

Thank you, David.

President Bebbington, Dean Williams

Chief Justice Kourakis, President Maxwell

President of International Association of Evidence Science, Allen

Dear colleagues and fellow scholars from around the world

Distinguished guests from Tanzania

Dear Friends

Good morning!

This is truly a historical moment! We come far away, from different countries, and join here, in the beautiful city of Adelaide, to start our joint venture, the Fifth International Conference on Evidence Law and Forensic Science.

Please allow me, as a representative of the main sponsors of the conference, the China University of Political Science and Law and China's Collaborative Innovation Center of Judicial Civilization, to congratulate the opening of the conference and welcome all of you to Adelaide!

China University of Political Science and Law (or CUPL) is the largest law school in China, and had produced hundreds of thousands lawyers, legal scholars, judges and other legal professionals for China. CUPL is the main hosting university of Collaborative Innovation Center of Judicial Civilization ("CCIJC"), a major research project supported by the Chinese government. CCIJC is co-sponsored by four leading universities, CUPL, Jilin University, Wuhan University and Zhejiang University, which conducts joint research projects with 38 domestic organizations (including the People's Procuratorates and the People's Courts) and 16 overseas institutions and

organizations in many countries.

The objectives of CCIJC include: contribute to establishing nation-wide judicial civilization, and help move China into the list of advanced judicial civilizations in the world.

With these goals in mind, CCIJC has set up various projects teams devoted to legal research, empirical analysis and collaboration with leading scholars and jurists around the world.

Our conference, the ICELFS, is part of the CCIJC program. The first ICELFS was held in 2007 at CUPL in Beijing, attended by Chinese scholars, judges and lawyers and leading evidence scholars from the United States and a few other countries. Since 2007, four ICELFS conferences have been held in China, which has become a major event in international studies of evidence law and forensic science. This year's conference represents the first time where ICELFS has been held in a location outside China, a major step in the internationalization of this event. It is our hope that the future ICELFS will be held in more places outside China. At the 2011 ICELFS conference, the International Association of Evidence Science was created to foster collaboration internationally between legal scholars and forensic scientists.

At the present conference, we gather more than 220 participants from 15 countries. There are 43 legal scholars and forensic scientists from China, including 25 from CUPL. They were selected from a list of more than 70 academic papers submitted to the organization committee to come to Adelaide to attend the conference. As far as I know, this probably is the largest delegation of Chinese legal scholars and forensic scientists that has ever participated in an international conference in a foreign country. We are very proud of this, as an indicator of China's growing interest and sophistication in taking part

in meaningful dialogue with foreign scholars and experts in evidence law and forensic sciences.

At the opening of our conference, on behalf of CUPL and CCIJC, I would like to acknowledge the support of The University of Adelaide to serve as the host, Fisher Jeffries and The Law Foundation of South Australian as co-sponsors.

In particular, I wish to thank the excellent efforts of the organizational committee to make all the arrangements. For CUPL, I want to thank “Henry” Zhuhao Wang. For Adelaide, my sincere thanks go to David Caruso and his brilliant team, including the following individuals (please excuse me, as I will name them by their first names only):

Rhiannon

Charlotte

Jordan

Tania

Cindy

WeiXin

Michael, and

Brigid

Thank you!

Without further due, I wish great success of the conference!