



ITLOS PRESIDENT VISITS IMLI

Judge Shunji Yanai (President of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS)) paid an official visit to IMLI on 11 April 2012. During his visit, President Yanai delivered a lecture on the “Features and Jurisprudence of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea”.

President Yanai was welcomed by Professor David Attard (Director of IMLI) who expressed his great pleasure at the President’s first visit to the Institute. Professor Attard recalled that IMLI and the Tribunal have strong links which have been developed throughout the years through the visits of Judges of the Tribunal. Professor Attard stated that he is very pleased to note that the IMLI “Award for Meritorious Contribution towards the Development, Interpretation and Implementation of International Maritime Law”, which was bestowed on ITLOS in May 2008, is displayed prominently in the premises of the Tribunal. He then invited President Yanai to deliver his lecture.



Judge Shunji Yanai (President, ITLOS) and Mrs. Toshiko Yanai with Professor David Attard (Director, IMLI) and the Class of 2011/2012

In his very enlightening lecture, President Yanai provided the students with an in-depth analysis of the features and jurisprudence of the Tribunal. In so doing, he explained what are the features and the jurisprudence elements that the International Court of Justice, ITLOS and Arbitral Tribunals have in common, and where the differences between these judicial bodies lie. He then continued with a detailed explanation of the jurisprudence of ITLOS, its list of cases and the future role the Tribunal will play in the settlement of disputes concerning such matters as the delimitation of maritime boundary, the protection and preservation of the marine environment, and the exploration and exploitation of seabed resources. The important role of the Tribunal will also be evidenced in more requests that may be submitted for advisory opinion to the Seabed Disputes Chamber and ITLOS.

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