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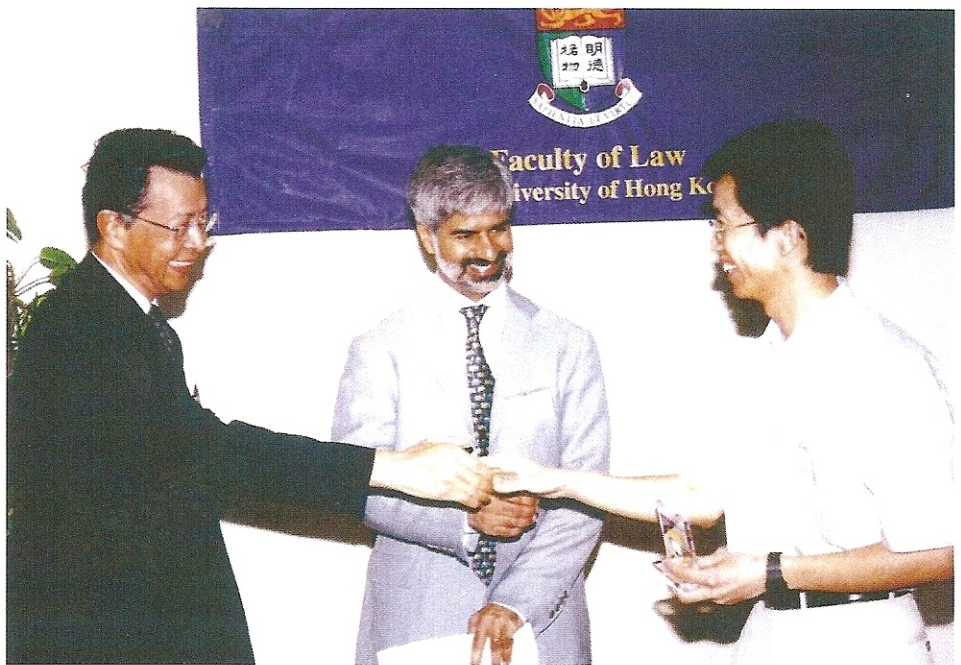
2002

EU Support for Hong Kong University's LLM Programme in Human Rights

The Master of Laws (LLM) Programme in Human Rights at the University of Hong Kong was inaugurated in September 1999 with the support of the European Union to meet the increasing demand for practical and theoretical knowledge about human rights throughout the region. This programme—the only one serving Asia—has thus far attracted students not only from mainland China and Hong Kong, but also from Australia, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Canada, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Korea (South), Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Romania, Sri Lanka, Thailand, the United Kingdom and the United States. Students come with a diversity of academic and practical experience in law, human rights and related disciplines to develop their knowledge and sharpen their skills in international human rights law, international criminal law and international humanitarian law. Among the students so far have been Government officials in key positions, lawyers, judges and activists in human rights NGOs, as well as academics.

Dr. Lyal S. Sunga, Director of the Programme, explains that the Programme "is designed to promote human rights values, the rule of law and democracy throughout Asia, to enhance the breadth and depth of human rights legal expertise in key institutions by building up expertise among Asian human rights scholars, activists, advocates, independent human rights bodies, and Government officials, as well as to engage scholars from mainland China and throughout Asia so as to promote a network of human rights expertise throughout the region." He adds: "We are very grateful to the European Union for its excellent cooperation vis-à-vis our LLM Programme in Human Rights. The EU's provision of a number of fully paid scholarships has opened the door to a number of students to undertake international human rights law studies here at the University of Hong Kong Faculty of Law."

Students take the "Human Rights: History, Theory and Politics", "Inter-



Mr. David Ting, Head of Office of the European Commission (HK), and Dr. Lyal S. Sunga congratulate Mr. Liu Daochen on completion of his LLM in Human Rights

national and Regional Protection of Human Rights" and "Seminar in Human Rights Research, Sources and Methodology" in the first semester and "National Protection of Human Rights" in the second as compulsory courses. They also choose among a wide range of highly interesting optional courses, such as "International Humanitarian Law", "Economic, Social and Cultural Rights", "Ethnicity, Human Rights and Democracy", "International Criminal Law" and "Human Rights in China".

By bringing in Visiting Professors, the Programme exposes LLM students to a wide range of experience in practical human rights issues. For example, in early November 2002, Professor Li Buyun of the Hunan University Law School, who serves as Director of Hunan University Research Centre for Rule of Law and

Human Rights, together with a number of his colleagues and a representative of the Danish Centre for Human Rights, presented lectures and shared their experiences and insights with LLM students. In April 2002, the Chinese Judge of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, His Excellency Liu Daqun, participated in a Conference hosted by the University of Hong Kong on international criminal justice and gave a "Rights Talk" for students. Professors, practitioners and professionals from academic institutes, non-governmental organizations, the United Nations, the International Committee of the Red Cross, and other bodies, have contributed to the programme through classroom lectures and informal seminars. ■