

## International Scholar shares with School of Law Faculty

3 September 2010

-Scarlette Cheung

The School of Law, City University of Hong Kong was honoured to have Professor Raúl Vinuesa to give a talk to SLW faculty on 3 September 2010.

Professor Raúl Emilio Vinuesa is an ad hoc judge of the International Court of Justice. He holds LL.M degree from the Harvard University Law School and Diploma in International Law of University of Cambridge and is Professor of International law and Human Rights of Faculty of Law and Social Sciences, Universidad de Buenos Aires. He specializes in overseas trials and arbitrations. He is also a member of the Advisory Council on Dispute Settlement in International Trade of Legal Department, United Nations Conference on trade and Development (UNCTAD) since 1999.

Professor Vinuesa gave a seminar on “Settlement of Disputes between States and Foreign Investors”. The main purpose of the seminar was to discuss the present scenario of the general settlement of disputes scheme under Bilateral Investment Treaties (BIT’s). He pointed out that the recent developments regarding ambiguous or contradictory arbitral award precedents had provoked special interest in determining causes and effects in order to revitalize the pre-existing system.

He further elaborated the topic by drawing special reference to the applicable law and the scope of common basic principles for the protection and promotion of foreign investment under BIT’s; the impact of state public policies and the exception of “state of necessity”; the execution of awards; the annulment process and the role of arbitrators in the construction of a credible structure for the settlement of foreign investment disputes. The seminar led to a lively and stimulating discussion.