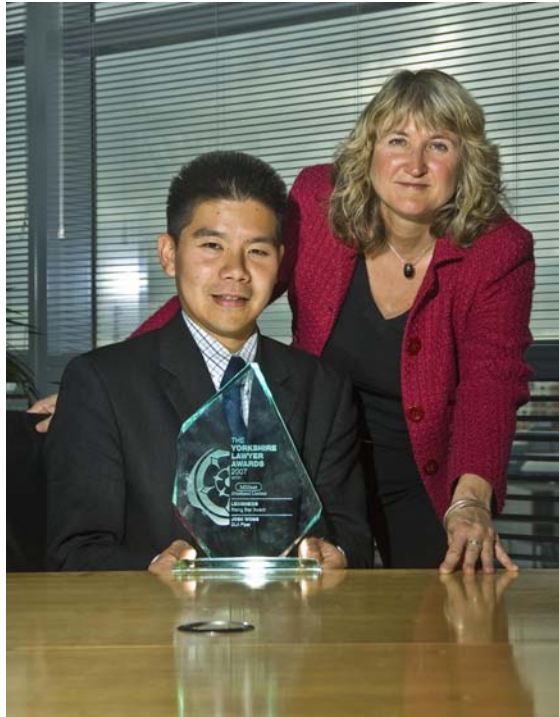


CONGRATULATIONS TO RISING STAR!

1 October 2007



Josh Wong, litigation and arbitration associate at DLA Piper, took home the award for ‘Rising Star of the Year’ at the prestigious seventh annual Yorkshire Lawyer Awards, in recognition of his work with China.

Mr Wong, (34), was chosen for the award in the face of strong competition. The event, held for the first time at Ripley Castle, honours outstanding legal talent from across the county and was hosted by YTV’s Gaynor Barnes and attended by over 300 Yorkshire professionals.

ConnectChina director Joanna Lavan, nominated Josh for the award. She said: *“Josh is by far the most prominent lawyer on China matters in Yorkshire and the first port of call for many businesses in the region needing legal advice on their investments in China. He works tirelessly to promote Yorkshire business links with China and is widely respected by organisations in Yorkshire who advise on and promote China related activities. I am delighted to see him win this award.”*

Mark Jackson, acting office managing partner at DLA Piper’s Leeds office said: *“I am especially pleased to see Josh receive this award. It demonstrates that his efforts in developing a strong China practice and of raising the profile of Yorkshire in China in a very short space of time are being recognised and I’d like to thank him for his valuable contribution to DLA Piper.”*

Josh Wong, an expert in international trade and China joined DLA Piper in June 2006, since which time he has built up a China practice at the firm’s Leeds office, targeting Yorkshire businesses interested in China and Chinese companies investing in Yorkshire.