

# Chinese Judges Meet With ALI

*By Director Emeritus Lance Liebman*

On December 11, a distinguished delegation from the Supreme Court of China met with an ALI group to learn about the Institute and its procedures and projects.

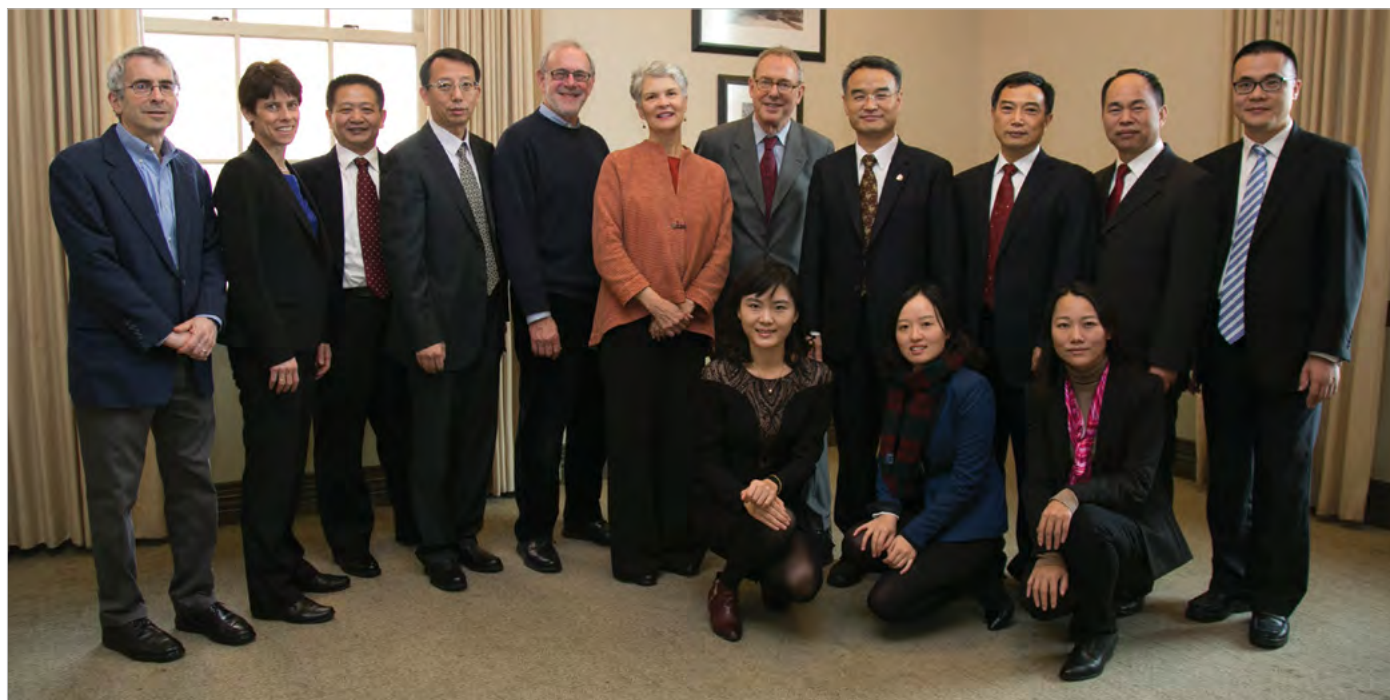
The Chinese group was led by Jiang Huiling, Senior Judge of the Supreme People's Court (SPC) and President of the Chinese Institute of Applied Jurisprudence (CIAJ). The group, which totaled nine individuals, included another Senior Judge and high officials of the SPC. Note that the Supreme Court of China has more than 340 judges.

The group was on an official visit to American legal institutions. They met with several Justices at the U.S. Supreme Court in Washington and with judges of the Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit in New York. They had asked for information about the ALI's work as a private organization recommending improvements in American law.

The ALI meeting took place at Columbia Law School. The group was welcomed by Director Emeritus Lance Liebman and Deputy

Director Stephanie Middleton. Three Columbia professors who were or are Reporters spoke to the group about their projects. Ronald Gilson talked about the Principles of the Law, Corporate Governance: Analysis and Recommendations. Richard Briffault talked about the current Principles of the Law, Government Ethics, project. And Suzanne Goldberg explained the project, just starting, Project on Sexual and Gender-Based Misconduct on Campus: Procedural Frameworks and Analysis.

The Chinese participants represent a Supreme Court that studies and teaches about law as well as deciding cases. Their commitment to improving Chinese law is broad. They had interesting ideas about how ALI-type work would be different in a civil law system but saw ways that study and debate could lead to recommendations for reform. Professor Liebman told them about the ALI's 92-year history but also about the almost-brand-new European Law Institute and its attempt to contribute to improved law across the mixed civil/common law countries of contemporary Europe.



*In this photograph (from top left to right): Professor Briffault; Professor Goldberg; Mr. Liu Ming, Director of Foreign Affairs Department, International Cooperation Bureau of the Supreme People's Court of China; Mr. Niu Kai, Deputy Secretary-General, China Association for Judicial Studies in the Supreme People's Court of China; Professor Gilson; ALI Deputy Director Stephanie Middleton; Professor Liebman; Mr. Jiang Huiling; Mr. Li Xiaomin, Vice President of National Judges' College; Mr. Wu Guangxia, Senior Judge of the Supreme People's Court of China, Director of Judicial Interpretation Coordination and Cases Guidance Department of the Supreme People's Court of China; Mr. Huang Bin, Director of Constitution and Administrative Law Department in Chinese Institute of Applied Jurisprudence (CIAJ), Supreme People's Court of China; (bottom left to right) Ms. Yang Yi, Editor of China Law Reports in Chinese Institute of Applied Jurisprudence (CIAJ), Supreme People's Court of China; Ms. Peng Heli, Lecturer of Xi'an Jiao Tong University, visiting scholar at Chinese legal Study of Columbia Law School and post-doctorate research fellow in the CIAJ; Ms. Tian Yuanshi, Deputy Director of Project Division II of China International Center for Economic and Technical Exchanges (CICETE) © Columbia Law School*