trade policy research and analysis and WTO-related training for the governments of Thailand, Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia. Members of the EAIEL Programme will be working closely with world-leading WTO academics from, among others, LSE (Britain), Carleton University (Canada), Auckland University (New Zealand), and the University of California (USA).

Also in this past July, the EAIEL Programme concluded an agreement with a major EAIEL donor involving the establishment of the EAIEL ICT Asia Pacific Research Network with funding of more than HK$3.5 million over the next three years. The EAIEL Programme will be coordinating with transnational research teams consisting of top academics and policy specialists from throughout the Asia Pacific region. These regional research teams will explore contemporary law and policy issues in the following areas: intellectual property rights protection, information communications technology and software, competition law and policy, trade facilitation and e-government, and the rule of law in Asia.

In February 2005, the EAIEL Programme has been invited by the Ministry of Commerce of China ("MOFCOM") to submit a proposal regarding training for government officials in China. A proposal was submitted and was accepted by the MOFCOM. The EAIEL Programme is pleased to announce that the first such training courses has just commenced at the end of August 2005. The students will include senior officials from the MOFCOM and the provincial departments of commerce, as well as directors of the provincial centers for WTO affairs. Mr. Xianchu Zhang, Associate Dean of the Faculty and Mr. Henry Gao, Deputy Director of the EAIEL Programme will be the trainers for this course. It is hoped that this first training course will mark the start of long term cooperation between HKU and the MOFCOM and will help to build up the reputation of HKU in the area of WTO training.

International Comparative National Experience of Autonomy: Purpose, Structures and Institutions, 9 & 11 April 2005

This timely conference was organized by the Centre of Comparative and Public Law to explore structures and institutions of various autonomous regions, with the aim of providing guidance on which models are most effective in achieving the objectives of autonomy. Speakers at the conference included Lord David Steel, member of the UK House of Lords and the first Presiding Officer of the Scottish Parliament, the Hon. Mr. Robert Rae, Former Premier of Ontario, and Dr. Ryaas Rasjid, Former Minister for Regional Autonomy in Indonesia.
International Conference on Professional Ethics, 19 & 21 March 2005

Organized as a major event in the series of anniversary celebrations, this international conference took place in Hong Kong on 19 March and then in Beijing on 21 March 2005. The Conference was in two parts: the first part was on “Judicial Ethics” and the second part was on “Lawyers’ Ethics”. We were greatly honoured to have the following as our speakers at the Conference:

Judicial Ethics – The Hon Sir Anthony Mason, AC, KBE, NPJ of the CFA, The Hon Mr. Justice Chan, PJ of the CFA, and Judge Zhang Gen-da of the Supreme People's Court, PRC.

Lawyers’ Ethics – Mr. Edward Chan SC, former Chairman of the Hong Kong Bar Association, Mr. Peter Lo, now President of the Law Society of Hong Kong, Mr. Peng Xue-feng, Vice-President of All China Lawyers Association, and Professor Adrian Evans, Monash University, Australia.

The Conference provided an invaluable opportunity for judges, practitioners and academics from the PRC, Australia and in Hong Kong to exchange on the current ethical issues faced by them in their jurisdictions, new developments of professional and judicial ethics in China and also on the international trend. It is hoped that the Conference will help arouse the profession's awareness of this important issue.

Professor Chan, the Dean, was delivering the opening address.

(From left) Mr. Richard Wu (organizer of the Conference), Mr. Edward Chan SC, Professor Adrian Evans and Mr. Peter Lo.

Mr. Edward Chan SC was addressing on the current ethical issues faced by Hong Kong barristers.

Professor Arian Evans.

Speakers on the “Judicial Ethics”.

The Beijing Conference held at the Tsinghua Law School was attended by about 200 participants.
CLIC Website Launching Ceremony, 6 May 2005

The CLIC (Community Legal Information Centre) website was officially launched on 6 May 2005. The CLIC project is commissioned by the Government under which the China Information Technology & Law Centre, HKU, is to develop, host and maintain a bilingual website to enable a greater access by members of the public to legal information and legal services in Hong Kong. The CLIC websites are: www.hkclic.org; and www.clic.org.hk.

Members of the Steering Committee for the CLIC Project (which is comprised of representatives from the Department of Justice, Department of Computer Science and Department of Law of HKU) with the officiating guests at the launching ceremony (from left in the front row: Professor Johannes Chan SC, Dean of the Law Faculty, Mr. Robert Alcock, Solicitor General, Professor Paul Tam, Acting Vice-Chancellor, and Professor TS Ng, Dean of the Engineering).

PCLL Drinks Party, 4 June 2005

The first ever end-of-term drinks party held for the PCLL students took place immediately after the conclusion of the Trial Advocacy Course, at the Jurors Assembly Room of the High Court. About 100 students and 20 alumni, including some of the Executive Committee members of the HKU Law Alumni Association, attended the gathering. They all had a good time, enjoying the chit-chat over drinks and delicious snacks.

The students were having a good chat with Professor Wilkinson and Mr. Wesley Wong (LLB 1992) (third from left).

Mr. Edmund Ma (LLB 2003) (first from left) and Ms. Cindy Leung (LLB 1988) (first from right) with Mr. Richard Wu (third from left) and 2 students.

Professor Wilkinson with our guest alumni: (from left) Ms. Yuen Ling, Mr. Kenneth Kwok SC, Ms. Francoise Lam and Ms. Elaine Liu with her little daughter.
Peter Allan Memorial Lecture in Public Law by the President of the Supreme Court of Israel, 11 April 2005

The lecture was delivered by the Honourable Aharon Barak, who has been the President of the Supreme Court of Israel since 1995. Before assuming his present position, President Barak served as Israel’s Attorney-General. His professional roots are in academia, having served as Dean of the Faculty of Law of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. The topic of the lecture is “The role of a Supreme Court in a Democracy and the Fight Against Terrorism.”

Jerome Chan Memorial Lecture by the Hon Chief Judge Ma, 15 June 2005

The Memorial Lecture was established in 2002 in memory of the late Mr. Justice Jerome Chan, who graduated from HKU in 1974. This year, we were privileged to have the Hon Mr. Justice Geoffrey Ma, Chief Judge of the High Court, delivered a lecture entitled “Ferment in the Law: Stability and Change”. In this intriguing lecture, the Chief Judge discussed how the law and the courts have been able to deal with changes faced by Hong Kong in the 21st Century and yet provide citizens with the reassurance and protection that the rule of law is required to provide.

Dr. Peter Vine, OBE, VRD: A Generous Benefactor Fondly Remembered

A colleague of mine told me recently that he had the chance of reading the CVs of some top graduates of our Faculty across the years, and almost all of those CVs contain the line “Peter Vine Postgraduate Law Scholarships”.

My colleague should not have been surprised by his observation. The fact is that the late Dr. Peter Vine, through his charitable foundation, had been providing very generous scholarships to our top LLB graduates since 1989. These graduates were good enough to secure admission to LLM programmes (or their equivalents) at some of the finest universities in the world (like Oxford, Cambridge, Harvard and Stanford), and the Peter Vine Postgraduate Law Scholarships have given them not only financial, but moral support. Many of these graduates told me that without the Scholarships, it would be impossible for them to take up the valuable study opportunities and fulfill their dreams.

From 1999, Dr. Vine substantially increased his already generous donation, and extended his benefaction to promising Mainland law graduates doing the one-year Master of Common Law programme at our Faculty.

In the past 16 years, more than 30 of our “cream” graduates have been beneficiaries of the over HK$2 Million donations. With the benefit of learning at top universities overseas, they have come back to Hong Kong with promising career paths before them – not just as distinguished legal practitioners but hopefully as leaders.

By Professor Johannes Chan, Dean

with firm commitment to our community.

Dr. Vine left us on April 13, 2005, at the age of 83. But he left us with the fine legacy of a visionary who was dedicated to grooming the very best. He has left us with a human asset the value of whom can be enormous.

The Foundation has most kindly agreed to continue the Scholarships to our students. No doubt, the vision of Dr. Vine will remain with us for a long, long time to come.

Dr. Vine was presenting a certificate of award to a PRC student at the Reception for the Class of 2002 (LLM programmes).
Of splendour in the grass...

William Wordsworth,
"Ode: Intimations of Immortality"

Though Ms Susan Johnson is a graduate in the mid-70s, she is no stranger to many of us. She is well-known for her humor and thus we had seen her as the Master of Ceremony at the 30th anniversary reunion dinner in 1999 and the 35th Homecoming gathering in 2004. After a successful practice as a solicitor for 27 years, Sue J, as she was intimately called, still very much has the good old days as a law student at the University of Hong Kong on her mind...

Counting from the day I graduated from the University, I am 30 years older, not necessarily 30 years wiser, but definitely 30 pounds heavier. As an overworked though handsomely paid solicitor, I have recently decided not to overstay my welcome. On 31 December 2006, I will voluntarily demission myself (or shall I say, relinquish my license to rob) before the good old Law Society catches up with me. Firstly, I can’t be asked to do more CPD points. Except for my faithful secretary who somehow found out that one can do CPD points in the relative comfort of one’s own home (by electronic means, of course), I would long have thrown my towel in - circa. 2003 when all self-respecting solicitors are required by Lester Huang our dear friend or nemesis (depends which side of the establishment you are on) to do CPD points without exception. Secondly, my greatest pleasure practising as a solicitor has been taken away by this wretched rule that requires a fee agreement to be put in place so you don’t end up with an unsuspecting customer (but what’s wrong with an unsuspecting customer, client?). Whenever clients ask me what my charges are, I can no more say, “If you ask, you can’t afford my services!” - a euphemism for “Don’t ask, whatever I state on the bill, pay pronto and don’t query”. Those good old days are very much a thing of the past.

It’s now time to reflect and take stock. First thing first, how did I pass my exams in times when the casualty rate (or shall I say, mortality rate) was extreme - for the first year, 50% discontinued, no supernumeraries, now you tell me! For someone like SJ who spent 90% of her time at the Sports Centre and the other half making money teaching music (doesn’t add up, right?) to pass exams is no mean feat. I actually raked in a couple of distinctions for my PCLL Year. SJ is kind of lazy, but certainly not crazy. Weapons I do have a few. I have a somewhat pretty face but my cousin has a very pretty face. The chap (some bloke called Tony Wan) who lent me all his notes (and even made copies for me because I can’t be asked to enslave myself standing next to a copying machine) is now my cousin-in-law. Whenever there is minor marital disharmony, my cousin Peggy would breathe down my neck accusing me of selling her for a pile of notes. I told her that sometime in or about 1976 with the PCLL Exams just three weeks away and still not a sheet of notes in sight - sold her I did, but certainly not short. Except for the fact that solicitors cannot share fees with non-solicitors, I would gladly have given a handsome commission to my Cousin Peggy based on my gross fee income for the rest of my practicing life. Instead, she’s been getting Tony’s entire fee income for the past 27 years, and in the foreseeable future! Is anyone complaining? Yes, I can think of one, and that’s not the Law Society.

Another person that I have to thank is the Hon Mr. Justice (David) Yam. So that SJ does not get too bored studying, was always on hand to offer his roomy residence as the mahjong venue. When we were “short-footed”, he too offered to take the last place on the table plus opened his wallet. “Ah Yam” was such easy prey, not because he was a bad player - well, the fact of the matter was he didn’t know how to play at all. Where would you find such a lovely character? So goes my famous one liner: “They don’t make men like they use to!”

The confession would not be complete without mentioning the Hon Mr. Justice Peter Cheung. Had I known that Peter would one day end up on the bench, I would never have dared to pull a fast one on him. After passing our 2nd year exams, the folks decided to let it rip. There was no Lan Kwei Fong in those days. Instead, MK Kwan decided to take Peter and yours truly on a train tour of the New Territories. The threesome got off at the Ma Liu Shui station (now University station). What started off as a terrestrial trip soon assumed aquatic proportions.

Susan Johnson on stage as the Master of Ceremony at the 30th anniversary dinner held at Loke Yew Hall, November 1999.

Susan (second from right in the front row) with members of her class at the 35th anniversary reunion dinner, December 2004.
樂人燕語——訪樊國雄
連錦君 Youn Ling (LLB 1997)

二〇〇五年春日的一個下午，當大家
仍然忙著趕「快勞」，看文件，開電
郵之際，我和樊國雄（Peter Fan，
LLB 1996）在灣仔藝術中心三樓的
Pumpernickel，正奢侈地享受著藍天
碧海，呷一口香濃的咖啡，展開了以
下一段東拉西扯關於音樂，法律與人
生的對話…

Peter 90年畢業於港大法律系，隨即
考入演藝學院鋼琴及鋼琴專業文憑。
幾乎每個知道 Peter 背景的人都會冒
提出同一個問題：為什麼選擇音樂而不
去做律師。

「我從小到大都真的想做律師。小時
候寫我的志愿書時都是寫律師的，到再
大一點時想做什麼是律師。什麼是大
律師時就更要加上一個『大』字。因為
我從小已經十分嚮往律師在法庭內
雄辯滔滔的樣子，那個被人定了型的
律師形象。讀中學時選課外活動，以
至其他的選擇其實都是朝著那個方向
走的。」

十一歲開始正式學鋼琴，但遇到的老
師並不十分專業，會一邊教琴一邊煮
菜，話雖如此，這次老師其實是位好老
師。他的學生後來都考進了演藝界。

「我記得很深的一次這個老師從祖國
回來的，一直認為我是找書的好材
料，可能他我去讀書，所見的人和
物，都令他認為讀書好的男孩子不要
走音樂这条路。回想起來，這位老師
其實某程度上幫我選了我的路。雖
然他仍會用心教我，但我的訓練就
跟其他準備走音樂這條路的學生有所
不同。」

一般人都認為選擇讀法律是黃金路，
以音樂謀生則相當冒險。在法律與音
樂之間，Peter 選了兩次，第一次順
理成章——法律。

「起初選讀法律是很理所當然的，中
學所選的科目都是朝讀法律這個方向
走。當時大概是90年代左右，社會
風氣是沒有太多人選法律，所以收
生條件都不算太高。我知道只要我英
文可以，有一個合理的成績，其實不
用擔心。入一個我還算喜歡的系，
能力應付得了，又可以多玩三年，何
樂而不為？加上當時對當大律師有憧
憬嘛。」

從法律到音樂——突如其來的呼召
「曾想一直是斷斷續續的，到中五差
不多已經停學了，即使後來考進法律
系都是自己練習，練好了再給老師聽。
直到大學三年級才考試時才忽然考
慮要不要讀音樂。」

好像正在讀法律之際突然有了 calling
( 呼召 ) 一樣。

「對呀！最深印象是大學三年級那年
去華盛頓參加 Jessup Mooting Compe
tition。小時候由於家境問題
沒有太多機會出國，那次去D.C. 經
已是我人生中去過最遠的地方。我記
得當年大約有60多隊參賽隊伍，人
很多，觀眾好像突然間擴闊了。回到
香港的時候我好像突然間問有個
paradigm shift，有個轉變。在期考期
間有一個剛剛睡醒，忽然問自己：
『為什麼『不』讀音樂？』要小心，這
是反問句的。我在床上反覆去想為
什麼不讀音樂。但真的想不到任何一個理由不去讀，結論
就是——『一試無妨』！

我當時認識一位在演藝學院鋼琴系的學
生，他是演藝學院鍵盤樂系主任家特
老師（Mr. Gabriel Kwok）的學生。
透過這個朋友，我向郭先生查詢
像我這樣的一個廿多歲、法律系畢
業、沒有受過十分正統的音樂訓練，
懂得彈一些作品、偶爾會彈新派音樂
的人，演藝有沒有可能取錄？如果沒
有可能的話，我就不打算浪費時間
了。郭先生聽聽我的情況後說：『有
可能的，最主要看你彈得怎麼樣。』
於是他叫我到他的琴室彈給他聽。結果我成為了他的學生，我亦協助他準備演講的資料。他最後演講後取錄了我。

當時我想，既然已不打算做律师，PCCD 又這樣辛苦，當然不會考慮讀 PCCD。當然我有想過，讀完音樂後再補讀一年 PCCD。總比我讀完 PCCD，再讀音樂來得划算。畢竟我讀的不是作曲，不是指揮，也不是聲樂，而是鋼琴演奏。我有感到有迫切的需要。年齡是個很重要的因素，當年我 23 歲，還在大學音樂學院最年齡的學生。鋼琴演奏是程度上好像一個運動員，高峰期過了可不可以追回來？已經是個問題。相相每一年，每一分一秒，一年都是影響我的因素。所以當我有機會去追求這個夢的時候，我也不想延誤。終於就拼命練琴，練至身體都受傷了也在所不計。

三年法律 vs 四年演藝

「讀音樂四年底比讀法律難三年辛苦。我一直有一個感覺：就是用我的腦袋、我的手去寫東西比用我的手去彈琴容易得多。要我讀不同的科目，對我來說沒有太大困難，要寫論文要考試要打 hand 對我來說都不算太有挑戰性。相反，我讀音樂那幾年要我放低我最高的，例如把我的口才、我的理性思維、分析能力統統關閉，單從音樂表演的角度出發，對我的挑戰是無可比擬的。」

「我也想過這可能是天份的問題，可能在口才、分析能力這方面我較有天份。但回心一想，亦有可能和從小練習有關。就好像中國的體操運動員練童子功一樣，打個手印就像打哈嘓一樣容易。換句話說他們是做法律工作可能有難度。我在鋼琴技巧上沒有某些『童子功』，即使有很多訊息我想透過音樂去表達，只要技術上做不到，別人就接收不到。我所面對的困難就是我腦海裏有很多東西，但可否透過我十指手指表現出來，對我來說就是一種挑戰。」

古典 vs 流行

「古典音樂有些人會稱它為 High Art，我同意的。古典音樂所表達的情懷或情緒是沒有其他藝術形式可以取代。比如說繪畫、詩歌、舞蹈、音樂等這四類，再加話劇這五個藝術模式，我覺得最高無法上的一定是音樂，因為它最抽象，可以表達的東西最豐富、最豐富，它能夠表達的那種 subtext，那種 profundity 是無限制的。這些是流行音樂不能做到的。

但換過來它對技術的要求亦是最高，所以我會有我的限度。對我來說流行音樂較容易表達我想表達的東西，但它可以表達的是否就是我想表達的呢？這中間就有分別了。當然有時候會覺得其實不用太高的技巧亦可以表達我想表達的東西，就也會有滿足感。而對接收的觀眾或聽眾來說，由於流行音樂較為親切，他們又較容易接收到我想表達的東西，於是滿足感又好像多些。但另一方面，鋼琴在流行音樂的角色大都是配角，鋼琴接收的大多是音樂伴奏，這又是另一個不同的層次。」

「必殺技」

天份也好，後天訓練也好，始終閱讀能力高，寫作能力高，對音樂總有助手。

「這是我的必殺技」嘛！坦白說，我有多少功夫內人一定知道。所以我知我所的難題是趣味與補充，所以我知道我的重點是趣味與補充，這亦會避重就輕，一些 “acrobatic”的東西，我不會拿來見人的。幸好觀眾對我尚算包容，可能他們會覺得我在感情上、音樂上又或者藝術上所給予聽眾的，可以彌補一些技巧上的缺失。我在演藝得到最好的訓練，就是如何去好好演繹一首作品。我聽到他說我 Peter Fan 所能給予觀眾的東西，亦是我的強項。

技巧上亦亦曾經掙扎過要不要放棄，因為觀眾始終喜歡看 acrobatic 多些，但之後我嘗試了，始終我有這樣的演出機會，而我又真的喜歡音樂的時候，我會給自己多一點時間，看看技巧上是否可以再修飾得更好一些，做不到是另一回事，這是我 05 年的目標：就是要多些練琴。」

Homecoming —— 點滴思緒

法律學校三十五週年 Homecoming 那天，Peter 跟另一位校友 Jack 基 (Edmund Cham) 演奏鋼琴四手聯彈，演出完畢後他跟我說，發覺自己突然回到很 ‘law’ 的環境，不禁想起很多人，不知怎樣表達，那次在我追問下，終於整理出一點所以然來。

「那天我回到這個環境才發現自己已經很久沒有聽過那些用詞，那些 jargon，那些業務，那些很獨特、很尖端、很特殊 (peculiar) 的言論。我感覺很自責，好像回家的哪種感覺。這感覺實在是太久了，令我想到平日我在音樂廳工作的時候，總會有些什麼要用力點，以我的性格，如果真的職業，工作上可偽像手法來拿住，但人際關係方面是真的要等待另系的。」

曾經聽過一個講話，大律師這一行根本就是明星制，跟在娛樂圈打擊名堂一樣，成功的只會是 “cream of the
讀 law 與其就熟，但音樂卻是半途出家，謙虛總是磨練出來的。

"所以我之前接受訪問時都提及我
在流行音樂界學生的經驗，也提問我
在古典音樂的出身，在流行音樂界
我更是後輩中的後輩。就算我在
古典音樂界有什麼銜頭，有什麼成就去
pop 那邊都沒有意義，不論你彈
拉姆斯詩彈得有多好，去流行音樂
那邊其實有很多東西是一無所知的。
所以很多時候我會讓一些與人相處。
In a humble mode 有幾個好處：第
一，其他人不會覺得你『乞人憎』。
我深深一個道理：不管你在那一行，
只要你『乞人憎』就不會有人給你機
會。第二，當你講謙虛的時候，你身
上的感應器自然會去接受不同的東
西，變相你吸收的就會更多。如果不是
這樣，你身邊所有可供學習的環境
和機會都會給你浪費掉。

回到古典音樂，某程度上雅那就在康
復中的 inferiority complex 其實對我有
很大幫助。別人不會覺得我 ceux 強，我
自己亦不會讓自己餓死，我比人優勝
的地方可能是演出機會較其他人多，
除此以外其他的都是平等。

對音樂的抱負和期望

「我曾經對自己的成就很不滿，亦曾
經覺得自己真是個大小角色才去當樂
團的鍵琴手，在樂團不過是大機器
內的一粒小螺絲，最突出不過是做
伴奏而已。隨著時間的過去，起初可
能是迫不得已在接受現實，但慢慢過
了這個階段，我開始去了解這個世界是
什麼一回事。我從來沒有關心過，不
有否認我真的有朝一日會跟根
樂隊彈奏我醜的獨奏家。這個夢我仍
然有機會去，我不會認為這是不可能
的。發夢其實無幾，不過是多開一個
Window，你沒有必要用盡你腦袋內
的所有記憶體去打這個夢，但開一個
Window 可以，我亦會不時檢討我現
時的岗位是否已做好。

一個好的音樂家應該是在任何環境內
都恰如其份的做好你的角色，即使你
是一個很好的獨奏家，在玩笑樂時你
仍然得與其他人合作。Rahabenstein
都有伴奏的時候，如果作為伴奏而沒有
耐心與你合作的那位，你就是 bad
musician。因此我會更懂得欣賞我目
前的工作。最奇妙的是當我越懂得欣
賞自己的工作，我的機會就越多。
This is the magic of life！如果我可以
做好眼前的事，天知道將來有什麼機
會等著我，我要做的就是懂得欣賞
自己手頭的工作，以及容許自己繼續
發夢。」

快樂和成就之間

「我選快樂。快樂可以和成就掛
勾，亦可以與成就沒有關係。如果你選了
快樂，我可以把我的成就變為快樂；
如果你選了成就，我的成就不過是
成就。

曾經我被認為是 over-achiever，我不
同意。後來細想才不得不同意。

Over achiever 的諧音詞就是時常感到
自己不夠，然後要不斷用成就證明自
己。從這個角度看，我相信我潛意識
有這個動力，但我現在調整自己的心
態，因為當我抱着這個心態做事，我
永遠都覺得自己不夠。我會時常問
自己，我得到了什麼？為什麼我不斷
認為自己不夠，我所 achieve 的都是
non-achievement。想到這裏不禁很痛苦，
到了最後可能發現其實沒有什麼
需要肯定。

例如玩流行音樂，我現在的心態是想
試試 pop music 是什麼，只要我喜
歡，我就找到快樂；如果不喜欢就算
了，這樣子會活得開心一點。」

後記

隨 Peter 做訪問，他會發現他有很
多做人的哲理。他能夠把生活的點滴拼
湊成一段段小故事，大道理，除了慧
根以外，還有善意改變的勇氣。記得
幾年前在港大上通識課程時聽他串疊
說過一句話：人越大越要問自己，路
是愈走愈窄，還是越行越闊。Peter
是少數給我正面答案的一個。
Thank You Once Again, Dear Friends

To us, each donation under our Friends of the Faculty Scheme from our supporters is not just a sum of money that we are able to raise. It represents a vote of confidence by our supporters in what the Faculty is striving at. It is the driving force for us to work harder still in our pursuit of excellence in our teaching and research. What is more, the notes accompanying some of the cheques we received are always heartwarming and reassuring.

This year’s response to the Scheme has been particularly encouraging. 81 members of the profession and judges (including a visiting judge from Korea) have donated under the Scheme. And with some donating well above the suggested amount of $3,000, a total of $354,360 was received. We would like to express our heartfelt thanks to the following Friends for their generous support this year:

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If you have any comments or suggestions on this newsletter or the work of the Faculty, or if you want to have any information about the Faculty, you are most welcome to contact our

Faculty Development Officer, Ms. Carol Chen (email: cschen@hku.hk Tel: 2241 5294), or
Public Relations Officer, Ms. Ellie Yung (email: elle.yung@hku.hk Tel: 2859 2919).
So long, Farewell . . .

Dear current/former students and members of the Hong Kong legal profession,

I have been a law teacher at the University of Hong Kong for the past 26 years and have had the privilege of being exposed to many of you, both in the classroom and in the professional arena. I am proud of the qualities you displayed as students, of your practical achievements and the deep sense of civic responsibility you have exhibited as members of a community increasingly seeking channels for expressing its voice.

Hong Kong has provided me with a highly rewarding platform to pursue my personal and professional interests and you have been an important factor in this constantly evolving equation. I have shared very memorable moments with many of you in educational and social settings alike. These moments were not confined to Hong Kong, as the various mootoot competitions have added a global dimension to our relationship, and one distinctly adventurous in nature.

I have come now to a point at which it is appropriate to seek new opportunities. I believe that it would be beneficial for me to spend a number of years in a different academic environment. I have thus accepted an offer of a chair at a British university which has a strong law department with considerable emphasis on international law, human rights, legal theory and socio-legal studies.

London, with its vast array of research institutes focusing on international comparative law and its European and North American connections will also enable me to foster even closer ties with scholars working in areas in which I am professionally active.

That said, I do not plan to sever my links with the University of Hong Kong, where I will continue to serve as an Honorary Professor of Law. I hope to visit the University as often as possible and make use of the facilities kindly offered to me. My research agenda will remain Asia/Hong Kong-centred, at least for the time being. Moreover, Hong Kong is my home/place of permanent residence and a key member of my family will continue to be based here most of the time.

I hope to see you during my visits to Hong Kong and welcome you when you travel to London. Please feel free to obtain my contact details from Ms. Monnie Leung, our excellent departmental secretary who had functioned as my right hand for the past three years.

Yours always,

Roda Mushkat

July 2005