

Report of the Standing Committee on Legal Education 2016

1. The Standing Committee on Legal Education (“the Committee”) has the following members for 2016:

Edward Chan SC (Chairman)
Michael Yin (Vice Chairman)
Lisa Wong SC
Selwyn Yu SC
Richard Khaw SC
Michael Liu
Cheung Kam Chuen
Elaine Liu
Hew Yang-Wahn
Deanna Law
Hugh Kam

Ka Wong, the Director of ALE of the Hong Kong Bar Association is the Secretary of the Committee

2. The Committee had two meetings in 2016. Apart from formal meetings there were also exchanges of views of members and decisions reached by e mail circulation.

3. As the courses for the PCLL programmes of the 3 universities are now well settled and the courses are running smoothly, the work of the Committee in relation to the supervision of the courses is very much reduced.

4. During the year 2016, the Committee had considered and recommended to the Bar Council on matters relating to the restructuring of Core Courses of PCLL course of the City University of Hong Kong.

5. In the course of this year, at the specific direction of the Bar Council, the Committee has carried out a study and had made recommendations to the Bar Council on the feasibility of the Bar Council setting up a professional development programme under the Government’s Professional Services Advancement Support Scheme.

6. The Committee has also kept a keen interest in the development of the implementation of the Common Entrance Examination proposed by the Law Society, and note that there was in fact no further development on the Law Society’s proposal.

7. From time to time during this year members of the Committee had been asked to consider applications for waiver or relaxation of the ALE requirements. The practice adopted by the Committee was that the views of the members would be solicited through e mail exchanges. Over the years the Committee had formulated certain policy in relation to the criteria for the grant of waiver and throughout 2016 decisions on waiver of ALE requirements have always been unanimous.

8. On one occasion, the Committee was asked to express its views on the grant of the full practicing certificate to a pupil who had not obtained the requisite 14 ALE points upon the undertaking of the pupil to obtain the full 14 points after the grant of the full practicing certificate. The Committee has forwarded its recommendation to the Bar Council after a thorough discussion on the matter in one of its meetings.

9. It was also part of the work of the Committee to consider the award of ALE points to programmes, talks or seminars organized by outside organizations. The decisions were made by e mail circulation.

Edward Chan SC
Chairman
Standing Committee on Legal Education

19 December 2016