



Centre for Legal Innovation
and Digital Society

Annual Activities Report

2022 - 23

Contents

The Centre for Legal Innovation and Digital Society (CLINDS) at CUHK LAW.....	3
Mission.....	3
Internal Organisation	4
Steering Committee	6
Overview of Activities.....	12
Seminars.....	13
Conferences.....	27
Research Projects/ Publications	30

The Centre for Legal Innovation and Digital Society (CLINDS) at CUHK LAW

The Centre for Legal Innovation and Digital Society 法律創新與數碼社會研究中心 (CLINDS) promotes cutting-edge research in law and technology at CUHK LAW.

Formerly known as the CUHK LAW Centre for Financial Regulation and Economic Development (CFRED), founded by Professor David Donald in 2010 to support research in various areas of law affecting commerce and business, the centre underwent a strategic shift towards research projects centered around law and technology in 2017. In 2022, CFRED was re-organized and re-named as CLINDS to accurately reflect the centre's new focus, aligning with CUHK LAW's strength in law and technology.

Mission

It is the mission of CLINDS to

- provide institutional support for first-class research in the areas of law and technology;
- foster collaborative and interdisciplinary research projects within CUHK LAW and with external parties;
- facilitate research with high impact beyond academia;
- develop policy proposals for consideration by government bodies in Hong Kong and abroad;
- be recognized as the leading centre of excellence in the area of law and technology in Asia;
- be dedicated to teaching excellence across the University by promoting interdisciplinary approaches to course design and materials, as well as teaching-related collaboration with other Faculties;
- serve as a premier local, regional and international forum of inter-institutional collaborations in the law and technology;
- contribute to the betterment of society through knowledge transfer activities, including media engagement and collaboration with law firms, business entities, international organizations and non-governmental entities.

Internal Organisation

Executive Director

Professor Jyh-An Lee is a Professor and Executive Director of the Centre for Legal Innovation and Digital Society (CLINDS) at The Chinese University of Hong Kong Faculty of Law. He has been a faculty member of the CUHK EMBA program since 2018. Professor Lee also coaches the New Ventures Legal Team (NVLTL), a clinical support group collaborating with the University's Pre-Incubation Centre for startup companies. He was the LLB Programme Director and Assistant Dean for Undergraduate Studies from 2019 to 2021.



Professor Lee holds a J.S.D. from Stanford Law School and an LL.M from Harvard Law School. He has published on various aspects of intellectual property and Internet law. His research appears in such academic journals such as the *Wake Forest Law Review*, *American Business Law Journal*, *Columbia Journal of Law & the Arts*, *Duke Law & Technology Review*, *Virginia Journal of International Law*, *Michigan Technology Law Review*, *Vanderbilt Journal of Entertainment & Technology Law*, *Vanderbilt Journal of Transnational Law*, *Minnesota Journal of Law, Science & Technology*, *Jurimetrics*, *European Intellectual Property Review (EIPR)*, *Computer Law & Security Review*, etc. His authored and edited books include *Nonprofit Organizations and the Intellectual Commons* (Edward Elgar, 2012), *Intellectual Property Law in China* (Wolters Kluwer, 2nd edn, 2021, co-authored with Peter Ganea, Danny Friedmann, and Douglas Clark), and *Artificial Intelligence and Intellectual Property* (Oxford University Press, 2021, co-edited with Reto M. Hilty and Kung-Chung Liu).

Professor Lee has been featured on ABC News, BBC News, Bloomberg News, Financial Times, Fortune, and South China Morning Post as an expert on intellectual property and internet law. His works have been cited by the US Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit, UK High Court of Justice, the US International Trade Commission, and the European Union (in a WTO dispute-settlement case). Before starting his academic career, he was a practicing lawyer in Taiwan, specializing in technology and business transactions.

Members

Professor Anatole Boute, Professor and Outstanding Fellow of the Faculty of Law

Professor Stuart Hargreaves, Associate Professor

Professor Robin Huang, Professor

Professor Sandra Marco Colino, Associate Professor

Professor Michelle Miao, Associate Professor

Professor Eliza Mik, Assistant Professor

Mr. Paul Schmidt, Professional Consultant

Mr. Ernest Southworth, Professional Consultant

Professor Dicky Tsang, Associate Professor

Professor Normann Witzleb, Associate Professor

Professor Lutz-Christian Wolff, Dean, Faculty of Law and Wei Lun Professor of Law

Professor Chao Xi, Professor and Outstanding Fellow of the Faculty of Law

Steering Committee

Professor Lutz-Christian Wolff (Chairman)

Professor Wolff was appointed Dean of the Faculty of Law in January 2019 and assumed the Deanship on 30 September 2019. Prior to that he was the Dean of the CUHK Graduate School from September 2014 to August 2019. Professor Wolff was a founding member of the Faculty of Law (then: School of Law). He has served amongst others as Associate Dean (Faculty Development) (9/2008 to 7/2010), as Director of the Master of Laws Programmes in International Economic Law, Common Law and Chinese Business Law (9/2008 to 7/2011) and as Associate Dean (Graduate Studies) & Head of Graduate Division of Law (8/2010 to 8/2014). Professor Wolff specializes in International and Chinese Business Law, Comparative Law, and Private International Law. He has studied, worked and conducted research in a number of jurisdictions, including mainland China, Taiwan, and the USA. He is admitted to practice in England & Wales and in Germany. He is frequently invited to work as consultant with multi-national companies and law firms on investment projects in the Greater China region.



Professor Jyh-An Lee

Executive Director, CLINDS and Professor, CUHK LAW (see bio above).

Professor Kevin Cheng

Kevin Cheng is an Associate Professor and he currently serves as Assistant Dean (Research) in the Faculty of Law. He was awarded a PhD in criminology from the University of Hong Kong. Prior to his doctoral studies, he completed his Juris Doctor (JD) and Postgraduate Certificate in Laws (PCLL) here at the Faculty of Law, The Chinese University of Hong Kong. Before that, he obtained his Honours Bachelor of Arts (with distinction) from the University of Toronto where he majored in criminology and political science. His research interests are primarily in the fields of criminology, criminal justice and socio-legal studies with a strong emphasis on empirical work in Hong Kong. He has written on topics including, guilty pleas, prisoner re-entry, procedural justice and legitimacy, and public attitudes towards crime and criminal justice policies. His work appears in leading criminology and interdisciplinary journals including, the British Journal of Criminology, Punishment & Society, Social & Legal Studies, Law & Social Inquiry, Journal of Mixed Methods Research, and the Journal of Empirical Legal Studies. Dr. Cheng has received funding from the General Research Fund (GRF), Research Grants Council for his research on guilty pleas and cracked trials and his research on the sliding scale of sentence discounts for guilty pleas.



Professor Steven Gallagher

Steven Gallagher is a Professional Consultant, Professor in Practice of Law (by courtesy), and Associate Dean (Academic & Student Affairs). Steven has taught various aspects of property law in England and Hong Kong. In 2013, Steven introduced the Principles of Art, Antiquities, Cultural Heritage and the Law course to the LLM programme at CUHK LAW. Steven presents a range of continuing professional development courses for solicitors in Hong Kong on topics in property law, art law, and law and technology. Steven's research interests include issues in property law, legal history, the development of policy and law intended to promote and protect art, antiquities and cultural heritage, law and technology, Chinese custom and law, and innovative ways to teach law. The latter includes using superhero films for problem based learning, flipped classrooms and digital learning initiatives promoting asynchronous and distance learning. Steven has been widely quoted in newspapers and television reports regarding legal issues involving property law, art and cultural heritage.



Professor Dan Hunter

Dan Hunter is the Executive Dean of the Dickson Poon School of Law at King's College London. He was previously the Executive Dean of the Faculty of Law at Queensland University of Technology and the Founding Dean of Swinburne Law School in Australia.

He is an international expert in internet and intellectual property law, AI & law, and legal tech and legal innovation. He holds a PhD from Cambridge on the cognitive science of legal reasoning, as well as computer science and law degrees from Monash University, and an LLM by research from the University of Melbourne.



He regularly publishes on the intersection of computers and law. He is a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Law, the creator of the Future Law Podcast and the founder of four startups: in edtech (Quitich), legaltech (Settle Easy), and regulatory technology (Fourth Line and Gracenote).

Professor Bryan Mercurio

Bryan Mercurio is the Simon F.S. Li Professor of Law at The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK). Professor Mercurio specialises in international economic law (IEL), with particular expertise in the intersection between trade law and intellectual property rights, free trade agreements, trade in services, dispute settlement and increasingly international investment law. Professor Mercurio served as Associate Dean (Research) for the Faculty from 2010-14 and again from 2017-19.



Professor Mercurio is co-author of one of the most widely used textbooks on WTO law (Hart Publishing, 2018, 3rd ed) and co-editor of the leading collection on bilateral and regional trade agreements (Cambridge University Press, 2nd ed, 2016). His most recent monographs respectively explore the international and domestic framework for pharmaceutical patent law and policy (Cambridge University Press, 2018) and policy considerations underlying and shaping government policies on cross-border data flows (Anthem Press, 2022). His next monograph will focus on the legality of capital controls under the various strands of IEL (Cambridge University Press, forthcoming 2023).

Professor Mercurio has recently been awarded Hong Kong Research Grants Council (RGC) Senior Research Fellowship in the amount of HK\$7,798,380 for a five-year interdisciplinary project entitled, 'Access to Vaccines in a Post-COVID-19 World: Sustainable Legal and Policy Options'. He is only the second person in law to receive the fellowship. He also recently received a Hong Kong General Research Fund (GRF) grant in the amount of HK\$1,069,050 for a three-year project entitled 'Engaging with China to Reform the World Trading System'. In 2021, Professor Mercurio received the Humanities and Social Sciences Prestigious Fellowship Scheme entitled 'Reshaping Global Trade: The Impact and Effects of the US-China Trade War'. He has also successfully completed a project funded by the Hong Kong Policy Innovation and Co-ordination Office Public Policy Research Funding Scheme entitled, 'Regulating Cross-Border Data: A Public Policy Framework for Hong Kong', and GRF projects on capital controls and pharmaceutical law and policy, respectively.

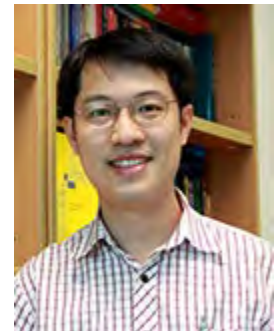
Professor Mercurio is an active participant in a number of associations and networks, including the European Commission funded Jean Monnet Network in Trade and Investment in Services

Associates (TIISA) and the ISDS Academic Forum. He was a member of the founding committee and served on the inaugural Executive Board of the Society of International Economic Law (SIEL), a founding member of the SIEL Intellectual Property Law Network, a founding member of the Asian International Economic Law Network and is a Member for Hong Kong in the Asian WTO Research Network. In 2010 he authored the case for the ELSA WTO Moot Court Competition and from 2013-2016 served as a member of the International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development/World Economic Forum E15 Expert Working Group on Trade and Innovation.

Prior to relocating to Hong Kong, Professor Mercurio taught in the faculty of law at the University of New South Wales. He has held visiting positions at several institutions in Asia, Europe and North America and is currently a Senior Fellow at the Melbourne Law School. Prior to academia, Professor Mercurio worked both in government and private practice. He remains a frequent consultant and advisor to governments, industry associations and law firms on a wide range of trade and investment matters and has extensive experience in negotiating free trade agreements and in assisting governments with the technical aspects of drafting services schedules for market access commitments and reservations.

Professor Anthony Man-Cho So

Anthony Man-Cho So received his BSE degree in Computer Science from Princeton University with minors in Applied and Computational Mathematics, Engineering and Management Systems, and German Language and Culture. He then received his MSc degree in Computer Science and his PhD degree in Computer Science with a PhD minor in Mathematics from Stanford University. Dr. So joined The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) in 2007. He currently serves as Associate Dean of Student Affairs in the Faculty of Engineering and is Professor in the Department of Systems Engineering and Engineering Management. His recent research focuses on the interplay between optimization theory and various areas of algorithm design, such as computational geometry, machine learning, signal processing, and algorithmic game theory.



Dr. So currently serves on the editorial boards of Journal of Global Optimization, Optimization Methods and Software, and SIAM Journal on Optimization. He has also served on the editorial boards of IEEE Transactions on Signal Processing (2012-2016) and Mathematics of Operations

Research (2012-2015). Dr. So has received a number of research and teaching awards, including the 2016-17 CUHK Research Excellence Award, the 2015 IEEE Signal Processing Society Signal Processing Magazine Best Paper Award, the 2014 IEEE Communications Society Asia-Pacific Outstanding Paper Award, the 2010 Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences (INFORMS) Optimization Society Optimization Prize for Young Researchers, and the 2010 CUHK Young Researcher Award, as well as the 2013 CUHK Vice-Chancellor's Exemplary Teaching Award, the 2011, 2013, 2015 CUHK Faculty of Engineering Dean's Exemplary Teaching Award, and the 2008 CUHK Faculty of Engineering Exemplary Teaching Award. He also co-authored with his student a paper that receives the Best Student Paper Award at the 19th IEEE International Workshop on Signal Processing Advances in Wireless Communications (SPAWC 2018).

Overview of Activities

This report covers the period from **31 May 2022 to to 30 June 2023**. In the first year of operation, CLINDS has organised a wide range of activities including:

- Seminars
- Conferences

Seminars



LegalTech Forum: Launch of the Centre for Legal Innovation & Digital Society (CLINDS) at CUHK LAW (Online), 31 May 2022

The role of technology, particularly various applications of artificial intelligence (AI), is increasingly pivotal in shaping the landscape of legal practice. Whether through text analytics, decision support, legal research, or the management of contract lifecycles and document generation, the transformative impact of technology on the legal profession is undeniable.

Legal technologies bring new possibilities, but also new risks. At the same time legal technologies will facilitate certain routine legal tasks but also transform or even eliminate others. On 31 May, 2022, CUHK LAW is hosting the LegalTech Forum to address the main promises and perils accompanying the adoption of legal technologies. Drawing from practice and academia it will discuss the state-of-the-art in LegalTech and examine some pressing questions facing the legal professions. Will AI replace lawyers? What are the current capabilities of legal technologies? What are their limits? To what extent, if any, is it possible to extract legal knowledge from Big Data? Do we need to worry about the legal equivalents of AlphaZero or GPT-3? These and other questions will be addressed by leading experts in the field. Professor Dan Hunter (Queensland University of Technology) delivered a keynote speech on the past, present, and future of legal technologies, moderated by Prof. Jyh-An Lee (CUHK LAW), followed by a panel discussion with Mr. Danny Kan (Ping An Group), and Professor Eliza Mik (CUHK LAW).

The CUHK LAW LegalTech Forum also served as the launch event for the Center for Legal Innovation and Digital Society (CLINDS), formerly known as the Centre for Financial Regulation and Economic Development (CFRED). Since 2017, CFRED had shifted its focus towards research projects related to law and technology. The reorganization of CFRED into CLINDS reflected this renewed emphasis and underscores CUHK LAW's prowess in the dynamic field of law and technology.

About the Speakers:

Keynote Speaker: Professor Dan Hunter, Dean of Law, Queensland University of Technology

Panelists:

Mr. Danny Kan, Chief Counsel, Listing & Compliance cum Joint Company Secretary, Ping An Group

Professor Eliza Mik, Assistant Professor, CUHK LAW

Moderator: Prof. Jyh-An Lee, Professor & Executive Director, CLINDS, CUHK LAW

The poster features a dark blue background with a grid of squares, some of which are illuminated from below, creating a 3D effect. At the top left is the CUHK LAW logo (CUHK THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG 香港中文大學). To its right is the CLINDS logo (Centre for Legal Innovation and Digital Society (CLINDS)). Further right is the CUHK logo. The main text reads: "CLINDS's 6th Law & Digital Society Seminar: The Rise of DAO from the Blockchain World and its Opportunities by Karma Pocket (Jacky Zhang) Founder of 8DAO". A small portrait of Jacky Zhang is shown next to his name. Below this, it says "Moderator: Prof. Jyh-An Lee, Professor and Executive Director of CLINDS, CUHK LAW". At the bottom, it states "28 September 2022 (Wednesday), 6:30pm - 8:00pm online seminar". In the bottom left corner, there is a "CPD event" logo and the text "The Law Society of Hong Kong has awarded this seminar 1.5 Continuing Professional Development (CPD) points."

CLINDS's 6th Law & Digital Society Seminar – 'The Rise of DAO from the Blockchain World and its Opportunities' by Karma Pocket (Online), 28 September 2022

DAO (decentralised autonomous organisation) is a new kind of organisation format. It started from the blockchain space. Some of the most important cryptocurrency community adopt this model.

The recent rise of web3 also have a lot of relation with the concept of DAO. The application of DAO can be applied not only in business and finance, but also in other space including charity, media, labour union, scientific research, political campaign, religion and professional service.

This seminar started with the basic concepts of DAO. It introduced different types of DAO, followed by its brief history and recent development. Finally, the presentation illustrated DAO's opportunities and the challenges it's currently facing.

About the Speaker:

Karma Pocket (Jacky Zhang) is founder of 8DAO. It's a web3 community supports and invests creators and founders in the web3 ecosystem. He had successful experience in founding internet startup in the past. He's a cryptocurrency investor and NFT collector. He holds a bachelor degree in political science and economics from University of Toronto and a master degree in non-profit management from University of Hong Kong. Previously, he was invited by some media including Viu TV in Hong Kong to present the development of DAO.

The poster features the CUHK LAW logo (The Chinese University of Hong Kong) and the CLINDS logo (Centre for Legal Innovation and Digital Society) at the top. The main title is "CLINDS's 7th Law & Digital Society Seminar: Cryptocurrency Regulation in China" by Prof. Chao Xi, Professor, CUHK LAW. A small portrait of Prof. Chao Xi is included. The moderator is Prof. Jyh-An Lee, Professor and Executive Director of CLINDS, CUHK LAW. The event is on 30 September 2022 (Friday), 12:30pm - 1:30pm, an online seminar. A QR code is in the bottom right. A CPD event logo is in the bottom left, with text: "The Law Society of Hong Kong has awarded this seminar 1 Continuing Professional Development (CPD) point."

CLINDS's 7th Law & Digital Society Seminar – 'Cryptocurrency Regulation in China' by Prof. Chao Xi (Online), 30 September 2022

China has become the first major economy to impose a blanket cryptocurrency ban. The impact of this development is likely to be far-reaching given the size of China's economy, its economic interconnectivity with the global economy, and its transformation into a global leader in

technology and innovation. This seminar depicted the all-out war that China had waged on cryptocurrencies, banning almost all forms of crypto transactions and investments, as well as the crypto exchanges and platforms that facilitate them.

About the Speaker:

Prof. Chao Xi, Professor, CUHK LAW

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Centre for Legal Innovation and Digital Society (CLINDS)
CUHK

CLINDS's 8th Intellectual Property Law Seminar:
Intellectual Property Issues for Entrepreneurs

Speakers

Dr. Albert Wai-Kit Chan
Founder & Director
USCIFI

Dr. Roy Chan
Executive and Scientific Adviser
Albert Wai-Kit Chan Intellectual Property Limited

Moderator: **Prof. Jyh-An Lee**, Professor and Executive Director of CLINDS, CUHK LAW

12 October 2022 (Wednesday), 6:30pm - 8:00pm
online seminar

CPD event
The Law Society of Hong Kong has awarded this seminar 1.5 Continuing Professional Development (CPD) points.

CLINDS's 8th Intellectual Property Law Seminar- 'Intellectual Property Issues for Entrepreneurs' (Online), 12 October 2022

With the growing number of startups, more Hong Kong people are embracing technology and entrepreneurship with unprecedented enthusiasm. While proving concepts and building values are important, entrepreneurs must protect their most important and valuable intellectual property (IP) particularly in their growth stage. As a result of the lack of knowledge in IP laws and protection strategies, startups do not realize that their business success are often closely related to their duly protected IP, and inadequate protection often leads to detrimental results such as loss of market shares and profits, disputes among collaborators, and, in some occasions, prolonged proceedings of litigation.

In this seminar, Dr. Albert Wai-Kit Chan and Dr. Roy Yee-Loi Chan shared their expertise and experience on protection of IP. Dr. Albert Wai-Kit Chan introduced the audience to concepts relating to IP, relevant IP laws, and the importance of IP protection, with a focus on startup

companies. Dr. Roy Chan elaborated on strategies of IP protection and use case studies to demonstrate good and bad practices of IP protection for startups. The seminar offered a great opportunity for those who would like to build their own businesses to learn what they really should know about IP protection.

About the Speakers:

Dr. Albert Wai-Kit Chan is the Partner of the Law Offices of Albert Wai-Kit Chan, PLLC, practicing in all areas of intellectual property law (including patents, trademarks, copyrights, business transactions, litigation, licensing, technology transfer, evaluation, and trade secrets) and specializing in biotechnology. He works extensively with clients ranging from individual inventors to well-established prestigious research institutes in the U.S., China, and abroad. Dr. Chan is founder and director of the United States-China Intellectual Property Institute, Inc., a non-profit organization. Dr. Chan is a registered foreign lawyer in Hong Kong, where he also heads Albert Wai-Kit Chan Intellectual Property Limited.

Roy Yee-Loi Chan, Ph.D., Intellectual Property Engineer, has over 7 years of biomedical engineering research experience in fields spanning from implant development, drug development, medical adhesive improvement and metastatic cancer cell identification. He has a Bachelor's degree in Medical Engineering (2005) from the University of Hong Kong and was awarded his Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering (2010) and M.Phil. in Orthopedics & Traumatology (2007) from the same school. He passed the Chinese National Qualification Examination for Patent Agents in 2015 and completed the Renmin University of China's LL.M. programme in 2019. He has extensive experience in devising IP strategy for startups and prosecuting patent applications extending across a wide range of technologies including pharmaceutical and life science.

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Centre for Legal Innovation and Digital Society (CLINDS)

CLINDS's 8th Law & Digital Society Seminar:
 Cybercrime and Cybersecurity in the Indo-Pacific Region:
 Trends, Challenges and Responses

by
Dr. Lennon Chang
 Senior Lecturer in Criminology
 Monash University

Moderator: **Prof. Jyh-An Lee**, Professor and Executive Director of CLINDS, CUHK LAW

1 November 2022 (Tuesday), 12:30pm - 2:00pm
 online seminar

CPD event
 The Law Society of Hong Kong has awarded this seminar 1.5 Continuing Professional Development (CPD) points.

CLINDS's 8th Law & Digital Society Seminar – 'Cybercrime and Cybersecurity in the Indo-Pacific Region: Trends, Challenges and Responses' by Dr. Lennon Chang (Online), 1 November 2022

This seminar discussed cybercrime and cybersecurity issues in the Indo-Pacific region. It will firstly outline cybercrime and cybersecurity trends in the region, especially in Australia and in the ASEAN countries and then discuss challenges that governments are facing in dealing with these issues. Research has shown that developing countries in ASEAN, such as Vietnam, Cambodia, and Myanmar, are now becoming hubs of cybercrime targeting the region. Developed countries such as Australia are now putting resources in building resilience, cyber capacity and cyber security awareness in the region. Using an Australian Government funded cyber capacity building project as a case study, this seminar will discuss issues relating to cyber capacity building in the region and provide suggestions to improve security.

About the Speaker:

Dr. Lennon Chang is a Senior Lecturer in Criminology at Monash University. He is the Vice Chairman of the Asia Pacific Association of Technology and Society which he co-founded in 2012. He is also the founder of Cyberbaykin: Myanmar Cyber Security Awareness campaign. He is currently holder of a Taiwan's MOFA Fellowship program.

Dr. Chang is interested in researching crime and governance of cyberspace – cybercrime, cyber terrorism and cyber warfare. He is particularly interested in the regulation and governance of cyberspace in the Asia-Pacific region. His research is highly topical and he has been invited by the governments of Canada, Taiwan, Korea, and Hong Kong to discuss his research findings with senior national security, foreign policy and policing staff.



CLINDS's 9th Law & Digital Society Seminar – 'All in Crypto' by Ms. Jacqueline Qiao (Online), 23 November 2022

This seminar introduced the audience to concepts relating to blockchain, metaverse, Web3, digital assets and NFT. Jacqueline Qiao discussed different types of blockchain, the difference between Web2 and Web3, and give an overview of the regulatory regime of digital assets in various jurisdictions. The seminar highlighted the recent development of metaverse and NFT and major market players and products in the cryptocurrency industry.

About the Speaker:

Ms. Qiao is a partner in JunHe's overseas office. Ms. Qiao is specialized in derivatives and structured finance. She has extensive experience advising international banks, funds, Chinese financial institutions and fintech companies in the areas of OTC derivatives, exchange traded products, structured products, asset management, cross-border finance and HKMA/SFC regulatory advice. Before joining JunHe, Ms. Qiao has previously worked as a lawyer at Clifford Chance,

Ashurst and Linklaters, as well as with a major investment bank where she worked as a structurer in the Greater China cross-asset structuring team. Ms. Qiao also focuses on cryptocurrency, blockchain, web3, Metaverse, derivatives and structured finance.

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Centre for Legal Innovation and Digital Society (CLINDS)

CLINDS's 20th LegalTech Seminar

Lawyer v Bot –
How is Technology Impacting the Legal Industry,
and What's Next?

by
Stephanie Siu
Director of Strategic Development and Legal Counsel
eBrevia, DFIN

Moderator: **Dr. Eliza Mik**, Assistant Professor, CUHK LAW

3 February 2023 (Friday), 12:30pm - 2:00pm
online seminar

CPD event
The Law Society of Hong Kong has awarded this seminar 1.5 Continuing Professional Development (CPD) points.

CLINDS's 20th LegalTech Seminar – 'Lawyer v Bot – How is Technology Impacting the Legal Industry, and What's Next?' by Ms. Stephanie Siu (Online), 3 February 2023

“LegalTech” and “LawTech” are buzzwords increasingly used in the industry – but what do they mean, what are their practical implications, and will technology eventually replace lawyers?

In this seminar, these important questions were addressed individually. The seminar was especially relevant to practitioners and law students who wanted to keep abreast of the technologies impacting the industry, and how they could future-proof themselves and their practice.

Topics covered by the seminar include:

1. The current status of the legal industry – surveying the drivers of change and the current status of technological development in the industry.
2. What is “legaltech” and what are the underlying technologies involved – examining the term “legaltech” and the different branches of relevant technology, with a particular focus on artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning (ML), and natural language processing (NLP).

3. Challenges and limits – exploring the limits of technology, and the challenges faced in adopting new technology in the industry.
4. Lawyer v bot – finally, attempting to address the ultimate question of whether bots will replace human lawyers, and how practitioners and students can prepare themselves in the meantime.

About the Speaker:

Stephanie Siu is the Director of Strategic Development and Legal Counsel of eBrevia, DFIN, a leading provider of AI-powered contract review and analytics software. At eBrevia, Stephanie oversees the APAC business. Her roles include developing strategy, negotiating partnerships, coordinating with data scientists and software engineers for product development, and working closely with law firms and in-house legal teams on implementation.

A law graduate of The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Stephanie previously practised as a corporate lawyer at Reed Smith Richards Butler, where she specialized in M&A and corporate advisory work. She is currently also a visiting lecturer at The University of Law, and is regularly invited as a guest lecturer / speaker at The Chinese University of Hong Kong, The University of Hong Kong, law firms and conferences to speak on legal technology and innovation.





CLINDS's 10th Law & Digital Society Seminar

Asset Tokenization as the Future of Private Capital Markets

by
Dr. Florian M. Spiegl
 CEO, Evident

Moderator: **Prof. Jyh-An Lee**, Professor and Executive Director of CLINDS, CUHK LAW

16 February 2023 (Thursday), 6:30pm - 8:00pm
 online seminar


 The Law Society of Hong Kong has awarded this seminar 1 Continuing Professional Development (CPD) point.



CLINDS's 10th Law & Digital Society Seminar – 'Asset Tokenization as the Future of Private Capital Markets' by Dr. Florian M. Spiegl (Online), 16 February 2023

Asset tokenization allows for the creation of digital versions of real-world alternative assets, such as property, artwork, or private equity securities, in the form of a digital token on a blockchain. Alternatives are often difficult for the average investor to purchase and hold due to high barriers to entry, such as large upfront costs and the need for specialized knowledge and expertise. Tokenizing assets creates a representation of legal rights in a digital format which allows them to be bought and sold in smaller increments, enabling a wider range of investors to participate in the ownership and appreciation of these assets. These rights, such as ownership or revenue sharing, can be encoded into the asset token itself, making it easier to track and enforce the rights in a transparent and secure manner.

This seminar introduced the concept of real-world asset tokenization and its impact on conventional private markets for alternative assets. It covered fundamental business, technical, legal and regulatory aspects of this new form of representation of rights and explore how private capital markets may evolve powered by innovation—and the emerging opportunities for young professionals in the field today.

About the Speaker:

Dr. Florian M Spiegl is an innovator, entrepreneur, and executive at the intersection of Private Capital Markets and FinTech.

He is the Founder and CEO of EVIDENT, an investment platform for alternative assets with a positive impact.

Before starting EVIDENT, Florian served as CEO and board member of Hunter Technology Corp., a publicly listed commodities trading technology company. Previously, he co-founded FinFabrik, a Hong Kong-based blockchain technology company that was acquired in 2020.

His earlier corporate career spanned strategy consulting with the Boston Consulting Group in Vienna and New York. He also worked in wealth and asset management with Credit Suisse in Switzerland, London, and Singapore.

Florian is an angel investor in innovation and impact ventures. Among other activities, he is a co-founder of the Hong Kong FinTech Association, lecturer for the FinTech MBA course at Hong Kong University and serves on the FinTech Advisory Board of the Securities and Futures Commission of Hong Kong.

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Centre for Legal Innovation and Digital Society (CLINDS)

CLINDS's 9th Intellectual Property Law Seminar

IP Laws and Regimes in Major Asian Economies

by
Prof. Kung-Chung LIU
Yong Pung How School of Law,
Singapore Management University/Renmin University of China

Discussants:
Prof. Christopher HEATH, Maastricht University & European Patent Office (EPO)
Prof. Yinliang LIU, Peking University Law School
Prof. Wee Loon NG-LOY, National University of Singapore Faculty of Law
Prof. Yoshiyuki TAMURA, University of Tokyo Faculty of Law
Prof. Angelia Jia WANG, Durham Law School

Moderator:
Prof. Jyh-An LEE, Professor and Executive Director of CLINDS, CUHK LAW

28 March 2023 (Tuesday), 5:00pm - 6:30pm (HKT)
Online via Zoom

CPD event The Law Society of Hong Kong has awarded this seminar 1.5 Continuing Professional Development (CPD) points.

IP LAWS AND REGIMES IN MAJOR ASIAN ECONOMIES
COMBING THROUGH THOUSAND THREADS OF IP TO PEACE IN ASIA
Kung-Chung Liu

CLINDS's 9th Intellectual Property Law Seminar – 'IP Laws and Regimes in Major Asian Economies' by Prof. Kung-Chung Liu (Online), 28 March 2023

This book systematically studies the structural characteristics of IP laws and regimes of major Asian economies, including (but not always) China, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Singapore, Taiwan, and Thailand. It explores and crystallizes some worthy Asian models which could further help the development of international IP laws. This book begins with an overview of Asian modern history and IP laws. It discusses the three basic IP laws in Asia, namely patent law, trademark law and copyright law.

Following Professor Kung-Chung Liu's introduction to his recent book in this seminar, a panel consisting of Professors Christopher HEATH (Maastricht University and EPO), Yinliang LIU (Peking University Law School), Wee Loon NG-LOY (National University of Singapore Faculty of Law), Yoshiyuki TAMURA (University of Tokyo Faculty of Law), and Angelia Jia WANG (Durham Law School) discussed key issues in the book.

About the Speaker:

Professor Kung-Chung Liu teaches at PYH School of Law, Singapore Management University, Renmin University of China, and Graduate Institute of Technology, Innovation and Intellectual Property Management, National Chengchi University, Taiwan. He is also an adjunct chair professor at Shandong University, China and visiting professor of National Law University, Delhi, India. His field of specialty includes intellectual property law, antitrust and unfair competition law, communications law and their interfaces, with a geographic focus on greater China and Asia. His next monograph is *Deciphering IP Law and Its Conflict with Competition Law—Global Norms Against Asian Context* (forthcoming, Routledge).

Panelists:

Prof. Christopher Heath, Maastricht University/Member of the Boards of Appeal, EPO

Prof. Yinliang Liu, Professor, Peking University Law School

Prof. Wee Loon Ng-Loy, Professor, National University of Singapore Faculty of Law

Prof. Yoshiyuki Tamura, Professor, University of Tokyo Faculty of Law

Prof. Angelia Jia Wang, Assistant Professor, Durham Law School

Moderator:

Prof. Jyh-An Lee, Professor & Executive Director, CLINDS, CUHK LAW

CUHK LAW THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG 香港中文大學

Centre for Legal Innovation and Digital Society (CLINDS)

CLINDS's 21st LegalTech Seminar

Demystifying ChatGPT – Why Language Models will not Replace Lawyers

by **Dr. Eliza Mik**
Assistant Professor, CUHK LAW

Moderator: **Prof. Normann Witzleb**, Associate Professor, CUHK LAW

21 April 2023 (Friday), 12:30pm - 2:00pm
online seminar

CPD event
The Law Society of Hong Kong has awarded this seminar 1.5 Continuing Professional Development (CPD) points.

CLINDS's 21st LegalTech Seminar – 'Demystifying ChatGPT – Why Language Models will not Replace Lawyers' by Dr. Eliza Mik (Online), 21 April 2023

The rise of large language models, most notably OpenAI's ChatGPT, has revived fears of humans being replaced by AI, especially in those professions that involve the generation of text. While it is true that some large language models, or "LLMs," can create plausible and well-structured sentences that are difficult to distinguish from human output, claims that they could endanger the legal profession must be approached with skepticism. Leaving aside sensationalistic headlines, it is necessary to take an in-depth look at the actual technology underpinning LLMs and to acknowledge their limitations. LLMs have one objective: to predict the next word based on a fixed number of previous words (typically a few hundred). Learning statistical regularities to model the probabilities of various syntactic phenomena, does not translate into problem solving or reasoning. LLMs are trained to extract statistical information about words, not facts about the world – not to mention legal knowledge. At present, despite their impressive performance in text generation, no single language model can solve problems that require commonsense reasoning and/or context awareness. The seminar explained how LLMs are created (trained) and to what extent, if any, their answers can be trusted. On a broader level, the seminar discussed the relevance of data-driven approaches to the facilitation of legal tasks.

The following questions were addressed:

- How does ChatGPT actually work? What are its capabilities? What are its limits?

- What can ChatGPT and other language models be actually used for in legal practice?
- What are the problems surrounding the potential adoption of LLMs in legal practice?
- Can we expect ChatGPT to “scale up” and develop reasoning skills?

About the Speaker:

Dr. Eliza Mik teaches Legal Technologies, E-Commerce Law and Contract Law at the Faculty of Law, Chinese University of Hong Kong. Her research interests focus on the legal aspects of transaction automation. Before joining academia, she worked in-house for a number of software and telecommunications companies in Australia, Poland, Malaysia and the United Arab Emirates, advising on technology procurement and e-commerce regulation. Eliza has also advised the World Bank and the Monetary Authority of Singapore. At present, she is a member of the UNCITRAL Expert Group for the Digital Economy, a member of the Inclusive Global Legal Innovation Platform on ODR (Hong Kong), a Research Associate at the Tilburg Institute for Law, Society and Technology and an Affiliate Researcher with the Centre for AI and Digital Ethics at the University of Melbourne. She currently leads two research projects, one on the feasibility of data-driven approaches in LegalTech and one on the legal responses to smart contracts.

Conferences



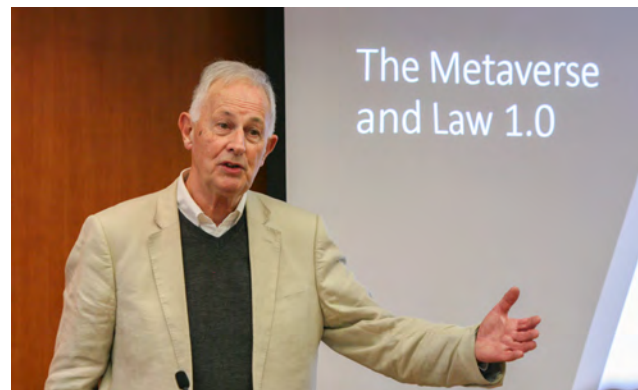
The 14th Annual Intellectual Property Conference- 'Digital Innovations and Intangible Assets' (Online), 28 - 30 July 2022

Our world has undergone a profound digital transformation, with some arguing that we now inhabit a virtual existence. Innovation itself has taken on a new form as an Intangible Asset (IA). Advancements in material science, robotics, drone technology are leading the wave of discoveries. Digital innovations, incorporating data collection and AI, contribute significant value to businesses and permeate every facet of our lives. The conference focused on the intricate connection between IA and IP. Specially, we explored how IA could expedite the process of analysing and managing IP, accelerating inventions and innovations. We also held a pre-conference workshop, which delved into IA protection and ownership. Conference sessions touched upon the many uses of IA and its accessibility, including NFTs, celebrity identity ownership, digital innovation, legal issues in the metaverse and multiverse, global trade secrets, IP updates, the IP-to-IPO journey, biomedical IP, digitization and IP litigation in China, IP and international economy.



CLINDS Conference- 'Digital Platform Governance: Security, Scalability and Sustainability' (Online), 10 January 2023

Artificial intelligence and data analytics have transformed the governance of existing digital platforms and enabled new platforms, which have become increasingly pervasive in our society. Web3 has also brought the platform economy to a different stage. As the blockchain-based web includes cryptocurrencies, non-fungible tokens (NFTs), decentralized autonomous organizations (DAOs), and decentralized finance, the users can read, write, and even own their own versions of the web. It has fundamentally transformed the space for commercial and social interactions at both domestic and cross-border levels. However, the new face of the digital environment has also led to numerous unsolved legal issues. Based on their respective strength in law and digital technologies, the Centre for Legal Innovation and Digital Society (CLINDS) at CUHK LAW and Department of Law, School of Social Sciences, University of Manchester (UoM) aimed to generate research synergy by collaboratively examining the regulatory challenges associated with Web3 and the platform economy. This conference was part of a larger collaborative project supported by the CUHK-UoM Research Fund.



Metaverse Law Conference, 14 March 2023

CLINDS organized the conference in collaboration with two supporting organizations: the Centre for Technology, Robotics, AI & the Law (TRAIL) of the National University of Singapore Faculty of Law (NUS Law) and KINECT LAW Office. Metaverse includes both closed virtual spaces, such as the interactions enabled by Meta’s Oculus Quest, as well as open decentralized spaces built on blockchain technologies, such as Decentraland. While we have increasingly socialise, work, play, learn, shop and innovate in the metaverse, various legal issues therein remained unsolved. The conference examined emerging issues associated with the metaverse in different fields of law, including but not limited contract law, property law, intellectual property, data protection, consumer protection, and financial law.

Research Projects/ Publications

Visit the [CLINDS webpage](#) for full list of publications by CLINDS members.

Research Projects:

Law of the Metaverse

CLINDS's dedicated project on the law of the metaverse took center stage this year, reflecting the centre's commitment to cutting-edge research and collaboration at the intersection of law and emerging technologies. CLINDS showcased its metaverse law project in the *Metaverse Law Conference* held on 14 March 2023. The conference examined emerging issues associated with the metaverse in contract law, property law, media law, intellectual property, data protection, consumer protection and financial law. Selected papers presented in this conference have been published in a special symposium issue of Melbourne Law School's *Media & Arts Law Review*. This publication has showcased the collaborative research output of CLINDS in the field of metaverse law.

Web 3 Governance: Law and Policy

This project has received support from the CUHK-UoM Research Fund, aimed at fostering and enhancing research collaboration between scholars at the Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) and the University of Manchester (UoM). As part of this initiative, CLINDS co-hosted two conferences in collaboration with the University of Manchester Department of Law:

1. *Digital Platform Security, Scalability, and Sustainability* in Hong Kong (January 2023)
2. *Web3 Governance: Law and Policy* in Manchester (July 2023)

Selected papers presented at these conferences, mostly by colleagues at CUHK and UoM, will be published in an edited volume titled '*Web3 Governance: Law and Policy*,' by Routledge in 2024. This collaborative effort not only reflects the shared commitment to advancing research in the field but also highlights the global nature of the discussions surrounding digital platform security and the governance of Web3 technologies.

Transnational FRAND Litigation

This collaboration represents an ongoing effort between CLINDS and the Private International Group at CUHK LAW, focusing on transnational litigation related to fair, reasonable, and non-discriminatory (FRAND) licensing of standard-essential patents (SEPs).

Notably, a paper co-authored by project leaders Professors Dicky Tsang and Jyh-An Lee, titled ‘The Ping-Pong Olympics of Antisuit Injunction in FRAND Litigation’ (2022) 28(2) *Michigan Technology Law Review* 305-383, has garnered attention and was cited by the European Union (EU) in its Written Submission to the World Trade Organization (WTO) on 8 June 2023. The EU has initiated a dispute settlement case against China, alleging the use of anti-suit injunctions (ASIs) to hinder EU companies from enforcing their SEPs in foreign courts. Building on the analysis provided by Professors Tsang and Lee, the EU questions the legality of China’s ASI practices in connection with SEPs. Adding to the significance of this collaboration, the project recently received funding through the CUHK Outstanding Research Impact Award for the academic year 2022-23, further recognizing its contribution to impactful research in the field.