

# From CityU to Senior Counsel – legal training at its best

By Michael Gibb  
文：鄭智友

No matter where you come from or what your background is, CityU will provide you with a world-class legal education, says Mr Hectar Pun Hei, a former law student at CityU and an appointed Senior Counsel (SC) in Hong Kong.

He is in fact the first CityU law school graduate to be appointed to this prestigious position in the local law profession.

"I believe strongly that CityU law graduates are well-trained for the legal profession on one of the best programmes in the world," says Mr Pun. In fact, the chambers he works for has taken several CityU alumni, and his current pupil, Mr Austin Yiu Tze-hin, is also a CityU alumnus. Mr Yiu studied for his Bachelor of Laws and Postgraduate Certificate in Laws at CityU in

addition to studying for a master's programme at the University of Oxford.

Mr Pun's appointment to Senior Counsel is the culmination of several years working on some of the highest profile legal cases in local courts. He has specialised in human rights law, acting for clients challenging deportation orders and people fighting for equality and gay and transsexual rights. In one highly complex case, he represented a post-operative male-to-female transsexual in a constitutional challenge to the decision of the Registrar of Marriages that she did not qualify as "a woman" under the Marriage Ordinance and the Matrimonial Causes Ordinance.

"To share my experience with CityU law students, I teach at CityU once a week as an Adjunct Professor, focusing on public law and human rights," he says. He also gives advice on career development and insight into the life of a Barrister-at-Law and the importance of impartiality and neutrality within the boundaries of the law.

As an SC in Hong Kong, Mr Pun is now elevated to the ranks of Hong Kong's most senior legal minds.

"The position means that I take on a more senior position especially on more complex cases," says Mr Pun.

Undoubtedly his education in the School of Law at CityU prepared him for this role, as did his experience as President of the Students' Union (SU) when he was an undergraduate.

"I learned a great deal during my time as President of the SU," Mr Pun explains. "I developed my interpersonal and communication skills because I had to talk to everyone, from senior management to the business people who ran the canteens. I also worked on my organisation skills. Being president is less about leadership than about organising things. A president has to be a good organiser!"

Despite his busy schedule, Mr Pun finds time to participate in events held by CityU's Alumni Relations Office, the Alumni Association of the School of Law of CityU, and also the CityU Eminence Society, an independent organisation formed by enthusiastic senior alumni who are committed to contributing their expertise and resources to CityU and the community.

"I love to help CityU however I can," he says. ●

## SNAPSHOT

- CityU alumnus (LLB, PCLL)
- King's College London (LLM) on British Chevening Postgraduate Scholarship
- Peking University (LLB)
- Called to the Bar in 1995
- Denis Chang's Chambers
- Took Silk in 2015
- CityU Distinguished Alumni Award in 2015

## 從城大學生到資深大律師

潘熙先生畢業於城大法律系，現為香港資深大律師。他認為，不論學生的出身與背景為何，城大都為他們提供世界級的法學教育。

資深大律師在香港法律界地位崇高，潘先生是首位獲此殊榮的城大法律系畢業生。

潘先生說：「我深信城大的法學課程位居世界前列，學院的畢業生接受良好訓練，能勝任專業工作。」他任職的大律師事務所就吸納了數名城大校友。他現時的徒弟姚子軒先生也畢業於城大。姚先生在城大獲得法律學榮譽學士及法學專業證書，後來又到英國牛津大學攻讀碩士課程。

過去數年裏，潘先生在本港法庭代理了數宗廣受關注的案件，因而獲委任為資深大律師。他的專業為人權法，主要代表客戶對遞解離境令提出質疑，並為爭取平等、爭取同性戀者和變性人權利的客戶出庭。例如在一宗頗為複雜的案件中，他曾代表一名經手術由男性轉為女性的變性人，質疑婚姻登記官的判決違憲；該官員根據《婚姻條例》及

## 簡歷

- 城大校友（法律學榮譽學士、法學專業證書）
- 獲「志奮領獎學金」赴英國倫敦國王學院攻讀並取得法學碩士學位
- 獲北京大學法學士學位
- 1995年取得大律師資格
- 任職於張錦利資深大律師事務所
- 2015年獲委任為資深大律師
- 2015年獲頒城大「傑出校友獎」

《婚姻訴訟條例》認為這位變性人不符合成為「女人」的資格。

潘先生說：「我擔任城大法學特約教授，每星期講一次課，與城大的法律系學生分享經驗，主要探討公共法及人權。」他亦會向學生提供有關專業發展的建議，介紹大律師的工作，以及講述在法律範圍內爭取公正與中立的重要。

獲委任為資深大律師，標誌潘先生已躋身香港法律界精英之列。他表示：「成為資深大律師後，我會處理一些更為複雜的案件。」

潘先生今日的成就，與他在城大法律學院接受的教育，以及他是城大本科生時擔任學生會會長的經歷大有關係。



他表示：「擔任學生會會長使我獲益良多，例如培養了我的交際與溝通能力，因為我要跟不同身分的人士交談，從大學管理層到飯堂主管。我的組織能力亦獲得鍛鍊，擔任會長其實是組織協調多於領導指揮；會長一定要有良好的組織能力。」

儘管工作繁忙，潘先生仍然抽空參加城大校友聯絡處、法律學院校友會及「城賢匯」的活動。「城賢匯」是城大的一個校友組織，由熱心的資深校友創立，旨在透過他們的專業經驗及資源，促進城大發展和服務社會。

他說：「我樂意為母校貢獻綿薄之力。」 ●

