

GHELC Seminar Series

# Experiencing the Practice of Human Rights Law



**GHELC Seminar Series 2013-14**

# **Clinical Legal Education Programme - Refugee Stream**



**Creating Community Partnerships to  
Enhance Student Learning**

# Goals and Objectives

- To instruct students in the theory and practice of international refugee law
- To give students an opportunity to practice their professional skills
- To provide service for unmet legal needs in the community
- To cultivate a pro-bono ethic among law students



# Student Recruitment and Liaising with Community Partners

CCPL

CENTRE FOR COMPARATIVE AND PUBLIC LAW  
AT THE FACULTY OF LAW, THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

## Intensive Experience:

Be a part of the CHANGE following the  
Court of Final Appeal's LANDMARK judgment



The Court of Final Appeal's recent judgment in *C. & Ors v Director of Immigration* paves the way for the creation of a unified and integrated governance mechanism for refugees and torture claimants in Hong Kong, a significant milestone for refugee rights and an urgent call for active government. This is your opportunity to learn more and get involved.

The Centre for Comparative and Public Law (CCPL) is pleased to announce applications for this 3-DAY INTENSIVE EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING PROGRAMME.

### "A Day in the Life of a Hong Kong Human Rights Lawyer"

The programme will introduce law students to what it means to seek asylum in Hong Kong. Students will:

- Tour the offices and meet with officials from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,
- Participate in simulated refugee intake interviews at the Hong Kong Refugee Advice Centre, and
- Observe the work and meet with refugee advocates at Vision Human Rights.

This Experiential Programme will take place between 4 - 7 June 2013, and is open to LLB or mixed-degree LLB students and 1<sup>st</sup> year JD students.

Go to - <http://www.law.hku.hk/ccpl/> for more details and to download an application form.

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## Represent a REFUGEE CLIENT

with the Hong Kong Refugee Advice Centre



Friday, 26 April 2013  
12:30 - 2:30pm  
Alumni Room  
Room 901, 9/F  
Cheng Yu Tung Tower  
The University of Hong Kong



Keep your legal studies exciting by working with real clients and experienced human rights lawyers this summer!

Bring your lunch and join current HKU clinic students, past clinic students and experienced human rights practitioners for a roundtable discussion about refugee law, human rights work in Hong Kong and how YOU can take part in the HKU-HKRCAC Clinical Legal Education Programme.

Please email Flora Leung at [flkleung@hku.hk](mailto:flkleung@hku.hk) to reserve a place.





# HKRAC Beneficiaries in 2012-2013



289

Sri Lanka,  
Pakistan,  
Somalia,  
India, Togo



46% families



67 children

# Basic Structure

Hong Kong  
Refugee Advice  
Centre



Training weekend



Skills classes



Observe



Perform

# Components



- Training weekend
  - With practicing lawyers and volunteers
  - Specialist instruction
- Skills classes
  - Small group learning
  - Seminars
- Observe and Perform
  - Weekly clinic appointments and casework assignments
  - Close supervision and client contact



# Curriculum

- International Refugee Law
- UNHCR RSD Procedures in the HK Context
- Working with Vulnerable Clients
- Working with an Interpreter
- Client Interviewing Skills
- Ethics
- Drafting a Client Testimony & a Legal Brief
- Country of Origin Information & Legal Research

## Pass/fail course

- Attendance and participation in all components
- Adequate and timely preparation, submission, and revision of work
- Reflection pieces
- Supervisor's evaluation

# What does the clinic deliver?

- Overwhelmingly positive and beneficial experience for students
- Theoretical knowledge
- Practical and applied legal training
- Individualised learning
- Unique alternative to lecture based classes



# Corporate Pro Bono Partners

**Davis Polk**



KING & WOOD  
MALLESONS



**C L I F F O R D**  
**C H A N C E**

**LATHAM & WATKINS**

**Linklaters**

**SHEARMAN & STERLING LLP**

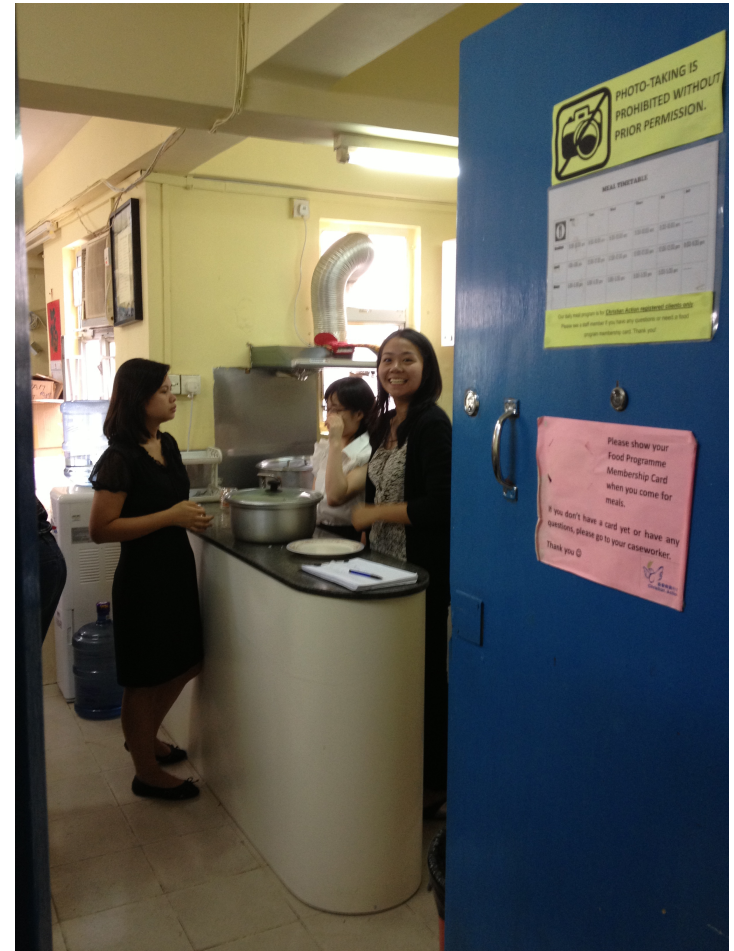


Access to Justice Award 2012

# Where Do HKU Students Play a Role?

- 39 student participants in total
- 16 continued to volunteer after their programme ended
- 17 clients received full representation (full representation takes an average of 100-300 hours)
- 23 clients partially represented or otherwise assisted
- 4 recognitions
- 4 granted interviews
- A number of cases still ongoing

# 3-Day Experiential Learning Programme





# *“Practicing Human Rights Law in Hong Kong”*

## **Unique Experiential Learning Opportunity**

**15 to 17 October 2013**

**See the Law in Action following the Court of Final Appeal’s  
LANDMARK judgment in *C v Director of Immigration***

### 15 October 2013

**10:00am – 4:30pm:** Visit HKRAC - Staff Attorney (Clinical Programmes), Sonya Donnelly. Students will learn about the work of HKRAC, the legal definition of a refugee, and the UNHCR refugee status determination process. Students will also participate in simulated asylum-seeker interviews.

### 16 October 2013

**10:30am – 12:30pm:** Meet with Alison Mackay and Siva from Christian Action. Students will be introduced to Christian Action’s comprehensive service center for refugees and asylum seekers in Hong Kong. Students will assist with serving lunch to the refugee and asylum-seeking clients who attend the daily lunch service.

**4:30pm – 6:00pm:** Meet with Mark Daly and Patricia Ho from Daly and Associates.

### 17 October 2013

**9:30am – 1pm:** Meet with Adrielle Panares and her colleagues from International Social Services - Hong Kong Branch (“ISS-HK”).

**2:00 pm – 4:00pm:** Visit the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and meet with a representative from the Refugee Status Determination division

\* A visit with the Torture Claims Appeal Board will take place in January 2014.

# Academic-Community Partnerships in Creating Experiential Learning Opportunities for Law Students



International  
Social Service  
HONG KONG BRANCH  
香港國際社會服務社

**DALY** 帝理律師行  
& ASSOCIATES



# Future Plans

- **EXPANDING OPPORTUNITY**

3-day Experiential Learning Opportunity, “Practicing Human Rights Law in Hong Kong”

3 sessions/year, more students, new themes

- **GENERATING AWARENESS - ESTABLISHING A NETWORK**

Public Interest Law Conference – 18 January 2014

- **BUILDING CAPACITY AND A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN**

Human Rights-Public Interest Law Clinical Legal Education