JSD Chinese Judges Programme’s 2015 Academic Visit to USA and Korea

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A delegation of 30 Chinese senior judges who are also students of the JSD Chinese Judges Programmes of the School of Law, City University of Hong Kong took part in a 14-day academic visit to the United States from 19 April – 2 May, 2015. The Visit was co-organized by the Law School, Tulane University and the Centre for Judicial Education and Research, City University of Hong Kong.

The Distinguished Judicial Exchange Programme included brief sessions with Tulane Law faculty on various topics including Louisiana law, family law, U.S. constitutional law, maritime law and environmental law; meeting with federal and state judges and lectures by a panel of Justice Department officials. Through a special live-broadcast panel, the delegation also received a perspective on municipal courts from Judge George Anagnost of Peoria, Arizona.

Mrs. Virginia Eason and former Ambassador John Giffen Weinmann who helps sustain Tulane’s Eason-Weinmann Center for International and Comparative Law held a reception to welcome the delegation at their home.

Prof. Wang Guiguo’s investiture as Tulane’s Eason-Weinmann Chair of International and Comparative Law was the highlight of the Programme. Both Virginia and John Weinmann offered warm remarks at the investiture.

Group photo after the investiture of Prof. Wang Guiguo (1st row, in the middle) as the Eason-Weinmann Chair of International and Comparative Law
Prof. David Meyer, Dean of Law School, Tulane University regarded hosting the delegation as “part of a broader expansion of Tulane Law School’s partnerships and outreach in China.” He also expressed his willingness to continue providing judicial education programmes to judges from China and other regions.

After the Tulane visit, the delegation went on to Washington, D.C. for meetings with U.S. Rep. Steve Scalise and Sen. David Vitter of Louisiana and a tour at the Supreme Court. The US visit concluded with a meeting with General Counsel Joon Kim of the Southern District of New York and a short trip to Law Schools of world renowned Universities in Boston, including Harvard University, Yale University and Northeastern University.

Miriam Childs (left), associate director of the Law Library of Louisiana, displays historical books for senior Chinese judges at the state Supreme Court.

A delegation of 10 Chinese judges visited Korea from 3 – 9 May, 2015 for another judicial exchange programme held by the Law School of Korea University. The delegation attended lectures by Law School professors and experts of various legal institutions and also paid visits to the National Assembly, the Constitutional Court, the Samsung Creative Museum and the Demilitarized Zone.

Professor Nohyoung Park (left), Korea University Law School accepts souvenir from Judge Xu Qingyu (right, JSD3 student, Director of Higher People’s Court of Jiangsu Province)
These academic visits were great overseas study opportunities for the students of JSD Chinese Judges Programmes and they also promoted mutual understanding between two different judicial systems, enabling the Chinese judges to have a deeper grasp of the rule of law in various countries.