

Newsletter

Faculty of Law, The University of Hong Kong



Issue 2, 2020

Enrich Students' Lives & Empower the Community

Hong Kong Law Journal Turns 50

Long Service Awards

Copyright Classroom



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Please send in by email (facdev@hku.hk).

Dean's Message

The new semester is upon us. Due to the continuing impact of COVID-19, the University has decided to continue teaching online in the first three weeks of September. While face-to-face teaching may resume in parallel to online teaching after the first three weeks if the public health situation improves, the social distance rules regarding classrooms are such that online teaching is likely to remain the dominant way of teaching in this semester for the majority of courses. Online teaching has been with us since November 2019 making us the institution with the longest duration of online teaching! We have coped with crises, one after another, with a high degree of efficiency and have managed our research and teaching very well under difficult circumstances. While the quality of online teaching has improved and both teachers and students are discovering the inherent strength of online teaching - part of it will continue in the post-COVID-19 world, we all miss the dynamism of face-to-face contact and teaching and learning in the customary way. I look forward to welcoming our students, alumni and visitors to return to our esteemed Cheng Yu Tung Tower.

Our academic events, seminars, lectures, and symposiums, have continued and indeed thrived during these challenging times. While the pandemic has made physical academic activities impossible, we have discovered the strength and flexibility of academic events on Zoom. Now we are able to arrange schedules to suit the needs of speakers and participants from different time zones. As a result, our events are all well attended and events with over 100 participants, which would be regarded as extraordinary in a face-to-face setting, have become the norm.

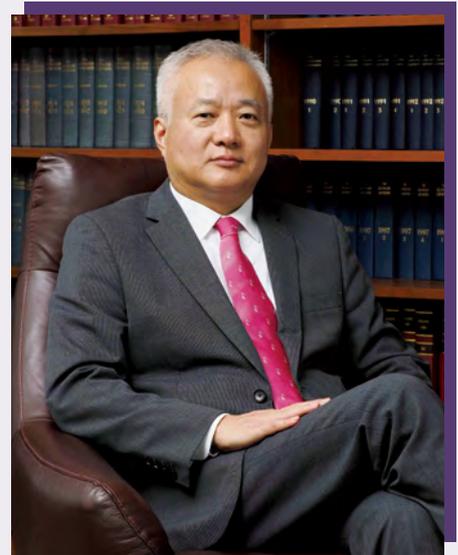
As usual, our academic events have been timely and cover a wide range of academic and policy issues, including cutting-edge topics such as social protests, public health, equality rights, and national security. At a critical time like this, the Faculty continues to offer a platform to promote rational deliberations and debate on important legal issues. Many of our past events can be watched at our Faculty's website. Please stay tuned to our forthcoming events on Zoom. In that regard, we are truly making the exception the norm.

Our flagship journal has also achieved a significant milestone. This year we celebrate the Golden Jubilee of our *Hong Kong Law Journal*. The Journal is a few months younger than the Faculty so the celebratory events have been continuing under the able leadership of Professor Rick Glofcheski as the Editor-in-Chief and with the collective effort of his team.

As you know, HKLJ publishes three issues per year. Part 1 of 2020 is now out. You can find the Part 1 contents and abstracts at the HKLJ home page. <https://www.law.hku.hk/hklj/>. Colleagues should also read the 50th anniversary page <https://www.law.hku.hk/hklj/50th-anniversary.php>. There you will find an excellent introduction by Rick, which outlines some history, the journal's mission and the various ways we are marking the anniversary. Part 2 is in print. A key feature is the Protest Focus, edited by Po Jen Yap. The Protest Focus is an impressive collection of articles on the anti-mask law, the anti-extradition bill and relevant judgments. I am sure the essays will be read widely and will be impactful.

The HKLJ is an important academic forum that produces high-quality commentaries and scholarship on Hong Kong and Chinese law. It has offered a valuable service to the legal profession, the judiciary and the larger legal community in Hong Kong. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Rick for his leadership and also congratulate the HKLJ team for their achievements.

Against all the odds during the protest and the pandemic, our students have also achieved impressive outcomes in international competitions. For example, our students won the Herbert Smith Freehills Competition Law Moot 2020 (hosted by KCL). This is the third time HKU has won this Moot since its inauguration in 2015. We were the champions in the inaugural Iron Tech Lawyer Competition (hosted by Georgetown Law Institute for Technology Law and Policy) and in the Law for Change Student Competition 2019. Our Digital Verification Corps (DVC) Team won the Times Higher Education Award. We were also the First Runner up in the Regional Round of the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition 2020.



We continue to face the challenges of a persisting pandemic, continuing constitutional uncertainties; and there is also a general concern with which we must deal. At this time of visible apprehension, I would like to share with you a message that I wrote to the 2020 Cabinet of the Law Association to celebrate its inauguration. The Cabinet calls itself the Praesidio (Protection) and the theme for 2020 is Polaris (the name for the Pole Star or North Star).

Praesidio and Polaris have distinct meanings when one reads them apart. Reading them together in Hong Kong's current context - and through the lens of a Law Association of the leading law school - they take on a unique meaning, however.

Hong Kong has been measurably challenged over the last year. It has undergone a severe stress test. Studying law in testing times is particularly meaningful and consequential. We take pride in claiming that rule of law is a core value of our society and that Hong Kong is defined by a culture of rule of law and associated institutional designs. We are so used to the life under the rule of law that sometimes we take it for granted. We forget that rule of law is, in essence, a continuing, active process rather than a static institution. To benefit from rule of law we need to strive to maintain its strength. Its survival and resilience depend on our vigilance and our collective will and effort. The rule of law may be more fragile than we expected.

As law students you are the current and future guardians of the rule of law in the Hong Kong. If you take the rule of law seriously, law is the Polaris that you must follow. In testing times when the society becomes polarized, established norms are under challenge, and the way of life you have grown up with can get twisted and distorted. There are bound to be uncertainties, doubts and anxieties. It is natural to feel confused. At times like this, it is increasingly easy for us to lose our sense of direction.

At times of darkness, we look for the Polaris for direction. In our society where the rule of law is close to our hearts and has served as our cornerstone, central legal norms can offer invaluable guidance to help steer us out of the darkness. Hong Kong remains a rule of law society despite the challenges and crises. Maintaining our commitment to basic legal principles has, today, become a more meaningful and powerful project than ever.

Find your moral compass in law, then follow it and guard it. To do this, you need to develop an understanding of the depth and breadth Hong Kong's system of law. You are young and full of energy and ambition. The future is yours. Law school offers an exceptional place to nurture your mind and your soul, so that, once you complete your studies, you will be a good lawyer, a good person and a good citizen.

Follow your Polaris and be on guard always as you journey under its guidance.

We live in a turbulent time and in a community that is divided due to political contention and atomized due to the pandemic, and we continue to navigate in uncharted waters. The best contribution that we can make as a Faculty to the larger society is to discover our resilience and strength, to perform our duty to the best of our capacity and do the best in all matters that are within our control.

Professor Hualing Fu
Warren Chan Professor in Human Rights and Responsibilities
Dean, Faculty of Law

Congratulations to our colleagues



Long Serving Awards

The Faculty has just celebrated its 50th Anniversary and is extremely fortunate to have three colleagues – Former Deans Professors Albert Chen and Johannes Chan SC (Hon), and Mr Michael Jackson – who have been with us for 35 years. They have inspired generations of students, enriched the jurisprudence of Hong Kong, and have been a role model of leadership and service to the community. Congratulations and Big Thanks also go Mr Norman Hui and Ms Julienne Jen, who receive this year the 15-Year Service Award.

Professor Albert Chen, Chan Professor in Constitutional Law (2007-15) and Cheng Chan Lan Yue Professor in Constitutional Law (2015-), Dean of Law (1996-2002). He holds Honorary Professorships at many Mainland and overseas universities; and is currently a member of the Committee for the Basic Law of the HKSAR under the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress of the People's Republic of China.

Professor Johannes Chan, SC (Hon), Chair of Public Law, Dean of Law during 2002-14, the first and so far the only Honorary Senior Counsel in Hong Kong. He is also Visiting Professor of University College London (2018-23). As a barrister, he has appeared in many major constitutional law cases. In 2019, he was awarded by the Hong Kong Research Grants Council the RGC Prestigious Fellowship in Humanities and Social Sciences.

Mr Michael Jackson, Former Head of the Department of Law (2005-2008), has published widely in criminal law, cybercrime in HK, the regulation of covert surveillance, and the regulation of privacy in public places. He has served as a member of the HK Law Reform Commission's Subcommittee on Fraud, and appeared on a number of occasions before LegCo panels to present submissions. Admitted as a solicitor in HK, he consults mainly in the field of criminal law, and has assisted in a variety of major criminal cases during his time in Hong Kong, in particular in relation to ICAC fraud and corruption prosecutions.

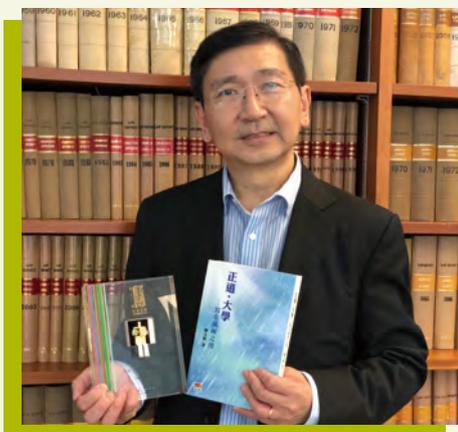
Mr Norman Hui, Principal Lecturer of the Department of Professional Legal Education. He is the course coordinator for Civil Advocacy, Personal Injuries Litigation and was the course coordinator for the Litigation Stream (as it then was). Norman was called to the Bar in 1996, whose practice is focused on intellectual property disputes as well as general civil, commercial and personal injuries cases.

Ms Julienne Jen, Principal Lecturer of the Department of Professional Legal Education. JJ, as she is widely known, mainly teaches and coordinates the Civil Litigation and Commercial Dispute Resolution courses; and practises as a solicitor, offering pro bono legal advice at the Clinical Legal Education course. Interested in exploring different methods of experiential learning in her teaching, JJ won the University's Outstanding Teaching Awards in 2019.

7 Faculty members receiving HK\$4.2 million Research Grant Funding from RGC and PPRF

Congratulations to the following Faculty members on obtaining more than HK\$4.2 million in funding to 6 General Research Fund (GRF) and 1 Public Policy Research Fund (PPRF) projects.

General Research Fund	
Ms Rebecca Lee	Rebuilding Trust and Legitimacy for Charities in Hong Kong
Dr Marco Wan	The Construction of Sexual Minority Identities in Legal and Political Discourse in Hong Kong
Professor Lusina Ho	A Comprehensive Examination of Judicial Practice on the Chinese Trust Law
Dr Clement Chen	Accountability in Algorithm-assisted Sanctions: Public Law Scrutiny of China's Social Credit System
Professor Xin He	The Personal Safety Protection Order against Domestic Violence in China
Dr Michael Ng	Liberating Hong Kong: The awakening of freedom of expression and the rule of law in British Hong Kong (1978-1997)
Public Policy Research Fund	
Ms Amanda Whitfort	An Empirical Study of the Nature of Animal Abuse Cases in Hong Kong from 2013-2019



The 13th Hong Kong Book Prize

Congratulations to Professor Johannes Chan SC (Hon), on receiving the Hong Kong Book Prize from RTHK and Hong Kong Publishing Federation with his book “正道 • 大學—寫在風雨之後”. The book was selected by the votes of the professional panel and readers as one of Best 9 Books in Chinese that were published in 2019. For details, please visit https://app4.rthk.hk/culture/13thbookprize/final_list.php.

Faculty based Research Output Prize Winners 2018-19

Shahla F. Ali “Court Mediation Reform: Efficiency, Confidence and Perceptions of Justice”, Edward Elgar Publishing, 2018, 291pp.

Patricia Ho honored for defending rights of human trafficking victims

Patricia Ho, who joined the Faculty recently as a principal lecturer, has been honored for her leadership in defending the rights of human trafficking victims and marginalized groups by the US State Department in June 2020 (<https://qrgo.page.link/Wywdq>), as she “has raised awareness of the dire need for a human trafficking law in Hong Kong and uplifts survivors' voices in her advocacy”. Patricia is a co-author and presenter of the Crimes (Amendment) (Modern Slavery) Bill 2019 which has been introduced into Hong Kong Legislative Council in the same year as well.

Congratulations to our alumni

The Faculty congratulates alumnus Andrew Cheung on his appointment as the third Chief Justice of the Court of Final Appeal of the HKSAR with effect from 11 January, 2021.

Born and educated in Hong Kong, Mr Justice Cheung read law at The University of Hong Kong, obtaining a Bachelor of Laws degree in 1983 and a Postgraduate Certificate in Laws in 1984. He was a highly successful barrister in private practice and since he joined the bench in 2001, he has commanded wide respect from the legal community. It is pleasing to note that the appointment of the first locally trained Chief Justice coincides with the Golden Jubilee of the Faculty of Law.

This is a challenging time for Hong Kong. Mr Justice Cheung recently observed that he is “fully conscious of the community’s high expectations of the Judiciary and that if appointed he will do his utmost to ensure that the rule of law and judicial independence are maintained and that the rights and freedoms of the individual are safeguarded.”



Congratulations also go to the following alumni for the recent Judicial Appointment as Permanent Magistrates (in alphabetical order):

- Ms Chak Kwok-yee (PCLL 2004, LLM(Arb&DR) 2008)
- Mr Lam Chak-ming (PCLL 2003)
- Mr Lung Gwun-ting (LLB 2002, PCLL 2003)
- Miss Jo Siu Chi-wan (PCLL 2008)
- Ms Eleanor Yeung Yee-na (PCLL 2008)

The Faculty applauds the appointment of Mr Samuel Chan (LLB 1988, PCLL 1989) as the new Chairman of the Competition Commission from 1 May 2020; and Ms Cleresa Wong (LLB 1980, PCLL 1981, LLM 1988) as the new Chairman of the Subsidized Housing Committee of the Housing Authority from 13 August 2020.

Congratulations to our students

LRC Law Reform Essay Competition 2020

The Law Reform Commission of Hong Kong has launched its seventh annual essay competition to provide law students in Hong Kong with an opportunity to propose how a given area of Hong Kong law may be reformed. This year, the topic was 'Internet Intermediaries Liability in Defamation – Should the Law in Hong Kong be Reformed'? We are very pleased to see that all 7 finalists are from HKU and they are:

- Kwok Yu Hin (PCLL)
- Lam Ching Wang (LLB 2)
- Law Kwan Pui Paul (LLB 3)
- Lee Wai Chau (BSS (GL) & LLB 3)
- Ngan Sum Long Nicole (BBA(Law) & LLB 5)
- Wan Pui Hin (BA & LLB 5)
- Yeung Jun Tao (BSS (GL) & LLB 4)

All of their essays can be downloaded at



Copyright Classroom - promoting creative and ethical use of copyright works in education through short videos

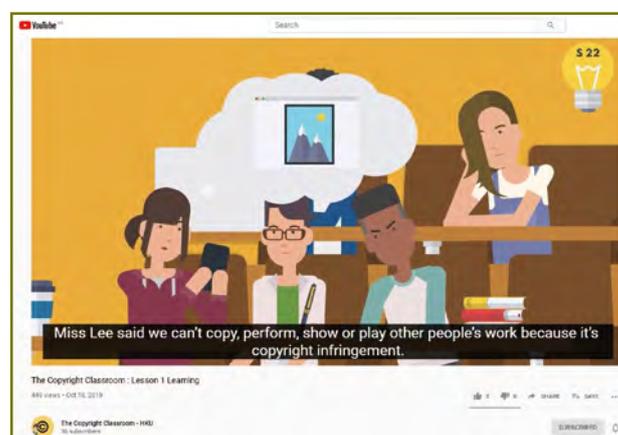
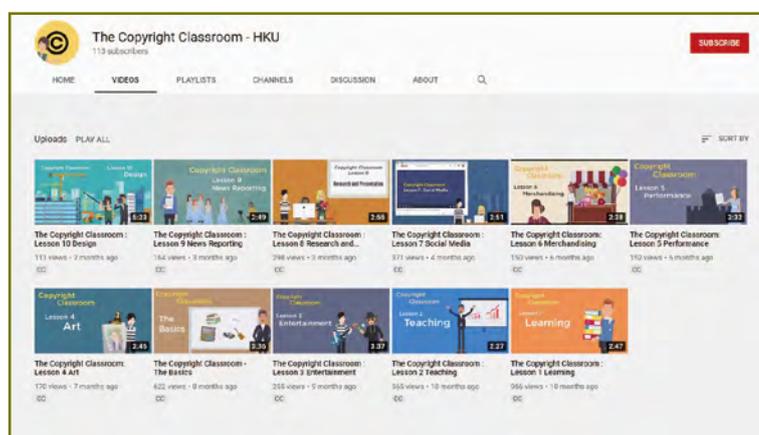
Copyright is meant to encourage creativity by conferring exclusive rights on authors and enabling copyright owners to make profits by distributing or licensing copyright works. Nevertheless, in reality, the copyright regime is too complex and technical for layman to comprehend. To promote creative and ethical use of copyright works in education, the Faculty produced a series of short videos, titled "Copyright Classroom".

The project is led by Ms Alice Lee, Associate Dean (Academic Affairs) and supported by the HKU Knowledge Exchange Funding and HKU Teaching Development Grant.

"There are burning questions regarding copyright issues in education. For example would it be copyright infringement when teachers and students include copyright works like images or music into their presentations, teaching/learning materials or social media? How about busking or school performance in which parody or adaptation is involved? Or merchandise to be sold at Lunar New Year Fair? Would any exception be granted? We hope, through these videos, both the education sector and general public would have a better understanding of the copyright principles; and be able to identify copyright exceptions in teaching and learning, and know where to look at if relevant resources and materials are needed." said Ms Lee, who has been teaching and researching copyright law for more than 20 years and the recipient of the 2019 University Distinguished Teaching Award. She also thanked law alumnus Uncle Siu for being the voice over, other team members and partner secondary schools for their inputs.

The copyright education videos, tailor-made for the tertiary, secondary and primary education sectors, are disseminated through https://hku.to/Copyright_Classroom "The Copyright Classroom - HKU" channel as well as Ms Lee's education website www.law.hku.hk/collab.

There are 11 videos and more are coming. The content is in English, with English subtitles, and Ms Lee is happy to elaborate in English or Chinese for any interested educational institution. The project team has been organizing copyright seminars/webinars for schools that wish to engage their students and staff in more in-depth copyright discussion, and will continue to do so by invitation.



The New HKU/UC Berkeley LLB/LLM Programme

The Faculty is delighted to launch the Pathways Programme with University of California, Berkeley (Berkeley Law). This Programme is designed for LLB students (in the 4-year programme) with a maximum annual intake of three students. Students will spend the summer before their final year to start the first half of a US LLM Programme (under the Professional track) at Berkeley Law, and complete the remainder of the LLM in the summer after graduation from the LLB. Upon successful completion of the LLM at UC Berkeley, students will be awarded an LLB degree from HKU and an LLM degree from UC Berkeley; and become eligible to register for the California Bar Examination. Current LLB Year 2 students with a minimum CGPA of 3.30 are eligible to apply this Programme.

Please visit https://www.law.hku.hk/HKU-UCB_Pathway_Information.pdf to learn more.

Events on National Security Law

The Hong Kong National Security Law is set to have a significant and long lasting impact on Hong Kong's legal system. In a series of academic events including seminars and forums, the Faculty of Law and its research centres would review the new legislation and its implications. Participating experts from different backgrounds would shed light on the challenges arising from the new national security regime in Hong Kong, and the responses to it under the rule of law. These events would be held via Zoom and available at <http://video.law.hku.hk/>. So far, events on the following have been organized: -

- Balancing Freedom and Security: the Hong Kong National Security Law
- Hong Kong National Security Law and Extraterritoriality
- Security Laws in Singapore and Hong Kong: A Comparison
- Academic Freedom in Hong Kong: the Potential Impact of the New National Security Law



The opening forum “Balancing Freedom and Security: the Hong Kong National Security Law” on 4 July, 2020.

Webinar Series “Coping with Legal Challenges Arising from the Pandemic”

The webinar Series “Coping with Legal Challenges Arising from the Pandemic” is launched, featuring Faculty members discussing the most pressing legal topics arising from the pandemic such as digital finance and crisis; the ethical and legal relationship between healthcare professions and the state in the context of the Hong Kong response to COVID-19, risks and uncertainties with the COVID-19 litigations against China etc. The broadcast can be revisited at <https://video.law.hku.hk/>. Please check out our other online seminars at <https://www.law.hku.hk/events/>.

HKU-SCF FinTech Academy - A Synergistic Partnership to Steer FinTech Development and Groom World-Class Talents

The University of Hong Kong (HKU) and Standard Chartered Bank (Hong Kong) Limited are proud to jointly announce the establishment of The University of Hong Kong – Standard Chartered Hong Kong 150th Anniversary Community Foundation FinTech Academy (HKU-SCF FinTech Academy) with a generous support of HK\$60 million from the Standard Chartered Hong Kong 150th Anniversary Community Foundation (SCF).

Leveraging the combined strength of academics and industry to enhance and expand the way FinTech is taught, researched, and innovated, the HKU-SCF FinTech Academy is hosted by the Department of Computer Science of the Faculty of Engineering and strongly supported by the Faculty of Law and the Faculty of Business and Economics. It aims to stimulate cutting-edge research and teaching of information technology in financial services, and make a sustainable impact on the financial services sectors of Hong Kong and the Greater Bay Area.



Thank You and Goodbye!

We would like to express our gratitude and best wishes to the following full time members who left the Faculty or switched to other post of the Faculty:

- **Ms Dora Chan**
- **Mr Alexander Green**
- **Mr Benny Tai**
- **Dr Ryan Whalen**

We wish them all the best in their future endeavours.

Retirement

The Faculty would like to thank the following colleagues for their dedication and contributions to the Faculty.

- **Professor Rick Glofcheski**
- **Mr Michael Jackson**
- **Ms Katherine Lynch**
- **Ms Irene Shieh (Law Librarian)**
- **Professor Xianchu Zhang**

Meet our New Staff

Stephanie Biedermann

Stephanie joins the Faculty as Lecturer, teaching the Law, Innovation, Technology and Entrepreneurship (LITE) programme. She specializes in international law, immigration, forced migration, and discrimination issues, particularly for refugees, asylum-seekers, and migrant workers. She is a US-licensed lawyer and her legal experience includes work in the US, Egypt, the United Arab Emirates, and Hong Kong, with a focus on public interest law and access to justice issues. Stephanie holds a J.D. from Yale Law School, a B.A. in English from Princeton, and is admitted to the State Bar of California.



Benjamin M. Chen

Benjamin M. Chen is an Assistant Professor and an interdisciplinary legal scholar interested in regulatory and judicial institutions. He graduated with a J.D., Order of the Coif, from the University of California, Berkeley where he also received his Ph.D. Before joining the Faculty, Benjamin was assistant professor in public policy at the National University of Singapore. He was previously an associate-in-law at Columbia University in the City of New York and served as a judicial law clerk on the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

Alison Cole

Before joining the Faculty as Senior Lecturer, Alison has worked at all the United Nations international criminal tribunals, then worked on policy development as the Open Society Justice Initiative in New York. Alison holds a BA in law from Cambridge; a LLM from Harvard and is completing a PhD at Amsterdam University. Her current focus is on litigation for climate change solutions in partnership with practitioners and academics in the Pacific and South East Asia through the student-led organisation the Asia Pacific Solidarity Network. She will begin her work co-teaching the course Human Rights in Practice.



John Liu

Associate Professor Dr John Liu receives a Bachelor of Laws from Peking University, and graduate degrees from UChicago. He writes primarily in the fields of judicial behavior and financial regulations, mostly using empirical or statistical methods. His interests extend also to the broader field of law and economics in China. He teaches business law and economic regulations, law and economics, and empirical study of law. His work has appeared in a number of leading academic journals in law and in China studies.

Ying Xia

Ying joins the Faculty as Assistant Professor. Her research seeks to weave everyday life experience into broader theories about the law, governance, and society, with a particular focus on environmental reform in China and the role of China in globalization. She is a graduate of Harvard Law School, where she completed her LLM and SJD. During her doctoral studies, Ying has conducted fieldwork in several East African countries, exploring the impact and regulatory challenge of Chinese investment in the region.



HKU's Success in 2020 International Moot Amidst Challenging Times

The year of 2020 – amidst the outbreak of COVID-19 – has presented new challenges for the HKU moot teams, as various moots were moved online or conducted with social distancing rules in place. Yet the coronavirus outbreak has also unleashed the HKU moot teams' potential to adapt to evolving circumstances by leveraging on digital technology, and inspired their determination to rise to the challenge in these unprecedented times. Undeterred, the HKU moot teams continued to thrive and achieved excellent results this year. Congratulations to the HKU teams on their accomplishments! The HKU Law Faculty would also like to express its sincere gratitude to all the coaches, guest judges, and all those who helped the HKU moot teams, for their unfailing support.

Herbert Smith Freehills Competition Law Moot 2020

Team members: Jason Louie (LLB 4); Adrian Mak (PCLL); Clara Wong (PCLL); Alex Yeung (BBA(Law) & LLB 5)

Coaches: Associates Professors Thomas Cheng and Kelvin Kwok; Ms Allison Wong

Ranking/ Awards: Champion; Honourable Mention and one of the top 5 speakers in the preliminary rounds (Clara Wong)

Acknowledgement: Professor Anselmo Reyes, Dr Kazuaki Nishioka, Ms Isabel Tam, Mr Geoffrey Yeung, Ms Bonnie Cheng, Mr Byron Chiu, Mr Peter Dong, Ms Crystal Chan, Mr Joshua Kanjanapas, Ms Hazel Law, Mr Jonathan Ng and Ms Ferrida Chan



Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition 2020 – Regional Round



Team members: Ryan Cheung (LLB 4), Cheung Sheung Sheung (BSS(GL) & LLB 3), Mathilda Kwong (PCLL), Jessica Shan (JD 1) and Fergus Tam (PCLL)

Coaches: Ms Astina Au and Ms Natalie So

Ranking/ Awards: First Runner up; Best Oralist Award - 1st Runner-up (Ryan Cheung); Best Oralist Award - 2nd Runner-up (Cheung Sheung Sheung)

Acknowledgement: Mr Jason Ko, Mr Victor Lui, Mr Henness Leung and Ms Angel Cheng

The inaugural Herbert Smith Freehills Computational Law e-Mooting Competition

Team members: Gabriel Wan (LLB 4), Maegan Ho (LLB 4); Alison Cheng (LLB 3)

Coaches: Mr Brian Tang

Ranking/ Awards: One of the top eight teams based on written submissions to compete in the international advocacy rounds



The International Maritime Law Arbitration Moot

Team members: Angel Chan (BBA(Law) & LLB 2), Chow Joo Yan (LLB 3), Ho Ching Him (PCLL), Lee Hoi Yan (PCLL)

Coaches: Dr Felix Chan and Mr Ken Lee

Ranking/ Awards: Merit Award and 6th place overall for memoranda



Enrich Students' Lives & Empower the Community



This title comes from the fundraising campaign “**Beyond 50**” of the Faculty when celebrating its Golden Jubilee. During the celebration, many have been done to review and reflect how the Faculty grew with and contributed to Hong Kong in the past fifty years. When looking ahead, how would the Faculty respond to challenges from social uneasiness to global pandemic?

What kind of training and experiential learning are we offering to our students for this globalized and technologically advanced but ever-changing world?

How do these experiences bring positive changes to both students and communities?

Besides Overseas Exchange and Visiting Programme, you have read in previous issues about our Clinical Legal Education (CLE) Programme and Rule of Law Education (ROLE) Programme, this time let’s take a look at other innovative initiatives.

LITE Lab @HKU

Law, Innovation, Technology and Entrepreneurship (LITE) Lab@HKU, launched in 2019 and led by founding executive director Brian Tang, is an interdisciplinary and experiential course for students from any disciplines. During the first semester LITE course, students created legal-related projects using video animation, document automation and chatbots. In the second semester LITE Lab course, students are working with real-world tech startups and social entrepreneurs from Cyberport, iDendron and the Fintech Association of Hong Kong on cutting-edge legal-related projects.

Four of the first cohort of LITE students: Chloe Chan, Cuthbert Chow and Iverson Wong from Law; and Jasmine Poon from Arts and Design developed an AI-powered casebank “EC Bank” to assist injured workers to get the compensation they deserve. The original idea arose when project leader Chloe Chan identified the lack of a user-friendly database when she worked at a personal injuries lawyer’s firm, and during the LITE course, the team worked with Neighbourhood and Worker’s Service Centre to better understand the needs of the relevant NGOs and injured workers, then created a process and platform for collecting new data from that and other Hong Kong NGOs to add to the judicial decisions to feed to the open-source NLP engine from Allen Institute.

The project won the AI Future Tense Pitch Competition organised as part of Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups’ HSBC Future Skills Training Programme in January 2020; then the inaugural Iron Tech Lawyer Invitational held virtually by Georgetown Law in April 2020 via Zoom.

“The experience of bringing about EC Bank has boosted my sensitivity towards the closer connection between technological possibilities and legal realities, as well as getting acquainted with the adoption of LegalTech in streamlining legal processes,” said project leader Chloe Chan. Chloe said that some of her learnings included “having [to] overcome obstacles such as the building a trustful and collaborative relationship with the participating NGOs, designing a UX/UI that best fits the product users and obtaining their feedback back and forth, as well as choosing and finetuning the key factors to be extracted from court judgements.”

After the course and these competitions, the team has incorporated a company “Litex Limited” and have been accepted into Hong Kong Science and Technology Park’s Science and Technology Entrepreneurship Program. LITE Lab’s Brian Tang, organiser of 2018 LegalRegTechHack in conjunction with Global Legal Hackathon when it was first launched in Hong Kong, was very proud of the students, “LITE Lab@HKU provides a sandbox and support for diverse students to connect, develop design-thinking and computational law mindsets and skillsets and create solutions through “hackathon as pedagogy”..... We look forward to supporting them in their impactful endeavours.”



Screen capture when HKU students won the inaugural Iron Tech Lawyer Invitational held virtually by Georgetown Law in April 2020 via Zoom.



The Team won, with an AI-powered casebank to assist injured workers to get the compensation they deserve, the AI Future Tense Pitch Competition organised as part of Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups’ HSBC Future Skills Training Programme in January 2020.

Award-Winning Projects led by students: Law For Change

As students are becoming more sensitive towards unmet legal needs and gaining more insights into connecting law with other disciplines to provide creative solutions from credit-bearing courses, it would not be surprising to know how proactive and creative they are in initiating their own projects. Indeed, HKU teams won the Law for Change Student Competition by PILnet in 2017 and 2019; and swept all prizes in 2019.

The Law for Change Student Competition by PILnet, a global public interest law (“PIL”) organization that creates opportunities for social change by unlocking law’s full potential, is intended to stimulate interest in public interest law and create opportunities for implementing sustainable initiatives to address the access to justice needs of the low-income and vulnerable communities in Hong Kong.



Winner: Access to Justice Fellowship

Members: Acacia Chan, PCLL
Celine Chan, PCLL
George Ho, PCLL 2020 (CUHK)
Jaime Wong, PCLL
Michelle Wong, PCLL

The annual Access to Justice Fellowship (“A2J Fellowship”) aims to tackle barriers to access to justice in Hong Kong by establishing sustainable partnerships in PIL between the legal and NGO sectors. Having observed that many NGOs often lack the legal expertise and capacity to effectively support their communities, while there is an abundance of PIL-minded law students who lack opportunities to explore and train in PIL, the team suggested the A2J Fellowship. The 10-month long programme places two law graduates (within five years of graduating from a qualifying law degree) in two partnering NGOs to undertake quasi-legal capacity building projects.

This initiative is the first of its kind in Hong Kong, and the aims of the project are twofold. First, to strengthen the NGOs’ legal capacities, which will benefit the communities they serve. Secondly, to allow Fellows to apply their legal background and skills in a PIL context. During the Fellowship, the Fellows will have access to legal training, as well as the support of a Legal Mentor, whose role is to guide the Fellow as they apply their legal knowledge to real-life scenarios. Fellows will also have the opportunity to attend an international PIL conference, to increase their PIL exposure and to engage in meaningful knowledge exchange. By the end of the Fellowship, we envision stronger partnerships in PIL to increase access to justice in Hong Kong.



Ms Ada Yip (first from left) and Mr Davis Bookhart (first from right) of the Judging Panel and the Team “Access to Justice Fellowship”.

First Runner-up: Be EnGayged

Members: Chan Wing Hei, BBA(Law) & LLB 2
Cheng Lok Yu, BBA(Law) & LLB 2
Li Ka Hang, BBA(Law) & LLB 2
Yeung Cheuk Wa, BBA(Law) & LLB 2
Ambrose Yu, BBA(Law) & LLB 2



Be EnGayged aims at advocating general rights related to the homosexual community in Hong Kong, with the focus being the reduction of workplace discrimination.

The project contains three phases, starting with an online community which targets at educating homosexual employees the existing legal protection relevant to them, as well as providing information regarding the latest legal development in LGBT-related laws and judicial reviews.

Be EnGayged believes that engaging the employees alone is insufficient to eliminate of workplace discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation; therefore, the second phase of the project will be conducted in the form of an employers' survey. The survey aims at studying employers' commitment in promoting workplace diversity and inclusiveness. Employers who have openly supported the LGBT issue will be encouraged to expressly embrace diversity and inclusiveness in their websites or Human Resources manual.

The last stage looks into the possibility of including the general public in the project by launching a petition and cooperating with the District Council.



Second Runner-up: ASsist – Empowerment through Exchange

Members: Abdullah Bin Azhar, LLB 2
Stephanie Chan, LLB 2
Holly Leung, LLB 2
Colin Mak, BBA(Law) & LLB 2

ASsist – Empowerment through Exchange seeks to promote the mental well-being of asylum seekers and improve their access to resources and information. This project aims to be a confidence-building measure that would empower asylum seekers in Hong Kong.

This project is split into two components: information sessions which would educate asylum seekers on the USM process and the challenges they may face, as well as recommend ways to cope with and address psychological conditions and pressures; and a website that will compile available resources and coming events, such that asylum seekers may have an overview of what is available to them. This ultimate aim of this project is to allow asylum seekers themselves to run both the information session and the website, enabling this project to be sustainable in nature and giving asylum seekers a sense of ownership of their rights.

The team aims to collaborate with existing NGOs such as Christian Action, Branches of Hope, and the Refugee Concern Network to expand its outreach.



Winner: Outreach Legal Talks Initiative (OUTLET)

Members: Hansika Agrawal, BSS(GL) & LLB 5
 Soyoung Kim, BSS(GL) & LLB 5
 Veronika Kramar Mandelj, BSS(GL) & LLB 5
 Marcus Yuen, BSS(GL) & LLB 5

There are approximately 200,000 people living in subdivided flats (Census and Statistics Department, 2016) and 337,000 elderly living beneath the poverty line (HKSAR Government, 2016). While there are information packs and other resources re. common legal issues for these two low income groups (for example advance directive and estate planning for elderly and tenancy agreement for subdivided flat tenants ("SFT")), they often do not know of their existence nor able to access these information easily. OUTLET aims to serve as a bridge, connecting information of the underprivileged groups by providing free talks, delivered by law students, directly to elderly and SFT.

As the winning team, OUTLET has received a seed grant to implement the project in 2018. Firstly, the team invited NGOs/ Elderly Care centre partners; as well as law firms/ legal practitioners while recruiting law students. Then they prepared the talk materials, conduct workshops and practice sessions, promoted the talks before the delivery. In 2019, OUTLET received support from Sau Po Centre on Ageing of the University as one of its partners of the GIE-CAMPUS project. Sau Po Centre on Ageing's organizational goal is to research on ageing issues. Through partnering with 4 faculties, namely Law, Medicine, Engineering and Architecture, the GIE-CAMPUS Project aims to research on and promote university students' awareness and understanding on healthy and active ageing. The team focused on talks for elderly in its third cycle, and as in Summer 2019, 76 students participated, reaching nearly 1,000 elderly and SFT.



賽馬會「陽光計劃」劏房居民社區支援服務

住屋學堂：劏房權益知多啲

必須報名！

講者：港大外展法律講座計劃成員

內容：講解租住劏房會遇到的疑問

- 死約期間，業主收到政府清拆令迫你搬
- 一入伙間屋好多老鼠、漏水住唔落去
- 業主成日無通知就用鎖匙開門入屋
- 業主拖住唔肯整壞冷氣、熱水爐

日期：6月16日及30日(星期六) 共兩節
 時間：下午三時至五時
 地點：香港聖公會麥理浩夫人中心210室

*當日有免費托兒服務及由社會企業製作的小食供應

查詢及報名：親臨或致電 陽光鄰里互助中心
 電話：2616-0766
 地址：葵涌大圍街23-51號銀行大廈地下29號A舖

主辦機構：香港聖公會麥理浩夫人中心 團體及社區工作部
 The Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust
 資助機構：香港賽馬會慈善信託基金會
 The Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust





香港聖公會西環長者綜合服務中心 - 護老者服務 陳穎彤姑娘

中心與港大 OUTREACH 合作踏入第二年，特意邀請長者及其照顧者一同參與。是次合作計劃舉辦一系列以一般安老法律事宜為主題的講座，包括安老按揭、平安紙、預設醫療指示等。感謝眾同學們，在每次講座的準備工作中，也總是看到他們認真的預備，而聽取參加者的意見後，更會設法豐富活動內容，例如協助彈性安排場地、加設校園導賞遊等，讓講座活動更具特色及滿足參加者的需要。上述法律系同學所舉辦的活動甚具趣味，故吸引來自港九新界的照顧者家庭，年中亦有不少社區人士致電詢問報名詳情。

而承接講座後的安老法律個別諮詢服務，也有長者認為同學們的跟進周到和貼心。其中有一對沒有子女的夫婦，擔心後事及財務安排，加上其居住唐樓正進行收購，更感迷茫。同學雖然不太掌握處理程序，但積極向義務律師請教後，能細心向夫婦二人解釋各項程序，並協助他們完成撰寫平安紙，讓他們可後顧無憂，積極享受晚年生活。在此，再次多謝院校眾師生的參與，讓長者們就安老法律知識上，獲益良多。



Sophia Yu

LLB 3, OUTLET former participant and current Director



This project is very flexible in allowing us to give talks to audiences ranging from tenants of sub-divided flats, elderly to possibly ethnic minorities in the future. When I was a participant, I had face-to-face communication with the elderly, through which I consolidated my legal know-how and ways to convey difficult legal knowledge in the simplest language. Now, I have the opportunity to organize the upcoming talks with my teammates to further our effort in assisting people in need.



Jacqueline Choi

LLB 2, OUTLET former participant and current Director



It was my first time using the knowledge I have learned in serving the society. It offered me an opportunity to put my legal researching skill to use, helping me in refining my studying method. I have also realized that law infiltrates different aspects of life, whether it is financial care or health care. And by empowering people with legal knowledge, we would be able to help people in making better choices and protecting their own rights.

No. of students and participants



- HKSKH Lady MacLehose Centre – HK Jockey Club Project Sunray
- Society for Community Organization
- HKSKH St Luke's Settlement Neighborhood Elderly Centre
- St James' Settlement Central & Western District Elderly Community Centre



- S.K.H. Western District Elderly Community Centre



No. of students

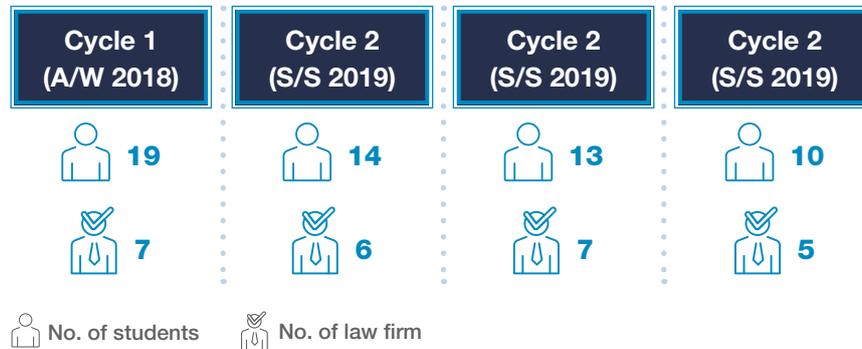
No. of audience participation

Legal Advice Programme (LEAP)

LEAP is another initiative founded by Marcus Yuen besides OUTLET, aiming to mobilise law students to engage in legal research and preliminary drafting for the pro bono work undertaken by its partner law firms. In another words, LEAP is a student version of pro bono service, but run by law students themselves. As the existing pro bono schemes including the Faculty's Clinical Legal Education (CLE) Programme usually cater individual clients but not organizational clients (NGOs/ social enterprises), LEAP tried to fill the gap, supporting law firms to provide pro bono services such as incorporating, registering as tax-exempt charity etc.



Key Indicators (cumulative figures as to Summer, 2019)



Alice Li
PCLL, LEAP Co-Founder



Seeing a growing demand for pro bono legal services, a group of law students including myself saw an opportunity and proposed a creative solution: matching up social-minded law students with law firms to enlarge the existing pro bono capacity. Being one of the co-founders of the Legal Advice Programme (LEAP), my duty was to pitch our idea to law firms, NGOs and professors. Given the initiative is entirely student-run, we spent more than one year planning before launching LEAP. Throughout the execution process, not only did we create something meaningful, we built a cohesive team capable of contingency planning and decision making.



Marcus Yuen

BSS(GL) & LLB 5, Co-founder of LEAP and OUTLET



To be honest, we encountered many difficulties in founding new social engagement activities – yet I have learnt and benefited a lot from the experiences, in terms of friendship building, problem-solving, project management, getting network, and international exposure.

We started preparation work roughly in 2017-18. It was hard for me and other Co-founders at the beginning – we saw pro bono service in Hong Kong are not as sophisticated and well-developed as Western common law jurisdictions. We hope to solve the problem – by adding student power – to the existing picture. Students would be interested in learning legal practices, applying the knowledge they have learnt from textbook, contribute to the society, and have exposures in terms of pro bono internship and work. We hope to line up students' wishes to help the society, and what they can provide: contribute time and effort to preliminary legal research and drafting – to improve the existing pro bono regime in Hong Kong. Having the idea requires implementation – we needed to pitch the idea to possible funders, collaborating law firms, NGOs etc. And we as Co-founders would need to balance between our academic studies and project management. But we got to appreciate the importance of teamwork, most efficient use of time, and project management: for instance, working closely with teammates to appreciate their difficulties they were facing and adjusting work division, to ensure the greater picture of team cohesion and project operation on time. These are major take-aways for all of us.

My OUTLET partners and I joined an international public law NGO (PILnet)'s competition in 2017. It was an exciting exposure. The team needed to concisely and succinctly write our proposal and conducted a panel pitch. We presented the problem we spotted and how OUTLET model can incentivise stakeholders and improve the situation. It was with greatest pleasure and honour that we won the inaugural championship. PILnet has given us tremendous support, in granting an angel fund and lining up with their NGO network. PILnet further invited us to their Global Pro Bono Forum in Berlin in 2018. With the support from PILnet, we were glad to be able to participate as a Panel Speaker instead of a mere participant, to share Hong Kong university students' thoughts and work in improving our pro bono regime. It was an eye-opening experience for the Forum was attended by many law firm partners and NGO representatives coming from different countries. We learnt of different pro bono projects and how lawyers are pouring resources in helping cross-boundary issues such as improving humanitarian treatment to refugees.

I would hope to take this opportunity to thank our friend and mentor – Ms Alice Lee. She has been kind in providing ideas for us to take forward the project. She was also one of our legal mentors in OUTLET when we conduct talks related to tenancy and land law to subdivided flat tenants. Alice lined us up to different stakeholders, inside the Faculty and the law alumni network. And I am glad to have worked alongside Alice in taking forward another initiative: SELECT – to provide a platform inside the Faculty to incubate, advise and groom further student-led community-led pro bono projects. We very much look forward to continuing to collaborate with Alice and we are glad to have a friend and mentor like her.





Arthur Cheung

BSS (GL) & LLB 4, LEAP former participant and current Director



LEAP Legal Advice Programme provided me with the unique opportunity to help workers and low-income lay clients with their legal needs during my term-time attachment at Kenneth Lam, Solicitors. Through meetings with clients at the firm and free legal advice sessions at the offices of district councilors, I learned to listen to the problems that clients are facing, translate them to legal terms, and give straightforward advice on the available courses of action without burdening the clients with complicated legal reasoning. It is rewarding to apply my legal skills to real-life issues and try to offer practical solutions.

As LEAP's Project Director, I have had chances to work with different stakeholders and expand our pro bono model. Our team has connected a community centre with a firm to provide wills drafting service to the elderly with the help of our participants. We also organised activities with PILNet Hong Kong to advocate pro bono awareness among law students. We hope to explore the demands for pro bono legal service in town and devise innovative ways to engage students, firms and community partners, so that we can meet the needs with enhanced capacity.



Mr Peter Li

Assistant Solicitor, B. Mak & Co., Solicitors

Mr Peter Li and
Ms Cindy Choi
B. Mak & Co., Solicitors



Our firm first joined the LEAP in 2018. Starting from the second cycle, we have been preparing wills for the elders. In each cycle, we helped 6-8 elderly clients, referred by a partnering elderly centre, to prepare their wills. Under our guidance and supervision, the participating law students met the clients to take instructions, conducted legal research and drafted the wills. We are happy to serve this group of elderly whom we could not have reached otherwise. We consider this programme as a good training for the students, as they can acquire practical experience like understanding the clients' needs, tailoring specific solutions to each of them, and explaining legal concepts to lay clients. I am particularly impressed by the students' initiative and performance. Many of them, in their second or third year, had not studied the law on wills drafting, but they were quick in equipping themselves and picked up well in several weeks' time. Sometimes they even brought in new perspectives which benefited all of us. I appreciate the programme and enjoyed working with the students very much.

From Classroom to Community: SELECT

By Alice Lee

Student-led experiential learning projects are indeed taking roots in our Faculty and beyond, benefiting the initiating and participating students, and connecting them with their teachers, the legal profession, and the NGO sector. Thanks to PILnet, an international public interest law group that launched the Law for Change competition in Hong Kong in 2017, there is now an annual event for like-minded students, teachers and professionals to get together to witness the growth of student-led learning initiatives and celebrate their achievements in encouraging student involvement and leadership in meaningful social and pro bono projects.

2017 was also the year that I got to know Marcus Yuen, then a third-year Government & Laws student. It was in the academic year 2017-18 that I introduced a student-led learning component called "Optional Exploration" for students in my Land Law class to team up and produce multimedia presentations to explain difficult legal concepts in an engaging and amusing way. Somehow, the core values of contribution, creativity and connecting peers that we sought to promote through "Optional Exploration" coincided with the goals of PILnet.

While forming a team to take part in Land Law's Optional Exploration, Marcus was also working on an innovative idea of conducting Outreach Legal Talks ("OUTLET" in short, page 14) to share essential legal knowledge with subdivided-flat tenants and centres for the elderly. Through chatting with Marcus after class, I learnt more about his outreaching ideas and his plan of joining the Law for Change competition, which I believed was an excellent way to encourage and support student-led initiatives. The winning team would be able to launch their project with a seed grant and with networking support from PILnet and its partner NGOs and other professionals. With careful planning and creative pitching, Marcus and his teammates, all our Government & Laws students, won the inaugural championship with their OUTLET proposal. They invited me to join their outreaching talks at different NGOs' offices/centres while I attended their training workshops beforehand – we owe a big THANK YOU to all those alumni and friends who helped out as their mentors or trainers.

It was through OUTLET that I came to learn more about the practical legal issues and challenges faced by subdivided-flat tenants, ranging from unfair contract terms to premature termination of tenancy. The audience learnt more about their legal rights while the participating students practised their organisation and presentation skills, including how to talk to laymen and translate complex legal concepts into simple Chinese. Needless to say, they also became more skilled at teamwork and more confident in public speaking. It was, in every sense, a mutually beneficial experience for both the students/speakers and the audience.

Seeing that more and more students were initiating their own pro bono projects, Marcus and I came up with a proposal to establish an institutional platform to officially endorse and support student-led community service initiatives. We call it SELECT, which stands for "Student Experiential Learning Community Service Task force", and already got the Faculty's endorsement in 2019. What we envisage is a Faculty scheme (with student members preferably) to screen and support student-initiated projects that are sustainable and for the betterment of society, and involve experiential learning or knowledge exchange, or fulfil one or more of HKU's 3I goals (innovativeness, interdisciplinarity, and internationalisation). OUTLET itself is an exemplar of collaboration between local and international students, who have shared their experience with the international audience, at the Global Pro Bono Forum in Berlin, Germany.

Through SELECT, we aim to provide logistical support such as classroom-booking for briefing/training/debriefing, sending mass emails/calls for applications, permission to put up promotional posters at designated places inside Cheng Yu Tung Tower, as well as an official letter of confirmation that the Faculty acknowledges and endorses the selected student-led initiative as cultivating pro bono spirit (which may be used in outreaching or inviting potential law firms/community partners). Besides OUTLET, LEAP (Legal Advice Programme, page 16), and the 2019 Law for Change winning and runner-up teams, we welcome student-led initiatives that meet the SELECT criteria to join this Faculty scheme of support and recognition. We hope to streamline the process so that the applying teams only need to provide, in an application form, basic information about their objectives, core members, proposed activities and timeline, requested support, expected outcomes and expected number of participants. Support is to be provided on a yearly basis and is renewable upon evidence of a sustainability plan.

Pro bono service can be the common goal of students, legal practitioners and non-profit NGOs. On top of credit-bearing experiential learning courses, there are more and more student-led community service initiatives that are aligned with HKU educational goals, mobilising students to give back to society, and achieving the objectives of experiential learning, knowledge exchange, community engagement, and interdisciplinary collaboration all in one go.

We hope that SELECT, as a joint effort, will foster sustainable partnerships among students as well as between students and teachers.

Hong Kong Law Journal Turns 50

By Rick Glofcheski

The Faculty of Law is proud to celebrate the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the Faculty's flagship publication – the *Hong Kong Law Journal*. The journal will mark the occasion in its 2020 volume in a number of ways (see more on that below), but first, a little history.

“The traditions of the Common Law rely heavily on case law and precedent and if Hong Kong law was to develop its own foundation of case law separate from the British courts, then there needed to be a reliable, systematic and accessible repository of legal decisions. When the Department of Law was first established (in 1969) there was nothing available that met these criteria..... So in 1971 Henry Litton, with a group of interested legal practitioners, set up the *Hong Kong Law Journal* (the HKLJ) and became its Editor-in-Chief. John Rear, at the time a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Law, came from a background of legal publishing and was an obvious choice for editor. This established the tradition, which is still maintained, of a member of the teaching staff at HKU being responsible for the content and rigour of the publication.” (page 42, *Res Ipsa Loquitur*).

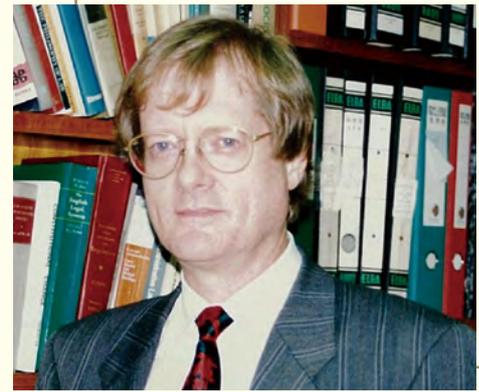
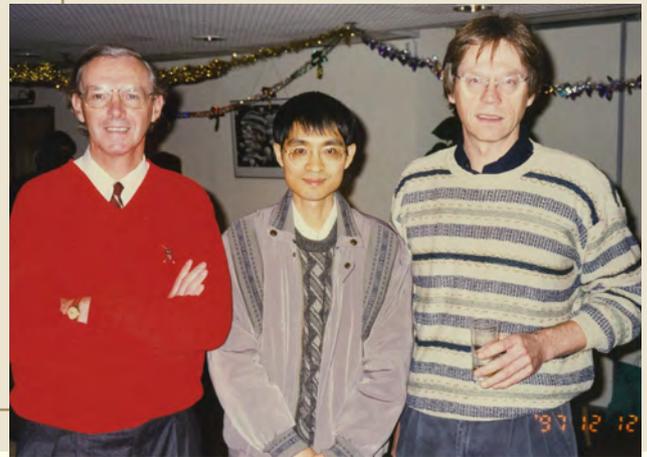
For many years following the journal's establishment in 1971 the journal was based in Henry Litton's barrister's chambers in Central. Since 1994, the journal has been based at the Faculty of Law, University of Hong Kong. This change was more geographic than structural because, as can be seen from the first Editorial Board, the Faculty and its teachers have always been the engine that drives the journal. A glance through the editorial board of the journal in its first few decades will show some well known persons in the editor's chair: John Rear, Peter Wesley-Smith, Albert Chen, Michael Wilkinson, Rick Glofcheski. The journal has always been at the centre of academic activity in the Faculty.

In the first three decades the journal was self-published as it were, by Hong Kong Law Journal Ltd, the vehicle set up by the journal founders. However, since the year 2000, the journal has been commercially published and distributed by Sweet & Maxwell of the Thomson Reuters group, reducing and simplifying our tasks here at the Faculty of Law.

The Hon Henry Litton (left), Founder of the *Hong Kong Law Journal*, received the Honorary Fellowship from Dr the Hon Sir T L Yang, Pro-Chancellor in 1996.



(From left) Professors Michael Wilkinson, Albert Chen and Rick Glofcheski.



John Rear, the first editor of the *Hong Kong Law Journal* in 1970 and 2019.

Professor Peter Wesley-Smith.

Hardcopies and website of the Hong Kong Law Journal.



The journal continues to publish three times a year, but has grown from 300 pages annually to more than 1,200. The subject matter coverage is now more international, as is the authorship. In Part 1 of the current volume, 10 of the articles were written by authors based in jurisdictions other than Hong Kong. The coverage of Chinese law has also expanded, now constituting one-third or more of the copy for each issue. Five of the articles in Part 1 are concerned with China law topics. Today, as in the beginning, the journal's Editorial Committee is composed largely of members of the Faculty of Law, but its membership now extends to colleagues from other law schools in Hong Kong, as well as from distinguished law schools in Singapore, Melbourne and Oxford. It also includes, beginning in 2015, an Executive Editor, a wonderful institution greatly improving the quality of life of the Editor-in-Chief. Today, as in the beginning, Hong Kong Law Journal can be read in hard copy through annual subscription or in libraries, but it now has an extensive electronic presence. It is available online on a current, full-text basis on Westlaw. It is indexed by Scopus, the Social Sciences Citation Index, Current Contents/Social & Behavioral Sciences, and the Index to Legal Periodicals and Books. It is abstracted on the Social Science Research Network, and is available in a full-text version on a delayed (one-year) basis on HeinOnline and the "HKU Scholars Hub" (selected articles only).

The Journal is marking the occasion in a number of ways. Part 1 of Volume 50 includes a special introduction in which the Editor-in-Chief, Professor Rick Glofcheski, explains the Journal's mission, and surveys some of the Journal's early history and the changes that have taken place in the subsequent decades (<https://www.law.hku.hk/hklj/50th-anniversary.php>). There is also a brief reflection by Henry Litton, the Journal's founder, and a re-publication of the Journal's first editorial, written by Professor John Rear in 1971.

In Part 2 there are two note-worthy features. The centre-piece is a Focus section, edited by Professor Po Jen Yap, examining several aspects of the 2019 protest movement: the political origins of the crisis, the protest ideology, the police response, the legal ramifications and the impact on future Mainland-HKSAR relations. There is also the first scholarly analysis of the National Security Law, authored by Professor Carole Petersen, a former colleague in the HKU Faculty of Law.

Part 3 will include a citations study commissioned by HKLJ, the first of its kind, examining the journal's influence, ranking, and impact. It is hoped that the results of the study will enhance our understanding of the Journal's reach and influence, and how its mission can be more effectively achieved.

Fifty years of continuous publication of a law journal is by any measure a significant achievement, one that was possible only by dint of the commitment and time and hard work invested by those colleagues on the editorial team charged with receiving, reading and evaluating manuscripts, coordinating peer reviews and attending to all the sometimes mundane, sometimes delicate (but always important) tasks that are required to produce a quality, world-class law journal. We at the Faculty of Law feel a small glow of satisfaction that our journal has been able to adapt and react to the changing conditions, to not only survive but thrive, and to remain Hong Kong's and one of Asia's flagship law journals 50 years on. We are grateful to all those hardworking and dedicated colleagues who over the course of 50 years have contributed to the development of this journal and helped nurture the culture of academic writing and critical analysis of the law that it seeks to promote.

The Makings of a Truly Special Institution - A Special Standing in the World: The Faculty of Law at The University of Hong Kong, 1969-2019 by Christopher Munn, published by HKU Press

Book Review by Colin Cohen

(Reproduced from *Hong Kong Lawyers*, Feb 2020, with permission.)

The legal profession in Hong Kong did not enjoy auspicious beginnings. After seven London barristers turned down the offer to serve as the colony's first Chief Justice, the eighth choice, John Walter Hulme, landed in 1844 and endured a controversial 15-year tenure marked by debt, illness and quarrels, culminating in a seven-month suspension on charges of drunkenness, of which he was eventually exonerated.

In those days the Supreme Court admitted a motley crew of attorneys and clerks equipped with "vulgar pot house oratory and looser professional principles" according to the colony's earliest historian, William Tarrant, who was himself admitted to practice with no legal training. Perhaps the most notorious practitioner was one Percy McSwyne – journalist, opium dealer, deputy registrar of the Supreme Court, coroner and temporary attorney – who, according to Tarrant, committed "swindling and bare-faced robbery" on Chinese litigants.

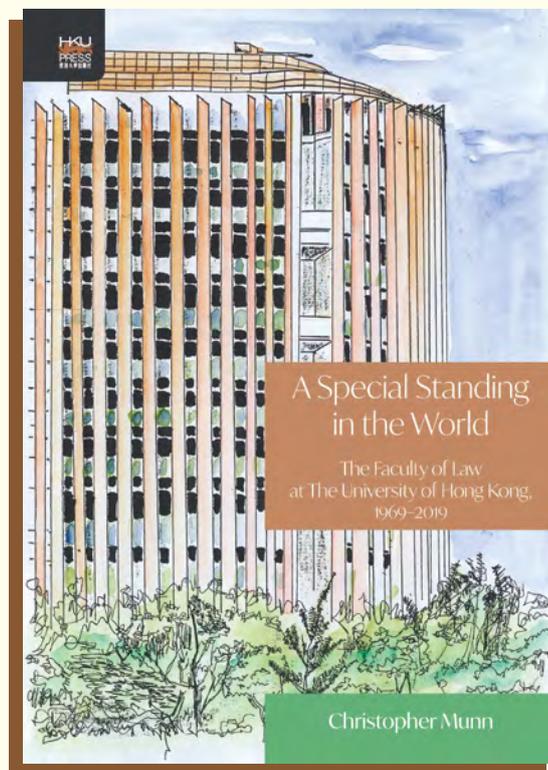
Such individuals and others of less questionable character populate the early pages of *A Special Standing in the World: The Faculty of Law at The University of Hong Kong, 1969-2019*, published to mark the Faculty's 50th anniversary. Author Christopher Munn has triumphed in tracing the Faculty's remarkable journey from humble beginnings to the world-renowned law school it is today and in assessing its exceptional and ongoing impact on Hong Kong society.

The opening two chapters, which detail Hong Kong's legal landscape from early British rule up to 1969, underscore the obstacles – including antipathy in some government corridors – which needed surmounting to establish the colony's first law school. Attempts to teach legal topics as part of a general arts degree at HKU in the 1920s fizzled out, with Colonial Office records highlighting concerns that a proposed law school might produce "half-baked lawyers" who would create "political trouble". There are probably some in our government today who would concur with this view.

The pre-1969 pages are awash with diverse and visionary characters who led the drive for authentic legal education in the colony. Former Royal Marines major Peter Vine, having sat his solicitors' finals on board his ship in Singapore before serving as a prosecutor in the Hong Kong War Crimes Trials, urged the implementation of law courses in a keynote speech in 1963 while serving as president of the Law Society of Hong Kong. One of the government's senior lawyers, Registrar General W.K. Thomson, took up the theme, remarking that it was "little short of tragic that the doors to a great profession are virtually closed to a large number of men and women who have not had the good fortune to be born into wealthy homes".

Such lobbying led in 1964 to a five-year pilot scheme in which the HKU's Department of Extra-Mural Studies offered part-time evening classes for an external law degree at the University of London. One of the teachers, Professor Dafydd Evans, who arrived on secondment from the London School of Economics, worked assiduously towards the establishment of a more formal legal education institution. He is perhaps the single most important figure in the Faculty of Law's history, serving as its head and then dean until 1987 and being awarded an OBE in 1989 for his services to legal education.

Thus, the Department of Law was established in 1969 within the Faculty of Social Sciences. Offering a three-year, full-time programme leading to a law degree, it was located off-campus in part of the former Police Married Quarters in Caine Road and began with three staff, a librarian and 40 students. The book paints vivid portraits of those involved and their circumstances. Lecturer Barry Lovegrove,



for example, founded the Old China Hand pub in Wanchai and, with three colleagues, played in an environmental-awareness rock band called Junk.

Some lecturers were barely older than their students. One, who joined the staff aged 23, was “constantly being mistaken for a first year student” and was “treated by the more senior students with the disdain appropriate for someone of such lowly status”. A rather amusing description, in his own words, from the man we now know as the Honourable Mr Justice Roberto Ribeiro, Permanent Judge of the Court of Final Appeal.

A major focus of the book is the Faculty’s immense contribution to Hong Kong’s politics and constitution before, during and after the Handover. As early as 1970, Australian law graduate Peter Wesley-Smith arrived in town and commenced a detailed study of the 99-year British lease of the New Territories from China in 1898. His doctorate thesis, completed in 1976 and published in 1980 as *Unequal Treaty 1898-1997: China, Great Britain and Hong Kong’s New Territories*, was much studied by British and Chinese negotiators pre-1997 – indeed, the Chinese government had it translated for the benefit of their team. Professor Wesley-Smith subsequently joined the Faculty staff and served as dean from 1993-96.

The gradual recruitment of more teachers fluent in Cantonese and/or Putonghua saw the Faculty play a vital role in one of the great projects of the transition, the translation of statute law into Chinese. By 1997 all 600 or so of Hong Kong’s ordinances and over 1,000 pieces of subsidiary legislation had been translated and authenticated, with almost every Chinese-speaking staff member involved at some stage.

The author also describes in detail how members of the Faculty “were involved in the conception, implementation, and promotion” of the Bill of Rights Ordinance, “perhaps the single most important piece of domestic legislation of late colonial Hong Kong”. He notes how they helped draft related legislation and promoted understanding of the Bill of Rights through conferences, lectures and publications. The Basic Law was another source of intense scrutiny. Constitutional expert Yash Ghai, born into an Indian family in Kenya and the first Sir Y.K. Pao Professor of Public Law at HKU, authored *Hong Kong’s New Constitutional Order: The Resumption of Chinese Sovereignty and the Basic Law*, which became a classic text that was frequently cited in court.

As well, *A Special Standing in the World* details the formation of Hong Kong’s new Court of Final Appeal and how first Chief Justice Andrew Li and permanent judges Henry Litton, Charles Ching and Kemal Bokhary all had connections with the Faculty. If the book becomes rather weighty through these handover-related sections, it is understandable given the subject matter and momentous events of the time.

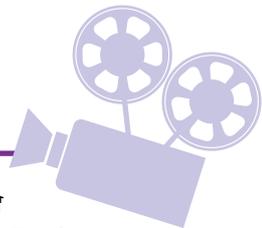
The final chapters – or closing submissions, if you like – deal with matters post-1997. These include the 2001 Redmond-Roper Report, a withering critique of Hong Kong’s system of legal education which resulted in radical reforms to the LLB and PCLL courses; the quest for cutting-edge teaching and research, plus productive partnerships with other institutions, that moulded the Faculty into a world-class law school; the relocation to purpose- built Cheng Yu Tung Tower in 2012; and the Faculty’s more recent interactions with law, politics and society, passages given additional resonance in light of recent tumultuous events in our city.



The verdict? Graduates from the HKU’s Faculty of Law now make up more than half of Hong Kong’s Judiciary and legal profession. It is hard to think of another major academic institution worldwide that has had such a significant impact on its immediate community. In writing this authoritative book – which works as historical document, social commentary and simply as an entertaining read – Christopher Munn has done it great justice.

(From Right) Mr Colin Cohen, Professors Peter Rhodes, Raymond Wacks, Ian Grenville Cross SC at the 50th Anniversary Gala Dinner.

“Memories to Choke on, Drinks to Wash Them Down” 《夜香·鴛鴦·深水埗》



法律學院五十週年的慶祝活動雖已告一段落，但當中不少片段將會長留校友心中，成為美好回憶。大家又可知道，主題曲“深耕半世紀”的 Music Video，以及 HKULaw50 Facebook 專頁中與老師訪談的片段，均出自法律校友之手？

梁銘佳 (LLB 2001, PCLL 2002) 畢業後到紐約哥倫比亞大學修讀電影，三奪該校最佳攝影獎，雖是導演系出身，卻主要從事攝影工作，先後於美國、泰國、台灣、希臘、剛果等地與不同導演合作，包括張艾嘉執導的《念念》、泰國導演安諾釵舒域察歌邦的《入黑之時》等，作品曾在多個影展播放或競賽，包括康城、柏林影展及紐約電影節等。走遍半個地球的他，數年前和幕前幕後都是最佳拍檔的太太 Kate Reilly 回港。兩人首次合編、合導的作品《夜香·鴛鴦·深水埗》(Memories to Choke on, Drinks to Wash Them Down) 由四部從題材、風格、類型、甚至銀幕比例都不一樣的短片組成，各有特色之餘卻又相輔相承，散發著層次豐富的香港味道，恰如鴛鴦。作品早前入選香港亞洲電影節、韓國全州國際電影節、鹿特丹國際電影節等，希望可作公映，詳情可留意電影專頁 (<https://www.facebook.com/memoriesanddrinks/>)。而梁銘佳另一掌鏡作品《叔·叔》(Suk Suk)，同樣成績斐然，不容錯過。

百忙中仍抽時間參與院慶活動、為 Faculty 拍攝 MV 和訪問片，梁銘佳認為非常榮幸。「雖然校址已經唔係 KK LEUNG，但仍然感受到果種氣氛。見到大家都在埋頭苦讀，有點後悔當時應該俾多啲心機讀好啲。尤其而家，更加明白堅守法治公平原則的重要性。仲發現而家課程十分多元化，連 FILM & LAW 都有得讀，好想報番。同埋好高興可以且以同其他校友合作做 MV，其中剪接陳暢為 (Marcus Chan) 更加係當年同班同學。加上所有音樂人，直係人材濟濟。Dinner 當晚又可以見到好多同學老師聚首一堂，八卦一下，既開心又有種光榮感。」

至於 MV 另一位導演 Marcus Chan，日後有機會再作介紹。

深耕半世紀 MV



電影預告



Inaugural Eric Pun Memorial Prize in Music

To commemorate Mr Eric Pun (LLB 1981, PCLL 1982), a gifted musician, a talented lawyer, and a good friend to many, who sadly left us in 2018; his family, a group of alumni from his class and those from St Paul's Co-Educational College has established the "Eric Pun Memorial Prize in Music" to a law student who has outstanding musical achievements in the previous year. The inaugural prize recipient is awarded to Miss Charlotte Lam (PCLL 2019), a soloist soprano.



Performing at the 71st Hong Kong Schools Music Festival Prize Winners' Concert as the recipient of the Ms Barbara Fei SBS Memorial Vocal Solo Prize (Open Class, Female Voice).



Charlotte with Professor Ralf Döring (right) and his wife, Mrs Yayoi Döring (left), at The University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna, after receiving Third Prize at the Wiener MusikSeminar Prof. Dichler-Competition.

With fellow vocal masterclass participants after performing in the Austrian Master Classes Public Final Concert at the Castle of Zell an der Pram, Austria.

LAWLYPOP – No One is Born A Lawyer

LAWLYPOP is a project that aims to inspire current and prospective law students in career and academic planning through sharings and reflections by seasoned legal practitioners (many of whom are HKU Law alumni) or other pop up events. This initiative is supported by the Teaching Development Grant (TDG) and led by Alice Lee, Associate Dean of the Faculty and Billy Ng (HKU LLB 2002, PCLL 2003). The team believes that 'No One is Born A Lawyer' and hopes to bring to students informative and entertaining interviews with legal professionals from Hong Kong and abroad.

Please subscribe our HKU LAWLYPOP Channel (<http://lawlypop.education/>) and enjoy!



PREVIEW

QUESTION 4
三個不做律師的理由



My Internship at the European Court of Human Rights

Yvonne Leung (LLB.2017, PCLL 2019)

This programme gave me the opportunity to spend six months at the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR), a leading international human rights judicial institution. I am grateful to the Faculty of Law for this opportunity to work with inspiring and promising human rights lawyers.

During the six months at Strasbourg, I widened my horizon both professionally and socially. ECHR is an institution where human rights law enthusiasts dream to work at. Personally, it was an once-in-a-lifetime experience. Supervised by Mr Piedimonte and Mr Kamber of the Research Division, I drafted a case-law guide on the ECHR cases concerning freedom of assembly and association, compiled reports on national laws of the member states of ECHR and attended various training workshops for newcomers.

There was a closely knitted trainees' network at the Council of Europe and ECHR. I joined the Trainees' Committee and contributed by advocating for better policies concerning study visitors. I also grasped the opportunity to deliver a talk about foreign laws that had implications on Hong Kong. Living in the very international city of Strasbourg was eye-opening yet relaxing. For the first time in my life, I commuted daily by cycling. Language barrier was a real challenge, but I also learnt the importance of respecting differences and communicating by ways other than languages.

It was the most enriching experience one could have as a fresh graduate from law school. I wish more of my juniors could have the same opportunity to spend some time at ECHR and Strasbourg.

