Experiential Education in China: Curricular Reform, the Role of the Lawyer and the Rule of Law
US AID Partnership

• Grant from US AID
• Five partner schools
  – China University of Political Science and Law
  – South China University of Technology
  – Zhejiang Gongshang University
  – American University, Washington College of Law
  – Pacific McGeorge School of Law
• Nature of partnership
Purposes of Grant

• Enhance capacity of Chinese law schools to provide training in advocacy skills and to provide clinical legal services.
• Enhance American understanding of Chinese legal system and legal education.
• Enhance rule of law by encouraging a higher level of professionalism, ethics, process and transparency.
Training the trainers
Training the trainers
Purposes of Conference

• Examine the place of experiential education in Chinese law schools
• Review experience to date in bringing experiential education to Chinese law schools
• Design optimal methods for experiential education curricula in Chinese law schools
• Discuss strategies for enhancing experiential education in Chinese law schools
Participants

- Faculty of partner schools
- Members of Board of Advisors
- Distinguished faculty from other Chinese and American law schools
- Participants from summer workshops and from the LLM programs funded by our US AID grant
Key People

- Clemence George, Program Manager
- Ly Lee, Assistant Coordinator
- John Doyle, Work Study
- Megan Herberger, Work Study
- Ben Cadranel, Work Study
Design of the Conference

• Presentations in panels
• Generally with reactions from commentators
• Encourage questions and comments from all participants
• Hopefully a logical progression of topics
• Plan to publish the proceedings
  – Global Business & Development Law Journal
Why experiential education?

• Original grant proposal refers to advocacy skills and clinical skills
• Difficulty in translating “advocacy”
• Chinese colleagues treat clinical education as encompassing all skills education
• The term experiential education fits the broad concept of our program
A Beginning

• Initial issue to define issues and propose solutions
• Next year -- Conference in Beijing, hosted by China University of Political Science and Law and the Chinese Ministry of Education