Land Law Conversations

An occasional series of discussions on topics concerning Hong Kong land law

The Trouble with Land Law
Teaching Real Property in the 21st Century

Wednesday, 28th May 2014 starting at 1:00 pm
Room 901, 9/F Cheng Yu Tung Tower, University of Hong Kong

Land law is a notoriously unpopular subject with both students and staff. Why is this so? Is the content of the subject to blame? Does the fault lie instead with the students? Or with those who teach it?

Land law teachers say that their subject is really very interesting once you get to know it. They deny that it is dull or difficult. They claim that it is really about people. They maintain that it has a pleasing certainty that other, woollier, kinds of law lack. They point out that it is very important in practice.

In this session Malcolm Merry will talk about these questions. He will suggest that the subject covers such a broad spectrum that generalization about its character and attributes is misleading. He will also suggest that parts of land law are indeed difficult and can indeed be dull so it will never be a student favourite: only after accepting this can we address how the teaching of the subject can be improved.

Participants will be invited to talk about their perceptions and experience of the subject and to consider how land law courses might be better structured and what changes to their content and methods of teaching might be made.

Light refreshments will be available.

If you would like to take part or attend, please notify Flora Leung at fkleung@hku.hk on or before Friday, 23 May 2014.