

Tulane-Yale conference in China examines trade initiative

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Presenting at the 7th International Conference on the New Haven School of Jurisprudence at Zhejiang University are Yale Law School professor W. Michael Reisman, standing, Tulane law professor Guiguo Wang, center, and David Meyer, dean of the Tulane Law School. The conference explored legal issues stemming from China's revamped trade policy. (Photo by Amy Gajda)

For the second year, Tulane Law School partnered with Yale Law School and Zhejiang University to bring international law scholars together in China to explore methods of advancing human dignity through law and policy.

The 7th International Conference on the New Haven School of Jurisprudence, hosted Dec. 21-22 at the Zijingang Campus of Zhejiang University in Hangzhou, focused on international legal questions relating to China's "One Belt, One Road" trade policy.

David Meyer, dean of the [Tulane Law School](#), and Tulane professors Guiguo Wang and Amy Gajda chaired sessions at the conference, which drew participants from Asia, Europe, Australia and the United States.

Session topics included treaty negotiations, challenges facing Chinese judges, international commercial contracts, cyber law and economic espionage, railway disputes and customs international property enforcement.

China's "One Belt, One Road" initiative, launched in 2013, aims to vastly expand economic exchange with 60 national partners in Africa, Asia and Europe over both land and maritime trade routes. Proponents call it a "Chinese Marshall Plan," with ambitious development assistance to emerging markets for Chinese goods, but skeptics are wary of a growing government role in economic development.

The "New Haven School" conference series was founded by Wang, a former dean at City University of Hong Kong, and Yale law professor W. Michael Reisman. Wang joined Tulane Law School in 2014 as the Eason-Weinmann Chair of International and Comparative Law. He also holds a post as University Professor at Zhejiang University's Guanghua Law School.

The event is another prong in Tulane Law School's expanding presence in Asia, where the school has partnerships with several Chinese law schools. Tulane hosted a large contingent of senior Chinese judges in the spring, and earlier in December, Meyer and law professor Martin Davies, director of Tulane's Maritime Law Center, took part in a conference on global legal education at Dalian Maritime University.

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