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CUHK Medical Centre
Charting the Uncharted
Contents

2 Charting the Uncharted

4 A Poise Between the Public and the Private

10 A Small but Smart Hospital

12 A Progress Report from Dr. Fung Hong

16 The Curtain is Rising

18 Farewell to Professor Joseph Sung

20 The 83rd and 84th Congregations

24 In Memory of Professor Ma Lin

26 Two CUHK Scholars Receive UGC Award for Teaching Excellence

28 The Brand New FinTech Programme

30 Master of C.W. Chu College

Prof. Chan Wai-ye

32 Director of Art Museum on Finding Artefacts in Serendipity

34 Fresh Faces

35 The Best and the Brightest

36 News in Brief

36 Appointments

38 Honours and Recognition

40 Research

42 Activities and Events

44 Intellectual Cross-currents
'Uncharted'
By Ferdi Rizkiyanto
The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, commonly called Obamacare, aimed at achieving universal health insurance for the American people. When the Act was debated before the US Supreme Court in March 2012, the late Justice Antonin Scalia asked whether or not the American people should be mandated to buy broccoli as well, that is, if health insurance was thought to be as essential as food.

Justice Scalia’s question may be rhetorical but it has highlighted how essential health care is to an aging population facing all kinds of health issues on one hand and ever-escalating medical costs on the other.

In Hong Kong, a public healthcare system runs in parallel with a private one providing an eclectic combination of services to the general populace, balancing various health needs, developing medical technology and scarce resources, precariously at times. The quality of service is on the whole comparable to that in advanced economies, but so are the challenges.

The CUHK Medical Centre aspires to be a patient-centred non-profit private hospital. The feature story in this issue of the CUHK Bulletin charts its development from conception to gradually taking shape in an uncharted landscape.
The establishing of the CUHK Medical Centre (CUHKMC), a non-profit private hospital, was announced in August 2014. How should one understand the concept of a ‘non-profit private hospital’? Of the 12 private hospitals in Hong Kong, 10 are registered as charitable organizations with tax-exempt status. But private hospitals are commonly viewed as expensive and highly profitable. In what ways is the future CUHKMC a non-profit private hospital?

Dr. Fung Hong, CEO of CUHKMC, looks at it in three ways. First, there has long been a chasm between public and private healthcare services in Hong Kong. Low fees and high demand for services result in long queues at public hospitals. Treatment of patients becomes a drawn-out process. Dr. Fung said, ‘With an aging population and the emergence of more chronic diseases, the pressure on the public system is forever mounting. On the other hand, in the private market the operation and service culture of the hospitals are to a large extent driven by profit considerations. With escalating costs, private hospitals’ charges have been increasing by more than 10% p.a., taking their services out of reach of most people. We discussed with the government if a middle ground might be found where financial discipline would keep the prices within reasonable bounds. The middle-income class may enjoy the services either by paying for them out of their own pocket or through the medical packages provided by their employers. It is hoped that some steam may be let off the public system, too.’

CUHKMC will be a teaching hospital of CUHK. But the Prince of Wales Hospital (PWH) has served that role since its establishment in 1984. How will the two hospitals work together in future?
CUHK Medical Centre and Hong Kong Baptist Hospital sign MOU on training enrolled nurses for the Centre.

Site chosen for CUHK Medical Centre

Ground Breaking Ceremony

Donation of HK$1.3 billion made by Hong Kong Jockey Club for CUHK Medical Centre
Dr. Fung affirmed the contributions of PWH in the past 30 years in propelling CUHK’s Faculty of Medicine into a world-class institution today: ‘PWH’s role as a teaching and research hub is irreplaceable, as much fundamental research is still to be carried out in the public system. A publicly funded hospital necessarily faces many constraints. Prudence must be exercised, for example, in investing in state-of-the-art technology. But overseas examples have shown that private hospitals have much more room to manoeuvre in terms of developing cutting-edge medical technology, particularly in translational medicine. To some extent we can build a new platform of teaching and research in parallel with PWH’s. Our edge lies in some promising areas of research and applications that make use of, for example, data analytics or even AI. Our priorities are of course to complement and support the training in the Faculty of Medicine, the School of Chinese Medicine, the Nursing School and the School of Pharmacy.’ According to the understanding between the University and the government, any profit recorded by CUHKMC shall be used for the development of the hospital or the Medical Faculty’s teaching and research.

The mission statement of CUHKMC is ‘Pioneering Solutions in Healthcare’. It means it is truly patient-based and provides a one-stop answer to the patients’ dilemmas. You do not need to solicit doctors’ referrals to get admitted. You can be assured that the medical procedure recommended or performed is both necessary and unmotivated by profit. Dr. Fung said, ‘We will inspire confidence in the public, because any procedure recommended or performed is only recommended or performed with the patients’ well-being in mind. Further, we will help raise patients’ awareness of how to to live healthily and stay away from disease, even though treating patients is our main source of income.’

At present, the majority of the medical practitioners who work at private hospitals are either independent contractors or associates of different medical groups. A patient needs a referral from them for admission into a hospital. To ensure that the medical team at CUHKMC share the same mission and value, Dr. Fung hopes that at least half of the doctors at CUHKMC will be its employees. It would go a long way to keeping the hassles of hospitalization to a minimum.

From government consultations on the regulation of private hospitals and from private surveys, the prohibitive costs of private hospitals are always seen as a problem that is badly in need of a solution.
CUHKMC may help find a solution in two ways—by fee transparency and a fixed-charge system. Consumers can get neither a clear nor a full picture of the itemized charges of a private hospital even if they are tabulated and heavily footnoted. To address this, CUHKMC will have a simple system so that patients can see at a glance what fees are charged for what procedures. But Dr. Fung pointed out that there might be some inherent risks in certain procedures that cannot be predicted or assessed in advance. Such risks, such as the need for post-operation blood transfusion, will be taken into account when fixing the charges. Others, such as a heart attack after an operation which is an entirely separate clinical situation, are harder to handle this way. CUHKMC will study carefully where and how to draw the line.

Even the middle class would feel the crunch of a private hospital bill and often rely on insurance coverage. Some countries adopt a comprehensive healthcare system based on society-wide contributions. The government’s proposed healthcare reforms have so far received little support. The public appeared not very receptive to mandatory contributions. CUHKMC has been exploring the feasibility of encouraging the market to accept insurance products that are based on transparent pricing so that medical services become affordable to more. Dr. Fung was of the view that the government’s Voluntary Health Insurance Scheme would work very well with CUHKMC’s transparent charging system to offer a more accessible healthcare system.

Since taking up the appointment, Dr. Fung has visited different hospitals and medical institutions in Australia, the US, Canada, Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan and mainland China. Mr. Chien Lee, Chairman of the Board of Directors of CUHKMC, is a member of the board of Stanford Health Care who is also familiar with the university hospital of the University of California, San Francisco. Dr. Fung and Mr. Lee paid special attention to how the design and operation of these two top institutions in the US drive their service quality and business development. Of particular interest is the word-renowned Mayo Clinic, whose mission statement is ‘Patients First’. Through clinical services, education and research, the Mayo team has been providing a one-stop service to patients, causing minimum disruption to their lives, and has achieved great results in complicated medical problems. It is an example CUHKMC can turn to while deriving its own model.
Every country in the world is constantly reforming its healthcare system. There is no holy grail, however, as everything—socio-economic structure, demographics, technology—is in perpetual flux. Any system would have to adapt to changes or even to anticipate changes. Will CUHKMC alter the local healthcare landscape? Dr. Fung believes not. New problems will keep emerging. He said, ‘What a single establishment like CUHKMC can do is not much. But we hope to carve out a niche in the system and maybe point to a new direction. What counts is that we offer a choice.’
A Small but Smart Hospital

Not only will the CUHK Medical Centre be a pioneer in a new operation model for hospitals but it will also be a precursor in the extensive utilization of advanced information and communications technology (ICT) as the first fully digitalized smart hospital in Hong Kong.

The smartness of CUHKMC is made possible by the employment of, first, a fully electronic and paperless medical record system; second, mobile ICT and real-time data to support and facilitate the patient treatment process enabling closer communication between the patients and the medical personnel; third, the Internet of Things (IoT) to enhance the efficiency of hospital operations and services.

One-stop Mobile Platform

In conjunction with the application of mobile ICT, CUHKMC plans to set up an integrated mobile system which enables the patients to make appointments, register, handle payments, check personal medical records, communicate with healthcare professionals and search for hospital directions at a one-stop service platform. Instead of finding themselves in a maze, future CUHKMC patients will no longer need multiple referrals and enquiries to reach their doctors and contact the nurses who take care of them. They will be able to manage at ease their own health through access to their own medical records.
Medical Record Fully Digitized

The designing of the electronic medical record system at CUHKMC will make reference to the experiences of the Hospital Authority and the best practice of international healthcare IT such as stages 6 & 7 standards of the Healthcare Information and Management System Society’s (HIMSS) Electronic Medical Record Adoption Model (EMRAM). The fully electronic and paperless medical record system will cover all care and treatment processes, including nursing records, treatment workflows and clinical decision support. It will also integrate with the Government’s Electronic Health Record Sharing System (eHRSS).

As part of the development of a fully electronic medical record system, CUHKMC will establish closed-loop systems for the high-risk or critical medical procedures such as drug management, blood transfusion and pathology investigation. These systems will provide real-time information to healthcare professionals, and monitor each key step in the treatment process to ensure full compliance with safety standards, minimize the window of risks and improve the treatment outcomes.

The Loop of Things

CUHKMC will use the IoT technology to improve efficiency. Through deploying Wi-Fi network, radio-frequency identification (RFID) and bluetooth technologies in different areas such as vital signs monitoring, drug management, material supplies, dispatch of uniforms, patient transfers, equipment management, patient location tracking and staff identification, the hospital operation workflows can be automated to reduce errors and to bring the healthcare professionals and their patients into the same loop of communication, so that the physical and mental needs of the patients can be more effectively and comprehensively attended to.
A Progress Report from Dr. Fung Hong
Can you please tell us about the progress of the CUHK Medical Centre (CUHKMC)?

Construction work has been progressing well. All piling works for the building structure and retaining walls have been completed. Pile loading tests and pile capping are underway. After foundation work is completed, work will begin for the upper floors. Building runs in parallel with design. The contractors, architects and engineers work together to hammer out the details at every stage of construction. When completed, there will be 14 floors with around 2,500 rooms in the CUHKMC catering to the many different functions and faculties in a modern hospital—operating theatres, maternity rooms, patient wards, a day surgery centre, chemo and radiotherapy clinics and an integrated outpatient clinic, etc.—all equipped and fitted out to their specialized requirements.

What’s special about the architectural design?

Academic staff from the Faculty of Medicine and medical staff from the Prince of Wales Hospital (PWH) were invited to take part in the planning. A hospital is a unique and highly specialized piece of architecture. Specifications for the ventilation system, for example, have been both detailed and precise since SARS. The greatest challenge in planning is, however, the need to keep up with rapid development and changes so that the facilities will still be state-of-the-art when the building is completed. An overall purchasing strategy and timetables are of paramount importance.

The overall design concept is to provide conveniences to people of all ages and physical conditions, with the execution closely dovetailed into the treatment process so that patients would not feel disoriented upon admission and staff can better carry out their work. We put our minds into the design of hardware and computer software, as well as the communication system to save energy by digital and paperless means. We also aim to provide a healthy workplace to our staff and will turn half a floor into an open courtyard where they can take a refreshing break.

How is the progress of recruiting medical and administrative staff?

We’ve been recruiting all along. A hospital needs many experienced and expert hands. Besides, this is the first business operation of the University on such a large scale, and one that is so different from PWH which is under the Hospital Authority. It’s crucial to have an operating model and a marketing strategy. Fortunately, the University Council has invited many people of great experience and vision to join the Board of Directors to take a firm lead of the project.

What made you take up the challenges of CUHKMC’s first executive director?

From a medical student to a practitioner, I have always wanted to find ways to better medical services by reforming the system. It is because I believe that devising a good system will exponentially multiply the benefits to the patients. I started out as a surgeon. In 1989 I joined the then Hospital Services Department. Soon after I joined the newly established Hospital Authority responsible for the development of medical services and hospital planning. My job included choosing districts for new hospitals and building clinical information systems. In 2002, I was appointed director of the New Territories East Cluster and executive director of PWH. I made the switch because I wanted to enhance the services of the public hospital system with institutional and systemic changes. Another decade passed and I came to another point where another problem and another opportunity were presented me. The CUHKMC project gives me the chance to continue on this journey of exploring a new model to perfect the healthcare system.
How do you understand what the public need medically?

Public health studies rely very much on demographic and socio-economic data. But I have learned that paying attention to what patients say is more important. A medical professor may know everything about a sickness but not necessarily what problems the sick face. We’re beginning to collect patients’ stories systematically. Prof. Justin C.Y. Wu and I are targeting mainly CUHK alumni as our interview subjects in the hope to retrace what they had gone through in finding a cure. We hope to analyse and deduce from their stories the systemic problems in order to reach new ways of thinking about how to deliver our services.

Nowadays, doctors must regard themselves as partners to their patients, providing support and encouraging them to take part in the decision-making in the process and to adjust their lifestyle to the treatment they receive. This will decidedly have beneficial effects on the treatment outcome. I hope that CUHKMC can blaze such a new path of medical services.
Our Mission

- Pioneering Solutions in Healthcare

Our Vision

By 2025, our patients will view us as:

- Respected for patient-centred services
- Reputable for new models in coordinated care
- Recognized for transparent and affordable pricing
- Renowned for clinical excellence

Our Values

- Patient First
- Team care
- Compassionate
- Open
- Holistic
- Trustworthy
The CUHK Medical Centre is not just another clinical arm of the University or another teaching hub for its Faculty of Medicine. It is a vision audaciously attempted to bring greater transparency, efficiency and affordability to a system that ultimately serves every one sooner or later, as is reflected in its vision statement: ‘Pioneering Solutions in Healthcare’.

New models and new thinking, however, do not dilute or diminish the solemn oath with which every physician enters the profession: ‘The health and well-being of my patient will be my first consideration.’

After all, it’s all about doing good, and not just doing good but doing so much more good, as Dr. Fung Hong believes that devising a good system will exponentially multiply the benefits to the patients.

The stage is set. The cast are being assembled and props crafted or engineered. The broccoli is in the boil.
Farewell to Professor Joseph Sung
Professor J.Y. Sung assumed the helm of CUHK on 1 July 2010 as the seventh Vice-Chancellor. Since 1 January 2018, he has gone back to teaching and research. Professor Sung not only bid fond farewells to the Council members, staff and students before passing the torch, but also shared his parting words and a few memories during his term of vice-chancellorship.

Professor Sung received his MB BS from the University of Hong Kong in 1983, and a PhD in biomedical sciences from the University of Calgary and an MD from CUHK in subsequent years. He joined the Faculty of Medicine of CUHK in 1992 and has served in many important positions, including as chairman of the Department of Medicine and Therapeutics, Associate Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, and Head of Shaw College. He was appointed Mok Hing Yiu Professor of Medicine in 2007.

As a renowned scientist in gastroenterology, Professor Sung’s research interests include intestinal bleeding, *Helicobacter Pylori*, peptic ulcer, hepatitis B, colorectal cancer, and other cancers related to the digestive system. He led a group of experts from 15 Asia-Pacific countries to launch colorectal cancer screening research in 2004, and has laid down clear guidelines and promoted colorectal screenings in the region.

CUHK has made great strides in many aspects under Professor Sung’s leadership in the past seven years. Professor Sung said, ‘It’s difficult to choose one that I am most happy with from such a wide array of work. But if I have to name but one, the establishment of the I•CARE programme is what I cherish most dearly. The programme aims at enhancing students’ whole-person development by helping them to identify their goals and establish their values, and by engaging them in exploring social issues. I have been told that since its launch in 2011, I•CARE had gone beyond the CUHK campus to reach students from other universities in Hong Kong, the mainland and overseas, who participate in its events through the Internet and various channels.’

Professor Sung gives his sincere thanks to all staff, especially the Vice-Presidents, Deans and colleagues in senior management. ‘Without their concerted effort, support and trust, I would not have achieved what I have done. I usually look at the big picture and give directions. It’s my teammates who hammer out the details to perfection. I’m weak with numbers. Fortunately, the efficient and reliable bursary and personnel teams have saved me from those tedious tasks.

‘My gratitude also goes to the University Council and the alumni. An e-mail or a telephone call during hard times, a donation to I•CARE ... every act, big or small, has left a deep impact on my heart. And there are the students. We have shared happy and unhappy moments through which we have all grown to be better. You have inspired me a lot by your innocence and passion, and the daring pursuit of what you think is right—a few things you have taught jaded adults like me.’
The 83rd and 84th Congregations
The 83rd and 84th Congregations

The 83rd and 84th Congregations for the Conferment of Degrees were held on 16 and 30 November 2017, respectively. Dr. Norman N.P. Leung, Chairman of the Council, presided over the congregations and conferred 9,877 honorary, higher and first degrees.

CUHK conferred honorary doctorates on five distinguished persons in recognition of their outstanding contributions to their respective areas of achievement in cultural and educational progress, scientific research and the promotion of community welfare.
Dr. Chan Shuk-leung (alias Pak Suet-sin), is a megastar in Cantonese opera. She has been devoted to promoting Cantonese opera and nurturing the younger generation of Cantonese opera performers. Dr. Chan established the Yam Kim Fai and Pak Suet Sin Charitable Foundation Limited aiming to promote and conduct research on Cantonese opera and support the needy. The University conferred upon Dr. Chan, in absentia, the degree of Doctor of Literature, honoris causa, in recognition of her achievement in and contribution to Cantonese opera and charity.

An internationally renowned chemist and biophysicist, Prof. Arieh Warshel is currently the Distinguished Professor of Chemistry and Biochemistry and the Dana and David Dornsife Chair in Chemistry of the University of Southern California. He is also the Distinguished Professor-at-Large of CUHK, Shenzhen. He was awarded the Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 2013 for his contribution in the computational studies on functional properties of biological molecules, which took research in chemistry into the computer age. The University conferred upon Professor Warshel the degree of Doctor of Science, honoris causa.
Dr. Zhou Jianping is the chief designer of China Manned Space Programme and has long been engaged in the teaching and research of aerospace technology as well as aerospace engineering management. He has participated in and led the design and technical management of China’s Shenzhou manned spacecraft, Tianzhou cargo spacecraft and Tiangong space laboratory, making great contributions to achieving the leapfrog development of China’s Manned Space Programme. In recognition of his achievement in the development of China’s aerospace programme, the University conferred upon Dr. Zhou the degree of Doctor of Science, *honoris causa*.

Mr. Chien Lee is a non-executive director of Hysan Development Company Limited and Swire Pacific Limited and is currently the Vice-Chairman of CUHK Council and Chairman of the Board of Directors of CUHK Medical Centre. He has been actively engaged not only in CUHK’s development and has made valuable contributions to the University, but also involved in community work both in Hong Kong and abroad. In recognition of his contribution to CUHK and education development, the University conferred upon Mr. Lee the degree of Doctor of Social Science, *honoris causa*.

Lady Lee Yick Hoi-lun Helen, wife of the late Dr. the Honourable Sir Lee Quo-wei, is the chairman of the Wei Lun Foundation Limited. Lady Lee and Dr. Lee were very committed about the development of Hong Kong and mainland China, especially in the education sector. They founded the foundation in 1989 and has made notable donations to support different areas, from teaching and conducting research to building new facilities and, at the same time, to support the development, education and medical services in various cities in mainland China. The University conferred upon Mrs. Lee the degree of Doctor of Social Science, *honoris causa*, in recognition of her contribution in education and society.
In Memory of Professor Ma Lin
(1924—2017)
The University records with deep sadness the passing of Prof. Ma Lin, the second Vice-Chancellor of The Chinese University of Hong Kong, on 16 October 2017 at the age of 93. A memorial service was held by the University on 16 December 2017 at the Shaw College Lecture Theatre to pay tribute to Professor Ma.

Professor Ma was educated at the West China Union University and later the University of Leeds where he studied protein chemistry and was awarded a PhD in 1955. A career in research and teaching followed. After spending a year in England as post-doctoral fellow at University College Hospital (London) and St. James’s University Hospital (Leeds), he returned to Hong Kong in 1957 to teach at the University of Hong Kong. His long association with CUHK started when he joined the University in 1964. He soon became senior lecturer and helped set up the new Department of Biochemistry. His outstanding scholarship eventually earned him the Founding Chair of Biochemistry in 1973, and then the Dean of Science. In 1978 he was appointed Vice-Chancellor of the University and steered its development until 1987 when he retired after a service of 23 years.

A distinguished biochemist and trailblazing educator, Professor Ma believed that the important missions of a modern university are teaching, research and public service and it is the duty of the university management to strike a proper balance between the three. His nine-year tenure at the helm was characterized by a proactive leadership and a willingness to canvass views from the academics and other stakeholders. Under his leadership, CUHK completed the implementation of the recommendations in the second Fulton Report of 1976, established the Faculty of Medicine, planned and established Shaw College, launched the part-time degree programmes and the PhD programmes, recruited more talented students with the Provisional Acceptance Scheme, adopted a flexible credit system and strengthened the General Education programmes. In the same period, CUHK had also gone from strength to strength in terms of building its infrastructure, garnering support and donations for its capital programmes and research, and strengthening its ties with mainland and overseas institutions.

Prof. Joseph J.Y. Sung, Vice-Chancellor of CUHK, pays tribute to Professor Ma: ‘Professor Ma was a scholar and educator of great vision and passion. He was generous with his guidance of students and young scholars. His leadership had bequeathed to CUHK a solid foundation for subsequent development on many fronts. His passing is a sad loss for both the University and the higher education sector.’

Professor Ma Lin is the first Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Shaw College, Emeritus Chair Professor, Doctor of Laws, honoris causa and Honorary Fellow of CUHK. His life and contributions are captured very well by a sentence in the citation for his Degree of Doctor of Laws, honoris causa: ‘As a scientist, Professor Ma brought to his office a logical mind with a penchant for rational arguments; at the same time, when all was said and done, he was fully capable of taking decisions with the wisdom of one who had a Confucian upbringing.’
Two CUHK Scholars Receive UGC Award for Teaching Excellence
Prof. Emily Chan (left) of the Jockey Club School of Public Health and Primary Care and Prof. So Ho-wai Suzanne (right) of the Department of Psychology were conferred the 2017 UGC Award for Teaching Excellence by the University Grants Committee (UGC). The presentation ceremony was held on 7 September 2017. This year CUHK scholars won two out of the three awards presented. The two professors were also the recipients of CUHK’s University Education Award 2017.

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<th>General Faculty Members/Teams category</th>
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<td><strong>Prof. Emily Chan</strong></td>
<td><strong>Prof. So Ho-wai Suzanne</strong></td>
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<td>In the UGC citation for Professor Chan, she is hailed for developing ‘various innovative global field teaching programmes which require multidisciplinary collaborations, transnational partnerships and transborder technology-enhanced teaching methods to nurture students. Her research leadership in climate change and health, disaster preparedness and response, as well as global health complements her teaching with research-based materials.’</td>
<td>Professor So is praised by UGC for her enthusiasm in ‘translating basic research into practical applications. She emphasizes the importance of putting students in the centre of learning. She designs and reviews her teaching based on students’ feedback, and inspires students to have breakthroughs in areas they feel passionate about. To deepen students’ procedural knowledge and enhance their interpersonal skills, Professor So has successfully incorporated the Self-Practice/Self-Reflection pedagogy in clinical psychology training.’</td>
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<td>Professor Chan had over a decade-long international experience in humanitarian intervention before joining CUHK in 2006. She helped to establish the Collaborating Centre of Oxford University and CUHK for Disaster and Medical Humanitarian Response (CCOUC) in 2011 and subsequently served as the director. CCOUC aims to minimize the negative health impact of disasters experienced by vulnerable populations in the region by serving as a platform for research, education, and community knowledge transfer.</td>
<td>Joining CUHK in 2012, Professor So incorporates her years of frontline experience as clinical psychologist into teaching and research, and has been researching on psychopathology and clinical psychological interventions. Professor So has also incorporated an innovative pedagogy by introducing the new Self-Practice/Self-Reflection (SP/SR) approach, turning CUHK into the first tertiary institution in Asia adopting this approach in clinical psychology training.</td>
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<td>Professor Chan said, ‘The award is a recognition of the importance of knowledge transfer of disaster and medical humanitarian response and research on disaster risk management in the local tertiary education sector. I could not have achieved this distinguished result without the support from my team. I would like to extend my vote of thanks to my colleagues who have been working hard together with me, and to the students who gave me tremendous support. The enthusiasm from students in the field of disaster and medical humanitarian work inspires me to go the extra mile.’</td>
<td>Professor So said, ‘I would like to extend my appreciation to all members of the Department of Psychology who gave me great confidence in adopting an innovative pedagogical approach to improve the learning efficiency of students. Moreover, the proactive feedback from my students is also a driving force in my work.’</td>
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<td>Professor Chan plans to utilize the award grant to develop a new field action demonstrative training site on the Ancient Silk Road, with a view to enhancing students’ learning experience.</td>
<td>Professor So plans to use the award grant to create a set of micro-modules and introduce activity-based reflective learning to enhance effectiveness and efficiency of learning using flipped classroom and experiential learning approaches.</td>
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The Brand New FinTech Programme
Financial technology (FinTech) is an emerging financial industry that applies technology to improve financial activities. Prof. Chen Nan (top left photo), director of CUHK’s Bachelor of Engineering Programme in Financial Technology, pointed out that FinTech demonstrates an unprecedented potential to revolutionize the traditional financial service sector, in terms of infrastructure, money management and related legal regulations.

‘Not only has the financial services sector relied more on technology to facilitate their services, there has also been a move from real “money” payment to “digital” payment. Bitcoin is a good example of the currency in the cyber world,’ explained Professor Chen. From the Octopus Card to Apple Pay, Android Pay, AlipayTMHK, WeChatPay, O!ePay, Tap&Go, etc., mobile payment is gaining popularity. Peer-to-Peer (P2P) money transfer and foreign exchange, online crowdfunding and lending platforms pose a great challenge to conventional banking services.

He went on, ‘All kinds of websites and Apps for financial planning, review, expense tracking, personal asset management and comparison of money products have mushroomed in recent years. As the industry is stretching its wings to almost every sector of financial services, concerns of personal information security, money laundering and related legal issues are raised.’

To meet the high demand for FinTech professionals to cope with the exponential growth of the industry, CUHK launched the Bachelor of Engineering Programme in Financial Technology, the first of its kind in Hong Kong, in September 2017.

Professor Chen remarked, ‘The programme aims to educate and equip students with the essential knowledge and capabilities to apply technological innovations to financial services, as well as to nurture leadership and entrepreneurship for the next generation of financial talent in support of Hong Kong’s development into an international FinTech hub.

‘We expected to admit 25 students each year. But the programme turned out to be a favourite among applicants. In the end a total of 43 new students were admitted.’

Led by the Faculty of Engineering, the FinTech programme features a strong multidisciplinary training as courses are offered by the Faculties of Business Administration, Law and Social Science. Students are able to acquire cutting edge technical skills and a broad understanding of the potential legal, economic and societal impacts of financial technology.

To ensure new students adapt and thrive, major foundation courses such as engineering design, programming, business finance, microeconomics and cyber security, will be offered in the first two years of their studies to introduce some basic information on the subject.

The programme collaborates closely with the Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) and the Hong Kong Applied Science and Technology Research Institute (ASTRI) to offer internship and overseas exchange opportunities for its students. It is also actively seeking collaboration opportunities with Cyper Port, Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation and other private companies to organize FinTech specific internships.

Students can also join the Placement and Internship Programme (PIP) centralized by the Faculty of Engineering for a variety of opportunities for work-study, long-term or short-term internships and student exchange.

Professor Chen said, ‘The Hong Kong government regards FinTech as one of its main strategies to maintain the competitiveness of the local financial industry and also encourages FinTech talent in Hong Kong to set the standards for the latest financial technologies within the region. The employment opportunities for innovative young talent who are trained in this specific field are thus abundant.’
Prof. Chan Wai-yee received his BSc in Chemistry from CUHK in 1974 and his PhD from the University of Florida in 1977. An expert in molecular and biochemical genetics and genomics, Professor Chan took up the role of Director of School of Biomedical Sciences, CUHK in 2009. He has been appointed Master of C.W. Chu College since January 2017.
Now that C.W. Chu College is 10 years old, do you think that it has developed its own ethos?

Under the leadership of founding Master Prof. Kenneth Young, the College has distinguished itself by devoting its efforts to ‘Four I’s’: intimate, international, intellectual and involved. With the master, associate master and dean of students, warden, resident tutors and over 30 active teachers attending to 300 students, we are able to maintain close teacher-student interactions. I have yet to learn the unique knack of Professor Young in remembering the names of all the students. With more than one-third of our students hailing from, among others, Korea, Japan, Malaysia, Italy, Australia, Austria and Kyrgyzstan, we have created an environment for diverse cultural interflow.

How would you like to bring the College forward?

I will strive to enhance the students’ sense of belonging to the College, and encourage non-local students to participate more in college activities and student organizations, hoping that they will consider the College their home away from home. Meanwhile, we will explore overseas exchange and internship opportunities for our local students. I will invite experts of all fields to give talks to enlighten our students. We can also serve the community more, maybe by offering free tutorials at the College to secondary school students several evenings a week, thus training our students to be mentors of the younger.
Director of Art Museum on Finding Artefacts in Serendipity

How unique is the Art Museum among other museums in Hong Kong?

Like most museums, our stated mission is to preserve, exhibit and research cultural relics. For the past 40 years, our exhibitions have been held to be of very high academic standards. This image of ours befits that of a research museum in a university. All museums—private, public, university—serve the public, and we want to create an especially welcoming atmosphere for CUHK students and staff. In addition to curating exhibitions, we play a role in the cultural education of our students. The general education course ‘Appreciating Chinese Culture’ offered by us is an example.

How do you know your visitors?

Knowing the visitors is indeed the most challenging task of a museum. Generalizations from age, sex, family and educational background, social class, etc., may miss a lot. All museums open their doors for one purpose—so that their exhibits may be viewed by the visitors. One of my former superiors said it very well: ‘We should assume our audience to be an intelligent but uninitiated public.’
How do you source items for the Museum’s collection?
Either purse or patience. But since we do not have a very large purse auctions are rarely our hunting grounds. How a work finds its way into a museum is usually a matter of serendipity. We do, however, benefit a lot from private collectors, who may be generous if they see value in the kind of service or research we do. Take for example the exhibition of Qing ritual vessels to be held in 2018. The Museum began with only one or two wares. But an Australian collector who knows us well and who has studied Qing ritual vessels for over 20 years decided to give us his entire collection upon his return to Australia. This generous gift caught the attention of a member of the Advisory Committee of the Art Museum who in turn donated his collection of ritual vessels to us. That has not only made the exhibition possible but also made our collection of Qing ritual vessels second to that of the Palace Museum in Beijing.

What gems can be found in this little Museum in Ma Liu Shui?
Eight ancient rubbings donated by the Bei Shan Tang Foundation have made the National Catalogue of Precious Ancient Books. We are the first museum outside the mainland to be so honoured. Our collection of ancient rubbings is definitely among the world’s top 10. We have a comprehensive collection of ceramics from different premium kilns from the ancient periods to the contemporary. Our calligraphy compares favourably with larger museums. We also have a decent collection of paintings—we have works by Dong Qichang, Wen Zhengming and Tang Yin which may not be their most famous but for a university museum our possessions will surely impress many. Our collection of Yixing clay teapots exhibited at the end of 2017 at the Hubei Provincial Museum is one of the two best collections in Hong Kong.

What’s the difference between curating an exhibition of Chinese art in Hong Kong and overseas?
In the Chinese context, you don’t have to elaborate on why a cup is special because it was the Qianlong Emperor’s favourite or how valuable Tang objects for the scholar’s desk are. What the Chinese find interesting may not meet with the same enthusiasm in a western audience. It’s easier said than done that one has to press the right button. Western tastes differ and change, too. The Chinese blue and white wares used to cast a special spell on western connoisseurs. Nowadays, contemporary Chinese artworks are a constant presence in the art exhibitions overseas. A strong narrative element is important in any overseas Chinese art exhibition, much more than an emphasis on the exhibits’ significance in Chinese history.
The 2017–18 academic year commences on 4 September. This year, through the Joint University Programmes Admissions System (JUPAS), CUHK has admitted 2,916 students who sat the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education (HKDSE) examination. 99.8% of them have made CUHK their Band A choices. Among all candidates who achieved the highest level of 5** in one subject or above in the HKDSE territory-wide, 34% were admitted by CUHK, including five top scorers who attained 5** in six subjects, and the one and only ‘super top scorer’ who clinched 5** in all seven subjects as well as a 5** for the Mathematics Extended Module.

Eight new admittees were awarded the third ‘Multi-faceted Excellence Scholarship’ under the auspices of the Home Affairs Bureau, and were offered sponsorships for their full tuition fee. Twenty-three students have been admitted to CUHK through the University’s Sports Scholarship Scheme with their outstanding performances in sports, seven of whom play for the Hong Kong representative teams.

CUHK has committed itself to ensuring students as well as faculty think beyond borders, while also creating conditions that promote cross-fertilization of cultures. The University admitted around 600 non-local elites this year through the Non-JUPAS admissions scheme. Many of them achieved exceptional results in internationally/locally recognized examinations, including top scorers of IB, SAT, GCE A-Level and Taiwan GSAT. Among these, 303 mainland students joined the CUHK community through the National Unified Universities and Colleges Entrance Examination System. Students have been admitted from Macau, Taiwan, and from 26 countries around the world, including Canada, France, India, Indonesia, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Malaysia, Russia, South Korea, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and the UK. For the first time ever, Brunei Darussalam, Colombia, Egypt, Estonia, Morocco, Tajikistan, Turkey and Turkmenistan saw their students enrolling in CUHK’s undergraduate programmes.

A diverse range of backgrounds of the new admittees enriches the multicultural environment on campus, and fosters mutual respect, understanding and appreciation.
CUHK Wins Championship in the First Cybersecurity Competition

A CUHK team named ‘WannaCry’ comprised students from the Faculties of Engineering and Science—(from left) Leung Shing-yuet, Tong Cham-fei, Wang Xianbo, and Zeng Yihui—clinched the championship in the PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) Hong Kong’s first ever hacking competition—HackaDay in June 2017. The team outdid their counterparts, a total of eight teams from five local universities, by performing the best in the challenges in a six-hour hacking session. Members of the team were offered internships at PwC Hong Kong.

Hurdler Up and Running in Ashgabat

Lui Lai-yiu of the Department of Sports Science and Physical Education made a flying start at the Asian Indoor and Martial Arts Games held in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan, on 18 September 2017. She won the women’s 60-metre hurdles to give the Hong Kong Team a first gold medal in the games. Lai-yiu is grateful for the tremendous support and understanding from the CUHK professors which allowed her to balance her life as a student athlete. ‘Making it to the Olympics is one of my goals. I will do my very best to achieve it, and more.’

PhD Students Receive Best ‘Living’ Building Award

Xiang Luyao (1st left) and Wang Ran (1st right), PhD architecture students, and Wang Dan (2nd right), PhD public health student of CUHK and their teammates from HKUST won the Best ‘Living’ Building Award at the International Youth Competition at the World Sustainable Built Environment Conference in July 2017. The team took Hong Kong as the case in point and proposed an original ‘C3 Farming’ concept which combined vertical farming and residence and turned the land resource limitation into the best option in living environment.
NEWS IN BRIEF

APPOINTMENTS

New Vice-Chancellor

At its meeting held on 25 July 2017, the University Council unanimously approved the appointment of Prof. Rocky S. Tuan, an eminent biomedical scientist, as the eighth Vice-Chancellor of CUHK for a period of six years from 1 January 2018, succeeding Prof. Joseph J.Y. Sung.
Reappointed/New Council Members

The following persons have been re-elected by the Boards of Trustees of the respective Colleges as members of the Council each for a further period of three years:

- Mr. Alfred W.F. Hau (Chung Chi College), from 18 October 2017
- Mr. Heung Shu-fai (New Asia College), from 13 June 2017
- Mr. Clement S.T. Fung (Shaw College), from 18 May 2017
- Mr. Hamen S.H. Fan (Shaw College), from 10 September 2017

Prof. Justin C.Y. Wu has been elected by the Assembly of Fellows of Shaw College as a member of the Council for a period of three years with effect from 1 August 2017, succeeding Prof. Freedom Y.K. Leung.

Mr. Michael P.K. Chan has been elected by the Convocation as a member of the Council for a period of three years with effect from 1 September 2017, by virtue of his capacity as chairman of the Convocation. Mr. Chan is a retired magistrate, and is currently a member of the Torture Claims Appeal Board/Non-Refoulement Claims Petition Office, Board of Review (Inland Revenue Ordinance) of the Government of the Hong Kong SAR and the Executive Committee of the Hong Kong Student Aid Society Limited.

Emeritus Professors

The following professors have been awarded the title of Emeritus Professor with effect from 1 August 2017, except in the case of Prof. Wong Ka-sing Lawrence whose title became effective on 14 June 2017:

1. Prof. Wong Ka-sing Lawrence, Department of Medicine and Therapeutics
2. Prof. Chan Hsiao-chang, School of Biomedical Sciences
3. Prof. Chiu Dah-ming, Department of Information Engineering
4. Prof. Kwan Tze-wan, Department of Philosophy
5. Prof. Li Duan, Department of Systems Engineering and Engineering Management
6. Prof. Ngan King-nga, Department of Electronic Engineering
7. Prof. Wang Shaoguang, Department of Government and Public Administration
8. Prof. Wong Wing-shing, Department of Information Engineering
Prof. Joseph Sung Receives International Herbert Falk Award

Prof. Joseph J.Y. Sung (centre) has been honoured with the international Herbert Falk Award 2017, in recognition of his excellent achievement in the field of gastroenterology. The prestigious award was presented at the Falk Foundation e.V. Symposium 209 in Berlin, Germany in October 2017. Professor Sung said, ‘I’m honoured to receive the award. I hope this research can eventually help in improving the health conditions of mankind globally by giving us clues to where to dig out the risk factors leading to chronic inflammatory bowel diseases and eventually to what kind of preventive measures or primary care interventions we should take.’

The international Herbert Falk Award was created by the Falk Foundation e.V. Freiburg in memory of Dr. Herbert Falk and is intended for candidates who have made outstanding contributions in diagnosis, treatment and prevention in the field of gastroenterology.

Ministry of Education Outstanding Scientific Research Output Awards

Two scientific research projects led by CUHK’s researchers received two Higher Education Outstanding Scientific Research Output Awards (Science and Technology) 2016, including one first-class award and one second-class award in natural sciences, from China’s Ministry of Education. The first-class award-winning project is ‘Colloidal Plasmonic Nanocrystals: Synthesis, Properties and Applications’ led by Prof. Wang Jianfang (2nd left) of the Department of Physics; the second-class awardees are Prof. Lam Hon-ming (2nd right) of the School of Life Sciences and Prof. Sun Sai-ming Samuel (1st right), director of the Institute of Plant Molecular Biology and Agricultural Biotechnology, whose participating project is ‘Identification of Functional Genes for Crop’.
Two Professors Elected Canadian Academy of Engineering Fellows

Prof. Du Ruxu (left), Department of Mechanical and Automation Engineering, and Prof. Meng Qing-hu Max (right), chairman, Department of Electronic Engineering, have been elected Fellows of the Canadian Academy of Engineering for their notable achievements in engineering.

An expert in manufacturing engineering and precision engineering, Professor Du has devoted himself to promoting mechanical manufacturing technology over the years. Professor Meng is an international leader in robotics, well known for developing novel medical robots for advancing biomedical engineering.

Prof. Zhang Junsen Honoured for Outstanding Achievement in Economics

Prof. Zhang Junsen, Wei Lun Professor of Economics and chairman of the Department of Economics, has received the Sun Yefang Economic Science Award, one of the highest honours in economics in China. The award recognizes his excellent academic performance and contribution to the development of economic science in China. Professor Zhang’s article—‘Do Population Control Policies Induce More Human Capital Investment? Twins, Birth Weight and China’s One-Child Policy’—is the only one among all the award-winning articles that was published in an overseas journal. The article was co-authored by Prof. Mark Rosenzweig of Yale University.

Two Outstanding CUHK Scholars Honoured

Prof. Tjonnie G.F. Li (left) of the Department of Physics and Prof. Liqiang Huang (right) of the Department of Psychology were presented the Early Career Award and the Humanities and Social Sciences Prestigious Fellowship, respectively, by the Research Grants Council in recognition of their research excellence.

The award presentation ceremony was held on 19 October 2017. Professor Li focuses on gravitational-wave physics and was awarded for his project ‘Testing the strong-field dynamics of gravity using gravitational waves emitted by the mergers of compact objects’. He would like to extend his appreciation to the support of CUHK and his research team members, and hopes this award will invigorate local research in gravitational waves, astronomy, and fundamental physics. Professor Huang’s research interests are in visual attention, visual perception and visual awareness. His award-winning project was ‘A review and update of the Boolean map theory’. He will further his research on the theory.
**Novel Wearable Blood Pressure Sensor**

An ultra-thin, unobtrusive blood pressure (BP) sensor that can be worn as a wristband or sewn into clothing has been developed by a research team from the Faculty of Engineering. The new sensor is accurate and low on battery consumption. When connected to a wireless network, it can provide round-the-clock tracking of the user’s BP, so that abnormality can be detected early to advert acute problems such as strokes and heart attacks.

Led by Prof. Zhao Ni (photo), associate professor, and Prof. Zhang Yuan-ting, adjunct professor of the Department of Electronic Engineering, the research team applied optical, electronic and mechanical measurement techniques to develop the sensor that can detect blood flow and monitors various health data through colour reflected by the human skin and the depth of the images. The new device is now undergoing clinical trials at the Prince of Wales Hospital.

**Physics Researchers Help Detecting Gravitational Waves**

CUHK has been a member of the Laser Interferometer Gravitational-wave Observatory (LIGO) Scientific Collaboration since 2016, and has been heavily involved in the analysis of data from the LIGO detectors.

On 1 June 2017, LIGO made a third detection of gravitational waves. Two months later, the LIGO team and the Virgo Collaboration (Virgo) made the joint detection of gravitational waves on 14 and 17 August, respectively. The waves detected in June and 14 August were generated from the collision of two black holes, while the latter one discovered gravitational waves and light from the spectacular collision of two neutron stars. This marks the first time that a cosmic event has been viewed in both gravitational waves and light. Prof. Tjonnie G.F. Li (4th left, front row) of the Department of Physics at CUHK, has been leading the only group from a Hong Kong institute to be part of this endeavour.

The detection of gravitational waves by the LIGO detectors confirmed a major prediction of Albert Einstein’s 1915 general theory of relativity, opening up a new window on the Universe. The momentous discovery has already earned the LIGO team various prestigious scientific awards, including the 2017 Nobel Prize in Physics, the Special Breakthrough Prize in Fundamental Physics, the 2016 Gruber Foundation Cosmology Prize and the Shaw Prize in Astronomy 2016.
New Blood Test Boosts Early Detection of Nasopharyngeal Cancer

Led by Prof. Dennis Lo (right), director of the Li Ka Shing Institute of Health Sciences; and Prof. Allen Chan of the Department of Chemical Pathology, the research team from the Faculty of Medicine recruited more than 20,000 middle-aged Chinese males in Hong Kong without Nasopharyngeal carcinoma (NPC) symptoms for screening with plasma EBV DNA analysis between 2013 and 2016. It was confirmed plasma DNA analysis is useful for screening early asymptomatic NPC.

Among them, 309 persons had persistently positive results on initial and follow-up tests. Out of the 300 participants who were willing to undertake further investigation with nasal endoscopic examination and magnetic resonance imaging, 34 were confirmed as having NPC, 71% of whom were at stage I or II.

Levitation Technology for Future Transport

A research team led by Prof. Guo Ping of the Department of Mechanical and Automation Engineering has developed a self-levitating device. By applying near-field acoustic levitation principles, the technology can be used for transportation and also for laser processing and flaw detection.

The device adopts a single piezoelectric element to achieve two vibration modes with an identical frequency to create elliptical vibration of the structure, which can provide vertical levitation force as well as the propulsion force. From this, the actuator realizes non-contact motion. It can float and move on almost any flat surface, like a magic carpet.

Professor Guo said, ‘The actuator has the merits of simple design and can reach the speed of 2.5 cm/s or faster and is capable of transporting an object weighing 200 g. The power consumption is only 1.2 W, which is about that of a small light bulb.’ It transcends the limitations of existing magnetic levitation technology that needs track for movement, bringing a significant breakthrough for the making of high-precision machine tools and mobile robots.
CUHK Enhances Collaboration with Tsinghua University

Prof. Qiu Yong (right, front row), president of Tsinghua University, and Prof. Joseph J.Y. Sung (left, front row) Vice-Chancellor of CUHK, signed an agreement for student exchange and officiated the the CUHK–Tsinghua University Joint Research Centre for Chinese Economy when Professor Qiu led a delegation to visit CUHK on 29 May 2017. The centre will be at the forefront of Chinese economy research, and will focus its effort on relevant cross-regional and interdisciplinary research topics. It will serve as an exchange platform for scholars all over the world and develop as a leading international research base on the Chinese economy.

Shanghai Fraternity Association Donates HK$1.3 Million for Bursaries

The Shanghai Fraternity Association Hong Kong Limited donated HK$1.3 million to CUHK to establish the Shanghai Fraternity Association Diligence Bursaries from 2017–18. Bursaries will be offered to 65 financially needy students who demonstrate diligence in their studies, among them 15 students from Lee Woo Sing College. Each bursary recipient will be awarded HK$20,000.

CUHK and King’s College London Partner in Dual Degree Programme in Law

CUHK’s Faculty of Law and the Dickson Poon School of Law at King’s College London will offer a Dual LLB-JD Programme commencing from 2018–19. Being the first of its kind in Hong Kong, the programme will provide students with an opportunity to study towards a LLB degree awarded by King’s and a JD degree awarded by CUHK in four years instead of five if separately undertaken at each university, and to potentially qualify for admission to practice law in England and Wales and in Hong Kong. A memorandum of agreement was signed by Prof. Joseph J.Y. Sung (left), CUHK Vice-Chancellor and Prof. Edward Byrne AC (right), King’s President, for the new programme.
Lung Ying-tai on the Way out of a Perplexing Youth

Prof. Lung Ying-tai, a celebrated Taiwanese writer, delivered a talk at the New Asia Amphitheatre on 22 September 2017 as the speaker of the University Lecture on Civility. Professor Lung opened with how times have changed from her childhood to this day and age—when she was young, power-holders and the elite were placed on a pedestal, while in the age of globalization, ‘citizens become netizens and Internet celebrities are on a par with opinion leaders.’ From the adventure of a perplexing youth, she shared her realization of 13 things. The lecture began at dusk and lasted till the sky was full of stars.

A screening session of the documentary Seeing Off 1949—Lung Ying-tai’s Journey was held a day prior to the lecture. The documentary was shot while Professor Lung was writing her literary masterpiece The Big River Big Sea (1949). It tells the story of the many Chinese families that were broken up by the Japanese invasion and the civil war. In the debriefing session, Professor Lung urged the young audience to interview the elderly family members so as to gain a fuller perspective of one’s historical foothold.

Gala Dinner Raises HK$40 Million for CUHK Development

Over 140 tables of guests attended the Gala Dinner hosted by the University at the Grand Hall of the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre on 1 September 2017. The event raised more than HK$40 million to support CUHK’s future development and education endeavours, in particular for promoting Chinese culture and student development.

A number of renowned artists, community leaders, and outstanding alumni, staff and students of CUHK performed items from traditional Chinese arts and culture at the dinner. The event also featured a Chinese orchestral performance.
Legume Symposium Sets Blueprint for Legume Research

Over 100 participants from 37 universities on six continents gathered at CUHK from 8 to 17 June 2017 for the WUN Symposium cum Research Summit on Impacts of Grain Legume Research and Development in Developing Countries. The symposium was organized by Prof. Lam Hon-ming (4th left), director of the Centre for Soybean Research. Worldwide Universities Network (WUN) is a global higher education and research network of 22 universities in six continents which works together to drive international research collaboration and address issues of global significance.

The two-part event started with the CUHK Research Summit Series which showcased CUHK’s research strength in legume research to early-career researchers. It was followed by the WUN International Symposium which brought together senior researchers to formulate a blueprint for the future development of legume research.

Shaw Laureates in Mathematical Sciences 2017 Speak at CUHK

The Shaw Prize in Mathematical Sciences 2017 was awarded to Prof. János Kollár (left), Professor of Mathematics at Princeton University, and Prof. Claire Voisin (right), Professor and Chair in Algebraic Geometry, College de France, for their remarkable results in many central areas of algebraic geometry. On 27 September 2017, they were invited to speak on ‘Circles and algebraic surfaces’ and ‘Projective geometry, Kähler geometry and Hodge theory’, respectively, at Shaw College. The lectures attracted over 400 staff and students from CUHK and local universities, professionals in the field, as well as secondary school teachers and students.

The Proponent of Global Climate Governance

On 4 October 2017, the University hosted the LUI Che Woo Prize—Prize for World Civilization public lecture. Mr. Xie Zhenhua, recipient of the prize in sustainability category, spoke on ‘Steadfast Confidence, Active Promotion of Global Climate Governance’. Mr. Xie not only coordinates and promotes the prevention of climate change within China, but also plays crucial role in championing international negotiations, culminating in the successful conclusion of the Paris Agreement in 2015. In viewing of the new opportunities and challenges in global climate governance process, Mr. Xie believes that the steadfast confidence of different parties is required to implement the Paris Agreement.
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