

DPP conferred professorship in Beijing

The Director of Public Prosecutions, Mr Grenville Cross, SC, has been appointed Adjunct Professor of Law by the China University of Political Science and Law (CUPSL) in recognition of his contribution to the work of its Procedural Law Research Centre (the Centre).

At a ceremony in Beijing last Saturday (June 27), Mr Cross was presented with his Letters of Appointment by Professor Fan Chongyi, Director of the Centre, and by famed jurist Professor Chen Guangzhong, Honorary Director of the Centre and former President of the CUPSL.

The Centre is the only procedural law research institute in China concerned with the reform of criminal procedure law in the People's Republic of China (PRC). Mr Cross, whose appointment runs from 2004 to 2007, has been associated with the CUPSL for the past decade.

Over the last 10 years, Mr Cross has assisted the CUPSL in its efforts to reform the criminal procedure laws of the PRC. In 1994, he participated in the international symposium on criminal procedure organised in Beijing by the CUPSL to consider changes to the 1979 Criminal Procedure Law. He also advised upon the draft of the 1996 Criminal Procedure Law, which came into effect in the PRC in 1997.

In 1998-2000, Mr Cross worked with Professor Chen Guangzhong and the Centre on the Sino-German project on Alternatives to Prosecution, which was facilitated by the Max Planck Institute of Germany.

In 2002, Mr Cross participated in the Centre's examination of changes to the PRC's laws of evidence in criminal cases.

This year, Mr Cross has been advising the Centre upon the viability of criminal pre-trial procedure reforms.

Speaking on his return from Beijing, Mr Cross described his appointment as "a great

honour". He said, "The pace of change in criminal procedure in China in recent times has been remarkable. Much has been achieved, and this is good both for the modernisation of China and for the rule of law. There is, however, still a long way to go. I look forward to assisting mainland reformers in whatever way I can. China deserves an advanced system of criminal justice."

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