

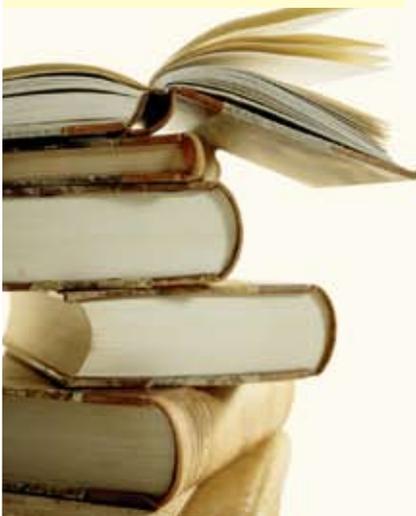


School of Law Newsletter



Inside

Advanced Legal Education for Mainland Judges.....	2
Agreement with Oxford	3
Cooperation with UNCTAD	3
Distinguished Experts Join IAB	4
Video-link Seminar with Yale Law School	6
Eminent Speakers Lecture	7
Asia Pacific Law Review Enters SSCI	8
Dean Lectures at United Nations.....	9
Dean Visits the US.....	10
Focus Groups and Peer Review	11
School of Law Gears Up for LLB in 2012.....	12
LLB Admission Scholarships	13
Law Student Excels in Speech Contest	13
PCLL Restructuring	14
School of Law Retreat	14
Honourary and Adjunct Professors.....	15
Publications	15



Message from the Dean

In this age of globalisation, legal education worldwide is undergoing significant changes and facing unprecedented challenges. Law schools can no longer operate in a traditional way as before and continuous improvements have to be made to cope with the global trend and meet the higher level of expectations. Against this background, our School of Law has taken special measures to respond to these challenges and at the same time to contribute to the development of legal education and training in Hong Kong as well as in the Asia-Pacific region.



Professor Wang Guiguo

It gives me great pleasure to report in this Newsletter that our School has made significant progress and achievements over the past few months. We have invited a number of world renowned scholars from the Yale Law School and University of Oxford and distinguished legal practitioners to join our School as Honourary or Adjunct Professors. Also we have concluded three landmark agreements with universities and institutions overseas and in the Mainland.

First, our School signed an agreement with the University of Oxford, as the second initiative under the Global Legal Education and Awareness Project (G-LEAP). The agreement is similar to the one with the Monash University and enables our students to study a course for one month at the University of Oxford. The cooperation will provide valuable opportunities for our students to broaden their horizons and experience the Oxford system of education.

Second, our School signed two exclusive agreements in Beijing with the Supreme People's Court and the National Judges College for the provision of advanced legal training to Chinese judges. This is the first time that the Supreme People's Court and the National Judges College have collaborated with an academic institution outside the Mainland in relation to legal training for Chinese judges, in particular for senior judges. Our School is honoured to have the opportunity to take part in these meaningful projects and will endeavour to contribute to enhancing professionalism and internationalisation of the judicial system in China.

Third, our School signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). The MoU covers training and capacity building in the field of international dispute resolution for policy makers, investors, businessmen and legal service providers. It is the first agreement that UNCTAD has ever signed with a university in the Asia-Pacific region on dispute settlement.

All these collaborations will not only expand the learning opportunities of our students, but will also enhance the reputation and international profile of our School. I am grateful to my colleagues and the University management for providing unrelenting support for these initiatives.

Professor Wang Guiguo
Dean & Professor (Chair) of Chinese and Comparative Law



Advanced Legal Education and Training for Mainland Judges

The School of Law of CityU will provide advanced legal education and training to serving judges in mainland China under an agreement signed with the Supreme People's Court and the National Judges College on 29 February at the PRC's Supreme Court in Beijing. CityU will become the only judge training base outside mainland China assisting the National Judges College in the provision of advanced legal training for serving judges.

Professor Richard Ho Yan-ki, Acting President of CityU, said, "The Supreme Court of the PRC is the top judicial institution. As a unit of the Supreme Court, the National Judges College is responsible for the training of judges and study of judicial cases. In just ten years, it has grown from an amateur law school and judge training centre to a modern, organised and professional law institution. It is the alma mater of senior judges with branch units in all 26 provinces, cities and autonomous regions of the mainland."

"Our School of Law excels in its strong team of outstanding academics, state-of-the-art teaching and learning facilities and close ties with renowned overseas institutions. Therefore, we will not only enhance the legal knowledge of mainland judges but also help them understand the viewpoints and practices of international legal systems. Mainland judges will have the opportunity to improve their level of professionalism to better serve China's civil and economic development," said Professor Ho.

Mr Wan Exiang, Vice-President of the Supreme People's Court, expressed his delight with the collaboration and

thanked CityU for providing training to mainland judges. "CityU is a renowned international tertiary institution and it is also an institution recognised by the Ministry of Education," said Mr Wan. "The School of Law at CityU excels with its strong team of outstanding academics and its comprehensive experience in providing training services. The LLM programme for mainland judges reflects the objective of sharing education resources and revamping the training programmes of the Supreme Court of the PRC."

This is the first time the Supreme People's Court and National Judges College have collaborated with an academic institution to provide training for mainland judges at the master's degree level. In this collaboration, CityU's School of Law will design



(From right) Professor Wang Guiguo, Professor Richard Ho & Mr Gu Minkang

a customised LLM programme for as many as 30 judges selected and recommended by the College under the advice of the Supreme People's Court. CityU will also arrange for the students to enrol in courses at prestigious



(Front row, from left to right) Professor Richard Ho & Mr Wan Exiang

institutions in the United States and United Kingdom for one month.

In addition, the School signed another agreement for "advanced legal training for mainland senior judges", with a view to providing judiciary training. The one-month course will be held three or four times a year, with 30 to 35 senior judges selected and recommended by the National Judges College participating in the course in Hong Kong.

Professor Wang Guiguo, Dean of CityU's School of Law, said, "The training of mainland judges has now entered a more advanced stage. Mainland judges also need to understand overseas legal systems. Judges who enrol in the programme can study at CityU as well as renowned overseas institutions, so they can compare the different viewpoints and judicial procedures of overseas countries. At the same time, our local law students will benefit from studying alongside the mainland judges."

Source: CityU News Centre



School of Law Signs an Agreement with Oxford

CityU's School of Law signed an agreement with the University College, Oxford, UK, under the Global Legal Education and Awareness Project (G-LEAP) on 27 February to provide the law students an opportunity of studying and living in a foreign jurisdiction. The agreement reflects the efforts of the School to provide globalised education through cooperation with top institutions.

Similar to the agreement with the Monash University signed in October last year, this new agreement enables CityU law students to spend a month studying a course at the University College, Oxford. The programme will commence in June 2009 and is expected to involve 40 CityU law students. The School is exploring further collaborative opportunities with other overseas universities.

“With globalisation in tertiary education becoming increasingly

important, CityU has been actively exploring various collaborative and exchange programmes to widen students’ global perspective and allow them to tackle challenges worldwide,” said CityU Acting President Professor Richard Ho Yan-ki.

Chair Professor Wang Guiguo, Dean of the School of Law, said it was an honour to have the University College,



(From left) Professor Adrian Zuckerman, Professor Richard Ho, Professor Paul Lam & Professor Wang Guiguo



(From left) Professor Adrian Zuckerman, Professor Richard Ho & Professor Wang Guiguo

Oxford, joining the School’s G-LEAP. “It is always a dream for students in Hong Kong and all over the world to gain a chance to study at the Oxford University,” he said.

Professor Adrian Zuckerman, University of Oxford, said the arrangement placed CityU students in a privileged position. “Not only are CityU students fortunate enough to study in such a major city as Hong Kong, the gateway to China, but they will now have the global edge with access to the University College, Oxford,” he said.

Source: CityU News Centre

CityU and UNCTAD Launch Joint International Dispute Settlement Project

The School of Law of CityU has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) on 10 March on enhancing capacity building in the field of international dispute settlement. This MoU on international dispute settlement is the first agreement of its kind that UNCTAD has signed with a university in the Asia-Pacific region.

Dr Norman Leung Nai-pang, Pro-



(From left) Professor Richard Ho, Dr Supachai Panitchpakdi, Dr Norman Leung & Professor Wang Guiguo

Chancellor of CityU, said that in facing the challenges of internationalisation, Hong Kong was striding towards

becoming a legal hub in regard to dispute settlement. “CityU is dedicated to providing students with high quality legal education to meet an increasing demand for experts in dispute settlement, to better serve the community and the region,” Dr Leung said.

Professor Richard Ho Yan-ki, Acting President of CityU, said the University had attained a new





milestone. "CityU has extended its extensive international partnership network, further strengthening the foundations of the University's internationalisation, while simultaneously raising the University's status among international peers," Professor Ho said.

"With Hong Kong's CityU working towards becoming a regional hub for professional education and training in this area, I believe that this MoU will reinforce our common aim to enhance expertise on dispute settlement in international trade, investment and intellectual property, and on international commercial arbitration in the Asia-Pacific region. I look forward to a fruitful collaborative relationship," Dr Supachai Panitchpakdi, Secretary-General of UNCTAD said.



Dr Supachai Panitchpakdi

During the ceremony, Professor (Chair) Wang Guiguo, Dean of the School of Law said that the School of Law was very honoured to have the opportunity to cooperate with UNCTAD. "On behalf of the School, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to UNCTAD for their trust and support as well as their recognition of our contribution to

legal education and professional training," he added.

UNCTAD is the principal organ of the United Nations for the integrated treatment of trade and development and interrelated issues in the areas of finance, technology, investment and sustainable development. The UNCTAD Project on Dispute Settlement promotes effective integration of developing countries into the multilateral trading system through development and dissemination of specialised information, promotion of research on related international and regional issues and through promoting the rules and practices of institutionalised dispute settlement.

Source: CityU News Centre

Distinguished Experts Join CityU Law School's International Advisory Board

The School of Law at CityU has invited three distinguished experts to join the International Advisory Board (IAB). Dr Xiao Yang, former President



Dr Xiao Yang

of the Supreme People's Court, is appointed as the Honourary Chairman of IAB, the Hon Sang-hyun Song, Judge of the International Criminal Court in The Hague, and Mr George Tam Siu-ping, Principal of Wah Yan College Hong Kong, are appointed as the members of IAB.

A conferment ceremony was held on 6 May.



Judge Sang-hyun Song

Their expertise in the legal and education fields enhance the quality of teaching and research at the School, further exemplifying CityU's dedication to nurturing students with the requisite knowledge of the globalised world.

Professor Richard Ho Yan-ki, Acting President of CityU, said the appointments were very significant



Mr George Tam Siu-ping

as they highlighted the University's societal and international connections. "It does not simply signify that CityU is interconnected with universities beyond Hong Kong. This interconnectivity reaches into the local community," he said.

Educating the public to have an awareness of the rule of law is one of the School's major roles, said Professor (Chair) Wang Guiguo, Dean of the School of Law. "A central feature of Hong Kong is that it is a society governed by rule of law, so we need the guidance of lawyers and judges. At the same time, society must provide the right environment for this





(From left) Professor Richard Ho, Mr George Tam & Professor Wang Guiguo

to happen. Our job is to build this environment in which the rule of law can flourish," said Professor Wang.

Dr Xiao Yang, the former Chief Justice and President of the Supreme People's Court of the People's Republic of China, has also served as Procurator-General of the Guangdong Provincial People's Procuratorate, Deputy Procurator-General of the Supreme People's Procuratorate, and Minister of Justice. While serving as the Minister of Justice, Dr Xiao reformed the system, successfully transforming the status of lawyers from legal workers to legal practitioners who serve the needs of the country. He set up the first criminal reporting centre for the general public, the first bureau dedicated to fighting corruption and established a legal aid system in China. He also masterminded reform of the prison system. Dr Xiao was conferred Honorary Doctor of Laws at CityU in 2004.

The Hon Sang-hyun Song is a Judge in the International Criminal Court at The Hague, The Netherlands. He was elected for a three-year term from the Asian Group of States and has been assigned to the Appeals Division since 2003. He was Professor of Law at Seoul National University from 1972 to 2007. As a member of the advisory

committee to the Korean Supreme Court and Ministry of Justice, he participated in the reform of the national litigation system and in particular of its Penal Code, and the Court Rules of Criminal Procedure and criminal court processes.

Mr George Tam has been the Principal of Wah Yan College Hong Kong since 1996. He has served Hong Kong education for more than thirty years, and has

been active in helping to formulate the Grant Schools Council's role in implementing the 3+3+4 policy of secondary and post-secondary education.

The IAB was formed in 2007, comprising renowned professors from Harvard, Yale and Oxford universities and experienced legal practitioners, to help the School cope with the challenges of a globalised legal education environment. The IAB held its inaugural meeting and a roundtable discussion on "Globalisation and Legal Education" last year.

Chairmen of the IAB include:

- Dr Simon Ip Sik-on, a solicitor, educator and a notary public who has served at a number of local tertiary institutions. He was a legislative councillor (1991–1995) and President of the Law Society of Hong Kong (1987–1989);
- Dr Michael J Moser, an attorney-at-law and a partner with O'Melveny & Myers LLP, has been named among the top 500 lawyers in the Asia-Pacific region by Asia Pacific Legal 500.

Other board members include:

- Professor William Alford, Henry L Stimson Professor of Law and Vice-Dean of the Graduate Programme

and International Legal Studies at Harvard Law School;

- Mr Philip Dykes SC, a practising barrister (Senior Counsel) in Hong Kong who was elected Chairman of the Hong Kong Bar Council in 2005 and 2006;
- Professor Timothy Endicott, Professor of Legal Philosophy and Dean of the Faculty of Law, University of Oxford;
- Professor Daniel R Fung, former Solicitor-General of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region;
- Professor Hoong Phun Lee, Sir John Latham Professor of Law and Deputy Dean of the Faculty of Law at Monash University, Australia;
- Mr Andrew Liao, a practising barrister (Senior Counsel) in Hong Kong and a member of the Executive Council of the HKSAR Government;
- Professor Stephen P Marks, François-Xavier Bagnoud Professor of Health and Human Rights at Harvard University;
- Professor Mitsuo Matsushita, Professor of Law at Seikei University and Professor Emeritus at University of Tokyo, Japan;
- Professor Gerard McCoy, Adjunct Professor at University of Canterbury in New Zealand;
- Professor Christopher McCrudden, Professor in Human Rights Law in the Faculty of Law, University of Oxford;
- Professor Noh-young Park, Professor of International Law and Vice-President of Korea University, Seoul; and
- Professor W Michael Reisman, Myres S McDougal Professor of International Law at Yale Law School.

Source: CityU News Centre



Pilot Video-link Seminar with Yale Law School



Video-link Seminar with Professor Michael Reisman

The School of Law at CityU held a video-link seminar with Yale Law School on 19 February at 9:30am (Hong Kong time). It was the first virtual seminar conducted by both schools. Professor Michael Reisman, Myres S. McDougal Professor of International Law at Yale Law School and a member of the School's International Advisory Board, was the guest speaker. The virtual seminar is indicative of CityU's global outlook and continuing pursuit of excellence.

The virtual seminar was a pilot run of the School's initiative to invite renowned professors from prestigious law schools to teach its students. It is also an important step in delivering world-class legal education to CityU students. The School of Law's principal objective is to support and improve legal education and training in Hong Kong, and to provide students with

a global perspective and learning experience in the study of law.

"Through such virtual seminars, it is easier for the School of Law to get world-class professors to teach our students. Otherwise, such distinguished scholars might not be able to spend time with us, given their busy schedules. This also means that our students will have the opportunity to learn from world-class professors, without having to leave the CityU campus. We hope this project will eventually develop into a situation whereby our students could sit in the classes of Yale, Oxford and other top law schools and interact with their students," said Professor (Chair) Wang Guiguo, Dean of the School.

"This is a historic moment for the creation of a virtual university in the globalised world," said Professor Reisman at the start of the seminar.

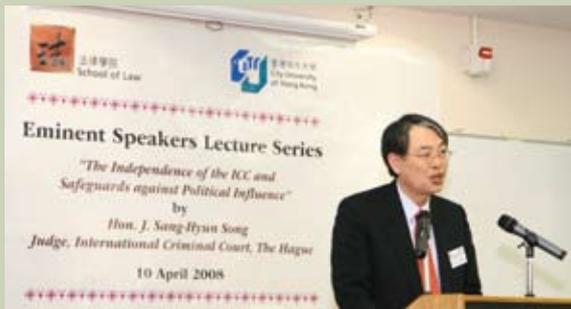
He then delivered a talk entitled *Law Teaching Skills and Methodology* and shared his valuable experience with his teaching counterparts in Hong Kong. The seminar was highly interactive with a lively exchange of views on teaching law.

Professor Reisman has agreed to teach a course on a weekly basis through video conferencing in the coming academic year. The School of Law has also invited two professors from the University of Oxford to teach in Semester A, 2008/09. They are Professor Roger Hood, Emeritus Professor of Criminology, and Professor Adrian Zuckerman, Professor of Civil Procedure.

Source: CityU News Centre



Judge Song Delivers Eminent Speakers Lecture on the Independence of the International Criminal Court



Judge Sang-hyun Song

In the School of Law's Eminent Speakers Lecture Series, the first public lecture for 2008 was delivered by Hon. Judge Sang-Hyun Song, Judge of the International Criminal Court (ICC) at The Hague, The Netherlands. The lecture was held on 10 April at the High Court of the HKSAR. The venue befitted the speaker as well as the topic. It was

and contemporary jurisprudence of the ICC, with a special focus on safeguards against political influence. The speaker highlighted the history of the establishment of the ICC and the fragmented attempts made by the international organisations and community to set up

procedures of the ICC clearly reflect the independence of the ICC as an organ and that of its office bearers. The independence of the ICC is further strengthened by a Code of Judicial Ethics adopted in 2005.

Judge Song explained how the ICC has been developing its own jurisprudence while dealing with situations and cases which had come up to the ICC in the last five years (e.g., situations in the Democratic Republic of Congo,

Uganda, Central African Republic and Darfur). He stated that judges have unearthed many ICC rules which are "constructively ambiguous" and require judicial interpretation. On such issues, Judge Song noted that the ICC has



both a privilege and a treat for the listeners. Judge Song, who is assigned to the Appeals Division of the ICC, was warmly greeted by the School's Dean, Professor Wang Guiguo, and the lecture was well received by the faculty, students and guests.

The title of the lecture was "Independence of the ICC and Safeguards against Political Influence". Judge Song presented a detailed insight into the structure, workings

an international court which had jurisdiction to try war criminals and those alleged with having committed genocide and crimes against humanity. The constitution of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda and former Yugoslavia (ICTR and ICTY) by the UN Security Council in the 1990s further provided an impetus for the adoption of the Rome Statute in July 1998 and constitution of the ICC in February 2003.

The four organs of the ICC are: the Presidency; the Chambers (comprising Appeal Chamber, Trial Chamber and Pre-Trial Chamber); the Office of the Prosecutor; and the Registry. The working of ICC is regulated by the Rome Statute, the Rules of Procedure and Evidence, and the Regulations of the Court. Judge Song emphasized that the functions, powers, rules and



(From left) Judge Sang-hyun Song & Professor Wang Guiguo

tried to balance the interests of the victims and the rigours of the rules of procedure. Judge Song expressed the hope that in view of the mechanisms of independence in place and given the evolving jurisprudence, the ICC should be able to deliver justice to victims of international crime, genocide and crimes against humanity.

By Ms Charu Sharma



Asia Pacific Law Review: The first Asia-based Law Journal to Join SSCI

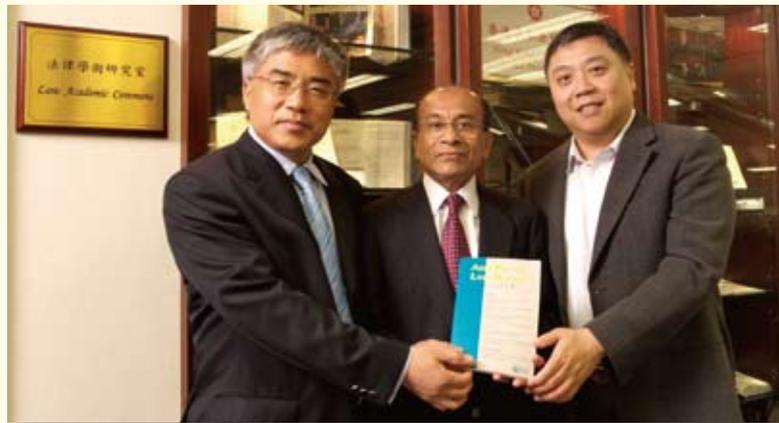
The *Asia Pacific Law Review*, a journal of the School of Law of CityU, has become the first Asia-based law journal to be included in the Social Science Citation Index (SSCI), the world-renowned database of Thomson Scientific. The recognition reinforces the reputation of the School, as well as CityU as an international institution.

Thomson Scientific wrote: “*Asia Pacific Law Review* is a well-produced law journal covering the Asia-Pacific region. Although selection criteria for a regional journal are fundamentally the same as for an international journal, the importance of a regional journal is measured in terms of the specificity of its content rather than in its citation impact. *Asia Pacific Law Review* is an excellent resource for Asia-Pacific legal studies.”

SSCI adopts stringent criteria in evaluating journals. It evaluates journal’s editorial content, takes into account the international spread of contributors and conducts a citation analysis.

Asia Pacific Law Review joins the SSCI’s league of leading law journals that includes *Harvard Law Review*, *Yale Law Journal*, *Stanford Journal of International Law*, *UCLA Law Review* and *American Journal of Comparative Law*. It is also indexed/abstracted in several other sources, such as the Index to Legal Periodicals and Books.

Recalling the journal’s beginnings in the early 1990s, Professor (Chair) Wang Guiguo, Dean of the School of Law, said he was delighted to hear that the journal had received its richly deserved recognition. “The journal’s standing reflects the School’s determined efforts to be a leading centre of education and research in the Asia-Pacific region,” said Professor Wang.



(From left) Professor Wang Guiguo, Professor M J A Cooray & Professor Steve Ching

Professor M J A Cooray, Associate Dean of the School and the journal’s editor-in-chief, regarded the inclusion of the journal in the SSCI as worthy recognition of the very high standard that the journal has maintained. “We will continue to publish cutting-edge articles dealing with legal issues of regional interest but with a global reach,” said Professor Cooray.

With the stated mission of facilitating the dissemination of academics’ works to the research community, Professor Steve Ching Hsianghoo, University Librarian, started working with Thomson Scientific in 2004 to have the *Asia Pacific Law Review* included in the SSCI. He explained that SSCI, unlike other freely available search engines, provides a structured and efficient platform for accessing the world’s leading social science journals and has always been regarded accordingly in the scholarly world. Being included in SSCI will help the journal reach out to more professionals.

The *Asia Pacific Law Review*, based in the School of Law, commenced publication in 1992 and has published articles by leading scholars from all parts of the world. It has also attracted articles by eminent judges and world-renowned practitioners. Articles in the

journal include ‘Making Law in the Courts’ by Justice Kemal Bokhary, Permanent Judge of the Hong Kong Court of Final Appeal; ‘Arbitration: 1979 and All That’ by Sir Thomas Bingham, Master of the Rolls (later the Lord Chief Justice of England and Wales); ‘Comparative Law Teaching and Scholarship: Methods and Objectives’ by the late Professor Mauro Cappeletti of Stanford University; ‘The Rule of Law in Hong Kong: Immigrant Children, the Court of Final Appeal and the Standing Committee of the National People’s Congress’ by Dr Mark Elliott and Professor Christopher Forsyth of Cambridge University; and ‘Contemporary Challenges of Law: Religion and National Security’ by Professor Shimon Shetreet of Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel.

The last two issues of the journal published in 2007 carried a selection of papers presented at the international conference organised by the School to celebrate the 10th Anniversary of Hong Kong’s Basic Law. The journal will continue to publish papers presented at conferences that the School holds to promote critical analysis of current legal issues.

Source: CityU News Centre



Dean Delivers e-Lectures for UN's Audiovisual Library

Professor Wang Guiguo, Dean of the School of Law, has delivered two lectures at the United Nations (UN) headquarters in New York for the United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law. The lectures are now permanently stored in the audiovisual library as a valuable teaching tool and resource for legal professionals.

Professor Wang is the first scholar from Hong Kong or the mainland invited to give lectures at the UN, a mark of recognition of the standing of CityU scholars internationally.

Professor Wang's lectures were recorded in a webcast studio at the UN in April. The theme, "Redefining Sovereignty in the Globalised World", comprised two parts of 45 minutes each. The bilingual recordings will be available from October, free-of-charge, via the UN's internet home page.

Professor Wang said the globalised world wields great influence over the sovereignty of all nations. "Under the

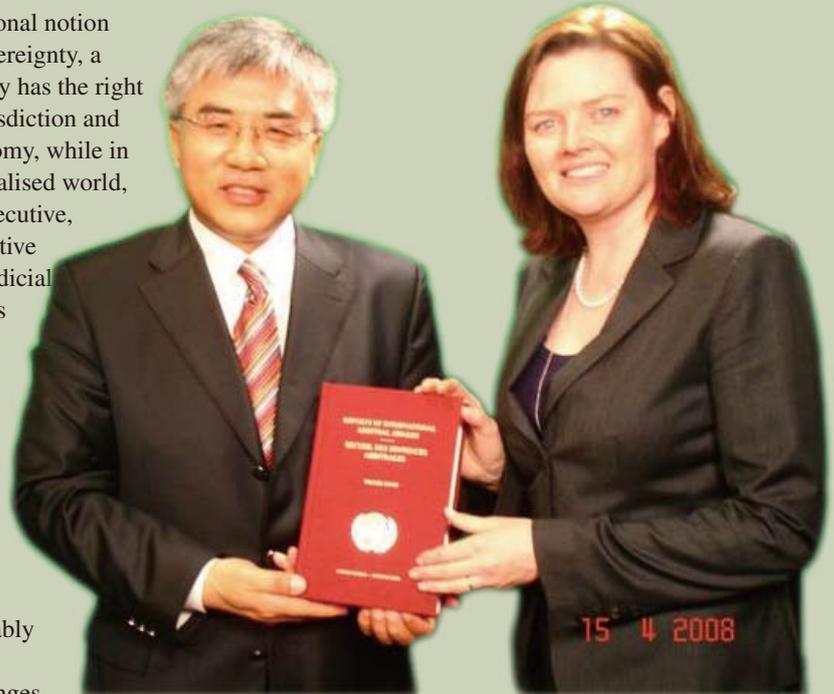
traditional notion of sovereignty, a country has the right of jurisdiction and autonomy, while in a globalised world, the executive, legislative and judicial powers

inevitably face challenges that necessitate a need to redefine sovereignty," he said. He said he chose this topic because redefining sovereignty was theoretically and practically essential to international law, especially in China.

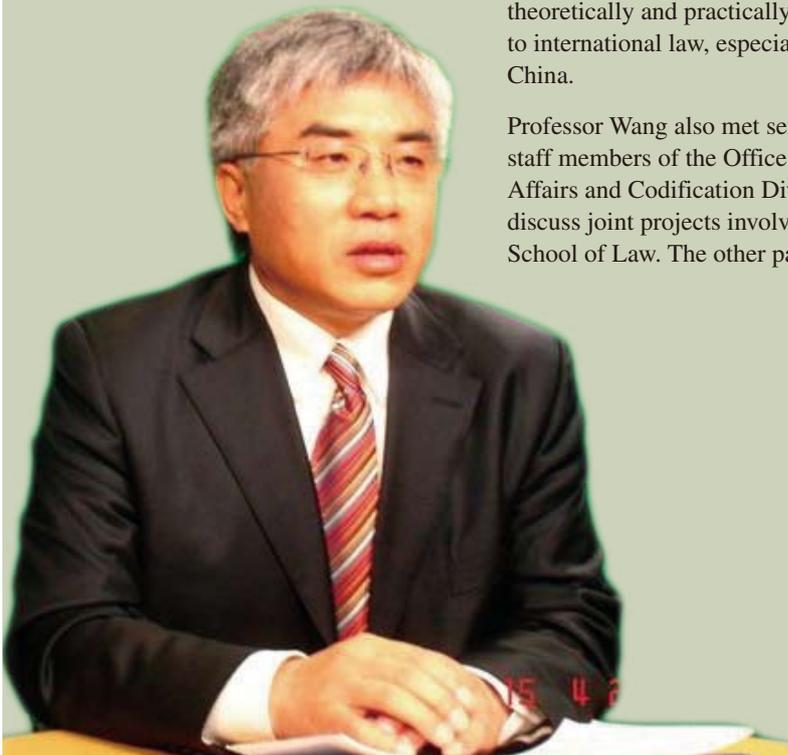
Professor Wang also met senior staff members of the Office of Legal Affairs and Codification Division to discuss joint projects involving the School of Law. The other partners of

the UN in this endeavour are Columbia University and Yale University.

The UN has embarked upon a unique mode of teaching and research through the dissemination of archives comprising original documents, speeches, interviews and experts views. This new ocean of information about the UN will be available for free to students, academics and researchers. About 50 renowned scholars, including Professor Wang, were invited to deliver e-lectures that will be saved in the audiovisual library's permanent collection.



Professor Wang with Ms Deidre Schell, Associate Legal Officer, Codification Division of the United Nations



By Ms Sharon Ng



Dean Visits the United States to Establish Stronger Links with Leading Law Schools

The Dean of the School of Law, Professor Wang Guiguo, visited the United States (US) from 14 to 18 April to explore academic cooperation with US law schools. During his stay in the US, Professor Wang visited Columbia Law School, New York University (NYU) Law School, Georgetown University Law Center, Yale Law School, the United Nations, and the International Law Institute (ILI).

At Georgetown University Law Center, Professor Wang met with the Co-director of the Asian Law and Policy Studies, Professor James V Feinerman. In the meeting, both professors discussed the possibility of running a joint LLM programme between the two law schools.

The meeting at the Columbia Law School was attended by the Dean of Comparative and International



Professor Wang lectures at Yale Law School

three scholarships annually to Chinese judges for advanced legal training at Columbia Law School.

At NYU Law School, Professor Wang met with the Director of Hauser Global Law School Program, Professor Richard B Stewart. Professor Stewart invited Professor Wang and his colleagues to join some of their research projects.

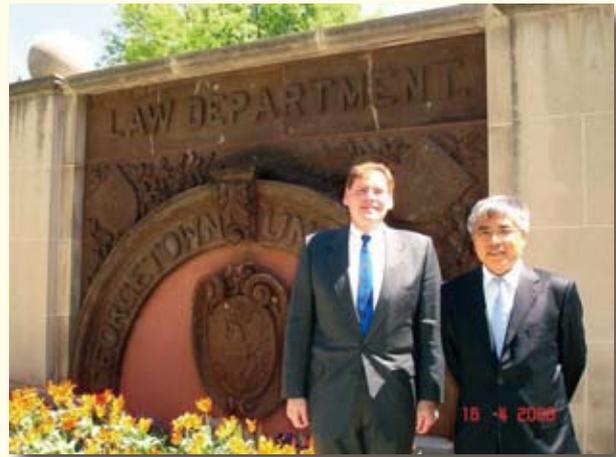
since the end of the Second World War.

At Yale Law School, Professor Wang met with the Dean of Yale Law School, Professor Harold Hongju Koh, Professor Jonathan Macey, and Professor Michael Reisman. The two deans talked about various possibilities of cooperation. During the visit to Yale Law School, Professor Wang delivered a public lecture on “The Chinese Contributions to International Investment Law”, which was well-received by the participants.

By Mr Rajesh Sharma



(From left) Professor Wang Guiguo & Professor Don Wallace



(From right) Professor Wang Guiguo & Professor James Feinerman

Programs, Professor Brian Gibson; the Director of International Programs, Professor Matthew Walters; and Director of the Centre for Chinese Legal Studies, Professor Benjamin Liebman. In the meeting, Columbia Law School proposed to offer two to

Professor Wang and Professor Don Wallace, the Chairman of ILI, discussed the idea of providing advanced legal training to Chinese judges in the US, in China or in Hong Kong. ILI has vast experience in providing capacity building programmes around the world



Focus Groups and Peer Review: New Quality Assurance Initiatives



(From left) Ms Charu Sharma, Ms Sara Tsui & Ms Anna Lui took part in peer review

The School of Law is adopting an evolutionary and incremental approach to the implementation of Outcomes Based Teaching and Learning (OBTL) in that new initiatives are being introduced at a measured pace. Students and staff members have been encouraged to take part in two new initiatives: student focus groups and peer review.

While the University provides feedback mechanisms in the form of questionnaires that students are asked to respond to at the end of the semester (TFQ and LEQ), these surveys primarily provide aggregate numerical results for pre-determined questions and criteria, but do not adequately reveal the underlying reasons and connections.

Student focus groups, on the other hand, provide an interactive platform where students can express their views and concerns about their programmes freely, providing valuable and wide-ranging inputs for enhancing the quality of the teaching and learning experience. Focus groups are, therefore, a perfect complement to questionnaire surveys in obtaining feedback from students. Students who have participated in such

groups say, unanimously, that the focus groups are well worth the time and effort, and appreciate the opportunity to become part of the School's quality assurance process.

Furthermore, staff members are encouraged to take part in peer review, to help one another improve the way they conduct teaching. The process of peer review has two aspects: peer review of teaching materials and peer review of in-class teaching performance. This is done only for formative, not summative purposes. Criticism, if any, that may emerge will only be used by the staff members concerned to improve their teaching but never used to penalize them.

As many courses are taught by more than one person, e.g., a course leader may give lectures and other teachers may conduct tutorials, peer review of teaching materials can conveniently be done by instructors teaching the same course. Programme committees have been asked to put in mechanisms to promote participation in the process.

Peer review of in-class teaching performance may be more "sensitive",

as some may find classroom observation by a peer uncomfortable or even "threatening", and it has been suggested that staff may voluntarily form a "buddy system", in which two, or a small group of teachers who trust one another visit one another's classes as "critical friends"* and provide mutual formative feedback. In addition, videotaping, if acceptable to the teacher concerned, may be used to assist identifying strengths and weaknesses in the in-class teaching performance.

In order to be effective, the School of Law has adopted the "bottom-up" approach to quality assurance so that individual teaching staff members take ownership of OBTL initiatives. Participation in peer review will be voluntary rather than being made mandatory from the top by the School's administration. Colleagues should report their participation in their Annual Activity Reports, and due credit will be given to their participation in their personnel review processes by the School.

By Dr John Ho

* Terms used in J. Biggs, *Teaching for Quality Learning at University: What the Student Does*.



School of Law Gears Up for LLB in 2012



(From left) Dr Charles Qu, Dr Surya Deva, Mr Tony Upham & Ms Alisa Kwan,

From the year 2012, all universities in Hong Kong, including CityU, will move to a normative four-year degree under the education reforms that have come to be known as “3+3+4”. Under the new system, whereas the secondary school education is shortened by one year, a year is added to the current three-year undergraduate degrees. The proposed four-year degree is aimed at broadening the educational experience of students. The key element in this strategy is encouraging students to undertake a minor field of study and requiring them to take a certain number of General Education (GE) courses in order to promote horizontal integration across subjects.

The graduation requirement for the new four-year will range from 120 to 144 credit units comprising a combination of major, minor and GE courses. In addition to doing a Major, students will be “strongly encouraged” to take one or more minors, which will serve to complement (but not overlap with) their major studies. Moreover, to achieve a

breadth of knowledge through exposure to multiple disciplines, all students will be required to complete at least 30 credit units of GE courses. The GE courses will include 6 units of English and 3 units of Chinese Civilisation. Students will take the remaining 21 units from the following three divisional areas: Arts and Humanities; Study of Societies, Social and Business Organisations; and Science and Technology. At least 3 units must be taken from each of the three divisions.

How will the LLB programme, which is already of four-year duration, be affected by these changes in higher education? Although 2012 might sound too far ahead to worry about now, the School of Law is preparing for the Gearing-up Phase (2009–2012) of the transition to the normative four-year degree. The School of Law sees the “3+3+4” reforms as an opportunity to review the existing structure of the LLB programme and to introduce in the programme new cutting-edge components that will equip students to effectively respond to the changing

dynamics of legal education and the legal profession.

With this view, in March 2008, the Dean of the School of Law, Professor Wang Guiguo, constituted a LLB Review Panel chaired by Associate Professor Mr Tony Upham. The other members of the Panel are: Ms Alisa Kwan, the JD Programme Leader Dr Charles Qu, and the LLB Programme Leader Dr Surya Deva. The Panel will review the existing structure of the LLB programme and make appropriate recommendations as to the changes that are necessary and/or appropriate in view of the introduction of a normative four-year degree in the year 2012. The LLB Review Panel has already started its work and has identified key aspects of the programme that will require a closer examination and possible adjustments.

By Dr Surya Deva



LLB Admission Scholarships for Secondary School Students

With the approval and support of the University, the School of Law has established an LLB Admission Scholarship to be awarded from the 2008/09 academic year. The scholarship aims to award outstanding secondary students who are nominated by their school principals and admitted to the School's UGC-funded Bachelor of Laws (LLB) programme through the Joint University Programmes Admissions System (JUPAS). A maximum of 20 scholarships will be awarded each year and the value of each award is HK\$50,000.

In March 2008, Professor Wang Guiguo, Dean of the School of Law, visited a number of secondary schools and met with their principals, inviting nominations

to the scholarship and informing them of the recent developments in the Law School and in the LLB programme. The school principals were impressed by the School of Law's initiatives to provide students with a global perspective in the study of law, in particular, the School's Global Legal Education and Awareness Project (G-LEAP). Under G-LEAP, students will have opportunities to spend a month studying a course at prestigious universities overseas including Oxford University in the UK and Monash University in Australia.

The school visits were successful in enhancing mutual

understanding and forging closer links with secondary schools. A number of the schools expressed interest in arranging their students to visit the School of Law in summer this year.



Professor Wang visits St Paul's Convent School

Law Student Excels in Speech Contest

Man Ho-yin, a Year 2 law student of CityU, was runner-up in the category Cantonese, Impromptu Speech, at the 6th Inter-University Speech Contest—Metro Lions' Cup.

The contest, held on 27 March, was aimed at boosting the communication skills and language proficiency of students. Eighteen students from nine tertiary institutions took part in two categories, English and Cantonese. In Man Ho-yin's chosen category, Cantonese, Impromptu Speech, he was only given his designated topic minutes before the contest began. His subject was "The impact on Hong Kong of three modes of direct transport links between mainland China and Taiwan". Courtesy of his outstanding public speaking skills and

steady on-stage performance, Man Ho-yin was named runner-up.

Man Ho-yin said that being a contest representative of CityU was a valuable experience. To take part, he needed first to perform well in an internal competition held by the University in order to be selected for public speaking training by Student Development Services (SDS). Another round of internal competition was then held, from which two students were selected to represent CityU in the English and Cantonese categories of the contest.

Man Ho-yin said his teachers at the School of Law have focused on whole-person development and always



(From left) Professor Tsoi Ah-chung & Man Ho-yin

encouraged students to express opinions in class and to keep abreast of current affairs. "I am excited to have done well in the competition. Taking part not only enhanced my communication skills but also taught me to study issues from various angles," he said.

Source: CityU News Centre



PCLL Restructuring

To match world-best standards and to meet the benchmarks of the legal professions, the School of Law has restructured its PCLL programme for implementation from the 2008/09 academic year. The new curriculum will be more skills-based and greater emphasis will be placed on interactive sessions.

This marks an exciting development in the progress of the PCLL. Tremendous efforts of the PCLL teaching staff have been put to the restructuring and the legal professions have been kept fully informed throughout the process. The School has invited Adjunct Professor Christopher Roper to play a central role in the redesign of the PCLL. Professor Roper is a co-author of the *Report on Legal*

Education and Training in Hong Kong which was published by the Government in August 2001.

The restructuring involves the increase in the number of credit units from 32 to 36, the requirement to study eight core courses instead of seven and the incorporation of electives in the PCLL curriculum.

Core Courses	Electives
Advocacy, Interviewing & Negotiation	Foundations in Mainland Related Legal Transactions
Conveyancing Practice	Mediation Practice
Civil & Criminal Litigation Practice	Litigation Practice II
Corporate & Commercial Practice	Understanding Financial Statements
Legal Writing & Drafting	Bar Course
Professional Conduct & Practice	
Wills & Probate Practice	
Solicitors' Accounts	

School of Law Retreat

In January 2008, the School of Law organised a two-day retreat for all its staff members to get together to brainstorm the future development and direction of the School and discuss ways to improve its teaching and research. The retreat was held at the Regency Hotel, Macau. A total of 46 teaching and administrative staff of the School participated in the retreat. In addition, three guests were invited to join. They were Mr Aman Shah, CityU's Quality Assurance Coordinator; Mr Terry Moran, a consultant; and Mr Christopher Roper, an expert in legal education and Adjunct Professor at the School.



The theme of the retreat was "Promoting Excellence in Legal Education and Research: Implementing Outcomes Based Teaching and Learning (OBTL) at the School of Law". During the retreat, many issues were discussed, including the implementation of OBTL, problems

and challenges facing the School, and measures to improve the School's teaching and research as well as its image. Staff members participated actively in the discussions and many new ideas and suggestions were generated.

Apart from discussion and exchange of views, the retreat also helped to enhance team spirit and improve relationship among School colleagues, after close interaction for two days in a relaxing and comfortable environment outside Hong Kong.



Honourary and Adjunct Professors

The School has recently appointed the following distinguished scholars and legal practitioners as Adjunct Professors to advise its teaching and research activities and to deliver lectures on current legal issues:

- Mr Cheng Huan, Queen's Counsel and Senior Counsel
- Professor Roger Hood, Emeritus Professor of Criminology, University of Oxford
- Mr Benjamin Liu Tsz-ming, former Justice of Appeal of the Court of Appeal of the High Court
- Dr Vernon Nase, Associate Dean, Murdoch University, Australia
- Professor Michael Reisman, Myres S McDougal Professor of International Law, Yale Law School
- Dr Jacques Werner, Principal of Werner & Associates, Geneva, Switzerland
- Professor Adrian Zuckerman, Professor of Civil Procedure, University of Oxford

Professor Adrian Zuckerman and Professor Michael Reisman have also been appointed as Honourary Professors of the School for a three-year term.

Selected Faculty Publications

Anton COORAY

Town Planning Ordinance (CAP 131) in the Annotated Ordinances of Hong Kong, LexisNexis, 2007, 139 pages.

Surya DEVA

"Corporate Complicity in Internet Censorship in China: Who Cares for the Global Compact or the Global Online Freedom Act?" 39 *George Washington International Law Review*, 2007, pp 255–319.

"'Yahoo! for Good' and the Right to Privacy of Internet Users: A Critique", 11:9 *Journal of Internet Law*, 2008, pp 3–10.

GU Minkang

"Comments on Criminal Law Protection of Chinese IP Rights in 2005—From a Viewpoint of a Hong Kong Scholar (in Chinese)" in Wu Handong (ed), *The Blue Paper of Chinese IP Rights 2005–2006*, Beijing University Press, 2007, pp 265–268.

"Protection of Criminal Victims: New Course of Criminal Justice Reform", *Legal Science (Faxue)*, Shanghai, No. 6, 2007, pp 29–37.

HE Xin

"Recent Decline in Chinese Economic Caseload: Exploration of a Surprising Puzzle," *The China Quarterly*, Vol. 190, Cambridge University Press, June 2007, pp 352–374.

Enforcing Commercial Judgments in China, Oxford: Foundation for Law, Justice and Society, 2008, 12 pages.

Dispute Resolution in China (co-authored with Randall Peerenboom), Oxford: Foundation for Law, Justice and Society, 2008, 32 pages.

Alisa KWAN

Cyberlaw in Hong Kong, 2nd edition (co-authored with Paul Stephenson), LexisNexis, November 2007, 428 pages.

Stefan LO

"Enforcement of Duties and Members' Remedies" in Kwan J (ed), *Company Law in Hong Kong: Practice and Procedure*, Sweet and Maxwell, Hong Kong, 2007, pp 8001–8170.

"Financial Services" in *Halsbury's Laws of Hong Kong*, Vol. 13 (2007 Reissue), LexisNexis Butterworths, Hong Kong, 2007, 506 pages (co-authored with Davy Wu).

Charles QU

Managed Investments and Insider Trading: Regulation and Liability, Sandstone Academic Press, Australia, March 2008, 214 pages.

"The Representative Power of the Shareholders' General Meeting Under Chinese Law", *Pacific Rim Law & Policy Journal*, Vol. 17, No. 2, March 2008, pp 295–323.



Michael SANDOR

The Professional Conduct of Lawyers in Hong Kong, (loose-leaf), (co-authored with Michael Wilkinson), Vols. 1, 2 and 3, LexisNexis, 2007–2008, pp 1000, 1100 and 300, respectively.

Tony UPHAM

“Competence and Negligence”, and “Conflicts of Interest and Confidentiality” (co-authored with Patrick Bourke and Joseph Choi), in *Professional Conduct and Risk Management in Hong Kong*, Sweet & Maxwell Asia, 2007, pp 134–169 and 171–230, respectively.

WANG Guiguo

International Monetary and Financial Law, 3rd edition, Law Press, Beijing, China, 2007, 551 pages.

“International Development Law in the Globalised World”, *Asia Law Review*, Vol. 4, No. 1, June 2007, pp 41–87.

“Hong Kong Discriminating against Chinese”, *The Geneva Post Quarterly*, November-December 2007, Vol. 2, No. 3, pp 109–126.

ZHU Guobin

A New Introduction to Chinese Law, (in Chinese), co-editor-in-chief with Lin Laifan and Xu Mengzhou, City University of Hong Kong Press, July 2007, 623 pages.

“Marketization, Globalisation and Administrative Reform in China: A Zigzag Road to a Promising Future” (co-authored with Kinglun Ngok), *International Review of Administrative Sciences*, Vol. 73, No. 2, Brussels, (2007), pp 217–233.

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Contact Us

For further information on the
School of Law, please contact our
General Office at:

School of Law
City University of Hong Kong
Tat Chee Avenue
Kowloon Tong, Hong Kong

Phone: (852) 2788 8008

Fax: (852) 2788 7530

E-mail: lwgo@cityu.edu.hk

Website: www.cityu.edu.hk/slw