On October 17, 2011, the Hong Kong Centre for Maritime and Transportation Law at CityU School of Law was honoured to invite **Professor Paul Myburgh** from the Faculty of Law at the University of Auckland to present a public seminar on “Flotsam and Jetsam: Conflict of Laws Issues Arising from Maritime Collisions”. Dr Sik Kwan Tai, Assistant Professor, CityU School of Law, was the chairman of the seminar. The seminar attracted registrations from over 100 scholars, legal practitioners, students and the general public.

Professor Myburgh presented a tailor-made seminar in which the local jurisdictional issues and maritime law cases were closely analyzed. In the seminar, he noted that maritime collisions might not only have catastrophic economic, social and environmental consequences; they might also give rise to extraordinarily complex conflict of laws issues. His public seminar provided an introductory analysis to some of these legal issues: in particular, problems of competing jurisdictions, which laws would apply to resolve legal liability, and which of the various international regimes would govern limitation of liability.

Professor Myburgh’s teaching and research interests include maritime law, conflict of laws, international banking and trade finance, international trade law, contract law, electronic commerce and comparative law. He is the author of the New Zealand transport law monograph in the International Encyclopaedia of
Transport Law, has published numerous book chapters, reviews and articles on maritime law in international journals, and maintains a web site on New Zealand maritime law.

Thanks to generous sponsorship from Tai Chong Cheang Group (T C C GROUP) and The K.H. Koo Charitable Foundation, Prof Myburgh was recruited as a Visiting Research Fellow at CityU School of Law. He is here to give a public seminar and a guest lecture in the LLB Shipping Law course on The Rotterdam Rules.

(from left) Mr Pason Cheung (Deputy Manager of Insurance & Claims Department, Legal & Commercial Division, T C C GROUP), Prof Paul Myburgh and Dr Sik Kwan Tai