Congratulations to Our Alumni

Recent Appointment to the Judiciary

High Court Registrar
Her Honour Judge Querry Au Young Kwai-yue
(LLB 1984, PCLL 1989)

District Court Judges
His Honour Judge Stanley Chan Kwok-fai
(LLB 1986, PCLL 1987)
His Honour Judge Leung Chun-man
(LLB 1989, PCLL 1991)
Her Honour Judge Minnie Chan Mei-lan
(LLB 1980, PCLL 1981)
His Honour Judge Au Hing-cheung
(LLB 1986, PCLL 1994)

Magistrates
Mr Yu Cheuk-man (PCLL 1996)
Ms Debbie Ng Chung-see (PCLL 1998)
Ms Veronica Ho Hung Shuk-fai (PCLL 2001)
Miss Josephine Chew Pak Fung (LLB 1996, PCLL 1998)

Recent Appointment of Senior Counsel
Mr Mahan Tarachand Bhaneewray (LLB 1976)
Mr Lee Shiu-leung, Robert (PCLL 1987)
Mr Lam Wai-ho, Godfrey (PCLL 1993)

THE COMMON LAW LECTURE SERIES
2006-2007

THE COMMON LAW LECTURE SERIES 2006-2007 contains the text of three lectures delivered by Lord Scott, Sir David Williams QC and Lord Woolf in 2006-2007, a foreword by the Hon Chief Justice Mr Andrew Li, and a Preface by our Dean, Professor Johannes Chan SC (Hon).

Lord Scott

Damages: an Area of Incoherence?

Sir David Williams QC
The Supreme Court of the United Kingdom: a Constitutional Prelude

Lord Woolf
The Contemporary Responsibilities of the Common Law Judge

Edited by
Jessica Yang & Rebecca Lee
Faculty of Law
The University of Hong Kong
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Our New PCLL

Lester Huang and Rimsky Yuen, SC: Reminiscences and Thoughts

Master of Laws in Arbitration and Dispute Resolution

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Article submissions are most welcome. Please send in by fax or e-mail (racheli@hku.hk).
Message from the Dean

The strength and reputation of any Faculty lies ultimately at its staff and students, and it is no exception for ours. The past 12 months has been an active period of recruitment for the best scholars and students. We have seen no less than 10 new colleagues joining us. At the senior end, we welcome Professor Chin Chih Leng who joined us from NUS, as well as the return of Lee Atten and Malcolm Mery, both former colleagues who have left us for private practice and who have found academia irresistible! We have also seen some very dynamic and enthusiastic young colleagues. Welcome to the HKU family and the Law Faculty.

Good tidings have also come from our long-time colleagues. Professor Albert Chen and Professor Phil Smart have been respectively made Chan Professor in Constitutional Law (not funded by himself or by me!) and Harold Hoas-Wo Lee Professor in Corporate Law. Congratulations also go to Professor David Sandberg for receiving the ABAJ’s Lawyer as President Silver Award, to Dr Douglas Arner for the HKU Outstanding Young Researcher Award in 2007, and to Janice Bray for being awarded the University Research Output Prize.

On the student side, we continue to recruit the best local students and an increasing number of international students. The LLB and the three double degree programmes remain the most competitive programmes in the University. We have included some latest admission statistics in this issue. The caiter of our students is again reflected by their excellent performance in international moot competitions. Some of our students have reported their enriching experience in various moot competitions.

We are also encouraged by the very high world ranking of HKU this year. Despite our scepticism about ranking, it is still very reassuring to know that HKU is ranked as 18th in the world, which is not a small achievement. It also puts us in a challenging position as we must strive to maintain and improve our global reputation.

HKU Law Alumni Association continues to give us their best support. The Mentorship Programme is now one of our flagship programmes and many students and mentors have found the relationship rewarding. We are most grateful to the care and support from all our alumni and friends in the profession, and special thanks to Ms Lucy Yen, the new President of the Law Alumni Association.

We have successfully launched the LLM in Arbitration and Dispute Resolution programme last September; this has been most timely, as both the Government and the Judiciary have been advocating mediation and alternative dispute resolution. In this connection, a series of Dispute Resolution Dialogues, short executive mediation workshops, talks, public lectures and other international and regional conferences have been held. The two public lectures by Professor Jan Paulsson, one of the first arbitrators in the world, were particularly well received.

The Faculty also has the pleasure to have received some most distinguished visitors, notably Professor Francis Reynolds QC from Oxford and Professor Michael Bridge from London School of Economics, both currently teaching as Visiting Professors at the Faculty for a period of six weeks. The recent seminar at which they were joined by The Honorable Sir Anthony Mason and Mr Justice Reyes has been described as a ‘powerhouse seminar’. The 90-seat lecture hall was packed with enthusiastic students, judges and practitioners. The Faculty has also recently entered into a research collaboration project on “Access to Knowledge” with Yale Law School and Professor Jack Balkin of Yale gave an enlightening public lecture on this topic. We have also recently concluded a 3-year LLB-JD programme with University of British Columbia, which is the first of its kind across the Pacific.

There remains a lot of misunderstanding about our new PCLL programme. Widespread rumours continue to suggest that the PCLL programme will be extended to 2 years. We hope the special feature article of our PCLL reform in this issue will dispel once and for all some of these unfounded rumours.

Space remains a major constraint to our expansion. We have converted most of our own classrooms into offices now, and space is likely to continue to haunt us until the new building is ready. Construction work of the centennial campus has already begun. The general planning for the new campus has more or less been settled, and we are working closely with the architect on the design, facilities and provisions. Concerns remain in regard to the outlook of the new building, as the Faculty and our alumni would like to see a design for the new Faculty of Law building that befits the dignity of the law and the tradition of excellence of the Faculty, and most important of all, the importance of the rule of law. I hope to be able to impart good news on this front very soon.

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Photo: Johannes Chan SC (Hon)
Our New PCLL Programme

Introduction

As part of our response to the Legal Education Review and Reform, the PCLL curriculum at the Faculty of Law has undergone significant changes since 2001. We will reach the final phase of the PCLL reform in 2008-09 when the first cohort of our LLB under the 4-year curriculum is admitted to the PCLL. In general, the direction of the reform is to produce a more rigorous professional training programme with a focus on learning and conduct of legal practices and skills.

Unfortunately, there seems to be some misunderstanding about the reform. We hope to make use of this opportunity to give readers, our alumni and members of the profession a broad yet clear picture of our development and to clarify certain misunderstanding in relation to the HKU PCLL.

Will the PCLL programme be extended from the present one-year full-time to two-year full-time?

No, there is no plan to extend the duration of the PCLL programme. The full-time PCLL remains a one-year programme. We have introduced the part-time PCLL since 2005-06, which is a two-year programme.

What are the new admission requirements for PCLL applicants from 2008?

All applicants seeking admission to the PCLL from September 2008 will have to demonstrate competence in eleven core subjects and three top-up Hong Kong-specific subjects. The Hong Kong-specific subjects are Hong Kong Constitutional Law, Hong Kong Land Law and I. Hong Kong Legal System. The eleven core subjects are Contract, Tort, Constitutional Law, Crime, Civil Law, Land Law, Equity, Commercial Law, Civil Procedure, Criminal Procedure, Evidence and Business Associations.

What are the reasons for introducing the new entry requirements?

The introduction of the new entry requirements is a result of the legal education reform. As part and parcel of the reform, the PCLL is moving towards a transactional and skills-based training programme. Some substantive legal knowledge which used to be taught at the PCLL is now rolled back to our four-year LLB, and that is why it is essential to ensure that all PCLL students should have a similar knowledge base. Students with a non-Hong Kong common law qualification are therefore required to demonstrate that they are equipped with a similar level of substantive legal knowledge.

Would the introduction of the new entry requirements effectively mean that overseas students will have to spend at least one more year before becoming eligible for PCLL admissions?

Not necessarily. Applicants with a non-Hong Kong common law qualification may be able to demonstrate their competence in the core subjects when such have been completed as part of their law degree, and in such circumstances, they may apply to the Conversion Examination Board for a full or partial exemption in each of those subjects. Regarding both the core and the top-up subjects, competence can also be shown if these applicants are admitted as visiting students in one of the three Law Schools in Hong Kong and pass the requisite examinations. Conversion Examinations as the last resort, are being offered twice a year. There is no mandatory course for the examinations. Students may prepare for the examinations through self-study or attending preparatory courses. They are not required to complete all examinations in one attempt and can make a subsequent attempt at a failed subject at a later examination session. Overseas students can, therefore, plan ahead and take some of the required subjects during their winter and summer breaks during their undergraduate studies. Properly planned, it is quite possible to satisfy the requirements without spending an extra year.

Does the Faculty run the Conversion Examinations?

No. An Examination Board under the auspices of the Standing Committee on Legal Education and Training, with the two branches of the legal profession and the three local law schools represented, runs the Conversion Examinations. Academic staff from the three universities are appointed as examiners. For more information about the Conversion Examinations, please visit http://www. pcea.com.hk
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Are there different kinds of study modes in the PCLL?
What is the financial cost of different modes of study?
PCLL students can choose to pursue either the one-year full-time programme or the two-year part-time programme. PCLL places are divided into Government-funded places and self-funded places. Government-funded places are subsidized publicly and the tuition for such places is lower than that of the self-funded places. However, the number of Government-funded places is very limited and so competition for these places is always keen. Self-funded students may apply for bursaries, which are awarded subject to a means test.

Have applicants with non-Hong Kong common law qualifications been, and would they be, placed at a disadvantaged position in admission?
Admission to PCLL is based on merit. We do not set any quota for any particular category of applicants.

Does a higher degree increase the chance of admission to the PCLL?
We adopt a holistic approach and do take into account all relevant information provided by applicants including a higher degree in law with good results.

What are the main features of the new PCLL curriculum?
Through consultation with the two branches of the profession and regular surveys with our graduates, we have noticed a consistent demand for strengthening certain legal skills and covering new practice areas. While the PCLL remains a common entry qualification for both branches of the legal profession, there are diverse needs of different sectors of the profession. Nevertheless, the PCLL can hardly cover all areas of legal practice and students may have their own career aspirations. Therefore, we believe that our PCLL programme must equip our students with the necessary skills and knowledge to perform competently in certain core areas of legal practice and provide them choices for specialization and a sustainable foundation to develop their subsequent practice.

The main features of the new HKU PCLL include: (a) an outcome-based curriculum modeled on real legal practice and problems; (b) systematic teaching of legal skills and (c) a degree of specialization for students in pursuit of their respective career choices. The curriculum will focus on the conduct of contentious (mainly litigation) and non-contentious (generally transactional) legal practices and the various skills involved (including advocacy and various forms of legal writing) which will be learnt and practiced throughout the Core (they are: Civil and Criminal Litigation, Corporate and Commercial Transactions and Property Transactions including tenancy of and succession to properties) and the Electives (see below). Persuasive including Professional Ethics and Taxation (including taxes on income and stamp duty) will be introduced followed by issues embedded and integrated into the Core and the Electives as appropriate.

How will the choice of Electives affect my career choice as a solicitor or a barrister?
Students are required to opt for any combination of three Electives for the second module. Electives are broadly categorized as litigation-related and transaction-related. While the PCLL remains a common qualification for entry into both branches of the legal profession, the professional bodies do have, and the Hong Kong Bar Association has indeed recently exercised, the power to impose additional requirements for admission to practice. Neither of the professional bodies has yet prescribed any of the Electives to be taken in order to qualify for admission to practice.

What is the teaching methodology?
Large Group sessions (LGS) will be more often used for briefing and review. The main objectives of an LG will be to introduce students to the subject matter and issues involved and to prepare them for the Small Group sessions (SGs) and to sum up a learning module. SGs continue to provide the opportunities for skills learning, practices and feedback.

What makes the HKU PCLL special?
The Department of Professional Legal Education, which runs the PCLL programmes, has now 19 full-time academic staff of whom all have practical experience and over 130 part-time staff who are mainly judges and legal practitioners. As the oldest law school in Hong Kong, the HKU Law Faculty has the strongest alumni network in the profession. Many of our graduates, being judges and distinguished practitioners, serve as part-time teachers or participate as external assessors in our advocacy assessments. In collaboration with the HKU Law Alumni Association, we run a highly successful Law Mentorship Programme with full participation and support of the legal profession, as well as other interview workshops. Our extensive alumni network is invaluable to our students for their career, interpersonal and social development. The Faculty also has a full range of expertise in many specialized areas, and its academic activities are supported by 3 major research centres. The Faculty organizes many public lectures, conferences and seminars each year and students have the opportunities to meet and interact with distinguished scholars and judges. Our prestigious international moot programme is also open to PCLL students.
Lester Huang and Rimsky Yuen, SC: Reminiscences and Thoughts

We believe that this is the first occasion on which both the Chairman of the Bar and President of the Law Society are our alumni. Of this we are very proud. When recruiting school-leavers for admission to the University of Hong Kong we stress that we are seeking students with the potential to become leaders, whether serving in the public or political arena, in the profession, in business, in research, in education or in the performing arts. Both Lester Huang (LLB 1987, PCLL 1985) and Rimsky Yuen, SC (LLB 1986, PCLL 1987) have proved themselves as admirable leaders in their respective branches of the legal profession.

We felt that it would be appropriate to commemorate this event by interviewing them together. Over a lavish lunch (at least by University common room standards), Agnes Cheng and I put several questions to the Chairman and President about their careers, aspirations and lifestyles.

Professor Michael Wilkinson

Michael: Why choose law as your career?

Rimsky: It was largely a process of elimination and a practical decision. I was the youngest child in my family. My father retired at about the time when I was in form five. My family was not well off at all and I knew I had to be on my own. I realized that I would have to study a subject which has more prospects of making a living. In those days, the obvious choices were medicine, law or a few other professional disciplines. But since I was not good in science disciplines and did arts since Form Four, subjects like medicine were out of the question. Law then became an obvious choice. Having attended some career talks given by the Bar Association and the Law Society when I was doing Form Six, I thought that I should give it a try. Besides, I thought legal studies would be helpful even if I eventually ended up in another profession. I did not study law, most likely I would have studied Geography and might have eventually done a Master degree in town planning so as to become a town planner, which was my second career choice at that time.

Lester: I might have ended up being a social worker. However, my father was a barrister and I had some understanding of the profession even at a very young age. There is one song by Steve Wonder “Living for the City” and the lyric depicts a black boy in New York City trying to create a life, trying to overcome discrimination, yet ending in trouble. I was in a way motivated by the need for justice and a sense of contributing to society, especially assisting those who are less privileged.

Michael: Which model of education do you prefer? Elliott or mass education?

Rimsky: There should be a combination of both. In principle, there should be as many university places as possible. Unlike the past, university education should no longer be confined to the privileged few. However, that does not mean that we should altogether rule out elite university education. In every place, there are bound to be some top universities and some not so good. There should be different universities to cater for the needs and desires of different students. Besides, there should be different types of universities, for example, some specializing in research, and others in vocational training.

Lester: When I was an LLB student, the class size in my year was 55. The benefit of having such a small class was that the ‘true elites’ were able to help the non-elites (like me) and we really were able to pull classmates to a higher standard. I certainly was a beneficiary of that.

Michael: Which subject in the law curriculum did you like most and which subject had the greatest impact on your legal career or on your life?

Lester: I was a bit slow in getting used to the study of law and that was why my academic results were not very satisfactory in the first year. I felt I didn’t quite understand Contract Law and was not learning very much. The other reason was that many first year lectures happened to start at 8 am in the morning and I was not focused enough at that hour of the day but I was a diligent student and I made every effort to attend. By the second and third year, I was getting the hang of it and studying law became a lot more enjoyable. The academic challenge in the second and third year was significantly greater and that made studying even more interesting. One of the more challenging subjects for me was the Law of Trusts, which I really enjoyed.

One of my most memorable experiences was in Family Law. At that time, Ms Elizabeth Susott was one of our lecturers. Ms Susott’s lectures were very intensive and she cited a lot of authorities without providing the origins of cases. My classmates and I formed our own association called ‘Friends of Photocopying Club’. During each lecture each of us would take notes, but we would later turn to do so intensively for a few minutes. At the end of the lecture, we would hand all the handwritten notes to one of us (again we took a lot of turns) and that classmate would take up the responsibility of typing up a comprehensive set of the notes. In the meantime the rest of us would go to the library and make photocopies of the handwritten notes of the cases. These would also be handed to the compiler of the notes for inclusion in the comprehensive set of notes. When the one responsible for compiling all the notes and handwritings together had completed the task, the notes would be photocopied and distributed to each member. If I look hard enough, I may still be able to find the three volumes of bound materials which I have kept. I am pretty confident that everyone in our group relied on those materials aore in preparing for our examinations. What is more remarkable is that these notes were made in the days when the computer was not available to us and they were all type-written.

Rimsky: When I was in university, I did not really have a favourite subject as such. Relatively speaking, tort and international trade were probably the subjects that interested me more. I liked the style of the two lecturers who taught me tort and international trade. Apart from their lecturing skills, both of them were extremely good in making the subject they taught a lively one. The former has gone back to England and the latter is now the partner of a well-known international law firm. After I started practical law for the first few years, commercial and company law became my favourites. Why was there this change? I don’t really know. Maybe I was lucky enough to come across a few interesting commercial cases and my focus has since been kept there.

Michael: Which part of the university campus do you remember most and why?

Lester: I remember best the Law Library, which was at the 5th Floor of the Knowles Building at that time. The life of law students was centered around the Knowles Building. There was a lecture theatre on the 8th floor, and on the 5th floor there was the Law library with pigeon holes for materials for students, staff offices, a students’ common room and that was it.

Rimsky: The Old Student Union Canteen, I miss the egg tarts it produced at about 3:30 pm to 4:00 pm every day in the afternoon. We had about 60 students in our class. The good thing about having a small class is that the students were very close to one another and there was a greater sense of familiarity. The Law Library was more our rendezvous than a place of study. Very often we gathered at the Law Library and then went to have afternoon tea at the Old Student Union Canteen. Unfortunately, the building that housed the Old Student Union Canteen was demolished before I completed my LLB study.
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PCLL was memorable because TIG (Tertiary Intervarsity Games) was held in that year. I was a member of the HKU tennis team and I went with the University team to Singapore. I was up for training at the gym at 6:30 am in the morning and the training session finished at about 7:45 am. I would then go to class right afterwards and I didn’t miss any classes. Lunch hour was another one-on-one training session with a tennis coach. Then after school from about 4:30 pm to 6:30 pm there was another practice session, this time involving the whole team. This practice routine took place several times a week. But I truly enjoyed that time, when I was in reality a full-time tennis player and part-time student.

Rimsky: When I was in university, I did not really have a favourite subject as such. Relatively speaking, both law and international trade were probably the subjects that interested me more. I liked the style of the two lecturers who taught me tort and international trade. Apart from their lecturing skills, both of them were extremely good in making the subject they taught a lively one. The former has gone back to England and the latter is now the partner of a well-known international law firm. After I started my practice and saw for the initial few years, commercial and company law became my favourites. Why was there this change? I don’t really know. Maybe I was lucky enough to come across a few interesting commercial cases and my focus has since then been there.

Michael: Which part of the university campus do you remember most and why?

Lester: I remember best the Law Library, which was at the 5th Floor of the Knowles Building at that time. The life of law students was centered around the Knowles Building. There was a lecture theatre on the 8th floor, and on the 5th floor there was the law library with pigeons for meditation for students, staff offices, a students’ common room and that was it.

Rimsky: The Old Student Union Canteen. I miss the egg tarts produced at about 3:30 pm to 4:00 pm every day in the afternoon. We had about 60 students in our class. The good thing about having a small class is that the students were very close to one another and there was a greater sense of friendliness. The Law Library was more than a rendezvous than a place of study. Very often we gathered at the Law Library and then went to have afternoon tea at the Old Student Union Canteen. Unfortunately, the building that housed the Old Student Union Canteen was demolished before I completed my L.L.B. study.
Michael: What are your hobbies?

Lester: Dogs. I had a mastiff who has just seen his last days. I spent a lot of time nursing him. My family and I did our best to spend time with him and to pamper him. I also have a Labrador which is only a year old and is pretty much a puppy. We go for long walks nearly everyday. Soccer and tennis are also my hobbies but they are not activities which I can pursue as often as I would like.

Rimsky: Watching DVDs at home, reading magazines and traveling. When I am not working, I am basically a couch potato. Unless I have dinner appointments with friends, I don’t like going out that much. Although big screen at cinema is attractive, the problem is you can’t pause or reverse when you wish to, nor can you sit as comfortably as when you are at home. I also find flipping through different types of magazines enjoyable. Unlike books, magazines contain the most up to date information on a regular basis.

Michael: When was the last time you travelled for leisure?

Lester: My parents had their golden wedding anniversary recently and the whole family spent time in Thailand. Having some leisure activities is important and my last trip, following a conference in Nairob, involved spending another few days in Kenya on safari.

Rimsky: I often manage to spare one or two days either before or after conferences for myself. The latest pure pleasure trip was to Cebu in mid June. My friends and I had a great time and I had a lot of fun doing snorkeling there.

Michael: When you were a law student, did you have any inkling that you would one day be President or Chairman of a professional body? How did it come about?

Lester: A lot of people will know that I have been involved with the Law Society for a long time, but I never envisaged as a student being its President. I remember I was first involved in the Legal Education Committee. Eventually I moved to the Standing Committee and before I realized, I was nominated for the Council. I would not have been able to do this job without the full support of my law firm. My Law Society role is almost a full-time job. I still am responsible for managing some clients and their legal matters, and to some extent I can delegate my work to other colleagues as well. But I would not have been able to do it without the support of the other partners.

Rimsky: Not at all when I was a student. That idea never came across my mind. For a long time, I had very limited involvement in Bar Association matters and I was focused on my own practice. It was only a few years ago when I received a call from the then Chairman, Mr. Philip Dykes, B.C. that I thought I would involve myself in administration for one or two years. In 2003, I attended the American Bar Association’s Annual Meeting in Chicago. It was the first time I attended such an international conference and it was really eye-opening for me. My perspectives changed and from then I became interested in knowing about the legal profession in other jurisdictions and what they do for their respective members.

Michael: The Chief Justice told the following story in his speech at the LawAsia Conference session on ethics: A client asked his lawyer for a breakdown of his bill. The itemized account included a charge for ‘recognizing you in the street and crossing a busy road to talk to you about your affairs, and re-crossing the road after discovering it was not you.’ The story is of course very derogatory about lawyer’s standards of conduct. Do you think that there is still a stigma attached to lawyers?

Lester: I believe this is a story from a long time ago and I certainly don’t know of anything similar in Hong Kong during the time I have been involved in Council. I believe the Chief Justice has used this as a dramatic example to illustrate his point on ensuring that clients are properly charged. It is important that there are systems in place and the Law Society regularly addresses its concerns through our Billing Committee. Parties to litigation can also take the matter to litigation. The Law Society has a scheme where we mediate disputes on overcharging by law firms. I hope that, given the work that the Law Society has done over the years to ensure clients are fairly treated, the stigma is no longer there.

Rimsky: I find that sometimes the media reports on the amount of legal fees charged for certain high profile cases without actually exploring or discussing the details of these charges and this may give a rather misleading picture to the general public. For example in the Nina Wang case, members of the public or laymen reading the newspapers were probably astonished to see the size of the legal fees charged without knowing how much work was done, and would have the perception that the lawyers are always milking their clients. However clients these days, especially corporate clients, are very well informed about their rights and they are very knowledgeable about how they can protect themselves against excessive fees. Besides, we are now often asked to provide a detailed quotation for our services for clients’ approval. This is probably very different from, say, twenty years ago.

Michael: Every profession changes. Delivery models are totally different from what they were ten years ago. What do you think the legal profession will look like in 10, 20 or 30 years’ time? What is your vision for the next generation of lawyers and what are the challenges?

Lester: We are observing changes in the legal industry. Certain transactions e.g. trademarks, are often not carried out by attorneys anymore. People outside of the legal profession may be able to do more transactional work. Lawyers however, will still handle the more sophisticated transactions. More and more lawyers are going to be paid, not so much for these types of transactional work, but more for their deep thinking and analytical skills. In the litigation scene, we may also see big changes. We may have more mediation, arbitration, and perhaps, less court work. Through attending conferences and similar activities, we are able to compare our expertise with lawyers in other jurisdictions and to plan ahead. Certain activities will not change, for example, the need for someone to plan his or her estate succession will remain the same regardless of the state of technology. There will still be conflicts in trade matters because these are essentially matters of a human nature. The role of a lawyer is always going to be there. What will become a more popular area is human rights. If we look at the state of legal developments today, we are seeing a significant increase in judicial review cases.

Rimsky: I think we need to watch out for the impact brought about by globalization. Besides, what lawyers do is very much affected by the state of the economy. For instance, there was at one time a large number of sale of goods and import and export cases, especially for the junior end of the Bar. That was because of the thriving manufacturing industry in Hong Kong. Now that the Hong Kong economy has changed, we have fewer of these cases. Many countries are now moving towards the knowledge economy, and this shift will also affect changes to the nature of the work done by lawyers. Put shortly, the world is getting smaller and so is the legal world. Future lawyers will need to have an international dimension when handling legal matters. A working knowledge of how other jurisdictions operate will be indispensable and cross-border practice is on the horizon. As a matter of fact, these issues have received more and more attention in international legal conferences in the past years and will continue to be so.
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MASTER OF LAWS in ARBITRATION AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION

A Wonderful Beginning

Last year was an exciting year for the development of arbitration and alternative dispute resolution in the HKU Faculty of Law. In September 2007 the faculty introduced a new specialized LL.M. in Arbitration & Dispute Resolution and admitted 40 well qualified and diverse students to the programme’s first year. Apart from legal professionals, many of these students are top executives and managers from the fields of banking, commerce, construction and engineering, education, finance and industry, and business. We also established an active programme of conferences, seminars and training workshops, as well as an annual series of public lectures - the "HKU Dialogues in Dispute Resolution" - to provide education on a diverse range of dispute resolution issues. Looking ahead, we will continue to provide advanced legal and professional training and promote scholarship and intellectual exchange in negotiation, mediation, arbitration and dispute resolution, in general, and the needs of Hong Kong’s business and legal professionals, as well as the broader Hong Kong community.

HKU Dialogues in Dispute Resolution

In June 2007 we launched a unique series of public lectures entitled the "HK Dialogues in Dispute Resolution" aimed at fostering discussion and debate in Hong Kong on important dispute resolution issues. Eight public lectures were held in 2007 with leading international arbitrators and mediators, including Visiting Professor Ian Paulsen, Mr. Lawrence Craig, Ms. Nancy Cameran QC, Professor Arnold Zuck and Professor Dame Hazel Genn, delivering stimulating lectures on the following diverse dispute resolution topics:

- Mandatory Mediation Schemes: Why, When and Who?
- Collaborative Law, Interdisciplinary Collaborative Practice and Family Disputes
- Developments in Community Dispute Resolution: Child Mediation
- International Institutional Arbitration in Asia and Participants in the Arbitral Process
- Does ISDS Create a Common Law of Investment Treaty Arbitration?
- Sports Arbitration: A Future Vision of International Law
- Workplace Fairness in a Global Economy
- Developing Court-linked Mediation for Civil and Commercial Disputes in the English Courts

Mediation Education and Training

An important focus of the new LL.M. in Arbitration & Dispute Resolution is on mediation education and skills training, and on related issues such as effective mediation advocacy. In October 2007 Professors Denise Madigan and David Sandberg conducted a two-week mediation training course with [Hk mediation Council professional accreditation] focusing on the theory and skills of mediation required for conducting a successful mediation. In November 2007 the HKU Faculty of Law also hosted a workshop on "Mediation in Commercial Disputes" presented by two of Europe’s most experienced commercial mediators, Mr. Michel Kallapetsis, QC and Mr. William Marsh at the Pacific Place Conference Centre.

Admission to the 2008-2009 LL.M. in ARBITRATION & DISPUTE RESOLUTION

This interdisciplinary Master of Laws programme is designed to equip both legal and non-legal professionals with the necessary knowledge, skills and expertise in important dispute resolution methods, including negotiation, mediation and arbitration. A law degree is preferable but not essential. Applicants can apply online or download the application form from:

http://www.hku.hk/rls/pp/2006/

General Enquiries:
Tel: (852) 2859 2353
Email: lawfac@hkusx.hku.hk
Website: www.hku.hk/law
Application Deadline: 31 May 2008

The 6th International Forum on Online Dispute Resolution

The 6th International Forum on Online Dispute Resolution took place on December 4-5, 2007 and we would like to thank our co-organizers including the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre, and the China International Economic and Trade Arbitration Commission. Local and international speakers spoke on a diverse range of ODR issues, including new technology and IGT convergence, development of ODR in Asia, ODR and e-business, ODR and social justice, and ODR domain names and e-government.

International Chamber of Commerce, 3rd International Commercial Mediation Competition, Paris, France

A team of four HKU Law Students recently participated in the 3rd Annual International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) International Commercial Mediation Competition at the ICC Headquarters in Paris from February 14-18, 2008. Teams invited by the ICC from 30 universities all over the world competed to determine the best mediation advocacy and negotiation skills in an international commercial mediation. Many congratulations to Runee Khudchardani (POLU), Sebastien Xie (POLU), Cheni Leung (POLU), and Natalie Tsang (LSB 4) who successfully represented HKU in this competition. This is the first time that HKU Law was invited to participate in this prestigious ICC Mediation competition, and the students did an outstanding job competing against top teams from law schools in USA, India and the UK.

In 2008, more HKU Dialogues in Dispute Resolution are planned, along with two international conferences in May and November 2008 considering dispute resolution, labour disputes and social justice.

Upcoming Events:

May 6, 2008 Public Lecture: "Islamic Financing and Alternative Dispute Resolution"
May 19, 2008 Seminar: "Mediation and the Resolution of Human Resource Disputes"
MASTER OF LAWS IN ARBITRATION AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION

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Mediation Conference

As part of the development of the new LL.M. in Arbitration & Dispute Resolution, the HKU Law Faculty helped co-organise an international mediation conference on November 30 and December 1, 2007 attended by over 200 participants. We would like to thank our co-organizers, including the Judiciary HKSAR, Department of Justice HKSAR, Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre, Hong Kong Mediation Centre, Hong Kong Bar Association, Hong Kong Mediation Council, Law Society of Hong Kong and the Chinese University of Hong Kong. Local and overseas speakers participated in a variety of conference panels discussing the development of mediation in overseas jurisdictions and how it has been combined within the judicial system ("court annexed mediation"). Other conference panels considered the role of mediation service providers, mediation and public sector initiatives and mediation and commercial disputes. Day two of the conference considered mediation in the local Hong Kong context and was conducted in Cantonese considering the use of mediation to resolve building management, labour and family disputes.

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International Achievements

For our students, mootings is almost like taking up a full-time job in addition to their full-time studies. The time required for research, discussion and performance is equivalent to (if not more than) any one of our LLB subjects. Mooters have to prepare very detailed submissions well in advance and present sophisticated legal arguments. Good advocacy skills and team cooperation are also key to performing well in the competitions.

Over the years, students from our Faculty have achieved excellent results in international competitions, receiving prizes for the best memorials or being named as one of the top orators. We would also like to thank our coaches’ efforts. The Faculty would also like to thank Sweet & Maxwell Asia for their continuous sponsorship and valuable support to our team.

The 2nd LAWASIA Moot Competition 2007 (Hong Kong)

Mooters: Hermima Ng (PCLL), Randy Shek (PCLL), Alice Qian (SBA), etc.

Coach: Dr Keith Hotten

Subject: Cross-Border Child Abduction

Ranking/Awards: Winner; Best Mooter at the General Rounds (Randy Shek)

The 5th ELSA Moot Court Competition on WTO Law 2007 (Geneva, Switzerland)

Mooters: Sabrina Ho (PCLL), Sze Yik Suen (PCLL), Anna Chu (2LBB) and Hu Ying (1LBB)

Coach: Mr Don Lam (Academic Advisor), Mr Thomas Wong (Student Coach)

Ranking/Awards: Professor Gaus-Dieter Ehmann Award - Runner-up

The 5th Red Cross International Humanitarian Law Mooting Competition 2007 (Hong Kong)

Mooters: Bonnie Cheng Yan Ki (2LBB), Ernest Ng Chung Yan (2SBA) and Katherine Chan (PCLL)

Coach: Ms Suzannah Linton and Ms Pui Kei Kapal

Ranking/Awards: Runner-up

Special thanks to: Mr Justice Hartmann, Ms Winnie Tam SC, Mr Earl Deng, Mr Jeffrey Chan, Ms Michelle Fang, Ms Maureen Liu, Mr Andrew Chan, Mr Roy Chan, Ms Wing Mai Wai for judging our students in their practice moots and for their helpful advice.

A Reflection on the LawAsia Moot 2007

Had this been a real-life case, we would be fighting for the return of three-year-old Leticia to her father after her mother had taken her to another country. The law at first appeared to be on our side because the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction favours return. But the catch was, the grandma had a penchant for traditional herbal medicine and a fondness for the cane when it came to raising little Leticia. Just how can returning a small child to live with her cane-wielding grandma not be harmful? During the competition, we had to argue on the father’s behalf in one moot and resist the return on behalf of Leticia’s mother in another. One moment it would be harmful to Leticia to return to her father, the next moment, not returning her would be contrary to the spirit of the Hague Convention.

From the beginning of the PCLL, we had the fundamentals of advocacy drilled into our heads. The numerous advocacy sessions reinforced what we were taught, but taking part in the moot competition stood as the ultimate test for us in terms of practicing what we learned. Sume enough, we had done all the preparation we could on the law of international child abduction, and Dr. Hotten had suffered numerous hours listening to our practice. Could we hold our own through the rounds making our arguments in front of judges and practitioners who specialize in the subject? No matter how many sessions we had in Advocacy lectures watching live demonstrations, the only way to test one’s mettle was being on one’s feet, in front of a (very) critical audience.

As it ended up, the final round was not as terrifying as we imagined. The eximent and learned judges were not particularly harsh with their questions (though the questions were not less inclusive). When they were testing our responses on our text and our analysis of the law, they did so with the most disarming of smiles and in the most genteel of tones. After the most nerve-wracking two hours of our lives, we came out unscathed and managed to bring the winners’ prize home. As Hermima and I are now embarking on our careers as pupils (and later as barristers), we can only hope that the judges we meet in the future, in the real courtrooms, will be just as pleasant and as willing to overlook our trembling hands at the lectern.

From a Mooter to a Coach

My involvement with the Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot started with my failure to be selected for the team when I was still a student. I took comfort that HKU achieved its best result so far in that year – so the selection was keen. Two years later, I was asked to help out with a short legal point on which the team met difficulty. It is now the third year in which I acted as one of the coaches to the HKU team (together with Vandana Rajawat and Raymond Pierce).

Now in private practice, I understand the importance of developing one’s skills to present ideas both on paper and orally with clarity as early as possible. The Vis Moot provides an opportunity which students may not otherwise have in their formal legal studies, irrespective of the team’s results in the competition, I treasure the many sessions in which arguments were put forward by students for reflection and refinement. Students (and myself) can only pick up the skills of advocacy through practice. We may not be conscious of this process – but I am certain that all team members came out of the competition with enhanced confidence and eloquence in getting their messages across.

A reflection on the LawAsia Moot 2007

“This is the only opportunity in your entire legal career to appear in front of a Bench like this. So, enjoy it.” With these words, our coach Dr Keith Hotten kindly encouraged our team-mates, Hermima Ng and Alice Qian, and me before the Finals of the 2007 LawAsia International Moot Competition. With our frayed nerves, the message that we heard was more along this line: “The Chief Justices of Australia and New Zealand, and a Permanent Judge of the Court of Final Appeal will be presiding over this moot, try not to screw up.” By that time we pretty much had our submissions memorized having practised them countless times. The challenge was really how to stop our hands from shaking and our knees from trembling. Please no questions…

Randy Shek

PCLL in 2006-2007

2007 LawAsia Best Mooter

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Now in private practice, I understand the importance of developing one’s skills to present ideas both on paper and orally with clarity as early as possible. The Vis Moot provides an opportunity which students may not otherwise have in their formal legal studies, irrespective of the team’s results in the competition, I treasure the many sessions in which arguments were put forward by students for reflection and refinement. Students (and myself) can only pick up the skills of advocacy through practice. We may not be conscious of this process – but I am certain that all team members came out of the competition with enhanced confidence and eloquence in getting their messages across.

Alfred (right) and the Vis Moot team 2006

I am grateful to the Faculty for being extremely supportive of the HKU Vis Moot team. I hope that the Faculty and all alumni can join in and continue supporting our students in furthering their skills and broadening their horizons.

Alfred Cheng (LL.B 2003, PCLL 2004)
International Achievements

For our students, moots are almost like taking up a full-time job in addition to their full-time studies. The time required for research, discussion and performance is equivalent to (if not more than) any one of our LLM subjects. Moots have to prepare very detailed submissions well in advance and present sophisticated legal arguments. Good advocacy skills and team cooperation are also key to performing well in the competitions.

Over the years, students from our Faculty have achieved excellent results in international competitions, receiving prizes for the best memorials or being named as some of the top orators. We would also like to thank our coaches’ efforts. The Faculty would also like to thank Sweet & Maxwell Asia for their continuous sponsorship and valuable support to our team.

The 2nd LAWASIA Moot Competition 2007 (Hong Kong)

Mooters: Hermina Ng (PCLL), Randy Shek (PCLL), Alice Qian (BSLA)

Coach: Dr Keith Hotten

Subject: Cross-border Child Abduction

Ranking/Awards: Winner, Best Mooter at the General Rounds (Randy Shek)

The 5th ELSA Moot Court Competition on WTO Law 2007 (Geneva, Switzerland)

Mooters: Sabrina Ho (PCLL), Sue Yik Suen (PCLL), Anna Chu (BSLA) and Hu Ying (BSLA)

Coach: Mr Don Lewis (Academic Advisor), Mr Thomas Wong (Student Coach)

Ranking/Awards: Professor Claus-Dieter Echmann Award, Runner-up

The 5th Red Cross International Humanitarian Law Mooting Competition 2007 (Hong Kong)

Mooters: Bonnie Cheng Yan Ki (BSLA), Ernest Ng Chung Yuen (BSBA) and Katherine Chan (PCLL)

Coach: Ms Suzannah Linton and Ms Pui Ka Kapal

Ranking/Awards: Runner-up

Special thanks to: Mr Justice Hartmann, Ms Winnie Tam SC, Mr Earl Deng, Mr Jeffrey Chan, Ms Michelle Pang, Ms Maureen Liu, Mr Andrew Chan, Mr Roy Chan, Ms Wing Mai Wai for judging our students in their practice moots and for their helpful advice.

A Reflection on the LawAsia Moot 2007

Had this been a real-life case, we would be fighting for the return of three-year-old Leticia to her father after her mother had taken her to another country. The law at first appeared to be on our side because the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction favours return. But the catch was, the grandma had a penchant for traditional herbal medicine and a fondness for the canoe when it came to raising little Leticia. Just how can a returning small child to live with her canoe-wielding grandma not be harmful? During the competition, we had to argue on the father’s behalf in one moot and resist the return on behalf of Leticia’s mother in another. One moment it would be harmful to Leticia to return to her father, the next moment, not returning her would be contrary to the spirit of the Hague Convention.

From the beginning of the PGCLL, we had the fundamentals of advocacy drilled into our heads. The numerous advocacy sessions reinforced what we were taught but taking part in the moot competition stood as the ultimate test for us in terms of practising what we learned. Sure enough, we had done all the preparation we could on the law of international child abduction, and Dr Hotten had suffered numerous hours listening to our practice. Could we hold our own throughout the rounds making our arguments in front of judges and practitioners who specialize in the subject? No matter how many sessions we had in Advocacy lectures watching live demonstrations, the only way to test one’s mettle was being on one’s feet, in front of a live critical audience.

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Now in practice, I understand the importance of developing one’s skills in the arts of ‘cold calling’ or ‘hot calling’ (both on paper and orally) with clarity as early as possible. The Vis Moot provides an opportunity which students may not otherwise have in their formal legal studies. In the case of the team’s results in the competition, I treasure the many sessions in which arguments were put forward by students for reflection and refinement. Students (and myself) can only pick up the skills of advocacy through practice. We may not be conscious of this process – but I am certain that all team members came out of the competition with an enhanced confidence and eloquence in getting their messages across.

Alfred Cheng, 2003-2004
2007 Red Cross International Humanitarian Law Mooting Competition

On 17 March 2006, 3 students of the University entered the High Court of Hong Kong building for the grand final of the 5th Red Cross International Humanitarian Law Mooting Competition.

The most problem this year covered a wide range of issues including internal armed conflicts, torture, killing of civilians and the misuse of emblems and vehicles of the ICRC. The complex scenarios gave rise to some difficult arguments on the duty of the commander to control the behavior of his regular and irregular subordinates and the right to fair trial of an accused under a set of Special Statutes akin to the law of various United Nations International Criminal Tribunals.

The Grand Final was an intense competition presided by Hon. Mr Justice Patrick Chan (Permanent Judge of the CFA), Professor Michael Davis (Dept. of GPA, CUHK) and Mr Michael Crawley (Lecturer, Edith Cowan University), Bonnie Cheng (LLB IV) and myself together with Katherine Chan (PG2L) who had specialized in international criminal law in her previous pursuit of her master degree in the United Kingdom. She guided the whole team through complex research and constantly oversaw the work of the whole team.

The team’s gratitude must be expressed to various faculty members who generously spent their time with the team to improve its performance. They include Prof. Hurst Hammond, Mr Oliver Jones, Mr Simon Young, Ms Vandana Raiwai, Ms Xing Fei, and Michele Fung and Maureen Liu of the 2006 Team.

Mooting is definitely more than just arguing a case. Outside the courtroom, the team showed hospitality as the host team of the competition. Relentlessly putting forward their arguments on General Reality and Colonel Daddy, all the participants made great friendships in this metropolitan city.

Ernest Ng
2007 Red Cross Mooter

Now that the moot is over, the team is planning how best to utilize their prize to contribute to human rights law from scratch. They gave our team critical and yet constructive comments throughout the preparation period, both for the written memorial and the oral rounds in March. Ms Linton, accompanied the team, the ‘JH, reeks’, from the start to the Grand Final and Ms Kapal, who was on leave, supported the team as much as possible, especially during the critical moments. All this formed an indispensable part of the unforgettable memory of the Red Cross 2007.

We were very lucky to have Katherine (PG2L) who had specialized in international criminal law in her previous pursuit of her master degree in the United Kingdom. She guided the whole team through complex research and constantly oversaw the work of the whole team.

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Lee AITKEN who left us in 1997, rejoined the Faculty as Associate Professor in August 2007 after practising in Sydney as a barrister for ten years and then lecturing at the Faculty of Law, University of Sydney. He is particularly interested in banking and financial law, equity and trusts, property law, and arbitration. He likes reading and walking.

GU Weiss joined the Faculty as Senior Teaching Assistant since August 2007 after completing both M.C. and SJD studies here at HKU. As one of our youngest faculty members, Weiss is familiar to us. She was awarded the prestigious Fulbright Scholarship last year, and has spent six months at NYU and Cornell Law School. She specializes in international commercial arbitration and ADR. Weiss enjoys light music and the arts, and loves exploring different cultures and cuisines when travelling.

Prof. Lim Chin Leng joined the Faculty as Professor in July 2007 after seven years at the National University of Singapore, having previously taught at the University of Wales, Aberystwyth and Queen Mary, University of London for the greater part of the 90s. Somewhat in between, he worked as a solicitor in Genesis, a staff member of the Attorney General of Singapore, and an advisor to the Temasek’s Prime Minister’s Office. But now he is back in the real world, and accompanied by his long-suffering wife Lyn.

Jelene LIN joined the Faculty as Assistant Professor in May 2007 after practising in Singapore as a solicitor. Her special interests are environmental law, regulation theory and international law. She is a tree-hugger, loves dogs and beach holidays in the sun.

LONG Qinglan joined the Faculty in September, 2007 after obtaining her J.D. from University of Kansas. Her special interest is in PRC civil and commercial law with comparative perspectives. She loves classical music and hiking.

Meet Our New Staff

Lee MASON joined the Faculty as a Teaching Assistant in August 2007. Prior to this, Lee taught at the Bucerius Law School in Germany. His teaching areas include contract, torts and legal research and writing. Lee enjoys hiking, surrealism and Jay Gristin’s books.

Gary MEGGITT joined the Faculty as Teaching Consultant in July 2007. He practiced insurance litigation from 1990 to 2002 and taught at BPP Law School in London from 2000. From 2005 to 2007 he was the Course Director of BPP’s full time Barrister Vocational Course (BVC). Gary is interested in insurance law, commercial litigation and ADR.

Marco WAN joined the Faculty as Assistant Professor in August 2007. He is completing a PhD on English and French literary trials at the University of Cambridge, and also holds a law degree from Cambridge and a B.A. degree in comparative literature from Yale University. His main areas of research include law and literature, critical theory, and the methodologies and practices of interdisciplinary. He recently developed an interest in salsa dancing, and aims to have reached the stage of not stopping on his partner more than once during each song by the time this newsletter goes to print.

Dr Emily LEE who obtained her PhD from the University of British Columbia joined the Faculty as Research Assistant Professor in January 2008 having practised with various law firms in both Taiwan and Canada and spent four years teaching Law at USG as a sessional lecturer and an adjunct professor. Her special interests are commercial, corporate, and financial law. She enjoys reading, independent films and international travel. She also enjoys attending art and music appreciation classes and exhibitions.

Dr ZHANG Jun joined the Faculty as Associate Professor in January 2008. He was with the City University of Hong Kong for the past five years. His research interests are space law, dispute resolution, e-commerce law and international economic law.

Faculty Retreat

More than 40 members of the Faculty went for a retreat in Shenzhen on 18 October 2007, and had a fruitful discussion on law curriculum development in response to the Government’s “3+4+4” curriculum reform initiative. The retreat was followed by a visit to the People’s Intermediate Court of Shenzhen where Faculty members met our alumni (who are judges of the Court) and attended a real trial.
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To live is to Fight for a Right to Die

If mankind could be convinced of your wish to die, it is a reason enough for you to live — this axiom is certainly a paradox of our zeitgeist, as we witnessed the odyssean face of the quadriga of Tang Siu-Pun (Ah Bun), fighting and persuading the world of his right to terminate his life.

Ah Bun’s visit to the University of Hong Kong provided an enlightening session for us all lawyers-to-be. While the sufferer of the most piteous and infamed vítimas of a reckless and groveling life, the law of the land denied his plea for a merciful release. In his polemic rendition, Ah Bun argued against the ruthlessness of the law, imposing unjust restrictions on his free will and personal liberty in the name of some greater moral values.

His agony certainly begs one of the most critical questions of jurisprudence since the Wolfenden report, namely the attempt to strike a balance between the paternalistic law preserving social cohesion and the right of personal liberty. A legal question so intricate to answer, it has without doubt troubled numerous legal scholars over the past decades, and for us as analytically examine the arguments from both sides.

LI S.H. Sean (BA/Law/1)

Conferences and Lectures

- Seminar “The Chinese Constitution and the Basic Law” by Professor Cheng Jie — 3 December 2007
- The Common Law Lecture Series — 25 October 2007. This was the 7th lecture in the Common Law Lecture Series. The Rt Hon the Lord Wood of Cardowan delivered this lecture to an audience of more than 350 people at the Kwan Hua Theatre on “The Contemporary Responsibilities of the Common Law Judge”.
- 9th HKU-Peking U Annual Conference — 14-15 December 2007
- Conference on Universal Suffrage in HK: The Green Paper and Beyond — 22 September 2007. The Honourable Mrs Anson Chan was our distinguished guest speaker for this conference organized by the Centre for Comparative and Public Law.
- The Peter Allan Memorial Lecture in Public Law: “The Future of Contempt in a Bill of Rights Age” by Professor Tony Smith — 23 October 2007

Thank You Once Again, Dear Friends

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The Hon Chief Justice Andrew Li Kwok Nang
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The Hon Mr Justice Anselme Trindade Reyes
The Hon Mr Justice Robert Ching Tang, SBS, V P
The Hon Mrs Justice Juddianna Barnes Wat Ling
The Hon Madam Justice Madia Yan, J A
The Hon Madam Justice Susan Kwan Shuk Ping
H H Judge Bebe Chu Po Yung
Deputy Judge Louis Kong Yau Chan

Messrs Clifford Chance
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Mr Chan Benjamin Shon Wee
Mr Chan Chi Hung, SC
Mr Warren Chee Hoi Hei, SC
Ms Moses Cheng Mo Chih, JP
Mr Michael Cheng Man Young
Mr Cheung Yuk Tang
Miss Hilda Chu Wai Yee
Mr Alfred Chow Cheuk Yu
Mr Chow Sing Chiu
Mr Edward Chow Lap San
Mr Rowland Cheung Ting Kwan
Ms Alice Cheung Mun See
Mr Albert Thomas da Rosa, Jr
Mr Edward Fung Chi Kung
Mr Clive Grazier, SC
Ms Angela Ho Man Kay
Mr Lester Huang
Mr Emmanuel Kao Chu Chee
Mr Robert G Koh, SC
Mr William Kwok
Ms Alexa Lam
Ms Francesca Lam
Mr Gary Lam Ka Wan
Mr Geoffrey Lam Wan Ho, SC
Mr Lam Sze Kung
Ms Naomi Lau Yuk Him
Mr Garmon Lee Ka Choo
Ms Grace Lee Wai Yin
Mr Lawrence Le Kam Hung
Mr Lee Yu Cheung
Mr Godfrey Li Chi Chung
Mr Andrew Cheung Sing Liao, SC
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Ms Lui Fung Mei Yee Mabel
Ms Winnie Mak Yik Yuen
Mr Jose Antonio Maurelco
Mr Gilbert Mo
Ms Barbara Mak Wai Kun
Ms Alice Mai Chi Lai, SC
Mr Anthony Francis Neoh, SC
Mr Piao Jia
Mr Chik Ignatius Shum Siu Man
Mr Kenneth H B Bo
Ms Alice Yuen Ying Tai, OBE, JP
Mr Howard Tai Wai Yuen
Mr Jacob Tse Yiu Sun
Mr Jeff Tse Tse Tung
Miss Woon Siu Kwan
Ms Theresa Wong Pui Yue
Mr Kenneth Wong Wing Yan
Mr John Yen Man Yew, SC
Mr Albert Yau Kai Cheung
Mr Benny Yeung Yuen Bun
Mr Patrick Yeung Po Chai
Ms Charmaine Yip
Mr Rimsky Yuen Kwok Keung, SC

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Miss Wan Siu Kwan
Ms Crescita Wong Chi Yue
Mr Kenneth Wong Wing Yan
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Mr Albert Yau Kai Cheung
Mr Stanley Young Yuen Bun
Mr Patrick Yeung Pu Chui
Ms Charmaine Yip
Mr Ramsay Yuen Kwok Keung, SC

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2007 Outstanding Young Researcher Award – Dr Douglas Armer

Congratulations to Dr Douglas Armer, who has been awarded by the University the 2007 Outstanding Young Researcher Award.

Dr Armer specializes in economic and financial law, regulation and development; and has served as a consultant with, among others, the World Bank, Asian Development Bank, APEC, EBRD and Development Bank of Southern Africa; he has also designed training programmes for Merrill Lynch, Bayer & McDonnell and the Hong Kong Monetary Authority.

2007 University Research Output Prize (Faculty of Law) – Ms Janice Braby


Ms Braby specializes in criminal law, evidence, extradition law, and the development of interactive teaching methods for teaching/learning legal skills. She teaches and writes mainly in the fields of evidence and criminal law and has long-term research interests in extradition in particular and international mutual assistance in criminal matters generally.

2007 ABA “Lawyer as Problem Solver” Award – Professor David Sandborg

Congratulations also go to Professor David Sandborg, who received the 2007 American Bar Association (ABA) “Lawyer as Problem Solver” Award at the ABA’s Annual meeting in San Francisco in August 2007. The Award is conferred upon recommendation of the ABA’s Dispute Resolution Section. It is given to “a member of the legal profession who has exhibited extraordinary skill in either promoting the concept of the lawyer as problem-solver or resolving individual, institutional, community, state, national or international problems.”

Apart from assisting in the development of the new LLM in Arbitration and Dispute Resolution as our Visiting Professor, Professor Sandborg is also the Director of Dispute Resolution Studies, Shantou University, China; Fellow and Chartered Arbitrator of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators; and a member of the panels of a number of arbitral institutions, including HKAC (Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre).

2007 Inauguration of Endowed Professorships

The University held its Second Inauguration of Endowed Professorships at Lake Yuen Hall on 17 April 2007. The Inauguration Ceremony was an occasion to honor philanthropists who entered into a commitment to support academic excellence. It was also an occasion to recognize academics who have brought honour to the University through their world class research.

We would like to congratulate the following colleagues upon whom have been bestowed endowed professorships in recognition of their research excellence:

Professor Albert HY Chen –
Chan Professorship in Constitutional Law

Professor Philip Smart –
Harold Hoia-Wo Lee Professorship in Corporate Law

The Faculty of Law is also very honoured that 4 out of a total of 18 endowed professorships are in the field of law and we would like to thank our donors once again:

- Chan Professorship in Constitutional Law (anonymous donor)
- Harold Hoia-Wo Lee Professorship in Corporate Law established by Mrs Christina Lee, in memory of her late husband, Harold Hoia-Wo Lee
- Kenny Holdings Professorship in Commercial Law established by Kenny Holdings Limited
- Paul K C Chung Professorship in Jurisprudence established by Mr Paul K C Chung

Employment Statistics of our PCLL Graduates in 2006

Where are our PCLL Graduates?

95% of our PCLL graduates in 2006 were employed or proceeded to take further studies.

Employment Sectors

The majority of PCLL graduates were employed in Commerce & Industry, while others were employed in Community, Social & Personal Services and the Civil Service.

Time Taken to Secure Employment

% of new graduates who have secured employment by the end of 2006

- May 2006 or before: 50%
- June: 57%
- July: 64%
- August: 74%
- September: 82%
- October: 87%
- November: 92%
- December: 96%
- January 2007: 99%
- February 2007: 100%

Gross Income (in HK$)

The remuneration received by our PCLL graduates is shown below.

- Mean: 23,146
- Median: 20,000
- Minimum: 9,000
- Maximum: 67,600

- HKU Average refers to the figure for the HKU Taught Postgraduate Programme graduates.


Average Scores of JUPAS Applicants Admitted to HKU in 2007

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AS USE OF ENGLISH</th>
<th>AS CHINESE LANGUAGE AND CULTURE</th>
<th>2A1+4AS EQUIVALENT SUBJECTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LLB</td>
<td>BBA (Law)</td>
<td>BBS (Gl)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.47</td>
<td>3.72</td>
<td>3.68</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| LLB               | BBA (Law)           | BBS (Gl)                    |
| 3.51              | 3.79                | 4.32                        |

| LLB               | BBA (Law)           | BBS (Gl)                    |
| 3.81              | 4.4                 | 4.45                        |

Notes: Conversion of HKALE/ HKCEE grades into Scores: Grade A=5, B=4, C=3, D=2, E=1, others=0

EAS Admissions

This year, the Faculty of Law received over 70 applications for lower Six Form applicants for admission to the LLB programme under the EAS scheme. The Faculty admitted 17 students and their HKCEE results are as follows:

- 5 B in HKCEE/ HKALE
- 3 B in HKCEE/ HKALE
- 1 A in HKCEE/ HKALE
- Others: 3
2007 Outstanding Young Researcher Award – Dr Douglas Arner

Congratulations to Dr Douglas Arner, who has been awarded by the University the 2007 Outstanding Young Researcher Award.

Dr Arner specializes in economic and financial law, regulation and development; and has served as a consultant with, among others, the World Bank, Asian Development Bank, APEC, EBRD and Development Bank of Southern Africa; he has also designed training programmes for Merrill Lynch, Bayer & Merckle and the Hong Kong Monetary Authority.

2007 University Research Output Prize (Faculty of Law) – Ms Janice Braby


Ms Braby specializes in criminal law, evidence, extradition law, and the development of interactive teaching methods for teaching/learning legal skills. She teaches and writes mainly in the fields of evidence and criminal law and has long-term research interests in extradition in particular and international mutual assistance in criminal matters generally.

2007 ABA “Lawyer as Problem Solver” Award – Professor David Sandborg

Congratulations also go to Professor David Sandborg, who received the 2007 American Bar Association (ABA) “Lawyer as Problem Solver” Award at the ABA’s Annual meeting in San Francisco in August 2007.

The Award is conferred upon recommendation of the ABA’s Dispute Resolution Section. It is given to “a member of the legal profession who has exhibited extraordinary skill in either promoting the concept of the lawyer as problem-solver or resolving individual, institutional, community, state, national or international problems.”

Apart from assisting in the development of the new LLM in Arbitration and Dispute Resolution as our Visiting Professor, Professor Sandborg is also the Director of Dispute Resolution Studies, Shantou University, China; Fellow and Chartered Arbitrator of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators; and a member of the panels of a number of arbitral institutions, including HKAC (Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre).

2007 Inauguration of Endowed Professorships

The University held its Second Inauguration of Endowed Professorships at Lake Yeeu Hall on 17 April 2007.

The Inauguration Ceremony was an occasion to honor philanthropists who entered into a commitment to support academic excellence. It was also an occasion to recognize academics who have brought honour to the University through their world class research.

We would like to congratulate the following colleagues upon whom have been bestowed endowed professorships in recognition of their research excellence:

**Professor Albert HY Chen – Chan Professorship in Constitutional Law**

**Professor Philip Smart – Harold Hsiao-Wo Lee Professorship in Corporate Law**

The Faculty of Law is also very honoured that of a total of 18 endowed professorships are in the field of law and we would like to thank our donors once again:

- Chan Professorship in Constitutional Law (anonymous donor)
- Harold Hsiao-Wo Lee Professorship in Corporate Law established by Mrs Christina Lee, in memory of her late husband, Harold Hsiao-Wo Lee
- Kenny Holdings Professorship in Commercial Law established by Kenny Holdings Limited
- Paul K C Chung Professorship in Jurisprudence established by Mr Paul K C Chung

Employment Statistics of our PCLL Graduates in 2006

Where are our PCLL Graduates?

95% of our PCLL graduates in 2006 were employed or proceeded to take further studies.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>% of New Graduates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HKU</td>
<td>99%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industry</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Further</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Time Taken to Secure Employment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>% of New Graduates who have secured employment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 2006 or before</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August</td>
<td>74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October</td>
<td>87%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November</td>
<td>92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December</td>
<td>96%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 2007</td>
<td>99%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 2007</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Gross Income (in HK$)

The remuneration received by our PCLL graduates is shown below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>Median</th>
<th>Minimum</th>
<th>Maximum</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PCLL</td>
<td>23,146</td>
<td>18,258</td>
<td>9,000</td>
<td>67,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HKU Average*</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>18,000</td>
<td>9,000</td>
<td>67,500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* HKU Average refers to the figure for the HKU Taught Postgraduate Programme graduates.


Average Scores of JUPAS Applicants Admitted to HKU in 2007

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>AS USE OF ENGLISH</th>
<th>2A1+4AS EQUIVALENT SUBJECTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LLB</td>
<td>4.47</td>
<td>3.91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BBA (Law)</td>
<td>3.72</td>
<td>3.58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BSS (GL)</td>
<td>3.68</td>
<td>3.62</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes: Conversion of HKALE/HKCEE grades into scores: Grade A=5, B=4, C=3, D=2, E=1, others=0

EAS Admissions

This year, the Faculty of Law received over 70 applications from Lower Six Form applicants for admission to the LLB programme under the EAS scheme. The Faculty admitted 17 students and their HKCEE results and their HKALE results are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>HKALE</th>
<th>HKCEE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EAS Admissions</td>
<td>4.4</td>
<td>4.45</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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PCLL High Table Dinner

A curious passer-by peering into the hallowed confines of Lake Yew Hall on the evening of March 21, 2007 would have been confronted with a noteworthy sight: under the delicate flicker of candlelight, close to 200 nascent lawyers were gathered together with some of Hong Kong’s top legal practitioners for a night of delectable food, sumptuous wine, and fine speeches. The inquisitive stranger, upon further prodding, would have discovered that he had stumbled upon the inaugural HKU-PCLL High Table Dinner.

The High Table Dinner is one of the most esteemed traditions of the University of Hong Kong: in virtually every hall and academic department, the High Table Dinner is one of the most anticipated events in the calendar. As much as the Lily Pond and Lake Yew Hall, the High Table Dinner is the stuff of HKU lore. I was thus considerably disappointed upon arriving at HKU for the PCLL course that the PCLL had no tradition of partaking in this venerable event. Determined not to be shut out from this quintessential HKU experience, several classmates and I decided that we would take it upon ourselves to organise the first HKU PCLL High Table Dinner.

Months of furtive – and often exhausting – planning followed. All this was amply rewarded when, on a mild March evening, Prof. Johannes Chan S.C., Dean of the Faculty of Law, stood in the dimmed splendour of Lake Yew Hall to welcome guests to the inaugural event. Seated before Prof. Chan, dressed in their best finery, around elegantly set tables, their faces illuminated by candlelight – was an assemblage of aspiring barristers and solicitors: the students of the PCLL. These young would-be lawyers were joined by lecturers from the PGLL; practitioners who had served as tutors and mentors to the PGLL students; and representatives from sponsors Desacons; Or, Ng & Chan; Law Alliance; and Woo, Kwan, Lee & Co.

In true High Table fashion, a number of highly distinguished doyens of the legal profession were invited to speak during dinner. Mr Winon Yan-Lung S.C., the Secretary for Justice and Mr Martin Lee S.C., family recalled their first – and occasionally lumpy – steps as junior barristers. Mr Alexander King S.C. memorably compared the role of a barrister to that of a lighter pilot, while Ms Anna Wu emphasized the importance of maintaining traditions. The night was rounded off by Mr Justice Bokhary, Permanent Judge of the Court of Final Appeal, who gave his perspective from the bench and eloquently espoused the virtues of a career in law.

At the end of the evening, as I looked at the now-empty Hall – with a small number of staff clearing up, the candles still half-burning, and the faint sounds of guests making their way home – I could not help but feel satisfied that an old tradition had been newly re-created.

Wilson Leung
PCLL, graduate (2006)

A Report of The University of Hong Kong Law Alumni Association (2006-2007)

Ms Lucy Yen, President
(LLB 1972, PCLL 1973)

During the report period, the Executive Committee of the Association has held 7 meetings. Below is a brief account of the work done and activities during the period.

The University

In November 2007, the Association joined in with other local and offshore alumni chapters of the University to congratulate the University in being ranked as the 38th in the world by Times Higher Education Supplement “World University Rankings 2007” by placing advertisements in various newspapers such as Ming Pao and South China Morning Post.

The Faculty

1. On 9 June 2007, a drinks party was held in the High Court by the Faculty for PCLL students. Members of the Association were invited to attend the party and to mingle with the students. The Honourable Mr Justice Patrick Chan kindly said a few words to the students to mark the happy occasion.

2. On 22 June 2007, the President, the Honorary Secretary and the Honorary Treasurer attended a luncheon at Hong Kong Penthouse for “Courtdown to the Centenary” III which, inter alia, Professor Lap Chee Trui, Mr. Jowai, and Professor John Mabey gave updates on the centennial campus project which is expected to be completed in 2011.

3. On 31 August 2007, the President attended the LLB Opening Ceremony 2007-2008 held at Rayson Huang Theatre and also addressed the Class of 2011.

4. On 1 September 2007, the President attended the PCLL Opening Ceremony held at Rayson Huang Theatre.

5. On 17 November 2007, the President attended the 2007 Graduation Ceremony for Bachelor of Laws Graduates held at Lake Yew Hall and participated in the Procession.

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1. Informal Gatherings with Alumni

Current members of the Executive Committee and friends of the Association attended a dinner organized by Professor Johannes Chan on 13 March 2007 when former President Mr Kenneth Kwan, S.C. was formally thanked for his leadership and contribution during his presidency.

On 12 October 2007, an evening Drinks Party was held at the Helena May. More than 40 attended consisting of members of the Executive Committee of the Association, alumni and previous members of the Law Mentorship Programme. It was an excellent opportunity for junior members of the legal profession to get to know senior members of the legal profession.

2. Talk and Workshop for Current Students

The “First Day in Legal Practice” talk was held on 26 March 2007. Ms Josephine Tja, Mr Henry Ma and Mr Lewis Law generously shared their experience of their first day at work with 26 law students.

3. Job Interview Workshop

The Job Interview Workshop was held on Monday, 24 September 2007. Preparation work by members of the Executive Committee of the Association began several weeks before with evening discussion sessions with the 3 experienced alumni who have kindly agreed to conduct the mock interviews. Ms. Au Miu Po, Her Honour Judge Minnie Chan and Mr Simon Ip Shing Hing. 148 students attended the workshop, which was conducted in three parts. The President said a few words to the students before the start of workshops. Ms Cissie Leung, member of the Executive Committee of the Association, then shared with students her views on the preparations and the “dos” and “don’ts” for a job interview. Individual mock interviews were then conducted by Ms. Au Miu Po, Her Honour Judge Minnie Chan and Mr Simon Ip Shing Hing. A group interview of three law students was then conducted. Finally Ms Cissie Leung and the guest interviewers gave their feedback on the mock interviews and a Q & A session followed for all the students there. To prepare for the workshop, students were instructed to apply to a hypothetical employer, Messrs. Wuu, Kwan, Lee & Lo, for a trainee position.

In response to the feedback of last year, for the first time, a follow-up session was introduced this year. It took place on 8 October 2007 and 21 attended students. The students were separated into various groups for interviews – 9 Alumni including members of the Executive Committee attended to conduct and participate in the group interviews.

4. Law Mentorship Programme

The Law Mentorship Programme started on 4 October 2007 with a Briefing Session for the students who have applied for the programme. A total of 315 students attended the Briefing Session. The President said a few words at the Briefing Session reminding the students, inter alia, of the generosity of the mentors in giving their time to the Programme. The total number of members selected is 219. Mentorship dinners were then held on the evenings of the 29, 30 and 31 October and 1 November 2007 respectively.
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Wilson Leung
PCLL, graduate (2006)
Law Mentorship Programme
2007-2008

The Law Mentorship Programme 2007-2008, jointly organized by the Faculty and the HKU Law Alumni Association, is now in its fifth year since its first launch in October 2002. It aims to provide law students with the opportunity to meet legal practitioners and judges and to enhance their educational, social and personal growth through a supportive relationship with their mentors. Over the years, the Law Alumni Association has provided tremendous support and assistance in the organization and running of the Programme, particularly in engaging the support of members of the profession and the judiciary, many of whom are our alumni.

This year, 103 mentors and 219 mentees participated in the Programme. To initiate the first contact between the mentors and their mentees, the Faculty and the Law Alumni Association organized the Mentorship Dinners on 29 October, 30 October, 31 October and 1 November 2007. It is expected that the mentees will take the initiative to organize at least one more gathering before the end of March 2008. It is also hoped that apart from these two gatherings, individual mentees and their mentors can develop further relationships through other communications or meetings.

Briefing Session
A Briefing Session on the Law Mentorship Programme was held on 4 October 2007. We are very grateful to have various members of our alumni giving speeches to our mentors and mentees based on their chosen topics. The speakers were as follows:

Ms Amy Lu (LLB 1972, PGL 1973)
Judge David Chan (LLB 1987, 1988)
Mr Gilbert Mo (LLB 1984, PGL 1985)
Mr Anderson Chow, SC (LLB 1986, PGL 1987)

It is likely that the number of student participants will continue to increase. We are glad to see many new mentors joining the Programme for the first time, and at the same time, we would like to express our gratitude to dedicated mentors who have participated year after year. Their support is crucial to the success of this Programme and we hope to see you all again next year!

LLB Graduation Ceremony

“Why Law?” said the Honourable Ronny K.W. Tong, S.C, the Guest-of-Honour of the 2007 LLB Graduation Ceremony of the Faculty held in Loke Yau Hall on November 17, 2007.

The Ceremony was presided over by the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Lap-chee Tsui, with graduates, their parents and guests. It was a surprise to the audience when our Guest-of-Honour revealed that it was his first time attending a graduation ceremony, despite the fact that he has two twin degrees! In his speech, he shared with our graduates and guests the essence of the law which in his view, is to identify and seek out justice and fairness, and to build a harmonious and fair society with justice, fairness and equality.

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Ms Wendy Ona CHAN
The Hon Mr Justice Patrick CHAN, PJ
Mr Jason CHEUNG
Mr Keith P K CHEUNG
Mr Peter Kam Tai CHEUNG
Ms Stephanie Gau Yu CHEUNG
Mr Wong Cheung
Mr Charles Chuang Yee CHIU
Mr Danny Shiu Kwong CHU
Mr Eric Kin Fai CHU
Mr Eugene Yue Chun CHOI
Mr Alfred Cheuk Yu CHOW
Mr Anderson K M CHOW, SC
Ms Priscilla K L CHOY
Mr Ivan Si Lun CHU
Ms Po King CHU
Mr Albert T DA ROSA, Jr
Mr Mark DALY
Ms Julienne DOE
Mr Jack Tsz Kin FONG
The Hon Mr Justice Barnabas FUNG
Ms Pansy Shuk Hing FUNG
Mr John GALE
Mr Rodney GOH
Mr Brian HOD
Ms Lily Y L HO
Mrs Winnie Wing Yee HO NG
Mr Martin Siu Ting HUI
Ms Penny K F IP
Mr Shing Hing IP
Mr George Tang, SC
Mr Emmanuel Chiu Chee KAO
Miss Mary May Lay KAO
Mr. Malcolm KEMP
Ms Charmaine KOD
Mr Joseph Siu Ming KWAN
Master Simon KWANG
Ms Esther Li Shian LAI
Ms Alexia LAM
Ms Franciscus See Man LAM
Miss Alice S M LAW
Mr Carmel S LEE
Miss Cynthia See wing LEE
Mr Alan K K LEONG, SC
Ms Gisly Wai Ying LEUNG
Mr David Cheuk Yin LEUNG
Mr Kam Ming Albert LEUNG
Mr Alex Kin Sing LEE
Mrs Amy Yuen King LEE
Mr Francis C C LO
Mr Henry Judge David LOK
Ms Alice L Y MA
Mr Man Kit Justin MA
Mr Andrew S M MAK
Ms Elizabeth W Y MO
Mr Gilbert S K MO
Miss Catherine Lee Ming MUN
Mrs Anita C G NG
Mr Kenney Judge Marlene NG
Mr Thomas Wai Hung NG
Mr Dickinson K F FANG
Ms Sawina S K FANG
Mr Alexander QUE
Ms Susan SAYERS
Mr Eric S M SI LAM
Mr Steven M W SLAM
Mr Kenneth Hoi Wah STI
Mr Tommy Wai Chi TAM
Mr Ting Ho Alfred TAM
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Mrs Rosanna WONG
Mr W esley W C WONG
Mr Albert C K YAU
Mr Lawrence YEE
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Mr Anderson K M CHOW, SC
Ms Priscilla KL CHOI
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The Hon Mrs Justice Barnabas FUNG
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Mr Rodney GOH
Mr Brian HOD
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Mrs Winnie Wing Yee HO NG
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Mr David Cheuk Yin LEUNG
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Mr Francis H C LO
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Her Honour Judge Marlene NG
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Mr Dickson K F PANG
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Mr Lawrence YEE
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Mrs Erene Y C YUNG
Miss Catherine YIP
Master Roy YU
Mr Raimo YUEN, SC
Completion Ceremony of Community Legal Information Centre (CLIC) Website

After its first launch in 2005, the CLIC (Community Legal Information Centre) Website has undergone substantial development and to celebrate its completion, a ceremony was held on 14 May 2007. This bilingual legal information website is run by the Law and Technology Centre with the Department of Justice of the HKSAR Government providing funding and technical assistance. The website enables the general public to have greater access to legal information and legal services. The Ceremony is also part of the programme celebrating the 10th Anniversary of the establishment of the HKSAR. The CLIC websites can be accessed at www.hkclinic.org and www.clic.org.hk

LLB Opening Ceremony 2007-2008

The LLB Opening Ceremony is an annual event that marks the beginning of the academic year for undergraduate students of the Faculty of Law. On 31 August 2007, more than 200 LLB and mixed degree freshmen, research and taught postgraduate students gathered at the Haydon Kung Theatre to celebrate this occasion. Ms Lucy Yen, President of The University of Hong Kong Law Alumni Association shared her thoughts and words of encouragement with our students. Dean Professor Johannes Chan SC GBS started his welcoming note by posing a classic tutorial question to the audience testing their response. The Opening Ceremony was also a joyful occasion for many of our academically outstanding students as they received well-earned academic prizes from our donors.

PCLL Opening Ceremony 2007-2008

2007 is another year in which admission to the PCLL is highly competitive. Mr Wilson Chow, Head of the Professional Legal Education Department welcomed and congratulated our 300 new PCLL students. Dean Professor Chan then reminded our students that the Opening Ceremony was the start of a year's hard work. He urged our students to start developing a sense of professionalism which should be understood and practised even before their graduation. This was followed by Mr Aminul Nasser Chairman of the Society's Guidance Committee and Council member of the Law Society of Hong Kong, and Mr Olive Grossman SC, Vice Chairman of the Hong Kong Bar Association, giving inspirational speeches. The Ceremony ended with the presentation of prizes to top students by our donors.
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Job Interview Workshop for Law Students 2007

For most undergraduates who do not have much experience with interviews, the idea of being interviewed by two senior law firm partners and a judge certainly sounds very intimidating indeed. Yet this did not deter our students from participating in the 2007 Job Interview Workshop. A total of 130 students attended this workshop, organized by The University of Hong Kong Law Alumni Association. Our heartfelt thanks must go to our alumni: Ma Au Miu Po (LLB 1972), Her Honour Judge Mimmie Chan (LLB 1980, PGLL 1981) and Mr Simon Lo Shing Hing (LLB 1979, PGLL 1979) for taking the time to be our interviewers; and Ms Cissy Leung (LLB 1988, PGLL 1989) for sharing with our students the “do’s” and “don’ts” for a job interview. Thanks must also go to Messrs Woo Kwan, Lee & Lo for being the hypothetical employer and allowing our student to use the firm’s website for job applications. This year for the first time, a follow-up session on interview techniques was introduced and our heartfelt thanks go to our alumni who participated as interviewers.

Information Day for Undergraduate Admissions and University Information Day

The Information Day for Undergraduate Admissions was held on 27-28 October 2007. The Information Day also coincided with the University Information Day this year. We were very pleased to have The Hon Mrs Justice Barnes of the Court of First Instance of the High Court, and Professor Johannes Chan SC (Hon), Dean of the Faculty as speakers for the admission talks. In addition to our alumni, some of our current students also shared their experience with nearly 500 visitors.

Information booths and display boards were set up at Latrobe Hall and the K.K. Leung Centre to showcase the Faculty’s strengths, and tours of the Law Library and Moot Court were organized for visitors.
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First Day in Legal Practice

The “First Day in Legal Practice” talk was held on 26 March 2007. Ms Josephine Tija, Mr Henry Ma and Mr Lewis Law, each being a junior member of the profession in their respective streams, generously shared with 26 law students their experience of their first day at work.

Professor Johannes Chan, SC (Hon) President of the Bar

Ms Lucy Yen
President, The University of Hong Kong Law Alumni Association

Mr Henry Ma
Trainee Solicitor, Haldanes

Ms Josephine Tija
Barrister-at-Law

Mr Lewis Law
Government Counsel, Department of Justice

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Information booths and display boards were set up at Link Hall and the HKU Leung complex to showcase the Faculty’s strengths, and tours of the Law Library and moot Court were organized for visitors.

HKU Alumni Evening Drinks Party

The University of Hong Kong Law Alumni Association organized an Evening Drinks Party on 12 October 2007 at Helena May. More than 40 members, mentors, alumni and friends joined the Party. It was a wonderful occasion for our alumni and friends to catch up with one another in a cozy and relaxed setting on a Friday evening.
Dinner at the Conference of Chief Justices of Asia and Pacific

Two of our outstanding students, Edwin Chui (LLB4) and Ken Lee (LLB4), had the honour of being invited to join the Dinner at the Conference of Chief Justices of Asia and Pacific held on 8 June 2007.

Mrs Justice Le Pichon, and Mrs Justices Barres, I also shared the table with a number of prestigious judges from other jurisdictions. It was exhilarating to know that I was in the presence of some of the most respected judges whose judgments I had just witnessed the last semester. I was surely humbled by the “judicial heavy weights”.

Secondly, besides the excitement, I enjoyed the discussions with the judges at my table. They shared with me their university life and shared with me their life of law students’ today and our worries for the future. I also heard an interesting tale from an Australian judge sitting next to me. In an Australian court, there was once a vigilant in a supermarket. The judge filed the case in his usual manner without showing the slightest attention to the costume. At the end of the trial, the vigilant lamented his disappointment to the judge’s apathy towards his style. The judge simply said the outfit was not relevant to the case and left the courtroom. It is a remarkable epiphany that Justice is blind, even towards superman.

Edwin Chui Ming Hei

LLB4

A Reminder

This experience is memorable in so many ways. Firstly, I had the chance to chat with the prominent members of the local judiciary, including the Chief Justice the Hon Mr Justice Andrew Li, Mr Justice Chan,

A Reflection upon a Dinner

It was an eye-opening experience to meet judicial guests from overseas. At the table where I sat, there were two foreign guests. One of them was from Japan. It is interesting to learn about how a different family of law, continental law, operates; and how a common law system (such as Hong Kong) could exist from it.

It was also a good opportunity for me to meet with eminent members of the local legal profession, lawyers and judges, outside their offices and courtrooms. I was fortunate to have a good briefing session on local legal trends, prospects and learn about the qualities of good lawyers.

I heard many memorable things but perhaps the most remarkable was that, after mentioning the then approaching 10th Anniversary of the Handover, The Hon Mr Justice Andrew Li in the Opening Address noted the presence of local law students and observed: “when those students come to position their legal profession, I would probably be near the middle of this century!”

Ken Lee To Ching

LLB4

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Ms Veronica Ho Hung Shuk-hat (P.C.L.L. 2001)

Recent Appointment of Senior Counsel
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Mr Lam War-ho, Godfrey (P.C.L.L. 1993)

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