

Report of the Standing Committee on Legal Education 2021

1. The Standing Committee on Legal Education ("the Committee") has the following members for 2021:

Edward Chan SC (Chairman)
Michael Yin (Vice Chairman)
Selwyn Yu SC
Richard Khaw SC
Law Man Chung SC
Michael Liu
Dr. Tommy Koon Ki Ho
Stanley C K Siu
James Tze
Hew Yang Wahn
Sabrina Ho
Adrian But
Mike Ho Yan Lam
Larenia Chan
Alice Lau
Jeffrey K L Lee
Francis Chung Ho-chai
Kelly Cheng
Ka-Chun Wong, the Director of ALE for the Hong Kong Bar Association is the secretary for the Committee

2. The attitude and general policy of the Committee is to welcome all those members of the Bar who are interested in legal education to join the Committee regardless of their seniority and previous experience. As a result the size of the Committee has been further enlarged. Unfortunately because of the increase in size, it has proven to be more difficult to arrange for the date of meeting that would suit the convenience of all members. As a result the Committee only managed to hold 2 meetings and unfortunately there was no full attendance for either.

3. Initially at the beginning of the year, it was expected that there would be quite a bit of activities arising from the Law Society's proposal for the Common Entrance Examination (the "CEE") and also the Law Society Examination (the "LSE") which was meant to be another alternative route for admission as solicitors in lieu of the PCLL. However for some reason, there was not much further development in respect of either of these proposals.

4. The Committee had set up 2 sub-committees to consider the new PCLL Civil Procedure programme and the Criminal Procedure programme of the 3 universities. The sub-committee for Criminal Procedure headed by Selwyn Yu SC reported their comments and suggestions in May 2021. The sub-committee for Civil Procedure headed by Richard Khaw SC reported their comments and suggestions in July 2021. The reports were endorsed by the Bar Council and was sent to the universities. The response to the Bar's comments were positive.

5. The Committee also considered and approved the suggestion from HKU space to set up a course of "Advanced Diploma for Legal Executives". The course was set at degree level and was intended to be an additional avenue for admission to the PCLL for legal executives.

6. In August 2021, the Bar Council invited the Committee to give its views on an item of agenda "Legal Education and Training in Hong Kong" of the AJLS Panel meeting on 23 August 2021. The Committee had duly compiled its view for the AJLS panel meeting attended by the Bar Chairman.

Edward Chan, SC
Chairman
Standing Committee on Legal Education

December 2021