

# **The Chinese University of Hong Kong**

## **Faculty of Law**

### **The Sir TL Yang Society**

#### **Constitution**

#### **1. Name of the Society**

The name of the society to be registered is known as The Sir T L Yang Society (the “Society”) which is established by the staff members of the Faculty of Law of The Chinese University of Hong Kong (the “Faculty”)

#### **2. Address of Principal Place of Business**

The address of principal place of business of the Society is situated at the Faculty of Law, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shatin, New Territories, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.

#### **3. Objects of the Society**

The objects for which the Society is established are:-

- (a) To provide intellectual, scholarly and social support for the students of the Faculty in their pursuit of legal studies;
- (b) To facilitate the students of the Faculty to develop their academic potential and professional skills and ethics;
- (c) To provide a platform on which accomplished people (in particular those from the legal profession) connected with the Faculty can share their experience and expertise with the students;
- (d) To organize, assist, advise and support the students of the Faculty with their student activities in connection with their legal studies;
- (e) To organize, assist and support social functions/gatherings for the students of the Faculty;
- (f) To administer, co-coordinate, assist and support academic and professional development programmes (both local and overseas) for the students of the Faculty; and
- (g) To co-ordinate, assist and facilitate students of the Faculty to

participate in activities organized by the legal profession and other relevant professional associations (both local and overseas) and to promote good contacts with professional associations/bodies.

#### **4. Membership**

Members of the Society are as follows:-

##### **(a) Full Members**

Full Members of the Society shall consist of:-

- (1) all full-time academic staff members of the Faculty of the following categories:-
  - Professors (including Chair Professor, Professor I, Professor II, Associate Professor and Assistant Professor);
  - Professional Consultants; and
- (2) all administrative staff members of the Faculty on Terms of Service A (as defined in the Staff Handbook of The Chinese University of Hong Kong).

The number and categories of Full Members may be varied from time to time by simple majority votes of Full Members present in the general meeting of the Society (the “General Meeting”).

##### **(b) Distinguished Honorary Life Patrons**

The General Meeting may, at the recommendation of the Management Committee of the Society (the “Management Committee”), by simple majority votes of Full Members present in the General Meeting, resolve to appoint distinguished persons who have contributed to legal scholarship, the legal profession or the community as Distinguished Honorary Life Patrons of the Society.

##### **(c) Student Associate Members**

All full-time and part-time students (including visiting or exchange students) enrolled in undergraduate or postgraduate programmes of the Faculty are eligible for applying for Student Associate Membership of the Society.

## **5. Application Procedures**

Application procedures for Student Associate Membership shall be determined by the Management Committee.

## **6. Management Committee**

- (a) There shall be established a Management Committee by the General Meeting.
- (b) The management of the affairs, administration and business of the Society shall be vested in the Management Committee which may exercise all powers and do all acts and things to further the objects of the Society. A meeting of the Management Committee at which a quorum is present may exercise all powers exercisable by the Management Committee.
- (c) Without prejudice to the generality of the above, the Management Committee may from time to time make rules for the purposes of regulating the affairs of the Society and such rules shall be binding on all members of the Society.
- (d) Members of the Management Committee shall consist of the following:-
  - (1) the Dean of the Faculty (ex officio member) acting as the chairman of the Management Committee (the “Chairman”);
  - (2) Not less than 5 Full Members (to be appointed by the Chairman for a term of two years and eligible to be re-appointed);
  - (3) 2 undergraduate Student Associate Members (to be appointed by the Chairman for a term of one year); and
  - (4) 2 postgraduate Student Associate Members (to be appointed by the Chairman for a term of one year).
- (e) The General Meeting may, by not less than 75% majority votes of Full Members present in the General Meeting, resolve to remove any members of the Management Committee before the expiration of his/her term of office provided that if the Chairman is so removed, the General Meeting shall by simple majority votes of Full Members present in the General meeting resolve to appoint another Full Member (who need not be a member of the Management Committee) to the

Management Committee to serve as the Acting Chairman for a term of two years.

- (f) The office of a member of the Management Committee shall be vacated if he/she ceases to be a staff member or a student of the Faculty (as the case may be). Subject to Clause 6(e) above, any vacancy occurring in the Management Committee by reason of death, resignation, removal, vacation of office or other disability may be filled by the Management committee on such terms and conditions as it thinks fit.
- (g) The Management Committee may meet together for the dispatch of business, adjourn, and otherwise regulate its meetings, as it thinks fit provided that not less than 3 days' written notice of each meeting shall be given to each member of the Management Committee. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the notice period for a meeting of the Management Committee can be waived or shortened by simple majority votes of members of the Management Committee present at the meeting.
- (h) Meetings of the Management Committee may be convened on the request of the Chairman or by request in writing to the Secretary of the Management Committee (the "Secretary") and signed by not less than 4 Management Committee members stating the objects for which such meetings are to be convened.
- (i) The Chairman or in his absence his nominee (who shall also be a member of the Management Committee) shall preside at the meetings of the Management Committee.
- (j) The quorum necessary for the transaction of the business of the Management Committee shall be 5 and shall consist of:-
  - (1) the Chairman or his nominee (who shall also be a member of the Management Committee);
  - (2) not less than 2 Full Members (appointed in accordance with Clause 6 (d) (2) above); and
  - (3) not less than any 2 Student Associate Members (appointed in accordance with Clauses 6 (d) (3) and (4) above).

If within thirty minutes of the time appointed for a meeting a quorum

is not present, the meeting shall stand adjourned until the same time and place on the same day in the next week. At the adjourned meeting if a quorum is not present within thirty minutes from the time appointed for the meeting any five members of the Management Committee present shall constitute a quorum for that adjourned meeting.

- (k) Questions arising at any Management Committee meeting shall be decided by a majority of votes. In case of an equality of votes, the Chairman or in his absence his nominee (who shall also be a member of the Management Committee) shall have a second or casting vote.
- (l) The Management Committee may from time to time establish sub-committees for the efficient discharge of its duties and may delegate to such sub-committees any of its powers and/or duties. Members of such sub-committees need not be Full Members or members of the Management Committee.
- (m) The Management Committee shall cause proper record to be made for:-
  - (1) all the voting and proceedings at all General Meetings;
  - (2) all the voting and proceedings at all meetings of the Management Committee;
  - (3) registers of Full Members, Distinguished Honorary Life Patrons, Student Associate Members, members of the Management Committee and members of the sub-committees established by the Management Committee to carry out its powers and/or duties.

## **7. Officers**

The officers of the Management Committee shall consist of the following:-

- (a) The Chairman;
- (b) The Secretary (who shall be a Full Member appointed in accordance with Clause 6 (d) (2) above;
- (c) The Treasurer (who shall be a Full Member appointed in accordance with Clause 6 (d) (2) above; and
- (d) Such other officers as the Management Committee may appoint from time to time.

## **8. General Meeting**

- (a) All Full Members are entitled to attend and vote at the General Meeting. Each Full Member shall have one vote in the General Meeting.
- (b) The quorum of the General Meeting shall be not less than 50% of the total number of Full Members who are not on approved leave on the date the meeting is conducted.
- (c) Subject to Clause 6(e) and Clause 13(a), questions arising at any General Meeting shall be decided by a majority of votes. In case of an equality of votes, the Chairman or in his absence his nominee (who shall also be a member of the Management Committee) shall have a second or casting vote.
- (d) The Chairman or in his absence his nominee (who shall also be a member of the Management Committee) shall preside at the General Meeting.
- (e) A General Meeting may be convened by the Management Committee at any time for any specific purpose or by request in writing to the Secretary and signed by not less than 5 Full Members stating the objects for which such meeting is to be convened. The Secretary shall distribute a not less 7 days' prior written notice of the General Meeting (specifying the date, time and place of the meeting and the business to be transacted) to all Full Members of the Society before such General Meeting takes place. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the notice period of a General Meeting can waived or shortened by simple majority votes of Full Members present in the General Meeting.

## **9. Accounts**

- (a) The Treasurer shall receive all monies due to the Society, shall make payments on behalf of the Society as the Management Committee may direct, and shall keep the accounts of all receipts, payments, assets and liabilities of the Society.
- (b) The books of account shall be kept by the Treasurer at the principal place of business of the Society and shall be open to inspection by members of the Management Committee.
- (c) A petty cash account not exceeding the amount decided by the

Management Committee from time to time shall be maintained by the Treasurer to meet sundry expenses necessary and incidental to the business of the Society.

- (d) All cheques and all receipt of moneys paid to the Society shall be jointly signed, drawn, accepted, endorsed, or otherwise executed by any two of the following:-
  - (1) the Chairman;
  - (2) the Secretary; and
  - (3) the Treasurer.
- (e) The funds of the Society shall be applied only for the purpose of carrying out the objects of the society.
- (f) The financial year of the Society shall end on 30 June.

#### **10. Auditors**

The Management Committee may appoint a person to be the auditor of the accounts of the Society.

#### **11. The Official Language**

English shall be the official language of the Society and all correspondence and meetings and records shall be conducted and kept in English.

#### **12. Amendments to the Constitution**

- (a) The Management Committee may from time to time propose to amend the Constitution if it thinks necessary.
- (b) Amendments to the Constitution shall be approved by simple majority votes of Full Members present in the General Meeting.

#### **13. Dissolution**

- (a) Subject to the provisions of the Societies Ordinance, the General Meeting may by not less than 75% majority votes of Full Members present in the General Meeting, resolve to dissolve the Society.
- (b) If upon the dissolution of the Society there remains any property after payment of all debts of the Society any such surplus shall be paid, given or transferred to the Faculty.