

**Faculty of Law**  
**The Chinese University of Hong Kong**  
**Research Seminar**

## **“China and the World Trade Organization”**

**By**

**Dr. Esther Lam**

**Author of**

**‘China and the WTO – a Long March Toward the Rule of Law’**

**11:30-12:45 pm**

**Wednesday, 2 December 2009**

**Board Room**  
**Faculty of Law**  
**Western Teaching Complex**  
**The Chinese University of Hong Kong**  
**Shatin, N.T., Hong Kong**

**Abstract:** Esther Lam is the Author of ‘China and the WTO – a Long March Toward the Rule of Law.’ Much discussion on China and the WTO has focused on economic, trade and compliance issues. No less significant but often overlooked is the WTO’s impact on Chinese legal reform. Esther Lam’s new book, *China and WTO – A Long March towards the Rule of Law* (October 2009, [Kluwer Law International](#)), fills this gap. The author argues that China’s accession to the rules-based WTO has led to the incorporation of basic rule of law principles such as due process, transparency, non-discrimination and justiciability of government action into the Chinese legal system. “Through this work, Esther Lam succeeds in demonstrating how WTO membership can benefit both the acceding country and the wider WTO family of nations. I trust this important work will provide valuable insight to all other countries currently negotiating their terms of entry to the WTO,” WTO Director-General Pascal Lamy says in his foreword to the book.

*Speaker bio:* An alumnus of Chinese University of Hong Kong, Esther Lam studied international law at University of Edinburgh (LLM) and Graduate Institute of International Studies in Geneva (PhD). She published extensively on the WTO and the United Nations as a journalist and researcher based in Geneva from 2001 to 2006. Her other books include *SARS and the WHO: An Untold Story* and *A Practical Guide to the WTO for Human Rights Advocates* (as lead author). She now works for the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights.

**Speakers will be presenting their own views, which do not necessarily reflect those of the organizations they work for.**

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