## CHINESE UNIVERSITY BULLETIN No. 1, 2010

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# Humanities Humanity Humankind

What are the humanities? At the risk of over-simplification, they are disciplines that occupy the vast territory between the creative arts—that which Oscar Wilde famously believed should be 'useless,' as a flower is useless—and science with its steely functionality. The responsibility of the humanities is to shed light on the human condition and what it means to be human—all the struggles and aspirations, achievements and failures, values and visions that help us make sense of our lives and our world. They exist to inspire admiration and contemplation on the one hand, and to instruct and influence action on the other, and perhaps, even to help us to become truly human in the most positive sense of the word.

Among universities in Hong Kong, the Chinese University is best known for its strong humanistic tradition. In the last issue of the *Bulletin*, we profiled some of the celebrated humanities scholars in our midst. We will continue with the humanities focus in this issue by introducing some highlights in humanities teaching and research at CUHK.

## Unity in Interdisciplinarity Research Institute for the Humanities

The Research Institute for the Humanities (RIH) was set up in 1991 to bring all interdisciplinary research in the humanities under one roof. It is currently home to seven research centres, with more proposed and pending approval. The RIH is supported by private funds and external research grants.

'The Chinese University's humanistic tradition is our asset. Our Colleges offer integrated curricula emphasizing the humanities. Of course there are debates among the disciplines, but it only enables us to learn from each other,' said Prof. Leung Yuen-sang, director of the RIH and Professor of History.

Interdisciplinarity, a response to the worldwide trends of globalization, is a distinguishing feature of the institute. All staff involved in the institute hail from different departments and academic backgrounds. Professor Leung said that though not belonging to the humanities, engineering and science can also contribute to the former, quoting Prof. Steven Sample, President of the University of Southern California (USC) and an electrical engineer by training, who has done a lot to boost USC's arts and humanities programmes during his 19 years in office, incidentally with the help of another electrical engineer—provost and future USC president, Prof. C.L. Max Nikias. Professor Leung added that the Chinese University is clearly attaching great importance to the humanities and he is very happy about it.

#### The Humanities Seven

#### **Centre for Hong Kong Cultural Studies**

Publishing the new *Hong Kong Cultural Studies* series; conducting cross-disciplinary and cross-institutional research

#### Edwin Cheng Foundation Asian Centre for Phenomenology

Organizing Master Class in Phenomenology for Asian Scholars etc; publishing Journal of Phenomenology and the Human Sciences and Research on Phenomenology and the Human Sciences

#### Research Centre for Comparative City Cultures

Conducting research on the history, culture and interaction between cities, including Hong Kong, Shanghai, Shenzhen and Singapore

#### **Research Centre for Confucian Studies**

Studying Confucian teaching and learning in late imperial China, Confucianism in Lingnan China; organizing workshops on Confucian statecraft

#### **Research Centre for Human Values**

Running a joint monthly Luncheon Series for the College Fellows with Morningside College; hosting seminars, a conference and a forum

#### **Research Centre for Humanities Computing**

Maintaining research website HUMANUM; servicing University units, e.g., Department of Philosophy, to implement the CU Philosophy Information Databases

#### **Research Centre for Ming-Qing Studies**

Coordinating teaching and research on the literature, history, philosophy, religion, culture of the Ming-Qing era

## **Reading Cities, Reading Cultures** Research Centre for Comparative City Cultures

Cities enjoy civilization's most extravagant luxuries, but also bear the brunt of its financial mishaps, crime waves, and climate crises. Cities are where the successes and failures of globalization are felt most acutely, because they are where most of humanity chooses to work and live in.

Prof. Leung Yuen-sang also heads the Research Centre for Comparative City Cultures under the RIH. One of the centre's projects, begun in 2000, was a collaborative venture with the Centre for Cultural Research in the Special Economic Zones of the Shenzhen Municipal Government. The project studied cultural relations and interactions between Hong Kong and Shenzhen. 'Shenzhen was a fascinating story of growth. If you wanted to see how a newborn city took its first steps towards maturity, go to Shenzhen. There were migrant workers, you could see how policies were shaping the city....' The Shenzhen centre has been very active in organizing seminars and in publishing journals and books on Shenzhen culture. It has also held, jointly with the Department of History, an international conference on culture and the environment.

An ongoing project of the centre is 'A Tale of Two Cities: Shanghai and Hong Kong', conducted in partnership with Fudan University under the auspices of the Hong Kong—Fudan Joint Institute for Research and Development. 'When Hong Kong looks at Shanghai, she sees someone who's familiar yet alien, same yet different. That's what makes the research exciting,' remarked Professor Leung.



## **Knowing Ourselves Through Our Past** Centre for Comparative and Public History

Yes, I think we read history to contribute to a better life,' writes Prof. David Faure, director of the Centre for Comparative and Public History.

Established in 2002, the centre supports the missions and programmes of the Department of History. Drawing on different expertise through disciplinary and interdisciplinary projects, it engages in a wide range of research and educational public outreach services. Many of its projects have been nothing short of high impact and high profile. This is due as much to their excellent quality as to their relevance to the questions of who we are and what made us who we are. 'The Archives of Tung Wah Group of Hospitals (TWGH)' produced a thousand single pieces of authentic archives on the charity work as well as the bone repatriation and burial services provided by TWGH. An extension of the

project focused on the modernization of TWGH's charity work from 1930 to 1970. 'Study on Chinese Business History' explored issues such as the history of banks in China, the relationship between poverty and affluence in the late Ming and early Qing period, and the concept of family and clan in China's traditional family corporations. The centre also runs workshops and in-service teaching training for the Education and Manpower Bureau of the HKSAR.

Professor Faure himself is a Professor of History at the University and an expert in the history of lineage in south China and Chinese business history. His project 'The Historical Anthropology of Chinese Society' has recently been made an Areas of Excellence (AoE) project—a first for a humanities project—by the University Grants Committee. Details of the project can be found on pages 30 and 31 of this publication.



## **Reaffirming the Value of Values** Research Centre for Human Values

n *The Merchant of Venice*, the Prince of Morocco says, 'Pause there, Morocco, And weigh thy value with an even hand.' Who we think we are and who we think others are are matters defined by our values.

Prof. David Parker, Director of the Research Centre for Human Values (RCHV) and former Professor of English, said, 'In many disciplines recently, there's been a shift to seeing the importance of defining values. Businesses have values statements, even universities have value statements. This is a change because value-focused thinking has been excluded from advanced Western consciousness for a long time.'

The RCHV was established in 2009 to provide a renewed focus on research, teaching and public discussion in the humanities to meet challenges to existing systems and practices of ethics and human values. In particular, it strives to promote cross-cultural and intercultural perspectives on such issues. One of its projects is running a joint monthly Luncheon Series for the Morningside College Fellows, in which a Fellow speaks on some value issues raised in his/her discipline as a prelude to discussion. Speakers include Prof. Sian Griffiths from the School of Public Health and Primary Care, Prof. Leslie Young from the Asia-Pacific Institute of Business, Prof. Simon Haines from the Department of English, and Prof. Sir James Mirrlees, Master of Morningside College.

The quarrel between utility and value is an old one. John Stuart Mill was the greatest of the Utilitarians, but also a man of deep humanity. He wanted above all to reform institutions and opinions: he served utility. But then one day he asked himself: what if every social and political reform you have ever worked for was suddenly achieved, as if by magic? Would you be full of happiness? And the answer was: No! Utility is not enough. It is about means; what makes us happy has to do with ends. Mill turned to poetry for that deeper sense of fulfilment. In the humanities we, or the books we read, ask: why are we doing all these useful things? What sort of people, what sort of companions, do we want to be? What are the true ends of life?

Prof. Simon Haines, associate director of RCHV and chair of English Department

The centre will hold its inaugural conference to help give humanities its 'rightful place' in academia. Directors of humanities centres and academies from around the world will join key scholars from Hong Kong to examine questions, such as what kinds of value do the humanities have in a city largely focused on wealth generation? How can the profile of the humanities be raised?

Other activities in the pipeline include the seminar 'Shakespeare and Value', where scholars will speak on questions that arise from explorations of value in the Bard's plays, how the works themselves help us to think about value, and our valuing of Shakespeare's art.

## More Than Words Department of Music

People associate sound with emotion. Why do major chords sound bright and happy while minor chords sound sad or sinister to ears accustomed to Western music? Music conveys to listeners and expresses for composers and performers what it means to be human; and does so even more directly than words, at least for those who are musical and, for lack of a better term, musically literate. Mendelssohn himself resisting attempts to interpret his 'Songs without Words' too literally, wrote, 'What the music I love expresses to me, is not thought too indefinite to put into words, but on the contrary, too definite.'

Founded in 1965, the CUHK Department of Music is the oldest institution in

Hong Kong to offer a BA in music. Its graduates have assumed important roles at overseas universities and in the local community, such as in the government, Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra, Hong Kong Sinfonietta, RTHK, the Hong Kong Arts Festival. 'The blend of arts and humanities is most evident in the Department of Music because of our emphasis on performance and also on music as a contemplative experience,' observed Prof. Michael McClellan, chairman of the department. 'Unlike a school of music which teaches performance, we broaden our students'

> perceptions through the teaching of music theory, music history, world music, etc. What sets us apart from other music

departments is Chinese music and tradition. Most music in a globalized world emphasizes Western music.'

Besides teaching, the department organizes regular colloquia and concerts for the University and the public. Student ensembles, choir concerts and other events are held semiregularly throughout the year. And well-known musicians and artists from Hong Kong and the world come to perform on campus from time to time. The department also hosts visits by students. 'We don't anticipate all of them becoming music majors, but we want them to know more about music. Knowing music is not just about knowing your instrument. It means understanding it within the social and historical context,' explained Professor McClellan.

The department has two repositories of valuable archival materials—the Chinese Opera Information Centre (COIC) and the Chinese Music Archive (CMA). The CMA does a lot

of work that interfaces with the community. It organized the first Hong Kong symposium on *guqin* in 2008. It produced CDs on blind *naamyam* singer Dou Wun, developed material to support the new secondary school curriculum, and produced scholarly publications. The COIC is home to one of the world's most important collections of historic Chinese opera materials, including libretti, costumes and stage photos donated by opera diva Pak Suet Sin.

Research in the department falls into four main areas: composition, history, theory and musicology. But these sub-disciplinary borders are breaking down as research increasingly takes the form of a multi-faceted kind of humanistic study. For example, ethnomusicology methods are applied to the study of history. 'My teacher told me that whatever instrument you're playing, you should aspire to sound like the human voice. We're all singers in some way or another,' concluded Professor McClellan.



## **Empirically and Creatively Urban** Centre for Culture and Development

With a name containing the two most often repeated words in Hong Kong these days, the Centre for Culture and Development certainly seems to have its finger on the city's pulse. And its work shows that it does indeed.

Housed in the Department of Cultural and Religious Studies, the centre's research falls mainly into three areas that are all highly relevant to contemporary Hong Kong: cultural heritage, which looks

at the preservation of cultural heritage

from a cultural studies perspective; culture and creative industries, which involves the mapping of Hong Kong's creative industries and the conducting of studies on the city's cultural policy; and culture-led city development which studies topics related to urban redevelopment, cultural districts and creative clusters, as part of a city marketing approach. The second and third areas give the traditional understanding of culture an economic dimension.

> 'We add an empirical dimension to an integrated humanities approach in our projects, such as by borrowing

the methods of the social sciences. This interdisciplinary approach provides us with new perspectives and opportunities for new ventures,' said the director of the centre, Prof. Desmond Hui.

The centre has been commissioned by the HKSAR Government to study the manpower needs of Hong Kong's arts and cultural sector, and by the Housing Department and a property developer to install public art in Yau Tong Housing Estate. It has brought in international experts to speak on topical issues such as inviting Julie Ramage, creative and digital sector specialist and lead consultant in the development of Bradford's bid to become the first UNESCO City of Film, to share her experience of putting together a bid for Bradford City of Film, and how Bradford and the other UK cities in the UNESCO Creative Cities network, namely, Edinburgh City of Literature and Glasgow City of Music, aspire to use cultural development to address economic and social impacts. 'A lot of people from the government and other interested groups came to that talk. We hope our events will have actual impact on Hong Kong's cultural policy,' remarked Professor Hui.

The centre's advisory board of experts from Australia, Thailand, China, India, Spain, the UK and the US, ensures that it stays well connected to the international community.

## **Tracing the Way of the Dao** Centre for the Studies of Daoist Culture

Daoist priests preside over the majority of funeral rites in Hong Kong. *Tai Ping Qing Jiao* Festival (太平清醮), including the famous Bun Festival in Cheung Chau, has roots in Daoist ceremonies. About two million people pay their respects to Daoist temples throughout the territory between the first and the fifteenth day of the Lunar New Year.

Whether we know it or not, Daoism is very much a part of our lives. Yet it is arguably the least studied major religion in Hong Kong—a fact that makes the Centre for the Studies of Daoist Culture at CUHK truly unique. 'Daoism is an indigenous Chinese religion, though it was never declared a national religion. But we know it thrived from the Tang to the Ming Dynasties. That's why it is present in all aspects of life in China. Understanding Daoism enhances understanding of Chinese society and culture. Western scholars are interested in the Daoist view of the universe that emphasizes harmony with nature, so Daoist studies also helps to promote Chinese culture in nonChinese academic circles,' noted Prof. Lai Chitim, director of the centre.

Knowledge of Daoism, as of any other religion, also deepens our experience of what it means to be human. 'Unlike evangelical religions stressing crusading and personal conversion, Daoism, being indigenous, addresses the needs of daily life such as cures for illnesses, as well as burial and funerary requirements. What should be done at burials and funerals so there can be salvation for the deceased? How should ceremonies be conducted at Tai Ping Qing Jiao so that the villagers will be protected?' explained Professor Lai.

Blessed with the triple advantage of Chinese culture, international scope and local context, the centre has very established undergraduate, master and PhD curricula. Its doctoral graduates are now teaching at universities in Macau, mainland China and Taiwan. It is going to publish a book on a little studied topic—historical development and transformation of Daoism in modern Hong Kong society.

The centre's research has a regional focus on Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macau. It is currently partnering with Kyoto University on an ambitious project involving 35 Daoist scholars from all over the world. The project involves studying and writing abstracts in Chinese and English for a three-and-a-halfvolume post-Qing Daoist canon. The centre is also collaborating with Sun Yat-sen University to collect temple inscriptions found in 13 prefectures in Guangdong.



## Of Steeple and Society Centre for Catholic Studies

We human beings are distinguished from other living things by our power of thought and our will. We are rational animals or supposed to be. We have choices. From a religious point of view, these are gifts, gifts that may also bring trouble. Deciding how to use them, therefore, is our responsibility. Humanistic education helps us to develop and make full use of these gifts.

The centre was set up in the Department of Cultural and Religious Studies in 2005. How does religious education at the University contribute to the development of our unique potentials as human beings? Prof. Ha Keloon Louis, director of the centre and a Catholic priest, explained, 'Religious studies is not about trying to convert students, but enabling them to understand religions and their traditions, especially their histories which are a part of human history. Hong Kong's environment is beneficial for such studies because there's

> freedom of religion and harmony among the various religions. Religious wisdom—and not only psychology and the social sciences also has lots to teach us about the value of life, what pushes people to



suicide, whether spirits exist...if only we would let it.'

The centre has been very active in research and most of its projects shed light not only on the Catholic religion in Hong Kong and southern China, but also the development of our society. They include the study of Catholic cemeteries in Hong Kong as a product of human culture and society, the history of religious orders and missionary congregations working in Hong Kong, research on women and the church, Catholicism and a Hakka village in Sai Kung, an oral history project, and the experiences of the Hong Kong Church in implementing the internal reform of the Catholic Church as put forward by the Second Vatican Council in the 1960s.

Looking ahead, the centre hopes to enhance dialogue and interaction among the Christian religions in Hong Kong and contribute to the ecumenical movement in Hong Kong and Asia.



# The 67th Congregation







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The Chinese University of Hong Kong held its 67th Congregation for the Conferment of Degrees on 10 December 2009. Dr. the Honourable Donald Tsang, GBM, Chancellor of the University, presided at the Congregation. A total of 7,139 degrees were conferred.

The Chinese University conferred honorary doctorates on Dr. Song Jian, Dr. the Honourable Tang Ying-yen Henry and Prof. Roger Y. Tsien in recognition of their outstanding contributions to academic and scientific advancements, socio-economic progress, promotion of the well-being of the people, and the development of the University.



Breakdown of Degrees Conferred in 2008–09	
Honorary Doctorate	3
Doctor of Medicine	5
Doctor of Philosophy	247
Doctor of Education	4
Doctor of Music	1
Doctor of Psychology	1
Master of Philosophy	320
Master of Arts	1,415
Master of Divinity	9
Master of Fine Arts	3
Master of Music	2
Master of Accountancy	40
Master of Business Administration	438
Master of Professional Accountancy	70
Master of Education	112
Juris Doctor	109
Master of Laws	214
Master of Clinical Pharmacy	19
Master of Family Medicine	4
Master of Health Science	16
Master of Nursing	19
Master of Occupational Medicine	8
Master of Public Health	27
Master of Chinese Medicine	6
Master of Science	813
Master of Architecture	38
Master of Social Science	230
Master of Social Work	21
Bachelor of Arts	503
Bachelor of Business Administration	617
Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Education	32
Bachelor of Education	22
Bachelor of Engineering	332
Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery	133
Bachelor of Nursing	171
Bachelor of Pharmacy	27
Bachelor of Chinese Medicine	17
Bachelor of Science	596
Bachelor of Social Science	495
Total	7,139

#### **Dr. Song Jian**

Dr. Song Jian is a distinguished state leader and a world-renowned scientist. He is currently Honorary Chairman of the Governing Board of the Chinese Academy of Engineering. Dr. Song has made important contributions to optimum control theory, and technologies for developing missiles and satellites. As a staunch believer in 'rejuvenating the country through science and education', he introduced a great number of important projects which have successfully brought about technological and economic advancements to the country. The University conferred upon Dr. Song the degree of Doctor of Laws, honoris causa, in recognition of his exceptional contributions to the country and to his strong support for CUHK.



#### Dr. the Honourable Tang Ying-yen Henry

Dr. the Honourable Tang Ying-yen Henry is the Chief Secretary for Administration of the HKSAR. A renowned entrepreneur before he joined the Government, he has been the Chairman of the Federation of Hong Kong Industries for three terms, and a member of the Legislative Council for many years. He assumed the posts of Secretary for Commerce, Industry and Technology, and Financial Secretary in 2002 and 2003, respectively. Since 2007, he has served as the Chief Secretary for Administration. Dr. Tang has had a long association with CUHK. He was the Vice-Chairman of the Board of Trustees of New Asia College and he established the 'Henry Tang Scholarship'. The University conferred upon Dr. Tang the degree of Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*, in recognition of his outstanding and dedicated service to the Hong Kong community, as well as his contributions to the University.

#### Prof. Roger Y. Tsien

Prof. Roger Y. Tsien, 2008 Nobel Laureate in Chemistry, has made outstanding contributions to the fields of chemistry, cell biology and pharmacology. Currently, he is Professor of Pharmacology and Professor of Chemistry and Biochemistry at University of California, San Diego, and is also a member of the Institute of Medicine and the National Academy of Sciences in the US, and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. The University conferred upon Professor Tsien the degree of Doctor of Science, *honoris causa*, in recognition of his academic achievements and contribution to

humanity.

Citations in full at www.cuhk.edu.hk/cpr/ pressrelease/091210\_citations\_e.pdf

## Former Vice-Chancellor Prof. Charles K. Kao Returns to CUHK

Prof. Charles K. Kao, former CUHK Vice-Chancellor and Nobel Laureate in Physics 2009, returned to Hong Kong in February 2010 to attend a series of celebrations held in his name. His first public appearance in the city since the

Nobel Award Ceremony in Stockholm last December took the form of a homecoming to the institution he had led and the campus where he had lived for nine years before retiring in 1996.



On 5 February, officiating at the opening ceremony of the CUHK exhibition 'The Lore of a Laureate: A Tribute to Charles Kao, Former CUHK Vice-Chancellor and Nobel Laureate',

Professor and Mrs. Kao (3rd and 2nd left) were joined by Dr. the Hon. Donald Tsang (4th left), Chief Executive of the HKSAR and CUHK Chancellor; Dr. Vincent Cheng (3rd right), Council Chairman; Prof. Benjamin W. Wah (1st left), Acting Vice-Chancellor; as well as two Distinguished Professors-at-Large and Nobel Laureates of CUHK, Prof. Yang Chenning (2nd right) and Prof. Sir James A. Mirrlees (1st right).

The exhibition ran from 6 February to 20 March at the exhibition hall of the University Library, showcasing the Nobel Prize Medal and Diploma, and other medals belonging to Professor Kao.





(Left) The Nobel Prize Medal and Diploma

(Below) Dr. Vincent Cheng presents Professor and Mrs. Kao with a digital photo frame, containing many of their precious moments at CUHK

(Bottom) Officiating guests touring the exhibition









On 25 February, Professor Kao attended a banquet hosted by United College in his honour at the Staff Common

Room, Cheung Chuk Shan Amenities Building. The bond between United College and Professor Kao began in 1970 when he joined the College to establish the Department of Electronics.



(Right) Prof. Fung Kwok-pui, College Head (right), presenting a souvenir to Professor and Mrs. Kao.

(Below) Guests posing with Prof. and Mrs. Charles K. Kao (front row, 8th left and centre) before dinner.





(Below) College members from the Faculty of Science at the Caine Lane Campus in April 1972 (Prof. Charles K. Kao, front row, 6th right, Prof. Ma Lin, front row, 3rd right)







On 14 March, Prof. and Mrs. Charles K. Kao officiated at the kick-off ceremony of the 'Walk with Professor Kao' CUHK Walkathon and hit the road with close to 3,000 attendees, comprising current students, staff, alumni, Council members, friends of CUHK and the public amid azaleas in full bloom.

The event raised HK\$3 million for the Charles K. Kao Scholarship Endowment Fund and an online training programme for family caregivers of people with cognitive loss.

Prof. and Mrs. Charles K. Kao left Hong Kong on 20 March and issued an open letter, thanking Hong Kong people for their enthusiasm and support.















# Two Projects Made Areas of Excellence

The University Grants Committee announced the funding results of the fifth round of its Areas of Excellence (AoE) Scheme in September 2009. A total of 28 proposals were received and five outstanding projects were selected as AoEs, two led by CUHK researchers. Together they will receive funding of over HK\$103 million over an eight-year period.

'Institute of Network Coding' led by Prof. Yeung Wai-ho Raymond, Professor of Information Engineering, received funding of over HK\$ 80 million. 'The Historical Anthropology of Chinese Society' led by Prof. David Faure, Professor of History, acquired over HK\$23 million.

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## Institute of Network Coding

The paradigm for data transport through a computer network, which is often referred to as the information superhighway has long been store-and-forward. This is analogous to the routing of mail or commodities. An intermediate node in routing does not alter the data being forwarded. The internet is a gigantic network connected by countless routers which forward messages to their intended destinations.

In the 1990s, CUHK professors published the Network Coding Theory. This theory replaces routers with coders, which code different messages during transmission and decode them upon reaching their destination. In this way, the capacity and efficiency of communication over the network are greatly enhanced.

Network coding is considered one of the most significant breakthroughs in information science. The main objective of this AoE project is to make Hong Kong a major centre of network coding by building a world-leading Institute of Network Coding. This institute will conduct forefront research on the theory of network coding and its various applications for the Internet, wireless communications, information security, data storage, and bioinformatics.

Network coding has brought about a paradigm shift in data transport by developing a method to achieve maximum information flow in a network and made network communications more efficient, reliable, robust and secure. Professor Yeung cited the traditional peerto-peer (P2P) data sharing network as an example of how network coding technology has revolutionized communications. Under normal circumstances, it takes five to six minutes for a traditional network to stabilize the transmission of a video stream. However, this process can be shortened to 20 to 30 seconds by using network coding technology.

To nurture top talent, the institute will recruit 10 to 15 research professors and post-doctoral researchers. 'We hope to enhance the standards of information engineering research and education in Hong Kong within a few years,' said Professor Yeung. 'In the long run, our goal is to attract overseas investors to set up research institutes and to develop related industries in Hong Kong.'

## The Historical Anthropology of Chinese Society

Led by Prof. David Faure, director of the Centre for Comparative and Public History, this project is the first humanities project ever to be made an AoE. Following the approach of combining field and documentary research, the research team attempts another explanation for variations in Chinese local society.

The project will study 15 geographic areas in China to recover the history of both how local society acquired and identified with its own characteristics, and incorporated into and accepted the broad expanse of a unified culture.

Researchers will document objectively observable indications of local ritual traditions and reconstruct the history of the local institutions in which they were employed. These indications include architectural features and literate traditions closely related to local religion or ancestral sacrifice, the hagiography of local deities, and village ceremonies performed by villagers themselves or by Buddhist and Daoist specialists. By comparing the time frame of separate local histories, the project will construct a history of China from the bottom up. It will demonstrate the very significance of historical anthropology as an approach to understanding China's history.

Professor Faure explained that he is primarily interested in the gradual changes in social structure and regional identity that have taken place in China over the past millennium. His team will attempt to relate these regional discourses to the overall history of China, so as to better understand the country's complexity. He aims to construct a history of China from the perspective of ordinary people, as this bottom-up approach can deliver important perspectives that might be missed by more traditional

approaches. 'Villagers often know more about the history of their own district than the scholars do,' he said.

Fourteen scholars from Hong Kong, mainland China and the US will work together on this project. Professor Faure said, 'The AoE funding will allow us to widen our focus. We used to concentrate on the history of southern China, but we can now extend our research to the rest of China.'







## Foundation Stone Laid for Lee Woo Sing College



The Foundation Stone Laying Ceremony of Lee Woo Sing College was held on 25 January. The ceremony was officiated by The Honourable Tsang Tak-sing (4th left), Secretary for Home Affairs; Prof. Zhang Junsheng (4th right), chairman of the Development Committee of Zhejiang University; Mr. Yao Eng-chi (3rd left), chairman of Pao-Sang Education Foundation and president of The Cross-Strait Hakka Cultural and Economic Exchange Association; Dr. Alice Piera Lam Lee Kiu-yue (3rd right); Mr. Lee Woo-sing (2nd left); Dr. Li Wo-hing (2nd right), founder of the College; Prof. Lawrence J. Lau (1st left), CUHK Vice-Chancellor; and Prof. Joseph W.Y. Lau (1st right), founding master of the College.

Lee Woo Sing College was established in 2007 with the generous support of Dr. Li Wo-hing, the College founder, and his family. It is named after Dr. Li's brother, Mr. Lee Woo-sing.



Prof. Lawrence J. Lau (left) presenting a souvenir to Mr. Lee Woo-sing Mr. Lee Woo-sing has high expectations of Lee Woo Sing College. 'A college does not only impart knowledge; it also cultivates among students a commitment to the needy, to the elderly, and to the community,' remarked Mr. Lee. He wishes that students of Lee Woo Sing College will be encouraged to serve the community and the country; to achieve 'harmony' in their dealings with the world in accordance with the College motto; to treat others with moderation; to be objective in their analyses and receptive of different opinions in their approach to problems.

Prof. Lawrence J. Lau described the establishment of Lee Woo Sing College at CUHK by Dr. Li Wo-hing and his family as a perfect manifestation of the traditional Chinese virtue of fraternity. It also gave the University the honour to name our new College after Mr. Lee Woo-sing.

The College is expected to admit its first cohort of students in the 2011–12 academic year.

Located by Residence Road, Lee Woo Sing College will be built along the contours of the hill



# The Best and the Brightest

### Accountancy Graduates Sweep Top Awards in Exam

Gall top awards in the latest Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants Qualification Programme (QP) Examination held in June 2009. In total, nine CUHK graduates seized 13 top prizes in the QP module examinations held in 2008 and 2009. The seven top prize winners were all accounting graduates. They were: Miss Wong Hau-yan (1st left, top prize



in financial management module); Mr. Yeung Tin-wai (2nd left, top prize in taxation module); Miss Jing Chui-suen (2nd right, gold, Li Fook Shu Memorial Prize); Mr. Chan Zhong-wai (1st right, silver); Miss Chan Wai-yi (bronze); Miss Li Pui-in (3rd left, ICAWE/Simon Morris Memorial Prize) and Mr. But Ho-chun (3rd right, ICAEW/ Simon Morris Memorial, December 2008 session).

#### Grand Slam for Rowing Team at Intervarsity Championships

CUHK defeated HKU to win the 23rd Intervarsity Rowing Championships for both the men's and women's teams on 13 September 2009.

The day began with the women's 1,500m race and ended with the men's 3,000m. The CUHK rowing team won both, capturing the grand slam at the event.


# Biochemistry Student Wins Grand Prize in FameLab Contest

Cheung Ka-lun Anthony, a final year biochemistry student, stormed to victory in the first British Council FameLab science communication competition held in Hong Kong. He impressed both the judges and the audience with his graphic depiction of the aging process at the final. He had three minutes to convince the judges



of his chosen scientific argument—the key roles oxygen and sugar play in both sustaining life and causing aging—and was judged best on the basis of the content, clarity and charisma of his presentation. Anthony beat nine other finalists to bring home the grand prize and was voted the 'Audience Choice'.

# **Three Silvers in Friendship Games**

The fifth University Friendship Games, a sporting event organized by CUHK jointly with Peking University and the University of Taiwan, took place this year from 27 to 31 October 2009 at the Sports Centre of Peking University. The CUHK teams clinched silver in the three competitions, namely, women's basketball, men's and women's badminton, men's and women's table tennis.





Nursing Student Wins Individual Cross Country Championship

The 23rd Annual Cross Country Meet of the University Sports Federation of Hong Kong was held on 1 November 2009 on CUHK campus. A total of 173 athletes from 11 institutions participated in the event. Miss Yiu Kit-ching, a Year 3 nursing student, won the women's individual championship for the second year.

# News in Brief

# **Appointments**

### **New Council Members**

 Dr. Paul M.L. Kan (left) has been nominated by the Chancellor as a member of the Council for three years from 27 November 2009, succeeding Mr. Chien Lee.



• Mr. Chien Lee (right) has been elected by the Council as a member of the Council for three years from 16 December 2009, succeeding Dr. Edgar W.K. Cheng.



#### Senior Advisor to the Council

Dr. Edgar W.K. Cheng has been appointed by the Council as Senior Advisor to the Council with effect from 16 December 2009.

# **Vice-Chancellor Designate**

The Council of CUHK approved the appointment of Prof. Joseph J.Y. Sung on 10 November 2009 as the next Vice-Chancellor of the University for five years from 1 July 2010.





#### **Appointment of Registrar**

Mr. Eric S.P. Ng has served as Registrar of the University on a full-time basis from 1 January 2010, and ceased to be Director of Registry Services with effect from the same date.

# **Professorial Appointments**

- Prof. Wei Juncheng (left) has been appointed Professor of Mathematics with effect from 1 August 2009.
- Prof. Wong Wang-chi Lawrence (right), Professor



of Humanities, has reassumed duty at the Department of Translation, as director of the Research Centre for Translation of the Institute of Chinese Studies, and as director of the Centre for Hong Kong Cultural Studies of the Research Institute for the Humanities on 31 December 2009, after a leave of absence for three years.



#### **New Faculty Dean**

Prof. C.P. Wong has been appointed dean of the Faculty of Engineering from February 2010.

# **New Provost**

Prof. Benjamin W. Wah assumed duty as Provost of the University on 30 December 2009.





# New College Master

Prof. Lau Wan-yee Joseph, Professor of Surgery, has been appointed Master of Lee Woo Shing College from 1 January 2010 to 31 December 2014.

#### Distinguished Professor-at-Large Awarded Royal Medal

Prof. Sir James Mirrlees (right), Nobel Laureate in Economic Sciences, Distinguished Professor-at-Large and Master of Morningside College

of CUHK, was awarded a Royal Medal 2009 by the Royal Society of Edinburgh for his economic theories, which have had great impact on global economic development. The medal was presented by The Duke of Edinburgh, Prince Philip of the UK (left), on 11 August 2009.



#### Scientist and Engineer Receive MoE Research Awards



Two CUHK researchers were honoured by the Ministry of Education of China (MoE) with its Higher Education Outstanding Scientific Research Output Awards 2009. Prof. Jiang Liwen (top) from the Department of Biology was awarded the Natural Science Award for his project 'Molecular Characterization of Plant Prevacuolar

and Endosomal Compartments', and Prof. Helen Meng (bottom) from the Department of Systems Engineering and Engineering Management was awarded the Technology Progress Award for 'Multimodal User Interactions with Multilingual Speech and Language Technologies—Research and Applications'.



# **Two Engineering Professors Elected ASME Fellows**

 $P_{\rm Department}^{\rm rof.\ Liao\ Wei-hsin\ (top)\ and\ Prof.\ Du\ Ruxu\ (bottom)\ from\ the}^{\rm rof.\ Liao\ Wei-hsin\ (top)\ and\ Prof.\ Du\ Ruxu\ (bottom)\ from\ the}^{\rm rof.\ Liao\ Wei-hsin\ (top)\ and\ Prof.\ Du\ Ruxu\ (bottom)\ from\ the}^{\rm rof.\ Liao\ Wei-hsin\ (top)\ and\ Prof.\ Du\ Ruxu\ (bottom)\ from\ the}^{\rm rof.\ Liao\ Wei-hsin\ (top)\ and\ Prof.\ Du\ Ruxu\ (bottom)\ from\ the}^{\rm rof.\ Liao\ Wei-hsin\ (top)\ and\ Prof.\ Du\ Ruxu\ (bottom)\ from\ the}^{\rm rof.\ Liao\ Wei-hsin\ (top)\ from\ the}^{\rm rof.\ Kin\ Wei-hsin\ Wei-hs$ 

been elected fellows of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) in 2009 for contributions to their fields.

Professor Liao is an expert in smart structures and vibration technologies. One of his recent inventions is a smart assistive knee brace that can improve the mobility of the elderly and those with knee joint disease. Professor Du has developed many innovative manufacturing devices and made significant contributions to monitoring and diagnosis of manufacturing processes.

The ASME elected 96 fellows from around the world in 2009. Professors Liao and Du were two of three from Hong Kong.





# Prof. John Lui Conferred ACM and IEEE Fellowships

Prof. John Lui Chi-shing, chairman of the Department of Computer Science and Engineering, has been elected a fellow by the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) and the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE).



In 2009, 47 scholars were elected ACM fellows worldwide and Professor Lui is the only one from China. The honour recognizes his extraordinary contributions to stochastic analysis of parallel storage and communication systems. IEEE also elected Professor Lui as a 2010 fellow in recognition of his outstanding contributions to

performance modelling and analysis of storage communication systems and peer-to-peer networks.

# **Physics and Biomed Professors Receive State Natural Science Awards**

• Prof. Xia Keqing of the Department of Physics Department won the second-class award of the 2009 State Natural Science Award with 'Experimental Studies of Turbulent Thermal Convection'.



The findings and discoveries of Professor Xia's research shed light on the nature of fluid turbulence, which is regarded as the last unsolved problem in classical physics. They also provide insight into natural phenomena such as polarity reversal in geomagnetic fields, atmospheric circulation and oceanic circulation.

Apart from this, the findings enhance people's understanding of heat transfer and mixing in engineering applications.

 Prof. Christopher H.K. Cheng at the School of Biomedical Sciences has won the second-class award of the 2009 State Natural Science Award for his research 'Composition Analysis of Certain Medicinally Important Plants',



which is a collaborative project with Nanjing University and Lanzhou University. The 20-year research adopts modern scientific methods to elucidate the components of some 200 plants, paving the way for the development of new medicines from natural products and enhancing international recognition for traditional Chinese medicine.

# Vibration Platform to Improve Human Musculoskeletal System

Ateam led by Prof. Leung Kwok-sui, Professor of Orthopaedics and Traumatology, has developed an innovative vibration platform that uses mechanical stimulation, specifically low-magnitude and



high-frequency whole-body vibration (LMHFV) matching the natural frequency of the human body, to improve the musculoskeletal system.

LMHFV technology has wide applications. Besides the elderly, bone fracture patients and post-menopausal women, it can also benefit patients with osteoarthritis and parkinsonism, athletes who need to train up their muscles, etc.

#### New Pacing Therapy to Prevent Heart Failure

mplantation of pacemakers is the conventional treatment for patients with slow heart rhythms. Several studies have shown that pacing in the right ventricle may lead to a worsening of function in the most important chamber of the heart, the left ventricle.

Prof. Yu Cheuk-man, head of the Division of Cardiology, Department of Medicine and Therapeutics, and director (Clinical Sciences) of the Institute of Vascular Medicine, conducted a clinical trial titled



Prof. Yu Cheuk-man (right) and Dr. Chan Yat-sun Joseph, clinical assistant professor (honorary) of the Department of Medicine and Therapeutics

'Pacing to Avoid Cardiac Enlargement' from 2005 to 2009. The study showed that the novel biventricular pacing can avoid the adverse effect of right ventricular pacing.

# **Over HK\$91 Million Research Grants for 104 Projects**

G rants totaling some HK\$91 million from the government and various local and oveaseas sponsors for projects undertaken by CUHK researchers were received during the period from October 2009 to February 2010.

Sponsors	Amount Involved (HK\$)	No. of Projects
AIDS Trust Fund	346,291	2
Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists Research Grant	420,590	1
Automotive Parts and Accessory Systems R&D Centre Limited	1,994,968	1
Beat Drugs Fund	1,756,060	3
Collaboration with the Hong Kong R&D Centre for Logistics and Supply Chain Management Enabling Technologies Limited	9,867,700	1
Commerce and Economic Development Bureau	1,313,429	1
German Research Foundation	160,000	1
Germany/Hong Kong Joint Research Scheme	122,000	3
Glaucoma Foundation	38,400	1
GlaxoSmithKline Oncology International Ethnic Research Initiative Grant	1,940,362	1
Grant on Novel Research and/or Community Project on Cancer, The Hong Kong Anti-Cancer Society	581,736	3
Health and Health Services Research Fund	8,900,425	17
Hong Kong Arts Development Council	1,492,100	4
Hong Kong College of Community Medicine	50,000	1
Hong Kong Logistics Development Council	300,000	1
Innovation and Technology Fund	25,337,924	19
Microsoft Research Asia	327,000	3
NSFC/RGC Joint Research Scheme	5,062,990	8
Office of the Telecommunications Authority	399,600	1
Pneumoconiosis Compensation Fund Board Research Fund	1,590,800	1
Professional Services Development Assistance Scheme	197,000	2
Quality Education Fund	6,740,300	3
Research Fund for the Control of Infectious Diseases	15,147,101	20
RGC Collaborative Research Fund	6,900,000	1
RGC-Fulbright Hong Kong Dissertation Research Programme for 2009/2010	361,920	3
Sustainable Development Fund	289,327	1
World Bank—Partnership for Child Development	88,338	1

# MOU with Shenzhen to Explore Establishment of CUHK Shenzhen Campus

CUHK signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the Shenzhen Municipal Government on 6 February 2010, expressing the intent to enhance collaboration in education by establishing a CUHK campus in Shenzhen.



The MOU was signed by Ms. Yan Xiaopei

(front row, right), Vice Mayor of the Shenzhen Municipal Government, and Prof. Lawrence J. Lau (front row, left), Vice-Chancellor of CUHK.

According to the MOU, CUHK will find a suitable partner according to the relevant regulations of the country, which will join CUHK in running the campus. The Shenzhen Government will render support in terms of land grant and infrastructural constructions.



Prof. T.J. Wong (right), dean, CUHK Faculty of Business Administration, and Prof. Ali Altarrah, executive committee member of Kuwait–Asia University, exchange the signed MOU

# CUHK and Kuwait–Asia University Partner to Establish Business School

CUHK entered into a partnership on 30 November 2009 with Kuwait–Asia University (KAU) to establish the KAU Business School in Kuwait. This innovative partnership will, for the first time, synergize the expertise on both Asia (China) and the Middle East to nurture top business talents, and promote business collaborations between these two regions.

CUHK will help to set up the school from scratch and render advice on the long-term development strategy, curriculum and programme design as well as high-level management of the school.

# **Activities and Events**

#### **Inauguration of School of Biomedical Sciences**



The inauguration ceremony and symposium of the School of Biomedical Sciences (SBS), Faculty of Medicine, were held on 8 January 2010. The officiating party included Prof. Benjamin W. Wah (6th left), Acting Vice-Chancellor; Prof. Fok Tai-fai (3rd left), Dean of Medicine; Dr. Owen M. Rennert (6th right), chairperson of the Scientific Advisory Committee, SBS; and Prof. Chan Wai-yee (3rd right), director, SBS.

### **Inauguration of School of Architecture**



The Department of Architecture has changed its status to the School of Architecture on 1 August 2009. An inauguration ceremony was held on 15 January 2010 on campus. Officiating at the event were The Honourable John Tsang (6th left), Financial Secretary of the HKSAR Government; The Honourable Mrs. Carrie Lam (7th left), Secretary for Development of the HKSAR Government; Prof. Lawrence J. Lau (5th left), Vice-Chancellor; and Prof. Ho Puay-peng (4th right), founding director of the School of Architecture, among others.

# Inauguration of School of Public Health and Primary Care

The opening ceremony of the School of Public Health and Primary Care was held on 30 November 2009 with over 300 local and international guests in attendance.

Dr. York Chow (front row, 7th right), Secretary for Food and Health, The Government of HKSAR; Dr. C.H. Leong



(front row, 4th left), member of the Executive Council; Prof. Li Liming (front row, 6th right), vice president of the Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences and Peking Union Medical College; Prof. Chiu Wen-ta (front row, 3rd left), president of the Asia-Pacific Academic Consortium for Public Health; Dr. Donald Li (front row, 2nd left), president of the World Organization of Family Doctors (Asia Pacific Region), and Prof. Sian Griffiths (front row, 5th left), director of the School of Public Health and Primary Care, officiated at the ceremony.

#### **International Poetry Nights**

n late November 2009, the Centre for East Asian Studies (CEAS) organized, in collaboration with partners on and off campus, the International Poetry Nights in Hong Kong, a four-day event filled with cultural and academic activities.

The event included three seminars, five poetry recitals and a forum. There were 14 leading poets in attendance, seven from abroad.



Japanese poet Takahashi Mutsuo

The recital of a Tang poem by students of the Diocesan Boys' School kicked off the Opening Ceremony and Poetry Recitation on the evening of 26 November 2009 at the Teaching Complex at Western Campus. The poets read their poems in their mother tongues as paintings and photos accompanied by Chinese and English translations of the lines appeared on a screen. The two-hour event was a visual and audio feast.

# **Activities and Events**



#### **CUHK and US Geological Survey Sign Protocol**

The Institute of Space and Earth Information Science and the US Geological Survey (USGS) have recently entered into a protocol on scientific and technical cooperation in earth sciences at the end of 2009, making CUHK the first Asian university to reach such a broad-based research agreement with USGS. CUHK Vice-Chancellor Prof. Lawrence J. Lau (left) and USGS Associate Director for Geography Dr. Bryant Cramer (right) officiated at the signing ceremony.

Under the auspices of this protocol, both parties can enhance cooperation in acquiring and managing remotely sensed data, conducting earth and environmental science research for applications, and implementing other common responsibilities and exchanges.

#### Institute of Global Economics and Finance Established

CUHK has established the Institute of Global Economics and Finance to contribute conceptual and policy ideas to the opening up of China's financial system through its research. Led by its founding director, Prof. Liu Pak-wai (photo), Professor of Economics, the institute will also offer executive education programmes.



Members of the institute include Prof. Lawrence J. Lau, CUHK Vice-Chancellor and Ralph and Claire Landau Professor of Economics; Prof. Sir James Mirrlees and Prof. Robert A. Mundell, both CUHK Distinguished Professors-at-Large and Nobel Laureates in Economic Sciences; Prof. Sung Yun-wing, chairman of the Department of Economics; Prof. Leslie Young, Professor of Finance; and Mr. Joseph Yam, former chief executive of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority of the HKSAR.

# Henry Tang Ying-yen on Magnanimity



The Honourable Henry Tang Ying-yen, Chief Secretary for Administration of the HKSAR, shared his views on leadership with some 1,500 students at the Shaw College assembly on 18 September 2009.

Mr. Tang said a smart leader should be willing to work with people who are smarter than him, and should partner with those who can make up for his

weaknesses. He pointed out that the government should not detach itself from the people. It is important to listen to voices from all walks. He quoted Winston Churchill saying, 'Courage is what it takes to stand up and speak. Courage is also what it takes to sit down and listen.'

### Japanese Ambassador on East Asian Overtures

Mr. Takanori Kitamura, Ambassador of Japan to Greece, gave a lecture titled 'EU Experience of Integration and East Asian Overtures' on 17 September 2009 on campus, to an audience of over 100.



Mr. Kitamura first introduced the institutional characteristics of the EU and analysed the traditional sovereign states that have existed for the last 350 years, and the European countries that have relinquished sovereign rights and formed a community with one another for mutual benefit.

He then claimed that East Asia would benefit from forming a regional community. He stressed that China and Japan are to shoulder the main task of initiating and leading community building and for that purpose, the strategic partnership between China and Japan is extremely important.

# Intellectual Cross-currents



#### Former Observatory Head on Sustainable Development

Mr. Lam Chiu-ying, former director of the Hong Kong Observatory, delivered a lecture titled 'Sustaining What?' on CUHK campus on 16 October 2009.

It is often assumed that sustainable

development includes economic, social and environmental aspects. However, Mr. Lam questioned whether the last has received enough attention in Hong Kong. He pointed out that emissions of carbon dioxide and methane have been increasing since the emergence of farming and rearing activities, and the industrial revolution, and the rise has been going on at an alarming speed over the past 50 years due to urbanization, materialism and consumerism, spurring the threat of global warming.

Mr. Lam opined that sustainability could only be achieved by maintaining harmony between man and nature.

#### Shaw Astronomy Laureate on Stars and Planets

Prof. Frank H. Shu, Shaw Laureate in Astronomy 2009, spoke on 'The Formation of Stars and Planetary Systems' on 8 October 2009 at Shaw College Lecture Theatre to an audience of 400.

Professor Shu made his most important contributions in the area of star formation. His theory is also relevant to the origin of the solar system. He was



the first to propose that protostellar disks reflect light from stars at their centre and are evaporated by it over a few million years.

# Former Japanese Vice-Minister on a Nuke-free World

On 22 October 2009, Mr. Masayoshi Hamada, Japan's former Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs (2006–2007) and a member of the



House of Councillors, gave a public lecture on 'Peace-building Towards a Nuclear Weapons-Free World—Working with the Citizens of the World' on campus.

Mr. Hamada presented the new movements for nuclear disarmament, including the Ottawa Process, the Oslo Process, the Hiroshima-Nagasaki Protocol,

and the *Hiroshima-Nagasaki Declaration*. Then he shared his proposal on the 'New Hiroshima-Nagasaki Process' and offered options for immediate action.

# **Microsoft Chief Officer on Future of Computing**

Mr. Craig Mundie, chief research and strategy officer of Microsoft Corporation, shared his vision for the future of computing with over 400 academics and students at CUHK on 16 November 2009.

Mr. Mundie talked about the technologies that will change how people interact with the world, and discussed the



opportunities for every academic discipline to harness the power of computing. He also demonstrated and showcased a number of advanced technologies, including spatial computing, anticipatory computing, 3D and natural user interfaces. Mr. Mundie described how when combined, they will create changes, positively impacting important global issues such as education, health care, energy and the environment.

# **Intellectual Cross-currents**

#### Lecture Series by CAE Academicians



Four academicians from the Chinese Academy of Engineering (CAE) visited CUHK this year for four days from 1 December 2009. They were (above from left to right): Prof. Sun Jiulin from the Division of Agriculture, an expert in resource management; Prof. Li Deren from the Division of Information and Electronic Engineering, an expert in photogrammetry and remote sensing; Prof. Lu Shibi from the Division of Medicine and Health, a renowned orthopaedist; and Prof. Zhang Yun also from the Division of Medicine and Health, an authority on atherosclerosis and heart failure. The four spoke for the Lecture Series by Academicians on 3 December.

#### Wei Lun Public Lecture on Climate Change

CUHK presented the Wei Lun Public Lecture on 'Rainstorms, Typhoons and Cold Surges in East Asia: Observation, Simulation and Impact of Climate Change' by Prof. Lau Ngar-cheung Gabriel from the Geophysical Fluid Dynamics Laboratory (GFDL) of the US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the



Department of Geosciences, Princeton University, on 13 January 2010. In his lecture, Professor Lau reviewed the current state of observations and computer models in climate and weather research.

A CUHK alumnus, Professor Lau is the lead scientist of the Climate Diagnostics Group at the GFDL. He concurrently serves at the Department of Geosciences and Program of Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences at Princeton University.

#### Learning from Overseas Health Care Experiences



A public lecture entitled 'Can New Roles in Nursing Make a Difference in Healthcare: Learning from the UK Experience' was organized by the Nethersole School of Nursing on 23 September 2009. The speaker was Prof. Fiona M. Ross (back row, 6th left), dean of the Faculty of Health and Social Care Sciences, Kingston University and St. George's, University of London. The lecture attracted over 380 participants.

# Symposium for Health Care Workers Serving Chinese

On 12 December 2009, about 100 health care professionals in palliative care from the mainland, Taiwan and Hong Kong attended the second Palliative Care Symposium for Health Care Workers in Chinese Population jointly organized by the



Faculty of Medicine of CUHK and Li Ka Shing Foundation 'Heart of Gold' Hong Kong Hospice Service Programme at the Postgraduate Education Centre.

Representatives from the foundation, Dr. Cheung Wai-lun (4th right), director (Cluster Services), Hospital Authority and Prof. T.F. Fok (4th left), dean of the Faculty of Medicine, officiated at the opening ceremony. Prof. Wang Ying-wei (2nd left), chief, Heart Lotus Hospice, Tzuchi Hospital, Taiwan delivered a plenary lecture entitled 'Complementary Therapy in Palliative Care'.

# Intellectual Cross-currents

#### **Conference on Globalization and Family Changes**

he Family and Group Practice Research Centre, Department of Social Work, and the Centre for Social and Political Development



Studies, Hong Kong Institute of Asia-Pacific Studies, jointly organized the International Conference on 'Globalization and Family Changes: Policy Implications, Service Initiatives and Evidence-based Practice' on 7 and 8 December 2009 at the Esther Lee Building. Mr. Patrick T.K. Nip (2nd right), director of Social Welfare, and Prof. Paul Lee (1st right), dean of the Faculty of Social Science, officiated at the opening ceremony.

A total of 28 presentations were made in the two-day event, including four keynote speeches and 24 parallel presentations. The event drew an audience of over 270 from Hong Kong, Taiwan, Macau and mainland China.

#### Workshop on Spatial Information Technologies

The Institute of Space and Earth Information Science (ISEIS) held an International Workshop on Spatial Information Technologies for

Monitoring the Deformation of Large-Scale Manmade Linear Features on campus in mid-January 2010. Prof. Lin Hui, director of ISEIS, officiated at the opening ceremony and Prof. Henry N.C. Wong (right), Pro-Vice-Chancellor of CUHK, gave a welcoming address. Academician Tong Qingxi (left), chairman of the Expert Committee of the National Remote Sensing Centre, was the honorary guest.



Experts and scholars from China, the United States, Germany, Italy, Japan, Singapore, France, etc., attended the two-day workshop, discussing topics in 'Recent Advancements in SAR/InSAR Theory and Applications', 'Subsidence Measurement at Infrastructure Elements' and 'Precise Measurement of Urban Subsidence'.



