



The University of Hong Kong  
Faculty of Law  
LL.M. in Arbitration and Dispute Resolution  
proudly presents



# **Affirmative Facilitation: The Role of Positive Psychology in Conflict Resolution**

By

**Mr. Trip Barthel, M.A.**

Founder and Executive Director (1999-2009)  
of the Neighborhood Mediation Center, Reno, Nevada

*Date: Wednesday, 2 April 2014*

*Time: 1:30 – 2:30 pm*

*Venue: Academic Conference Room, 11/F  
Cheng Yu Tung Tower, Centennial Campus, HKU, Pokfulam*

## **About the Lecture:**

Happiness has been a high profile subject over the last decade with books like Emotional Intelligence, practices like Positive Psychology and courses on Happiness at Harvard leading the way. Clearly, people want to live happier lives, not just materially, but mentally and spiritually, as well. Looking past the quick fix version of promoting pleasure, people want to address their deeper needs for engagement and meaning. This talk introduces a new paradigm, Affirmative Facilitation (AF), which considers the role of positivity in conflict resolution. AF integrates a variety of concepts and techniques into a new problem solving paradigm. In this continuing evolution of social interaction, AF provides skills to resolve conflicts in positive ways as a precursor to living an authentically happy life. AF can be used in any setting with any number of people to resolve any issue. Flexible, AF can be led by a facilitator, mediator, teacher, student, employee, manager, parent or youth.

## **About the Speaker:**



Mr. Trip Barthel is on the adjunct faculty of the National Judicial College, the University of Nevada, Jiao Tong Law School and the Shanghai University of Political Science. He was the Founder and Executive Director (1999-2009) of the Neighborhood Mediation Center in Reno, Nevada. He has worked with Judges from over 20 countries including Argentina, Chile, China (3 delegations), Denmark, Israel, Pacific Islands and Central and South America from 2001 to 2009. He has given presentations in Russia, the Czech Republic, India, Malaysia, Thailand, the Philippines and Shanghai. Trip has an M.A. in Conflict Resolution and enjoys conducting imaginative and interactive teaching and training experiences at conferences, schools and around the world. He was the President of the Nevada Dispute Resolution Coalition from 2001 to 2007.

He participated in the UN NGO/DPI Conference in New York City in 2007. Trip has lived in Shanghai since 2008.

Please register online at [www.hku.hk/law](http://www.hku.hk/law) (Select 'Seminars and Conferences') to reserve a place. For enquiries, please contact Phelane Tsang by email: [phelane@hku.hk](mailto:phelane@hku.hk).

***All Are Welcome!***