

CityU Law School Reaps Greatest Harvest in International Mooting Competitions 2010/11

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-Grace Chen



From left to right: Professor Wang Guiguo, Mr Hectar Pun, Mr Chan Ka-kui ,Professor Andrew Liao, Dr John Kennard, Professor Gregory Raupp, Professor Arthur Ellis, Brother Steve Hogan, Dr Simon Ip Sik-on, Professor Daniel Fung, Mr. Sun Xiao Fei, Professor Gerard McCoy

During the academic year 2010/11, School of Law at City University of Hong Kong (CityU) witnessed successive accomplishments of its mooting teams in international moot court competitions. 36 students fielded teams in 7 countries and placed well in 9 major international mooting competitions while the arguing topics ranged from investment law, human rights, international law, to international commercial arbitration and maritime law, etc. A celebration reception was held at CityU on September 1, 2011, in recognition of their outstanding performance and remarkable achievements.

The officiating guests of the celebration reception include: **Professor Way Kuo**, President of City University of Hong Kong; **Professor Arthur Ellis**, Provost of City University of Hong Kong; **Mr. Chan Ka-kui**, Council Member of City University of Hong Kong; **Mr. Sun Xiao Fei**, Third Secretary, Department of Treaties and Law, Office of the Commissioner of the Ministry of the Foreign Affairs of China in the

HKSAR; **Brother Steve Hogan**, Principal of La Salle College; **Dr John Kennard**, Principal of St Paul's College; **Dr Simon Ip Sik-on**, Co-chairmen of International Advisory Board of School of Law; **Professor Daniel Fung**, Member of International Advisory Board of School of Law ; **Professor Andrew Liao**, Member of International Advisory Board of School of Law and **Professor Gerard McCoy**, member of International Advisory Board of School of Law.

In the various international mooting competitions in 2010/11, CityU teams faced off competitive rivals from first-class law schools in the world and achieved two championships, two regional championships, one runner-up and reached two quarter finalists. They were honored with Championship in Susan J. Ferrell Intercultural Human Rights Moot Court Competition held in the United States; the Championship of the 2nd International ADR Mooting Competition held in Hong Kong; the Championship in Hong Kong Regional Round of Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition; the First Runner Up in Eighth Annual Willem C. Vis (East) International Commercial Arbitration Moot and Regional Championship in IASLA Space Law Moot Court Competition held in Australia. The teams earned 1st place out of 26 teams at General Round of Frankfurt Investment Arbitration Moot Court in Germany, 5th place in Manfred Lachs Space Law Moot Court Competition, and 7th out of 254 teams in Eighteenth Annual Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot in Austria.



Professor Way Kuo conferred certificates to the students

Professor Way Kuo extended congratulations to School of Law and the students on the history-making achievements. He said: "The accomplishments in mooting competitions prove that our students excel in every category, in particular in the competitive competitions. CityU Law School is the first law school in Hong Kong and Asia which can do so well in mooting competitions. CityU is

committed to teaching students in the context of the real world, and mooting is very much a part of how we prepare legal professionals for the future. Their experience during their time at the University will be invaluable for their future careers."

Professor Arthur Ellis noted: "CityU always benchmarks against the best of the world. The remarkable records in international mooting competitions prove that we are among the best. We pay tribute to the



Dr Simon Ip Sik-on conferred certificates to the students

hard work and dedication of all students and coaches and are looking forward to further step forward of the Law School."

Dr Simon Ip Sik-on said: "CityU Law School has distinguished itself in many different ways over the years, but none more so in recent time than the performance of the law students in debating competitions. The remarkable achievements show the great

breadth of legal knowledge and the depth of debating talents. I'm very proud to be associated with CityU Law School and I hope that these good results will form a culture and tradition of debating in the School."

Professor Andrew Liao quotes the Chinese saying "the more you debate, the clearer and closer you are to truth" to elaborate on the importance of mooting. He said: "Mooting is an important way to learn about knowledge, analyze points and deliberate effectively. This is very important in every work of life."



Professor Daniel Fung

Professor Daniel Fung said: "Mooting is important not just in legal profession but also in the development of an open society. Mooting is a critical way of acquiring knowledge and gaining particular currency in ancient times. The achievements of CityU students in mooting competitions evidenced that this critical method is still alive in CityU and Hong Kong."



Professor Andrew Liao

Professor Gerard McCoy highly praised the accomplishments of the students and the full dedication of the teachers. He described mooting as a "blood sport" of intellectual mobility which requires reaction time, fluency of presentation, fundamental grounding and principle, and persuasive skills. "Not only did you triumph in Hong Kong, in Asia but you have also triumphed on the world stage", he added.



Professor Gerard McCoy

Brother Steve Hogan, Principal of moot team member **Mr. Sajnani Suraj**'s (LLB 2008) alma mater, showed his gratitude to CityU for that "the young boys and girls are growing to be leaders under the guidance and cultivation of the University".



Brother Steve Hogan conferred certificate to Mr. Sajnani Suraj



Dr John Kennard conferred certificate to Mr. Ip Ken Gee-Kin

CityU for "the weather you have nurtured our students who have come through the school system."

Dr John Kennard said he was thrilled when heard that his former student **Mr. Ip Ken Gee-Kin** (LLB 2008) together with his teammates has won the Regional Championship of the 2011 Phillip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition. He believes that mooting competition helps to build self-confidence, which is an essential component of learning and maturing to be a young person. He thanked



Professor Wang Guiguo

Professor Wang Guiguo extended his gratitude to the continuous support of the University and the International Advisory Board. He said: "Whatsoever championships and prizes our students won in any competition are honours of our University and Hong Kong at large, for it is the wholehearted support and wise guidance of our International Advisory Board and the University, and nurture of the Hong Kong society that have ultimately produced these results... What our students have achieved evidence their competitiveness compared with students around the world."