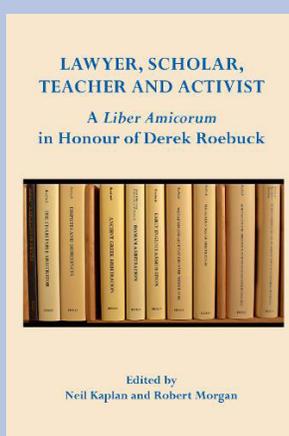

**LAWYER, SCHOLAR, TEACHER AND ACTIVIST:
A LIBER AMICORUM IN HONOUR OF
DEREK ROEBUCK BY NEIL KAPLAN AND ROBERT
MORGAN (EDS)**

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Neil Kaplan and Robert Morgan (eds) (2021) *Lawyer, Scholar, Teacher and Activist: A Liber Amicorum in Honour of Derek Roebuck* is published by HOLO Books: The Arbitration Press in hardback, priced at £40 ISBN: 978-0-9572153-9-9

Professor Derek Roebuck's wide-ranging work on arbitration, its history and other scholarly fields is commemorated and celebrated in the varied contributions to this absorbing and very readable volume.

The co-editors, Neil Kaplan and Robert Morgan, offer a short but helpful 'Preface' to their edited book. A sensitive, warm and informative memoir of academic collaboration and marital happiness is provided by Susanna Hoe in her essay 'A Room shared: My Late Husband as Feminist'. This opens the volume immediately after the 'Preface' and is followed by a chapter that is a reproduced and slightly repolished obituary of Professor Roebuck written by one of the two co-editors of the volume, Neil Kaplan. This provides other sensitive and appreciative recollections. Reminiscences about Professor Roebuck and his work are contained at many points in the edited book, reflecting appreciation not only of his wide-ranging scholarship but also his support for other scholars and good causes (including, for example, gender equality). His time as a scholar

in Australia, New Zealand and Papua New Guinea prior to arriving in Hong Kong, and at Oxford and London after departing Hong Kong, are touched on from time to time. Professor William Twining's encounters with Professor Roebuck led him to conclude that 'Derek seamlessly combined theory and practice in his teaching, writing and many other activities connected with the law' (page 59).

The book offers more than 30 contributed essays, with dispute resolution, especially the history of arbitration, being a predominant concern. The collection is divided into four parts. The first comprises personal and often very interesting reflections on Professor Roebuck as a scholar and friend. The second provides some of Professor Roebuck's writings on arbitration while the fourth includes Professor Roebuck's inaugural lecture in the Roebuck Lecture series at the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, beginning in 2011. The academic core of the book is to be found in the third part, entitled 'Contributed Scholarly Articles'. These are varied in nature but linked in substantial part to Professor Roebuck's academic concerns, especially arbitration and its history. As Sir Stephen Sedley points out at page 427 in his appreciative review of Professor Roebuck's 2008 book on *Early English Arbitration*, 'until Derek Roebuck set about it, nobody had attempted a panoptic history of arbitration'. A comprehensive and supportive essay by one of the co-editors Robert Morgan examines the publications by Professor Roebuck in the area of arbitration and dispute resolution in one of the longest chapters in the book: 'Derek Roebuck, Historian: Literature Review'.

In this book, stretching to more than 550 pages, there is much interesting material and many valuable insights. This publication is beautifully produced, has a structure and content that reflects well the intellectual and professional concerns of Professor Roebuck, and offers a very helpful analytical index. It will perhaps be most useful to all those interested in the development of arbitration and, more generally, ADR. It might be added here that, given Professor Roebuck's efforts in promoting the work of young Chinese scholars in Hong Kong while the Dean at City University Law School, it is a little surprising that the volume lacks contributions from such scholars. And in focusing primarily on Professor Roebuck's published work on arbitration, the volume perhaps underplays his contributions in developing City University Law School—now globally very highly rated for the legal education that it offers.¹

¹ The author thanks Professor Michael Palmer for some observations on the experiences of Professor Roebuck as Dean at City University Law School, Hong Kong.

This is a collection of essays that contributes to the fields of dispute resolution, legal history, comparative legal studies and legal education. It is very enjoyable to read, and expertly edited. Above all, it is compilation that reminds us of the value of dedicated scholarship. And love of learning.

About the Author

Please see **Dr Zhou's** [IALS webpage](#).