



30 May 2013

The Director of Intellectual Property  
Intellectual Property Department  
The HKSAR Government  
25<sup>th</sup> Floor Wu Chung House  
213 Queen's Road East  
Wanchai  
Hong Kong

葉豪盛 教授  
署理副校長(研究及科技)  
研究生院署理院長  
Professor Horace H S Ip  
Acting Vice-President  
(Research and Technology)  
Acting Dean of Graduate Studies

Dear Sir,

### Consultation on Regulation of Patent Agency Services

Thank you for your letter of 20 March 2013 addressed to the President of City University of Hong Kong. The President has referred the letter to me for reply.

The following are our views on the recommendations regarding the regulation of patent agency services:

1. We agree that some form of regulation of patent agencies is needed today. The need will become more imminent when Hong Kong starts to implement an "Original Grant Patent (OGP)" system in the future.
2. In our opinion, the primary purpose for regulation of patent agencies is quality assurance. As far as practicable the regulation should avoid interfering with the business environment where users can decide whether they want to use the service from a registered or non-registered patent agency.
3. While Hong Kong is setting up its own regulatory system, it can jump start by giving recognition to the qualification conferred by overseas regulatory bodies on their patent agencies and attorneys.
4. We recommend that only those who pass the examination or obtain exemption from the future Hong Kong regulatory body on patent agencies and attorneys can carry the new title. In other words, no grandfathering arrangement should be provided.
5. We recommend that only for Hong Kong patents filed under the new OGP system, the responsible patent agency should be a registered patent agency in Hong Kong. In other words, for patents filed outside Hong Kong, it is up to the client to select the service provider, after taking into account the risks and benefits together.

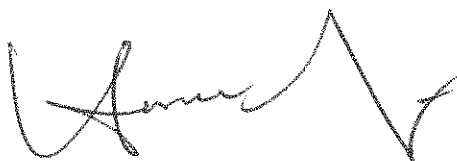
..../2



You have our consent for the above views to be published, in the name of City University of Hong Kong, for public viewing.

Should there be any enquiry, please feel free to contact me or Mr. H Y Wong at 3442 6428 [email: [hy.wong@cityu.edu.hk](mailto:hy.wong@cityu.edu.hk)].

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Horace H S Ip', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Professor Horace H S Ip  
Acting Vice-President (Research and Technology)  
Acting Dean of Graduate Studies

c.c.: Professor Way Kuo, President, City University of Hong Kong  
Mr. H Y Wong, Associate Vice-President (Knowledge Transfer), City University of Hong Kong