Annex 5: Introduction to the Collaborative Universities

I. Introduction to the Zhongnan University of Economics and Law

Founded in 1948, Zhongnan University of Economics and Law (ZUEL) is located in Wuhan, a metropolis of Central China. It is an institution of higher education under the Ministry of Education of the People’s Republic of China with economics, law, and management as its core disciplines. These are coordinated with the development of eight other disciplines including literature, history, philosophy, engineering, etc. ZUEL is also one of the universities sponsored by “211 project”, which is the Chinese government’s new endeavor aimed at strengthening about 100 institutions of higher education and key disciplinary areas as a national priority for the 21st century.

ZUEL is comprised of the School of Humanities, School of Economics, School of Finance and Taxation, Xinhua School of Banking and Insurance, Law School, Criminal Justice School, School of Foreign Studies, School of Journalism and Mass Media, School of Business and Administration, School of Public Administration, School of Accountancy, School of Statistics and Mathematics, as well as School of MBA, School of Intellectual Property Rights, School of Further Education, and Wuhan School. There is a full-time teaching and administrative staff of 2,445 members at ZUEL, including 1,360 teachers, among which there are 219 professors, 472 associate professors, and 87 doctoral supervisors. ZUEL has 1 key research base of humanities at the state level, 2 key disciplines at the state level, 4 key research bases of humanities at the provincial level, 19 key disciplines at the ministerial and provincial level, 35 undergraduate programs, 64 master programs, 32 doctoral programs, and 3 post-doctoral programs. The university is also authorized to award MBA, EMBA, JM, MPAcc, MPA, ME (Master of Education) degrees, and enrolls students from overseas as well as from Taiwan, Hong Kong, and Macao. It also enrolls approximately 20,000 full-time undergraduates, 5,000 postgraduate students, doctoral students, post-doctoral students, and over 5,000 adult students.

Zhongnan University of Economics and Law covers an area of over 210 hectares, and has a combined floor space of 800,000 square meters. The university has a collection of over 2.5 million volumes in its libraries, possessing the national and global information retrieval system and offering its students ready access to the cyber world. In addition, it has 8 modern stadiums, two of which were used as the major sports field for the National University Games, the National Series-A Football Match, the Finals of College Men’s Soccer Tournament of China, as well as the East Asia College Soccer Match. It has two state-of-the-art auditoriums and over 30 apartment buildings that are used as student dormitories. Beautiful and spacious, ZUEL campuses are decorated with lakes, trees, grass and flowers. ZUEL has a group of learned scholars who have prestige in the academic world of management, economics, and law, both at home and abroad. More than 45 professors are sponsored by the State Council of China, and more than 65 professors have been awarded the title of Young Experts of Hubei Province with Prominent Contributions to the Country with expert allowance. In the past 25 years, the faculty has accomplished over 400 items of key research projects at the state and provincial level. Among which, 100 items were the projects of the State Social Science Fund, the State Natural Science Fund, and the key project of the Ministry of Education, 187 of these being the key projects were sponsored by the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Justice. The faculty has made over 30,000 research contributions, including more than 1,300 monographs, more than 1,700 textbooks, and more
than 21,000 articles, with more than 500 publications in foreign countries. In the fields of international academic exchange, ZUEL has developed a worldwide cooperative research and academic exchange relationships with universities and research institutions of more than 20 countries and regions in Asia, Europe, America, and Australia. Zhongnan University of Economics and Law is open to all educators, scholars, and students from all over the world. Since the 1950’s, we have nurtured many international students. In the past 58 years, ZUEL has cultivated more than 200,000 students and has made great contribution to the development of China.

About the Law School

Located in Wuhan, Central China, the Law School of Zhongnan University of Economics and Law is one of the leading law schools across the nation. It shares a history of 60 years, with its origin tracing back to the School of Political Sciences and Law of Zhongyuan University founded in September of 1952. Due to its outstanding academic courses and programs that prepare students for leadership and legal service throughout the province, the country and internationally, the Law School of ZUEL offers an unmatched environment for legal education and training. The Law School consists of 7 departments, a legal aid center/legal clinic and 14 research centers, all of which are supported by the efficient services of the administrative offices. The law school is characterized with its outstanding teaching and research staff, large scale of admission and a diversity of disciplines. There are more than 200 full-time faculties, including 52 professors, 30 members of whom are doctoral candidate supervisors, and 90 associate professors. Nearly 100 teachers are PhDs and another 38 teachers are doctoral candidates. At present, there are over 4300 undergraduate students, about 1700 postgraduate students and more than 200 doctoral candidates in the school. Its teaching and research cover the disciplines of jurisprudence, legal history, constitutional law and administrative law, civil law, procedural law, economic law, environmental law and international law. The Law School has developed various doctoral programs, master programs and JM degree programs as well. There are 9 doctoral programs which cover most of the disciplines in the school. The discipline of civil and commercial law is graded as the nation’s leading disciplines by the educational authorities while others are among the leading list of provincial ones. With the progressive development of the law school, most of its disciplines have enjoyed the nationwide recognition. The Law School has made great achievements in teaching and academic researches. The discipline of civil and commercial law has been granted the national model discipline. Meanwhile, many disciplines, such as constitutional law & administrative law and economic law, are listed as the provincial model disciplines. Driven by the discipline construction, the law school has been making great progress in its teaching quality. The teaching staff of intellectual property law is awarded as the excellent national teaching team. There are 6 national elaborate courses and model courses, which include IP law, constitutional law, China’s legal history, private international law and public international law. Since 1995, the Law School has been granted over 200 academic awards, and over 1000 students have been conferred master’s degree and over 17000 students awarded bachelor degree.
In the field of international academic exchange, the law school has developed regular relationships with universities and institutes in more than 20 countries and regions in Asia, Europe and America. The law school has organized many international academic conferences and workshops, which promotes its visibility and presence in the world. With the deepening of economic globalization and the peaceful rising of China, the Law School has developed various programs for overseas education in recent years. As a result, more and more foreign students study in the Law School of ZUEL.

The Law School has different administrative offices. The General Administrative Office is responsible for all the administrative affairs of the whole school. The Teaching Affairs Office and Graduate Education Office function respectively for the management and services of the education for bachelor and postgraduate program students. The Academic Research Office is aimed at the promotion of the academic activities of the school. The Legal Training office is to promote the socialization of the legal education as well as to enhance the visibility of the Law School in the society. There are different Student Affairs Offices for all grades of students, and the fulltime tutors in these offices are in charge of the daily management and general guidance of students. All of these administrative offices contribute to the development of teaching and research of the Law school.

**About the IP Law Discipline**

The intellectual property discipline is the most outstanding discipline of law school, and it owns the national humanities and social science base with intellectual property research center. The Center is one of the earliest institutions in China to engage in intellectual property teaching and research. Its predecessor was the Center for Intellectual Property Teaching and Research, which was established in 1988, and was renamed in 2000. On November 26th, 2004, the Center became one of the ministry of education humanities and social science research bases, which indicates a new period of development. In 2005, the course “intellectual property law” undertaken by the center researchers was rated as national excellent courses. One May 13rd, 2006, the State Working Group on the Protection of Intellectual Property Rights decided to rely on the Center and establish the national research base for the protection of intellectual property rights, and to provide intellectual property protection countermeasures and advisory services for the country. In 2007, the Arbitration Committee of Wuhan Arbitration Committee was set up based on the Center. In the same year, the intellectual property discipline subject of civil and commercial law was approved as a national key discipline. In September 2008, the Center’s “Intellectual Property Teaching Team” was selected as a national teaching team. That year, the IPR Judicial Appraisal was formally established.

Prof. Wu Handong, a well-known intellectual property scholar, was appointed as the director of the Center. More than 110 intellectual property and experts and scholars are appointed as academic advisers and part-time researchers. They come from the well-known universities around the world and some practical departments. The Center has set up an academic committee consists of 13 members to serve as the academic research directing institution. The renowned scholar from Renmin University of China, Professor Liu Chuntian served as the director of the Academic Committee, and Professor Wu Hantong served as the deputy director.
II. Introduction to Tongji University

Tongji University, located in Shanghai, is one of the leading universities in China under direct administration of Ministry of Education, listed on “Project 985” and “Project 211”. With a history of over a century, Tongji has valued the balanced development of four functions, i.e. education, research, outreach, and culture inheritance and innovation.

The history of Tongji can be traced back to 1907 when German Medical School was founded by Erich Paulun, a German doctor in Shanghai. After being renamed Tongji German Medical School in the following year, it was formally established as a university in 1923. It became National Tongji University in 1927, one of the seven earliest national universities of China. Around 1949, Tongji already boasted five colleges of natural sciences, engineering, medical science, liberal arts and law, and enjoyed a fine reputation as a comprehensive university both home and abroad. Following a nationwide campaign of restructuring universities in 1952, Tongji became an engineering-intensive university with top-notch strength in civil engineering and architecture, which is second to none in terms of scale and number of disciplines. Since 1978, “two transforms” were launched, namely, the transforming to an international university by restoring links to Germany, and the transforming from a university focusing mainly on civil engineering to multi-disciplinary engineering university. In 1995, Tongji declared to be jointly built by the Ministry of Education and the Shanghai Municipal Government. By 2007 when it was celebrating its centennial, Tongji had become a comprehensive, international, research-oriented university with distinct features and global influence. In 2013, the university proposed its vision of “a sustainability-oriented, world-class university”.

The university now covers 10 broad categories of academic disciplines, including engineering, science, medicine, management, economics, philosophy, literature, law, education and arts. The number of faculty stands at 2,786, of which 855 are professors, and 997 associate professors. The university now registers 18,581 full-time undergraduate students, 13,762 graduate students, and 4,279 PhD candidates. Another 2,197 international students are pursuing their degrees here.

The university offers 75 undergraduate majors (50 of which are enrolling students according to 17 broad disciplinary categories). It can grant master’s degrees in 55 broad academic disciplines, together with 15 professional Master’s programs and 26 engineering Master’s programs. It also grants PhD degrees in 31 broad academic disciplines with 3 professional PhD programs and 25 post-doctoral mobile research stations. Of all the disciplines, 3 are first-level national key disciplines, 7 second-level national key disciplines, 3 second-level national key disciplines (incubated), and 17 first-level Shanghai disciplines. There are 3 State Key Laboratories, 1 National Engineering Lab, 5 National Engineering (Technology) Research Centers, and 26 ministerial/provincial-level key labs and engineering (technology) research centers as well as 7 affiliated hospitals and 4 affiliated high schools. Since its
founding, Tongji has turned out nearly 300,000 graduates, among which many are extraordinary political leaders, scientists, educators, social activists, business leaders, medical specialists, and engineering technology experts. Over 140 alumni are academicians of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, or the Chinese Academy of Engineering.

Introduction to the Shanghai International College of Intellectual Property

Under the support of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), the State Intellectual Property Office of the PR China (SIPO) and Shanghai Municipal Government, Tongji University has established the Shanghai International College of Intellectual Property (hereinafter: SICIP), based on its IP Institute (hereinafter: Tongji IP) in November 2016.

The Tongji IP, established in March 2003, cultivates inter-disciplinary talents in IP, law and management by high level of Master, PhD and Post-doctor, by taking the advantages of Tongji University in the engineering discipline and in the cooperation platform to Germany (Europe). It invites Prof. Dr. h.c. Joseph Straus, former director of Max Planck Institute for Innovation and Competition in Germany as the Advisory Dean, Prof. Dr. TIAN Lipu, the former director of the SIPO and Prof. ZHENG Chengsi, the member of Law Committee of the National People’s Congress / the director of Intellectual Property Center of Chinese Academy of Social Sciences / famous IP expert as Honorary Dean.

Tongji IP has gathered a number of famous domestic and foreign academics and a group of potential young scholars. Specifically, there are 6 professors, (including 5 supervisors of PhD, 3 of them are nominated as members of the National IP Expert Advisory Committee and 3 professors are the National IP Leading Talents), 8 associate professors, and 3 assistant professors. All faculty members have PhD degree, while 5 of them obtained PhD degree from well-known overseas universities. In addition, Tongji IP invites domestic and abroad famous scholars as adjunct or visiting professor, appoints famous IP judges and lawyers as supervisor to guide student legal practice.

Tongji IP keeps a long-term relationship with MPI, Humboldt University of Berlin, Konstanz University, Polytechnic University of Turin, University of Florence, Hanken School of Economics, US Patent and Trademark Office, Russia’s National Institute of Intellectual Property etc. The SIPO built many teaching and research platforms at Tongji University as “National Patent Protection Base”, “National Intellectual Property Training Base (Shanghai)”, “National Intellectual Property Strategy Research Base” etc.

The SICIP will gather international excellent faculties and build an international top sustainable development-oriented discipline in Intellectual Property, a world-class international high-end Intellectual Property training platform and a global think tank for sustainable development and intellectual property research. The SICIP will be in charge of the Board of directors by the Dean Responsibility System, under which are the International Advisory Committee, International Academic
Committee and Executive Committee. All the faculties of the SICIP will be selected by the global recruitment and managed by contract.

For further information of the Shanghai International College of Intellectual Property please visit http://sicip.tongji.edu.cn.