

**THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON
LEGAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING**

**ANNUAL REPORT
2014**

1 January 2014 to 31 December 2014

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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING

(1 January 2014 to 31 December 2014)

This is the ninth annual report of the Standing Committee. Section 74A of the Legal Practitioners Ordinance Cap. 159 (“Ordinance”) providing for the establishment of the Standing Committee and its functions is at Annexure 1.

Meetings

1. The Standing Committee met on four occasions during the reporting period from 1 January 2014 to 31 December 2014 (“Reporting Period”). Its composition is at Annexure 2.

Matters Considered

Long-Term Goals

2. The Standing Committee agreed the following to be the terms of reference for conducting a comprehensive study on legal education and training in Hong Kong:
 - (a) To review critically the present system of legal education and training in Hong Kong including its strengths and weaknesses;
 - (b) To advise on the requirements of a legal education and training system which is best capable of meeting the challenges of legal practice and the needs of Hong Kong society;
 - (c) In the light of the findings in (a) and (b) above, to make recommendations, including making proposals to improve the existing system or introducing an alternative model of legal education and training system, to ensure that such improved or alternative system is best capable of meeting those challenges and needs;
 - (d) To examine the present curricular of the various law programmes offered by the three universities and to make recommendations on such curricula to ensure that those entering the legal profession are best capable of meeting those challenges and needs;
 - (e) To advise on the feasibility of setting up a mechanism for measuring the quality and standard of legal education and training in Hong Kong so as to ensure that those entering the legal profession receive the best legal training for the maintenance or improvement of professional standards;
 - (f) To consider the current arrangements for the pre-qualification vocational training of trainee solicitors and pupils and to advise on the need (if any) and the way to

improve such vocational training.

3. The Standing Committee ascertained with various parties their interests and availability to act as consultants to conduct the study and has resolved to appoint one Hong Kong and two overseas consultants.
4. The Department of Justice has agreed to allocate HK\$1.5m as government funding for the study. Other stakeholders are considering whether to contribute to the funding.
5. It is expected the study may commence in the course of 2015. The consultants will be asked to make preparatory reading, conduct meetings and interviews with stakeholders, receive and review their submissions, prepare a consultation document, analyse the responses, report their findings and recommendations to the Standing Committee.

LLB, JD and PCLL

6. The Standing Committee continued to review the following legal education programmes:
 - (a) the reports on its LLB, JD and PCLL programmes by City University of Hong Kong (“CityU”) are at **Annexure 3**;
 - (b) the reports on its LLB, JD and PCLL programmes by The Chinese University of Hong Kong (“CUHK”) are at **Annexure 4**;
 - (c) the reports on its LLB, JD and PCLL programmes by The University of Hong Kong (“HKU”) are at **Annexure 5**.
7. A table consolidating the key statistics of the LLB, JD and PCLL programmes of the 3 law schools is at **Annexure 6**.

English Language Proficiency

8. The Sub-Committee on English Language Proficiency held one meeting during the Reporting Period to review the scores of the PCLL and LLB graduates in the International English Language Testing System (“IELTS”), and to discuss the requirements and policies on English language proficiency for applicants seeking admission to PCLL. In particular, the Sub-Committee considered the validity period of the IELTS results taking into account the University Grants Committee (“UGC”) discontinued the funding for students to take the IELTS test with effect from the 2014/15 academic year.
9. The Standing Committee considered the recommendations of the Sub-Committee and resolved to continue the following policy on English language requirement for the academic year 2013/14:
 - (a) the requirement for submission of an IELTS score by applicants seeking entry to the PCLL should be applied irrespective of an applicant’s point of origin;

- (b) a prescriptive / dispositive overall IELTS benchmark of 7 should be applied for entry to the PCLL;
- (c) applicants to the PCLL should be allowed to submit their IELTS results subsequent to their PCLL applications but no later than a fixed date to be mutually agreed by the PCLL providers;
- (d) no final offer should be made to a PCLL applicant by a PCLL provider unless it has received the applicant's IELTS results by the specified deadline;
- (e) applicants who have not submitted an IELTS score by the specified deadline should not be admitted to the PCLL;
- (f) the validity period of IELTS results for the purposes of applying for entry to the PCLL is 3 years and as such, to apply for entry to the PCLL, the IELTS results submitted must relate to an IELTS test taken not more than 3 years before the closing date of application for the PCLL.

10. The composition of the Sub-Committee is at Annexure 7.

Conversion Examination

11. The Conversion Examination Board met on three occasions during the Reporting Period to oversee the administration of the Conversion Examination including the following:
- (a) vetting of applications for exemption from sitting the Conversion Examination;
 - (b) review of examination results, irregularities in the examinations and moderation of the marks given by the examiners;
 - (c) review of examination syllabi and reading lists;
 - (d) appointment of examiners;
 - (e) consideration of enquiries from applicants;
 - (f) appointment of the Chief Examiner.
12. The Conversion Examination was held twice during the Reporting Period in January and June 2014 respectively.
13. The Companies Ordinance Cap. 622 came into operation on 3 March 2014. The Conversion Examination Board allowed candidates to elect to answer the questions in the examination paper on Business Associations with reference to either the Companies Ordinance Cap. 32 or the Companies Ordinance Cap. 622. In default of such election, candidates were taken to have answered the questions with reference to the Companies Ordinance Cap. 622. Information about this arrangement which only applied to the June 2014 Conversion Examination was published in the Examination Information Package and the cover of all answer books. The information was also posted on the website of the PCLL Conversion Examination and Administration Ltd. The Chief Invigilator reminded the candidates of the choice of choosing either of the Companies Ordinances during the announcements made prior to the examination.

14. 801 and 732 candidates took part in the Conversion Examination in eight different pre-requisite subjects in January and June 2014 as compared to 776 and 820 candidates respectively in the January and June 2013 Conversion Examinations.
15. The average pass rate of the subjects examined in January 2014 was 73.64% (as compared to 69.51% in the January 2013 results) and that in June 2014 was 71.77% (as compared to 68.5% in the June 2013 results).
16. The composition of the Conversion Examination Board is at **Annexure 8**.

Double Cohorts of law students graduating in the 2016/7 and 2017/8 academic years

17. The Standing Committee explored what information and assistance could be provided to the double cohorts in their quest for traineeship and pupillage. CityU, CUHK and HKU were asked to estimate the additional PCLL places required whereas the Education Bureau was asked to estimate the additional UGC funded places for PCLL to accommodate the double cohorts.

Manpower Planning by the Government

18. The Standing Committee considered the rationale behind the Government policy for not specifying any manpower requirement for the discipline of law in the 2016/17 – 2018/19 triennium.

Entry Requirements For PCLL

19. The Standing Committee considered the entry requirements for PCLL with particular reference to its applicability, if any, to local law graduates.

Overall position

20. Various stakeholders in the field of legal education and training contributed their views from different perspectives and the meetings of the Standing Committee have provided a useful forum in which they can address different issues of mutual concern in a constructive and collaborative manner.

Annexure 1

SECTION 74A OF THE LEGAL PRACTITIONERS ORDINANCE

74A. Standing Committee on Legal Education and Training

- (1) There is established by this section a Standing Committee on Legal Education and Training.
- (2) The functions of the committee are-
 - (a) to keep under review, evaluate and assess-
 - (i) the system and provision of legal education and training in Hong Kong;
 - (ii) without prejudice to the generality of subparagraph (i), the academic requirements and standards for admission to the Postgraduate Certificate in Laws programme;
 - (b) to monitor the provision of vocational training of prospective legal practitioners in Hong Kong by organizations other than the Society or the Hong Kong Bar Association;
 - (c) to make recommendations on matters referred to in paragraphs (a) and (b); and
 - (d) to collect and disseminate information concerning the system of legal education and training in Hong Kong.
- (3) The committee shall consist of-
 - (a) 17 members appointed by the Chief Executive of whom- (Amended 10 of 2005, s.184)
 - (i) 2 shall be persons nominated by the Chief Justice;
 - (ii) 1 shall be a person nominated by the Secretary for Justice;
 - (iii) 1 shall be a person nominated by the Secretary for Education (Amended L.N. 130 of 2007);
 - (iv) 2 shall be persons nominated by the Society;
 - (v) 2 shall be persons nominated by the Hong Kong Bar Association;
 - (vi) 2 shall be persons nominated by the Vice-Chancellor of the

Extract of Section 74A of the Legal Practitioners Ordinance

University of Hong Kong;

- (vii) 2 shall be persons nominated by the President of the City University of Hong Kong;
 - (viii) 2 shall be persons nominated by the Vice-Chancellor of The Chinese University of Hong Kong; (Added 10 of 2005 s.184)
 - (ix) 2 shall be members of the public; and
 - (ix) 1 shall be a person nominated by The Federation for Continuing Education in Tertiary Institutions, a non-profit-making educational organization, from among its members which provide continuing legal education courses in Hong Kong; and
- (b) a chairman appointed by the Chief Executive after consultation with the persons and organizations making nominations pursuant to paragraph (a)(i) to (viii) and (ix). (Amended 10 of 2005 s.184)
- (4) A member of the committee who is unable to attend a meeting of the committee, except for a member appointed pursuant to subsection (3)(a)(viii), may, subject to the consent of the chairman, send a substitute to attend the meeting in his place and the substitute shall be deemed to be a member of the committee for the purpose of that meeting.
 - (5) A member of the committee including the chairman shall hold office for a term not exceeding 2 years.
 - (6) A member of the committee including the chairman may at any time resign from the committee by giving notice in writing of his resignation to the Chief Executive.
 - (7) The Secretary for Justice may publish notice of the appointment or termination of membership of a member (including the chairman) appointed pursuant to this section in the Gazette.
 - (8) The committee shall report annually to the Chief Executive and its annual report shall be tabled in the Legislative Council.
 - (9) The committee may determine its own procedure.

Annexure 2

THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Chairman: The Honourable Mr. Justice Patrick CHAN Siu-oi,
G.B.M.

Members: The Honourable Mr. Thomas AU Hing-cheung
(on the nomination of the Chief Justice)

The Honourable Mr. Justice Godfrey LAM Wan-ho, J.P.
(on the nomination of the Chief Justice)

Mr. Peter WONG Hing-hong
(on the nomination of the Secretary for Justice)

Mr. Wallace LAU Ka-ki
Principal Assistant Secretary (Higher Education),
Education Bureau
(on the nomination of the Secretary for Education)

Mr. Albert WONG Kwai-huen, B.B.S., J.P.
(on the nomination of The Law Society of Hong Kong)

Mr. Dieter YIH Lai-tak, J.P.
(on the nomination of The Law Society of Hong Kong)

Mr. Edward CHAN King-sang, S.C., J.P.
(on the nomination of Hong Kong Bar Association)

Mr. Michael YIN Chi-ming
(on the nomination of Hong Kong Bar Association)

Professor Johannes CHAN Man-mun, S.C.
Dean of Law, The University of Hong Kong
(from August 2005 to June 2014)
Professor Michael HOR Yew Meng
Dean of Law, The University of Hong Kong
(from July 2014)
(on the nomination of the Vice-Chancellor of The
University of Hong Kong)

Mr. Malcolm MERRY
Head of the Department of Professional Legal Education,
Faculty of Law, The University of Hong Kong
(from September 2011 to June 2014)

Mr. Wilson CHOW Wai-shun
Head of the Department of Professional Legal Education,
Faculty of Law, The University of Hong Kong
(from July 2014)
(on the nomination of the Vice-Chancellor of The
University of Hong Kong)

Professor LIN Feng
Acting Dean, School of Law, City University of Hong
Kong
(from August 2013 to August 2014)
Professor HOWELLS, Geraint
Dean & Chair Professor of Commercial Law, School of
Law, City University of Hong Kong
(from September 2014)
(on the nomination of the President of City University of
Hong Kong)

Ms. Sushma SHARMA
Programme Leader of the Postgraduate Certificate in
Laws, School of Law, City University of Hong Kong
(from September 2009 to June 2014)

Mr. Mitchell D. STOCKS
Programme Leader of the Postgraduate Certificate in
Laws, School of Law, City University of Hong Kong
(from September 2014)
(on the nomination of the President of City University of
Hong Kong)

Professor Christopher GANE
Dean, Faculty of Law, The Chinese University of Hong
Kong
(on the nomination of the Vice-Chancellor of The
Chinese University of Hong Kong)

Mr. Richard MORRIS
Assistant Dean (Graduate Studies), Faculty of Law, The
Chinese University of Hong Kong
(on the nomination of the Vice-Chancellor of The
Chinese University of Hong Kong)

Mr. Ronald KWOK Wing-chung
(from February 2014)
(Member appointed under S74A(3)(a)(viii) of the Legal
Practitioners Ordinance Cap.159 (“Ordinance”))

Mr. Alvin WONG Tak-wai
(Member appointed under S74A(3)(a)(viii) of the
Ordinance)

Dr. Tommy HO Koon-ki
(on the nomination of The Federation for Self-financing
Tertiary Education)

Secretary:

Ms. Vivien LEE, Director of Standards & Development
The Law Society of Hong Kong

Annexure 3

School of Law City University of Hong Kong

LLB Status Report (January to December 2014) to the Standing Committee on Legal Education and Training

March 2015

This is a status report on the LLB (Hons) Degree Programme (LLB Programme) offered by the School of Law (“the School”), City University of Hong Kong (the University). The report covers the period from 1 January 2014 to 31 December 2014.

During the period of this report, the LLB Programme was offered only in full-time (UGC-funded) study mode.

1. 2014/15 Admissions

In the 2014/15 academic year, the School admitted 54 full-time LLB students in total, including:

- 33 JUPAS applicants (from HKDSE)
- 14 non-JUPAS applicants
- 5 Mainland students
- 2 students from other Asian Countries/ Regions

1.1 JUPAS Admissions

In 2014, the School received a total of 558 qualified applications for the 2014 JUPAS entry. All students admitted through JUPAS have good English proficiency, having attained “5” or above in English Language (HKDSE). Admission interviews were conducted in July 2014.

1.2 Direct Applicants (local and international)

The School received a total of 282 non-JUPAS (including local and non local) applications. The selection criteria include the assessment of applicants’ academic performance, personal statements and achievements in other relevant activities. In addition, they must all have achieved an IELTS overall score of “7” or above, TOEFL score of over 100 (internet-based) or 600 (paper-based) or equivalent English proficiency qualifications. The quality of applicants was generally high, with some of them being degree holders.

Individual face-to-face admission interviews were conducted with those applicants located in Hong Kong and via telephone with those overseas.

1.3 Admission Scholarships

The School established the Admission Scholarship in 2008 to attract high quality students to

enroll in the LLB Programme. The Scholarship is awarded to outstanding secondary school students, who are nominated by school principals and admitted to the LLB Programme through the JUPAS and Direct Application. The maximum value of each scholarship is HK\$50,000.

In 2014, 8 LLB year one students received the scholarship. These students have achieved outstanding results in both public examination and extra-curricular activities.

1.4 Professional Accounting and Legal Studies Stream

The Professional Accounting and Legal Studies Stream (PALS) is jointly offered by the School and the Accountancy Department since 2012. The PALS aims to provide students with a broad-based business education and a specialisation in a legal background. Students in the PALS stream can have a chance to pursue the LLB Programme upon graduation from their PALS.

2. Academic Standards

Several mechanisms have been put in place to maintain high academic standards in the LLB. First, the School uses External Academic Advisors from a number of leading universities to monitor standards. Second, the School established an International Advisory Board (IAB) in 2007. The IAB comprised of judges, experienced legal practitioners, principals from local secondary schools and renowned professors from law schools such as Harvard, Oxford and Yale. The IAB members provide periodic advice to the School on academic standards, curriculum development and assessment practices.

3. Programme Structure

The LLB Programme requirement is 126 credits contributed by the core courses, Law for Professional Qualification Minor, Gateway Education courses and free electives. Students are required to take the core courses including Legal Research and Writing, Hong Kong Legal System, Legal System of the PRC, Law of Contract, Law of Tort, Land Law, Constitutional Law, Administrative Law, Criminal Law, Legal Chinese, Mooting, Applied Legal Theory and Company Law.

In addition to the core courses, students must complete the Law for Professional Qualification Minor for entry to PCLL. The Minor includes the following courses: Law of Evidence, Equity and Trusts, Commercial Law, Civil Procedure and Criminal Procedure.

Students who do not wish to enter the legal profession have the option of taking other Minors such as Accountancy, Finance, Global Business, Marketing, Psychology, Language Minor or more free law electives.

The School has introduced optional stream into LLB Programme in 2012 to give our students an edge in the job market. The streams are Chinese and Comparative Law stream, Commercial Law stream, and Dispute Resolution stream. The streams represent School's traditional strengths and current trends in legal education worldwide.

In order to satisfy the requirements of a stream, a student has to take a minimum of 15 credit units from among courses specified for the stream. These 15 credit units (5 courses) count towards the minimum number of credit units a student has to complete to qualify for the law degree.

4. Teaching and Learning

The LLB courses were redesigned in accordance with Outcome Based Teaching and Learning (OBTL). The Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs) have been aligned with the Major Intended Learning Outcomes (MILOs).

The MILOs of the LLB Programme specified that upon successful completion of the Programme, students should be able:

- (1) to analytically and critically describe the main substantive/procedural laws and the legal system of Hong Kong, and also describe the principles of international law or the laws of other jurisdictions;
- (2) to describe the law and legal system of the People's Republic of China and its relation with Hong Kong's constitutional set-up and commercial future;
- (3) to apply the law to solve legal problems;
- (4) to critically evaluate the law in action and the dynamic interplay between law and other social phenomena and real-life situations;
- (5) to use a range of legal or intellectual skills – such as reading and interpreting cases and statutes, identifying and evaluating relevant facts, conducting independent legal research, developing and offering solutions to legal problems, using and citing relevant authorities appropriately, drafting documents, and communicating in a coherent, cogent and persuasive manner – in performing various tasks;
- (6) to act with a strong sense of ethics and with due regard to social and professional responsibilities;
- (7) to develop an attitude of inquiry and a sense of curiosity to learning and knowledge;
and
- (8) to have an opportunity to make an original discovery and/ or innovation concerning the operation of the law and procedure in Hong Kong.

Following the University's initiative, the Discovery-Enriched Curriculum (DEC) is well-integrated into the LLB curriculum. Under the DEC, students are given opportunity to make an original discovery and/ or innovation concerning the operation of the law and procedure in Hong Kong.

5. Assessment

The LLB courses are assessed by a combination of class participation and presentation, coursework and examination. To pass a particular course, students must obtain an aggregate mark of 40% and a minimum of 30% in each of the coursework and the examination elements of the assessment.

6. Exchange Programmes

The SLW have a number of exchange programmes with foreign Universities. Exchange activities form an important element in the acquisition of both general transferable skills and legal knowledge. Students are strongly encouraged to take part in the exchange programmes. The SLW has entered into agreements with prestigious overseas and Mainland Chinese universities for such purposes. Current student exchange programmes include University of Amsterdam, the Law School of Erasmus University Rotterdam, Jonkoping International Business School, Monash University, Montreal University, University of Mannheim, Qingdao University of Technology Law School, Renmin University of China, Shanghai Jiaotong University, Sun Yat-sen University, Universidad Pontificia Comillas and William & Mary Law School.

In 2014, 24 students from overseas jurisdictions, including Australia, Canada, China, France, New Zealand and Sweden studied at the City University Law School as exchange students. The School sent out 2 LLB students to the university in Korea and the Netherlands.

7. Global Legal Education and Awareness Project (G-LEAP)

In order to complement the conventional semester-long exchange programmes and to produce law graduates equipped with the breadth of knowledge and skills to navigate the challenges of the globalised working environment, the School in 2007 launched the G-LEAP initially for LLB and subsequently for JD students. The G-LEAP is a one month intensive mode programme in which students study in prestigious overseas law schools. In the summer of 2014, 26 LLB students spent a month in Australia at the Faculty of Law, Monash University, to study a credit-bearing law course *Intellectual Property: Theory, Copyright and Design*. Similarly, 26 LLB students spent a month in the United Kingdom at the University College, Oxford, to study a credit-bearing law course *European Competition Law and Policy*. 24 LLB students also went to the Columbia Law School in the United States to study short law courses, such as *Civil Procedure, Constitutional Law, Introduction to Corporate Transactions and Mediation* in June 2014.

The School has received very positive feedback on G-LEAP from students who took these courses. In particular the comparative focus of these courses and the learning environment that were made available to them.

8. Legal Placements

The School has incorporated legal placements in the credit-bearing curriculum of the LLB Programme. The objective of this course is to provide students with a structured opportunity to obtain practical experience from working in law offices or in a law-related working

environment. Currently, the course provides legal work experience in Hong Kong and Mainland China. In the summer of 2014, 25 students completed a one-month legal placement across a range of diverse places (including legal departments of international companies, barristers' chambers, local/international law firms, financial institutions and government department) in Hong Kong. Furthermore, 17 students participated in the Mainland Legal Placement Programme. Students received two-week training at Renmin University. They would also be attached to the local court of the major cities in China. Participation in the placement provided students with a structured opportunity to acquire practical experience through working in a legally related working environment.

9. Mooting Competitions

The School considers mooting, especially participation in international mooting competitions, to be an integral part of students' legal education, as it provides students with an opportunity to broaden and sharpen their advocacy skills. To this end, the School provides them with extensive training in order to participate in both internal and international mooting competitions. During the reporting period, our LLB students achieved an outstanding level of success in the following international mooting competitions.

The LLB students participated in international mooting competitions and achieved commendable results, including the following:

Championship

- *Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition (Hong Kong Regional Round) from 8 to 9 March 2014*
One LLB student won the Third Best Speaker. The team also won the awards of Best Respondent and Applicant Memorandum. In the International Round held from 6 to 12 April 2014, the CityU team made history by advancing to the knock-out round. One LLB student was ranked 13th among the top 100 individual oralist.

Other Achievements

- *Eleventh Annual Willem C. Vis (East) International Commercial Arbitration Moot in Hong Kong from 31 March to 6 April 2014*
The team was awarded the 16th finalist out of 99 teams and received the Honorable Mention for the Respondent Memorandum.
- *Twenty First Annual Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot from 12 April to 17 April 2014 in Vienna, Austria*
A total of 290 teams took part in the competition and our team ranked 25th at the end of the general round. The team also received the Honorable Mention for the Respondent Memorandum.

Participation in these competitions provides students with an opportunity to develop their advocacy skills and interact with students from other jurisdictions.

10. City University of Hong Kong Law Review

The idea behind this is for students to work together to edit a law journal: *City University of Hong Kong Law Review (CityU LR)*. First launched in October 2009, the *CityU LR* publishes two issues annually. Student editors work jointly under the mentorship of faculty members and guidance of the IAB (International Academic Board) members of the School. The work of the students has won great acclaim. Due to its immense success, editing the *CityU LR* is offered as an LLB law elective.

11. Conclusion

In light of the above-mentioned achievements and very positive feedback from external academic advisers, students and staff, we are pleased to report the smooth and successful operation of the LLB Programme in the last year. In the near future, we are exploring more collaboration opportunities with the prestigious overseas universities to allow flexible one semester student exchange arrangement. Meanwhile, Legal Research and Writing course will be reviewed to include more robust skills training and research methodology. In addition, the LLB Programme team is taking positive measures to recruit and increase the number of international students.

Dr. Rebecca Ong
LLB Programme Leader
School of Law
City University of Hong Kong

**POSTGRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN LAWS (PCLL)
at City University of Hong Kong
2014 Annual Report**

1. The School of Law (“SLW”) received **573** full-time applications and **553** part-time applications for the academic year 2014/2015 for the PCLL, of which **76%** selected CityU as their first choice for both the full-time and part-time programmes. **181** full-time offers and **57** part-time offers were made by the SLW and eventually **160** full-time students and **51** part-time students were admitted to the PCLL programme¹.

In relation to the successful applicants for the full-time cohort, **53** received UGC funded places and **107** received non-UGC funded places. About **70%** of those UGC funded places were given to CityU graduates. All part-time applicants received non-UGC funded places.

As at 31 October 2014, there were **159** full-time students and **50** part-time students studying the PCLL. Two PCLL students (one from the full-time programme and one from the part-time programme) withdrew in September 2014 due to personal reasons.

The 2014/2015 PCLL full-time programme is comprised of **62%** CityU graduates and **38%** of students who graduated from other institutions. The PCLL part-time cohort was comprised of **67%** of graduates from CityU and **33%** of students who graduated from other institutions.

The following matters are noted in relation to the admissions process:

1. The Admissions Committee began reviewing applications in March 2014 and on a regular basis thereafter. This enabled a number of early offers [both conditional and unconditional] to be made to academically strong applicants.
2. **12** applicants to whom conditional offers were made were unable to take up their place (most of them being unsuccessful in one or more of the Conversion Exam Board examinations). **13** applicants declined their offers due to personal reasons. **2** part-time applicants were given full-time places in late August.
3. No student was enrolled with a Third Class Law Degree or equivalent. All students enrolled attained the minimum IELTS standard or above.
4. The SLW interviewed **49** non-CityU applicants and gave offers to **30** of these applicants.

¹ The SLW admitted a single part-time cohort for academic year 2014/2015 to give past part-time JD students an opportunity to take the PCLL while working. This cohort will complete the programme at the end of the 2015/2016 academic year.

2. Class Size

We continued to limit our small group size to 10 students except for some of the elective courses where the students opting for the elective are taught in either the seminar style or the number of students is around 11.

3. Assessment Regime and Outcomes

3.1 Assessment Regime

As previously reported, all written assessments are taken under controlled conditions and the assessment of oral presentations continues to be videoed as backup and for review of the first examiners' assessments. Certain courses continue to be assessed by mid-term written examinations as well as end of term examinations.

3.2 Assessment Outcomes

2012-13:

No. of students who failed PCLL:	5
No. of students who sat resits:	47

2013-14:

No. of students who failed PCLL:	0
No. of students who sat resits:	47

4. Staffing

In 2013-14, 15 full-time staff and 22 part-time staff (practitioners) taught in the PCLL programme. Eleven practitioners from Cheng Huan QC, SC Chambers taught Criminal Litigation Practice Large Groups. Mr Winston Zhao, partner of McDermott Will & Emery LLP, a leading lawyer in the area of China Law practice, conducted an elective course in Foundations in Mainland Related Legal Transactions.

In 2014-15, 15 full-time staff and 37 part-time staff (practitioners) taught in the PCLL programme. Mr Winston Zhao, continued to conduct an elective course in Foundations in Mainland Related Legal Transactions. The increase in part-time staff resulted from the need to teach 50 additional students in the part-time programme.

Many teaching staff members have taught PCLL for some time while continuing their legal practice and provide valuable input on current practice.

5. Curriculum

There are twelve core courses: Interlocutory Advocacy and Interviewing; Trial Advocacy; Mediation and Negotiation; Litigation Writing and Drafting; Commercial

Writing and Drafting; Conveyancing Practice; Wills and Probate Practice; Corporate and Commercial Practice; Civil Litigation Practice; Criminal Litigation Practice; Professional Conduct and Practice; and Understanding Financial Statements and Solicitors' Accounts.

Students must also take two courses from the following six electives: Bar Course; Foundations in Mainland Related Legal Transactions; International Arbitration Practice; Family Law Practice; Financial Regulatory Practice; and Personal Injuries Practice. Owing to insufficient demand from students, International Arbitration Practice was not offered in 2014/2015.

Changes for 2013/2014

There were no changes for the 2013/2014 academic year.

Changes for 2014/2015

There are no particular curriculum changes except that we are offering the part-time programme one last time during the 2014/2015 and 2015/2016 academic years.

6. The Future

We plan to maintain our strengths and the dedicated space that we give to the PCLL students. The dedicated small group rooms are being renovated to include reconfigurable tables, a fixed laptop, projector and screen, additional white boards and blackout curtains to accommodate our use of Canvas, our e-learning platform, and Google Documents and other innovative teaching methods. The use of Canvas and Google Documents allows students to collaborate on projects and gives teachers the means to contribute feedback on student work electronically. We also plan to hire new practitioners for teaching in the programme. We have not introduced any significant changes to the curriculum in the 2014/2015 academic year.

7. Involvement of the Profession

We are very happy to report that the profession has been very involved with the training of the PCLL students. Involvement has been in the form of guest presentations on different topics, assistance in assessment; mock trials conducted in the High Court and participation in the demonstrations in various advocacy courses, and also participation in the mock interview for will drafting in the Will and Probate Practice course.

8. Conclusion

We are committed to educating and training tomorrow's lawyers. Our focus is on the holistic development of our students. Apart from practical skills training, we instill in them the value of collaboration, the importance of ethics and the joy of community service. We are proud of our graduates, and with every single graduating student, we

are adding an asset to the legal community of Hong Kong.

We are also keen to develop lawyers with a global view given the importance of Hong Kong as a financial center and crossroad community. Thus, our courses train our students to work competently with lawyers from other jurisdictions.

We welcome input from the profession and look forward to working with all constituents to move our programme to its next level of excellence.

Mitchell Stocks
PCLL Programme Leader
School of Law
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March 2015

School of Law, City University of Hong Kong

JD Status Report to the Standing Committee on Legal Education and Training

(March 2015)

1. Backdrop

The JD (Juris Doctor) programme is a graduate entry law programme for applicants who have a non-law bachelor degree or an undergraduate law degree from a non-common law jurisdiction. JD graduates may enter the legal profession in Hong Kong after completing the Postgraduate Certificate in Laws (PCLL) or use the gained legal knowledge and skills in other professions.

This status report on the JD Programme at the School of Law (School) of City University of Hong Kong (CityU) covers the period from 1 January to 31 December 2014. Since the part-time JD programme was discontinued in 2010, we only offer the full-time programme to new entrants.

2. 2014/2015 Admission

The minimum entry requirements for admission to JD is (i) a bachelor's degree in a non-law discipline, or (ii) a bachelor's degree in law from a non-common law jurisdiction obtained after at least eight semesters of full-time study. Moreover, applicants must also be proficient in English. For applicants whose entrance qualification is obtained from an institution where the medium of instruction is not English, the minimum English language proficiency requirement is:

- a TOEFL score of 600 (paper-based test) or 100 (internet-based); or
- an overall band score of 7 in IELTS with no individual score below 6.5; or
- a total of 520 in the mainland China's College English Test (Band 6).

Entry to the JD programme has been quite competitive. The number and quality of applications has remained strong. The School received a total of 436 applications for admission to JD in 2014-15. The School admitted 83 students in the JD programme in 2014, 24.1 per cent of which had a postgraduate degree. The intake quality of students admitted to the JD Programme in 2014-15 has maintained a steady pace of improvement. For example, in 2014-15, 96.35% per cent of admitted students had Upper Second Class or above.

Several outreach initiatives (e.g., placing advertisements and advertorials in local newspapers and education supplements, holding an Information Talk and school's participation in the Hong Kong Law Fair every year) were taken to attract applicants from all over the world. Our applicants come from diversified academic background such as accounting, marketing, finance, economics, business administration, management, engineering, civil law, language, history, chemistry, philosophy and politics, psychology, sociology, criminology and journalism. This diversity of the JD student body enhances greatly the quality of class interactions and discussions.

In 2014, the JD Admissions Scholarship was continued to be awarded to students with outstanding academic performance. A maximum number of 10 scholarships could be awarded in each academic year: up to 5 recipients could receive a scholarship of HK\$60,000 each and up to 5 recipients could receive a scholarship of HK\$40,000 each. In 2014-15, 10 scholarships were offered on the basis of academic merit.

Subsequent to students' admission to the programme, a tea gathering for newly admitted students was organized. This event provided students an opportunity to know each other better and learn about various academic opportunities offered by the School.

3. Programme Structure

With effect from 2013-14, the JD programme comprises a total of 72 credit units. Students have to complete the following three required courses (each worth 3 credits): Legal Systems of Hong Kong and Mainland China; Legal Methods, Research and Writing; and Jurisprudence. They must also complete either Independent Research (3 credits) or Dissertation (6 credits) to satisfy the research requirement of JD. The remaining credits can be made up by enrolling in elective courses. The JD Programme structure allows students to take five non-PCLL required electives (worth 15 credits).

The JD programme provides the necessary course requirements for admission to the PCLL programme. Apart from the requirement concerning the required courses and the research course, students are required to complete the following courses if they wish to pursue the PCLL Programme in future: Law of Contract, Law of Tort, Constitutional Law, Administrative Law, Criminal Law I and II, Land Law I and II, Law of Evidence, Equity and Trusts, Company Law I and II, Commercial Law, Civil Procedure, and Criminal Procedure.

Students who do not wish to join the legal profession can still benefit from the JD programme by choosing a range of elective courses hosted by the JD, LLM and LLMArbDR Programmes. The School offers a wide variety of elective courses such as public international law, cyber law, banking law, law of succession, family law of Hong Kong, energy and environmental law, international air law, intellectual property law, international trade law, Chinese and comparative company law, dispute resolution in theory and practice, Chinese and comparative commercial law, Chinese foreign trade and investment law, maritime insurance law, and current issues in WTO law.

JD students have an option to specialise in any one of the following areas by taking any four elective courses (12 credits) from the respective list below:

- 1) **International Commercial Law:** LW6161E Competition Law; LW5631 Banking Law; LW5664 European Competition Law and Policy; LW5641 Intellectual Property: Theory, Copyright and Design; LW6543 Cyber Law, LW6144E International Trade Law; LW6140E Chinese and Comparative Commercial Law; LW6180E International Commercial Contracts and Uniform Sales Law; LW6167E Current Issues in WTO Law
- 2) **Alternative Dispute Resolution:** LW6126E Dispute Resolution in Theory and Practice; LW6405 Arbitration Law; LW6406 Mediation Practice; LW6407 Arbitration Practice and Award Writing; LW6408 International Arbitration; LW6142E International Investment Law; and LW5649 International Mooting and Advocacy (3 credits) OR LW5649B International Mooting and Advocacy (6 credits).

- 3) **Chinese and Comparative Law:** LW5626 Comparative Law; LW6127E Chinese and Comparative Intellectual Property Law; LW6134E Chinese and Comparative Company Law; LW6140E Chinese and Comparative Commercial Law; LW6141E Chinese Foreign Trade and Investment Law
- 4) **Air and Maritime Law:** LW6175E Maritime Insurance Law; LW6178E Oceans, Law and Policy; LW6179E Maritime Arbitration Law; LW6182E Carriage of Goods by Sea; LW6183E Maritime Claims and Practices in Admiralty; LW6176E International Air Law; and LW5649 International Mooting and Advocacy (3 credits) OR LW5649B International Mooting and Advocacy (6 credits).

Depending upon the interest of students and the course offering in future, these areas of specialisation may be modified. The offering of the above courses may also be reviewed and amended from time to time subject to the availability of the teaching staff.

Students who choose or do not choose to specialise in any one area will receive the award title as Juris Doctor (法律博士).

In pursuance of City University's new policy on streamlining award titles, it has been decided that from 2015-16 onwards the award titles will not include areas of specialisation. Rather the specialised area, if elected by a student, will appear on the transcript.

4. Teaching and Learning

The School promotes active and interactive learning. All JD courses were earlier redesigned in accordance with the Outcomes Based Teaching and Learning (OBTL). Under OBTL, the teaching/learning activities and the assessment tasks are aligned with the Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs). CILOs are then aligned with the Programme Intended Learning Outcomes (PILOs). The PILOs of the JD programme stipulate that after completing the programme, students should be able to:

- 1) explain and assess specified areas of the law and legal system of Hong Kong, with particular emphasis on the law in action and the dynamic interplay between law and other social phenomena;
- 2) assess the common law system and its values, and its interaction with the law and the legal system of mainland China, the East Asian region and the wider world;
- 3) explain, interpret and apply main principles of ethics, civil duty, and social and professional responsibility;
- 4) critically assess the strengths and weaknesses of law as a means of regulating society in the context of competing and conflicting interests; and
- 5) demonstrate and apply skills of legal analysis and reasoning, of legal research problem solving, and of oral and written communication, to a level appropriate to a graduate-entry degree in law.

To be in line with City University's initiative of Discovery-enriched Curriculum (DEC), various DEC elements have been incorporated into JD courses. Students are encouraged to think critically, explore new socio-legal issues and produce papers of high quality.

Students get three direct contact hours for each course every week. Classes are generally conducted as a combination of lectures and small group tutorials, though certain courses are taught in a seminar style. JD students do not share classes with undergraduate LLB students.

5. Assessment

The assessment pattern for most courses is in the form of an assignment, in-class participation and final examination. Since all JD courses are offered at a postgraduate level and students are expected to achieve a suitable standard of competency, students are required to achieve a minimum of 40 per cent marks in each of the assessment components. Students are provided written feedback on their assignment before the final examination.

6. Academic Quality

The School maintains the academic quality of the JD programme by having in place a rigorous system of external academic advisors. All examination papers are subjected to internal and an external moderation whereby the examination papers are reviewed by the School's cluster groups and the external examiners. The mechanism serves to ensure that the examination papers are in conformity with international standards. The JD Programme Leader ensures that the feedback provided by external examiners is taken on board by respective course leaders.

In addition to the system of external examiners, the School has constituted an International Advisory Board (IAB) comprising judges, experienced legal practitioners and renowned professors from law schools such as Harvard, Oxford, Columbia, Yale, Monash, Vienna, and Paris 1. The IAB members participate in the School's annual retreats and provide advice in relation to academic standards, curriculum development and assessment practices.

7. Exchange Opportunities

The School recognises the importance of providing students overseas exchange opportunities. Overseas exchanges provide a platform for students to exchange ideas and experiences about different legal issues and legal systems. The School has entered into collaborative agreements with several leading universities such as Maine University, University of San Francisco, Jonkoping University, University of Monash, William & Mary Law School, Case Western Reserve University, O.P. Jindal Global University and Hofstra University. During the academic year 2014-15, we received five incoming postgraduate exchange students from the universities in the US, the Netherland and Sweden. The School sent out one JD student to a university in US.

We have signed a postgraduate exchange agreement with the University of Vienna, which allows our JD students to spend one semester to undertake a study load of 30 ECTS in Vienna and obtain an LLM from University of Vienna. During March-June 2014, seven JD students

spent a semester at Vienna in pursuance of this agreement. The School has also signed a similar collaboration agreement with the University Paris 1 whereby JD students can obtain two degrees in three years. One JD student participated in the programme during January-April 2014.

8. Co-curricular and/or Overseas Academic Activities

The learning environment of JD students is immensely enriched by their participation in some of the following activities:

International Mooting Competitions

As participation in mooting competitions greatly enhances students' mooting and advocacy skills, the School continues to facilitate students' participation in various regional and international mooting competitions by providing extensive training and financial support for them. Two JD students, Li Simin and Chu Joshua Allen Kiu Wah, participated in the ADR mooting competition in August 2014. We anticipate that more students may join in the forthcoming mooting competitions.

Legal Placement

The credit-bearing Legal Placement course provides JD students with opportunities to do internship not only in Hong Kong but also in mainland China. The placement enhances students' hands-on experiences apart from the theoretical learning. In Hong Kong, students were placed in various legal departments, financial institutions, chambers and law firms. To enhance students' global exposure, some of them were placed in different courts in Shanghai for four weeks after attending Chinese law courses at the Renmin University of China for two weeks. In 2014 Summer, 46 JD students participated in legal placement in Hong Kong and six JD student joined the internship in mainland China.

Global Legal Education Awareness Project (G-LEAP)

G-LEAP aims to promote excellence in legal education with a view to providing opportunities for our law students to have a global perspective in the study of law. In the 2014 summer, nine JD students took "Intellectual Property: Theory Copyright and Design" at Monash University, four studied "European Competition Law and Policy" at University College Oxford, and six studied law courses at the Columbia Law School. Students enrolled in these credit-bearing elective courses were taught on an intensive basis by the faculty members of these leading law schools.

City University of Hong Kong Law Review (CityU LR)

The School of Law launched the student-edited law journal in 2009. Every year, about twenty students are selected and trained by the Faculty Editor to edit the journal. In the 2014-15 Editorial Board, there are seven JD students. The Editorial Board of the *CityU LR* is supported by a strong International Board of Advisors, chaired by Chief Justice Ma, Chief Justice of the Court of Final Appeal, HKSAR. From 2010-11 onwards, an elective law course has been introduced to harness the writing and editing skills of the Board members. The *CityU LR* is available through HeinOnline and Westlaw.

9. Library and Other Facilities

The Law Section of the Run Run Shaw Library has an excellent collection of law materials including print and electronic resources as well as an extensive array of research support facilities. Two discussion rooms are open to students, one of which is for moot preparation. Law school members and students can also access the full range of collections and services of the Main Library.

Apart from library facilities, the School is also equipped with excellent teaching facilities including a video seminar room and a moot court room.

10. Looking Ahead

The JD programme at CityU, the first one in the town, is doing well and our JD graduates are highly sought after by local as well as international law firms. We aim to continue offering excellent global learning environment to our students. In coming years, the School aims to provide more extensive legal research and writing training to JD students and also enhance opportunities for them to study in more overseas common law jurisdictions. We also aim to offer more elective courses and enhance the legal placement opportunities available to JD students both in Hong Kong and overseas.

Dr Surya Deva
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Annexure 4

The Chinese University of Hong Kong Faculty of Law

Report on the LLB Programme (Reporting period: January to December 2014)

1. Admissions

The LLB programme has an annual admission quota of 70 with effect from 2012. Due to the high demand for a place in the programme by high quality applicants, the programme admitted 74 students (including 46 JUPAS students, 23 non-JUPAS students, 3 mainland students, and 2 internal transfer students) for the 2014 September intake.

The LLB programme remains among the Chinese University's top ten undergraduate programmes in terms of the median University Weighted Grade Point Average (UWGPA) of JUPAS students admitted in 2014. As in previous years, the number of JUPAS and NON-JUPAS applications remains steady.

Although there has been some concern in the media about non-JUPAS students being from wealthier families who can afford to send their children to international schools or overseas for their education, many local schools now offer an international curriculum such as the International Baccalaureate (IB). The Faculty will continue to admit students on the basis of academic ability and perceived aptitude for the study of law.

2. Course Offering

In addition to the core courses, the LLB programme continues to offer a wide range of electives. New elective courses were approved, including *Information and Privacy Law*, *Cultural Heritage Law*, *Employment Law*, *The Clinic for Public Interest Advocacy*, and *Unjust Enrichment*.

3. Use of Chinese Language

The Chinese University of Hong Kong implements bilingual education and Chinese language courses form a compulsory part of the curriculum for all students admitted under both JUPAS and non-JUPAS schemes. The LLB programme places great emphasis on improving the bilingual skills of our students.

All LLB students are required to take University Chinese I and II in their first and second years of study. These courses are designed to strengthen the students' ability to use Chinese for legal purposes. Students admitted under the non-JUPAS scheme may be granted exemption on a case-by-case basis after assessment of the individual's Chinese language ability. Where exemption is granted, it is compulsory for the relevant student to take another Chinese language course suitable for their level of attainment.

In addition, the LLB programme continues to offer two electives in Putonghua Chinese on the Mainland for students to acquire a deeper understanding of Chinese law and the Chinese legal

system and sharpen their Chinese language skills. Students who have taken the Chinese Law (Summer Course) and/or Chinese Law Internship course have substantially improved their Chinese language reading, writing and communication skills.

4. Experiential Learning

The LLB programme continues to emphasize experiential learning as part of the law students' university experience to broaden their learning horizons. In addition to a wide range of activities organized at the University and College levels, the Faculty offers credit-bearing Summer Study Abroad Programmes in Beijing and Sydney, exchange programmes and internships. The Faculty is currently identifying further exchange partners and continues to encourage our students to participate in exchange schemes. We also organize non-credit bearing study-tours, lectures by distinguished guests and visits to legal institutions. There are also social activities under the Distinguished Professional Mentorship Scheme. We are most grateful for the strong support from the legal profession that has made these out-of-class learning activities a great success.

5. Mooting Participation

The LLB students continue to participate in international mooting competitions, where they have built upon the success of previous years. In the 2013-14 academic year, CUHK sent teams to participate in the Jessup, Vis, Red Cross, and ICC Chinese Moot.

The moot teams continued to excel in 2014. For instance, the CUHK team participated in the 2014 Red Cross Humanitarian Law Moot Competition and finished in the top four teams and advanced to the semi-finals at the international rounds.

The Faculty will continue to encourage mooting amongst our students and support these eminent competitions.

6. Quality Assurance of Teaching and Learning

Quality assurance mechanisms have been put in place to ensure that we deliver quality legal education to best serve the community. In December 2014 we received our first visit from our Visiting Committee, which is a University requirement. This visit resulted in an extremely complimentary Report on the quality of the Faculty's teaching and the encouragement of learning amongst our students.

Internally to ensure the quality of our courses the Faculty administers teaching evaluation surveys to students to collect their feedback in a systematic approach. The Assistant Deans and the Deputy Programme Director meet LLB year representatives in each academic term to collect students' views and concerns in relation to teaching and learning. The Faculty responds to all student questions and concerns in written answers distributed to all students. The Faculty will continue to work closely with our students to aid their independent learning and ensure the best environment for their learning experience.

The new position of Associate Dean for Teaching and Learning was created in August 2014 to oversee teaching and learning activities of the Faculty. The Associate Dean (Teaching and Learning) chairs a new Committee on Teaching and Learning. The Teaching and Learning Committee had two meetings in the term to December 2014 at which various

initiatives for Teaching and Learning were discussed and approved. These included the introduction of teaching awards within the Faculty to recognise and encourage excellence in teaching, the provision of grants to support research in teaching and learning and conference support, and the introduction of teaching workshops. In the term to December 2014 teaching workshops have been delivered by members of the Faculty and teaching experts from the University's Centre for Learning Enhancement and Research and from overseas on topics including introductory matters for all teachers involved in course preparation and assessment, the use of flipped classrooms for legal education, the use of micro-modules, and "Convergence and Fragmentation: Legal Research, Legal Informatics and Legal Education".

7. Learning Resources

As law reports, ordinances and scholarly writings are central to the study of law, the Faculty places great emphasis on its library resources. The Lee Quo Wei Law Library contains over 113,750 volumes and has 89 print journal titles and access to 3,616 electronic law journals. There are 82 electronic legal databases available to students and staff. The Law Library continues to invest in updating its collection to support existing courses and new courses with new titles and new editions of old titles. In line with the preferred format of our students the Library purchases resources in electronic format where possible. Electronic format has the main benefit of providing access to required texts, cases and articles to all students whenever required.

8. Career Preparation

The Academic Advisory System and the Distinguished Professional Mentorship Scheme provide pastoral care to our students. The Academic Advisory System ensures close faculty-student relations. The Distinguished Professional Mentors provide close links for our students to the local practitioner community which is invaluable in their appreciation of the working life of a practitioner and in providing them with guidance in their future career choices.

In September 2014 the Faculty appointed Mr Paul Mitchard, Q.C., an eminent member of the local profession, as Administrative Director of Career Planning and Professionalism, the first such role in a Hong Kong law school. Together with the support the Faculty continues to receive from local professionals Mr Mitchard provides our students with valuable guidance on both academic and non-academic matters and future career plans.

Mr Mitchard has updated and reorganised the Faculty's Virtual Career Resource Centre, delivered a series of career seminars, and organised numerous career talks and workshops delivered by international and local law firms.

The Faculty has also organized careers talks from past graduates of the LLB on legal and non-legal careers which have been very well attended and received.

9. Graduates

As in previous years, the majority of our LLB graduates continue their PCLL studies at CUHK on completion of the LLB programme. Nearly 88% of our LLB graduates who applied for the PCLL programme at CUHK were admitted in 2014. Those not joining the PCLL programme pursued other postgraduate programmes in Hong Kong or abroad or had

other career plans.

Steven Gallagher
Associate Dean (Teaching and Learning)
Faculty of Law
The Chinese University of Hong Kong

March 2015

Faculty of Law
The Chinese University of Hong Kong
Report on the PCLL Programme
(Reporting Period: January – December 2014)

2013/2014 PCLL Programme

1. Admission and Completion Rates of the 2014 Graduating Class

In the 2013 intake, we admitted 149 students to the PCLL. In addition there was one student admitted in the 2012 intake but to whom leave of absence for 1 year was granted due to personal reasons. That student resumed her studies in the 2013/2014 academic year. One student was discontinued at the end of Term 1 in accordance with our Assessment Regulations, having failed more than 2 courses. The remaining 149 students successfully completed the PCLL. A number of students failed courses, however, but were permitted by the Exam Panel to sit reassessments: a total of 22 reassessments were sat during the year. The excellent pass rate is a reflection of the quality of the students admitted to the programme.

2. Programme Delivery

The 2013/2014 programme was delivered at our Graduate Law Centre in the Bank of America Tower. The Graduate Law Centre offers students a high quality learning environment. In addition to a Moot Court we have a number of interactive lecture theatres and classrooms. These are all equipped with state-of-the-art facilities. There are also a number of breakout rooms available for student study and discussion. We retained the teaching model of a combination of Large Group Sessions and Small Group Sessions (LGSs and SGSs) as this has proved so effective in the previous years.

The same 5 core courses were offered in Term 1, namely Professional Practice, Commercial Practice, Property and Probate Practice, Civil Litigation Practice and Criminal Litigation Practice. 10 elective courses were offered in Term 2/Summer term, of which the students had to select and complete 5 courses; these were Writing and Drafting Litigation Documents*, Conference Skills and Opinion Writing*, Lending and Finance, Corporate Finance, Writing and Drafting Litigation Documents (in Chinese), China Practice, Writing and Drafting Commercial Documents (in Chinese), Alternative Dispute Resolution, Trial Advocacy* and Writing and Drafting Commercial Documents.

Students intending to enter pupillage as a barrister have to study the 3 asterisked electives. These 3 electives were not of course confined to intending barristers and it is noteworthy that many intending solicitors also chose to study one or more of these courses.

With the exception of the Chinese language parts of the 2 Chinese drafting electives, nearly all teachers on the PCLL programme are or have been practising lawyers and through all the courses the emphasis was on the teaching of skills, and on the students “learning by doing”. To that end on all courses the students were taught and then practised skills they would need in practice and were assessed on their skills.

The PCLL is a rigorous course. There is continuous assessment throughout each term with the students facing 2 or 3 assessments in each course. Thus the students have to balance their time between courses and in doing so successfully learn the time management skills which will be so vital to them in practice.

3. Student Diversity

The PCLL 2013/14 had a diverse student body. Of the 150 students who started in September 2013, 127 held local law qualifications while 23 held non-local law qualifications. Their academic background is as follows:

Law Qualifications	No. with overseas qualifications	No. with local qualifications	Total no. of students
Bachelor of Laws (LLB)	17	42	59
LLB/ Bachelor of International Studies	1	0	1
Bachelor of Laws/ Commerce	2	0	2
BA in Law	1	0	1
BA in Jurisprudence	1	0	1
Juris Doctor (JD)	1	85	86

While most of our students were local, we also had a number of students from the Mainland, who had qualified for admission by way of our Juris Doctor programme, along with students who had studied for their law degrees in the UK, Australia, New Zealand and Canada.

4. Oversight by the Professions

With the exception of Trial Advocacy, each PCLL course has assigned to it one or two external course assessors (ECAs), from the Law Society and the Bar Association. The Law Society ECAs see and approve all course papers, and both ECAs see the assessment papers before they are sat and are sent for their review all borderline and failed scripts, along with some top scripts. The Law Society ECAs also attend sessions of their choice and provide feedback to the Law Society. All that feedback has to date been for the most part very positive.

The students also give feedback on the courses and their teachers: that too has been almost without exception positive and encouraging.

5. Contribution by the Judiciary and the Professions

We are also very fortunate to be able to call upon so many volunteers from the judiciary and the professions. By way of example, in our Trial Advocacy course in May 2014 we had 30 sessions in which barristers and solicitors came in the evening to give individual feedback to the students on their videoed advocacy performances from earlier each day; the students' final assessment was a mini-trial in courtrooms in the High Court: with 99 students on the course and 4 students per trial, we required 25 judges whom we invited from the judiciary and the professions; these included a CFA judge. Also as part of the Trial Advocacy course we staged a demonstration Magistrate's trial in Cantonese before a senior Magistrate and presented by members of the Bar.

We have also had throughout the years numerous guest speakers from the judiciary and the professions, including the Chief Justice, the former Chairman of the Bar, Mr Russell Coleman SC and former president of the Law Society and former Chairman of the HKIAC, Mr Huen Wong. We are very fortunate indeed to have such support from the Judiciary and the professions and greatly appreciate it, as do the students.

6. Placement of the 2014 Graduates

Notwithstanding our short history, our graduates in all six years have been consistently placed in all areas of the legal profession following graduation. According to the placement survey results which comprise 130 student responses out of 149 graduates of the 2013/2014 cohort, over 85% have been employed by leading law firms, leading sets of barrister's chambers and the Department of Justice or have chosen to pursue further studies.

2014/2015 PCLL Programme

1. Admissions of the 2014/2015 Class

The Faculty received 320 applications to read for the PCLL 2014/15. The Faculty made 158 offers. Of the 158 candidates to whom the Faculty made conditional offers, 153 accepted and 5 declined. Of those receiving conditional offers, 150 were able to satisfy all of the conditions and register on the PCLL.

A student decided to withdraw from the programme in September 2014 due to employment reasons. The 2014-2015 PCLL intake will, accordingly, comprise 149 candidates.

We have this year a very high calibre of students. They appear to be very enthusiastic about and committed to their studies, and attendance rates at LGSs and SGSs have been most impressive; indeed the only absenteeism from the SGSs has been caused either by the need to attend an interview or by ill health.

It is noteworthy that we are again this year running the course in Writing and Drafting Litigation Documents (in Chinese) with 44 students enrolled.

2. Visiting Committee

In early December 2014 a Visiting Committee came to the Law Faculty to review all of its operations. The Committee comprised 3 very senior law academics from the UK and Australia and a very senior Hong Kong solicitor. Prior to its visit the Committee had been provided with comprehensive documentation on all the Faculty's programmes and operations, and during the visit the Committee met with senior University management, numerous Faculty members and numerous past and present students. The Committee's conclusion on the PCLL programme was as follows:

This is an excellent PCLL course, requiring a high degree of attention and resources to keep it fresh and up-to-date. Its content and relevance are selling points to other potential PCLL students not necessarily from CUHK. The attention given to making it a "skills-based" course has made it, in the view of the Visiting Committee, a very good course indeed.

Conclusion

We are very proud of our PCLL and confidently believe that the emphasis we place on the acquisition of skills throughout the programme continues to produce graduates who will be useful and professional from the very first day of their traineeship or pupillage. The feedback we have had from the professions on the quality of our PCLL graduates whom they have taken on as trainees or pupils very much bears this out.

We now have six successful PCLLs to build upon and are hopeful that we can make the 2014/2015 PCLL better still.

Richard Morris
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Faculty of Law
The Chinese University of Hong Kong

March 2015

**The Chinese University of Hong Kong
Juris Doctor Programme**

**2014-2015 Report for the Standing Committee on
Legal Education and Training**

1. Background

The Juris Doctor (JD) is a graduate entry programme. It was created as a direct response to the recommendation of the *Redmond-Roper Report* "...that there should be opportunity for mature age students, and graduates in other disciplines, to study law - both for equity and access reasons and for the richness and diversity this brings to the law schools and the legal profession" (*Report*, 11.4 at p. 271).

2. Teaching philosophy and structure

The Faculty of Law of The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) teaches the JD Programme exclusively at graduate level. JD students enjoy a dedicated programme. They share some courses with other students (i.e. those reading for the Master of Laws (LLM) and a small number of exchange and associate students). They do not share any courses with undergraduate (LLB) students.

The Faculty of Law examines the JD Programme as a graduate programme. Students thus must perform to graduate standards. To maintain these standards, the CUHK Senate and an eminent External Examiner oversee both the JD and the LLB. The Faculty of Law briefs them fully on the level demanded of graduate programmes and what is expected on the JD Programme (as benchmarked against international standards).

3. Admission requirements

The Faculty of Law requires applicants for admission to the 2014 – 15 JD Programme to have:

- (i) graduated from a recognised university and obtained a bachelor's degree in a non-law subject or a law degree from a non-common law jurisdiction, normally with honours not lower than Second Class; or
- (ii) graduated from an honours programme of a recognised university with a bachelor's degree in a non-law subject or a law degree from a non-common law jurisdiction, normally achieving an average grade of not lower than "B" in undergraduate courses; or
- (iii) completed a course of study in a tertiary educational institution and obtained professional or similar qualifications equivalent to an honours degree.

Applicants must also satisfy the JD Programme's English Language Proficiency Requirement by:

- possessing a bachelor's degree obtained by completing a programme of study in Hong Kong or an English-speaking country, or which was taught primarily in the English language; or
- achieving a result of Band 7.5 or better in the International English Language Testing System (IELTS), which result was obtained not more than two years prior to the date of applying to join the JD Programme; or
- achieving a result of 600 (Paper Based Test), or 100 (Internet Based Test) or better in the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), which result was obtained not more than two years prior to the date of applying to join the JD Programme; or
- producing alternative evidence of English proficiency equivalent to one of the preceding measures.

4. Programme philosophy and structure

The JD Programme is an intellectually enriching general education in law. It allows candidates to read a wide range of challenging elective courses in the common law, Chinese law, comparative law, international law, and the law of trade, business and finance.

The JD Programme consists of 72 credit units (a standard semester-length course being 3 credit units). Students have an average of 3 contact hours per week with teachers in each course. Students entering the JD Programme complete the programme in full-time mode or part-time mode.

Full-time mode students can finish the programme in 24 months by completing courses in each summer term. Full-time students may take up to 48 months to complete the JD Programme.

Part-time mode students can complete their studies in 42 months (students may, in exceptional circumstances, apply to accelerate their studies and complete the Programme in 36 months with the Graduate Council's permission and on the Faculty of Law's recommendation). The Faculty of Law permits part-time students to take up to 84 months to complete the JD Programme.

To graduate, students must complete five required courses. These are LAWS 6001 *Legal System*, LAWS 6002 *Jurisprudence*, LAWS 6004 *Legal Research, Analysis and Writing*, LAWS 6005 *Ethics and Professional Virtue* and either LAWS 6901 *Independent Research* or LAWS 6902 *Independent Research Dissertation*. These required components give JD students the essential foundational knowledge and skills for a well-rounded general legal education and a first-hand appreciation of the relationship between the legal system and the broader community that it serves and regulates.

Students aspiring to qualify as Hong Kong-qualified barristers or solicitors must pursue particular elective courses the completion of which entitles them to apply for admission to the Postgraduate Certificate in Laws (PCLL) programme. These elective courses are also open to students who do not plan to enter the PCLL.

The Faculty of Law offers JD students further elective courses they share with LLM students from a wide range of intellectually stimulating and professionally enhancing offerings. This arrangement enables students to complete their degree and professional requirements while enhancing their range of courses and thus their academic and professional opportunities. Details of the panoply of disciplines from which students may choose are below.

JD Courses

The Faculty of Law structures the JD Programme to accommodate the interests both of those who intend to enter the legal profession and those who are reading the JD Programme for other reasons. The programme comprises a mixture of required and elective courses:

(i) Required courses

-	Legal Research, Analysis and Writing
-	Legal System
-	Ethics and Professional Virtue
-	Jurisprudence
-	Independent Research* OR Independent Research Dissertation*

* Students must complete either *Independent Research* (3 credits) or *Independent Research Dissertation* (6 credits).

(ii) Elective Courses

(a) Elective Courses Required for Admission to the PCLL Programme

-	Principles of Administrative Law	-	Principles of Criminal Law
-	Principles of Civil Procedure	-	Principles of Criminal Procedure
-	Principles of Commercial Law	-	Principles of Equity and Trusts
-	Principles of Company Law	-	Principles of Evidence
-	Principles of Constitutional Law	-	Principles of Land Law
-	Principles of Contract	-	Principles of Tort
-	Principles of Conveyancing		

(b) Other Elective Courses**

-	Australian Constitutional Law	-	International Finance and Accounting
-	Business and the Law in Hong Kong	-	International Financial and Banking Law
-	Canadian Constitutional Law	-	International Investment Law Principles and Practice
-	Chinese Accounting and Law	-	International Legal Advocacy
-	Chinese Banking Law	-	International Relations
-	Chinese Civil Law	-	International Taxation
-	Chinese Civil Procedure Law	-	Interviewing and Counseling
-	Chinese Commercial Law	-	Issues in Company Law
-	Chinese Company Law	-	Issues in Contract
-	Chinese Constitutional and Administrative Law	-	Issues in Criminal Law
-	Chinese Contract Law	-	Issues in Equity and Trusts
-	Chinese Economy and Law	-	Issues in Human Rights
-	Chinese Environmental Law	-	Issues in International Law

- Chinese Finance and Law	- Issues in Land Law
- Chinese Financial Law	- Issues in Tort
- Chinese Foreign Trade and Investment Law	- Jessup International Law Moot
- Chinese Intellectual Property Law	- Law and Literature
- Chinese Investment Law	- Law of International Business Transactions I
- Chinese Law Internship	- Law of International Business Transactions II
- Chinese Politics and Law	- Legal System and Methods in China
- Chinese Practice on International Law	- Mooting
- Chinese Securities Regulation	- Non-Marine Insurance Law
- Chinese Tax Law	- Preferential Trade Agreements: Theory and Practice
- Common Law: Globalization and Convergence	- Principles of Aviation Law
- Common Law: Origins and Development	- Principles of Construction Law
- Comparative Company Law	- Principles of Corporate Insolvency
- Comparative Constitutional Law	- Principles of Corporate Crime and Social Responsibility
- Comparative Constitutional Traditions	- Principles of Cultural Heritage Law
- Comparative Contract Law	- Principles of Employment Law
- Comparative Corporate Governance	- Principles of Environmental Law
- Comparative Legal Traditions	- Principles of Family Law
- Competition Law	- Principles of Family Law: Child Law
- Conflict of Laws	- Principles of Family Law: Matrimonial Law
- Copyright, Digital Subject Matter and Information Technology	- Principles of Information & Privacy Law
- Crime and the Sanctioning Process	- Principles of Intellectual Property
- Dispute Resolution	- Principles of International Law
- Dispute Resolution in China	- Principles of Mediation
- Economic Development and the Law	- Principles of Remedies
- European Union Law	- Principles of Revenue Law
- History, Culture, and the Law	- Principles of Securities Regulation
- Human Rights in the PRC Law and Society	- Principles of Unjust Enrichment
- International and Comparative Environmental Law	- Property Law in China
- International and Comparative Intellectual Property Law	- Private International Law in China
- International and Foreign Law Summer School (Sydney)	- Refugee Clinical Legal Assistance Programme
- International Commercial Dispute Resolution	- Secured Transactions and the Law
- International Economic Development and the Law	- Shipping Law
- International Economic Law Skills	- The Clinic for Public Interest Advocacy
- International Economics	- The Individual, the Community and the Law

	-	The Law of Electronic Commerce
	-	Trans-national Legal Problems
	-	World Trade Law

*** The offering of an elective course in any particular term is dependent on teacher availability and sufficient student interest.*

5. Student intake

The JD Programme has proved to be a highly competitive programme. In the 2014 – 15 academic year, the programme received 1156 applications meeting minimum admission requirements (760 applications for full-time mode and 396 applications for part-time mode). The admission requirements in (3) above are minimum requirements. In the 2014-2015 intake, the Faculty of Law did not offer places to a large proportion of applicants who satisfied these. The JD Programme attracts students of the highest quality, and the student body is a rich mixture of well-educated fresh graduates and seasoned professionals who have already achieved considerable success in their fields. In 2014 the Faculty of Law admitted 180 students, these being the top segment of applicants.

No. of applications received for academic year 2014-2015 (full-time mode)	760
No. of students admitted for academic year 2014-2015 (full-time mode)	115
No. of applications received for academic year 2014-2015 (part-time mode)	396
No. of students admitted for academic year 2014-2015 (part-time mode)	65

All JD students the Faculty of Law admitted in 2014-2015 hold at least an Upper 2nd bachelor's degree or a credit master's degree (or equivalent):

Band 1	48% (86)
Band 2	25% (46)
Band 3	27% (48)
Total	100% (180)

Band 1: 1st class bachelor's degree; or Cumulative GPA 3.5 (4-point scale) where no class of honours awarded; or PhD; or equivalent.

Band 2: Borderline 1st class bachelor's degree; or Cumulative GPA 3.4 (4-point scale) where no class of honours awarded; or master (Distinction); or equivalent.

Band 3: Upper 2nd class bachelor's degree; or Cumulative GPA 3.2-3.3 (4-point scale) where no

class of honours awarded; or master (Credit); or equivalent.

As noted above, many JD students take the Programme to assist them in their existing careers or to enhance their skills; they have no intention of entering the legal profession. Most part-time students are professionals with qualifications. These include Certified Information Systems Auditor (CISA); Certified Professional of IT (CPIT); Certified Public Accountant (CPA); Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA); Chartered Secretaries (HKICS); Chinese Patent Attorney (PA); Financial Risk Manager (FRM); Project Management Professional (PMP). Some students are members of professional bodies. These include the Hong Kong Computer Society (HKCSFM); Beta Gamma Sigma (BGS); The Hong Kong Institute of HRM (AHKIHRM); The American Association for MFT (AAMFT); The Australian Psychology Society (MAPS); The APS College of Clinical Neuropsychology (CNN); or registered professionals in various disciplines, for instance in medical, legal and engineering. Some of our students are already in prominent management positions, such as CEO, VP, AVP, Director or Head of Business Unit at companies such as JP Morgan Chase Bank, DBS Bank (Hong Kong) Limited, HSBC and others.

6. Library

Given the centrality of law reports, ordinances and scholarly writings to the study of law, the Faculty places great emphasis on its library resources. The Lee Quo Wei Law Library contains over 113,750 volumes and has 89 print journal titles and access to 3,616 electronic law journals. There are 82 electronic legal databases available to students and staff. Wherever possible electronic format is the preferred option for books, law journals and serials. The Faculty is investing heavily in library materials to support future years of its law programmes.

The Lee Quo Wei Law Library houses the main law collection. The Legal Resources Centre (LRC) at the Graduate Law Centre (GLC), where JD teaching takes place, contains a short loan collection and a small collection of law reports and reference materials. The Faculty of Law retains a daily courier service that provides research materials students need at the GLC.

The Law Library has developed an extensive array of resource guides and indexes that are accessible via the Library website. Both locations provide reference services. The Faculty of Law also includes Information Literacy into the JD curriculum.

7. Physical accommodation

The Faculty of Law teaches the JD Programme at the Graduate Law Centre (GLC) in Central. The GLC, covering 35,000 sq. feet, includes three lecture theatres, a state-of-the-art-moot court, small breakout rooms, multi-purpose classrooms, dedicated computer facilities and its Legal Resources Centre.

8. Visiting Committee

In December 2014 a Visiting Committee reviewed the Faculty of Law's operations. The Committee comprised three very senior law academics from the UK and Australia and a very senior Hong Kong solicitor. Before its visit the Faculty of Law gave the Committee comprehensive documentation on all the Faculty's programmes and operations. During the visit the Committee met with senior University management, numerous Faculty members and

numerous past and present students. The Committee's conclusion on the JD Programme included the following: *"The Visiting Committee concluded that it was provided with appropriate evidence for its work on the JD and, after discussion, it came to share the endorsement of staff and students of the JD programme."*

9. Concluding Remarks

The JD Programme at CUHK is now a well-established feature of the Hong Kong legal education landscape. JD students routinely receive job placement offers from top international and local law firms. Many undertake pupillage and develop careers at the Hong Kong bar. Some move on to further studies, often competing strongly in the world's most venerated universities (among them Oxbridge and the Ivy League). Others embark on or continue careers in other walks in Hong Kong or overseas; these fields include banking, commerce, academia and government. JD students are highly qualified and highly motivated. Classes are interactive, with students bringing expertise and experience to enrich the learning environment, both within and outside the classroom. Student satisfaction with the JD Programme, which the University's Centre for Learning Enhancement and Research independently monitors, is very high. Students on the JD Programme have taken the initiative to set up the Graduate Law Students Association and organised activities, which the Faculty supports, to benefit the student body. Mooting teams including JD students represent the Faculty at both regional and international competitions and have achieved outstanding results.

Some JD students will not choose a career in law. They continue to contribute to their respective professions and are all the better armed with all they have learned during their JD education. Those who progress to the PCLL have a great deal to offer the legal profession. They will continue to help answer the call in the Redmond Roper Report for increased diversity of practitioners in Hong Kong.

Matthew P Cheung

JD Programme Director

19 March 2015

Annexure 5



The University of Hong Kong
Department of Law

Report on the LLB and JD Programmes to the Standing Committee on Legal Education and Training

March 2015

The main themes for the academic year 2014-2015 have been the entry of the double cohort of the LLB degree programme (some additional 100 students) to the third year, with increased demand in elective courses and exchange opportunities, as well as heightened concerns about entry to PCLL and career prospects. The Department has made special efforts to address these needs, and is glad to report satisfactory progress.

Admissions 2014-2015

The LLB and mixed-degree undergraduate programmes remain signature programmes that cement the reputation of the HKU, as seen by robust admissions figures.

A total of 101 students were admitted into the undergraduate programmes: 71 through the JUPAS scheme; 25 through the non-JUPAS admissions process; and 5 through Mainland recruitment.

In addition, 154 students have been admitted to the three mixed-degree programmes: BBA (Law) & LLB – 69; BSocSc (Govt & Laws) & LLB – 59; and BA (Literary Studies) & LLB – 26.

All these programmes have achieved outstanding admission results, with median scores in the range of 6.0 to 6.3 (best 5 subjects). Three of the programmes (LLB; BBA (Law) & LLB; and BSocSc (Govt & Laws) & LLB) are within the top ten programmes amongst all tertiary institutions in Hong Kong.

JD admissions figures continue to be strong. We admitted 40 students from nearly 400 applications. Student profiles are diverse, with 26 fresh graduates and 14 having had work experience.

Exchange

We have been able to accommodate additional demand by the double cohort for exchange opportunities. Current figures for out-going law students comprise 174 students, undertaking studies in 15 countries, mostly in the UK (69), Canada (32), and USA (23).

Curriculum

The “3+3+4” curriculum has entered its third, elective year. The Department has also de-cross-listed electives in both the undergraduate and postgraduate programmes, to allow teachers to better take into account the skills and competencies of students in their courses.

The Department promotes experiential learning for students to develop practical skills and learn law in action. The Clinical Legal Education course has been in high demand and has handled over 600 cases since its launch in 2011.

The Department has introduced a Legal Writing Clinic, whereby consultants mark student work in advance and conduct one-on-one feedback sessions for students, with the kind help of 19 barristers from Temple Chambers. Students responded very well and found such individualized feedback particularly useful.

The JD programme has undergone a review as part of HKU’s internal review of taught postgraduate programmes. The Report of the Review Panel has been very positive, and an action plan has been devised to takes steps to improve the programme.

Career Advice

The Department has appointed an in-house Career Development Manager who has since been conducting individual career advice consultation sessions for undergraduate and Postgraduate Certificate of Laws (PCLL) students. The Career Development Manager also operates an Employers’ Corner to help employers identify suitable candidates.

Staffing

Our staff has been able to offer a wide range of electives in the undergraduate programmes to accommodate the surge in demand arising from the double cohort. Two senior professors will be retiring at the end of this academic year. The Faculty is conducting an active search for their successors. Our teaching expertise has been strengthened by the appointment of a second Professor of Practice, who has formerly a senior regulator of the Securities and Futures Commission.

Conclusion

The Department is aware of the challenges facing the double cohort, such as greater curriculum needs and concerns about job opportunities. We have taken special efforts to ensure that the rigour and diversity of teaching have not been compromised, and additional support in terms of career advice has been provided to the students.

Professor Lusina Ho
Head, Department of Law

Report on the HKU PCLL

January – December 2014

Overview

1. During the calendar year 2014 applications for admissions to the HKU PCLL continued greatly to exceed the number of places, a large number of practitioners assisted with the teaching of the programme and all but a few students succeeded in attaining the certificate at the first attempt.

Assessments and examination results 2013/14

2. Students are informed of the assessment method of each course by the course co-ordinator at the beginning of the course. They are required to pass all assessments, skill-based and knowledge-based, oral and written.
3. It is our understanding that our first-attempt pass rate falls within an acceptable and normal range regarded by any reputable Legal Practice Courses overseas. Our pass rate after the supplementary exams in August usually increases to over 97%. Among a total of around 340 full-time and part-time Year 2 students in 2013/14, the Board of Examiners awarded overall distinction to the top 10% of the cohort. The top five students were all HKU LLB or mixed degree (MD) LLB graduates.

Admissions 2014/15

4. The number of PCLL students admitted in September 2014 was 260 to the full-time course and 80 to the part-time course. 10 part-time students were admitted on the strength of their interview performance and their practical experience of law or other relevant achievements, who have academic qualifications that are satisfactory but which alone might not justify admission. We are monitoring closely their progress.
5. There were 1,070 applications from 747 individual applicants, of which 616 applicants designated HKU as first preference. Applicants, as in the past, had to make separate applications to the full-time and part-time programmes and many of them applied for both.
6. About two-thirds (i.e. 174) of the full-time intake held a HKU law degree (including JD). The proportion in the part-time programme was much lower, just 20% (16 out of 80). The remaining places in the part-time PCLL were mainly filled by graduates with the London International LLB and Common Professional Examination operated by MMU/SPACE or UK providers, and from City University and Chinese University of Hong Kong.
7. We allocated 121 government-funded full-time places, all on merit. About 82% of those (99) were given to HKU graduates. The balance of places was shared among other categories of applicants, with UK LLB graduates having the largest share. These were all Hong Kong people.

Curriculum and teaching

8. The Chief External Examiner (CEE) jointly nominated by the Bar Association and the Law Society gave a comprehensive report on the programme and raised no concerns that required attention. Whilst remaining grateful for the CEE's positive and encouraging comments, the Department has been looking proactively for opportunities and ways to further improve our PCLL.

9. One of those initiatives is by way of interviewing ‘standardized clients’ who are lay to law. This has become a part of the assessments in two electives: Wills Trusts and Estate Planning (WTEP) and Employment Law and Practice (ELP), while every student has an opportunity to practice and experience it in the Civil Litigation course. In WTEP, such simulated interviews are conducted in Cantonese but students who are not conversant in the language can opt for an English interview.
10. In 2014/15, Listed Companies was again the most popular elective course of the year, followed by Commercial Dispute Resolution and Drafting Commercial Agreements (formerly Corporate and Commercial Transactions II). Around 100 students, full-time and part-time, opted for Trial Advocacy. ELP which is now being recognized as a Bar elective has increased strongly in popularity just after one year of its inception. Another recently added elective Use of Chinese in Legal Practice was over-subscribed, the number of which is capped at 20 mainly because of resource constraints.

Planning and preparation for the double cohort years

11. The double cohort will hit the HKU PCLL in 2016/17 and 2017/18. The extra number of HKU LLB and MDLLB applicants is projected to be about 100 each of those years. On such basis and subject to merit, we therefore target to increase the total number of HKU PCLL places by a maximum of 100 in each of those two years. In any event, the maximum number of our full-time PCLL places (government-funded and self-funded in total) will likely be capped at 340, the maximum capacity that our Large Moot Court can accommodate. Additional funding from the Government for some of these additional places (44 and 45 respectively for the two years) have been confirmed.
12. It is anticipated that with the additional number of students, the same practical sessions for different small groups may have to be scheduled for two consecutive days, instead of on the same day as they currently are. This requires careful timetabling and human resources planning. We are planning for a trial run of a new timetable in 2015/16. Moreover, we continue to count on the support of the legal profession by referring suitably qualified part-time teachers to us while we attempt to further develop our network.

Wilson Chow
Head
Department of Professional Legal Education
Faculty of Law
The University of Hong Kong

March 2015

Annexure 6

**Key Statistics of the 2014/15 LLB, JD and PCLL Programmes of
City University of Hong Kong
The Chinese University of Hong Kong
The University of Hong Kong**

	City University of Hong Kong	The Chinese University of Hong Kong	The University of Hong Kong
No. of Admissions to the LLB Programme	54 (33 JUPAS students, 14 Non-JUPAS students, 5 Mainland students, 2 from other Asian Countries / Regions)	74 (46 JUPAS students, 23 Non-JUPAS students, 3 Mainland students, 2 internal transfer students)	101 (71 JUPAS students, 25 Non-JUPAS students, 5 Mainland students)
No. of Admissions to the JD Programme	83	115 (full-time) 65 (part-time)	40
No. of Admissions to the PCLL Programme	160 full-time students (53 were UGC funded, 107 were non-UGC funded) 51 part-time students	150	260 (full-time) 80 (part-time)
No. of Admissions to the Double Law Degree Programmes	N/A	N/A	69 (BBA (Law) & LLB) 59 (BSocSc (Govt & Laws) & LLB) 26 (BA (Literary Studies) & LLB)

Annexure 7

THE SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING: ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

- Chairman** : Mr. Albert WONG Kwai-huen, B.B.S., J.P.
The Law Society of Hong Kong
- Members** : Mr. Peter CHAN Chi Hin
City University of Hong Kong
- Dr. Tommy HO Koon-ki
The Federation for Self-financing Tertiary Education
- Mr. Michael YIN Chi-ming
Hong Kong Bar Association
- Mr. Richard MORRIS
The Chinese University of Hong Kong
- Ms. Amanda WHITFORT
The University of Hong Kong
- Secretary** : Ms. Vivien LEE
The Law Society of Hong Kong

Annexure 8

THE HONG KONG CONVERSION EXAMINATION BOARD

- Chairman** : Mr. Lester Garson HUANG, J.P.
The Law Society of Hong Kong
- Members** : Mr. Edward CHAN King-sang, S.C., J.P.
Hong Kong Bar Association
- Professor Johannes CHAN Man-mun, S.C.
(from August 2006 to June 2014)
Dr. Richard WU Wai-sang
(from June 2015)
The University of Hong Kong
- Ms. Sushma SHARMA
(from July 2011 to June 2014)
Mr. Mitchell D. Stocks
(from September 2014)
City University of Hong Kong
- Mr. Richard MORRIS
The Chinese University of Hong Kong
- The Honourable Mr. Justice Azizul Rahman SUFFIAD
Court of First Instance of the High Court
- Secretary** : Mr. John CRIBBIN
HKU School of Professional and Continuing Education