

**The Hong Kong Institute of Trade Mark Practitioners
Annual General Meeting
Wednesday 18 October 2017**

President's Report 2016/2017

Welcome to the 2017 Annual General Meeting of the Hong Kong Institute of Trade Mark Practitioners. I would like to thank members of the Council who have made this evening's event possible, namely Nick Horvath and Serena Lim for preparation of the agenda and meeting papers, Cynthia Houg for preparing the Institute's accounts and to Ben Choi for organizing this year's dinner venue. I would also like to thank all members for attending the meeting this evening and those who have sent their apologies.

I am pleased to deliver this report on the second and final year of my term as President of the Institute.

Committees

This year there have been 8 committees. Membership of those committees comprises:-

Trade Marks Committee – Peggy Cheung, Patsy Lau

Patents and Designs Committee – Justin Davidson, Jeffrey McLean

Copyright Committee – Barry Yen, Charmaine Koo, Winnie Yue

Seminar Committee - Charmaine Koo, Winnie Yue, Justin Davidson

Social Events Committee – Nick Horvath, Andrea Fong, Barry Yen

Arbitration Committee – Winnie Yue, Charmaine Koo, Barry Yen, Justin Davidson

Website Committee – Jeffrey McLean, Barry Yen

Newsletter Committee – Ruby Chan, Justin Davidson

I would like to thank all Committee members and our Co-Op Affiliate Member for all their time and hard work.

Bi-Annual Meetings with the IPD

Two Bi-Annual Meetings took place since our last AGM, on 10 November 2016 and 16 May 2017 April 2016 and a summary of the matters discussed will be published in our upcoming newsletter.

Consultations

In the course of the year the Institute has participated in the following consultations.

1. Briefing Session on the Proposed Application of the Madrid Protocol to the Hong Kong SAR
2. Consultation on Review of Copyright Exceptions for Persons with a Print Disability
3. Consultation on Proposed Amendments to Rules of the High Court, Trade Marks Rules, Patents (General) Rules and Registered Designs Rules

Invitations

Over the course of the year, members received invitations to attend or participate in a number of seminars and events. Some of the events attended by members of the Institute include:-

1. 1 - 2 December 2016 BIP Asia supported by the Institute
2. 12 January 2017 Tea Reception of IP Ambassadors Programme organized by the IPD and HKU.
3. 7 February 2017 Lunch hosted by the IPD for the Commissioner and members of the Korean Intellectual Property Office
4. 23 March 2017 lunch hosted by the Institute for SIPO delegation headed by Vice Minister Liu
5. 8 April 2017 "IP Thought Leadership Event" hosted by Deacons and Des Voeux Chambers
6. May 2017 Reception hosted by CITMA, INTA Barcelona
7. May 2017 - Meeting with CNCPI (French Patent and TM Attorneys' Institute), Paris
8. June 2017 Facilitating at the request of the IPD a visit to a local law firm for a delegation of Guangdong AIC officials, representatives from trade mark associations and enterprises under the cooperation framework of GD/HK Expert Group on Protection of IP Rights on the theme of "overseas trade mark registration and protection".
9. 31 August 2017 Presentation "Life as a Judge in the UK Business and Property Courts" Mr. Justice Henry Carr, organized by the Hong Kong Bar Association
10. 1 September 2017 Lecture on an update of Developments in UK case law on Intellectual Property by Mr. Justice Henry Carr organized by the IPD
11. 19 October 2017 Invitation to Mainland and Hong Kong SAR, Macao SAR Intellectual Property Symposium 2017

Taking place in December 2017 the Institute will once again be a supporting organisation for the annual Business of IP Asia Forum.

HKITMP Lunchtime Seminars

On 5 June 2017 barrister C.W. Ling gave a presentation on the subject "From Maxim to Starbucks: The Intractable Issue of Goodwill". I am pleased to announce that our next lunchtime seminar will take place next month and will be given by Peter Cheung, former Director of the IPD, who will speak on the "Practitioners' New Role".

Social Events

Our social events for this year kicked off with memorable Spring Dinner on 29 March 2017 at Apisara where we were also given a talk by Mr. Albert H, former Assistant Commissioner (Intelligence and Investigation), Customs and Excise Department on the investigation and enforcement of IP matters.

For the summer event on 21 June 2017 we got "lost" in a series of real-life room escape games in which players are locked in a room and have to solve clues and puzzles to escape the room within a set time limit.

Newsletters

Our latest newsletter was issued at the end of 2016 and the next edition is currently being compiled. I am grateful to Ruby Chan and Justin Davidson for the time and effort that they have put into producing the newsletter.

Membership

Our membership currently stands at 119 including 8 new members:

Anthony David Swain
Caroline Hoi Lam Leung
Eliza Feng Qi Siew
Jonathan Mark Wai Wah Chu
Valerie Rose Hoi Ting Suen
Amita Kaur Haylock
Catherine Zheng
Carrie Ka Yi Yu

Council Meetings

For the year 2016-2017 the following Council meetings have taken place:-

1. 28 September 2016
2. 7 December 2016
3. 18 January 2017
4. 15 February 2017
5. 29 March 2017
6. 26 April 2017
7. 19 July 2017
8. 6 September 2017

I would like to thank all the firms who have generously hosted the meetings over the past year.

Council Members

I would like to thank all Council members and office bearers Vice President - Benjamin Choi, Treasurer - Cynthia Houg, Secretary - Serena Lim and Membership Secretary - Theresa Mak for all their contributions throughout the year. For the year 2016-2017 the following members have served on the Council:-

1. Davina Lee - President
2. Benjamin Choi – Vice President
3. Cynthia Houg - Treasurer
4. Serena Lim - Secretary
5. Theresa Mak – Membership Secretary
6. Steven Birt
7. Nick Bodnar-Horvath
8. Ruby Chan

9. Peggy Cheung
10. Justin Davidson
11. Andrea Fong
12. Katherine Lai
13. Patsy Lau
14. Charmaine Koo
15. Helen Tang
16. Barry Yen
17. Winnie Yue

Jeffrey McLean has continued to serve as Co-Op Affiliate Member for another year.

The council members retiring this year are:-

1. Ruby Chan
2. Winnie Yue
3. Andrea Fong
4. Peggy Cheung
5. Charmaine Koo
6. Theresa Mak
7. Serena Lim
8. Helen Tang

All retiring council members are standing for re-election.

Awards

This year the Institute was pleased to grant awards to the following people:-

1. Ms Yeung Wai Nga of the University of Hong Kong for attaining Grade A in "Principles of Intellectual Property"
2. Mr. Daniel McFarland of the Chinese University of Hong Kong for achieving the highest mark in Hong Kong Intellectual Property Law, part of the Masters Course in Information Technology and Intellectual Property Law.

That concludes my report and I would be pleased to answer any questions you may have.

Davina Lee

President

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