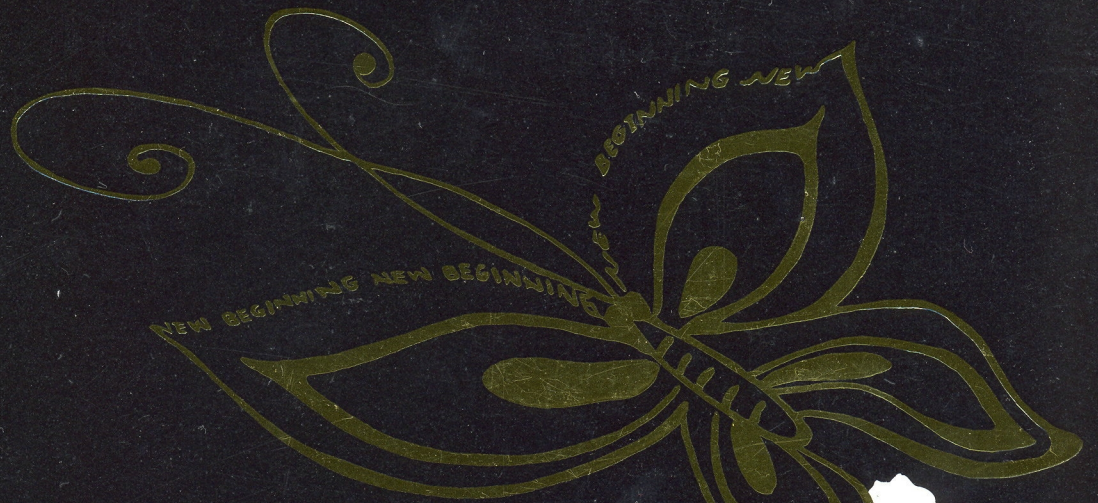




LAW ASSOCIATION (94-95)

香港大學法律學會

Year Book



UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

Year Book 1994-1995
Law Association

Publishing Date: November 12, 1995

Law Anthem

Here tall it stands in proud tradition

Adherence to values true

Here natures hopes and aspirations

For fairness and law to rule

With unity, diversity, fraternal care within us

We look to far horizons

and challanges we pursue

And ever proud are we

Law Faculty

Your spirit is ours to prove

And as custodians of justice

Bring honour, and glory to you

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Foreword

I have the rather dubious distinction of being the longest-serving teacher in the Faculty: rather dubious because there is no special value in longevity. And I may have stayed here so long because no one else would ever offer me a job, or because I'm complacent and fear new challenges. Nevertheless I have lived through most of the law school's history. I missed the preparations - the discussions of curriculum negotiations with the profession, the hiring of teachers, and all the other intense activity associated with opening a new academic institution - but I was here when the second intake of first-year students arrived. I was myself a student then, though a research student who had little to do with the undergraduates; my role as a teacher did not begin until 1973. But I experienced something of the hopes and expectations, the disappointments, the experiments, the stresses of those early years, and my academic career has matured along with the school. I'm old enough to see the merit in history, and thus I welcome and applaud this attempt by current undergraduates to set out something of their institution's past. Old enough - but not quite, I'm pleased to say, the oldest teacher in the Faculty!



Peter Wesley-Smith
Professor of Law and Dean

Words from the Chairman

This is the 26th Anniversary of the Law Faculty as well as the Law Association. For us, the Executive Committee of the Law Association, 94-95, this is also a fresh new start. And in view of this, we have set ourselves two targets: to consolidate the sense of belonging among law students, and by this unity, to gather our students together to generate our time and effort in serving the community.

In retrospect, the Law Association has successfully boosted up the sense of unity among law students in HKU. Through various activities such as the Christmas Party, Inter-Faculty sports games, the Orientation Programme, the Annual Ball and other social gatherings, relationship among members is enhanced. Nonetheless, with the expansion of the Faculty, the number of students in each year has increased and we find it relatively more difficult to convene gatherings involving most members than it was in the 70's when there were not more than 50 students. To overcome this problem, we publish the Newsletter which is distributed to all members quarterly.

It is important to enhance the relationship among students, but if we can make use of this unity to serve the community it will be more meaningful than just holding different kinds of parties and gatherings. With this ideal, we have organised some social services to help the elderly during the summer vacation. Moreover, we have held Legal Exhibition and talks to introduce to the public a general understanding of law. We have also endeavoured to enhance the communication among law students in different parts of the world and this year, we chose Taiwan as our destination of our Legal Interflow Tour. Through these functions, we have broadened our horizons and better prepared ourselves for the future.

And this year, the YEARBOOK is published for the first time in hope to report on what we have achieved and to provide you with a record to recall the sweet memories we have had.

Stephen Wong (III)

Message from the Editorial Board

After months of preparation, it's finished!

This is the first year that a Law Association Year Book has been Published. We thought of having a year book because we wanted to have something to look back to when we get old. We wanted to have something to remember; something that will represent our four years in the Law Faculty.

But there were things that came out of the making of this Year Book that we did not expect: the warmth and unity that arose from the gatherings for the taking of class photos; the smiles and sometimes laughters from looking at old pictures; the discovery of classmates' Chinese names or middle names. It was an experience of fun and excitement.

Although we did have a lot of fun, not everything worked well. Sometimes we had quarrels and little fights. But we did stick together and worked out this Year Book. The long hours at Stephen's home typing and proofreading; the afternoon teas at Swire; the lining up at Computer Centre.... These will all be precious moments that we will definitely remember for the rest of our lives. When we finish law school and look back at our University years, we will have these memories to go along with this Year Book.

Finally, for those of you who are interested in the history of the Faculty: good news! There is special focus on this topic in the Year Book. You can find out all about the old Law Association and our traditions.

Last but not least, many thanks to all of you who helped!

Stephen Chan
Eunice Cheng
Vincent Leung
Stephen Wong
Elaine Yu

*The Executive Committee of
Law Association 1994-1995*



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The History of the Law Faculty

by Rebecca Lau, Annie Choi, Yanky Lam,
Kennis Tai, Hester Chan

1920's -1960's

The University of Hong Kong first opened its doors in 1911. In the 1920's, an attempt was made to provide HKU students with a certain grounding in law as part of their Arts courses. This attempt was made in 1924 by a capable and foresighted young man, George W. Keeton, who graduated from the University of Cambridge and later achieved the distinction of Professor of London University, when he was appointed as Reader in Law & Politics in the Arts Faculty. While in office, he urged the creation of a Department of Law which would concern itself to a large extent with Comparative Law, in the context of China, which was, as it then was, extremely important both from an academic and a political point of view. Unfortunately, Professor Keeton left Hong Kong all too soon and his vision of a school of Comparative Law was never destined to become a reality.

It was not until 1962 that any serious attention was given to the establishment of a law degree. In 1967, the University called upon the experience of Professor Cowen and the Law Commissioner of the United Kingdom, Mr L.C.B. Gower (formerly Sir Ernest Cassel Professor of Commercial Law in the London University), to consider the development of legal studies within the University. The University Senate accepted their report and recommendation of an early establishment of a Department of Law and submitted the same to the University's Council. It was agreed that the University should submit to the University Grants Committee a proposal for the institution of a degree and the establishment of a Department of Law.

After a further acceptance of the many advices from overseas academics that a law school must be set up in Hong Kong, the setting up of a Department of Law was finally approved; nonetheless, that decision was not communicated to

the University until 26, April 1968, when the University was informed by the University Grants Committee of its approval in providing an Honours Laws Degree requiring a three-year study at the University. It included in the final examination a number of optional subjects, some of which would be related to the subjects required to be taken in the solicitors' and barristers' final examinations. In addition, the University would also provide evening and part-time courses covering those subjects required for a professional qualification which were not provided in the law degree. It was the first time in the history of Hong Kong that a full-time course leading to a degree in law got approved.

The actual creation of the Department had to wait upon the appointment of staff. The approved establishment of staff included ten members consisting of two professors, two senior lecturers and six lecturers. Five were to be appointed initially and the remainder was to be recruited during the build-up period over the next three years.

The Department was formally brought into existence in April, 1969, and proceeded to preparing for its first intake of forty students in the following September. When the Department was formed, it was originally part of the Faculty of Social Sciences which was set up in 1967. The idea behind such placement was the assumption that its place within the Faculty would provide another dimension to the study provided by the Faculty. Furthermore, such a decision was in furtherance of a desire that the teaching of law be put in the context of Social Sciences.

While it did not seem feasible that within the limits of a three-year undergraduate degree, a common first year could be established in combination with the other Departments of the Faculty, it was nevertheless hoped that a certain amount of interdisciplinary teaching would be developed, ensuring that law students would not be narrowly restricted to their pure legal studies. These hopes have not been realized, principally owing to the mere pressing tasks of building up law studies properly. It was not until 1978 that the Department

of Law parted company with the Social Scientists and became a School with an autonomous Board of Studies.



Those were the days: when it was still the "School of Law."

1970's-1980's

During the '70's, a law student followed a number of specified courses, some compulsory (in the first two years) and some optional (in the final year). The compulsory subjects were the "core" subjects through which the basic principles of law were taught and which, by their nature, facilitated the teaching of the basic techniques of the law.

Some of our very first academic staff recruited included John Rear and Bernard Downey. Other teachers had been appointed but they were not due to arrive until early in 1970. They were Alan Smith, who was then teaching law in Nairobi, and Leonard Pegg, in Singapore. We were fortunate also in attracting Malcolm Quinn from Makerere to be our first Law Librarian. He held a key post in a key operation: the skillful deployment of a generous grant (so it seemed then) of HK\$800,000 for the purposes of setting up the Law Library. While by no means enough, it was sufficient for us to ensure that we had a basic and working library available within a comparatively short period of time.

A few years later, after considering the professional stage of legal education in Hong Kong, the Postgraduate Certificate in Laws (P.C.LL.) was introduced in 1972 and students were admitted for the first time to study for this course.

Before the P.C.LL. was introduced, LL.B. graduates had had to go all the way to London to take Bar Finals or Solicitors' Finals to qualify. It was not until 26th May, 1972 that the amendment to the Legal Practitioner's Ordinance was approved, making it possible to admit graduates of the P.C.LL. to the Bar. And it was not until 31 August, 1972 that the Students (Amendment) Rules 1972 were approved, enabling graduates of the P.C.LL. to qualify as solicitors without passing the London exams (except for Accounts). The option of getting qualified on the strength of the corresponding legal qualification in the United Kingdom, however, remained open even until now.

Since about 1978, there has been a steady increase in the number of students who were not LL.B. graduates from the University but who joined the P.C.LL. program, indicating that the P.C.LL. program was becoming increasingly popular as a means of getting a legal qualification to practice law in Hong Kong.



Our Dean, Prof. Wesley-Smith, playing his guitar and singing his song (Yes, again) at the X'mas Party of '87.

1980's onward

From 1970's onwards, there has been a tremendous increase in the number of law students. The number has reached its peak at 150 and thereby fixed until now. In view of the fact that the number of law students has increased drastically, the University has also recruited a number of professional tutors, thereby expanding the scale of this School which paved the way for later development.

In 1984, the Faculty of Law was first established. It was separated into two departments: the Department of Law and the Department of Professional Legal Education. The former is responsible for the three-year Bachelor of Laws

degree while the latter provides a one-year course to the award of the Postgraduate Certificate in Laws. Dr. Orchard was the first Department Head. At that time, he was also responsible for the Law Drafting Division of Basic Law. Professor Peter Wesley-Smith, who was the founder of Legal Education in HKU, succeeded the office of Department Head from Dr. Orchard. He also became the Dean of Faculty in 1993.

In the '80's, the curriculum has been changed in a certain way. Law of Tort was changed into a 1st year course, and Constitutional and Administrative Law has been promoted to the 2nd year syllabus. Recently, Law and Society and Legal Research and Writing were also implemented to raise student's analytical power and enhancing their skills of writing.

In 1984, the Faculty first introduced Chinese Law in response to the Joint Declaration, which was an optional course at first, but was later changed into a unit course.

By 1990, the LL.B. Regulation has introduced the units system. Much more subjects became optional so students could have a wider range of choices and chances to be exposed to interdisciplinary system. Gradually, law students were encouraged to study courses of other faculties, especially in sociology and other social and political subjects.

Apart from the LL.B. course, the School of Professional And Continuing Education (SPACE) has also organized a London External Course consisting of the Common Professional Exam both internationally and locally.

In 1986, the Faculty introduced a programme leading to the degree of Master of Laws (LL.M.). The programme concentrates on the areas of international trade-law, commercial law, transport law, tax law, human rights law, the law of the PRC and East Asia, and is directed particularly, although

not exclusively, at young graduates in practice. Besides, Postgraduate Diploma in Commercial Law and Postgraduate Diploma in Chinese Law have been established in 1993 for the enhancement of the legal knowledge of the existing lawyers.

Every year, there is a Visitor Programme which aims at cultural exchange. Usually, seven to eight foreign experts will be invited to have interviews and to conduct seminars for the current law students. Recently, there has been an increasing number of Chinese Scholars taking part in this programme. In terms of local cultural exchange program, HKU and City University has cooperated in arranging various activities including Decan's Cup Mooting Competition. On the other hand, well-qualified students from both universities are selected to participate in the International Law Mooting Competition. Besides, debating competition also plays an important role in enhancing our relationship with City University.

In December of 1988, the Faculty moved to K. K. Leung Building. Its offices and teaching rooms are on the 3rd, 4th, and 5th floors with the Dean, Heads of Departments, Faculty Secretary and General Office on the 4th floor, and the Law Library on 1st and 2nd floors.

The Faculty today has some 700 full-time and part-time students and 50 full-time lecturers. In fact, the current number of staff is greater than the total number of members in the Faculty when it was first established 25 years ago with just 4 lecturers and 37 undergraduates.



At the Convocation...

Interview with a Q.C.: Mr. Andrew Liao

As the first of a series of interviews with past graduates of the Law Faculty, we are honoured to have the opportunity to talk to Mr. Andrew Liao, Q.C., the current Chairman of the Law Alumni Association. Mr. Liao is one of the very first batch of law graduates produced locally, having joined the Law Faculty (then the Law Department under the Faculty of Social Sciences) in 1969, the first year of its birth, and became chairman of the of the HKU Law Association in 1970. For more information and interesting anecdotes on his days in the earliest years of the Law Faculty and the Law Association, here's the interview for your benefit:

☺ Reporters: Stephen Wong, Michelle Ng
☞ Mr. Andrew Liao

☺ Mr. Liao, what was the situation of prospective law students prior to the setting up of the Law Department in 1969?

☞ Before 1969, there were no law courses available in Hong Kong's universities. So for prospective law students back then, there were only three routes to obtain a degree: (1) to study abroad, especially in the U.K.; (2) to study an external law course of other overseas universities; and (3) to undertake a 10-year period of articleship upon graduation from secondary school, then sit for the U.K. Law Society Examination Parts I & II.

☺ Can you tell us some of the teething problems experienced by the Department and the first batch of students such as you when the Law Department was first set up?

☞ One of the main questions faced by the Department in 1969 was where to house the ourselves. In the end, the Department was set up away from the main campus, in _____, where the original building used to be a police inspectors' quarters (it's a garden now). We had one lecture room, several tutorial rooms, a library, a Student Common Room and also a Teachers' Room. However, being so removed from the main campus, we law students were extremely close among ourselves and used to hang out together, and this may have given others the impression that we were an unsociable clique.

On the academic side, though, we didn't experience much trouble, even though there were few teachers in the first year, since there were only 44 students in the class and only a few subjects were taught.

☺ We know that you became Chairman of the Law Association in your second year. Actually, when was it formed and what were the main activities of the day?

☞ Well, the original idea of forming the L.A. came from Moses Cheng, who was also its first chairman in 1969. And I suppose it's natural to have an association of law students when all other departments have their corresponding societies. As to the activities back then, there were the University inter-department competitions, of which we won a lot; and other social functions of the University. We also organized our own social functions, such as the Annual Ball, and when I was Chairman, we also actively prepared for the publication of an academic law review -- *Justitia* -- which first appeared in 1972.

☺ What were some other memorable experiences in your university career?

☞ In my third year, I organized the first Orientation Camp of the Law Department. We spent one week in Tao Po and grew to be really close with the new students. There was absolutely no idea of ragging new students.

☺ Then there was no "seniority system" back then?

☞ Certainly not. We were a really close lot back then and all law students -- seniors and freshmen alike -- shared a tight community together. The concept of seniority was not even born in those days.

☺ What about the academic workload in the past?

☞ The workload was exceptionally heavy in the third year. I think the department was still experimenting in the curriculum and we got the feeling that we, as the first batch of students, were a bit like guinea pigs for the experimentation of the syllabus. There were some complaints from us, and the workload was then made slightly lighter. Anyway, we all got through it since we were a bright and diligent lot -- we even discussed complex legal problems and cases during lunch hour!

☺ You became Chairman of the Law Alumni Association in 1992. Can you tell us when it was set up and what were its main aims and functions?

☞ The Law Alumni Association was set up in the 20th anniversary of the Law Department. Moses Cheng was the first chairman, then I took over in 1992 when Mr. Cheng joined the Legislative Council.

Actually, we don't really hold many social functions, since we're a small profession and we see each other frequently. The Law Alumni Association is different from the alumni of other faculties in this sense and I have to say that we are still seeking its direction at the present stage. However, we do hold anniversary dinners at the Convention Centre and we also support seminars at the University.

As to its aims, a very important one is to maintain a close relationship with the Law Faculty (especially in giving financial support!); another aim is obviously to maintain close ties among old students. Also, we would also like to form a closer affiliation between current practitioners and law students.

☺ Would there be any changes in the aims of the Association now that the transition of HK's sovereignty in 1997 is imminent?

☞ Yes, I think so. With only a little more than a year and a half left of British rule, I think there is an increasing importance in being aware of current and legal issues, which is taking on a more personal significance, especially to lawyers. I think the Law Alumni Association should play a role in facilitating awareness of such important issues. Moreover, we would like to hold more joint functions with the L.A. so as to improve the relationship our members and L.A. members.

☺ What would you say is the main difficulty in heading the Law Alumni Association?

☞ I think the main difficulty faced by all organizers is poor attendance in functions which will most certainly put a damper on the atmosphere of the whole event. I also used to worry about it a lot, but I no longer do, since I realize now that we could attract people to attend functions if we have a spirited group dedicated to the planning and organization of such functions and that they are fun. People will come when the reputation is good!

☺ Last question: in your opinion, what should be the future direction of the Law Faculty and the Law Association?

☞ Hm... it's hard to say what *direction* they should take -- but I do think the L.A. should, in the coming years, place more emphasis in social awareness and involvement, like organizing the Law Week. Also, it is important to help increase students' knowledge of other legal systems, especially that of China and Taiwan, and thus improve awareness of the relevance of the China-HK-Taiwan connection to the study of law in Hong Kong.

As to the Faculty itself, well, it is of my personal opinion that the Faculty is a bit behind in adapting the syllabus to changes in the legal system, especially in relation to the transition. It is obvious that Chinese law and legal system are becoming increasingly important now that more and more lawyers recognize its role in the future practice of the law and are reading external courses organized by universities in China. However, we do not have enough relevant courses on Chinese law in the Faculty; on the other hand, students are required to study a heavy amount of cases in Land Law that are either no longer relevant or just not applicable to HK. I think it is highly important for the Faculty to gear towards the future needs of HK society by adding more relevant courses that will enhance a smooth adaptation of the legal profession to the new situation.

Interview with a Lecturer: Mr. Albert Chen

© Reporters: Rebecca Lau, Kennis Tai, Yanky Lam
☞ Mr. Chen

☺ Why do you study law?

☞ The main reason is that I am interested in areas about society and people. Moreover, studying law seems to me a very practical choice because I think it will be easier to get a job. Furthermore, lawyers in TV programmes and court trials have always interested me, and the experience I have from debating while I was in secondary school has also influenced me to choose law. I think my father has also influenced me to make this choice because he, being a civil servant, thinks that law is a very useful subject and he encourages me to study law.

☺ Why did you choose to be a law teacher rather than a barrister or solicitor?

☞ The crucial reason is that I can't be both at the same time. Moreover, I prefer to pursue in the academic aspect of law like teaching, doing research and writing articles. In addition, I think it is a very challenging era to be a law teacher because the Joint Declaration was signed in 1984 and the issues which followed, like the drafting of the Basic Law and the legal problem and issues concerning the 1997 changeover, are all the areas which I am interested in.

☺ You have been appointed as "Consultant on Hong Kong Affairs" this year, what exactly do you think is the role of this office?

☞ I think that China is now preparing for the changeover of sovereignty in 1997. To do this, she decides to set up some organizations or departments which will assist and give advice on the political and legal matters concerning the changeover. "Consultants on Hong Kong Affairs" are representatives from different sectors of the society whom China wish to rally their support. I think the role of these "Consultants" is only to advice and assist China to ensure a smooth transfer of sovereignty in 1997.

☺ Are you confident that the status quo of Hong Kong will be preserved after the changeover?

☞ My personal view is that Hong Kong's future and China's future are inseparable and inter-related. If China continues her economic and democratic reform, then there is guarantee that there will be a future for Hong Kong.

I think it is unwise to separate Hong Kong's infrastructure and institutions from those of China and to neglect China's internal political development. In my view, the economy of Hong Kong and China is, to a very large extent, connected together. Lots of Hong Kong economic activities are brought about by investments in and commercial transactions with China.

Even lawyers today have to have a good understanding of Chinese Law so as to survive in this competitive market.

I am quite optimistic about China's reform which in turn means that I am confident about the future of Hong Kong.

☺ You were a law student in HKU from 1978-81 and then a law teacher form 1984 up to now. Are there any significant changes between the past and the present?

☞ In the past, it was very difficult to have a place in the Faculty because of the competitiveness to enter. Now, it is much easier to be admitted since the nubmer of places has increased. The relationship between teachers and students then was not as good or as close as it is now because students then mainly came from prestigious high schools and were hard to get along with, whereas students today come from many different schools, and the relationship between teachers and students and among students is better and more open. Interestingly, there were more boys than girls in the Faculty in the past but now the ratio is the opposite. Another change is that there are ample resources available for students today.

Interview with a Solicitor: **Mr. Eric M. Y. Ching**

Mr. Ching graduated in 1990 as a Bachelor of Laws. He completed his P.C.L.L. in 1991. Mr. Ching was also the treasurer of the Law Association when he was studying in his first year.

► Reporters: Jennifer Cheuk, Theresa Mak,
Stephen Wong

► Mr. Ching

► What made you become an Exco member of L.A.?

► I wanted to get to know more people and to make new friends. As a first year student, my time was quite flexible and there wasn't a lot of things to do, and partly, I wanted to serve others.

► Did you devote a lot of your time as an Exco member?

► Yes, I spent a lot of time. I had to attend regular meetings, and as a treasurer, I had to be responsible for keeping the account record and reimbursement to others.

► Do you think it was worthwhile?

► It was worthwhile, as it brought memories. I got the chance to acquaint people from upper and lower years which helped a great deal in organizing various activities, such as the Orientation Camp then, and even at work now.

► What kinds of activities did the L.A. organize?

► We organized the Annual Ball, Orientation Camp and fund raising activities. If I remember correctly, we organized an activity called "L.A. Arrival", similar to a fun fair. The whole function lasted about two weeks, during which people got to know each other. There were also competitions between the different groups.

► What were the responses?

► In those years, the response was considered to be very good. Most students were very active and participated zealously.

► As an Exco member, were there any special memories?

► I think that if I wasn't an Exco member I wouldn't be able to establish a deep friendship with some of the members who became my close friends. They also helped me in my work as a solicitor.

► What was the Annual General Meeting like in your days?

► People who attended the meeting were very harsh and they were very critical. They asked various questions to test our responses. It was quite scary especially as a first year student.

► How did other students view their campus life?

► Most of them were not that keen. There were some who were very enthusiastic but mostly it was quite similar to secondary school life.

► To what extent are the things that you learned at law school applicable to practice?

► Some topics are applicable such as law of contract, torts and evidence. There are also other subjects that are not applicable such as International Trade Law and Jurisprudence (Legal Theory).

► Is the workload of a practitioner the same as a law student?

► For me, it's almost the same. As a practitioner, I have to deal with different cases, and some of them are quite difficult. The main difference is that as a law student you only have to face exams and you are only concerned about yourself, but as a practitioner you have to consider the client as well. The pressure is heavier.

► Did other graduates pursue their career in the law field?

► Mostly yes; some worked in other fields after graduation but returned to the law field after some time. Some graduates became lecturers such as Lusina Ho and Alice Lee.

► Why did you study law?

► I was quite interested in it. The main reason why I became a solicitor is that I could help others solve their problems.

► What do you think is the impact of 1997 on the Hong Kong legal system? How does it affect you?

► I don't think the effects of 1997 will be immediate. The change will be rather slow. The British and Chinese legal systems are very different. The Hong Kong legal system will not change radically. I don't think I'll be affected for another ten years.

► Lastly, what advice would you give to law students?

► I think studies should come first.

► If you were to choose again, would you become an Exco member?

► I will still enter the committee but I'll not devote that much time in it.

An Article from the Alumni

by Aster Elms

I have been asked to write about the trials and tribulations of the Law Association the four years I have been at HKU. To start with, I think I need to go back to the time when I was a mere first year anonymity. I remember I was the penultimate person to be interrogated in the Mass Orientation, so my ordeal was excruciatingly prolonged. When my Hour of Judgment came, I was exhausted, and only wanted to be swallowed up by the earth beneath my feet. Luckily I got over the M.O. almost unscathed, but the awesome power of senior students was all-pervasive. That sort of feeling persisted while I was in first year, and only intensified after I got involved in student activities. There was not just a few, but a whole lot of really frightening people around. EGM's and AGM's were like Doomsday. People really took those extremely seriously and votes of thanks were not dished out like school lunches either - you actually had to be good to get it because of the great honour a vote of thanks bestowed upon you - no light matter.

My year was a disappointment in terms of the L.A. As most of you would know, there was no ExCo in 1990-1991, especially after the debacle of the previous L.A: the downfall of the Chairman, the news of which was sent to the two professional bodies as well - such was the severity of the attitude students in those days had. It was probably a direct result of this that we had no ExCo that year. Life was exceedingly quiet without the ExCo, there were no posters, no crazy class visits announcing football matches and Christmas parties. It was, in truth, a dead life in the L.A. Some sentimental (justifiably so, I think) former student even wrote a little piece in a Chinese language newspapers about this sad state of affairs. When I was a member of the ExCo in 1991-1992, we had quite a rough time, generally speaking. I suppose we had the disadvantage of having to pick things up from scratch. The one most harrowing experience I had was the threat of eviction of the ExCo from their present office on the fifth floor of the KKL Building. Some of the seniors were really upset with the way the ExCo

was so low-key in handling the whole incident. There were fresh open letters every day for about two weeks on the fifth floor. The whole thing was blown out of proportions. We did our research, got help from the Dean of Students, and in the end I'm proud to say that we won and remain where we are to this day.

I suppose the L.A. has changed quite a lot since my days which feels like a decade ago already. It seems to be more exciting now because of the diversity in the backgrounds and lifestyles of the students. Attitudes have changed, and whether it's for better or worse, it's hard to say. First year students are no longer as submissive and passive as they were before. There also seems to be a lot inter-year mingling. The curriculum has also changed to quite a large extent. Law students continue to head the debate team, and we continue to have the honour and pleasure to represent Hong Kong in international debate and mooted competitions. Let's hope it stays that way. Naturally, the L.A. is a microcosm of the society we live in. But I think I can say that nowadays there are not many students who take an active interest in what we commonly call "social awareness" - which I believe is one of the L.A.'s aims to promote. There is in fact a lot one can and should achieve as a law student, especially in this crucial period of time in the history of Hong Kong. We should be having discussions, debates, and fulfilling our duty of educating the public on this very issue, not to mention the challenges our profession will have to face in future. These are very real issues that you too will have to face as soon as you get out of the Faculty and start life as a member of the legal profession.

Having said all that, and trying hard not to make this sound like jurisprudence lecture notes, I have to say that I have enjoyed the time I have been a member of the L.A. Life is only as full as you choose to live it. Whether you want to swot for an Upper Second, or take off to do all sorts of weird and wonderful things is entirely a matter for you. But whichever way you choose to go, make sure you live it to the full: good luck and all the best!

Calendar of Events

December '94	
20	Christmas Party

June	
Summer Vacation	

January '95	
6	Inauguration
10	Legal Referral Scheme

July	
12	Social Services
26	Social Services

February	
15	Inter-year Soccer Match

August	
30 to 31	Orientation Camp

March	
10	Debate vs City University
21	Study Skills Seminar
23	Study Skills Seminar
25	Friendly Basketball Match vs City University
30	Legal Referral Scheme ends

September	
5	Court Visit
8	Mass Orientation
11	Individual Visit
12	Careers Orientation
16	Camp Fire
26	Men's Soccer Match
28	Ladies' Basketball Match
	Drama Competition
30	Legal Exhibition

April	
EXAM	

October	
1	Legal Exhibition
3	Ladies' Basketball Champ Fight
14	Freshmen Nite
end	Student Law Review Publishing Date

May	
21 to 31	Interflow Tour to Taiwan

November	
4 to 5	HKU Open Day
12	Annual Ball

X'mas Party

by Lucia Sun

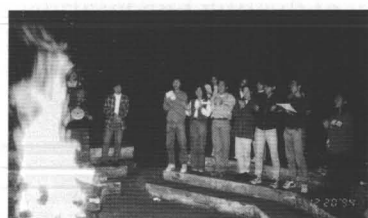
NOT the publicity gimmick that attracted comers, NOT the sumptuous feast that lured zealous supporters, NOT the eloquent Exco that persuaded the participants, but ONLY the devoted heart and spirit that has miraculously gathered the L.A. members together in such a holy and festive day - 20th December, 1994.

We really had an enjoyable evening, every high-spirited law student came with a delighted heart, freed themselves from the shackles of boring stuff. The party kicked off with a series of games which are well-designed and appeared as a magic to hold each other tightly. Cheering, yelling and hysterical crying echoed in Tai Tam.

"If you participate, you should strictly stick to the rules of the game," "whoever lose should receive punishment," Out of our expectation, the deviated nature of punishment really served well to the losers - Do you know how to share a banana just by mouths of the opposite sex? Do you know how to 'blow water' into both ends of a tube without getting wet? I think there must be some skills in it! Outsiders may `never get hold of it.



Playing the mass game "Fire Burning Back Yard."



Cheer singing beside the camp fire.

After the exhaustive games, we then stuffed ourselves with barbecued food. Fish-balls, chicken-wings, sausages were no special food, but the time we dined together was valuable as we could get to know each other, learning from others' experience and chatting together with endless topics.

Another climax came. The "Amazing blaze" - a real camp fire made us feel as warm as a toast. We sat in a circle, telling stories in form of Christmas Caroling, while Santa Claus gave out presents with sincere smile and warm greetings, our hearts melted and cohered into one. Day was gone, but the voice was still echoing and lingering in the air...

Inauguration

by Simon Yu, External Vice Chairman

On 6th January, 1995, Professor Peter Wesley-Smith, the Dean of the Faculty of Law and the Honorary President of Law Association, administered the oath to the new office bearers, marking the commencement of the office of the new Executive Committee.



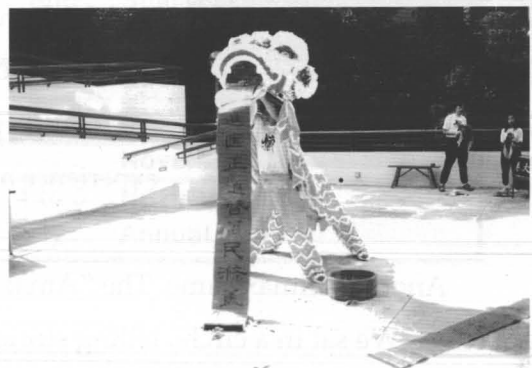
I hereby solemnly swear that I shall most faithfully obey the Constitution and discharge my duty...



Eyes-dotting to the lion by the Dean.

The ceremony, having the honour of the attendance of lecturers, the executive committee members of the City University Law Departmental Society, representatives of halls and faculties, began with the rousing singing of Law Anthem.

After the Dean's welcoming speech, and the former Chairman, Mr. Tony Chow's introduction to the Association, silver plates were presented to the past Exco members in order to express the heartfelt gratitude for their contribution to the Association. The inaugural address of the new Chairman was followed by a lion dance which brought the ceremony up to a climax.



Lion Dance with banner saying the objective of being a law student.

Inter-University Chinese Debate

by Yvonne Kwok, External Secretary

The aim of the debate was to enhance the communication and exchange between the two law schools in Hong Kong, the University of Hong Kong and the Hong Kong City University. Moreover, we aspire to arouse social and political consciousness among not only law students but other fellow university students.

The debate was held on 10th March, 1995, at the Podium of Hong Kong University. The motion was "The Establishment of the Provisional Legislature is Advantageous towards a Smooth Transfer of Sovereignty."

Luster was added to our Debate with the honourable presence of Mr. Ng Kam Chun, Miss Priscilla Leung and Miss Anne Cheung as our adjudicators.

Mr. Eric Tsang of the City University won the prize as the best debater. Whereas the team representing the Faculty of Law of the University of Hong Kong took the championship by the vote of 2:1.

Greatest appreciation to all the debaters and supporters.



Exchange of souvenirs by the two Chairmen.



The two debating teams meet.

STUDY SKILL SEMINAR

by Alan Lin, Welfare Secretary

Studying law is not at all an easy task. Facing piles of duplicated materials and lengthy cases and judgments, students, especially the freshmen may find it difficult to cope with the course. In order to enhance the studying strategy and techniques of the Year I students, a study skill seminar was organized by the Association in March.

The seminar was divided into three sessions to discuss general study skills, examination techniques as well as approaches to tackle with subjects which were more abstract and difficult to understand, such as Legal System and Law & Society.

The seminar was quite successful as there were over a hundred Year I students attending in some of the sessions. Nonetheless, since the seminar was held near the time of examinations, most of the questions and discussions focused only on examination itself. It is suggested that the seminar should be held at an earlier time of the school year so that students can really make use of the techniques to improve the effectiveness in learning right at the beginning of the term. Moreover, another study skill seminar for the PCLL students is also welcomed since the fresh graduates may also have hardships in adapting the new approach in lectures and tutorials as well as a sudden increase of workload and examinations. Yet, some lecturers advised us to hold a *sleeping* skill seminar for the PCLL students as they might too often burn the midnight oil and ignore the importance of a rest!

Finally, we would like to extend our heart-felt thanks to Ms. Betty Ho, Mr. Albert Chen and Mr. Johannes Chan for their generous support in being the speakers of the seminar.

Interflow Tour to Taiwan

by Yvonne Kwok (II)

Introduction

The Law Association has been organizing Legal Interflow Tours in the past three years; Beijing in 1988 and 1994, Shanghai in 1993. Each shouldered the aim of enhancing a mutual understanding of the legal systems of Hong Kong and of our future sovereign master.

As law students of the University of Hong Kong, we are proud and most ready to introduce to others the comprehensive effective legal system of Hong Kong. Yet, in order to reflect the changing needs of society and make improvements to our legal system, we need to exchange and learn from our neighbours, whose legal systems may be different from ours, yet are pursuing the same ideals of upholding justice and maintaining stability. Thus, we treasure opportunities to expose ourselves to different horizons so as to enrich our knowledge.

This year, we chose to visit Taiwan, Republic of China (R.O.C.). Taiwan adopts a continental legal system, which serves as a contrast to the common law jurisdiction in Hong Kong and also to the socialist and communist ideologies of the People's Republic of China. Moreover, there is a close link between Taiwan, the People's Republic of China and Hong Kong in terms of trade and commerce, culture, politics and legal influences. Therefore, it is our hope that after the tour, we can draw a clearer relationship between these different areas.

Taiwan in Retrospect

During the ten days in Taiwan, apart from visiting the law schools of the Taiwan Soochow University and the National Taiwan University, which involved exchanging lectures and having discussions, we visited political parties such as the Kuomintang and the Democratic Progressive Party, as well as courts, prisons and other government institutions. This opportunity not only exposed us to the academic side of the Taiwan legal system but the practical side of it. Through discussions with the prosecutors and judges, we learned much about how their legal system operated, the heavy workload of the legal profession and their aspirations towards society. And after visiting other government institutions, we had a clearer and more complete picture of how the legal system was networking within the whole country. The legal system cannot work without the cooperation of the people and the government.



National Taiwan University



One of the District Courts in Taiwan.

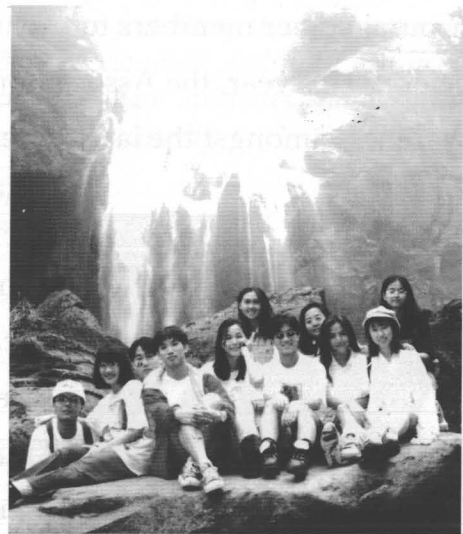


Mainland Affairs Council Executive Yuan.

Despite the low attendance of Taiwan students due to clashes with their examinations, we all treasured the chance of visiting the two universities. The hospitality of the professors and students made us feel at home. Their willingness to answer our questions and their openness in sharing their views within us stimulated fruitful discussions. On the other hand, some of our students also gave lectures and performed mock trials as a way of explaining our own legal system to them.

Cultural exchange was an important aspect of our tour; thus, we grasped the chance to tour around Taiwan. Now, we got to know more about the history of Taiwan and the way and nature of living there. In addition, we were delighted to have students from the Soochow University to accompany us on some of our visits.

I would like to take this opportunity to extend my heartiest thanks to all who welcomed us.



Sze Tou Waterfall.



Science Museum.



Sun Yat-sen Memorial Hall.

Afterthoughts

Frankly speaking, ten days of interflow tour only provided us with a chance to touch upon the surface of the Taiwan legal system. But I can say that this is only our first step. Only by establishing connections with universities and institutes of different countries can we bring about continuous communication and cooperation to enhance our relationship.

Social Services

by Simon Yu, External Vice Chairman

Students of the Law Faculty, like their fellow-students in the University, are always caring for the livelihood of the unfortunate and needy. In order to accomplish one of the three underlying missions stipulated in the Constitution of the Law Association -- to promote an interest to serve the community amongst members of the Association (see 2, Art 2c), for years, the Association has actively encouraged her members to take part in social activities and pay more attention to society. This year, the Association has organized various activities to arouse social awareness amongst the law students.



The Association organized two services for the aging members of our society during the summer vacation. The fun-fair was held at Pao Siu Loong Care and Attention Home in rural Tai Po. The "players," despite their feebleness, some of them were even in wheelchairs, were so eager and glad. Although it was heavily raining outside that day, the elderly home was overwhelmed with joy and pleasure.

Another function serving the elderly was held in late July. Some 20 law students went shopping with the elderly. After a one-hour shopping in Sheungshui, they went to have lunch in a Chinese restaurant in Tai Po. Since each student was assigned an old man or an old woman, there were many opportunities for interactions and communications between the young and the old. It was indeed a valuable experience.



Orientation '95

by Patricia Yung, Internal Vice Chairlady

Through encouraging the **participation** of freshmen and current law students (as part of the organizing committee, sub-committees, as group leaders or current students in each orientation group) in this year's orientation activities, we aimed at the **incorporation** of freshmen into the University, the Law Faculty and the Law Association and thus arouse a sense of belonging; to arouse **social awareness** among freshmen and provide them with **information** on legal studies and career prospects.

Theme : **The Armour of the Knights**

In using different parts of a knight's armour as the group names of each orientation group, we hope to foster unity and co-operation among law students which is vital for the integrity of lawyers as a profession -- though each different piece of the armour has its own function, it cannot perform its function by itself; only together with the other parts can its purpose be complete and fully manifested. In addition, a piece of armour symbolizes the fighting spirit of a knight -- law students should always be ready to face challenges ahead of them and fight against all obstacles undauntedly.

* Group names: Helmet, Visor, Gorget, Gauntlet, Cuirass, Brassart, Pauldron, Dagger, Solleret, Tasset

Orientation Camp

Date : 30 - 31 August, 1995
Venue : Kadoorie Agricultural & Research Centre, Yuen Long
P.I.C.: : Pearl Chan

After a lunch gathering at a Chinese restaurant, our freshmen, group leaders and current students headed for the camp-site in gay and knightly spirits and in anticipation of the 3-day camp.



The "gang" of the Sub-committee.



Colouring our faces with lipsticks at the Quiz Show.

Upon arrival, the programmes started rolling, first with a brief introductory session of the Law Association by the Executive Committee, which was followed by a *Quiz Show* -- a challenge to freshmen and current student alike. After dinner was the *Interview with the Vampire Riddle 'n Hunt*, in which each group had to complete various tasks and solve riddles in order to obtain clues and hints of their target current students whom they were to visit and write a short article about.

Day One was surely full of laughs, yells and shouts, and we were all just too glad to have some hours of sleep to dream of the fun that would continue the next day. Yet, we were 'awakened' not by the morning calls of our pagers or fellow campers, but the sudden arrival of a typhoon! We could only but arrange for an early departure from the camp-site after the morning's programmes.

Though our programmes and run-down were slightly affected, the spirit of our 'knights' weren't a bit dampened. Their enthusiasm and creativity were fully demonstrated by their participation in the mass *Bingo* and *Simple Twist of Fate*, where the most ingenious and hilarious explanations could be given in response of the questions asked!

With the rain and wind coming in on us, we bade our sentimental farewells: "Good-bye and see you later ..."

The Night of the Knights -- the Combat Continues (Campfire)

Date : 16 September, 1995
 Venue : Tai Tam Scouts Centre
 Time : 3:30 - 10:00 p.m.
 P.I.C. : Pearl Chan

"... see you later" ? Well, why not! Never shall our fighting spirits be tampered by the elements!

So, in the midst of drizzles, the battle against the atmospheric elements continued in the Night of the Knights!



Group Photo



Splashing out at Water Volleyball game

Before the battle began, our knights warmed themselves up in *Waterworld*, *Silence of the Lamb* and *Colour of Knight* where 'balls' of water bulleted the air and bombarded the arena with splashes of laughter!



Silence of the Lambs.

With enough practice and food, our knights were ready for action -- the campfire! With an outburst of our L.A. Spirit, we all joined in the campfire songs, some of which required gesture -- and 'attention-seeking' ones indeed! "Home-ka-lin-ka", "O wa la wa la wa ki wa wa", "Lum sum sum ah lum sum sum" ... were all you could hear even though the rain tried to encroach upon us; yet, the combat proceeded non-stop and came to its climax with the cheers of each year and the Men's and Ladies' Cheers -- fresh, new and innovative!

And so, the combat came to an end, and we left the battleground not in wounds and clutches, but in mud-clogged soles, rain-soaked armour and triumphant smiles!

Court Visit

Date : 5 September, 1995
Time : 9:30 a.m.
Venue : Supreme Court of Hong Kong, Queensway
P.I.C. : Margaret Lin and Derek Chan

All dressed in dark, freshmen and current students gathered at the lobby of the Supreme Court of Hong Kong awaiting to disperse to the different court rooms and learn of the judicial system in Hong Kong from practical experience.



Apart from visiting assigned court rooms, each group also visited court rooms of their own choice to hear cases which they found interesting. Under the guidance of group leaders and current students, our freshmen saw for themselves how a trial was conducted and the court procedures -- some were even lucky enough to attend cases which involved the submission of exhibits in drug trafficking case and the impaneling of jurors!

Mass Orientation

Date : 8 September, 1995
Venue : LE 1, Library Extension, HKU
Time : 5:30 p.m.
P.I.C. : Josephine Chow

The traditional Mass Orientation was held in the evening of the day which the Department of Law held its Official Welcoming Ceremony. With the Dean of the Faculty, Prof. Peter Wesley-Smith officiating the ceremony, the solemn event was conducted with each and every formally, neatly and tidily dressed freshman introducing themselves to current students in turn. They also took the opportunity to express themselves through answering questions (concerning social, legal, cultural issues, etc.) assigned to them, after which current students put forth to them follow-up questions and comments. In an air of mutual respect, the occasion was concluded with a round of overall comments and each freshmen took home with them their valuable experience of the evening and an idea of what was expected of them as a law student.

Individual Visits

Date : 11 - 25 September, 1995
P.I.C. : Lily Chan

The event which involves the most extensive numbers of law students was held during the fortnight beginning on the first day classes began. Freshmen were to arrange visits with a target of 20 current law students, some of which were assigned to them; this provided the best chance for fresh students to make inquiries on the life of a law student at the University and to seek suggestions and advice on how to plan their future years of legal studies. And by the many stickers with signatures of current students obtained by our freshmen posted on the freshmen's record board, it could be seen that our freshmen had taken the opportunity to benefit from the activity.

Careers' Orientation

Date : 12 September, 1995 Time : 6:30 p.m.
P.I.C. : Alex Lok
Venue : Rm 302 A & B, Chong Yuet Ming Amenities Centre, HKU
Guest Speakers : Mr. Osmond Lam, Barrister
 Mr. Christopher Britton, Solicitor of Denton Hall
 Miss Brace Leung, Solicitor of Denton Hall
 Miss Bernadette Mak, Trainee Solicitor



This year, we had the honour to invite members of the legal profession representing both the Hong Kong Bar Association and Law Society of Hong Kong as our guest speakers. An introduction on the legal profession and career prospects was given to the a hundred and so participating law students and the queries they had concerning the profession were also fully answered by our guest speakers during the questions and answers session.

Drama Competition Date : 28 September, 1995 Time : 6:30 p.m.
Venue : KKL109, K.K.Leung Building, HKU P.I.C. : Winnie Fung

All freshmen were grouped into 5 groups to present an original drama of an assigned genre, namely suspense, horror, comedy, romance and social-issues. Our honourable adjudicators, Miss Anna Tam (Lecturer at the Faculty of Law) and Mr. Tony Chow (L.A. Chairman 1992-93), were impressed by the performances and the efforts paid by the participants. All of them held wonderful performances, especially the winner of the nights' competition -- a horror drama by Pauldron and Dagger. Earning the applause of the audience were not only our guest performers, Miss Vivian Chan and Mr. Edward Tong, but also the Best Actor and Actress of the event, which were secured, respectively, by Mr. Regan Chong, starring a Hong Kong guy struggling between his wife and his mistress, and Miss Regina Chan who starred the museum-keeper of the Museum of Horror.

Freshmen Nite

Date : 14 October, 1995
Time : 6:30 p.m.
Venue : Swire Canteen, HKU
Convenor : Jimmy Tse



Trying to figure out what they are with our hands.... Scary! *The traditional Beer-drinking Competition.*



Chairlady : Elanie Wong Secretary : Anson Wong Publicity : Wayne Law
Catering : Annie Choi Programs : Sharon Ng Treasurer : Vincent Leung

With the theme "Awakening" as the theme of this year's Freshmen Nite and the aim of expressing their gratitude to the lecturers and current students for their advice and guidance throughout Orientation, our freshmen fully took the opportunity to reveal their cooperation and hidden talents. With only 3 weeks for them to prepare for the event, they still successfully publicized the event and conducted an evening of specially designed programmes with glamorous decorations which attracted the attendance of nearly 250 current students and freshmen altogether.



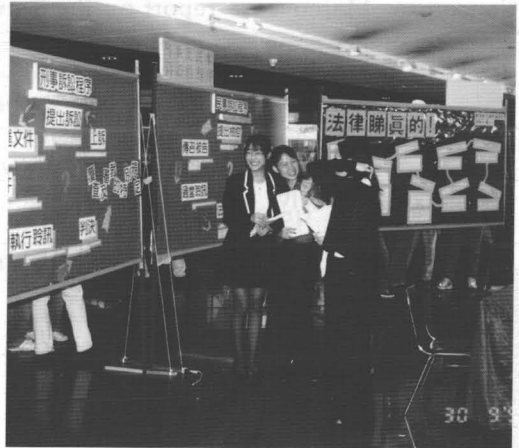
Eunice and Victor playing the drama at Freshmen Nite.

Legal Exhibition

by James Fong, Legal Education Secretary

In order to promote the interests and understanding in Law amongst the general public, a Legal Exhibition was organized in the year of 1994-1995, on 30th September and 1st October 1995, in the Bauhinia Garden. The title of this Exhibition was "The Introduction to the Hong Kong Legal System."

For the preparation of this Exhibition, we had the invaluable cooperation from four co-organizing schools and organizations, namely the Ying Wa Girls' School, Tuen Mun Government School, the Sacred Heart Canossian College and the Junior Police Call (Western District). These secondary school students contributed tremendously in the research work and in designing the display boards, while students from the Faculty organized themselves into sub-committees to render guidance and administrative support.



During the opening of the Exhibition on 30th September, we were endowed with the presence of Mr. Barry Sceats, Vice Chairman of the Bar Association and Mr. Patrick Sherrington, Vice President of the Law Society as the Guests of Honour, and Mr. Wilkinson from the Faculty to be the Host. Souvenir were presented to the four co-organizers as a token of thanks.



On the whole, the Exhibition was a success. There were around 2000 onlookers who showed their support and interests for the Rule of Law. Through our interaction with the public, they showed the greatest concern over issues of the Family Law, Law of Probate and the Legal System after 1997.

Finally, the Exhibition has yet to come to an end. The display boards will be exhibited in various other Secondary Schools so as to convey the Rule of Law to an even greater circle of the public.

OPEN DAY of HKU 1995

by Stephen Wong, Chairman

The Open Day of Hong Kong University is held every three years. This year it was held on 4th & 5th November.

Being a member of the University, the Law Association has actively participated in various pre-Open Day programmes, such as the Tug-of-War, etc. And for the Open day, besides displaying the history and the development of the Law Faculty and the Law Association, we had prepared a legal exhibition concerning Rule of Law and the legal system of Hong Kong in the KKL Concourse. Moreover, a report on the Taiwan Legal Interflow Tour and a brief introduction of the Taiwan Legal system were also posted up.

Together with the exhibition, we had a forum and a debate discussing. *What should be done by the Legco in these two years to achieve the most for Hong Kong.* Legco members as well as representatives from the legal profession were invited as speakers and adjudicators of the forum and debate, respectively.

A legal referral counter was also set up for the public to ask questions concerning legal affairs.

An open day is a great opportunity for the University to show to the public its achievements, both academic and cultural. And what we are most concerned about is whether we can make use of these achievements to serve the society. We believe that we are gearing towards this end.

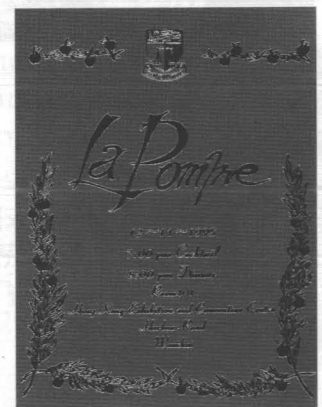
Annual Ball, 1995

by Cici Wong, Social Convenor

The Annual Ball of the Law Association is to be held on 12 November, 1995 in Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre. This year we are honoured to have Sir T. L. Yang as our Patron, and as honourable guests: Mr. Justice Godfrey, Ms. Gladys Li, Mr. Roderick Woo, Mr. James To, Mr. Moses Cheng, Mr. Simon Ip, our Dean, Professor Peter Wesley Smith and our Head of Department, Mr. Albert Chen.

The theme for the ball this year will be "La Pomme" which is a French word meaning "the apple." Since this is the 26th anniversary of the Law Faculty, it marks a brand new beginning after the celebration of the Silver Jubilee. To make this new start more memorable, a musical is prepared for the night. It consists of three parts which have a theme in common for they all start with an *apple*. Nevertheless, there is a more meaningful message hidden behind the story - Everything starts with small and insignificant things. So do our dreams: they may begin with trivial and simple ideas. But if we seize the chance and endeavor with persistency, the dreams will come true.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to extend my gratitude to Sir T. L. Yang, all honourable guests, lecturers and colleagues for supporting the Annual Ball. Moreover, I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to the Annual Ball Organizing Committee and the crew of the musical. There would not be a dream without you and with you the dream comes true.



Sports Events

by Michael Fung, Sports Captain

With the unremitting efforts of our players, the faculty teams achieved outstanding results in the Inter-Faculty Competition in the year 1994-95. Three champions were clinched and medals reaped by our players. Unequivocally, our players deserve much accolade and I owe my thanks for their great dedication.

The following are the Inter-Faculty Competitions that we have participated in:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------|
| 1. Ladies' Overall in Aquatic Meet | 1st Runner-up |
| 2. Ladies' Badminton | Champion |
| 3. Ladies' Squash | Champion |
| 4. Men's Squash | Champion |
| 5. Men's Tennis | 1st Runner-up |
| 6. Men's Badminton | 2nd Runner-up |

In addition, Miss Lung En Ting (Year I) was the Ladies' Individual Champion in the Inter-Faculty Aquatic Meet, and was nominated Sports Woman 1994-95 of the University of Hong Kong. Our swimmers also broke the record on 4 x 50 Medley Relay (Ladies) in the Aquatic Meet.



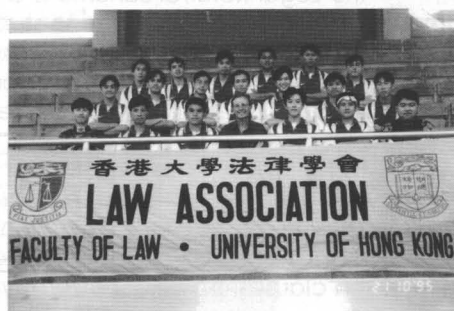
Ladies' Basketball: We were the First Runner-up of 1995-1996.



An exciting friendly match with the City University.

Besides the Inter-Faculty Sports Competition, Law Association has not lost sight of the importance of sports activities within the Faculty. On 15th February, 1995, an inter-year soccer competition was held, under full endorsement and enthusiasm of our fellows at each year. Such an activity could no doubt provide an opportunity to relieve ourselves of the toil of intense work, but at the same time, it was a precious chance for us to replenish a sense of unity and fraternity within our Faculty.

Surely we recognize the importance of internal activities. But external sports functions are also of paramount significance. The get-together with our counterpart law students of the City Polytechnic at the Friendly Basketball Competition on March 25th, 1995 has unequivocally served as a channel of communication. Who the winner was is not where the sense of the competition lies; what we have achieved is the friendship which should be treasured. And we look forward to more similar activities to be launched and even more participation of the sports elite in the Faculty of Law.



Our soccer team taking part in the Legal League.

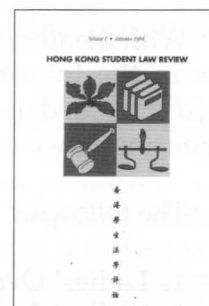
This year, a group of enthusiastic law students formed a soccer team and joined the Legal League, which was previously consisted of 10 soccer teams from different law firms. By participating in these friendly matches, we hope that a closer relationship among us can be established.

Student Law Review Board

by Jennifer Van Dale

Since autumn 1994, the *Hong Kong Student Law Review* has been published yearly by the students of the Law Faculty.

This is a student-written, -edited, -published and -managed publication which aims to provide a forum for law students in Hong Kong to try their hands at serious academic writing, express their opinions on current legal issues, and to share their learning experience. The editors also hope to promote academia as a career option for Hong Kong law students.



The contents of the *Review* include articles written by students covering such topics as China's entry into the World Trade Organization, consumer protection in Hong Kong, and Corruption in Hong Kong and China; shorter notes covering topics of general concern and importance to students which have proved to be particularly puzzling for most, such as the Application of English Law Ordinance; and a section of students' dissertations.

Students can contribute in many ways to the *Review*; positions include editors, proofreaders, fact-checkers, and business managers. Students who have participated in the past feel that working on the *Review* has given them good experience in research and writing as well as in publishing in general.

Thus far, the *Review* has received an enthusiastic response from law firms and chambers. The editors hope that the *Review* will live up to expectations, and will be successful in encouraging students to think and write critically.

Legal Referral Scheme

by Elaine Yu

The Legal Referral Scheme is a student-run scheme that provides legal referral services and advisory services free of charge to students, lecturers, staff of the University, and their family. It was set up with the aims of offering free services to the public with our limited resources, and to provide opportunities for students to learn from this special experience. The Scheme consists of student-helpers who act as interviewers and researchers, and teachers as advisors.

Between January and March of 1995, there were altogether 21 sessions held. Students helpfully interviewed clients, prepared "fact sheets," did research, and helped teachers in communicating the advice to the clients. In the fifteen cases that were completed this year, there were a variety of topics covered including matrimonial property, traffic offences, contract with exemption clauses, power of attorney, etc.

Students can learn a lot from this Scheme. They learned how to hold a proper interview, how to ask the right and relevant questions, how to research on a case within a limited period, and most importantly, how to handle communications between clients and teachers.

Most of the students who participated in the Scheme gained a lot from it, and I encourage all students to take part in it some time in the future.

The Jessup Experience from the Eyes of May Tan

by May Tan

When I think of the Jessups, the word that immediately comes to my mind is "WORK." No doubt there is a wealth of memories recollected from the experience of the participation; but what stood out throughout was the vast amount of work (and hard work, at that!) one had to do. It was no easy task learning from scratch the fundamentals of Public International Law. The amount one had to research was mind-boggling and the concepts were vague and often eluded me. Fortunately, I was teamed up with Jennifer who, as we all know, is a research expert; and that made things more surmountable. The legal materials found in the library were immense and often bewildering! You can imagine the amount of hours spent slogging away in the library...

The amount of work in the preparation for the Moots was quite significant; and when we had to hand up our memorials, we were really in a state of frenzy. Needless to say, our own work took a backseat to the Jessups and were often neglected. Would-be Jessup participants will have to accept this as one of the sacrifices one has to make.

However, after all is said and done about the work, and the tedium of research, I must add that it was an experience worth going through. I admit, I didn't face well for my second year exams but I wouldn't trade my Jessup experience for better grades.



Preparing ourselves for the first match against the Turkey Team.

I learnt what it meant to work in a group, I learnt the finer points of fact finding and research, I learnt what a good moot consisted of, I hope I learnt to become a better mooter (!!??!!)... What I gained from the experience far outweighs the little sacrifice in time. More than that, I got to know my team members a whole lot better and through working together so intensely for the last 6 months, we have now become firm friends.

We were generally fortunate this year that all of us got along well. I must say that we were all committed to the team and the project. There were difficult times, there were moments when we got at each other's throats, there were tension-filled times especially when we were highly stressed and pressurized to hand up work on time; or just before a practice moot (which we had very often). Tempers flew and tensions mounted; but those were inevitable. We stayed back often to evaluate our performances and to give each other feedback and moral encouragement. At the end of the day, I've acquired 3 new friends -- when I look back on my Jessups days, these stand out most.

Meeting other mooters from around the world was interesting. There was much to learn from other teams; their professionalism, their zest to party (some of the teams just wanted to have fun!) etc. etc. There was such a wide group and blend of ppl... truly international. What was enjoyable was the sightseeing; but it was all over far too soon. Before we knew it, it was back to Hong Kong to face the dreaded EXAMS!



The lecturers singing at the fund-raising for the Jessup.



At the Dinner Party, where the Finalists and the rankings were announced, everyone was encouraged to wear their National Dress. However, we were the only ones who did!

The Jessups is a worthwhile experience. Students should think about doing it sometime in their undergraduate years. It's something that will definitely etched in your memory for as long as you live. You won't regret it.

Staff List

Mr. Brian Baillie	Dr. Athena N.C. Lui
Mr. Charles D. Booth	Dr. Liu Nanping
Ms. Christine Booth	Ms. Katherine Lynch
Ms. Janice Brabyn	Mr. William P. MacNeil
Miss Janet R. Burton	Ms. H.J. McCook
Mr. Andrew C. Byrnes	Mr. J.A. McInnis
Mrs. Anne R. Carver	Miss T.L. Mottershead
Mr. Johannes M.M. Chan	Mr. J.D. Murphy
Mr. Albert H.Y. Chen	Dr. Roda Mushkat
Miss Anne S.Y. Cheung	Mr. Stephen Nathanson
Mr. Wilson Chow	Mr. Isaac S. Nossal
Miss Jill Cottrell	Mr. Peter F. Rhodes
Dr. Peter Feng	Dr. Bart Rwezaura
Prof. Yash Ghai	Mr. Michael R. Sandor
Mr. Rick Glofcheski	Mr. P.J. Sheehan
Mrs. Caroline M. Hague	Prof. C.H. Sherrin
Mrs. A.J. Halkyard	Ms. Judith E. Sihombing
Mr. G.N. Heilbronn	Mr. Philip St. J. Smart
Ms. Betty Ho	Mrs. Gillian M.G. Stirling
Miss Lucina Ho	Mr. Benny Y.T. Tai
Mr. Michael I. Jackson	Miss Anna Y.M. Tam
Dr. Nihal Jayawickrama	Mr. Ian A. Tokley
Ms. Lai Ching Sum	Prof. Raymond I. Wacks
Miss Alice Lee	Prof. Peter Wesley-Smith
Mr. D. J. Lewis	Mr. Michael Wilkinson

*** *Class Photos* ***

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CCCC P.C.L.L. [1995 - 1996] 卷卷卷

1. Chan Chi Shing 2. Chan Chun Tin 3. Chan Chung Ho 4. Chan Fung Kuen 5. Chan Heung Wing 6. Chan Kin Man 7. Chan Kit Chong 8. Chan Kit Yin 9. Chan Kwan Yu
10. Chan Lap Chung 11. Cahn Man Yiu 12. Chan Nga Ling 13. Chan Pearl 14. Chan Pui Yin 15. Chan Sau KuK 16. Chan Sze Hei 17. Chan Tak Lung 18. Chan Wai Man
19. Chan Wai Man 20. Chan Woon Chun 21. Chan Yee Lap 22. Chan Yuk Yin 23. Chau Pui Shan 24. Chen Chiu Ming 25. Chen Youqing 26. Cheng Chung Yung 27. Cheng Ka Yu
28. Cheung Ching Ching 29. Cheung Kwok Keung 30. Cheung Lai Chun 31. Cheung Lai San 32. Cheung Siu Fai 33. Cheung Wai Chi 34. Cheung Wai Lun 35. Chiu Kin Fai
36. Chiu Mei Ling 37. Chiu Mei Wan 38. Chiu Pik Ching 39. Choi Suk Han 40. Chong Yi 41. Chow Fung Yee 42. Chow Kong 43. Chow Ming Po 44. Chow Wai Yee
45. Choy Yiu Fai 46. Chu Chin Nang 47. Chu Ying Ying 48. Chui Man Wah 49. Chui Shin Yan 50. Chung Man Wai 51. Chung See Wise 52. Chung To Ming 53. Chung Wai Ho
54. Chung Yuen Yee 55. Ding Kwok Wing 56. Evans S. Elizabeth 57. Fewins R. Glen 58. Fung Tak Kin 59. Fung Tin Lun 60. Gill Surita 61. Gopaoco Edward 62. Ho Chi Kin
63. Ho Man Yee 64. Ho Mun Man 65. Ho Siu Tak 66. Ho Sze Nga 67. Ho Wai Kin 68. Ho Wing Kit 69. Ho Yim King 70. Hon Chi Ho 71. Hui Anna 72. Hui Man Fu 73. Hui Norman
74. Hui Yuen Yee 75. Ip Ping Tuen 76. Jen Julienne 77. Ko Man Sze 78. Ko Man Yee 79. Ko Shiu Pong 80. Kong Sze Man 81. Kwan Chi Keung 82. Kwan Janice 83. Kwai Wai Kit
84. Kwok Ka Yin 85. Kwok Wong On 86. Kwong Sin Lai Fong 87. Lai Chor Shan 88. Lai Ka Yee 89. Lai Pauling 90. Lai Po Chu 91. Lam Bik Kwan 92. Lam Chi Fai
93. Lam Hin Yue 94. Lam Ka Lai 95. Lam Kit Yi 96. Lam Kwok Wing 97. Lam Miu Yin 98. Lam Mun Wah 99. Lam Sum Yee 100. Lam Tat Shun 101. Lam Tsz Chung 102. Lam Yee Han
103. Lam Ze Wa 104. Lan Suet Ying 105. Lau Chak Ki 106. Lau Kam Lun 107. Lau Kit Bing 108. Lau Lai Sze 109. Lau Mei Bo 110. Lau Siu Yee 111. Lau Suet Ching
112. Lau Wan Ching 113. Law Man Chiu 114. Law Shing Yan 115. Law Wai Sum 116. Lee Chi Keung 117. Lee Fong Yee 118. Lee Hon Kwong 119. Lee Ka Po 120. Lee Ka Wai
121. Lee Ki Ming 122. Lee Oi Lun 123. Lee Tsung Wah 124. Lee Wai Ching 125. Lee Wan Suet 126. Leung Chung Yan 127. Leung Minvie 128. Leung Pui Shan 129. Leung Siu Man
130. Leung Wai Shum 131. Leung Wing Man 132. Leung Wing Yan 133. Liu Mei Lan 134. Liu Sin Kwan 135. Lo Chun Pong 136. Lo Hin Ming 137. Liu Chung Kei
138. Luk Mun Fee 139. Man Ngar Yin 140. Mohan Tania 141. Mok Chun Hong 142. Molloy E. Joanna 143. Ng Ambrose 144. Ng Lok Ming 145. Ng Sau Lai 146. Ng Sin Kiu
147. Ng Susana 148. Ng Ying Choi 149. Ng Yuen Yee 150. Ngai Kwong Tim 151. Ngan Wai Ip 152. Oh Wei Man 153. Pong Cho Yin 154. Poon Suk Ching 155. Poon W Shing
156. Potts C. D. Charles 157. Quinn K. Ann 158. San Key Lo 159. Seto Ying Kin 160. Shum Hon Wo 161. Shum Wing Yum 162. Siu Nai Ying 163. Suen Ka Ling 164. Sun Cho Yung
165. Sung Ching Yin 166. Tam Chi Wai 167. Tang Hin Ming 168. To Yee Wa 169. Tollan R. Mark 170. Tsang Lai Chu 171. Tsang Po Ling 172. Tsang Sook Ging 173. Tsang Wai Shing
174. Tsao Hai Yin 175. Tse To Shing 176. Tse Yuk Yin 177. Tsui Ka Fai 178. Tung Yan Kei 179. Vachani Anita 180. Wan Chi Kie 181. Wan Lai Yee 182. Wang Ho Pang
183. Wat Chi Ping 184. Wong Chak Lam 185. Wong Choi Chi 186. Wong Choi Yau 187. Wong Hang Yee 188. Wong Hing Ting 189. Wong Hoi Fung 190. Wong Kwong Kam
191. Wong Lai Kit 192. Wong Li Ying 193. Wong Man Sam 194. Wong Pui Kei 195. Wong Shan Shan 196. Wong Sin Fai 197. Wong Wai Cheung 198. Wong Wai Kong
199. Wong Wai Man 200. Wong Wing Kit 201. Wong Yu Yuen 202. Wong Yuk Ling 203. Woo Kit Jing 204. Woo Stella 205. Xie Xiao Dong 206. Yau Ha Sin 207. Yau Yiu Hong
208. Yick Wing Kin 209. Yip Yu Bih 210. Yip Chun Lung 211. Yip Kin Son 212. Yiu Yuk Wah 213. Yu Cheung Man 214. Yung Kin Chung 215. Yung Kwok Tai



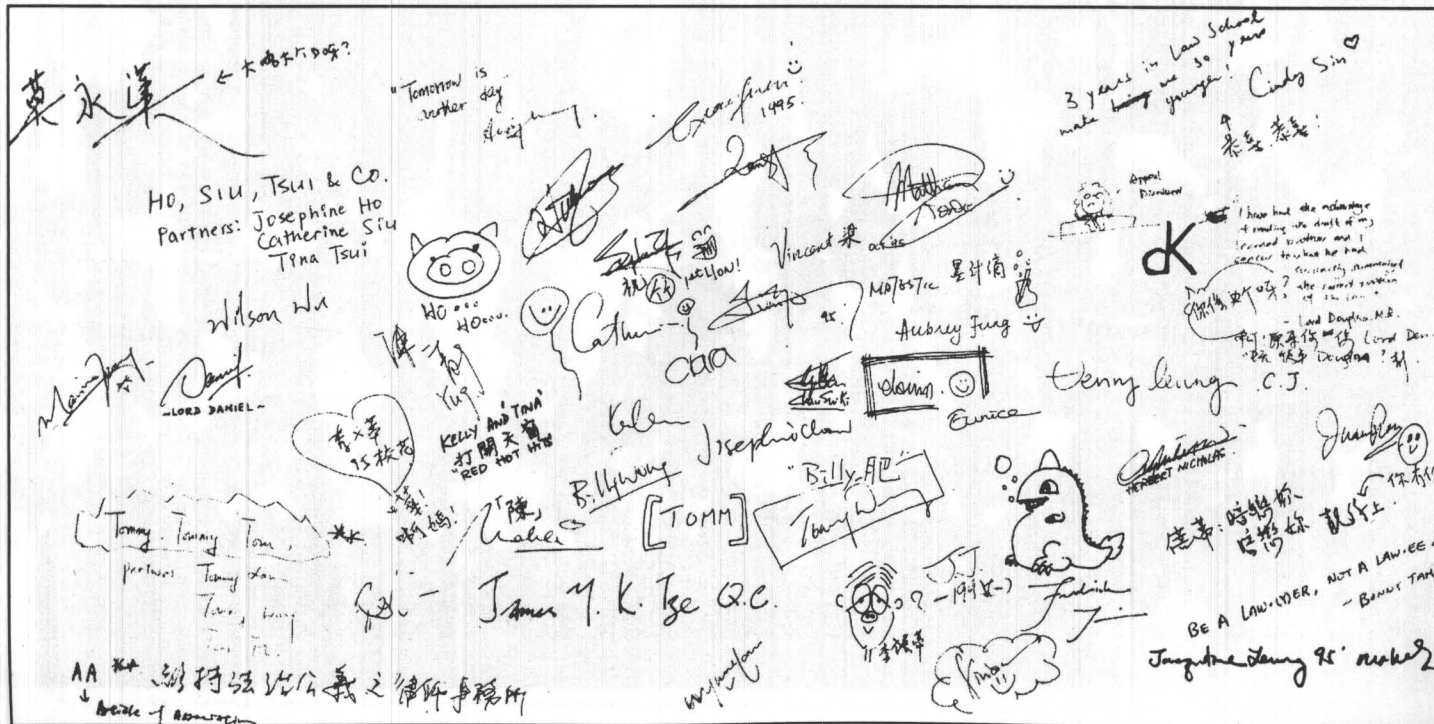
THE SHAW BUILD



YEAR 3

(back to front)

- Row 1: Justin Ma, Jeffrey Yeung, Jackie Chan, Michael Pang, Carmen Leung, Grace Lam, Ruby Chan, Annie Chung, Rosanna Lee, Grace Suen, Carrie Tam
- Row 2: Jackle Yeun, Samuel Lo, Roy Leung, Henry Leung, David Vrijmoed, Eva Sze, Libertin Ko, Zeze Chan, Jennifer Cheung, Anne Wong, Samantha Ngai, Dora Ng
- Row 3: Niki Mok, Jackie Jim, Yug Chan, Eunice Cheng, Adelaide Yu, Cindy Sin, Peony Wong, Ruby Chan, Elaine Yu
- Row 4: Stanley Lai, Eric Mok, Andrew Li, Doublous Kwok, Tommy Lam, Tina Tsui, Catherine Siu, Maureen Chow, Katherine Lam, Janet So
- Row 5: Daniel Chung, Andy wong, Henry Tam, Jimmy Chan, Matthew Wong, Evania Mak, Josephine Ho, Helen Law, Peggy Ng, Kit-yi Ho, Wing-Sze Fung
- Row 6: Richard Fung, David Ko, Brian Au, Wilson Wu, Tom Fu, Wendy Chiu Juanie Chan, Karen Lee, Denise Lau, Lilian Mak, Jacqueline Leung
- Row 7: James Tse, Billy Au
- Row 8: Stephen Wong, Herbert Au Yeung, Francis Lok, Mark Wei, Frederick Tai, Catherine Tai, Clara Yee, Majestic Yeung, Vivian Lui, Wynne Lau, Karen Bin
- Row 9: Nick Wong, Vincent Leung, Stephen Chan, Thomas Au, Crystal Wong, Karen To, Pauline Im, Marina Tsang, Rainbow Lau, Mable Chan, Bien Yung Tsang, Chan Ho Kei, Chan Sze Man, Chau Hoi Yan, Cheng Kwok Yau, Cheng Ming Kuen, Agnes Cheng, Winnie Cheung, Chik Yin Shan, Patrice Choi, Chow Lai Kwan, Josephine Chow, Chow Wai Nin, Chung Wai Kwong, Nelson Fan, Aubrey Fung, Fung Sau Kuen, Ho Kwan Chow, Rosana Hoyan, Patrick Hui, Hui Wun Lap, Iong Kit Ieng, Ip Pui Kwan, Jason Kong, Lam Chi Wai, Mabel Lam, Vinci Lam, Ken Lee, Lee Ping Kong, Polly Lee, Kevin Lee, Jacob Leung, Gilbert Leung, Annisa Leung, Alwyn Li, Li Pui Tai, Ella Ma, Laveena Mahtani, Mohammed Jawadullah Shah, Isaac Ng, Ada Ng, Vivienne Ng, Windsor Ng, Simon Siu, So Wai Tak, Bonny Tam, May Tan, Erica Tse, Jennifer Van Dale, Tommy Wong, Kwong Man Shuen, Wong Shui Wah, Wong Siu Ping, Wong Siu Yung, Wong Wai Fun, Yeung Fai, Ivan Yeung, Yeung Sai Man, Yung Hung Kwan, Chan Man Lai, Chan Siu Pan, Chu Tan, Gilbert Nives Lucrezia, Hui Chun Kau, Margaret Liu, Ng Chi Leung, Ma Hok So, Wong Huk Kam, Wong Kang Kau

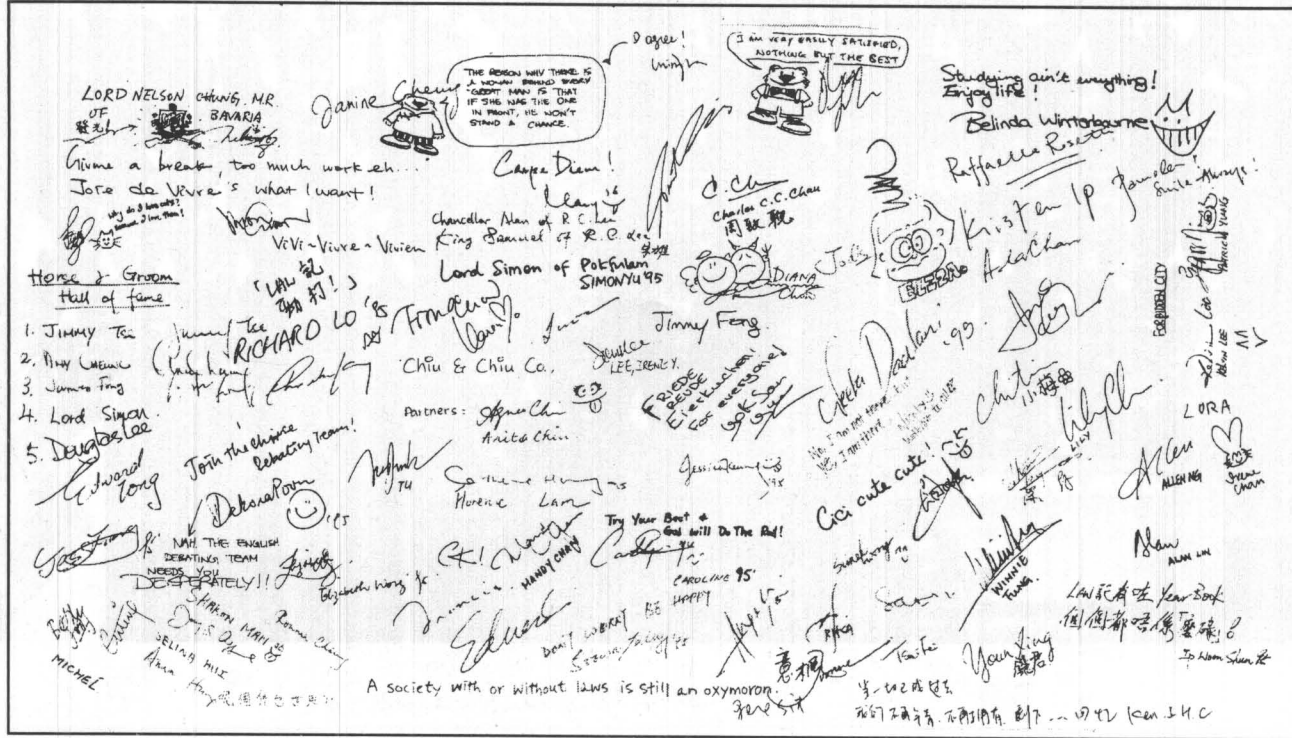




YEAR 2

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- Row 2: Irene Wong, Emma Wong, Rebecca Chan, Jodis Lee, Wilson Ng, Angus Lee, Douglas Lee, Michael Fung, Connie Wong, Lisa Foo, Selina Hui, Jay Shree Aggarwal, Joanna Kong
- Row 3: Jenny Cheung, Rebecca Chiu, Cecilia Chau, Sandy Yuen, Kristen Ip, Wong Yiu Fai, Thomas Tsang, Anthony Ho, Deborah Poon, Agnes Chiu, Dorathy Luk, Michelle Li, May Wong, Betty Soo, En-ting Lung
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- Row 5: Elizabeth Wong, Vivien Chan, Jess Fung, Lora Ip
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- Row 10: Alan Lin, Allen Ng, Nelson Chung, William Liu, Youn Ling, Josephine Tang, Lily Chan, Winnie Fung, Chan Cheuk Wah, Candy Chan, Sindy Chan, Francisca Chan, Mark Chan, Anne Chan, Ada Chan, Vanessa Cheung, Nicola Cheung, Cheung Wai Man, Chiu Liang, Vic Choi, Choi Ming Sui, Dadlani Neeta Ram, Jimmy Fong, Ho Ching Kee, Ho Wai Hong, Ip Ching Yan, Ip Sze Wai, Lai Wing Hing, Angela Li, Lim Yen Ling, Ng Ka Yee, Nip Tao Keung, She Lai Kwan, So Yiu Hung, Soong Wing Sum, Suen Ka Pok, John Tai, Shirley Tang, Tin Fong, Tong Chi Man, Tsai Fei, Richard Tsoi, Pauline Wai, Wang Pui Wang, Belinda Winterbourne, Katherine Wong





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High-lites from Newsletter

HOW I WOULD STUDY LAW IF I WERE YOU (extracted)

J.D. Murphy

... Let me give you a few thoughts on studying law. My system is the same one used by virtually every first class law student I ever knew.

WHAT ARE YOUR SOURCES?

Written Materials

I include here duplicated materials, outlines and the various library materials referred to in them. It's fatal to give up on your reading. You derive the law from this source. More importantly, you can only learn to read legal materials by reading them. As your skill at reading law improves, you will be able to digest materials more quickly. If you don't start this process now, you never will.

Easy for you, you may say. You are a native English speaker, and you have two degrees before law school. True enough, but in my courses I was often given two or three times the reading you have, and my teachers expected me to absorb most of the material on my own without lecture coverage! And I didn't read it all! I couldn't. I had to make judicious choices as to which items were the most important. Like you I had trouble with comprehension at first. But I read enough that eventually I learned the terminology and, most importantly, I learned how to read law. I learned how to skim the materials and extract only the parts that I needed. I learned how to apply the law; the judges in the cases I read taught me that. "Shortcuts" - like texts and various other sorts of materials - are available and important (especially when your time is limited), but learning how to use law through original sources is vital.

Only a fool tries to assimilate everything. You have to apply your mind to a determination of what is the essential kernel. First year students will soon find out what upper year students already know - that you had better have the essential, and only the essential, material at your command, because you don't have very much time for each point on examinations. You will learn that, out of the mass of printed words available to you, only a relatively small amount is worth extracting for your immediate purposes. And the process of extraction is as important as what is extracted. Those of you who are serious about law will realize eventually that law teachers who merely hand out all-inclusive outlines for you to memorize are not helping you at all.

I struggled like you in first year. Had I not persevered, I would not have gotten to the point in practice where I could digest dozens of cases in an hour or two of research time, or examine a roomful of documents in a complex commercial case in a short timeframe - while extracting what was important for my purposes.

Lectures

I don't think lectures are quite as vital as readings, but they are important enough that you are very foolish not to attend. You may not realize it, but most of us try to teach at a somewhat more basic level than would be the case in some other jurisdictions. I think we do this mainly in recognition of the fact that most of you are working in your second language. Lecturers try to cover the essential material in an organized way. They should also be teaching you legal analytical skills in the process. At this Faculty, lecturers are, in a sense, doing some of your work for you. They have extracted what they think are the essential kernels from the materials and are passing on to you the result of their own distillation process.

As a student, I never missed lectures. If I hadn't been able to do the readings on a particular topic, the lecturer often filled in the gaps for me. But I invariably got the most out of the lectures when I had "prepared my mind" for them by reading beforehand.

Tutorials

In this Faculty, tutorials should serve at least five functions, in my view. First, they are often extensions of the lectures. Second, they give you a chance to test your knowledge acquired through reading and lectures, by applying it. Third (and this is related to the second), they let you simulate exam performance, as the tutorial questions are often similar to those on exams. Fourth, they provide opportunities for you to raise queries and problems with the tutors, quite apart from the tutorial material. (I assume that because so few of you ever take advantage of this opportunity, you haven't bothered assimilating enough to know what your queries and problems are.) Finally, they let you practice your English in a friendly environment. I tend to feel that, in today's world, making that extra effort to become fluent is worth as much to you as a law degree. (Doing what I did - letting my French slip after secondary school - is just stupid.)

Discussion outside class

Informal study groups can be useful if you are all prepared to make a serious commitment, and you have as much respect for your colleagues as they have for you. Many good students I knew benefited greatly

from "picking the brains" of their colleagues. I preferred to work on my own, but I always valued discussions with colleagues.

Two comments: 1) Do the work. No one said law school was easy. It never is if you are serious about turning yourself into a real lawyer. 2) Apply your own mind to everything. You aren't learning if you aren't questioning, challenging, reasoning, distilling the important from the unimportant, and turning the unintelligible and difficult into the understandable.

In particular, don't be blinded by the "advice" of you "seniors." Most of them don't know how to study law either. They often don't know what they are talking about, and it shows. When you let others think for you, you're finished as a lawyer.

WHAT DO YOU DO WITH ALL THESE?

Recall a few basic truths. 1) You can't avoid constant hard work in law school. Law school is a full time job that will pay off in time if you go about it correctly. 2) You must be focused and have the key principles and materials at your command. 3) You must apply your mind to every part of every law school course you do. Law is not about memorizing; it is about understanding. Mere memorization won't get you very far on law school exams (or real world legal problems.) Real problems have a hasty way of departing from the set-piece you have memorized. You must understand the principles and their applications; if law were just something that could be memorized it would be done by machines, and there would be no need for lawyers. 4) The study of law starts from the first day of every course. It does not start just before exams; if you think it does, you are in real trouble. You might pass, but you will probably never be a lawyer.

1. Prepare for each segment of each course in advance by doing as much reading as you can. Your outlines will make it clear which cases, statutes, textual excerpts, etc. are the key ones. In time, you will be able to read more and more, and perhaps be able to add in some of the recommended supplemental readings. Learn how to skin the material for the main points. This, by the way, is not an exercise in colouring pages. Children do that. "Highlighter art" by law students is too often a pathetic excuse for not thinking.

You needn't necessarily write anything at this stage. Just mark the margins by the key points, and only the key points. Understand what you read; it's a pointless exercise if you aren't applying your brain. This will prepare you for the lecture. You will also return to the key passages you have marked, as you prepare your written study outline. In time you will discard the duplicated materials, having extracted the key points from them.

2. Go to the lecture. You are lucky in that the lectures in this Faculty are usually (or should be) well-organized summaries of the key points on a particular topic. The lecturer does a lot of your thinking for you, if you only realized it. Lectures are an important form of back-up. From the lectures you can check whether what you thought was important in the cases and other readings is what the lecturer thought was important.

Learn to take good lecture notes. These (in conjunction with the lecturer's written lecture outline, if any) will form the basis of your essential study tool - the study outline. The study outline is what you will work with to prepare for the examination. It will provide you with everything you need - case names, brief factual summaries, ratio, perhaps an important quote; key statute sections and commentary; perhaps an overview you have gleaned from textual material; some point-form outlines you have prepared in anticipation of possible essay-type questions; perhaps new perspectives or examples from tutorials; and your own analysis (which may well include your reasoned views that are different from those of your teachers.) Note that the contents of the study outline come from various sources, but they are all gathered and organized under a common topic, in one place. I stress that you will eventually discard the duplicated materials completely (at least for revision purposes), once you have extracted what you need from them. (Of course, in some situations you will want to retain some vital materials for reference purposes - often things like statutes that can be taken into the examination - but make sure the contents are in your head and not just on the page.)

A practice I found useful was to leave large spaces in my lecture notes, so that I could later add in additional material I thought was important, such as the points I had previously marked in the duplicated materials. The lecture may also guide you as to what additional reading you should do, if there is time, to supplement your lecture notes. It would be desirable to be able to redo a nice neat study outline incorporating all key material at some later time, but you don't usually have time, and I wouldn't even try to do this. Thus, it is best to turn your lecture notes into the actual study outline. (The best students I knew sometimes created the study outline from their reading and merely supplemented it from lectures; but I suggest that you do the opposite.) The end-product will give you all you need in one place. In time, and with some examination experience (and/or a review of past exams), you will learn how much detail in your study outline is "enough" detail, given that the time on exams is short. The rule is usually quality, not quantity.

It goes without saying that if you haven't understood the topic as you build up your study outline, the whole exercise is pointless.

Prepare your study outline as well as you can while you are on that topic. Once you move on to other material in the course, it is unrealistic to think you can ever come back to complete it. On the other

hand, if your study outline is a good one, you have the comfort of knowing that you have consolidated everything you need for exam revision (perhaps even interim revision through the term) on that topic, and won't have to scramble, pathetically, to learn the topic afresh days before the examination. Remember how little time you have for revision, especially for December examinations.

It sounds like more work than is necessary, but this isn't so. I assure you that it is far more efficient than what you do now, it is the best way to learn, and it makes exam revision infinitely easier. The best students have proved this time and time again.

3. Tutorials on a particular topic typically come along after you have gone through the process in 1. and 2. above. They give you a chance to apply what you have learned about a topic, and so should be relatively easy, and welcome. On the other hand, if you haven't assimilated the material, tutorials are pointless for you.

Treat the tutorials as examinations. Draft skeleton answers to the problems, whether essay- or problem-type. Note how your tutor organizes his suggested answer, and how much detail he regards as important. This will give you a feel for the adequacy of your own study outline. If you don't understand a point, have your tutor explain it, and then revise your study outline accordingly.

Straight Talk and Legal Education Stephen Nathanson

My colleague, David Murphy, offers some enlightening advice. In a nutshell, what he says is that you should work hard to *understand* rather than to *memorise*. In order to develop your understanding, he suggests that you build a study outline integrating several sources including notes or perspectives from lectures, readings and tutorials.

The study methods Mr. Murphy recommends are very similar to the methods I and my friends used in law school. My approach, however, was to make the creation of the outlines a group effort. I also *memorised* the outlines with the help of my friends. In particular, and in flat contradiction of my teacher's advice, I always memorised case names and legal principles. I gave particular emphasis to memorising case names that were not on the lecture outlines but were mentioned by the teachers in class. I knew that when I mentioned these on my examination paper, they would catch the eye of the examiner!

If it seems that I am recommending memorisation as a learning strategy - well, I'm afraid I am. It is not the only strategy but it certainly worked for me and my friends. Furthermore, it may have enhanced my understanding. If this is true, perhaps I adopted a strategy similar to Asian students. Recent studies by educational experts in Hong Kong have even suggested that Asian students, unlike their Western counterparts, may use memorisation and repetition as an aid to understanding. If this is the case, then perhaps Mr. Murphy's advice about not memorising should be tempered with this: understand and memorise in tandem.

Despite having just advised you to memorise, it does not make me feel good to give this advice. No teacher wants to encourage memorisation as a primary learning strategy. The problem, however, is that our system positively encourages memorisation or what some experts in education would call a *surface*, rather than a *deep*, approach to learning. If that's the way the system works, it would be foolish *not* to memorise.

I believe that the reason why so many students approach their learning in a *surface*, rather than a *deep*, way has little to do with the students and *everything to do with the way the curriculum is designed*. Particularly powerful in shaping students' learning approaches are *examinations*, which tend to have certain attributes that doubtlessly encourage students to adopt surface approaches to learning.

I shall mention three of these attributes. First, many of the examinations are designed to be written under extreme time pressure. Second, they often contain unrealistic problems for students to solve. Third, they often contain question options.

How do these three attributes encourage surface approaches and memorisation? First, time pressure causes students to blurt out as much as they know in a brief space of time rather than to sit back, think, organize, write and rewrite. It encourages content regurgitation rather than problem solving.

Second, unrealistic problems are unrealistic because they contain a host of legal issues -- many, many more than most real legal problems do -- so they are often composed in a contrived way. The reason for this is that the examiner is trying to get students to identify and analyze those issues. The more issues you correctly identify, the more likely you are to pass. Again, memorisation only helps to succeed though, of course, a handful of excellent students with a gift for clear thinking and well-organized composition may be able to make some sense of problems that usually do not make sense to begin with.

Third, option questions also encourage memorisation and regurgitation. The tendency is for students, when they recognize the content suggested by a question, to respond with generosity: 'Oh, I know that one! I'll donate everything I know on to the page for you.'

Complaints by teachers about students who memorise and do not think deeply enough are not confined to the Faculty of Law or even to this century. The complaint is as old as Socrates and as wide-ranging as the number of disciplines taught at the university. How to help students learn to think has been the subject of many learned research papers and many books. Interestingly, in the research literature, I have never come across a theory or a conclusion that lays the responsibility on students for their inability to think deeply. For educational researchers, the educational problem is not to identify who is responsible for poor learning. The problem is to identify curriculum weaknesses and to correct them through change.

A major weakness of the law curriculum both here and elsewhere is that what it provides is often completely at odds with what teachers expect. Teachers both in and out of this faculty talk about teaching students thinking and communication skills, but what they end up asking for, particularly in examinations, is 'identify the legal issue' or 'name that principle'. Teachers say that what they want you to do is to analyze, but then they neither teach or test the skill of legal analysis.

The problem is compounded in law because much of what law students learn is unrelated to the real world. Very few lawyers spend much of their time reading cases. Very few, if any, spend their days distinguishing cases. They are much more concerned with what their clients are saying or what their clients' problems are rather than what judges are saying or what judges' problems are. Lawyers see clients, write letters, draft documents, analyze real legal problems, negotiate, advocate and so forth. Case reading is only a small part of what they do. When Mr. Murphy says that the skills needed for success in law school are the same skills that lead to success in practice, I agree. Nevertheless, the skills needed for law school are only a very small part of the skills needed by lawyers. Most law schools, however, do not teach these.

Both Mr. Murphy and I also agree that linking the curriculum to the real world is extremely important. Recent educational research tends to show that when students are engaged in solving realistic problems they can identify with, their motivation is enhanced and their approaches to learning will deepen. To be sure, it is a difficult and expensive task to change the curriculum. What we are talking about is changing whole courses, changing teaching materials, changing attitudes, changing work habits, changing the values of the university system itself.

The image of the stunned memorisation-prone law student Mr. Murphy describes in the second paragraph of his article is an image that has, to a great extent, been created not by the students themselves but by the system in which they study. The system provides few incentives to change. In fact, it provides none at all. How about this for a challenging and realistic problem: what methods would you, as students, use to encourage the system to change so that it will serve you better? This ought to be the starting point for any discussion of the study of law: straight talk not from the teachers, but from you, the students.

LOVE LETTER FROM MICKEY

Dear World,

As I sit in front of my desk trying to write something for the Newsletter (3 days late for the deadline), I decided to write something about myself, as Mallory had told me to do. By the way

these aren't real names so don't even bother finding out who we are. The fact is that you won't be able to and you will kill the spirit of having this corner in the Newsletter.

There ain't much to talk about myself especially my love life. (what ve life !Ha! Ha!) Well! I think I am like every Joe Blow you meet on your way to school each day or even your very self.

of people because I would not want to think that I am the only unlucky one in this world.

Therefore my story is basically quite simple. I don't want to give you any bull crap with fancy details and adjectives which I can't even spell without a thesaurus. However from my simple past I have gained some idea of what life is about. It is to be able to find out who I really am and want? Do you know what you want in life? Money, fame or power. All I know is that I want to be happy. Have you ever asked yourself this very question before? I mean like why you are in law school and stuff like that. (I know that you will probably say that you want to be a lawyer and make tons of money or something like that but besides that. Why do you want to be a lawyer?) Really I can't answer this question myself.

There are so many questions without answer in this world. May be that is why life is so damn interesting? I bet you someone has asked you this question in your life before. Did the hen or the egg come first? This question used to circle my head for a long time until I reached the age when I recognized that there are girls in this world. I am not a horny guy who is so lustful for love but anyone must have gone through that age. (Hay! I have not yet called the 173-173 number yet, Thank You!) Am I right? Ya! you are probably nodding your head right now agreeing with me. If not, you are probably at that period of life. If those were none of your case then too bad man. Your life is hopeless. Jump the building or something, I don't care. No! actually don't. Wait for a while and see. You may not find a girl or guy whom you like because you could be gay(not just happy but gay). It does not have to be of the opposite sex at all. It is not a sin to fall in love with the person who is the same sex as you. I envy the true love which gay people have. They have jumped out of the constrain and boundary of opposite attracts. They are out of their soul and it is the real two person without their body loving each other. It's quite a spiritual thing. Think about this next time while you pad your pal's shoulder.

In short, my life is complied of questions, unanswerable ones. Anyway, if you have anything you would like to say or tell the world. Write it down and give to the editors of this Newsletter.

Tell the world about your feelings. It can keep you from jumping buildings because it did for me.

Love,
Mickey '95

Article from Malory

Hi, before you read my article, I have to warn you something. Never ever dare to find out who I am. If I find you talking about me in the DR, I swear I'll blow your brains out and lick your blood like a kissing vampire. (Oh boy, I make murder sounds so sexual)

Hey, babe, let's talk about LOVE, okay? Love amazes me. And it also pisses me off. Do you remember the song "Love changes everthing"? I think it is a bullshit. If I were a composer, I would write a song called "Everything can change love" Love has tortured me ever since I was a freshman

Have you ever fallen in love with anybody in your own faculty? Without his knowledge? Kill me man, I had! You won't understand my urge for love after all those in a girls' school. When I was still a first year nerd, I fell in love with one special guy. Believe me, it was true. "First-year-beauty fell in love with a second-year-prince." Quite a headline, eh? In the midst of a crowd of pretty first-year girls, I exploited every chance to talk to him. Sometimes, I stole a glance at him in the law library, praying hard that he would cast at least one lingering look at my direction. Gradually, he got notice of me. We became friends and we were like "peas and carrots" (a quote from Forrest Gump). Rumours filled the whole L.A., and I enjoyed it! When the rumours reached the climax, I declared my love to him. What then? Sorry, I can't tell you. See how brave I am! Look guys, be brave. Don't let girls wait. If you fancy her, talk to her, ask her out and sent her flowers.

The Faith of a First Year Student

by Vivien Lau (I)

Entering the University of Hong Kong and to be enrolled in the Faculty of Law is one of the life goals which I have been all the way longing to consummate. And yes, I did it, finally. The feelings of exhilaration and ecstasy overwhelmed me; meanwhile, I had been so anxious to know more about the University -- at least, to see whether or not the life and atmosphere in it deviates from my expectations.

However, the feeling of doubt and uncertainty had been clinging to me ever since I stepped into the University. The buildings, the people, the jargons that are widely adopted, the scandalous gossips, even the air I breathed in were all so unfamiliar to me. In a spilt of a second, a sense of alienation sprang up in me. I spent some time in adapting to these; somehow, it is an entirely different surrounding. Without any surprise, there should not be any difficulty. But then, another fact that appears almost naked before me agitates me...

I've always thought that University students should be utilizing most of their time digging in their textbooks and engrossing in their studies, for I suppose these few years in the University serve as a kind of weapon which prepares you to practically 'locate' yourself in the society in the near future. Without further thinking, the knowledge you accumulate during the course will be the attributes and the power of the weapon. But then, I am somewhat staggered to discern the enormous gap between the reality and the 'hallucination' that perhaps some other students and I have initially created in mind. The cruel fact is that most of the students put great emphasis on organizing extracurricular activities while the regular courses of academic work or studies have been given the lowest priority, and to an extreme--completely neglected.

Unlimited questions hammered me which I think is worthy of contemplating deeply. Well, is devoting your whole self and soul in organizing those activities the only method of survival in the University? Is this the best way to outstand yourself and show that you excel others? Undeniably, to engage in some of the activities are elements crucially needed in order for us to construct a full and complete University life. However, excessive participation would be like a person contracting himself in a chronic disease, which has no symptoms nor manifestations until the most tragic part comes. This is right after graduation; this is the time when the person can actually observe all of the symptoms almost immediately. He will discover all these years in the University have constituted practically nothing solid in him, not mentioning the experience and happiness derived from the process in organizing activities. True, these might be the very fascinating pages of your life, but what about the rest of the pages? Are they envisaged to be pages without substantial contents, or even to be empty pages?

Come on, let's dive back to the root of the reason why we are here in the University of Hong Kong. It's definitely not for mere fun. Try recollecting memories during the time when we had to prepare for our A-Level Examinations such as having to cram the nights, rack your brains and toil for hours. However, I would still think that all these activities that we suffered are of value. This is simply a Give-and-take concept: you devote efforts,

and so here you are, to be a student at the University of Hong Kong. We should all receive this title with utmost pride but at the same time bear in mind that wearing this bare title is meagre. Treasure our chance to be here and maintain the high reputation that our University is sustaining throughout the decades by rationally distributing time in academic areas and in engaging in extracurricular activities. I suppose this is a skill which we should acquire in the course of our growth and maturity in the University. The sharpening of this skill can also develop us into all-rounders, thus becoming the most cherishable part we received in the University.

Time is too precious to waste, so rather than witnessing the deterioration in our academic standards, letting the harshness of the reality strips us to our skulls, why don't we reverse the present situation and show everybody that we have every reason to be proud of our own University?

I have faith.

As a Newcomer...

by Jennifer Cheuk (I)

"Why choose law? Are you sure you can stand that much reading and memorization? And what about 1997?" I was bombarded with these questions before and after I decided to take law. I still find no satisfying answers. This is truly no easy choice to make, especially with the added uncertainty of being the first patch of graduates upon the Chinese takeover in 1997. Perhaps this is why "law" seems to be an even more challenging subject.

With the belief that studying law can refine the skill to reason and argue logically, I started out with utmost eagerness and curiosity. Though it has been a hectic life since the beginning of school, I enjoy this first encounter with law very much. This is going to be a long but rewarding journey. Sometimes, after struggling with the tutorial worksheets and duplicated materials, the same thought would come to my mind -- how do these accumulation of legal formalities and principles be useful in the present day context? How are these legal history related to inextricably to various aspects of our society?

As a newcomer to the legal academies, I believe it is incumbent upon legal practitioners to defend justice and fairness and serve the community by applying their legal wisdom righteously. Certainly, it is easier said than done and it is so often said that I wonder how many are practically doing this but not leaving it be a mere cliché. It does not require much legal knowledge to understand such importance to Hong Kong, as we are standing in front of the gate to 1997, no one can shun that responsibility.

What is in store ahead of us, no one knows, but only by enriching ourselves intellectually and socially can we be prepared to face the ups and downs of tomorrow. I believe that studying in HKU and in law can provide us with training. Let's not take these for granted, and perhaps we can open a new frontier in the legal development of Hong Kong someday.

Declaration on Our Views towards the Court of Final Appeal

The Hong Kong Government's attempt to introduce the draft Court of Final Appeal (CFA) Bill has aroused extensive discussion in various sectors of the community; as law students in Hong Kong, we would like to express our views on the issue.

Under the principle of 'one country, two systems,' the necessity of maintaining the present judicial system has already been recognized by both the Sino-British Joint Declaration and the Basic Law for the future of HKSAR, such power shall be vested in the "Court of Final Appeal of the Region." Thus, to establish the Court before the transfer of sovereignty in 1997 should be deemed as most favourable to the development of Hong Kong's judicial system. However, the present draft bill for the CFA has only created and enhanced much disappointment and dismay.

As stipulated in Article 82 of the Basic Law, the CFA may 'invite judges from other common law jurisdictions to sit in the CFA' when circumstances require. The article itself has no indication or implication of any limit on such 'overseas judges.' Yet, the present bill, drafted in accordance with the 1991 Sino-British agreement, restricts the number of overseas judges to 1 out of 5 judges, of which the remaining 4 are to be local judges. We cannot see that such restriction is in line with the Basic Law. Moreover, as the CFA is to be the highest judicial authority in the future HKSAR, if its establishment is in itself inconsistent with the law, how can confidence towards the Hong Kong judicial system be secured?

The adoption of the 1991 Sino-British Joint Liaison Group (JLG) agreement (which deviates from the Basic Law) in the present CFA bill is also a blow to the rule of law in Hong Kong. If the secret talks and agreements of the JLG can override the HKSAR's mini-constitution, what is to be left of the Rule of Law? The disregard of the Basic Law by the Chinese and British governments has definitely created an unfavourable precedent jeopardizing the Rule of Law that Hong Kong has been working towards.

The restriction on the number of overseas judges by the JLG agreement also shows that the present practical circumstances of the judicial system in Hong Kong has been overlooked. As the power of final adjudication has always been with the Privy Council in Britain, Hong Kong lacks a group of trained and experienced judges capable of sitting in the CFA. It is for this reason that it is necessary to have certain flexibility in inviting the number of overseas judges so as to establish a creditable and internationally recognized system of final adjudication in Hong Kong.

The Government's approach in consultation work for the draft bill is also regrettable. The matter of the CFA is of a general and public nature which affects the development of the future judicial system and all the citizens of Hong Kong, yet, due to reasons of confidentiality, even the Legco has not been able to discuss the matter. As even the two bodies representing the legal profession are divergent in their views, public consultation is all the more necessary.

In light of the present political situation, the continuity of the CFA after 1997 (if it is established beforehand) is still uncertain. With the Preliminary Working Committee's suggestion of setting up the CFA in 1996 and reappointing all its judges, the judicial issue has even been dragged into the political arena. Such developments have undoubtedly created worries and anxieties towards the independence of the judiciary and the rule of law in the future HKSAR.

Law Association, HKUSU
9th December, 1994

Afterthoughts

from the L.A. Exco 1994-1995

For some of us, this was a year of new experiences: new faces, a new system of organization, new approaches and perspectives in viewing things. But on the other hand, this was a year of harshness; meetings without time limit, criticisms coming in from anywhere, lagging behind in studies, etc. Nonetheless, for most of us, the experience as an L.A. Exco member has made us grow up, and become more mature in facing challenges. And here we would like to share with you what we feel about the Association and what role students should play in the society.

We have organised activities in various aspects throughout the year and we have found that law students are not only interested in activities which can broaden their horizons, but also those which help to serve the community. We have to appreciate that many law students do have a sense of belonging towards the Law Association and give us much support by both their active participation and sincere suggestions. This is perhaps the tradition which has been passed on to us from our predecessors, the spirit which is unity. However, that these traditions would be upheld may be challenged by some.

We have to admit that the Law Association emphasizes on traditions and is bound by many rules and customs. Yet, it is wrong to say that *all* traditions are out-dated and inappropriate for the students nowadays. What we should do, therefore, is to evaluate positively the value of each tradition. If we can conclude that some of the traditions are no longer suitable, then there may be a need to modify or extinguish them altogether. However, if the traditions are worth preserving, we should try our very best to uphold such traditions. As a simple corollary, the values of equality, fairness and justice has existed for a long time in Hong Kong and it is still worthy of our effort to preserve such values, despite the drastic changes in our political and legal system. Each tradition has with it a meaning and a spirit. What we should be concerned of is not only whether we have to preserve the tradition itself but the deeper meaning inside, and whether the spirit has been brought about effectively through the tradition.

It is true that students of our age are more enthusiastic and active. We have the energy to cope with our studies as well as to explore new things. Moreover, we are fortunate in that we have the chance to fulfil our dreams. We should then make use of our knowledge and enthusiasm to pursue these dreams. Perhaps we have different goals and objectives, but all of us are sharing the same ideal: to build a better society for a better future. If the future is in our hands, then it is important to be aware of the values we hold. We should equip ourselves not only academically but also morally, so that we can pave our way on solid grounds and not be affected by the influx of corrupted values.

With the Compliments

of

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With the Compliments

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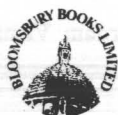
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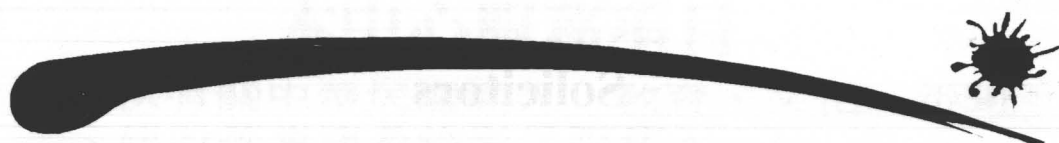
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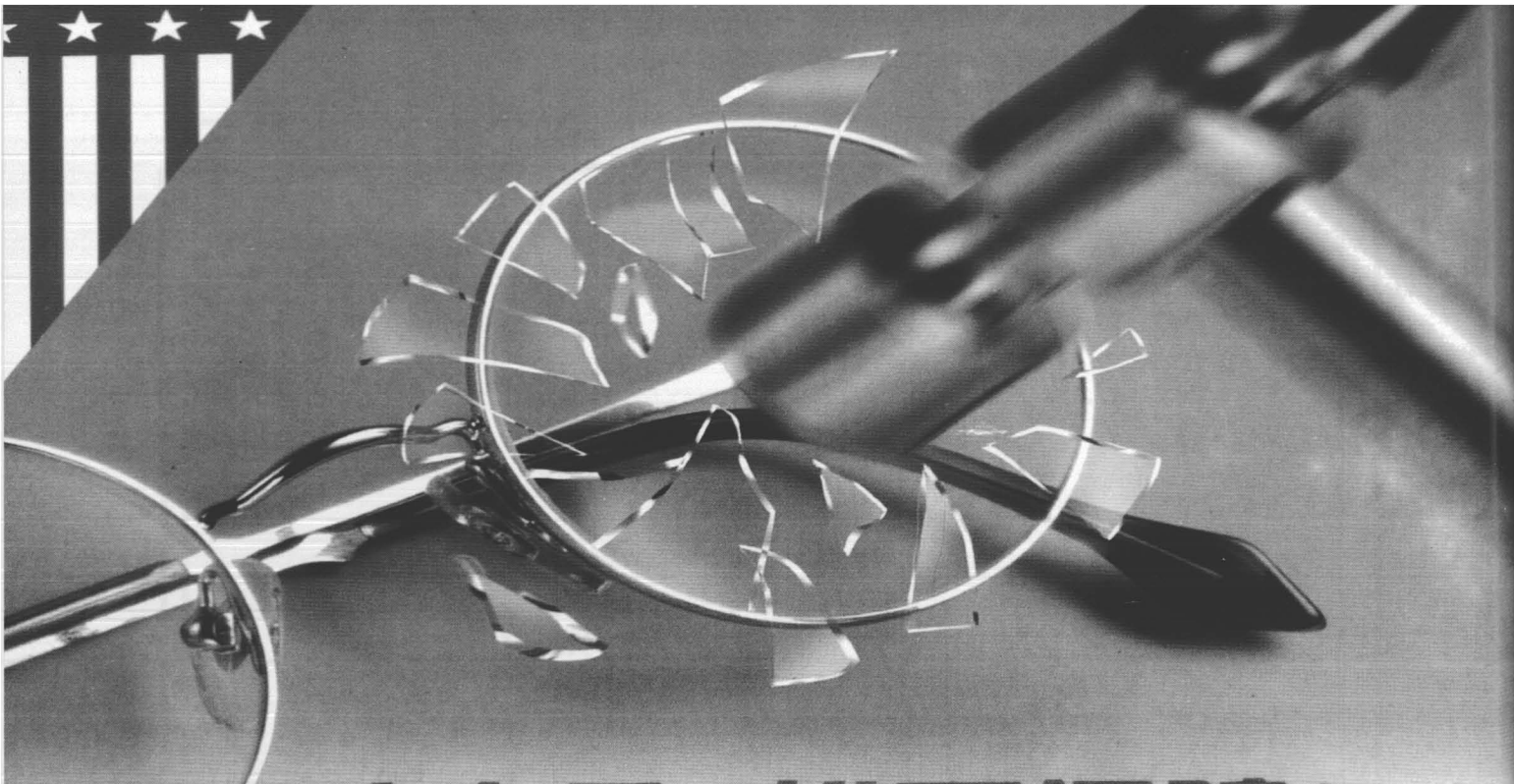
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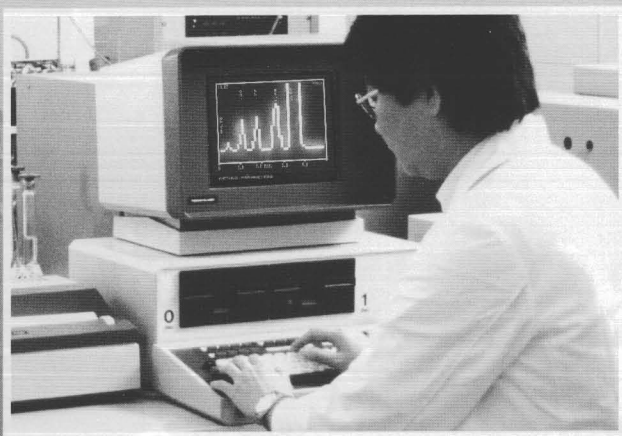
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Acknowledgment

Special thanks are given to the following:

Andrew Liao, Q.C.

Mr. Eric Ching

Professor Peter Wesley-smith

Mr. Albert Chen

Oswald Cheung, Q.C.

Reporters:

Cheuk, Jennifer

Choi, Annie

Lam, Yanky

Lau, Rebecca

Mak, Theresa

Ng, Michelle

Tai, Kennis

Published and Printing by
Leading Printing & Desktop Publishing Co.

P.O.Box 584, Tsuen Wan Post Office, Hong Kong
Tel:(852) 2426 5599 Fax: (852) 2612 1847

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