

Shanghai

For Paul Hastings in China, Education is a Priority



Paul Hastings Chairman Seth Zachary with Fudan University President Wang Shenghong at a signing ceremony to mark the beginning of the firm's participation with the University.

Bolstered by the firm's commitment to support education initiatives worldwide, Paul Hastings' Shanghai office has formed a partnership with Fudan University to provide the University with legal advice on a pro bono basis. In particular, the firm will represent the University in matters related to the establishment of the Fudan Overseas Endowment Fund. The fund will assist the University in developing its academic institutions through a wide-reaching network of international alumni.

Founded in 1905 as Fudan Public School, Fudan University (www.fudan.edu.cn) is one of the oldest and most respected schools in China. The university currently enrolls over 45,000 students, including nearly 2,000 from overseas. As a key player in this effort, Paul Hastings will leverage its global presence in the sponsorship of the fund, providing advice relating to the fund's legal documentation, internal operations and external activities in North America and elsewhere in the world.

At the primary school level, educational disparity in the poorer regions of China is an ongoing challenge. For this reason, the

firm has also partnered with Project Hope in order to provide direct support for the construction of a new elementary school in Jing'an county, Jiangxi province. Named the Paul Hastings Hope Elementary school, the modernized classroom facilities will serve over 300 students from 5 villages in the county. Upon completion of the school, the firm will continue to provide funding for the education of the children. Additionally, Paul Hastings Shanghai Office Chair, **Mitch Dudek**, will be appointed as the honorary principal of the school.

The firm's partner, Project Hope, is a public welfare organization that enlists support from China and abroad to assist dropout students and those at risk of dropping out in China's rural, poverty-stricken areas. In addition to funding the students' studies and building schools, the project has also sought to improve educational conditions in these rural areas by enhancing teacher training and strengthening the government's efforts to implement a nine-year compulsory education law. Commonly acknowledged as China's most influential public welfare campaign in the 20th century, Project Hope has attracted enthusiastic participation from people of all ages and many supporters from overseas.