

Standing Committee on Policy and Resources

The Standing Committee on Policy and Resources is responsible for formulating and supervising policy and administration for The Law Society and exercising management and control of The Law Society's finances. Matters of policy and finance are thus discussed by the Standing Committee and appropriate cases referred to the Council for decision.

During the year the Standing Committee met 13 times. Major issues considered by the Standing Committee included:

- Consideration of The Law Society's annual budget and monitoring of income, expenditure and investments on a monthly basis.
- Recommendation to the Council and thereafter to the Chief Justice in relation to the annual Practising Certificate and membership fees.
- Review of the senior posts in the Secretariat.
- Review of the salary of the staff and recommendations to the Council for a salary increment and payment of incentive bonuses.
- Recommendation to the Council to change the office hours of the Secretariat to operate from Mondays to Fridays and close on Saturdays and Sundays.
- Approval of the appointment of an information technology consultancy company to review the Secretariat's IT infrastructure and to produce a report on the requirements of redeveloping the membership database system and revamping The Law Society website.
- Appointment of Council Members to the Standing Committees and monitoring the attendance at Law Society meetings.
- Arrangement of professional indemnity cover for the Council and committee members in connection with their activities on behalf of The Law Society.
- Approval of the establishment of an Honours Committee for making recommendations on nominations to the Roll of Honour and Honorary Memberships.
- Approval of renewal of The Law Society Affinity Credit Card agreement with The Bank of East Asia for another two years.
- Approval of the appointment of *The Standard* as the publisher for the centenary book "*Celebrating a Centenary*".
- Approval of the budgets for organising the *Centenary Dinner*, *Centenary Sports Meet* and the *Members' Night* to celebrate the *Centenary* of The Law Society.

The membership of the Standing Committee on Policy and Resources comprises the President, two Vice-Presidents, Chairmen of the other Standing Committees and senior Members of the Council.

Members of the Standing Committee:

Lester G. HUANG (*Chairman*)
 Junius K.Y. HO
 Raymond C.K. HO
 IP Shing Hing
 Alex T.H. LAI (joined in June)
 Michael J. LINTERN-SMITH

Peter C.L. LO
 Billy W.Y. MA
 Patrick R. MOSS
 Thomas S.T. SO (joined in June)
 WONG Kwai Huen
 Dieter L.T. YIH (joined in June)

Secretary: Assistant Director, Administration

Standing Committee on Policy and Resources

CENTENARY WORKING PARTY

The Working Party coordinated a series of events in celebration of the *Centenary* of The Law Society.

The Right Hon. Sir Konrad Schiemann, Judge of the Court of Justice of the European Communities, delivered a public lecture on “*A Union with Several Legal Systems – the European Experience*” to mark the *Centenary* on 14 April.

The Law Society Centenary Cup Race at Happy Valley in the evening on 6 June coincided with the reception and dinner hosted for the delegates of the LawAsia Conference held in Hong Kong.

The *Law Society Centenary Dinner* on 7 June at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre was an evening filled with celebration and enjoyment. It was graced by the attendance of the Guests of Honour, the Hon. Chief Justice, the Hon. Secretary for Justice and other distinguished guests from Hong Kong, the Mainland and overseas.

Over 250 lawyers from Beijing, Guangzhou, Shanghai, Shenzhen, Macau, Taipei and Hong Kong participated in four sporting events at *The Law Society of Hong Kong Centenary Sports Meet* held at the Chinese University of Hong Kong from 6 July to 8 July.

Members' Night on 15 December at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre concluded the celebrations.

Members of the Working Party:

Anthony W.K. CHOW (*Chairman*)
Frederick K.C. KAN
IP Shing Hing
Junius K.Y. HO
Lester G. HUANG

Peter C.L. LO
Herbert H.K. TSOI
WONG Kwai Huen
Roderick B. WOO

Secretary : Secretary General

HONOURS COMMITTEE

The Committee was set up to recommend to the Council solicitors for admission to the Roll of Honour and prominent persons for election as Honorary Members of The Law Society.

Members of the Committee:

Simon S.O. IP (*Chairman*)
Ambrose S.K. LAM
Wilfred C.W. LEE

Billy W.Y. MA
TONG Tin Sun

Secretary: Secretary General

Standing Committee on Policy and Resources

WORKING PARTY ON CEPA

The Working Party continued to consider and formulate new proposals for further liberalization of the market access measures in the Mainland under CEPA for solicitors. The Working Party maintained its dialogue with the Department of Justice and sought its support on these new proposals in the next round of CEPA supplements.

The difficulties encountered by the representative offices of solicitors' firms in the Mainland were reflected to the Ministry of Justice through the Department of Justice.

Members of the Working Party:IP Shing Hing (*Chairman*)

Anthony W.K. CHOW

Junius K.Y. HO

Lester G. HUANG

WONG Kwai Huen

ZHU Xuanfeng

Secretary: Deputy Secretary General

WORKING PARTY ON OFFICE PREMISES

The Working Party was established to review and consider the office space requirements of The Law Society Secretariat and to make recommendations to the Council. The property market was buoyant in 2007. New strategies were formulated by the Working Party with respect to The Law Society's investment in the office premises of the Secretariat.

Members of the Working Party:Junius K.Y. HO (*Chairman*)

Lester G. HUANG

Ambrose S.K. LAM

Joseph C.W. LI

Patrick R. MOSS

Secretary: Deputy Secretary General

Standing Committee on Policy and Resources

WORKING PARTY ON THE CENTENARY BOOK

The Working Party coordinated the work by *The Standard* which had been appointed by The Law Society to publish “*Celebrating a Centenary*” to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of The Law Society. It met on 10 occasions and to settle the final draft in December. Each member and associate member of The Law Society received a complimentary copy of this publication.

Members of the Working Party:

Roderick B. WOO (*Chairman*)
 Robin M. BRIDGE
 Albert H.Y. CHEN
 Maggie K.K. CHEUNG
 Anna S.H. CHOW
 Colin B. COHEN
 James M. FONG
 Carmelo K.S. LEE

Maurice W.M. LEE
 Elsie O.S. LEUNG
 Vincent W.S. LIANG
 Phillip McDONALD
 Patrick R. MOSS
 Melissa K. PANG
 Thomas S.T. SO
 Andrew W.H. WANG

Secretary: Deputy Secretary General

WORKING PARTY ON THE LAWASIA CONFERENCE

The Working Party, in conjunction with the appointed consultants, coordinated all the planning work and sponsorship for the *20th Biennial LawAsia Conference* held in Hong Kong between 5 and 8 June.

Members of the Working Party:

Lester G. HUANG (*Chairman*)
 Serina K.S. CHAN
 Charles C.C. CHAU
 Anthony W.K. CHOW
 Stephen W.S. HUNG

Ambrose S.K. LAM
 Howard K.H. LAM
 Lynn LEE
 Melissa K. PANG
 Dieter L.T. YIH

Members of the Papers Committee:

Lester G. HUANG (*Chairman*)
 Johannes CHAN

Colin B. COHEN

Members of the Sponsorship Working Party:

Anthony W. K. CHOW (*Chairman*)
 Maybo FOK (ICC)
 Lester G. HUANG
 Frederick K.C. KAN

Ambrose S.K. LAM
 Joseph C.W. LI
 Herbert H.K. TSOI
 A. Donald YAP

Secretary : Secretary General

Standing Committee on Policy and Resources

ANNUAL COCKTAIL RECEPTION



Over 210 members and guests attended the Annual Cocktail Reception held on 19 November at the Hong Kong Club. The Chief Justice and the Secretary for Justice were invited as the Guests of Honour. In addition, the following guests were also invited to attend the event:

- Justices and judges of the Court of Final Appeal, Court of Appeal, Court of First Instance, District Court and Family Court, Registrars of the Court of Final Appeal and High Court and the Judiciary Administrator
- Officials from various government departments
- Members of the Executive Council of HKSAR
- Members of the Legislative Council of HKSAR
- Lay members of the Solicitors Disciplinary Tribunal
- Presidents of other professional organisations
- Chairmen of Chambers of Commerce
- Law Society CPD and RME course presenters
- Other guests such as representatives from the Liaison Office of the Central People's Government in Hong Kong
- Chairmen and members of The Law Society committees

THE LAW SOCIETY OF HONG KONG EDUCATIONAL TRUST

The objects of The *Law Society of Hong Kong Educational Trust* includes the provision of financial support to residents of Hong Kong in the furthering of their studies in law; and the promotion, organisation and provision of financial support for research projects, publications, seminars, conferences and any other educational and charitable activities to promote the study of law and legal education and the understanding of legal systems in Hong Kong.

Standing Committee on Policy and Resources

The Trustees are the members of the Standing Committee on Policy and Resources.

The Trustees granted a number of sponsorships during the year:

- 10 members and one non-member received sponsorship to attend the *20th Biennial LawAsia Conference* in Hong Kong from 5 to 8 June;
- One trainee solicitor received sponsorship to attend the *Law Lectures for Practitioners 2007* in Hong Kong on 7 September;
- 10 members and one trainee solicitor received sponsorship to attend the *15th Commonwealth Law Conference* in Nairobi, Kenya from 9 to 13 September;
- Five members received sponsorship to attend the *International Bar Association Conference* in Singapore from 14 to 29 October;
- Eight Postgraduate Certificate in Laws students received book prizes.

LAW SOCIETY CLUBHOUSE

Patrick Leong resigned as a member of the Clubhouse Committee and Fred Kan and Leo Seewald were co-opted. Three meetings of the Committee were held during the year. To encourage more members to use the Clubhouse for their private functions, party menus were made available which included food, drinks and wine plus exclusive use of the Clubhouse area. The following three events were organised by the Committee which attracted a total of 76 participants:

- Board Games' Night
- Talk by HH Judge Patrick Li
- Talk on Skin Health and Risks

Unfortunately, the patronage of the Clubhouse was not as good as expected but the Committee was vigorously looking at ways to improve the situation.

Members of the Committee:

IP Shing Hing (*Chairman*)
 Frederick K.C. KAN (joined in April)
 Helen Y.H. KONG
 Herwin M.W. LEE
 Patrick T.C. LEONG (resigned in January)

Patrick R. MOSS
 Melissa K. PANG
 Leo SEEWALD (joined in July)
 William H.C. TSUI
 Peter K.C. YIP

Secretary: Assistant Director, Administration



Department of Finance & Administration