

Standing Committee on Member Services

The Standing Committee on Member Services formulates and oversees the implementation of strategies and programmes that enhance members' benefits and interests. It is the Standing Committee's mission to provide the best benefit for our members and to unite them with a common goal of developing the legal markets locally and internationally. The Standing Committee also makes recommendations to other Standing Committees on issues pertaining to members' legal practice.

The Standing Committee met 12 times in 2012.

Law Firm Visits

Following up on the first round of law firm visits back in 2009, the Standing Committee conducted a second round of visits in early 2012. The Standing Committee received well-thought suggestions and valuable views which were taken into account by the Standing Committee in the design and implementation of its programmes and initiatives.

Research Platform "LawSociety Lexis"

The online research platform "LawSociety Lexis" was launched in April 2011. To celebrate its first anniversary, The Law Society co-hosted a three-day Legal Fair with LexisNexis at the end of April. During the year, the Standing Committee had co-organised a series of training with LexisNexis, including training for in-house lawyers. By the end of 2012, 1,898 lawyers and 127 law firms had registered for the service.



Standing Committee on Member Services

Members' Forum and Mini Cocktail Night on Class Action

Immediately following the release of the Law Reform Commission's Report on Class Action, the Standing Committee co-organised a seminar with the Member Benefit Committee on "Class Action Suits and the Opportunities" on 25 June. Following the seminar was a Cocktail Night for members to mingle and network. The function was well received.



Study Group on FACC 2/2011 ("the Judgment")

To create a discussion forum for members on issues of interest to the profession, the Standing Committee formed a Study Group to study the effect of the judgment on solicitor-client agreements as well as solicitors' remuneration.

Members' Profile on Community Services

In addition to their admission years and correspondence details, the Standing Committee resolved to allow members to include their profiles on community services on The Law Society's website (public zone) as well. New profiles will be uploaded next year.

Members of the Standing Committee and their meeting attendances during the year:

Ambrose S.K. LAM (<i>Chairman until June</i>)	(8/12)	Andrew S.K. LAW	(11/12)
WONG Kwai Huen (<i>Chairman from July</i>)	(5/6)	Angela W.Y. LEE	(8/12)
Eliza L.S. CHANG (<i>Vice-Chairman</i>)	(11/12)	Daphne F.Y. LO	(7/12)
Bonita B.Y. CHAN (<i>joined in January</i>)	(11/12)	Melissa K. PANG	(8/12)
CHAN Chak Ming	(10/12)	Virginia M.L. TAM (<i>joined in May</i>)	(6/8)
Charles C.C. CHAU	(10/12)	Cecilia K.W. WONG	(9/12)
Anthony W.K. CHOW	(8/12)	WONG Kwok Yan	(6/12)
IP Shing Hing	(4/12)	Rocky P.L. YUNG	(3/12)
Frederick K.C. KAN (<i>resigned in February</i>)	(0/1)		

Secretary: Director of Member Services

Standing Committee on Member Services

HONG KONG LAWYER EDITORIAL BOARD (“EDITORIAL BOARD”)

Members of the Editorial Board met monthly and worked closely with the publisher of *Hong Kong Lawyer* to monitor the overall quality and standard of the publication and to identify topics of interest to the profession. The Law Society appointed Sweet & Maxwell, Thomson Reuters as the Publisher for *Hong Kong Lawyer* and a brand new design of the journal was launched in November with a rich selection of articles.

The journal is distributed to members of The Law Society, members of the Hong Kong Bar Association (“Bar Association”), judges, government departments and relevant public organisations. It is also displayed at all airport lounges of Cathay Pacific and Dragon Airlines to reach out to international readers.

A new *Hong Kong Lawyer* website www.hk-lawyer.org was also launched in November to offer readers a more engaging experience through improved search engine and navigation. The website provides readers an option to download the whole journal in pdf format for viewing via their computer. Readers can even share the articles with their friends via email, Facebook, Twitter or Weibo.



Members of the Editorial Board:

Huen WONG (Chairman)
Jenkin S.F. CHAN
Charles C.C. CHAU
Heidi K.P. CHU
Steven Brian GALLAGHER
Julienne JEN
Dave C.K. Lau (joined in May)

Hans MAHNCKE
George Y.C. MOK
Anne SCULLY-HILL
Michelle K.M. TSANG
Adamas K.S. WONG
Cecilia K.W. WONG
Michael Wilkinson (resigned in May)
Tony Y.H. YEN

Secretary: Assistant Director, Member Services

Standing Committee on Member Services

IN-HOUSE LAWYERS COMMITTEE

In-House Lawyers (“IHLs”) include members who are qualified lawyers not in private practice. The Committee works to provide a forum for sharing of experience and resources, exchange of views and ideas in relation to the role of IHLs. It also creates a platform for the nourishing of relationships between IHLs and private legal practitioners in Hong Kong. The Committee met six times during the year.

The Committee organised the following seminars in April:

- “Practical Use of Mediation in Resolving Corporate Internal Disputes”
- “Learning how to use ‘Law Society Lexis’: A New Offsite Legal Research Platform”

The 2012 Annual Conference of In-House Lawyers Committee took place in September and was attended by over 300 IHLs. In the full day inaugural event, 12 speakers and panellists were invited to speak on topics which were of particular interests to IHLs including Leadership, Enhancing Emotional Competence in Stressful Situations, RMB Internationalisation, Legal Professional Privilege, Legal and Due Diligence Research on Greater China Information.



Standing Committee on Member Services



Members of the Committee:

CHAN Chak Ming (*Chairman*)
Grand H.L. CHAN (*Vice-Chairman from November*)
Ricky M.T. CHAN
CHEUNG Yuen Sang
Elief S. W. FONG
GU Jing
Jasmine KARIMI
Elen LAU

Jason C. Y. LEE
Kenneth S.Y. NG
Rubya RAMJAHN
Anne SALT
Maggie Y.T. TSUI
Adamas K.S. WONG
Judy YANG
Edwin C.W. YEE

Secretary: Director of Member Services

The Committee had set up three Working Groups to handle specific projects of the Committee.

Standing Committee on Member Services

WORKING GROUP ON NETWORKING FUNCTIONS AND EVENTS

The Working Group works to provide networking opportunities for IHLs. During the year, the Group organised two panel discussions under the series entitled “In House Counsel: Sweat & Glory” featuring eminent in-house lawyers as speakers. The panel discussions covered experience sharing on topics which were particularly relevant to IHLs such as outsourcing of legal work and management of legal departments within corporations.

The Working Group organised the 2012 Annual Conference of In-House Lawyers Committee.



Members of the Group:

Eliof S. W. FONG (*Chairman*)
CHAN Chak Ming
Grand H.L. CHAN
Kenneth S.Y. NG
Maggie Y.T. TSUI

Secretary: Director of Member Services

WORKING GROUP ON SURVEY FOR IHLs

The Working Group worked on the design of a survey which was conducted in September. More than 250 in-house members replied providing the Committee with useful data on the background of in-house lawyers among The Law Society's membership and their practices, and valuable comment on how The Law Society can better serve in-house members.

Members of the Group:

Grand H.L. CHAN (*Chairman*)
CHAN Chak Ming
Jasmine KARIMI
Edwin C.W. YEE

Secretary: Director of Member Services

Standing Committee on Member Services

WORKING GROUP ON RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR IHLs

The Working Group organises recreational activities for IHLs. The Working Group discussed and planned for visits to in-house departments of Mainland corporations scheduled to take place in 2013.

Members of the Group:

Jason C. Y. LEE (*Chairman*)

CHAN Chak Ming

Judy YANG

Secretary: Director of Member Services

LAW SOCIETY CLUBHOUSE COMMITTEE

The Clubhouse Committee is constantly looking for ways to enhance the services of The Law Society Clubhouse to members.

The Clubhouse started serving breakfast in December. Pricing is competitive. The Clubhouse provides wifi access and a selection of newspapers including South China Morning Post, Ming Pao and Hong Kong Economic Times as well as journals and magazines.

Equipped with two TVs, professional PA system and adjustable lighting fixtures, the Clubhouse has become a popular venue for seminars and private parties. In 2012, The Law Society organised 82 events in the Clubhouse and general members used the venue for private functions on 18 occasions.

The Clubhouse is open for breakfast, lunch and evening functions (alcohol serving). The Clubhouse is not only a perfect place to unwind and relax, it is also an ideal venue for meetings and social gatherings.

Members of the Committee:

IP Shing Hing (*Chairman*)

Melissa K. PANG (*Vice-Chairman from January*)

Bonita B. Y. CHAN (*joined in January*)

CHAN Tze Chin

Heidi K.P. CHU

Jackie T. K. LI

Annie P. Y. WONG

Peter K. C. YIP

Secretary: Assistant Director, Member Services

Standing Committee on Member Services

MEMBER BENEFIT COMMITTEE

The Member Benefit Committee sources services and benefits for The Law Society's members that help improve their personal well-being and enhance business development for the profession. The Committee also makes recommendations on promotion items received by The Law Society from time to time. The Committee organised the following activities and events during the year:

The Law Society of Hong Kong Disability Income Insurance

In collaboration with AON, the Committee has introduced a free Disability Income Insurance Scheme for its members, which came into effect on 27 September. It is a free benefit paid for by The Law Society to all members aged between 16 and 100 for financial subsidy in the event of critical illness. A ceremony for the launch of the Scheme was held at the 7th Recreation and Sports Night on 20 October.

MB's Café

The Committee launched a new programme, named "MB's Café" in February. It is a platform where celebrities and VIP speakers will be invited to share their views with members in a light hearted and interactive atmosphere. The Committee organised three MB's Café during the year.

- (a) The Hon Mrs. Ip Regina Lau Suk-Yee, GBS JP, Chairperson of the Board of Governors, Savantas Policy Institute gave a talk on "Mrs. Regina IP LAU Suk-Yee in her own words" on 9 February.



Standing Committee on Member Services

- (b) Past President Huen Wong gave a talk on “*Mr. Huen Wong on Leadership*” on 20 June.



- (c) The Hon Secretary for Justice, Rimsy Yuen, SC talked about “*Development of legal and dispute resolution services*” on 19 November.



Luncheon Talks, Evening seminar and workshop

The Committee also organised the following luncheon talks, evening seminars and workshops on a variety of topics during the year.



- (a) Seminar on Photography on 27 March
(b) Luncheon Talk on “Hong Kong China Market Outlook” on 16 May
(c) “Instruments for Professionals”, a workshop on watches and styling, on 10 October

Standing Committee on Member Services

Member Benefit x Young Solicitors Group x Live Band "Live Concert by TLF"

The Committee organised the first live concert with the Young Solicitors' Group and The Law Society Live Band "TLF" on 27 April. Over 150 participants from members of The Law Society and other professional bodies attended the concert and had an enjoyable evening with great music, delicate canapes and fine wine.



Member Benefit x Live Band "The Law Society Christmas Party 2012"

The Committee jointly organised the 2nd Christmas Party with The Law Society Live Band "TLF" on 18 December. Over 400 participants attended the party and the Hon Chief Justice Geoffrey Ma graced us with his presence as our Guest of Honour.



Standing Committee on Member Services

Programmes for Members' Children

The Committee organised three activities for members' children, including visits to the Legislative Council Complex, Hong Kong Science Park and Hong Kong Yakult Co. Ltd. Certificates of Attendance were presented to all members' children who participated in these events.



Other Benefits/Events:

- (a) January — Free Lai See Packets
- (b) February — Complimentary Tickets of Hong Kong Hotel Art Fair 2012
- (c) 23 February — Luncheon Seminar "Fortune for 12 Chinese Zodiac Signs in the Year of the Dragon"
- (d) 24 April–26 April — Seminar and book fair with LexisNexis
- (e) 24 April — 1st Anniversary of LawSociety Lexis
- (f) 26 April — Cocktail reception for the launch of the book "Corporate Governance and Compliance in Hong Kong"
- (g) May — Complimentary Tickets of Art HK12
- (h) July — Special offer: Miss Daisy Wong's talk show
- (i) 26 August & 3 September — Ferrari Four and Ferrari California test drive
- (j) 12 October — All New Lexus LS Private Preview Car Show
- (k) October — Complimentary tickets to Fine Art Asia 2012
- (l) December — Complimentary tickets of 10th Hong Kong Mega Showcase

Members of the Committee:

Bonita B.Y. CHAN (*Chairman*)
CHAN Tze Chin
Angela W.Y. LEE
Daphne F.Y. LO
Melissa K. PANG

Adamas WONG
Annie P.Y. WONG
WONG Kwok Yan
Ada C.M. WU
YU Tat Man

Secretary: Member Services Officer

Standing Committee on Member Services

PRACTICE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The Practice Management Committee is dedicated to serving members in best-practice endeavours. The scope includes guiding members to set up and run a legal practice, increase profitability, implement a good practice system, manage risks in practice, enhance services to clients, motivate staff and manage finance and information. It aims at helping law practices to achieve practice management excellence. It formulates guidelines and practice manuals and organises training programmes seminars and conferences on practice management. The Committee met five times.

Under the Committee, there are four small groups each with a special focus including Client Management and Care, Education, Exchange of Information and Support, Emerging Issues.

During the year, the Committee reviewed the manuals, forms and precedents of other law societies and law firms and compiled the “File Closing Checklist” in September for use by law firms.

In May, the Committee organised a talk by Land Registry on “The New e-Memorial Form” for law firm staff. In August and September, it organised two seminars on “Dewey & Leboeuf: A Case Study on Profit Distribution”. All seminars were well received.

In July, the Committee conducted a survey among law firms on Legal Process Outsourcing.



The Committee also reviewed The Law Society circular (02-384) on the Storage of Old Files and gave comments to the Standing Committee on Practitioners Affairs. A revised circular was issued.

The Committee also reviewed the new *Competition Ordinance* and its impact on law firms.

The Committee will continue to work on new interfaces on The Law Society’s practice management webpage.

Standing Committee on Member Services

Members of the Committee:

Ambrose S.K. LAM (*Chairman until April*)
Virginia M.L. TAM (*Chairman from May*)
Patrick M. BURKE (*resigned in May*)
Eliza L.S. CHANG
David J. FLEMING
IP Shing Hing
Elaine Y.M. LO

Amirali B. NASIR (*resigned in September*)
NG Ching Wo
Kenneth S.Y. NG
Melissa K. PANG
WONG Huen
YEUNG Man Sing

Secretary: Director of Member Services

ISLAMIC FINANCE WORKING PARTY

The Working Party was formed in 2012 to provide recommendations on the legal development of Islamic financial products and services in Hong Kong. The Working Party aims to equip members with updated knowledge and insights in the rapidly growing Islamic Finance market in Hong Kong. The Working Party works closely with financial institutions, government, NGOs, international organisations and universities relating to Islamic finance. Members of the Working Party commented on the various aspects of *the Revenue and Stamp Duty Legislation (Alternative Bond Schemes) (Amendment) Bill 2012* and conducted a seminar for members.

Members of the Working Party:

Amirali B. NASIR (*Chairman*)
Davide BARZILAI
Balbir S. BINDRA

John S. GALE
Benjamin J. SANDSTAD
Edmond M. Y. YEUNG

Secretary: Director of Member Services

WORKING PARTY ON QIANHAI PROJECT

The Working Party was established under the Practice Management Committee to study the operation models of law firms overseas with a view to making recommendations on the future development of the profession in Qianhai, Shenzhen. Throughout 2012, the Working Party had been working closely with our counterparts in the Mainland as well as the relevant Mainland authorities on the development of the legal service market in Qianhai. In early 2012, the Working Group visited Sydney and Melbourne to study their innovative business structures with a view to considering whether they could be applied in Qianhai and Hong Kong.

Standing Committee on Member Services

The Working Party met 11 times. In addition, it attended 10 meetings with relevant authorities including the PRC Ministry of Justice, the Department of Justice of Hong Kong, the Development and Reform Commission of Guangdong Province, the Department of Justice of Guangdong Province, the Legislative Affairs Office of the State Council, the Qianhai Bureau and various lawyers' associations as well as enterprises interested in developing their businesses in Qianhai.

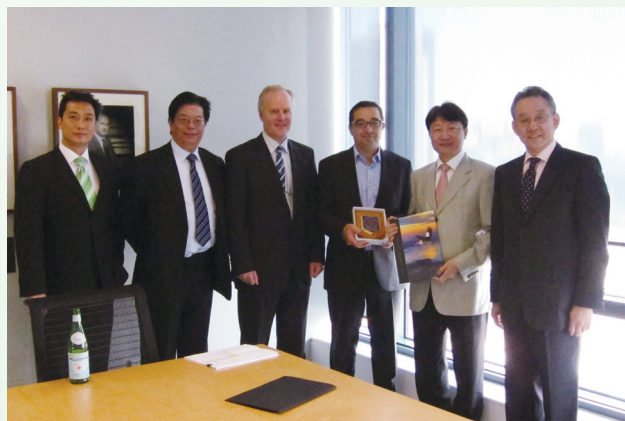
After two years of preparation, the "*Study Report on the Development of the Legal Profession in Qianhai*" was published in November. In the Report, the Working Party advocated six areas of cooperation between the legal profession in the Mainland and Hong Kong, including cooperation in legal services, regulation of lawyers, applicability of law, law investigation, international legal services and training of lawyers.



In addition, the Working Party also visited Guangzhou, Nansha and Hengqin to explore the feasibility of expanding collaboration to other areas of the Guangdong Province.



Standing Committee on Member Services



Standing Committee on Member Services

The Working Party organised one sharing session in June to consult members' views on The Law Society's proposal, and two sharing sessions in December to explain the Qianhai Report to members.



Members of the Working Party:

Ambrose S.K. LAM (*Chairman*)

Nicholas H.F. CHAN

Rico W.K. CHAN

Charles C.C. CHAU

Anthony W.K. CHOW

Heidi CHU

Junius K.Y. HO

Stephen W.S. HUNG

Maurice W.M. LEE

NG Ching Wo

Thomas S.T. SO

Virginia M.L. TAM

WONG Huen

WONG Tak Shing

Dieter YIH

Consultant: Elsie O.S. LEUNG

Secretary: Director of Member Services

PRO BONO COMMITTEE

The Pro Bono Committee reviews the types of pro bono work undertaken by the profession, promotes public awareness of members' pro bono services and encourages participation by the profession in pro bono work.

During the year, the Committee reviewed various pro bono schemes in which The Law Society has organised and/or coordinated participation by its members. They included the Advisory Service of Property Management Advisory Centre ("PMAC"), The Duty Lawyer Services, Personal Injury Helpline, Law Week Helplines on Personal Injury, Family Law, Small-Medium Enterprises and General Legal Advice, Free 45 minutes Legal Consultation, and various English legal education programmes for secondary students.

Standing Committee on Member Services

At the recommendation of the Pro Bono Committee, The Law Society entered into formal collaboration with The Hong Kong Council of Social Service ("HKCSS") in 2012 on various pro bono initiatives. The HKCSS — The Law Society Collaboration Project was formally launched at a ceremony held on 19 October.



WiseGiving Project

The Law Society is a supporting organisation of WiseGiving Unit of HKCSS and aims at deepening members' understanding of philanthropy (the art of giving) and pressing social issues. The first WiseGiving seminar on "How can your clients make smart choices in probate donations while drafting wills and/or setting up trusts" was presented by representatives from HKCSS and The Law Society, Mr. Chan Chak Ming and Miss Michelle Chow, on 7 December. Over 40 members participated.



Standing Committee on Member Services

Collaboration with Education Bureau: English Programme for schools students at Workplace of Volunteers

In 2012, The Law Society recruited law firms and lawyers to co-organise visits to the High Court and law firms by secondary students jointly with the Standing Committee on Language Education and Research (“SCOLAR”) of the Education Bureau. In addition to providing an English speaking occasion for students, participating law firms and volunteers also introduced the legal profession to the younger generation. The Pilot Volunteer Scheme concluded with great success: over 10 law firms participated, benefiting 418 students from 44 secondary schools. A sharing session was held on 9 November between SCOLAR and participating lawyers, students and teachers to celebrate the synergy of the collaboration.



Members of the Committee:

Melissa K. PANG (*Chairman*)
Sylvia W.Y. SIU (*Vice-Chairman*)
Peter H.C. BARNES
Patrick M. BURKE
Serina K.S. CHAN
Eric T.M. CHEUNG
John E. DAVISON
Catherine A. HUSTED (*resigned in January*)
Anthony W.M. KWAN

Alexander H.S. LEUNG
Angelyn A.L. LIM
Daphne F.Y. LO
Urszula MCCORMACK
Rendy K.M. NG
Jelita E.R. PANDJAITAN
Alan G. SCHIFFMAN
Amy Y.T. SUPANGKAT

Secretary: Director of Member Services

The Committee has formed four Working Groups to handle specific projects.

Standing Committee on Member Services

WORKING GROUP ON SEMINARS FOR SOCIAL ENTERPRISES

The Working Group aims at assisting social enterprises through seminars by members familiar with the legal issues involved in operating social enterprises. Two seminars involving seven presenters (five solicitors and two accountants) were conducted for the social enterprises on 19 October and 14 November. More than 250 representatives from social enterprises attended.

Members of the Group:

John E. DAVISON (*Chairman*)
Serina K.S. CHAN
K.M. CHI
Teresa C.W. CHU
May M.Y. LUN

Rendy K.M. NG
Cindy SHAMMALL
Kirindi Y.T. TANG
Stephen M. VINE

Secretary: Assistant Director of Member Services



WORKING GROUP ON PRO BONO WEBPAGE

The Working Group continued to work on the Pro Bono webpage on the members' zone of The Law Society website to encourage participation by members in pro bono work and promote public awareness.

Members of the Group:

Patrick M. BURKE (*Chairman*)
Peter H.C. BARNES
Catherine A. HUSTED (*resigned in January*)
May M.Y. LUN
Jelita E.R. PANDJAITAN

Secretary: Director of Member Services

Standing Committee on Member Services

WORKING GROUP ON PRO BONO PROJECTS ON BUILDING MANAGEMENT WORK

The Working Group oversees the pro bono projects in relation to building management. It met with the relevant authorities including the Home Affairs Bureau and the Housing Society with a view to expanding the scope of legal service in building management work. During the year, the Working Group organised three seminars to update panel members of the ("PMAC") on the new developments and legislations in the building management spectrum.

Members of the Group:

Alexander H.S. LEUNG (*Chairman*)
Junius K.Y. HO (*joined in February*)
Anthony W.M. KWAN
Melissa K. PANG

Secretary: Director of Member Services

WORKING GROUP ON INSURANCE FOR PRO BONO WORK

The Working Group reviews the regulatory framework relating to professional indemnity and insurance arrangement and coverage to ensure that members are sufficiently covered when they carry out pro bono services.

Members of the Group:

Eric T.M. CHEUNG (*Chairman*)
Peter H.C. BARNES
Patrick M. BURKE

Secretary: Director of Member Services

PRO BONO AND COMMUNITY WORK RECOGNITION COMMITTEE

The Committee promotes and encourages active participation of Law Society members in pro bono and community work by showing appreciation for and recognition of members, trainee solicitors and registered foreign lawyers in an annual award ceremony.

In its third year, the Pro Bono and Community Work Recognition Programme has established itself as a signature annual programme of The Law Society.

Graced with the presence of the Chief Justice, the Secretary for Justice, and many other distinguished guests, the Award Ceremony of the 2012 Programme was held on 7 December at the High Court. This year, a total of eight law firms and 78 members received an award. Apart from the traditional Individual Awards and Distinguished Awards, a new Law firm Award was introduced to recognise law firms for having devoted their resources in motivating their legal and non-legal staff to participate in pro bono and community services.

Standing Committee on Member Services



Members of the Committee:

Angela W.Y. LEE (Chairman)

IP Shing Hing

Daphne F.Y. LO

Melissa K. PANG

WONG Kwok Yan

Secretary: Assistant Director, Member Services

Standing Committee on Member Services

RECREATION AND SPORTS COMMITTEE

The Committee promotes and encourages members to take part in a wide range of recreational and sports activities.

Throughout the year, the Committee organised regular meetings and practice sessions for badminton, basketball, cycling, dragon boat, distance running, golf, snooker, soccer, swimming, table tennis, tennis, tenpin bowling, hiking, volleyball, Chinese calligraphy, Chinese painting, cookery, food and wine appreciation, dancing, live band, singing, Taichi and yoga.

The activities organised for members by the Committee in the past year included the *36th New Year Winter Swimming Lifesaving Championship 2012*, *The 7th Beat the Banana Charity Run*, *Green Power Hike 2012*, *Vita Green Charity Cycling Marathon 2012*, *Standard Chartered Marathon 2012*, *Cooking in Sichuan*, *HKMA Invitation Relay (Inter-Professional) Swimming Gala*, *D.S.L. Mini Gig Show*, *The 8th Cross Strait Lawyers' Golf Tournament*, *Oxfam Trailwalker 2012*, *20th Dr. Henry Fok Corporate Patron Tennis League*, *Sun Life Stanley International Dragon Boat Championships*, *2012 Hong Kong International Dragon Boat Race*, *Hong Kong Sea School Charity Dragon Boat Championships*, *National Day Celebration Dragon Boat Invitation Race 2012*, *Pink Walk Against Cancer*, *Walk for Nature @ Mai Po Reserve 2012*, *23rd Anti-drug Shield Central and Western Waterfront Fight*, *the Escort & Support Group Annual Soccer Match 2012*, *Unicef Charity Run*, and the *6th Law and Order Cup*, *Law-Specific Dragon Boat Competition: The 2012 Legal Professional Cup*, and many others.



Standing Committee on Member Services



Standing Committee on Member Services



The Committee also organised activities for members' family to allow them an opportunity to share the fun together with their beloved family members. It hosted the 2nd Family Fun Day, Swimming Gala 2012, Cooking & Tasting Competition 法律廚神大比拚 during the year.



Standing Committee on Member Services



As a member of the Recreation and Sports Club for Hong Kong Professional Bodies, The Law Society also participates in regular inter-professional sports and recreational tournaments.



Members of the Committee:

Eliza L.S. CHANG (*Chairman*)
Nicholas H.F. CHAN (*Vice-Chairman*)
Chak Ming CHAN
Keith C.W. CHAN
Simon S.M. CHAN
Eleanor CHENG
George C.C. CHEUNG
Annivia O.L. CHIANG
Michelle CHOI
Anthony W.K. CHOW

Brian P.C. HO
Stephen W.S. HUNG
Frederick K.C. KAN
Stephanie W.Y. LAU
Melissa K. PANG
Tiffany TSE
Joshua WONG
Peter K.C. YIP
Vivian Y.Y. YU

Secretary: Member Services Officer

Standing Committee on Member Services

TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

The Technology Committee provides technology knowhow and services to members. It met six times.

The Committee conducted a survey in May to gauge members' views on how The Law Society could better serve its members on the IT aspect. The response was overwhelming. More than 600 members replied with valuable comment.

The Committee organised a seminar on Cloud Computing in January and a seminar on "Secured Communication between Solicitors and Clients" in July. Both were very well received.



The Committee also organised for members group purchase of a software licence at a discounted price. The Committee also made recommendations on "Internet Message Monitoring and Media Alert Services" and assisted in the screening of service providers.

Standing Committee on Member Services

Members of the Committee:

Andrew S.K. LAW (*Chairman*)

Nicholas H.F. CHAN (*Vice-Chairman*)

CHAK Man Lai

Pamela F. KU

KWAN Chiu Yin

William W.S. LAM

Steven K. LEE

NG Katherine

Charles H.W. TO (*resigned in February*)

Secretary: Director of Member Services

WORKING GROUP ON LAW SOCIETY APPLICATION

Taking into account the increasing popularity of smart phones and tablet computers among members in accessing information, the Technology Committee formed a Working Group on Law Society Application in 2012 to develop a comprehensive mobile application as a means of communication with members. The objective of the mobile application is to provide an easily accessible mobile platform to promote the services of The Law Society; to cultivate and sustain a stronger sense of belonging among members; and to strengthen the valuable bonds between The Law Society and its members as well as among the members. Available for the iPhone and Android platforms, the mobile application is expected to be launched in 2013.

Members of the Group:

Nicholas H.F. CHAN (*Chairman*)

Bonnie J.Y. CHAN

Grand H.L. CHAN

CHAN Tze Chin

IP Shing Hing

KWAN Chiu Yin

Secretary: Assistant Director, Member Services

LAW FIRM TECHNICAL SUPPORT INTEREST GROUP

The Committee formed a Law Firm Technical Support Interest Group for members, trainee members and law firm technical support staff. Its main function is to provide a forum for sharing of experiences and resources and exchange of views relating to technological issues in legal practice.

THE YOUNG SOLICITORS' GROUP ("YSG")

YSG was established to serve the needs and interests of members with less than five years' post-qualification experience and trainee solicitors. Its mission is to facilitate and assist the career and personal developments of its members by offering diversified services and activities that are of interest and beneficial to its members. In addition, YSG also serves as an interactive platform for junior and senior members as well as for students of the local law schools and members of the profession.

Standing Committee on Member Services

YSG convened six regular committee meetings and numerous working group meetings to brainstorm, design, research, prepare and organise interesting programmes for members.

Enhancing Communications

Monthly Friday Gatherings



The YSG organised monthly Friday Gatherings for newly qualified solicitors and trainee solicitors to meet with senior members such as Council Members, members of the Standing Committee on Member Services and YSG committee members to understand more about the operation of and the services provided by The Law Society. More than 60 new members and trainee solicitors attended these regular gatherings.

Drinks with Law Students

To provide an opportunity for law students to better understand the practice of law and the life of young practitioners, YSG and the Bar Association's Young Bar Committee ("YBC") jointly invited law students of the three universities in Hong Kong to meet with the committee members of YSG and YBC on three occasions. More than 120 law students attended these networking functions.



Joint Professional Activities

To promote a closer relationship with other young professionals, YSG jointly organised a series of events with other professional groups, such as Hong Kong Dental Association, Hong Kong Institute of Architects, Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants, The Hong Kong Institute of Chartered Secretaries, Bar Association, Hong Kong Institute of Landscape Architects, Hong Kong Institute of Planners, Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors and Hong Kong Medical Association.

Standing Committee on Member Services

The “Meet the Professional” drinks gathering has been held since December 2006. In August, YSG co-organised the “Meet the Professionals Summer Party” with young professionals from the Hong Kong Dental Association, the Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors and the Hong Kong Medical Association. Around 150 members attended the event. On 22 November, YSG co-organised the “Meet the Professionals” drinks with other young professionals and around 200 members attended.



Other joint professional activities co-organised by the YSG included

- Painting Event on 20 October
- Oyster Sucking Class on 7 November



Welcome Drinks for Trainee Solicitors

To welcome trainee solicitors and to introduce The Law Society to them, YSG organised a “Welcome Drinks for Trainee Solicitors” on 2 November. As a landmark YSG event, the drinks gathering was well received by more than 140 trainee solicitors.



Standing Committee on Member Services



Seminars for Young Members

One Day Seminar on Contract Management

On 3 March, YSG co-organised the One-Day Seminar on Contract Management with five other professional bodies, namely the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, the Chartered Institution of Building Services Engineers, the Hong Kong Institution of Engineers, the Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors and the Institution of Civil Engineers. The seminar focused on updating participants with the latest trends in construction-related contract management, including the tendering process, the performance standard required throughout the contract period and the prevalent alternate dispute resolution practice within the industry.



Sexual offences: An introduction to victims advocacy and the evidentiary process

On 8 June, YSG hosted a seminar titled "Sexual offences: An introduction to victims advocacy and the evidentiary process" at The Law Society Clubhouse. The three speakers included Ms. Linda SY Wong, Executive Director of Association Concerning Sexual Violence Against Women ("ACSVAW"); Ms. Elaine Lam, Advocacy Officer of ACSVAW; and Ms. Linda SH Wong, barrister-at-law and Executive Committee Member of ACSVAW. They shared their experiences in assisting victims of sexual violence in the legal and social welfare contexts. A past victim also explained through video recording the help she received from ACSVAW and the challenges she faced during the legal proceedings. The seminar was attended by more than 70 participants.



Standing Committee on Member Services



Distinguished Speaker Luncheon Talk

On 22 September, YSG held a luncheon talk by the Hon Justice Bokhary, the former permanent judge of the Court of Final Appeal of Hong Kong on “The Legal Challenges We Face and A Vision of the Future We Can Share”. The talk was followed by a lively discussion among the floor.



Meeting the Legal Professionals of The People's Republic of China

Shanghai Visit — “The Rise of Shanghai as an international Financial and Shipping Centre”

In April, the then President, Junius Ho, and Vice-President Ambrose Lam led a 19-member delegation on a four-day visit to Shanghai. The theme of the visit was “The Rise of Shanghai as an International Financial and Shipping Centre”. YSG members were provided with opportunities to visit and exchange ideas with the officers of various financial and legal institutes in Shanghai such as the Shanghai Finance Service Office, the Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences, the Shanghai Judiciary Department, the Shanghai Lawyers' Association and the Shanghai No. 1 Intermediate People's Court. In addition, members visited the Fudan University, the Yangshan Deep-Water Port and the Moganshan (“M50”) Art District.



Standing Committee on Member Services

Meeting with young lawyers from Shenzhen

YSG met with a delegation of 46 young lawyers from the Shenzhen Lawyers Association on 9 November and exchanged views on the legal system and the development of the legal profession in Hong Kong.



Mentorship Programme

CONNECTED Mentorship and Buddy Scheme

“CONNECTED”, a mentorship and buddy scheme for trainee solicitors, has become a flagship event of YSG with overwhelming participation from trainee solicitors. The purpose of the scheme is to provide an opportunity for trainee solicitors to meet both the younger members (their “buddy”) and the senior members (their “mentor”) of The Law Society and for them to establish a “mentorship to life-long-friendship relationship” through interacting in a series of fun activities. In 2012, the CONNECTED activities included:

- Art Painting Event on 21 April;
- Chocolate and Coffee Tasting Class on 14 June
- Indoor War Game on 2 November.



Standing Committee on Member Services

Community Services

In addition to facilitating and assisting the career and personal developments of its members, offering diversified services, developing a sense of social responsibility and social justice in young members' minds is at the heart of YSG. YSG promotes and encourages its members to participate in all activities that seek to serve and contribute to the society. In 2011-2012, YSG jointly organised a community service project with the Tung Wah Group of Hospitals which included visits to food banks, services to elderly and services to children from under-privileged families.



Members of the Committee:

Charles C.C. CHAU (*Chairman*)
Bonnie J.Y. CHAN (*Vice-Chairman*)
Serina K.S. CHAN
Sebastian Y.F. KO
Anita Y.Y. KWOK
Nadine LAI
Stephanie W.Y. LAU

Clara G.Y. LI
Winnie W.S. LO
Vicky W.K. MAN
Daniel K.M. SHUM
Raymond C.P. SIU
K.C. TAI (*resigned in September*)
Priscilla T.T. WONG

Secretary: Assistant Director, Member Services

WORKING PARTY ON HISTORICAL ARCHIVE

The Working Party is tasked with recommending a policy on the establishment and maintenance of an archive for The Law Society so that materials and information of historical value can be preserved and made accessible. The Working Party will facilitate and render appropriate assistance to the establishment and maintenance of the archive; and monitor the implementation and compliance of such policy as approved by The Law Society after the archive has been established.

Standing Committee on Member Services

Members of the Working Party:

Roderick B. WOO (*Chairman*)

Jenkin S.F. CHAN

Stanley W.L. CHAN

Frederick K.C. KAN

Melissa K. PANG

Secretary: Assistant Director, Member Services

WORKING GROUP ON LAW LIBRARY

The Working Party on Law Library was set up to transform The Law Society law library to a specialist precedents law library for the benefit of members. Collections will include forms and precedents both on-line and off-line in English and Chinese.

Members of the Working Group:

Frederick K. C. KAN (*Chairman until February*)

Daphne F.Y. LO (*Chairman from February*)

Bonita B.Y. CHAN

Jenkin S.F. CHAN

CHAN Wing Leung

YU Tat Man

Secretary: Assistant Director, Member Services



Member Services Department