Welcome Message From Shigenori Matsui, 2022-23 CALS Director

Thank you for reading our newsletter. It is my great pleasure, as the CALS director, to add a welcome remark to all readers and visitors for the start of the new academic year, 2022-23. The law school has dropped almost all countermeasures against COVID-19 (despite our strong recommendation for masking inside the facility) and now the CALS has returned to almost pre-COVID-19 days. I am very sorry that during the pandemic, we were unable to accept new visiting scholars. However, we have now been able to accept several visiting scholars from Asian countries. Our newsletter focuses on the personal profiles of these visiting scholars. They are eager to learn Canadian law during their stay and we hope to provide many opportunities for them to get to know Canadian society. Please feel free to contact them if you can provide any special knowledge or expertise for them.

We plan to host several talks where these visiting scholars can share their knowledge and research. We also plan to invite professionals from all over Asia this year to provide their expert knowledge on Asian law. We will announce the events on the CALS website and social media accounts. Please stay tuned by visiting our website, following our social media, or subscribing to our newsletter.

Shige Matsui, Director for the Centre for Asian Legal Studies, 2022-23
The Peter A. Allard School of Law, University of British Columbia

CALS is very happy to welcome six visiting scholars! Please visit our Visiting Scholars Profiles for more information as the page gets updated.
CALS Visiting Scholar Profiles

Midori Tokura – Judge, Tokyo District Court

Midori Tokura is a judge of the Tokyo District Court in Japan since 2018. She was first appointed as a judge of the Niigata District in 2015. In 2018, she became a judge of the Tokyo District Court.

Judge Tokura is exploring how Canadian citizens are involved in the judicial system by researching the Canadian criminal jury system. Specifically, she is researching historical procedural changes to criminal juries and identifying the impact of the jury on criminal justice. Her interest in the Canadian jury system stems from her experience with the Japanese criminal jury system.

Aside from her work as a judge and research in the jury system, Judge Tokura’s hobbies include walking around town and enjoying good cuisine. She is very pleased to be in such a beautiful city as Vancouver.

Seo Yoon Lee – Judge, Seoul Southern District Court

Seo Yoon Lee is a judge of the Seoul District Court in South Korea. Judge Lee is a CALS Visiting Scholar from September, 2022 to August, 2023.

Judge Lee’s research topic is the electronic court system in Canada and in international tribunals, as well as how such measures might be applied in Korean legislation. As electronic litigation is being introduced to criminal trials in Korea, scrutinized research on presenting evidence in the electronic courtroom, data protection, and the role of the chain of custody in protecting against illegal search and seizure is needed. Judge Lee’s first-hand experience with the International Criminal Court (ICC) e-court system, as a visiting professional, fortified her belief that further study of this system would be conducive to evolving the electronic court legislation of South Korea. During her time at UBC, she will examine the procedure and practice of the electronic court system in the ICC, relevant discussions in the Canadian context, and its application to Korean criminal litigation.

When she is not working, Judge Lee practices yoga and enjoys hiking or swimming. She used to play cello in a lawyer’s orchestra and loves to attend live concerts and ballets. She also has a
passion for languages in order to better understand other cultures; she has learned French, Chinese, and Italian so far. Moreover, she is a big foodie and loves to cook. Judge Lee is happy with her sojourn here in Vancouver because of the ample opportunities to participate in various activities.

**Hideki Ohshita – Professor, Ritsumeikan University School of Law, Kyoto**

Hideki Ōshita is a professor at the Ritsumeikan University School of Law in Kyoto, Japan. He obtained a Bachelor of Laws in 1999 and a Master of Laws in 2002, both from Osaka City University. He was a lecturer from 2006 to 2008 and an associate professor from 2008 to 2011 at Seinangakuin University Faculty of Law. In 2011, he moved to Ritsumeikan University as an associate professor before being appointed as a professor in 2015. Additionally, he was the Assistant Dean for Research and Student Affairs from 2018 to 2021.

Professor Ōshita’s research is focused on the role of self-help in criminal law. Directly, he is studying self-recovery of stolen property and indirectly, the crime of obstruction of execution. Recently, he has also been interested in exploring whether the right to voluntary abstinence from life violates criminal law and hopes to comparatively study this with Canadian law.

Professor Ōshita has a wife and four children, with his two younger sons loving Canada and enjoying running around the parks every day. He plans to visit many parks in BC in order to find his children’s favourite parks.

**Takashi Shirōzu – Associate Professor, Chiba University Law School**

Takashi Shirōzu is an associate professor at Chiba University Law School. He holds a doctoral degree from Kyoto University. From 2012 to 2018, he taught at Teikyo University Faculty of Law as an assistant professor. In 2018, he moved to Chiba University.

Professor Shirōzu’s research falls in the areas of constitutional law, comparative constitutional law between Japan and North America, equality rights, and constitutional remedies.

Outside of work, Professor Shirōzu spends most of his time with his family. Even though his two kids keep him and his wife quite busy, he enjoys watching Blue Jays’ games in his spare time.
Jiaxi (Jessie) Yu – Associate Professor, School of Public Finance and Administration, Shanghai Lixin University

Jiaxi Yu is an associate professor at the School of Public Finance and Administration at Shanghai Lixin University. She is at CALS as a Visiting Scholar from October 22, 2022 to August 31, 2023.

Professor Yu’s main research field is tax theory and policy. Particularly, she focuses on the construction of a green tax system, which includes environmental protection tax, resource tax, carbon tax, and other related tax topics.

Professor Yu’s hobbies include swimming, playing badminton, reading, traveling, and watching movies.

Xinyu He – Lecturer, Guangxi Normal University Law School

Xinyu He is a lecturer at the Guangxi Normal University Law School and is a CALS Visiting Scholar from November 1, 2022 to October 31, 2023. She holds a doctoral degree in law from Wuhan University.

Lecturer He’s research topic deals with the trafficking of women and children. Her research will focus on how to establish effective government regulation and public-private partnerships to prevent and confront this trafficking. Her research interests include public-private partnership, administrative agreement, and the protection of basic civil rights.

Trafficking is a crime that is widespread in most countries, with China being no exception. Despite the attempts of the Chinese government to address trafficking, it is still very serious. World experience shows that governmental participation alone is not enough and that complete cooperation at all levels is needed to establish the most proactive and sustainable approach to reducing trafficking. Lecturer He hopes her research will contribute to the facilitation of such collaboration.