Report of the Charles Ching Memorial Scholarship Committee 2010

Committee: The Hon. Mrs. Justice Le Pichon (Chairwoman)

Mr. Patrick Fung, SC

Mrs. Audrey Campbell-Moffat

1. This year the Committee received just six applications for financial assistance to attend an advocacy training course in the United Kingdom run by the Middle Temple. The candidates were all well qualified. Five of the six candidates had received their secondary education in Hong Kong; two had attended The University of Hong Kong and one had obtained his LLB from The Chinese University. All of the candidates had the benefit of overseas study at either Oxford, Cambridge or Harvard and one candidate had also studied at the University of Peking. The candidates ranged in age from 23 to 30 years of age.

- 2. After viewing the video recorded interviews, the Committee called three candidates forward for interview, which took place on 30th July 2010. All three candidates conducted themselves exceptionally well and were articulate and impressive. They all presented themselves as deserving of assistance. Bonnie Cheng had obtained a Bachelor of Social Sciences (Government and Laws), First Class Honours; Bachelor of Laws, First Class Honours and a Master of Science in Global Governance and Diplomacy, as well as a Master of Laws. Deanna Law had a Bachelor of Laws, First Class Honours and Master of Laws and David Chen had a Bachelor of Science in Economics, Magna Cum Laude and Bachelor of Arts in Law.
- 3. When interviewing these candidates and considering the awards to be made, the Committee was conscious of its duty to promote the characteristics demonstrated by Charles Ching and was determined to continue to nurture such qualities in the future Bar by awarding scholarships to candidates who displayed outstanding potential and who would benefit most from the training for which this scholarship was launched.
- 4. Cognizant of its duty to the fund and taking into consideration the personal financial circumstances of each candidate rather than any indication of differentiation in merit, the Committee resolved to award \$75,000 to both Bonnie Cheng and Deanna Law but only \$35,000 to David Chen.
- 5. The Committee would also like to make specific mention of the donations made to it from members of the Bar. In 2010, previous scholars donated \$145,000. Donations were received from Hew Yang-wahn, Calvin Cheuk, Wilson Leung, Abigail Wong, Benny Lo, Sara Tong, Ann Lui, Isaac Chan, Gary Lam and Rachel Lam. We are most grateful for their generosity and support. The cost of overseas training continues to escalate and the fund will be sorely pressed to allocate sufficient monies to all those deserving of the opportunity to study advocacy abroad in the future without the support of both the Bar Council, its membership and previous recipients of the scholarship.

The Hon. Mrs. Justice Le Pichon Chairwoman