

INTERNATIONALIZING CHINESE LEGAL EDUCATION IN THE EARLY 21TH CENTURY

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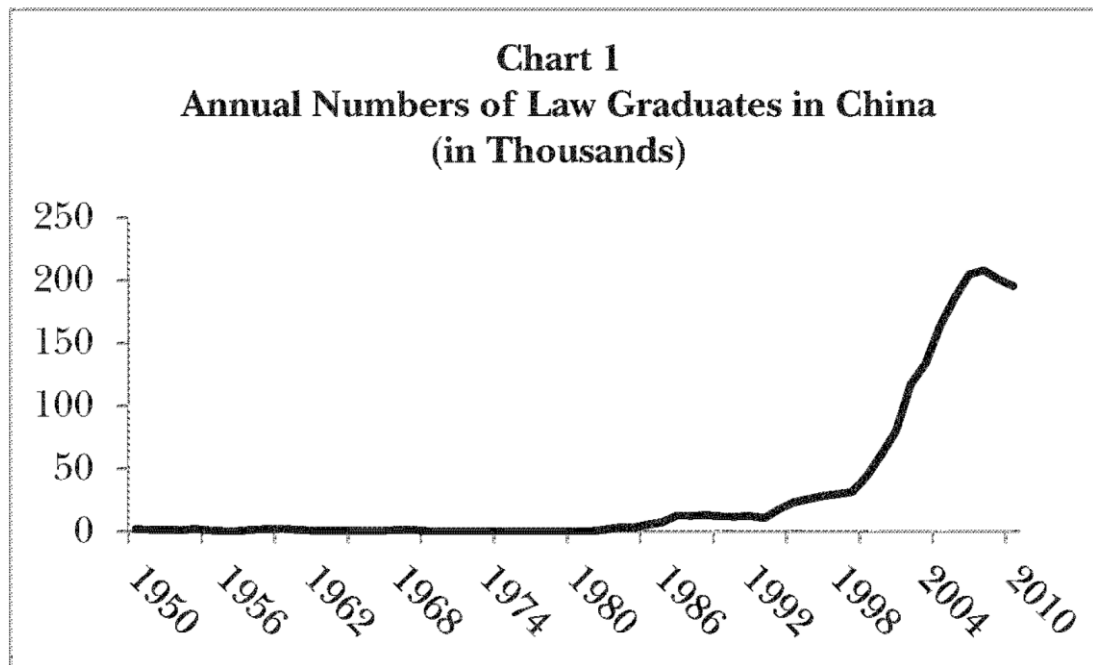
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THE RISE AND FALL OF CHINESE LEGAL EDUCATION (MINZNER 2013)

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DOMESTIC CHALLENGES

- Difficulty in law graduate job placement
 - The “great leap forward” of higher education in China and the proliferation of law schools and law students
 - The overcrowded job market and the gloomy prospects of placing law graduates, even for elite law schools
 - The devaluation of law degrees in public opinion and its threat to the status of elite law schools

DOMESTIC CHALLENGES

- Interschool stratification and ranking competition
 - The fever of developing comprehensive research universities and the marginalization of the five political-legal colleges
 - The rise of new law schools of elite engineering universities (e.g., Tsinghua, SJTU, Zhejiang)
 - Increasing status competition to the traditional elite law schools (e.g. Peking, Renmin, Jilin, Wuhan, Xiamen)

WHY INTERNATIONALIZATION?

- Elite Chinese law schools' pursuit of distinction in the age of globalization
 - The desire of elite law schools to distinguish themselves from the rest of Chinese legal education
 - The availability of (economic and symbolic) capital and government support for internationalization
 - Geographical and demographic consequences of the globalization of the Chinese legal profession

FACULTY RECRUITMENT

| | Beijing/Shanghai | Coastal areas | Inland areas |
|-------------|-----------------------|---------------|--------------|
| Traditional | Peking, Fudan, Renmin | Xiamen | Jilin, Wuhan |
| New | Tsinghua, SJTU | Zhejiang | |

Table 1: Classification of sample law schools

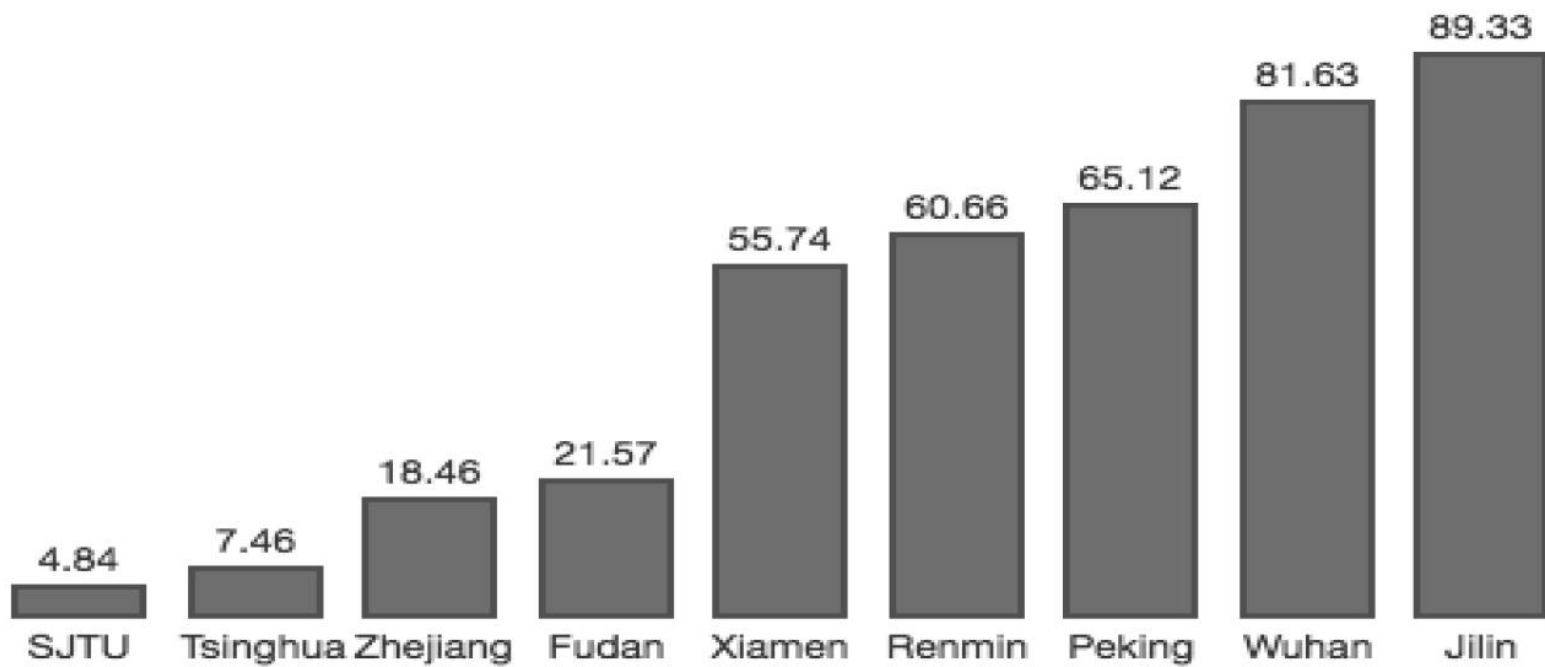


Figure 1: Percentage (%) of “homegrown faculty” (as of March 2015)

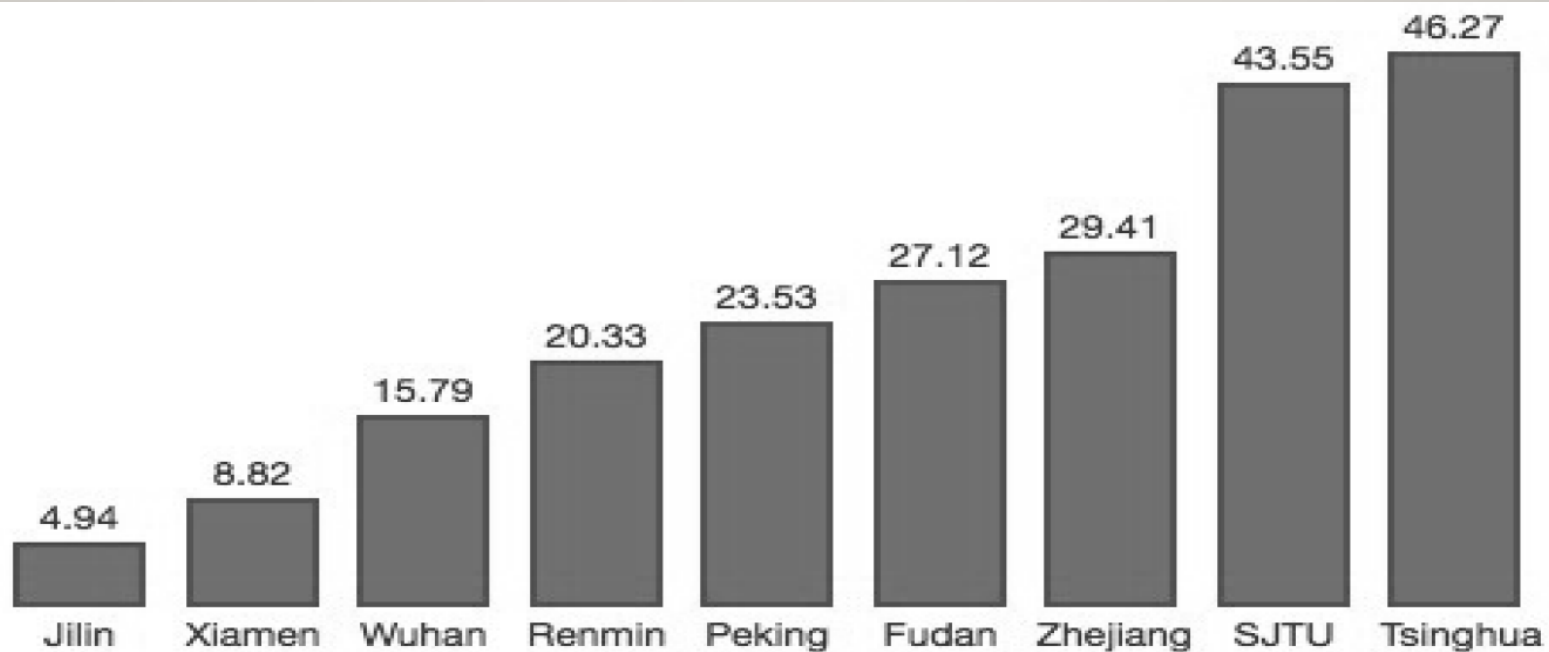


Figure 2: Percentage (%) of faculty members who have at least one foreign law degree (as of March 2015)

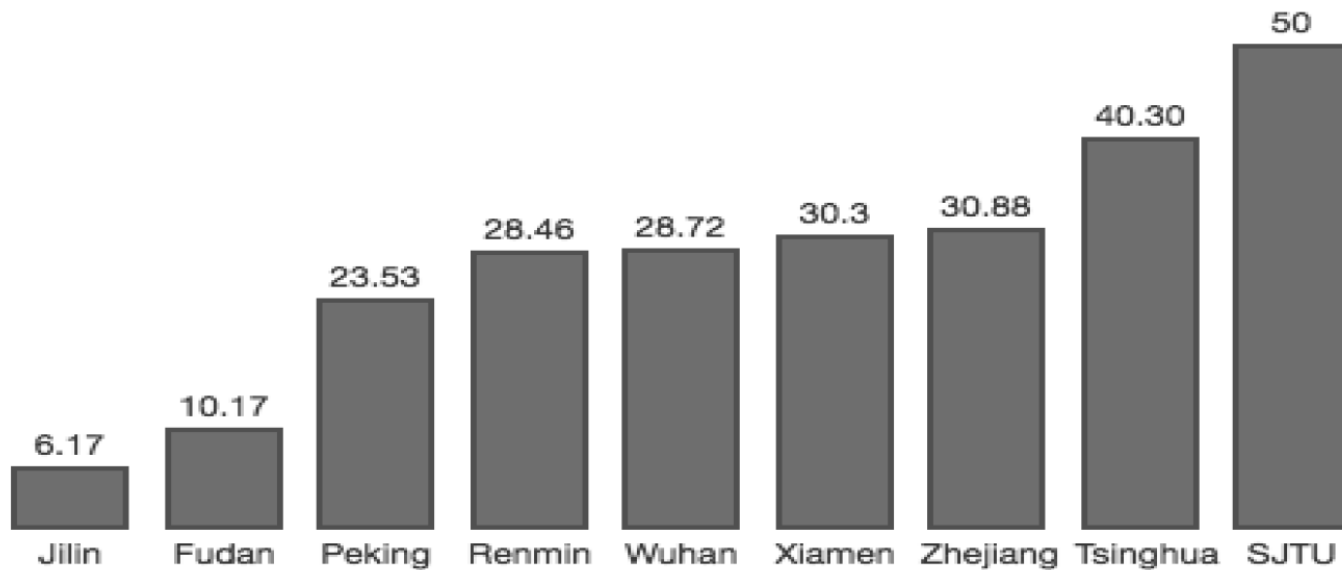
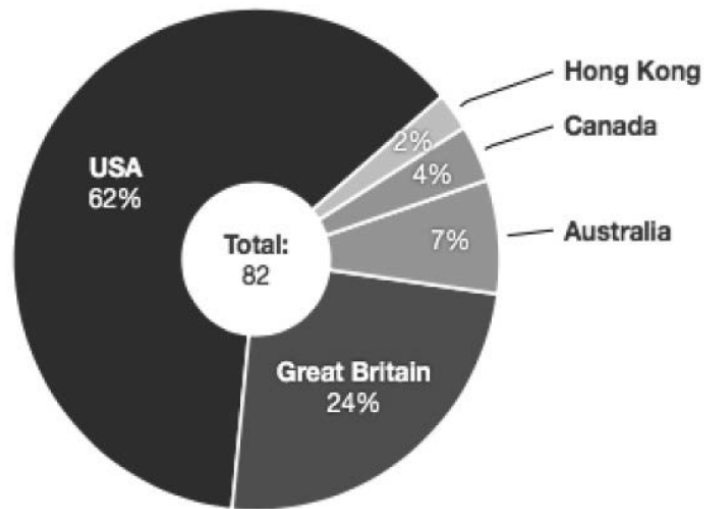


Figure 3: Percentage (%) of faculty members who have at least one foreign-language publication (as of March 2015)

Common law jurisdictions



Civil law jurisdictions

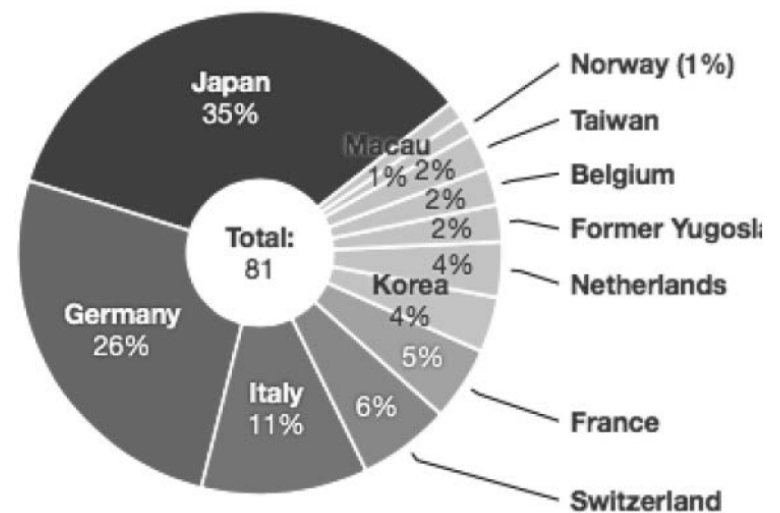


Figure 6: Jurisdictions from which law faculty members obtained foreign degrees (as of March 2015)

INTERNATIONALIZING STUDENT BODIES

- Innovative graduate programs
 - Zhejiang's 2+4 program and SJTU's 3+3 program
 - Tsinghua-Temple LL.M. program
 - Peking University School of Transnational Law (STL)
 - CUPL China-EU School of Law
 - ECUPL-Wisconsin Joint LL.M. program
- LL.M. programs in Chinese law (taught in English)



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About STL

Peking University School of Transnational Law (“STL”), part of PKU’s Shenzhen Graduate School, is the only law school in the world that combines an American-style Juris Doctor degree (J.D.) with a China law Juris Master degree (J.M.). STL provides an academically rigorous, bilingual four-year program of legal education that prepares students for the mixture of common law, civil law, and Chinese legal traditions increasingly characteristic of the global economy.

China’s State Council authorized the creation of China’s first common law Juris Doctor curriculum in 2007. The following year, Peking University’s new School of Transnational Law admitted its first students. The University appointed Jeffrey Lehman, a former president of Cornell University and dean of the University of Michigan Law School, as STL’s Founding Dean. STL’s current dean, Philip McConnaughay, was Founding Dean of Penn State University’s Schools of Law and International Affairs, a former professor of law at the University of Illinois, and a former partner of the leading international law firm, Morrison & Foerster.

About STL

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| Host Institution in China | Journal Title | Publisher | Inauguration Year |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|-------------------|
| Wuhan University Law School | <i>Chinese Journal of International Law</i> | Oxford University Press | 2002 |
| Xiamen University School of Law | <i>China Oceans Law Review</i> | (Hong Kong) China Review Culture Limited | 2005 |
| Renmin University Law School | <i>Frontiers of Law in China</i> | Springer International Publishing | 2006 |
| Tsinghua University Law School | <i>Tsinghua China Law Review</i> | Tsinghua University Law School | 2009 |
| People's Public Security University | <i>China Review of International Criminal Law</i> | People's Public Security University of China Press | 2009 |
| Xi'an Jiaotong University | <i>Chinese Journal of Comparative Law</i> | Oxford University Press | 2010 |
| CUPL | <i>Beijing Law Review</i> | Scientific Research Publishing | 2010 |
| Peking University Law School | <i>Peking University Law Journal</i> | Hart Publishing | 2013 |
| China Law Society | <i>China Legal Science</i> | China Legal Science Magazine Press | 2013 |
| SJTU KoGuan Law School | <i>Asian Journal of Law and Society</i> | Cambridge University Press | 2014 |

Table 2: Law journals in foreign languages hosted by Chinese legal education institutions

CONCLUSION

- The internationalization of Chinese legal education is not primarily driven by global institutional diffusion
- A practical response for maintaining status and legitimacy in the domestic higher education system
- Spillover effect to non-elite Chinese law schools?
- Implications for international law schools