The Asian Law Center educates lawyers for a changing world. We provide world-class legal education for lawyers focused on Asia. We support the legal profession, government agencies and NGOs with expert research on Asian and developing legal systems. Through our rigorous LL.M. and Ph.D. programs we are helping to build the next generation of lawyers, scholars and policy makers throughout Asia and the developing world: www.law.washington.edu/AsianLaw

The Center regularly provides expert policy and project advice for national and international agencies, including the US State Department, the US Agency for International Development (USAID) and the International Development Law Organization (IDLO).

Established as the Asian Law Program in 1962 with funding from the Ford Foundation, founding faculty were the pioneers of English-language legal scholarship on Japan and China. The Program became the Asian Law Center in 2001, maintaining its intellectual commitment to Japan, China and Hong Kong, South Korea and Taiwan and adding new expertise on SE Asia, Central Asia, Development and Rule of Law and Islamic Law in Context. Today the Asian Law Center has over 15 core faculty and staff with expertise and projects spanning Afghanistan, China and Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, South Korea, Thailand and Vietnam. In 2012 the School of Law celebrates the unique, 50 year commitment to dynamic faculty teaching and scholarship focused on Asia and developing economies.

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Regarded by many scholars as the place that established Asian Law as a discipline 50 years ago, the Asian Law Center at University of Washington School of Law continues to innovate and push the boundaries of legal knowledge.

The Center’s teaching, research and public policy work is regarded nationally and internationally as a defining area of excellence for the University of Washington School of Law. We are part of the Law School’s tradition of public service, which informs our work at the intersection of Asian and Comparative Law; Global Business Law; Development and Rule of Law; and Islamic Law in Context.

The Center’s academic programs attract students from the US, Asia, Europe, Africa and the Middle East. The Center has over 1000 alumni who work as legal academics, lawyers, judges and policy makers in the United States, Asia and Europe. Each year we host up to 30 judges, prosecutors, senior practicing attorneys, professors, government officials, and corporate managers from around the world as Visiting Scholars.