Cher Weixia Chen

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Education

University of Southern California (USC) Los Angeles, CA
Ph. D., Politics and International Relations (defended dissertation in June, 2008) 2008

M.A., East Asian Studies 2003

National University of Singapore (NUS) Singapore
LLM (Master of Laws) 2001

Beijing University (PKU) Beijing, China
LLB (Bachelor of Laws) 2000

Areas of Expertise

- Public Law and Policy, Comparative Politics/Asian Studies, International Law and Organization/Human Rights

Publication and Conference Presentation

- Book Chapter "*A Critique* of 'Lost of Face' Arguments in Cultural Defense Cases: A Comparative Study", in *Multicultural Jurisprudence: Comparative Perspectives on the Cultural Defense* (Hart Publishing Co, forthcoming, 2008).
- PhD Dissertation: "Compliance and Compromise: The Jurisprudence of Gender Pay Equity".
- Paper "Compliance and Compromise: The Jurisprudence of Gender Pay Equity", presented at Thinking Gender Conference 2008, UCLA, Feb 1, 2008.
- Moderated the Panel of RICE ("Re-Inventing Chinese Experience"), USC, 2007.
- Paper "Losing Face: The Misuse of Cultural Defense", presented at the Annual Conference of the American Studies Association at Oakland, 2006.
- Paper "Disentangling Crime and Justice in Late Imperial China", presented at the Western Conference of Association for Asian Studies, Arizona State University, 2003.
- Paper "The Death Penalty in Japan and China: A Perspective of the Rule of Law", accepted by the Harvard Project for Asian and International Relations (HPAIR), 2002.
- M. A thesis: "Capital Punishment in China and Japan: A Comparative Study", 2003.
- LLM thesis: "Corporate Crime in China and Canada: A Comparative Study", 2001.

Teaching Experience

University of Southern California Los Angeles, CA
Teaching Assistant Aug 2001-present

- Instructed classes of 25 students, for courses including Law and Public Policy; International Law; Human Rights; East Asian Societies, Ideology and Political Conflict.
- Provided academic guidance during weekly office hours.

Research Experience

United States Department of Labor West Covina, CA 2007

- Examined the informal economy of the Southern California and developed proposal on how to empower non-complaining low-income Asian American Community.

International Labor Organization of the United Nations Geneva, Switzerland 2006

- Evaluated the Social Policy Convention (1962) and proposed a new social policy convention which will be appropriate in the context of globalization; conducted a historical review of the supervisory system of the ILO and suggested the ways to improvement.

Asian Pacific American Dispute Resolution Center Los Angeles, CA 2004

- Explored the sources of inter-cultural conflicts within the low-income Asian American Community in the Southern California and recommended a culturally-sensitive method of dispute resolution

University of Southern California Los Angeles, CA 2001- 2007

- Worked as research assistant to Professor Charlotte Furth on the research project on the history of Chinese medicine

National University of Singapore Singapore 2000- 2001

- Conducted extensive research for the project "Due Process, Fundamental Justice, And The Substantive Criminal Law: A Comparative Study"

Work Experience

United States Department of Labor West Covina, CA
Intern, West Covina District Office, Wage and Hour Division Mar 2007

- Obtained familiarity with the application of American federal labor laws
- Assisted investigators in the investigative process

International Labor Organization of the United Nations Geneva, Switzerland
Intern, Department of Legal Standards Summer 2006

- Consulted for governments and development banks on various international labor issues
- Prepared reports for various meetings including the International Labor Conference

Asian Pacific American Dispute Resolution Center Los Angeles, CA

Conflict Resolution Specialist Aug 2004-Jan 2005

- Provided language-specific mediation and conciliation service to various forms of conflicts including labor, family and consumer disputes to low-income Asian Pacific American Community
- Specialized in cross-cultural conflict resolution and obtained the certificate in dispute resolution

Chinalawinfo. com Beijing, China
Editor Feb 2000- June 2000

- Administered the international legal news sector
- Researched and translated worldwide legal news in English into Chinese

District Attorney's Office Haidian, Beijing, China
Intern Aug-Oct 1999

- Assisted prosecutors in the discovery and investigatory process
- Acquainted with Chinese judicial system

Charity (Ai-Xin) Club of PKU Beijing, China
Fundraiser September 1997- June 1998

- Published monthly reports and posters to raise the awareness about various social issues including education for children from low-income families
- Raised funds to support various trips to the rural areas and worked with "Project Hope" to finance education of many poor rural elementary and high-school students

Volunteer Experience

- Secretary, Political Science Graduate Student Association, USC, 2003-2004
- Part-time Assistant, Integrated Library Systems, USC, 2002
- Leader, Volunteer Team for the PKU Centennial Celebration, PKU, 1998
- Reporter, Peking Law Reports, PKU, 1997-1998
- Vice Editor-in-Chief, Dangjian News Express, PKU, 1996

Associations

- Member, American Political Science Association, United States
- Member, American Society of International Law, United States
- Member, Association for Asian Studies, United States
- Member, Chinese Scholar and Student Association, USC
- Member, Legal Aid Association, PKU

Honors and Awards

- Member, Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society
- College Merit Fellowship, USC, 2007-2008
- College-wide award competition for the Asia/Pacific Business Outlook Conference 2007, USC
- Ross and Marjorie Berkes Travel Award Scholarship, 2006-2007
- Center for International Studies Summer Research Award, USC, 2006 & 2007
- Jesse M. Unruh Institute of Politics Summer Internship Award, USC, 2006

- College Five-Year Doctoral Scholarship, USC, 2003-2008
- College Two-Year Research Assistantship, USC, 2001-2003
- Excellent Thesis Award, Law School, PKU, 2000
- Wangs Fellowship, Fujian Province of China, 1997
- Excellent Student Award, Department of Education, Fujian Province of China, 1996

Skills

- Languages: an excellent command of both spoken and written English, Chinese (native), Fukienese (native), Japanese (fair), Spanish (fair)
- Computer: SPSS, Windows, Word, Excel, PowerPoint.