CityU School of Law
A Global Law School for Hong Kong and the Region

Thirty Years On
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Preface

The publication of the 30th Anniversary Book on the School of Law (SLW) has been a memorable undertaking for all concerned on the Editorial Committee, appointed last year by Dean Geraint Howells. It has been an honour for the Committee to be tasked with playing a key part in the School's overall 30th anniversary celebrations.

A key decision which the Committee needed to make when beginning this exercise was determining the overall approach that the book should adopt and how best to incorporate and interweave different themes into the final manuscript. Like many endeavours that chronicle a historical period, our research provided many rich nuggets of the SLW's history which we have represented as best we can in these pages. We were particularly gratified to be able to locate photos from the early days of the SLW; while the images captured in these pre-iPhone days may have faded a little over time, they capture in a poignant way the early enthusiasm and excitement which has made the SLW the success it is today. Here, the Committee wishes to extend a heartfelt thankyou to Ms Sandy Wong for her extraordinary efforts in locating these gems.

A difficult editing conundrum which faced the Committee was that the breadth and quality of outstanding research and publication by our academics, ranging from commercial, consumer and corporate law and comparative Chinese law to criminal justice and human rights issues, was such that there was insufficient space to fairly include individual contributions. The Committee trusts, however, that the chapters on the Research Centres and the Chinese Judges programmes help illustrate the cutting-edge research and teaching which is such a signature aspect of the SLW.

Finally, in paraphrasing an old Chinese Proverb that “A person is mature at 30”, the Committee wishes the SLW all the very best for the remainder of its 30th anniversary celebrations.
As a youthful institution of higher education, City University of Hong Kong (CityU) trains high-quality professionals for the needs of the community and pursues research that impacts upon important issues facing Hong Kong and the world. Over the last three decades our School of Law has played an integral part in helping CityU to fulfil this mission.

Law plays a vital role in society, interacting with other disciplines such as science, engineering, veterinary medicine, business, the arts and social science, as evidenced in the way CityU students, including law students, come together to incubate ideas at our Innovation Commons.

Moreover, law helps to form relations with the Mainland and support the region’s commercial development. The School teaches, and conducts research into, both the common law and Chinese law. We have the largest contingent of Chinese academic lawyers outside the Mainland, and we are proud to support the programme for training the Chinese judiciary.

Our School works hard to produce quality students, too. Evidence of their skills is seen in their regular success in international mooting competitions and their enterprise in seeking to publish their work. Our students have enjoyed a broad range of international study opportunities, too, including intensive courses at Columbia, Monash, Oxford, Münster and Belgrade, as well as extensive exchange opportunities around the world. In addition, our legal placement courses and professional development training equip our students for the world of work. For example, our Postgraduate Certificate in Laws (PCLL) has prepared several thousand students for a life in the law. In addition, we have a very supportive alumni association. In fact, many of our former students now work at the highest levels of the profession.

Meanwhile, our research focus is strong. Our faculty members have obtained many research grants and produced numerous quality reports and studies. External bodies such as QS regularly place our law school among the top 100 worldwide, while the inaugural THE survey of law schools placed us at #52.

The first three decades of the School of Law have seen excellent development, but now we look forward to becoming an even brighter beacon for excellence in legal education. We hope our alumni and friends will help us in our joint endeavour to ensure our School successfully serves society’s needs.

Way Kuo
President and University Distinguished Professor
Foreword

I have only been Dean for one-tenth of our 30-year history, but have come to understand CityU is a very special place to study law. Education is about giving students the chance to develop their knowledge and skills to the full. The contributions our graduates have made to the local and international society demonstrate we have done something right. Beating over 300 teams from the world-leading law schools at the Vis Vienna Commercial Arbitration Moot in 2012–13 is just one example of how we have demonstrated our students are world class.

CityU has always been at the forefront of legal education developments in Hong Kong – whether it was launching the first JD in 2004, Asia’s first masters in arbitration in 1991 or the more recent masters in maritime and transportation law – we have always tried to meet the needs of Hong Kong society. Our degrees and PCLL are designed to produce the students Hong Kong needs with strong legal analytical skills and an ability to apply knowledge in a practical manner. We also continue to expand our links with leading law schools globally to offer a wide range of opportunities to our students. Our strong links with practice allow us to offer students valuable legal placements as part of a credit-bearing course.

We house Asia’s first SSCI-ranked law journal – the Asia Pacific Law Review. Our research continues to flourish, as testified by our remarkable performance in grant capture and outstanding publications. Our commitment to researching and teaching Chinese law flows from a belief that our society needs to foster mutual understanding between Chinese and common law legal traditions. That is why we also put so much effort into training the Chinese judiciary through our collaboration with the National Judges College in Beijing.

Why is it that our students do so well? Undoubtedly a lot of it is down to their own determination, but this is nurtured in our small classes and the intimate, collegiate atmosphere on our compact Kowloon Tong campus. The motivation of our staff to help students excel is one of the most pleasing features of our law school. Students remember this: it is one reason why so many want to give back to the school when they become alumni.

Joining a law school is like being a member of a family. You remain part of our Law School family for life. We hope you are proud of the progress we have made. We have reached the mature age of 30 and are recognized globally as a leading law school. Thanks to all our students, alumni, staff (past and present) for the role you have played in our success. Keep working with us to help us get even stronger. Please join in as many of our 30th anniversary celebrations as you can!

I look forward to meeting many friends of the Law School during this year.

Geraint Howells
Dean and Chair Professor in Commercial Law
Timeline of the CityU School of Law’s Development

- **1987**
  - Approval of the City Polytechnic of Hong Kong (CPHK) to establish the second law school in Hong Kong
  - Establishment of the CPHK Law Department

- **1988**
  - Commencement of the LLB (Hons)

- **Jan 1989**
  - Movement of the CPHK Law Department to Kowloon Tong Campus

- **Sep 1989**
  - Establishment of the PLE Department

- **Oct 1990**
  - Graduation of the first cohort of LLB students

- **Jun 1991**
  - Commencement of the MA Arbitration programme & the PCLL programme

- **Oct 1991**
  - Establishment of the Department of Professional Legal Education (PLE); Asia Pacific Law Review (APLR) first published

- **1992**
  - Commencement of the LLB (Hons)
  - Graduation of the first cohort of LLB students

- **1993**
  - Law Department & PLE Department combined to form the Faculty of Law

- **1994**
  - Approval of the CPHK to assume full university status, becoming City University of Hong Kong (CityU); Establishment of the Centre for Chinese and Comparative Law (RCCL)

- **1995**
  - LLM programmes commence

- **1998**
  - Reorganization of the Faculty of Law as the School of Law (SLW)
• Commencement of the JD programme
• Commencement of the LLM programme for Chinese judges
• Establishment of the Hong Kong Centre for Maritime and Transportation Law (HKCMT)
• Commencement of the JSD for Chinese judges
• Victory by the CityU SLW in the Vis East and Vis Vienna Moots
• Establishment of The Centre for Judicial Education and Research
• Establishment of the Human Rights Law and Policy Forum

2004
2007
2008
Mar 2010
2010–2011
2011
2011–2012
2012–2013
Sep 2013
2017
Leaders of the School of Law (1987–Present)

- **1987**: Establishment of the Department of Law
  - Prof Derek Redbuck (Head, Department of Law)
- **1992**: Establishment of the Department of Professional Legal Education
  - Prof Neil Gold (Head, Department of Professional Legal Education)
  - Prof Derek Redbuck (Acting Dean)
- **1993**: Department of Law and Department of Professional Legal Education combined to form the Faculty of Law
  - Prof Neil Gold (Acting Dean)
  - Prof Derek Redbuck (Interim Dean)
- **1994**: Prof Wang Guiguo (Dean)
- **1997**: Prof Ted Tyler (Acting Dean)
Reorganization of the Faculty of Law as the School of Law

1998

- July – August 1998
  Prof Ted Tyler (Acting Dean)

- August 1998 – August 2001
  Prof David Smith (Acting Dean)

- August 2001 – July 2004
  Prof Mike McConville (Dean)

- August – September 2004
  Prof Edmond I. Ko (Acting Dean)

- September 2004 – July 2007
  Prof Peter Mahnke (Dean)

- August 2007 – July 2013
  Prof Wang Guiqiu (Dean)

- August 2013 – July 2014
  Prof Lin Feng (Acting Dean)

- August 2014 – Present
  Prof Geraint Howells (Dean)
Classes begin

The City Polytechnic of Hong Kong Department of Law was established on 1 September 1987, becoming the second law school in Hong Kong. During its first year it offered servicing law courses to other departments in the institution. The Law Department offered its own programmes for the first time in October 1988. This offering included its flagship three-year full-time Bachelor of Laws (LLB (Hons)) programme, numbering 60 students.

Classes were initially held in the Argyle Centre in the bustling streets of Mong Kok, but moved to the more leafy and relaxed campus at Kowloon Tong in January 1990.

During the three years between 1989 and 1991, in its various locations, the Law Department continued to grow in terms of the number of programmes it offered, the size of its establishment, as well as its student intake. In particular, in October 1991, two of its most successful and enduring programmes were introduced.

Early Beginnings and Rapid Progress (1987–2001)
Firstly, the Master of Arts in Arbitration programme (MA Arbitration) was introduced in October 1991 (being the first Master’s degree programme in arbitration and dispute resolution in Asia) and became known as Master of Laws in Arbitration and Dispute Resolution (LLMArbDR) in 2010. Secondly, the Master of Philosophy (MPhil) programme commenced in April 1989.

Finally, the CPHK Law Department’s PCLL programme was introduced in October 1991 with an initial intake of 75. In the following year, the Department of Professional Legal Education (PLE Department) was formed to take over the management of the PCLL programme, a compulsory programme which prepares law students to become legal practitioners. Prof Neil Gold served as the first Head of the PLE Department. The PCLL’s noteworthy features, namely small group teaching of around 10 students, designated group rooms and a practical focus, continue to this day.

Staff and student numbers increased markedly between 1990 and 1991; there were 37 full-time academic staff in the Law Department, which almost doubled the original number in 1988.

The intake for the LLB (Hons) programme was also increased to 80, amounting to a one-third increase from the number in 1988. In 1991 a major milestone was achieved with the graduation of 57 of the first batch of LLB (Hons) students.
Also, following on from its earlier goal of developing mooting, the Law Department formed the “Ad-hoc Mooting Committee” to promote mooting for law students. Apart from the wonderfully transformative nature of this activity in developing advocacy skills and fostering teamwork for those engaged in it at the time, it provided the seeds for CityU to become a world powerhouse in mooting in the last ten years.

As early as 1992, the SLW was developing legal exchanges for students with the Mainland, a set of early initiatives which has now blossomed today into a comprehensive and valuable internship scheme for our students.

**Asia Pacific Law Review (APLR)**

The Asia Pacific Law Review (APLR) was first published in 1992, with a focus of law and professional legal practice development in the Asia Pacific Region. It is the first Asia-based law journal to be included in the Social Sciences Citation Index (SSCI).
Between 1993 and 1998, the CPHK Law Department and the PLE Department underwent several structural changes. In March 1993, while the two remained separate departments responsible for different programmes, both the Law Department and the PLE Department were grouped together to form the Faculty of Law. In May 1994, CPHK was approved by the Hong Kong Government to assume full university status, hence the CPHK Faculty of Law became the CityU Faculty of Law from that day.

By then CityU had already begun to form a strong alumni association. It would become a focal part of mentoring programmes and other initiatives to help law students at CityU. Of course, many of our early alumni have gone on to become luminaries of the Hong Kong legal profession and the judiciary, a number of whom are featured in the chapter in this book on our Outstanding Alumni.

A further important milestone during this period was the commencement of the Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in April 1994. Both the PhD and the Master of Philosophy (MPhil) consist of a limited coursework component and a substantial research project. These areas of graduate studies offered by the SLW reflected from an early stage the diversity of its research expertise, whilst advancing new research frontiers and contributing to building its scholarly capacity. In this regard, the SLW has always put a high premium on research quality, and consistent with this goal, has provided relevant structures to ensure output of unassailable integrity. An MPhil thesis, for example, must make a substantial contribution to knowledge, and a PhD thesis must make a substantial original contribution to knowledge in the subject area concerned.

▲ CityU Law students participated in a university debating competition with Singapore Universities. Eric Lee, Raymond Cheng and Royford Yeung LLB 1995 at the back. Sandy Wong LLB 1994 (fourth from left) and John Siu LLB 1996 (first from right) on the front row.
In 1998, as part of a further restructural change to obtain greater classroom space to meet growing student demand, the Faculty of Law was reorganized into the current SLW.

**The Centre for Chinese and Comparative Law (RCCL)**

Established in 1994, the Centre for Chinese and Comparative Law (RCCL) has become one of the major legal research centres of CityU and paved the way for the development of the culture of excellence in other research centres in the SLW as well as some of its most significant academic collaborations with the Mainland.

These strong links continue; for instance, CityU takes part in an annual six universities law conference with Peking, Renmin and Tsinghua Law Schools from Beijing together with local partners the Chinese University of Hong Kong and the University of Hong Kong.
As it progressed through the new millennium, SLW built upon its existing local and regional stature to strive toward a wholly transformative student educational experience and global preeminence as a law school. Some of the landmark achievements over this period were the establishment of the JD programme, the introduction of the Global Legal Education and Awareness Project (G-LEAP) programme for LLB, JD and LLM students, the hosting of major international conferences and the world-beating successes of the SLW’s mooting teams. Other hallmarks of this decade include the establishment of the historically important Chinese Judges programme and the growing standing of the CityU PCLL programme.

**JD Programme**

One of the SLW’s key milestones was the establishment of its JD programme in 2004. Our first batch of JD students graduated in 2006 and, as holders of two degrees, are highly renowned throughout the legal profession in Hong Kong for their maturity and multidisciplinary experience and expertise.
Internationalization

The SLW has always been an outward-looking law school with a global vision. In 2007, consistent with this vision and embracing the benefits of the rapid globalization of education and the delivery of legal services, the SLW created the ground-breaking G-LEAP programme. This programme offers students the chance to take intensive law courses in other overseas law schools for one month during the summer term. Major partners include University College, Oxford, and Monash University.

As a further part of widening our students’ horizons and equipping our students with more international law knowledge and experience, the SLW also offers other lengthier exchange opportunities to students at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels. In this regard, LLM students are offered the chance to be exposed to legal education in other countries. For example, CityU LLM graduates have undertaken the LLM in European Business Law programme offered by Aix-Marseille University. Furthermore, CityU LLM, LLMArbDR/MAarbDR students, as well as final year JD students, may be admitted to the joint master’s programme offered by CityU and University Paris 1, Pantheon-Sorbonne.
CityU has over 30 exchange partners. Since 2015, it has also developed global links with ten student exchange/joint degree programme agreements with law schools at Tsinghua University and Sun Yat-sen University in China, Emory University and Fordham University in USA, National University of Taiwan, the National Chengchi University in Taiwan and the University of Leeds in UK, Singapore Management University, Fribourg University in Switzerland and University College Dublin in Ireland.
Apart from taking the exchange programmes, our LLB and JD students have also had the opportunity to engage in research at the University of Münster and the University of Belgrade on an independent research project on a particular law subject.

Another key aspect of our students’ wider experience is our international internship and legal placement opportunities in Mainland Chinese courts for our students.
Mooting

CityU can be proud of many successes over its rich history, but perhaps the most heartfelt achievement occurred in 2012–13 when the CityU mooting teams won the Vis East and Vis Vienna Moots, becoming from that point one of the world’s leading mooting schools.

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Cutting-Edge Programmes

The last ten years of the history of the SLW has seen the introduction of unique and pioneering programmes, such as the Chinese Judges programme, introduced in 2008, and the addition of the Maritime and Transportation Laws stream to the SLW’s LLM programme in 2010–2011.

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[Dalian Maritime University delegation visiting the SLW on 17 June 2016]

[From left to right] Ng Eric Kar-yan (PCLL), Liang Fang (JD), Mahtani Sharina Nanik (LLB), Kaur Kamaljeet (LLB), Ho Timothy Lok Tim (LLB), Leung Yui Chi Gigi (LLMArbDR), Dr Rajesh Sharma (Former Moot Director), Fung Yik Chung Alwin (JD), Yung Ron (LLB), Chau Cleo Haye-teng (LLB), Ng Jacquelyn Ga Hei (PCLL)

[Chinese Judges students visiting the Hong Kong Correctional Services]
**PCLL**

The PCLL programme underwent a transformation in 2007–2008 to make it increasingly skills-based and to add a number of cutting-edge electives such as the Bar Course and Mainland and Related Legal Transactions. The PCLL programme has come to be recognized worldwide as one of the leading providers of practical legal training, which has led to its impressive mix of top students from CityU and the cream from leading universities from Australia and England enrolling in this programme.

**CityU Law Review**

The CityU Law Review (CityU LR) was first published in 2009. It was the first of its kind as a law journal in Hong Kong in that this student-edited journal publishes papers by both academics and students. The Editorial Board of the CityU LR comprises both students and faculty members – signifying the importance of fostering a life-long learning partnership between law students and law teachers. The CityU LR publishes papers on diverse contemporary themes of both local and global relevance.

**Legal Placement Course and Professional Development Services at the SLW**

The SLW has, for a number of years, offered a legal placement course in conjunction with local and Mainland firms and businesses who kindly provide placements to our students. Starting in late 2015, the SLW further increased its vocational support to students through its development of a Professional Development programme. This programme is designed to provide students with a better understanding of the business and practice of law and to support them in their career development. Through this programme, students receive one-on-one career counselling and guidance and can attend professional development talks given by leading practitioners which deal with important developments in the profession. The year 2017 saw the launch of CareerAccess, a dedicated interactive site for students which provides them with up-to-date career opportunities and information on recent trends and developments in the legal profession.
Internationalization relates to every corner of school life, including research and teaching. On the academic research front, the SLW has also hosted a series of academic conferences of international importance which have harnessed SLW’s major research strengths in the areas of PRC Law, Consumer Law, Arbitration and Mediation, and Data Protection. For instance, the 2018 Conference on the Role of Comparative Law in Teaching and Research was a milestone in the SLW’s growing leadership role in regional scholarship.
Teaching and Scholarship

CityU has continued to recruit world-class scholars in a diverse variety of fields including transnational commercial and consumer law, the common law of Hong Kong, the law relating to human rights issues and the law of the PRC, further developing the international reputation of the SLW in these areas. A particularly noteworthy achievement has been the enormous success of SLW staff in terms of both the number of Research Fund Grants obtained and the value of these grants.

Five of the most successful GRF awardees (in terms of number of grants awarded) in recent years and their most recent awards are:

Dr Lei CHEN

**Project title:**
The Availability of Specific Performance in Chinese Courts: An Empirical Assessment; **Year:** 2015

Dr Chunyan DING

**Project title:**
Lifting the Veil of Mental Suffering Awards in Medical Negligence Cases in China; **Year:** 2016

Prof Feng LIN

**Project title:**
Constitutionality of Demand for Hong Kong Independence: A Comparative and Jurisprudential Study; **Year:** 2017

Dr Fozia Nazir LONE

**Project title:**
Towards the Pragmatic and Peaceful Resolution of the Sino-Indian Boundary Dispute: A Multidisciplinary Study; **Year:** 2017

Dr Charles Zhen QU

**Project title:**
The Decision Making on Corporate Guarantee Cases in Chinese Courts; **Year:** 2017
Our People
Our Faculty

Since its inception, the SLW has attracted a talented and diverse group of academics. The SLW is especially proud of the dedication and achievements of its current cohort of teaching staff, who, in equal parts, inspire students’ interest in the study of law and produce research of the highest international quality.

▲ First line [from left to right]:
Dr Charles QU, Dr ZHAO Liang, Mr Jack BURKE, Dr Priscilla LEUNG, Prof Alexander LOKE (Assistant Dean), Prof LIN Feng (Associate Dean), Prof Geraint HOWELLS (Dean), Dr CHEN Lei (Associate Dean), Dr André JANSSEN, Dr Daniel PASCOE, Prof GU Minkang, Mr David HOLLOWAY

Second line [from left to right]:
Ms Anna LUI, Prof HE Xin, Ms Sara TSUI, Dr Jojo MO, Dr XING Lijuan, Dr WANG Shucheng, Dr John HO, Ms Stella LEUNG, Ms Alisa KWAN, Dr GUAN Wenwei, Ms Josefina BAUTISTA

Third line [from left to right]:
Ms Laveena MAHTANI, Ms Carrie CHAN, Dr Mark KIELSGARD, Dr Noam ZAMIR, Dr LIN Yu-Hsin, Dr DING Chunyan, Dr Julia TOMASSETTI, Mr CHI Kee Ming, Mr Stephenson CHOW

Absent Faculty (in alphabetical order):
Dr Peter CHAN Chin Hin, Dr Surya DEVA, Dr HE Tianxiang, Dr LE ROUX-KEMP Andra, Dr Eugene LIM, Dr Forzia LONE, Ms Theresa LOW, Dr Rebecca ONG, Mr Ubaid REHMAN, Mr Symon WONG, Dr YANG Fan, Prof ZHU Guobin
Our Administrative Team

The scope of the SLW’s endeavours is remarkably wide, not only because of the diverse number of academic programmes it offers, but also in relation to its extensive research output and academic collaborations. Our staff and students regularly acknowledge the wonderful service offered by our administrative staff in meeting these logistical challenges and ensuring that our operations run smoothly.

First line [from left to right]:
Ms Rosita CHAN, Ms Rachel LOK, Ms Vivian TSOI, Ms Sandy LI, Ms Helen SUEN (School Secretary), Ms Cora HO, Ms Pat LEE, Ms Prisca CHAN, Ms Phyllis YAN, Ms Agnes KWOK

Second line [from left to right]:
Ms Emily CHOW, Ms Amy LAU, Ms Elaine CHEUNG, Ms Tammy LEE, Ms Cassie LEUNG, Ms Jacqueline CHIK, Ms Jasmine LIN, Ms Pauline TANG, Ms Constance TSE, Ms Silver LEE, Ms Rita WONG, Ms XU Di

Absent Administrative/Research Staff (in alphabetical order):
Ms Athena CHEUNG, Ms Pinky CHOY
Question 1: What is your earliest memory of the SLW?
LF: I joined the Department of Law in December 1992. Derek Roebuck, who was the Department Head then, encouraged me to do a staff seminar on the political reform that was occurring in Hong Kong. I was certainly pleased to do it, not only because the topic was very hotly debated at that time, but also because I was very interested in the topic myself. One of my early academic publications (“Electoral Reform in Hong Kong: A Comment”, Asia Pacific Law Review, Volume 3, 1994, pp. 73-81) is related to this topic.

Question 2: What is your favourite memory of the SLW or being at SLW?
LF: My early years in the School of Law witnessed its transition from two Departments (the Department of Law and the Department of Professional Legal Education) to a Faculty. At that time, the management of the School of Law gave a lot of support and encouragement to young junior colleagues, including myself. It is something I look back on now with a deep sense of appreciation.

Question 3: How has the SLW changed since you were here?
LF: In terms of programmes, the School of Law developed very quickly in the early 1990s. The School is now a fully fledged one, providing all the degree programmes that are available in the law schools in commonwealth countries. Take the LLM programme, for example. There was only a Chinese stream in the beginning; then we added an English stream, and currently, six different streams together make our LLM programme very comprehensive and well-developed. Furthermore, we also offer the Master of Laws in Arbitration and Dispute Resolution (established as Master of Arts in Arbitration and Dispute Resolution in 1991), the JD programme, the PhD programme, and three programmes (LLM, JSD and the Advanced Programme) specially designed to train judges and senior judges from the Mainland.

Question 4: What is the greatest achievement of the SLW?
LF: The mission of most law schools in commonwealth countries is to train future lawyers. We share that mission. However, I would say our greatest achievement is the contribution which we have made to Hong Kong society. The LLM programme in Chinese and Comparative Law is a good example. There was such a big demand for this kind of programme in the first decade when the LLM programme in Chinese and Comparative Law was launched. We increased the number of the student intake from 30 to 80 as over 400 applications were submitted for the first offering of this programme. The majority of the applicants are legal practitioners, including practitioners in the Department of Justice. Through this programme, we have educated many lawyers in an area that was not fully developed and many of them are amongst our distinguished alumni now.
Question 1: What is your earliest memory of the SLW?
MG: I became a member of the law school on 2 January 1997. At that time, there was a Faculty of Law comprising two departments, i.e. the Department of Law and the Department of Professional Legal Education. I was assigned to teach mainly two courses for LLB students, i.e. (1) Chinese Economic Law; and (2) Foreign Investment and Trade Law in China. I also taught Chinese and Comparative Company Law to LLM students. Initially, the law school did not have many programmes (only LLB, LLM, MPhil and PhD). Later on, the JD and JSD Degrees were created.

Question 2: What is your favourite memory of the SLW or being at the SLW?
MG: Looking back, I think that my favourite memory is when the law school, under former Dean, Professor Wang Guigu, launched three major projects, being the Chinese Judges programmes (LLM for CJ, JSDCJ and Advanced Programme for Senior Judges), G-LEAP and the International Moot Competitions. As the then Associate Dean of the SLW, I take great pride and satisfaction from my contributions to the development of the law school during this memorable period in my career and historically significant period in the School’s history.

Question 3: How has the SLW changed since you were here?
MG: I am pleased and proud to say that as a member of the staff of the SLW that our law school has been moving forward at a dramatic pace during the last 10 years, especially under the leadership of President Way Kuo, who has ensured that the University has supported the law school and the many new achievements which have been made here. Now, I am happy to see that our law school has a well-established reputation around the world.

Question 4: What is the greatest achievement of the SLW?
MG: I think that the School of Law has positioned itself very well so far. It is one of the leading law schools in the wider region of China through its establishment of a solid relationship with legal institutions in the Mainland and in particular, through its partnership since 1997 with the No.1 law school in the Mainland, the Renmin University Law School. Furthermore, the law school has cooperated well with the Supreme People’s Court and its National Judges College in three programmes: Master of Law for Chinese Judges, Doctor of Juridical Science for Chinese Senior Judges and the Advanced Programme for Senior Judges. But at the same time, it is also a law school achieving internationalization. For instance, internationally, our mooting team has been treated as a strong rival by leading law schools throughout the world, which again shows the good educational quality of this law school.
Question 1: What is your earliest memory of the SLW?
PL: Having taught at the Law School for 28 years, I regard the School as my home where I witnessed the birth of many different programmes and events as well as the growth of our students and colleagues. In the earlier times of the School, it was like a home for many newcomers from all over the world. It was young and energetic and everyone was talking about new ideas and about how to enhance the development of the School in the world and in Asia, as well as its engagement with the community of Hong Kong. The School was only a Law Department under the Faculty of Social Sciences then.

Question 2: What is your favourite memory of the SLW or being at the SLW?
PL: My favourite memory goes back to 1994 when I took a delegation of LLB students to Beijing. I was still very young and my students were too, of course. We shared life experiences, riding bicycles with elderly professors around Beijing. We also visited the Chinese courts and other judiciary bodies. After this trip, many students became my life-long friends. Another very vivid and happy memory is when I took two SLW students to Beijing in 1997 to participate in a Basic Law Competition on CCTV to promote the Hong Kong Basic Law. We were awarded second prize.

Question 3: How has the SLW changed since you were here?
PL: Something that stands out in mind is that, since then, the School has had regular student delegations to Beijing and Shanghai and other parts of the world.

Question 4: What is the greatest achievement of the SLW?
PL: What I see as the greatest achievement of the SLW is the achievement of our students. Thirty years have gone by. We have students who have become judges, senior counsel, top partners in law firms as well as council members in the professional bodies. I am very pleased to see that our graduates are equipped with knowledge of both the common law and Chinese law, which made us a very special law school in Hong Kong from the very beginning.

Our mission from as early as 1987 has been to prepare legal talents who are able to understand the differences between the legal traditions of both the Mainland and Hong Kong, and as a result, to bridge the gap between the two and to enhance a smooth handover. And, we have done it!
Question 1: What were your aspirations when you first joined the School of Law (“the School”)?

AK: Joining the School of Law was a change of career for me from practising law to teaching it. There were hurdles to overcome before joining: I had to assure my mother that I would not “誤人子弟” (English translation: ruining the future of other people’s children) in order to have her blessing. A trusted friend and fellow practitioner also made me promise that legal knowledge aside, I would ensure that all my students will understand the vital need for a lawyer to be punctual for his/her colleagues, clients and the court!

Question 2: What do you think of your colleagues at the School?

AK: The School is a relatively small law school and it was even smaller when I first joined. I could feel the family atmosphere right from the start, which still persists nowadays. Many academic and teaching staff members of the School, both past and present, have been very helpful and kind to me. I have learned a lot from them. I would like to thank the administrative staff headed by Ms Helen Suen, many of whom joined the School even earlier than I did, for always being there whenever I need any assistance.

Question 3: What do you think of your students?

AK: My students are a wonderful source of motivation, happiness and, occasionally, amusement. I may not like all the nicknames they have “invented” for me over the years but I do appreciate their sense of humour and creativity!

The relatively small size of the School has enabled me to get to know many students on a more personal level and form longstanding friendships. To them, I am a “mother” or “auntie” figure whom they can turn to for advice on career and/or personal matters.

I felt honoured to formally become the “god-parents” with my husband of a former student when she got married. She has recently made us proud “god-grandparents” twice over by the birth of her second child! It was a great honour to be invited to give a speech at a wedding a few years ago about the bride and the bridegroom. I was able to do so as both of them are my former students! Last but not least, I am a member of the “Birthday Club”, which was formed by graduates of the Alternative Mode LLB programme. My former students and I have been meeting up regularly to catch up and celebrate each other’s birthdays ever since the “club” was formed over 10 years ago!

Question 4: What are your concluding remarks?

AK: Thank you, all my students, both past and present, for being an important part of my life. Thank you, CityU School of Law, for enriching my life and filling it with wonderful friends and students. Happy Birthday to you and many happy returns!
Question 1: What was your background prior to coming to the SLW?

AL: I was with the Law Faculty of the National University of Singapore for more than 20 years before I joined CityU Law School in January 2015. I was the founding editor of the Asian Journal of Comparative Law and a co-editor of the Studies in the Contract Laws of Asia, volumes I (Remedies) and II (Formation and Third Party Beneficiaries) (Oxford University Press). My research interests lie in corporate & securities law, financial law and contract law. I was one of the two founders of the NUS Centre for Banking & Finance Law that was funded by the Ministry of Law (Singapore).

Question 2. What struck you most about the SLW when you first came here?

AL: CityU Law School is an excellent place for comparative law scholarship. Located in an international city, the SLW draws to its ranks scholars from diverse jurisdictions and legal traditions. This makes for a vibrant academic environment which stimulates exciting scholarship. Visitors to the SLW have often remarked on the buzz they feel when they walk through its doors – that palpable sense of the seriousness of purpose and an enthusiasm for creating new legal knowledge that addresses the myriad legal issues continually thrown up by the changing global environment.

Question 3. What excites you most about the current direction of the SLW?

AL: Its international outlook is attested to not only by the curricula and the rich course offerings provided by permanent faculty and thoughtfully selected visiting faculty, but also by the overseas programmes and experiences specially tailored for its students. It is a great place to be. There is much to look forward to in the next 30 years of the Law School.
Question 1: What was your background prior to coming to the SLW?
SC: Ever since my undergraduate years, I knew that I’ve found my passion for law in the area of human rights. My interest in this body of knowledge prompted me to pursue an LLM in one of the best human rights law schools in Europe – the University of Nottingham – at which I then stayed on for my PhD. Having benefitted from the exacting training of some of the most prominent scholars in the field, I left academia for the NGO sector as a way to fulfil my commitment to the cause of human rights practice. Since then, I have had fruitful careers in both domestic and international human rights organizations as well as in public bodies before I decided that the time was ripe for a change in role, i.e. to advance human rights law through academic research.

Question 2: What struck you most about the SLW when you first came here?
SC: What struck me most about the SLW when I first arrived is the passion of the academic staff. At the SLW, one can easily see devoted colleagues who not only pour their hearts into teaching, but are also extremely committed to the intellectual and professional development of the students. Our students’ achievements in mooting and the fact they are producing quality research outputs are two aspects of such efforts. I further came to discover that this dedication fostered a strong bond between our staff and our students. It is also what makes the School an ideal place for teaching and learning.

Question 3: What excites you most about the current direction of the SLW?
SC: There are two developments I find particularly exciting. One is the support for incoming academic staff. For instance, I am grateful that as a newcomer, I was able to secure a start-up fund to continue furthering my research agenda at a time when it is much needed. Second, and at a more personal level, is the establishment of the Human Rights Law and Policy Forum (HRLF). While the SLW may have, in the past, been more focused on commercial law, the setting up of HRLF offered a valuable platform for public-law-interested colleagues to collaborate on research projects. I have also learned that, for the purpose of our launch, the Forum plans to organize an international conference to discuss some of the most pressing human rights issues that the world faces today. I am extremely grateful to the professors leading the Forum to have kindly invited me to be part of the excitement.
Question 1: What was your background prior to coming to the SLW?

SL: I was a corporate partner in an American law firm and my practice focus was mergers and acquisitions and capital markets work. After taking a break from private practice to tend to my young children for a number of years, I started teaching as a part-time lecturer and joined the CityU School of Law in 2014. I switched to a full-time position a few months into the job, teaching the Corporate and Commercial Practice course in the PCLL programme. I also became involved in the administrative aspects of the programme and became the PCLL Programme Director in 2016.

Question 2: What struck you most about the SLW when you first came here?

SL: I received my legal education in the United States and did not have the benefits of a programme like the PCLL. I learned about the practice of law “on the job” when I started working as an associate in my law firm, so when I first started teaching in the PCLL programme at CityU, I was struck by how helpful such a programme is in equipping young law graduates to cope with the reality of legal practice in bridging the gap between theory and practice. I was also impressed by how eager students are in learning from the PCLL teaching staff, who are experienced practitioners and experts in their area of practice. Most of our PCLL students are inquisitive and quite willing to engage, which made my new teaching career challenging and extremely rewarding at the same time.

Question 3: What excites you most about the current direction of the SLW?

SL: What excites me most about the CityU School of Law is that it is not complacent and is very receptive to new ideas. I have experienced this first-hand in my capacity as programme director. Whenever I proposed new initiatives for the PCLL programme, whether it was improving the physical environment of small group classrooms, or implementing on-line examinations, or developing of new elective courses, the School administration has always been supportive and has given me tremendous latitude in exploring ways to make the programme an even better one.
Question 1: What was your background prior to coming to the SLW?
JT: After receiving my JD from Harvard, I worked in employment and campaign finance law in New York City for several years. I very much enjoyed practicing law, but serendipity brought me to UCLA for a Sociology PhD programme. When I began my doctoral programme, I had no intention of becoming a law professor. This changed as I progressed in my dissertation research on labour law, and as I spent time with excellent law faculties through fellowships. Prior to assuming my position at CityU, I completed fellowships at the Baldy Center at SUNY Buffalo Law School, the Georgetown University Law Center, and the Center for Law, Society, & Culture at the University of Indiana Maurer School of Law.

Question 2: What struck you most about the SLW when you first came here?
JT: What struck me most about the SLW was, and continues to be, the warmth and friendliness of faculty and non-faculty staff. Having colleagues who put aside ego and insecurity to support one another allows intellectual conversation to thrive here. The amiable environment is one reason among many that makes the SLW a rewarding place to teach and do research.

Question 3: What excites you most about the current direction of the SLW?
JT: At the advent of its 30th anniversary celebration, it seems the SLW has already established a stable footing and identity in regards to scholarship, education and contribution to the legal community. I would expect the current direction of the SLW to make it a rather formidable regional and international presence in these areas. I am particularly excited about the recent establishment of the HRLF, and I look forward to it becoming a vibrant locus of research and action in human rights law.
Established in 1994, the RCCL is one of CityU’s major legal research centres. The RCCL is devoted to the research of Chinese and comparative law, as well as serving as a bridge between the common law jurisdiction of Hong Kong, the civil law jurisdiction of China and other legal jurisdictions around the world. It is now internationally recognized as a world-class research centre.
Between 1995 and 2003, the RCCL published 6 volumes of its own journal.


As part of the RCCL’s Hong Kong Common Law Series, it published a book on Hong Kong contract law in Chinese in 1995.

In addition to RCCL publications, RCCL members have also been active in producing a considerable body of research concerning English and Chinese law, Hong Kong law and comparative law. For example, between 2008 and 2013, the seven incumbent core members of the RCCL produced over 120 publications, including authored and co-authored books, edited and co-edited books, journal articles, conference papers, etc.

The RCCL and its members have also published a series of Chinese publications on various areas of Chinese law, including maritime law, the general legal system, contract law, constitutional law and political system, and the environmental law of the Mainland.

In addition to its series in Chinese, the RCLL has also published a series of English publications on various areas of Chinese law, including administrative law, constitutional law, shipping law, real estate law, an introduction to Chinese law, and the legal development of China.

The RCCL and its members have also published English texts on contemporary developments in company law and commercial law in China.
Research Excellence
Since its establishment, the RCCL and its core members have produced an extensive body of research outputs, including journals, book series, books and journal articles and have been awarded significant numbers of Competitive Earmarked Research Grants and General Research Fund grants.

Conferences and Seminars
In addition to research, another major role of the RCCL is to provide a platform for people with common interests in Chinese and comparative law to gather together to disseminate their research outputs, share their experiences and discuss issues of common concern.

Periodically, the RCCL invites well-established scholars from all over the world to deliver topical lectures, and organizes seminars and international conferences to explore cutting-edge issues of various areas of law.

- Conference on “Perspectives on Chinese Contract Law”, held in April 2016.
- Roundtable on Legal Issues Relating to Mong Kok Riot, Hong Kong Independence and Freedom of Expression, held in June 2016.

Conference on “Governance, Democratization and Constitutional Reform: Definition of Political Structure of the HKSAR and Its Reform”, held in June 2016.

Visiting Fellow Programme
To enhance its role of facilitating academic exchanges, the RCCL invites leading legal scholars under its Visiting Fellow programme, in the areas of Chinese and comparative law from China and elsewhere to make short-term visits to the Centre. These Visiting Fellows normally spend between one month and one year in residence to improve and complete their draft working papers and present them to the Centre.
Hong Kong Centre for Maritime and Transportation Law (HKCMT)

**Director:** Prof Geraint Howells  
**Associate Directors:** Dr Xing Lijuan; Dr Zhao Liang

The Hong Kong Centre for Maritime and Transportation Law (the Centre) was established in March 2010 as a result of consultations between representatives of the maritime industry and potential partners from other jurisdictions. The Centre serves as a bridge between academia, the maritime and transportation industry, and the legal profession. It adopts a comparative and global perspective in its analysis. Its role is to nurture and train the next generation of maritime law and shipping professionals, and to promote Hong Kong as the premier global seaport in South East Asia.

While primarily focusing on maritime law, the Centre is also concerned with the law relating to other modes of transportation, such as air, road and rail.

The Centre is supported by the School of Law’s immense experience in comparative teaching and research, its professional staff, its international links, its ties to the arbitration profession and the shipping industry, and its existing and developing expertise in maritime and transportation law.

To date the Centre is currently offering subjects for study at undergraduate and postgraduate levels. At postgraduate level, the Maritime and Transportation Law stream of Master of Laws (LLM) programme commenced in 2010–11. The Hong Kong Maritime Law Scholarship Scheme was established in 2011–12 and has operated under the Maritime and Aviation Training Fund since 1 April 2014. Each year, a number of scholarships are offered to selected students of the Maritime and Transportation Law Stream of the LLM programme. These scholarships can be used to cover the tuition fees at CityU.

The development of the Centre continues to take place with strong industry involvement and support.

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Professor Kuo received HK$3.5M for the Hong Kong Maritime Law Scholarship Scheme from Ms Eva Cheng, JP, Secretary for Transport and Housing and Chairman of the Hong Kong Maritime Industry Council in June 2011.
The Centre for Judicial Education and Research (CJER)

Director: Prof Lin Feng

The CJER was established in September 2013, the primary aims of which were to oversee the management and strategic development of the Chinese Judges programme, conduct research in the areas of judicial practice and reform in China and comparative judicial and legal systems and judicial and alternative dispute resolution, and to arrange international conferences and symposiums in these areas. Amongst its research landmarks are the Working Paper Series and the new Chinese translation of *Jurisprudence For a Free Society*.

**Working Paper Series**

- Working Paper no. 1 is about the past, present and future status of expatriate judges in Hong Kong
- Working Paper no. 2 studies the impact of current judicial reform on judicial independence in China
Human Rights Law and Policy Forum

Director: Prof Zhu Guobin
Associate Directors: Dr Surya Deva; Dr Mark Kielsgard


The mission of the HRLF is to conduct and promote research, articulate policy reform options and build capacity in the field of human rights. The HRLF brings together CityU Law School’s core faculty members who have active research agendas in human rights to share their research, collaborate with other scholars from abroad and engage with like-minded organizations to promote human rights. Scholars from outside CityU are invited to share their research and exchange ideas in lectures, roundtables, workshops and conferences organized by the HRLF.

The HRLF’s primary focus is on human rights law and policy issues related to Hong Kong and Asia, although it will also be involved in academic collaboration in areas relating to criminal justice, business and human rights, and sustainable development goals. The HRLF is committed to disseminating its research by publishing books and policy papers on cutting-edge issues. It also seeks to empower law students, lawyers and civil society to become agents of social change. Through strategic collaborations, the HRLF actively seeks additional projects and funding to establish itself as the leading human rights research institution in Hong Kong and Asia generally.

Prof Zhu Guobin

Dr Surya Deva

Dr Mark Kielsgard
In 2008, in a landmark occasion in judicial education, CityU and the National Judges College of the Supreme People’s Court of the PRC signed an agreement to enrol judges from the Mainland in the SLW’s Master of Laws (LLM) programme for Chinese Judges. The intended aim of this signature programme of taught courses is to provide selected groups of Mainland judges with a comprehensive understanding of the common law and international law. A special feature of this programme is that its students have the chance to take a one-month intensive course in a renowned University in the USA, where they can meet fellow judges and lawyers and also
visit the Congress and Supreme Court. Students in the programme also have opportunities to visit Korea and Europe and undertake academic exchanges with the judicial organizations, courts, schools and international organizations there. Graduates of this unique programme have frequently commented on the invaluable perspectives it has provided them in regard to judicial decision making.

**Doctor of Juridical Science (JSD) Programme for Chinese Senior Judges**

The Doctor of Juridical Science (JSD) programme for Chinese Senior Judges was inaugurated in September 2010. The successful completion of the programme will lead to the degree of Doctor of Juridical Science. Conducted in Chinese, this JSD programme is designed to provide a pathway for Mainland senior judges to study comparative law in other jurisdictions, against the backdrop of globalization, thereby enhancing their broader knowledge of other major legal systems. Fourteen Chinese senior judges have successfully defended their theses and have been awarded the JSD Degree.
Advanced Programme for Chinese Senior Judges

Created in 2009, the Advanced Programme for Chinese Senior Judges is a highly practical and experientially based intensive programme to provide Mainland Chinese Senior judges with a deep understanding of the Hong Kong judicial system, the operation of Hong Kong courts and other judicial organizations by attending lectures by experts in Hong Kong law and undertaking field trips.

Latest Developments in the Chinese Judges Programme

The administration of the Chinese Judges programme has continued under the Centre for Judicial Education and Research since its establishment in September 2013. The change has presented rich opportunities and synergies for students and the Centre to conduct seminal research activities and academic collaborations into areas relating to the judiciary and judicial training in the Mainland and Hong Kong.

10th Advanced Programme for the Chinese Senior Judges visit to the Kowloon City Magistrates’ Court

Prof Lin Feng, Director of CJER, giving one of the lectures of the Public Law Seminars for the judge students of the 4th Doctor of Juridical Science (JSD) programme for Chinese Senior Judges
Mooting is a competition where teams of law students showcase their research, drafting and oral advocacy skills under conditions of formal rules of court, and it teaches the best practices for legal counsel. Students are given a set of facts designed to simulate innovative and cutting-edge issues in a specific area of law and are tasked with drafting lengthy memorials for each side in the legal contest. Students are then trained to employ the most professional advocacy techniques in presenting their arguments and answering the critiques of a panel of simulated judges hearing the case in a formal courtroom setting. In the course of the questioning by the bench, the breadth of

International Criminal Court (ICC) Trial Competition 2012
[From left to right] Chok Brian Man Ho (LLB), Li Jiani (JD), Wang Zhenyuan (LLB), Ma Nathan Hin Che (LLB), Fung Wai Nam (LLB)
the team’s research is tested as well as their reflexes in answering questions in the most compelling manner possible. Many of the largest and most prestigious competitions involve international law and typically include teams from law schools from all over the world. More than any other exercise in legal education, mooting competitions provide students with the most practical opportunity, experience and confidence to become first-rate lawyers by doing the work of lawyers according to the highest standards in the industry. In the competitions, teams are assessed for the best memorials based on the quality of the research and drafting. Their overall placement in the competitions is assessed based on their team performance in presenting convincing arguments and answering myriad questions from the bench, and individual students are assessed according to the speaker awards they receive. Prizes are also awarded for best memorials, best team performances and best speakers.
CityU has a long, rich and successful record in international mooting and debating competitions. In the 1990s Sandy Wong and Eric Lee represented CityU to compete in the Deacons competition and won the Deacons Cup in Singapore. Later, in 2008–2009 the SLW began to show a real commitment to mooting to unlock the remarkable potential of its gifted student body. Under the skilled faculty leadership of Directors Dr Rajesh Sharma and Dr Vernon Nase, the SLW began developing an international reputation by placing first runners-up in the prestigious Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) moot in Frankfurt, Germany (2009), coached by Dr Romesh Weeramantry. Our team placed second in the CityU-hosted International Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Competition coached by Dr Fan Yang (2010), and again placed second in the Manfred Lachs Moot coached by Dr Vernon Nase (2009). In addition to these great team achievements, SLW competitors also won multiple memorial awards and speaker awards.
In 2011, the SLW, coached by Dr Mark Kielsgard, won its first international competition in Miami, Florida, in the Susan J. Ferrell Human Rights Moot (Susan J. Ferrell Moot). Again in 2011, the SLW coached by Dr Vernon Nase, were joint World Champions in the IASLA Space Law Moot. From this time forward, the SLW began a legacy of victories in the largest, most prestigious international competitions, truly unpacking the magnificent potential of its student body. In an extremely large and fiercely competitive moot in 2012, again coached by Dr Kielsgard, CityU won the International Criminal Court (ICC) Trial Competition. Thereafter, over 2012–2013, the SLW accomplished its crowning achievement by winning both the Willem C. Vis (East) International Commercial Arbitration Moot (Vis East Moot) with over 100 teams in the competition and the Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot (Vis Vienna Moot) which had a staggering 300 teams competing in it.
The SLW mooting programme has earned a formidable world-class reputation. As well as winning several local rounds in the Phillip C. Jessup International Law Moot Competition (Jessup Competition), the SLW has won nine championships in international mooting competitions over the past seven years:

- The International ADR Mooting Competition in Hong Kong (2011);
- Three-time winners (undefeated) of the Susan J. Ferrell Moot in North America (2011, 2013 and 2016);
- The IASLA Space Law Moot (2011);
- The prestigious Vis East and Vis Vienna Moot championships (2012–2013) in Asia and Europe respectively;
- The International Criminal Court (ICC) Trial Competition (2012); and
In addition to international championships, we have won numerous awards for best speaker and best memorials.

Our students’ participation during the past year is listed below:

- The 2017 Jessup Competition (Hong Kong Regional Round: 18 February 2017)
  ◊ Hong Kong Regional Round – First Runner-Up
  ◊ Hong Kong Regional Round – Best Respondent Memorial
  ◊ Hong Kong Regional Round – Best Overall Memorial
- Fourteenth Annual Vis East Moot (26 March – 2 April 2017)
  ◊ Honourable Mention for the Claimant’s Memoranda
- Seventh Annual Budapest Pre-Moot for the Twenty-Fourth Annual Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot (3–6 April 2017)
  ◊ Reached the Quarter-Finals
- Twenty-Fourth Annual Vis Vienna Moot (7–13 April 2017)
  ◊ Advanced to the top 64 out of 338 teams
  ◊ Honourable Mention for Eric E. Bergsten Award Team Orals
  ◊ Wong Suet Yee Shelley: Honourable Mention (Martin Domke Award for Individual Oralists)
- Manfred Lachs Moot 2017 (18–21 April 2017)
  ◊ First Runner-up
  ◊ Second Best Memorial
  ◊ Chung Chun Wai: Oralist Award
- International Criminal Court (ICC) Trial Competition 2017 (14–19 May 2017)
  ◊ Reached the Quarter-Finals
Over the years, the SLW’s well-deserved reputation as a mooting powerhouse has yielded tangible results in the marketplace when students begin looking for jobs. Doors are opened for SLW graduates at distinguished law firms and chambers, in part, because of the excellence of its international moot programme and its many well-advertised championships.

Many of the students who enjoyed the benefits of participating in the SLW’s moot programme have gone on to great success in the legal profession. Some have received positions at the most prestigious law firms or tenancies in the more prestigious chambers, several have received permanent positions with Hong Kong’s Department of Justice, others have gone on to earn their masters in top universities such as Oxford and Cambridge and many have published top-quality articles in highly prestigious law journals. Some have chosen to give back to the mooting programme by coaching the SLW’s teams, including Eric Ng whose team won the Budapest pre-Vis moot competition in 2016 and Theo Li and Andrew Tse who coached their team to victory in the Susan J. Ferrell Moot in 2016.
Former Distinguished Teaching Staff

As part of its rich history, many prominent scholars have taught or served in leadership roles in the SLW. A few of our best-loved and distinguished have kindly shared their fine memories of their time with us in this chapter.
I taught at the Law School for 25 years and enjoyed it a great deal. When I first joined the School, it was a small department of the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities – more or less a teaching-only body. In less than 20 years, it grew to a full-fledged Law School comparable with any good law schools in the world. Colleagues publish with the first-rate journals and best publishers. Students have demonstrated their talents and knowledge by, inter alia, winning championships of the most competitive international moot court competitions and obtaining scholarships at the best law schools in the world. The Chinese judge students are the best ambassadors of the Law School. Wherever I go – China and other places outside China – people talk about our judge students. All these changes were brought about by the Law School team – faculties and staff. I am very honoured and proud to have associated with this team. Having left the Law School for more than two years, I still remember the smiles, facial expressions, eye blinks and laughter of colleagues. I feel full of joy whenever thinking about the delightful moments we shared together. Wishing all of you, my colleagues, a great future!

At CityU, I taught both undergraduate and graduate students for nearly 19 years and supervised LLM, JSD and PhD theses. I went to Hong Kong after teaching in Australia and Papua New Guinea for nearly 20 years. It was a unique experience. All students were very keen to learn. My approach to teaching was to explain the legal rules and principles through interesting local examples and illustrations. This worked well. And even in lectures I tried to have as much interaction with students as possible. I have taught several students who have done very well in their studies. My rapport with my students was good. When I was leaving CityU for OP Jindal Global University, many of my students came to my office and at the airport to say goodbye. It was very touching.

My books have been published by leading publishers. I have also published in prominent law journals throughout the world.

I was also the first Head of Law Department (Acting) (for two years) and also served as Associate Dean of the Faculty of Law (for three years).

I came to CityU in 1998 on a leave of absence from Harvard Law School (where I was Vice Dean) to serve as Acting Dean of the School of Law for one year. It is a tribute to CityU that this one year morphed into five, during which I resigned from Harvard (for two of those years I served as Acting Director of the School of Creative Media). What drew me to the School of Law was the inspiring leadership of President H.K. Chang and the outstanding faculty, staff and students that I inherited (and ditto at the School of Creative Media). I appreciated the talent, commitment and good nature of those I worked with – some of whom are still at the School: Minkang, Guobin, Lin Feng, Priscilla, Alisa, Helen Suen (whose unmatched administrative skills helped to professionalize the look and operation of the School), and Sandy Li and Cora Ho, whose skills and sunshine were so widely appreciated. I am, of course, delighted that, under the leadership of Dean Howells and with a talented faculty and staff, the School is in such good hands today.
Congratulations, CityU Law School! Young in age but rich in diversity, CityU Law School is now a leader in legal education in Asia. Congratulations to students and academics for the remarkable progress that the school has made. May I make a very special mention of the immeasurable service that the administrative staff (without mentioning any names: to pick any would be an injustice to any I miss) renders to the smooth functioning of the School. May the law school prosper.

Prof Anton Cooray

Congratulations for the 30th anniversary. I remember our modest beginnings in a commercial building tucked into the back streets of Mong Kok and the transition to the grander campus in Kowloon Tong. I was fortunate to have worked and collaborated with some talented colleagues who encouraged me to teach and research environmental law and intellectual property law. These two fields eventually laid the foundation for an inter-disciplinary interest in bio-diversity conservation that ultimately led to a PhD in law from Wuhan University in China. The path to the doctoral degree was challenging given that, prior, no foreigner had received one, so I appreciated the latitude which the University granted me to pursue it. Institutionally, I was quite proud to have contributed to our research and curricula development by founding two pioneering programmes: the Asia Pacific Law Review and the Global Gateway Masters of Law. Wishing continued success!

Dr Bryan Bachner
School of Law
Outstanding Alumni

The SLW is very proud of its many alumni and the important contributions they make to the delivery of the service of law to the community as solicitors, barristers, members of the judiciary, the DOJ and LEGCO, in-house counsel, NGOs and other organizations. Set out below are just a few of our outstanding alumni.
Ms Sandy Wong

Ms Sandy Wong, JP, graduated in 1994 from CityU LLB. She is a consultant at Liau, Ho & Chan, and a former consultant and Head of Legal of Maxim’s Caterers Limited.

Ms Wong has had an outstanding career of community service in Hong Kong. She is the Past President of Hong Kong Federation of Women Lawyers and current Chair of its Women’s Rights Committee and Anti-Human Trafficking Committee, and Co-chair of the Law Reform Committee and the Charity Committee. She is advisor to the Alumni Association of the School of Law of the City University of Hong Kong and the Institute of Active Ageing of Hong Kong Polytechnic University. She is a director of the Legal Education Trust. She is a member of the Social Enterprise Advisory Committee, the Town Planning Board, the Steering Committee on Review of the Regulation of Private Healthcare Facilities, the Audit Committee of the West Kowloon Cultural District Authority, the Chinese Medicine Practitioners Board and the Hong Kong Council on Smoking and Health, a council and court member of Hong Kong Baptist University, and Vice Chair of the Human Organ Transplant Board.
Mr Woody Chang

Mr Woody Chang obtained his LLB (Hons) degree with First Class Honours from CityU in 1992 and finished the PCLL at CityU in 1993.

Mr Chang joined Mayer Brown JSM as a trainee solicitor in 1993. He became a solicitor of the HKSAR in 1995 and a litigation partner of Mayer Brown JSM in 2001. He is now the co-head of the Medical Practice Group of Mayer Brown JSM. Mr Chang has extensive experience in advising and representing hospitals and healthcare professionals including doctors, dentists and nurses in civil and criminal litigation, mediation, disciplinary proceedings, judicial reviews, death inquests and various tribunal hearings. Mr Chang gives talks on numerous medico-legal topics. He is one of the Editorial Board members and authors of the Clinical Risk Management Handbook jointly published by the Medical Protection Society and the Hong Kong Medical Association. He is an author of many legal articles published in the Hong Kong Medical Association News and is the honourary legal advisor to many doctors’ professional organizations. He is also a member of the ethics committee of many medical institutions.
Mr Hectar Pun SC entered the LLB at CityU in September 1990 and completed it in 1993 after deferring for a year in 1992 to become the 7th President of its Students’ Union.

In the academic year of 1995–1996, he undertook the PCLL programme. He was called to the Bar in 1995 and further completed an LLM at King’s College London on the British Chevening Postgraduate Scholarship and an LLB from Peking University in subsequent years. In 2015, he was appointed as Senior Counsel, being the first CityU graduate to obtain silk.

He has served on the Bar Council of the Hong Kong Bar Association and a number of its subcommittees. Since 2016, he has been the Chairman of the Standing Committee on Civic Education and the Chairman of the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Human Rights.

Hectar’s extensive practice area includes administrative and constitutional law, human rights law, immigration law, land law, company law and commercial law. He regularly represents applicants in the Court of Final Appeal in judicial review proceedings and a majority of his clients are individuals and groups who are socially and legally disadvantaged.

Aside from professional practice, Hectar regularly teaches administrative and constitutional law at law schools in Hong Kong and Mainland China. He is an Adjunct Professor of Law both at CityU and HKU, receiving a Distinguished Alumni Award from the former in 2015. He has also been a guest lecturer at the Peking University Law School since 2011.
His Honour Judge Frankie Yiu Fun-che

His Honour Judge Frankie Yiu Fun-che obtained his LLB and PCLL from the City Polytechnic of Hong Kong in 1992 and 1993 respectively.

In 1993, he was called to the Bar in Hong Kong. He practiced at the Bar until February 2001 when he was appointed a permanent magistrate. He also obtained his LLM from the University of Hong Kong in 2007. He was appointed to the District Court Bench in September 2009.
His Honour Judge Edmond Lee Chun-man

His Honour Judge Edmond Lee Chun-man obtained his Bachelor of Laws with Honours (LLB) and Postgraduate Certificate in Laws (PCLL) from the City Polytechnic of Hong Kong in 1991 and 1992 respectively. He acquired a Master of Laws degree from the University of Hong Kong in 1997. He was admitted as a solicitor in Hong Kong and in England and Wales in 1994 and 1997 respectively. He was in private practice from 1994 until he joined the then Legal Department as Crown Counsel in 1996. He was promoted to Senior Government Counsel in the Department of Justice in 1999 and Deputy Principal Government Counsel in 2012. He took up the post of Senior Assistant Director of Public Prosecutions in 2012.

Judge Lee was appointed a District Court Judge with effect from 6 April 2017.
Ms Bonita Chan

Ms Bonita Chan obtained her LLB (Hons) in 1991 and her PCLL in 1992 from CityU. She was in the first batch of law graduates of CityU in 1991 and was for many years the chairlady of the CityU Law School Alumni Association.

Ms Chan was admitted as a solicitor in Hong Kong in 1994 and has since been in private practice for over 20 years. Her main practice is in commercial litigation, arbitration and dispute resolution. She regularly acts for banks, financial institutions, listed companies, corporate clients in disputes with cross border/multi-jurisdictional elements. Ms Chan is currently the head of litigation of the associated firm of Han Kun Law Offices in Hong Kong.

Ms Chan is a council member of the Law Society of Hong Kong. She is an external examiner for the PCLL at CityU and Chinese University. She is also a member of the PCLL Academic Board of CityU and the University of Hong Kong. Ms Chan has been an appointed member of the Higher Rights Assessment Board since 2016.
Dr Christopher To obtained multiple qualifications from CityU, namely his LLB (Hons) in 2006, his LLM in 1996 and his PCLL in 2008.

Dr To was the Secretary-General of the Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre from 1998 to 2008. He is now one of Hong Kong’s leading independent Accredited Mediators and Chartered Arbitrators and serves on the panels of various leading global alternative dispute resolution bodies. Dr To has arbitrated more than one hundred international cases involving both ad-hoc and institutional arbitrations and he has mediated many international and domestic cases. He is qualified as a chartered engineer and a chartered information technology professional. Dr To is currently practicing as a barrister-at-law at Gilt Chambers and he has returned to serve CityU as an adjunct law professor.

In recognition of his outstanding leadership and his contribution to the community, Dr To was honoured as the youngest Director of the Year in Hong Kong, in 2001, and in 2007 he was honoured as a Young Global Leader by the World Economic Forum.
Mr Joseph Vaughan, a practising barrister, was among the first batch of LLB graduates of City Polytechnic (now City University) in 1991, and obtained his PCLL at the University of Hong Kong in 1992.

He commenced his legal career as a trainee solicitor, but decided in the course of it to transfer to pupillage at the Bar. He was then called to the Hong Kong Bar in 1994. He was born and educated in Hong Kong, and is proficient in spoken and written Chinese. His main areas of practice are trust and property. He also has extensive experience in commercial and corporate disputes, as well as experience in commercial crime. He has also dealt with substantial cases of professional compliance and regulatory work recently.

He has served as a Deputy Magistrate in 2002 and as a Deputy District Judge in 2015, and is also a co-author of *Tort Law and Practice in Hong Kong* published by Sweet and Maxwell, Asia. Currently he is serving as a member of the Standing Committee on Discipline of the Hong Kong Bar Association, and has been an External Academic Advisor to the CityU School of Law for a number of years.
Mr Richard Khaw SC

Mr Richard Khaw SC was called to the Hong Kong Bar in 1993 and was appointed as Senior Counsel in 2016.

He completed his LLB and PCLL at City University of Hong Kong in 1992 and 1993 respectively. Thereafter, he studied the LLM course at the University of Cambridge, UK (on the Sir Edward Youde Memorial Fellowship for Overseas Studies) and graduated in 1994.

Mr Khaw’s practice at the Bar is primarily civil and commercial litigation. His work relates to commercial agreements (both international and domestic), shareholders’ disputes and joint venture agreements. Apart from court proceedings, Mr Khaw appears in both international (including LCIA arbitration proceedings in London) and domestic arbitrations. The cases he has handled also involve disputes on conflict of laws and enforcement of judgments and arbitral awards.

Mr Khaw is currently the Vice Chairman of the Hong Kong Bar Association’s Standing Committee on China Practice Development and Special Committee on Competition Law. He is a fellow of the Hong Kong Institute of Arbitrators and a CEDR accredited mediator.

Mr Khaw was appointed as Deputy District Judge in 2008. He is currently a member of (1) the PCLL Academic Board of the University of Hong Kong and City University of Hong Kong; (2) the Sub Committee on Archive Law of the Law Reform Commission of Hong Kong; (3) the Appeal Board of the Hong Kong Federation of Insurers.
Mr Kelvin Ka-yun Lee

Mr Kelvin Ka-yun Lee completed his LLB at the then City Polytechnic of Hong Kong and his PCLL at the City University in 1993 and 1994 respectively.

Inspired by his law teachers, he was called to the Hong Kong Bar in 1994 and was in private practice until 1998 when he joined the Prosecutions Division of the Department of Justice as a Government Counsel. Most of his time of service in the Department was spent in the Commercial Crime Unit. He specialized in money laundering and related offences. In particular, Kelvin gave advice to various law enforcement agencies, including matters in relation to the strength of the evidence of their cases, appropriate charges which might be laid concerning them and the venue of certain trials. Kelvin also prosecuted cases at various levels of courts and handled appeals.

In 2006, Kelvin left the Department of Justice and joined the Legislative Council Secretariat as one of the legal advisers until now. His current work includes assisting Members of the Council to understand various legislative proposals of the Government, and the legal aspects of various Government policies. Kelvin also helps provide legal advice to Members on various procedural issues involving the Council.
A student’s law school experience is not just about their study and their grades, but also about the many intangible aspects of being a student which enrich their lives and further their personal development. These range from the connections and friends they make, to simply having enjoyed the experiences and challenges of that special journey. On 9 September 2017, the SLW held a dinner in which earlier alumni shared their “happy memories” of the School of Law with the most recent graduates of the PCLL and current law students, some of which are shared below. This section features some of their most vivid recollections along with contributions from other past students and current staff.
Messages from Alumni and Current Students

My best memories in CityU Law School have to do with mootings and debating. It was our honour to win the Deacons Cup for the School – the first one. Through the debating competitions I also met my husband and we now have a 9-year-old child. So it is also a place I think dearly of. Happy 30th anniversary.

Sandy Wong

I had a very good time at the School of Law. The law school somehow was a home to me because I spent most of my time at the University, during my 4 years of LLB and PCLL, to study and prepare classes and tutorials. The school has friendly staff and they were very supportive. With the help and encouragement from different teaching staff, including Carol Jones, Nicky and Tony Upham, and of course there were many more that I could not list out here, they helped me to place my feet squarely on my path of reading the law. Their encouragement and advice are still helpful these days while practicing the law. I am truly grateful to the school and all the people I met there!

Tommy Wong
I miss the good old days of the law school when we were doing mooting. Thanks to the teachers and the law school for giving me the opportunity and for all the training and sharing. Most important of all, I thank them for sharing their life experience with me and giving all the inspiration which enlightened me, and shaped me into what I am now.

Kelvin Lee

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Time flies yet it still feels like only yesterday that I graduated from law school. I am proud to see the law school growing and becoming one of the best law schools in HK!

Bonita Chan
From left to right: Marcus Ng (LLB 2017; PCLL 2017–18), Saajandeep Singh (LLB 2015), Leung Yen San (LLB 2015), Henry Lui (LLB 2017; PCLL 2017–18) and Timothy Sham (LLB 2017; LLM 2017–18)

Thank you School of Law! Thank you for all the memories! Thank you for all the support! Thank you for giving us all the opportunities!

Timothy Sham
Henry Lui
Marcus Ng

I have had some unforgettable experiences at the CityU Law School during the 3 years that I have been here. The one moment which stands out for me is an event that occurred during my criminal justice class. We were learning about the reliability of eyewitness testimony, when an actor came into the class and began to threaten our teacher, Mr Burke. None of us knew that this was a meticulously planned stunt, and so we were all extremely shocked at what had just happened. I don’t think that I will ever forget the faces of my classmates after the actor left the class! Thank you for the memories and the great learning experience. Happy 30th anniversary!

Saajandeep Singh

Happy 30th anniversary! There is so much to talk about when it comes to fun memories in the Law School. But the trip to Serbia to do independent research is one of the best in the sense that I really got to see how professors and students have fun together. Cheers to more to come!

Leung Yen San
Thank you CityU for all the memories! The past five years have been thoroughly enjoyable – especially the moot, G-LEAP programmes and being able to work on my paper with Dr Kielsgard!

Holly Siu

Thank you so much School of Law for bringing us together.

Lexi Sun

Thanks a lot, CityU, for everything. The LLB, PCLL, the G-LEAP programmes and the knowledge I gained here really changed my life.

Irene Lai

From left to right: Ms Stella Leung (PCLL Programme Director), Holly Sui (PCLL 2017), Lexi Sun (PCLL 2017) and Irene Lai (PCLL 2017)
It has been an amazing year in CityU and I really appreciated how much support and care the tutors offered in the past year, and how strong the bonding between the alumni can be.

That was an education, thank you!

Harold Lai

When I am asked what my happiest memory of the SLW is, the first thing that hits my mind is always the classmates I met who have now turned into great friends. People say one cannot get true friends in University because you are all competitors after graduation. They cannot be more wrong. In CityU we have a supportive culture as we help each other to be better and we are happy to see each other succeed. This culture is truly special and long may it last!

Kay Chan
The SLW has been keen to provide students with overseas study opportunities at renowned universities. During my bachelor degree studies, I went to Monash University, Australia, to study Intellectual Property Law and to University College, Oxford, UK, to study European Competition Law. The knowledge and skills acquired are practical and useful in my career as a practising solicitor. The summer intensive courses were not only educational but also fun. I could travel and cook with my classmates, which can rarely be achieved in Hong Kong. It was a most rewarding experience for all of us. Apart from study, I was selected to participate in the legal placement at the Shanghai Intermediate People’s Court, as a result of which I acquired a better understanding of the judicial system in China. I thank my alma mater for providing all these golden opportunities to me and my fellow schoolmates.

Flora Leung

The SLW is a place where I have spent a very enjoyable five years, harvesting, way more than I expected when I first entered this place. This is a place that has turned me from a person knowing little about law, to a person who is going to be qualified as a solicitor in Hong Kong. This is a place where I had a lot of unforgettable moments — rushing to the assignment collection boxes to submit our papers, opening our pigeonholes with excitement when we received our results or marked assignments, having moot court competitions, preparing for PCLL advocacy exams in the hallway of the SLW and attending tutorials given by professors and tutors who are still good friends of ours. One thing, that we were told on the first day of law school remains true — this is a place where I can make life-long friends.

Cammy Man
Messages from Current Staff

Since I first came here 25 years ago in 1992, I have been fortunate to be blessed with so many happy memories.

Dr Priscilla Leung

Since joining CityU Law School in 1995, I have been witnessing its rapid growth and vibrant development. I am proud of being part of this promising community.

Prof Zhu Guobin
Among my favourite memories at CityU School of Law was coaching the moot court team for the International Criminal Court (ICC) Trial Competition 2012 held in The Hague in the Netherlands. The experience took over 8 months and several hundred hours of time. The students became increasingly better as the months wore on and were at their peak when they participated in the competition. They argued their cases before some of the top scholars and international judges in the world. The final round took place in the Appeals Chambers of the International Criminal Court (ICC) and was judged by a panel of sitting ICC judges. The speaker representing City University gave perhaps the best presentation by a student or a lawyer I have ever seen. When the bench retired most people in the room were practically speechless and coaches from other teams congratulated me on my team’s incredible skills. When the bench returned I was very pleased to hear the result that our team won the championship. We also won the best speaker and best prosecutor awards. During the awards ceremony, when our team won the best speaker award, I overheard two competitors from a different team say “Of course they won it”. In subsequent years when I am in The Hague judging that competition the organizer still asks about that team and she recently told me that though she remembers my 2012 team very well, she can’t remember any of the winning teams from other years. In the years that have passed, all the team members have entered the Hong Kong legal profession and thrived as barristers in prestigious chambers or associates at some of the best international law firms.

Dr Mark Kielsgard
In my role as an Adjunct Professor to the SLW I have had many fruitful, interesting, and satisfying years working principally with the PCLL. Along the way I have worked with many interesting and committed people, who have helped improve and develop the PCLL on a number of fronts.

Prof Christopher Roper