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Every Friday, a car leaves the Chinese University for CUHK facilities in Shenzhen, taking members of the University with it. While it is common knowledge that CUHK has an MBA Town Centre and a Graduate Law Centre in Central, far fewer people are aware of our important technology research facilities in our sister city up North. The trip to Shenzhen takes, immigration procedure inclusive, less than an hour — about the same time required to go south to Central. Perhaps it’s time to readjust our concept of the university campus. If Central is the University’s urban site, Shenzhen is its expansive backyard where countless opportunities and resources are waiting to be harvested.

The drawing of this new map was made possible with the signing of a memorandum of cooperation in 2006 between CUHK and the Shenzhen Municipal Government. In the same year, the CAS-CUHK Shenzhen Institute of Advanced Integration Technology was established. Three years later, in 2009, a groundbreaking ceremony was held for the CUHK Shenzhen Research Institute, a research unit solely founded by the Chinese University. On the same occasion, the 2006 memorandum was renewed with the aim of further enhancing collaboration between CUHK and Shenzhen in education and research, and advancing technology transfer.
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Officiating at the ceremony were (from left) Mr. Gao Guohui (Deputy Secretary General, Shenzhen Municipal Government), Prof. Ambrose Y.C. King (former Vice-Chancellor, CUHK), Prof. Kenneth Young (Pro-Vice-Chancellor, CUHK), Mr. Xu Qin (Executive Vice Mayor, Shenzhen Municipal Government), Mr. Zhan Yongxin (Deputy Commissioner, Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the HKSAR), Mr. Xu Guanhua (Member, Standing Committee of the National Committee), Mr. Liu Yupu (Deputy Party Secretary, Guangdong Provincial Committee, and Party Secretary, Shenzhen Municipal Committee), Mr. Xu Zongheng (Deputy Party Secretary, Shenzhen Municipal Committee, and Mayor, Shenzhen Municipal Government), Mr. Pan Yonghua (Director General of Education, Science and Technology Department of the Liaison Office in the HKSAR), Prof. Arthur K.C. Li (former Vice-Chancellor, CUHK), Mr. Liu Yingli, (Deputy Party Secretary, Party Organization Office, Shenzhen Municipal Government, and Science and Technology Adviser to the Mayor of Shenzhen), and Mr. Li Ping (Secretary General, Shenzhen Municipal Government). In attendance were over 100 government officials and academic personalities from Shenzhen and Hong Kong.

Prof. Lawrence J. Lau, Vice-Chancellor of the University, remarked, ‘This is the starting point of CUHK’s development in Shenzhen and a milestone in Shenzhen-Hong Kong cooperation.’ Prof. Xu Guanhua, member of the Standing Committee of the National Committee, said, ‘Today we witness not only the ground-breaking of a building, but the grand vision of a university.’

The CUHK Shenzhen Research Institute (SRI), located in Shenzhen Virtual University Science Park, Nan Shan District, is scheduled for completion at the end of 2010. It will be a U-shaped, 10-storey building with a gross floor area of 25,000 sq m, providing spaces and facilities for state key laboratories, technology transfer, spin-off companies, training and teaching.

Through the SRI, the Chinese University will advance its collaboration with Shenzhen by developing work in education, research and industrialization in Shenzhen and the Greater Pearl River Delta. As the Chinese University’s teaching platform in Shenzhen, the SRI will develop professional programmes complementing Shenzhen’s development, as well as non-degree and training programmes in engineering, management and hygiene, and groom talent for Shenzhen, the Pearl River Delta and the country. The SRI will serve as an important Shenzhen research base for CUHK. Through it, the Chinese University will advance collaboration with the Shenzhen Municipal Government to establish world-class laboratories and take part in state key research, complementing the national development plan for the Pearl River Delta. The SRI will also become a centre of industrialization for the University’s technology research. It will do so by collaborating with corporations in Shenzhen, promoting the transfer of CUHK technologies and fostering the economic reengineering of the Pearl River Delta.
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Prof. Xu explains how SIAIT came to be established. ‘It all began in 2005. Shenzhen is undergoing rapid economic development, but its education and research sectors are lagging behind. It has a lot to benefit from the Chinese University’s strengths in teaching and research. In return, it can offer much needed space and resources to CUHK, which, in its endeavours to become a world-class research-led university, requires the support of a vast research base, just as MIT does the Lincoln Laboratory and UC Berkeley, the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. It was with these considerations in mind that we discussed the possibility of collaboration with the Shenzhen Municipal Government and the Chinese Academy of Sciences. Both agreed with our views and SIAIT materialized in 2006.’

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SIAIT has seven research centres and six research laboratories, almost all headed by CUHK professors. It employs about 250 people, half staff and half students (postgraduate). Its research involves integrating computer, communication, electronic and mechanical technologies to create new products and technologies that will benefit the human race.

‘Twenty years ago, the computing and communication fields were developing their technologies. Now that we have all these advanced technologies, what are we going to do in the next 20 years? We need to integrate them into systems people can use. For instance, can we make wearable computers, like the i-Phone? How can we reduce our cars’ fuel consumption? Can we use the human voice to control computers?’ Prof. Xu is certainly no stranger to integrated systems. An expert in robotics and intelligent control systems, he has developed a smart wheelchair to improve the quality of life of the physically challenged and spectacles for overseas tourists that provide instant translations of signage.

Work of SIAIT

Center for Automotive Electronics
Center for Photovoltaics Solar Energy
Center for Human Computer Interaction
Center for Integrated Electronics
Center for Intelligent and Biomimetic Systems
Center for Intelligent Sensing
Center for Precision Engineering
Laboratory for Ambient Intelligent and Multimodal Systems
Laboratory for Cognitive Technologies
Laboratory for Culture Integration Engineering
Laboratory for Photonics Integration Technologies
Laboratory for Semiconductor Equipment
Laboratory for Multimedia Integration Technologies

Ni Dong
Hometown: Suzhou, Jiangsu Province
University: Southeast University, Nanjing
Current status: PhD student (Department of Computer Science and Engineering CUHK)

My research is focused on medical imaging and virtual medicine, so I work at the Centre for Human Computer Interaction at the SIAIT. This means that I get to conduct research at CUHK and deal with affairs other than research in Shenzhen. It’s good training in project application, management, communication and collaboration. I split my week between Shenzhen and Hong Kong, travelling once a week from Hong Kong to Shenzhen, which I find acceptable. After graduation, I intend to find a faculty position in Shenzhen since I am more accustomed to life on the mainland.
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To realize its aim of helping China become the world’s manufacturing centre, the SIAIT engages in application-driven research that serves the advanced manufacturing and modern service industry. In the next three to five years, the SIAIT will focus on three areas, namely, robotics and intelligent systems, advanced manufacturing equipment, and green technology for automobiles and energy.

### Outstanding Research Projects

**Powertrain System of New Energy Vehicles**

A major cause of environmental pollution is the use of cars, yet the present generation of hybrid vehicles has room for improvement. This project by the Centre for Automotive Electronics addresses both fundamental and frontier issues in the hybrid vehicle. The aim is to reduce emission and increase fuel efficiency, and develop hybrid systems with simple structures, optimal functions, low cost and high reliability. The focus is on the research and application of new materials and methodologies, intelligent integration control and reliability technology.

**Medical Augmented Reality-based Interventional Therapeutic Procedures**

This project by the Centre for Human Computer Interaction targets neurovascular interventional procedures which are complex, dangerous and currently lack effective methods of training, education and pre-treatment planning. The project creates a PC-based system that simulates real neurovascular interventional procedures. Using a deformable vascular model and medical augmented reality technologies, it allows users to manipulate interventional devices, such as catheters and guidewires within the 2-D and 3-D reconstructed vascular images in a manner similar to that encountered in an actual procedure. It also enables users to understand the interaction of vascular structures.

**Intelligent Household Robots for Security and Service**

As people live longer lives, society has to deal with the needs created by an ageing population. This project by the Centre for Intelligent and Biomimetic Systems, aims at developing an intelligent household robot to safeguard the home and render simple services. The robot can behave pretty much like a human being, due to functions such as autonomous running, navigation and orientation, motion planning, obstacle avoidance, entertainment and chatting. It can also conduct video surveillance, detect abnormal sounds such as breaking glass, and set off the alarm upon detection of gas, fire and smoke.
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Research funding has been rising rapidly on the mainland and the trend is expected to continue. The Shenzhen Municipal Government will set aside over $10 billion for research funding in 2010 — an enormous sum compared to Hong Kong. And the fact that the city only has one university, compared to eight in Hong Kong, will boost the chances of CUHK scientists of securing support.

Besides, researchers like to see their findings turned into something useful. ‘Scientists need to know how their research can be applied. Getting support allows them to find out where the demand is. This helps them to finetune their focus,’ Prof. Xu observes. There is also a larger talent pool on the mainland. ‘There are only about 30,000 university candidates per year in Hong Kong, compared to 30 million on the mainland.’

The SIAIT received over $57 million in funding in its first two years (2007 and 2008) of operation. Most of this came from national and local research foundations. The Chinese University’s role is to provide leadership and scientific expertise. In May, the SIAIT moved from Shekou to a beautiful site in Xili measuring over 200,000 sq m.

With the globalization of its economy, China’s financial sector urgently needs top quality professionals. To help train talent for the country’s development, the University has collaborative programmes in business and supply chain management jointly with the Tsinghua University Graduate School at Shenzhen.

Increased Incentive

The Faculty of Business Administration of CUHK began offering an MBA Programme in Finance jointly with the School of Economic and Management of the Tsinghua University Graduate School at Shenzhen since 2004. The programme caters for mainland executives from major financial institutions and corporations. Qualified applicants are interviewed jointly by the two universities before they are enrolled. The courses are taught by faculty from the CUHK and Tsinghua University on the Tsinghua University campus in Beijing. Upon completion of their studies, students will be granted an MBA degree issued by the Chinese University of Hong Kong. The graduates of the programme have become senior executives of listed companies, multinationals or large enterprises. Some have even joined the core management team of financial institutions. Prof. He Jia, director of the programme and professor in the Department of Finance, CUHK, said, ‘The programme is very highly regarded by the industry because of its rigorous training and because it brings together theory and practice. That sets it apart from other programmes offered by other institutions on the mainland.’ The programme has produced 170 graduates since its inception in 2004.

CUHK–Shenzhen Collaborative Academic Programmes

The Faculty of Engineering of CUHK offers a part-time taught programme jointly with the Tsinghua University Graduate School at Shenzhen. The objective of the programme is to help local and multinational companies facing logistics and supply chain issues, to develop creative solutions that will improve logistics and supply chain efficiencies and reduce costs by grooming their logistics and supply chain executives. Students who complete the course will be conferred a Master of Science by the Chinese University of Hong Kong. Prof. Yan Houmin, programme director and professor in the Department of Systems Engineering and Engineering Management, said, ‘In addition to a global outlook and comprehensive knowledge in management, students of the joint programme will be equipped with profound professional expertise and practical skills. It will be a training base of talent in logistics and supply chain management in China.’ Over 200 candidates have enrolled on the programme since it was launched in 2003.
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If Harvard were only a university in Massachusetts, and Tsinghua only a university in Beijing, they could never be great. To become a world-class, international university, CUHK must not confine itself to Hong Kong. In an age of disappearing borders, shrinking distances and shortening time, seats of intellectual power aspiring to world-class stature need to think global in order to make a mark.
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The 65th Congregation

The Chinese University held its 65th Congregation for the Conferment of Degrees on 4 December. Dr. Edgar W.K. Cheng, Chairman of the University Council, presided at the congregation.

A total of 6,677 degrees were conferred, including honorary doctorates on four distinguished persons. They are: Dr. Fung Kwok-king Victor, chairman of the Li & Fung Group of companies and chairman of the International Chamber of Commerce; Prof. Hsu Cho-yun, an internationally renowned historian; Prof. Louis J. Ignarro, a distinguished molecular and medical pharmacologist and 1998 Nobel Laureate in Physiology or Medicine; and Prof. Yang Tzu-yow Henry, a world-famous aerospace engineer and Chancellor of University of California, Santa Barbara.

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A world-renowned molecular and medical pharmacologist and 1998 Nobel Laureate in Physiology or Medicine, is currently Distinguished Professor of Pharmacology at the University of California at Los Angeles, and an Honorary Professor of Medicine at CUHK. The University conferred upon Prof. Ignarro the degree of Doctor of Science, *honoris causa*, in recognition of his valuable advice and support to CUHK in the research and development of medicine and science.

Prof. Yang Tzu-yow Henry

Professor Yang Tzu-yow Henry is a world-renowned aerospace engineer and Chancellor of the University of California at Santa Barbara. Apart from prominent achievements in aeronautics and astronautics, Prof. Yang has made enormous contributions to university education and the governance review of CUHK by offering invaluable advice to the University Council. The University conferred upon Prof. Yang the degree of Doctor of Science, *honoris causa*, in recognition of his remarkable contributions to promoting diversity in higher education, and his unstinting support for the academic development of the University.

Dr. Fung Kwok-king Victor

Dr. Fung Kwok-king Victor, eminent entrepreneur and community leader, is the chairman of the Li & Fung Group of companies and of the International Chamber of Commerce. Dr. Fung has been a member of the Council of CUHK and has taught its MBA programmes. He also supported the establishment of the Li & Fung Institute of Supply Chain Management & Logistics and the Li & Fung Scholarship at CUHK. The University conferred upon Dr. Fung the degree of Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*, in recognition of his exceptional achievement in the business sector as well as his generous support and contributions to the University.

Prof. Hsu Cho-yun

A world-renowned historian, Prof. Hsu Cho-yun has made distinguished contributions to CUHK as Professor of History and Honorary Research Professor. As a director of the Chiang Ching Kuo Foundation for International Scholarly Exchange, Prof. Hsu provided valuable guidance and support to CUHK in establishing The Chinese University of Hong Kong–Chiang Ching Kuo Foundation Asia-Pacific Centre for Chinese Studies at the Institute of Chinese Studies. The University conferred upon Prof. Hsu the degree of Doctor of Literature, *honoris causa*, in recognition of his excellent contributions to the development of education in Hong Kong, and his achievements in advancing ancient and modern Chinese studies.

(Citations in full are available at www.cuhk.edu.hk/cpr/pressrelease/081204citations_e.pdf)
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In April 2008, The Chinese University of Hong Kong became the first institution to be audited by the Quality Assurance Council of the University Grants Committee (UGC). The report, compiled by independent experts, confirms that the University is upholding its mission of becoming a bilingual research-led comprehensive university of world-class standing. Some six to nine months before the audit visit, the University conducted an institutional self-review in accordance with the audit process as specified in the Audit Manual and culminating in the Institutional Submission to the QAC. Prof. Lawrence J. Lau, Vice-Chancellor of the University, says that the University is both ‘proud’ to be the first institution audited and ‘heartened by the outcome’.

Commendations and Affirmations

The QAC commended CUHK in eleven areas, in particular, for:
- its overall commitment to assuring the quality of its taught programmes
- its introduction of a rigorous system to ensure the quality of its academic programmes
- the variety and range of experiential learning opportunities provided to students, in particular exchange and internship programmes
- the level of academic support and pastoral care available
- its articulation of distinctive attributes its graduates should possess
- its approach to curriculum design
- its implementation of a bilingual policy
- the requirement that all students pass an IT Proficiency Test before graduation
- its recognition and reward of good teaching
- its measures for providing support to teachers and enhancing teaching performance
- its overall approach to assuring a quality experience for research students

The QAC also made eight affirmations, in particular, of:
- the action plan formulated by the University for self-improvement
- the move from elected to appointed deans
- the dissemination of good teaching practices through the Exemplary Teaching Award
- the incorporation of all undergraduate curriculum components into the Integrated Framework
- the adoption of an outcomes-based approach to raise curriculum effectiveness
- the continued study of the use of technology to enhance students’ life and learning
- its plans to reexamine the role of the Independent Learning Centre
- its decision to implement the decisions of the Senate Committee on Teaching and Learning Working Party on Assessment

Recommendations

The QAC made a number of recommendations to the University. These included articulating the attributes of its postgraduate students more clearly, developing an institutional e-learning strategy, and getting more external input for curriculum development.

Commitment to Self-betterment

Mr. Eric Ng, University Registrar, says, ‘We received many commendations from the QAC which also affirmed many of our quality-assurance measures. What the QAC recommended overlapped to a large extent with what we had planned to implement anyway. We are making good progress with the action plan and will submit a progress report to the QAC in March 2010.’

In a similar vein, the Vice-Chancellor assures that CUHK will not rest on its laurels. ‘To meet the needs of globalization, CUHK will continually improve the quality of its education and learning environment, ensuring the disciplinary relevance of its curriculum, providing whole-person education, enriching students’ learning experience, and nurturing graduates with generic skills. Members of the University are heartened by the outcome of the QAC Audit.’
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The Campus Still Cares

On the evening of 2 April 2009, to the accompaniment of orchestral music and the liturgical sounds of a pipe organ punctuated by ethereal plucks of the harp, singing wafted out from Chung Chi College Chapel and rippled across CUHK campus. It was the annual concert of Chung Chi Choir, an event dedicated to raising funds for rehabilitation services for Sichuan earthquake victims. Some 160 members from the choir and guest choirs sang the poignant Requiem by Gabriel Fauré. “This event is held not only in memory of the lives lost, but also to express our concern about the well-being of the survivors,” said Rev. Dr. Ng Wai-man Andrew, Chung Chi College Chaplain. The 600 people in the audience were all touched.

A year has passed since the Sichuan earthquake. In his prayer at the College assembly, Rev. Dr. Ng said, “When we cheer for the first Chinese astronaut who made the nation’s first ever spacewalk, we do not forget the struggles of our countrymen who lost their limbs in the Sichuan earthquake and their ability to walk on earth. As media attention wanes and sympathy subsides, they’re faced with little other than a long rehabilitation process and a life completely different from the one they knew.” The CUHK community still cares about Sichuan; many relief and reconstruction programmes launched after the earthquake are still going on.
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Nanba Workstation

To facilitate earthquake relief in Sichuan, the School of Public Health established partnerships with the Department of Anthropology of Sun Yat-sen University, the Sichuan Institute of Nationality Studies, the Ethnic and Religious Affairs Bureau of Pingwu County in Sichuan, and the Hong Kong Concordia Welfare and Education Foundation to launch a workstation in the town of Nanba in Pingwu county, Sichuan on 22 December 2008.

Nanba was severely affected by the earthquake. The missions of the workstation are to provide collaborative disaster relief services and to conduct research studies assessing victims’ needs, physical and mental health conditions and their utilization of health services. The workstation is strongly supported by local officials and staffed with two workers staying in Nanba for a period of three years. The workstation is going to organize talks for victims on mental health to be delivered by experts from Hong Kong in May and June 2009.

Visits by Shaw College

Encouraged by College Head Prof. Joseph Sung, a delegation formed by Shaw students paid several visits to the quake-affected areas. Their most recent visit was from 23 to 28 December 2008 to Dujiangyan and Leiguzhen in Beichuan of Sichuan. They visited families, a kindergarten and two primary schools. They also presented 200 comforters donated by Mr. Hamen Fan, trustee of the College, to local officials for distribution to victims. The delegation found that the victims seemed positive about their situation and accepted relief supplies with dignified gratitude. Some of the bereaved even volunteered their help.

I visited the Beichuan county seat, which was hard hit by the earthquake. It has to be rebuilt elsewhere because the whole place was wiped out by the earthquake and landslides. When going to high ground for a panoramic overview of Beichuan, we were approached by villagers selling photos of Beichuan before and after the earthquake. At first we were disconcerted and upset by their attempt to cash in on their misfortunes. But after some thought, I realized that although it seems a bit cruel, it’s a respectable means of self-reliance in the face of catastrophe. And their photos do inform visitors of the severity of the quake.

Thomas Lam, Year 4, Nursing

Miss Bonnie L.S. Kan (1st right, front row), College Secretary, said, ‘The students are more mature than I expected. After the daily debriefing sessions, they would ask me and Prof. Sung to rest while they planned the activity details for the next day, often until the small hours. We were relieved and inspired to see how touched they were by the victims. This was a journey of spiritual growth.’ Their tender solicitude told the Sichuan people that the world cares about them. Just as Prof. Sung (1st right, 2nd row) said to his students, ‘The objective of this trip is achieved if you make one person happy. The magnitude of your help is never too small.’ The College will pay another visit to the affected areas in June 2009 in the hope of offering comfort to more in Sichuan.
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Helping Them to Help Themselves

Funded by Wu Zhi Qiao (Bridge to China) Charitable Foundation, a team comprising teachers and students from the Department of Architecture at CUHK and Xi’an University of Architecture and Technology led 25 villagers at Huili County, Liangshan State, which was hit by the earthquake, to build the first sustainable, low-cost and anti-seismic farmhouse at Maan Village. After an effort of some three months, the model house was completed before the Chinese New Year in 2009.

Prof. Edward Ng from the Department of Architecture at CUHK said, “Our village house prototype is different from the conventional brick-and-concrete village house which consumes a lot of energy and has great environmental impact. The design is based on a traditional mud brick courtyard with living spaces for both humans and their animals, and combined with scientific innovation to improve structural stability and ventilation. Moreover, we try to build with local materials and skills following the principle of “High Science and Low Technology.” Under the guidance of the team, the villagers reemployed construction waste resulting from the quakes to build houses.

With the endorsement and support of the Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development (MOHURD), the team made use of their experience and study results to produce an illustrated reader-friendly booklet for the villagers of rural Sichuan, that contains instructions on how to rebuild their homes in a self-reliant and scientific way. The project serves as an example for the rebuilding of farmhouses in other rural areas. The government of Huili County estimates that a minimum of 50 million yuan could be saved if the entire county uses this method to build houses.

This project, which serves as an example of self-help and mutual support, is the first joint effort by MOHURD and a Hong Kong charitable NGO to reconstruct quake-ravaged areas. This support programme will not only bring relief to the victims, but will also serve as a source of hope and confidence.

Stand and Walk Tall

Convened by Prof. K.M. Chan, Professor of Orthopaedics and Traumatology, Faculty of Medicine, ‘StandTALL’ is a charitable organization aimed at providing quake victims with a comprehensive rehabilitation programme and training up medical staff in Sichuan. Since its inception, it has already served more than 1000 patients. Patients fitted with the prosthesis enjoy greater mobility.

To lay down a comprehensive rehabilitation programme with opportunities for research and academic exchanges, Prof. Fok Tai-fai, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine of CUHK, signed the Agreement of Academic Exchange and Cooperation with Prof. Li Yuanfeng, president of the Sichuan Academy of Medical Sciences and Sichuan Provincial People’s Hospital, on 9 February 2009. The agreement shows the commitment of the Faculty of Medicine to rehabilitation services in Hong Kong and Sichuan.

Among other members of the delegation led by Prof. Li Yuanfeng were three quake survivors supported by ‘StandTALL’. Dai Guohong and Gong Guilin are both teenaged bilateral amputees. During their visit to Hong Kong, they received state-of-the-art rehabilitation advice and medical treatment. Joint medical consultations were also organized between the medical professionals in Hong Kong and Sichuan to further enhance the treatment protocol.

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I hope that Wu Zhi Qiao could get the message across to everyone that nobody will be forgotten.”

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A New Home for S.H. Ho College Students

The ground-breaking ceremony for S.H. Ho College was held on 15 December 2008. The ceremony was officiated by Dr. Ho Tzu-cho David (centre), chairman of The S.H. Ho Foundation; Dr. Ho Tzu-leung (2nd left), director of The S.H. Ho Foundation; Dr. Edgar W.K. Cheng (2nd right), Chairman of the Council, CUHK; Prof. Lawrence J. Lau (1st left), Vice-Chancellor, CUHK; and Prof. Sun Sai-ming Samuel (1st right), Master-Designate of S.H. Ho College. In attendance were about 60 members of the University and supporters of the College including Sir and Lady Lee Quo-wei.

‘Half a century ago, Sir Winston Churchill said, “A University education ought to be a guide to the reading of a lifetime”. S.H. Ho College will be furnished with fully residential and communal dining facilities in two years’ time,’ said Prof. Lau. ‘I sincerely hope that the intimate and supportive environment of this new College will foster close relationships among students and staff, and help students to continue to learn and grow, even after graduation.’

The construction of S.H. Ho College is expected to be completed after two years. The College will accommodate a total of 600 students and accept its first cohort of students in the fall of 2010. The College aims to nurture in students a profound sense of culture, high moral standards, dependability and a strong sense of personal responsibility. This sets the foundation for students to work and serve the community in the future. The College will encourage students to engage in community services to establish a sense of empathy.

All S.H.Ho College students as well as the Master will reside and dine in the College. Prof. Sun said, ‘S.H. Ho College will strive to provide a homely setting, so that its students and teachers can learn, develop, and grow together in a caring, supportive, interacting, and stimulating environment, like a seed in fertile soil which germinates, grows, develops, and flourishes.’

Morningside College Celebrates Ground-breaking

The ground-breaking ceremony for Morningside College was held on 17 December 2008. Officiating at the ceremony were Dr. Gerald L. Chan (centre), member of the Planning Committee for Morningside College and director of the Morningside Foundation; Mr. Ronnie C. Chan (2nd left), director of the Morningside Foundation; Dr. Edgar W.K. Cheng (2nd right), Chairman of the Council, CUHK; Prof. Lawrence J. Lau (1st left), Vice-Chancellor, CUHK; and Prof. Sir James Mirrlees (1st right), Master-Designate of Morningside College.

‘Undergraduate colleges have been a part of life at the Chinese University since our inception four and a half decades ago,’ noted Prof. Lau. ‘The creation of a new college is thus an affirmation of an important dimension of our history and evolution as an institution, as well as an indication of our ability and willingness to change and innovate well into the future. We have very high hopes for Morningside College, and for its students and graduates.’

The new College is expected to accept its first students in the fall of 2010, and will accommodate a total of 300 students each year at equilibrium. The College hopes to foster a high level of intimacy among students and faculty, and a style of learning that is only possible in a small, cohesive community. Students will reside and dine in the College, as will the College Master.

‘Morningside College will have a nicely open podium on top of the dining hall, and some grounds around, where people can interact casually and informally and engage in face-to-face discussion with teachers,’ said Prof. Mirrlees.

He expected the College will admit a large proportion of students from outside Hong Kong as well as a good sample of excellent local students. There will also be frequent distinguished visitors to the College from all walks of life and all parts of the world.
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Women’s Swim Team Returns in Triumph

At the 29th Annual Intervarsity Games Swimming Gala held on 12 October 2008, the CUHK women’s swimming team brought home the overall championship. Swimmer Lee Leong-kwai (3rd right, front row) captured three golds (50m and 100m freestyle, and 200m individual medley), becoming the individual overall champion.

More Victories for Cross Country Women’s Team

The CUHK women’s team won the overall championship—their third in a row—of the 22nd Annual Cross Country Meet of the University Sports Federation of Hong Kong on 2 November 2008. Athletes Miss Yiu Kit-ching and Miss Mak Sau-ning Tania also won the women’s individual championship and third place respectively.

CUHK Lands Biggest Win Ever in Intervarsity Games

The 29th Annual Intervarsity Games between CUHK and The University of Hong Kong wrapped up on 18 January 2009 at the University Sports Centre. Athletes from CUHK performed brilliantly in the three-day match, which covered swimming, athletics, ball games and archery. Of the 23 events, CUHK won 15, walking away with the championship trophy. It was the biggest win of the University.

Men’s Badminton Team Clinches Championship

The CUHK men’s badminton team beat The University of Hong Kong by three to two to capture the championship of this year’s University Sports Federation of Hong Kong Men’s Badminton Competition at the City University Sports Hall on 22 March 2009.
The Best and the Brightest

Women’s Swim Team Returns in Triumph

At the 29th Annual Intervarsity Games Swimming Gala held on 12 October 2008, the CUHK women’s swimming team brought home the overall championship. Swimmer Lee Leong-kwai (3rd right, front row) captured three golds (50m and 100m freestyle, and 200m individual medley), becoming the individual overall champion.

More Victories for Cross Country Women’s Team

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CUHK Represents Hong Kong in Top Global Mooting Competition

A team of law students from the Chinese University headed to Washington, D.C. in March 2009 to represent Hong Kong in the world’s largest and most prestigious mooting competition, the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition. The CUHK team won the qualifying round against The University of Hong Kong and City University of Hong Kong, and took home four out of the five prizes available in the qualifiers, including Best Team, Best Memorial, Best Oralist, and Runner-up to the Best Oralist.

Entering its 50th year, the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition attracts participation from over 500 law schools drawn from more than 80 different countries. This year’s Jessup problem concerns the right of one state to use military force unilaterally in another state to protect human rights and prevent ethnic cleansing. Each team had to write two 12,000-word memorials and make complex legal arguments before an illustrious panel of judges.

The CUHK team was made up of PCLL and JD students. They were: Spencer Wong (1st left), Peter Chang (2nd left), Chester Hui (3rd left), the Best Oralist, Simone Hui (4th left) and Charmine Cheung (1st right), Runner-up to the Best Oralist. The team was coached by Prof. Michael Ramsden (2nd right) of the Faculty of Law.

CUHK Clinches Top Awards in e-Challenge Cup

The Chinese University won the gold, silver and bronze awards for the Hong Kong and Macau region in the biannual Sixth e-Challenge Cup held at Sichuan University, Chengdu on 17 and 18 November 2008.

The gold award for the Hong Kong and Macau region went to a team of graduate students of the Department of Systems Engineering and Engineering Management. The winning plan, entitled ‘VMiner–Better than a Chartered Financial Analyst’, introduces an artificial intelligence technology which can provide real-time stock market analysis to individual investors. ‘Paradise of Internet Robots’ took second place and ‘Golden Rice Mountain’ received bronze. Prof. Hugh Thomas, director of the Centre for Entrepreneurship, was the consultant.

The e-Challenge Cup competition received over 600 entries from 356 higher education institutions in 31 provinces, and 168 made the finals. There were 16 entries in total from eight Hong Kong higher education institutions.

CUHK Graduates Sweep Oxford-Croucher Scholarships

Sin Yung-wa (top), and Choi Lai-sheung (below), postgraduate students in biology and chemistry respectively, won all two University of Oxford Croucher Scholarships (UOCS) to pursue doctoral studies at the prestigious university in autumn 2008. They were each awarded some HK$1.2 million. Yung-wa is furthering his studies in zoology and Lai-sheung, in chemical biology.

Having in love with biology since childhood, Yung-wa said, ‘Failure occurs 99% of the time and success only 1% of the time in scientific experiments. But it is often the small research findings which lead us to continue seeking the truth.’

Lai-sheung said a CUHK summer research project during her undergraduate years gave her a taste of what chemistry research was about. The project fueled her passion for scientific research.

The Croucher Foundation and the University of Oxford jointly established the UOCS scheme for postgraduate students in Hong Kong to study the natural sciences, technology or medicine at the doctoral level at Oxford. The year 2008–09 is the first time the awards are offered. The UOCS scheme selects students by means of a stringent procedure. The applicants must present a detailed scientific proposal of the research they intend to pursue at Oxford. Those shortlisted will be interviewed by a panel of scientists on professional knowledge and interest in scientific exploration.

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Global Business Students Win Four Championships

Four teams of Global Business Studies (GBS) students of the University have won the championship in four case competitions from December 2008 to April 2009.

KPMG Business Administration Paper 2008

The business plan writing competition organized by the Hong Kong Federation of Business Students attracted more than 200 teams from eight universities in Hong Kong. The GBS team, comprising four Year 3 GBS students—Oliver Chan, Ruby Chik, Lily Hui and Kayan Leung—defeated representatives from the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, Hong Kong Baptist University, and Hong Kong Shue Yan University in the final on 22 February 2009, bagging the championship trophy.

Kogod Gartenhaus Financial Case Competition 2009

The case competition was held in Washington, D.C. on 7 February 2009. It was the first time the Faculty of Business Administration sent students to the event. The CUHK team comprised four Year 2 GBS students—Arnold Chan, Kelvin Chan, Helen Mak and Junes Shek. They defeated 47 teams to win first place.

Kogod Gartenhaus Financial Case Competition 2009

The business case competition focused on real life managerial problems, aiming at enhancing participants' understanding of the real business world and promoting team spirit. Over 120 teams from local institutions took part in the competition. The CUHK team, comprising six Year 3 GBS students (Ruby Chik, Margaret Fung, Candy Lam, Cheryl Lau, Spencer Liu and Justin Yeung), was named the champion in the final on 22 December 2008. Ruby Chik also won the Best Presenter Award.

Joint University Business Management Challenge 2008

Three Year 1 GBS students were champions at the Hong Kong final of The HSBC Young Entrepreneur Awards held on 3 April 2009. The team, comprising (from left) Jeff Hui, Juliana Tam and Derek Sin, beat 342 teams from other universities in Hong Kong and will represent Hong Kong in the regional competition held in June 2009. The award is an annual regional business plan competition for post-secondary students in Hong Kong and other Asian countries to demonstrate their creativity and business acumen.

News in Brief

New Council Members

The Honourable Chan Hak-kan (1st left), the Honourable Cheung Yu-yan (2nd left), and the Honourable Wong Yuk-man (3rd left) were elected by the members of the Legislative Council, from among their own number, as members of the University Council for three years from 17 October 2008.

New Provost

The Council of The Chinese University of Hong Kong announced the appointment of world-renowned computer scientist, Prof. Wah Wan-sang Benjamin, as Provost for a term of five years. Prof. Wah is expected to assume duty before the end of 2009. He is also appointed as Professor of Computer Science and Engineering.

New Pro-Vice-Chancellor

The Council of The Chinese University of Hong Kong has appointed Prof. Henry N.C. Wong, Professor of Chemistry and Head of New Asia College, as Pro-Vice-Chancellor for two years from 1 February 2009.

New Associate Pro-Vice-Chancellor

Prof. Fung Tung, chairman of the Department of Geography and Resource Management, has been appointed as Associate Pro-Vice-Chancellor on a concurrent basis from 1 January 2009 to 31 July 2011.
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- Mr. Willy S.M. Lin (1st right) has been nominated by the Chancellor as a member of the University Council for three years from 20 October 2008, succeeding Mr. Richard T.K. Li.

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New University Dean of Students
Prof. Dennis K.P. Ng, professor in the Department of Chemistry, has been appointed to succeed Prof. Ho Puay-peng as University Dean of Students on a concurrent basis from 1 February 2009 to 31 July 2011.

New Faculty Deans
The Council of The Chinese University of Hong Kong has appointed the following deans for a period of five years:

- Prof. Hsiung Ping-chen (left), an internationally active historian, as dean of the Faculty of Arts with effect from 2 July 2009;
- Prof. Wong Tak-jun (centre), Professor of Accountancy, as dean of the Faculty of Business Administration with effect from 1 February 2009; and
- Prof. Fok Tai-fai (right), Professor of Paediatrics, as dean of the Faculty of Medicine with effect from 1 November 2008.

Emeritus Professor
Prof. Allan M.Z. Chang has been awarded the title of Emeritus Professor of Obstetrics and Gynaecology with effect from 15 October 2008.

Professorial Appointments
- Prof. John Lagerwey (left) has been appointed Professor of Chinese Studies with effect from 1 September 2008.
- Prof. Pang Chi-pui (centre) has been appointed Professor of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences with effect from 1 October 2008.
- Prof. Simon N. Haines (right) has been appointed Professor of English with effect from 2 February 2009.

Two Scholars Twice Conferred State Natural Science Award
Prof. Xie Zuowei (left), Professor of Chemistry, and Prof. Chan Hsiao-chang (right), Li Ka Shing Professor of Physiology and director of the Epithelial Cell Biology Research Centre, were each conferred a second-class award of the 2008 State Natural Science Award (SNSA) in recognition of their achievements. Previously, in 1997, Prof. Xie and Prof. Chan were also conferred awards by the SNSA.

Prof. Xie Zuowei was honoured for the project ‘Carboranes and Metallacarboranes: Synthesis, Structure and Reactivity’ he solely conducted, which focuses on the research at the interface of organic and inorganic chemistry. Prof. Chan Hsiao-chang was honoured for her collaboration with Prof. Zhang Yonglian of the Shanghai Institute of Biochemistry and Cell Biology, Chinese Academy of Sciences in ‘Molecular Mechanism Underlying Sperm Maturation in the Epididymis’. Their pioneering discoveries contribute significantly to the understanding of molecular mechanisms regulating male fertility.

Organized by the State Council, the award is the highest honour given by the central government in recognition of advancement in basic scientific research.
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Prof. Liu Yunhui (left) of the Department of Mechanical and Automation Engineering and Prof. Tang Xiaoou (right) of the Department of Information Engineering have been elected Fellows of the prestigious Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) for their extraordinary accomplishments in ‘robotic multifingered grasping and adaptive visual servo systems’ and ‘pattern recognition and video processing’ respectively. With the two newly elected fellows, CUHK continues to rank top among all local universities with a total of 23 IEEE Fellows.

Prof. Liu Yunhui developed a real-time algorithm for stability analysis in robotic multi-fingered grasping. This algorithm greatly improved computational efficiency and grasping stability. The technique can be applied to artificial hands to improve their nimbleness. Prof. Liu also developed an adaptive visual servo system that can automatically track a specified still or moving object and respond accordingly.

Prof. Tang Xiaoou’s pattern recognition technique, providing a more accurate search result by rapidly comparing colours, shapes and faces in pictures, was adopted by MSN.com in its image search function. Prof. Tang’s video processing technique was also used by Microsoft in MSN Messenger and web cameras. This technique can accurately trace the web camera user’s face as it moves to add special effects on the user’s face for fun, such as putting on hats, masks, or showing a distorted mirror image.

CUHK Home to Most IEEE Fellows in Hong Kong

CUHK Scholars Win Cheung Kong Achievement Award for Third Consecutive Year

Prof. Chan Hsiao-chang, Li Ka Shing Professor of Physiology and director of the Epithelial Cell Biology Research Centre at CUHK, was conferred the Life Sciences Award of the 2007 Cheung Kong Award for her breakthrough discoveries in epithelial cell biology. The presentation ceremony took place at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing on 5 December 2008.

CUHK is the only university in Hong Kong with Cheung Kong Achievement Award recipients on its faculty. Prof. Sung Jao-yiu Joseph, Head of Shaw College and Professor of Medicine and Therapeutics, and Prof. Lo Yuk-ming Dennis, Professor of Chemical Pathology and Li Ka Shing Professor of Medicine, were bestowed the same award for the years 2005 and 2006.

CUHK Biologist Named Croucher Senior Research Fellow

Prof. Jiang Liwen, professor in the Department of Biology and director of the Centre for Cell and Development Biology, was awarded a Senior Research Fellowship by The Croucher Foundation on 24 March 2009, in recognition of his outstanding scientific achievements in the international scientific community.

Prof. Jiang’s research focuses on the molecular mechanisms of protein trafficking and organelle biogenesis in the plant secretory and endocytic pathways, as well as their potential applications in plant biotechnology.
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Ecological School Wins International Awards

The ‘Maosi Ecological Demonstration Primary School’ designed by a team led by Prof. Edward Ng of the Department of Architecture received three awards from the Design for Asia Award (DFA Award) presented at the Business of Design Week held in Hong Kong in December 2008. They are the DFA Grand Award, the DFA Special Award for Sustainability, and the DFA Gold Award, making the project one of two designs reaping the highest number of awards at this year’s ceremony. The school project had also won commendation in the learning category of the prestigious World Architecture Festival in Barcelona earlier.

The project is located in the remote village of Maosi in the Loess Plateau region, Gansu Province, which is characterized by fragile ecological and extreme climatic conditions and a lack of resources. Serving about 200 students, the existing schools in the village are either in caves or in simple single-storey brick huts. With funding from Hong Kong donors, Prof. Ng led a team to carry out the eco-school project in Maosi village in 2002, with the aim of creating a comfortable, desirable campus for children, and demonstrating a feasible way to build a school that can address the environmental, social and economic dimensions of sustainability.

Hong Kong ICT Awards for Four CUHK Inventions

The following inventions received the Hong Kong ICT Awards 2008 in February 2009.

Non-contact Electro-cardiogram Monitoring Bedsheet

Best Lifestyle Gold Award (Home Life and Healthy Living)
Developed by a team led by Prof. Zhang Yuanting of the Department of Electronic Engineering

Electrodes made from a soft and thin conductive textile material are fixed on specific spots to monitor user’s heart rate and its variability.

The Health Shirt
Best Lifestyle Gold Award (Home Life and Healthy Living)
Developed by a team led by Prof. Zhang Yuanting of the Department of Electronic Engineering

User’s variability of heart rate and blood pressure can be measured continuously by means of the conductive material of the shirt and the indices are shown on watches or mobile phones.

From Styling Design to Fabricated Wetsuit
Best Lifestyle Bronze Award (Work Life and Professional Services)
Developed by Prof. Charlie Wang of the Department of Mechanical and Automation Engineering

Optimizing customization of clothes by transforming 3D body data to 2D pieces, hence greatly shortening production time.

Sustainability Voyage
Best Digital Entertainment Software) Certificate of Merit
Developed by Prof. Hui Kin-chuen of the Department of Mechanical and Automation Engineering

Designed for the Hong Kong Science Museum, the 3D virtual game allows participants to experience the damage of environmental pollution on the ocean, thereby reinforcing the importance of environmental protection.
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  Optimizing customization of clothes by transforming 3D body data to 2D pieces, hence greatly shortening production time.
Honours and Recognition

CUHK Wins Silver Environmental Award

The Chinese University has been conferred the silver award of the 2008 Hong Kong Awards for Environmental Excellence (HKAEE) Sectoral Awards under the category of Public Sector and Non-Government Organizations for its comprehensive and excellent environmental management. No gold prize was awarded under this category this year. A total of 366 entries competed for the Sectoral Awards in the 2008 HKAEE. CUHK came to the fore as the only award winner among tertiary institutions.

The 2008 HKAEE was jointly organized by the Environmental Campaign Committee, the Environmental Protection Department and other organizations. The award recognizes the University’s excellence in this aspect, as reflected by its comprehensive green initiatives on all fronts, and the realization of sustainable development concepts such as waste management, energy efficiency, ecological preservation, resource conservation, and environmental education.

Young Information Scientists Win International Acclaim

Three young scholars recently recruited to join the Department of Computer Science and Engineering were awarded international prizes at the end of 2008.

Prof. Lau Lap-chi became the first computer scientist to receive the Canadian Mathematical Society Doctoral Prize. The prize recognizes the outstanding performance of a doctoral graduate of a Canadian university.

Prof. Zhang Shengyu (top) and his collaborators came up with an efficient procedure which transforms zero-knowledge protocols secure in the classical setting to another that is probably also secure in the quantum setting. Their research paper received the best paper award in the International Colloquium on Automata, Languages and Programming.

Prof. Patrick P.C. Lee (bottom) and his collaborators propose the SoftRepeater system which provides a practical solution to improve the throughput performance of wireless data transfer. The research received the best paper award in the ACM CoNext 2008.

Research

Discovery in Cancer Cell Death

CUHK scientists revealed for the first time that cancer cells can reverse a chemical-induced dying process, which is generally assumed to irrevocably commit cells to die, in a study published in the British Journal of Cancer (in print on 7 January 2009).

Led by Prof. Fung Ming-chiu, the author and professor in the Department of Biology, the research team discovered that the cancer cells recovered once chemicals to induce the cells’ suicide process were removed, even after the cells had passed normal critical checkpoints. The cancer cells then regained their shape, function and continued to divide. Cells failed to recover only after the nucleus had started to disintegrate—an event that has been known to take place at the end of the cell suicide process. This finding reveals an unexpected escape tactic which cancer cells could use to survive chemotherapy.

Bowel Cancer Screening Finds Cases with No Symptoms

The Institute of Digestive Disease of the Faculty of Medicine launched the five-year ‘Bowel Cancer in Hong Kong: Education, Promotion, and Screening’ project with a generous donation from the Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust in 2008. The programme allows 10,000 asymptomatic individuals aged over 50 to undergo a free bowel cancer screening test. Subsequent to the establishment of the programme, the CUHK Jockey Club Bowel Cancer Education Centre was set up. The centre released the preliminary results of the first 1,037 participants under its screening programme on 3 February 2009.

Between May and August 2008, 1,037 qualified participants were invited to undergo bowel screening. Four cases of colorectal cancer (0.4%), 27 cases of advanced neoplasm (2.6%) and 151 cases of adenoma (14.6%) were identified. All were successfully treated. There was no complication arising from the screening procedure for most of the cases.
Honours and Recognition

CUHK Wins Silver Environmental Award

The Chinese University has been conferred the silver award of the 2008 Hong Kong Awards for Environmental Excellence (HKAEE) Sectoral Awards under the category of Public Sector and Non-Government Organizations for its comprehensive and excellent environmental management. No gold prize was awarded under this category this year. A total of 366 entries competed for the Sectoral Awards in the 2008 HKAEE. CUHK came to the fore as the only award winner among tertiary institutions.

The 2008 HKAEE was jointly organized by the Environmental Campaign Committee, the Environmental Protection Department and other organizations. The award recognizes the University’s excellence in this aspect, as reflected by its comprehensive green initiatives on all fronts, and the realization of sustainable development concepts such as waste management, energy efficiency, ecological preservation, resource conservation, and environmental education.

Discovery in Cancer Cell Death

CUHK scientists revealed for the first time that cancer cells can reverse a chemical-induced dying process, which is generally assumed to irrevocably commit cells to die, in a study published in the British Journal of Cancer (in print on 7 January 2009).

Led by Prof. Fung Ming-chiu, the author and professor in the Department of Biology, the research team discovered that the cancer cells recovered once chemicals to induce the cells’ suicide process were removed, even after the cells had passed normal critical checkpoints. The cancer cells then regained their shape, function and continued to divide. Cells failed to recover only after the nucleus had started to disintegrate—an event that has been known to take place at the end of the cell suicide process. This finding reveals an unexpected escape tactic which cancer cells could use to survive chemotherapy.

Young Information Scientists Win International Acclaim

Three young scholars recently recruited to join the Department of Computer Science and Engineering were awarded international prizes at the end of 2008.

Prof. Lau Lap-chi became the first computer scientist to receive the Canadian Mathematical Society Doctoral Prize. The prize recognizes the outstanding performance of a doctoral graduate of a Canadian university.

Prof. Zhang Shengyu (top) and his collaborators came up with an efficient procedure which transforms zero-knowledge protocols secure in the classical setting to another that is probably also secure in the quantum setting. Their research paper received the best paper award in the International Colloquium on Automata, Languages and Programming.

Prof. Patrick P.C. Lee (bottom) and his collaborators propose the SoftRepeater system which provides a practical solution to improve the throughput performance of wireless data transfer. The research received the best paper award in the ACM CoNext 2008.

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Mr. Joseph Lee (left), SBS, JP, chairman of the Environmental Campaign Committee, presenting the award to Prof. Fung Tung, Associate Pro-Vice-Chancellor, CUHK

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Activities and Events

Visit by Shenzhou-7 Delegation

The Shenzhou-7 delegation visited CUHK on 6 December 2008 and spoke to over 500 guests and local students. The delegation described the Shenzhou-7 mission, spacewalking, and the latest developments in China’s space programme. Members of the delegation included Mr. Zhang Jiangu, delegation chief, the three astronauts, Zhai Zhigang, Liu Boming, Jing Haipeng, as well as scientists and technicians of the Shenzhou project.

First Cancer Patient Acupuncture Centre Opens

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The centre is located on the third floor of the Sir Y.K. Pao Centre for Cancer, Prince of Wales Hospital. It is collaborating with the College of Acupuncture-Moxibustion and Tuina, Shanghai University of Traditional Chinese Medicine, whereby qualified and experienced acupuncturists from Shanghai University will render high quality services to patients.

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Dr. Frederick A. Tarantino, President of USRA, led a delegation to CUHK in November 2008. They met with Prof. Lawrence J. Lau, Vice-Chancellor, and paid a visit to ISEIS. With CUHK joining USRA, it is hoped that more collaborations with China in space remote sensing can be achieved via ISEIS.

Centre for Culture and Development Established

With the vision of promoting synergy between culture and development through excellence and leadership in research, the Department of Cultural and Religious Studies (CRS) has established the Centre for Culture and Development. The centre was inaugurated on 18 April 2009 by guests of honour including Mrs. Carrie Lam (3rd right), Secretary for Development, HKSAR; Prof. Kenneth Young (3rd left), CUHK Pro-Vice-Chancellor; Dr. Richard Engelhardt (1st right), senior adviser to the UNESCO Assistant Director-General for Culture; Mr. John Howkins (2nd right), celebrated author; Prof. Lai Chi-tim (2nd left), chairman, CRS; and Prof. Desmond Hui (1st left), professor of CRS and director of the centre.

Prof. Young affirmed the University’s support for the centre in using its research expertise to elucidate the synergies and tensions between culture and development. The centre has been commissioned by the Central Policy Unit of the HKSAR government to conduct a research project titled ‘Study on the Manpower Situation and Needs of the Arts and Cultural Sector in Hong Kong’, which will be completed later this year. It is also involved in other international cultural and development projects with UNESCO.
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Intellectual Cross-currents

**Sun Hung Kai Properties Nobel Laureates Distinguished Lectures**

Sponsored by Sun Hung Kai Properties, Nobel Laureates were invited to visit CUHK and speak to a broad cross-section of the community to promote the discovery and the dissemination of knowledge.

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- **Speaker:** Prof. Sir Martin Evans, 2007 Nobel Laureate in Physiology or Medicine
- **Topic:** The Origins of ES Cells

- **Date:** 3 November 2008
- **Speaker:** Prof. Kenneth J. Arrow, 1972 Nobel Laureate in Economic Sciences
- **Topic:** Economic Analysis and Social Obligation

- **Date:** 29 November 2008
- **Speaker:** Prof. William F. Sharpe, 1990 Nobel Laureate in Economic Sciences
- **Topic:** Financing Retirement: Collective and Individual Approaches

**Shenzhen IT Adviser on China’s Hi-Tech Development**

Prof. Liu Yingli, science and technology adviser to the mayor of Shenzhen, paid a visit to CUHK and delivered a talk titled ‘China’s Hi-Technology Development and Challenges: A Shenzhen Perspective’ on 4 August 2008. On the same occasion, he was conferred the title of honorary professor of the Faculty of Engineering by Prof. Lawrence J. Lau, CUHK Vice-Chancellor. About 200 mainland and local participants from the IT sector were in attendance.

**Lecture by Henan Official**

Mr. Xu Guangchun, Secretary of the Henan Provincial Committee, hosted a public lecture at CUHK on ‘History of Henan Province—A Perspective on the Relationship between Culture and Economy’ on 19 February 2009. Mr. Xu gave an account of Henan’s history and its rapid development in the past few decades. He also analysed the relationship between the cultural and economic development of the province. The talk was attended by an audience of over 200, including senior government officials, politicians, entrepreneurs, scholars, and students.
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Topic: Financing Retirement: Collective and Individual Approaches

Shenzhen IT Adviser on China’s Hi-Tech Development

Prof. Liu Yingli, science and technology adviser to the mayor of Shenzhen, paid a visit to CUHK and delivered a talk titled ‘China’s Hi-Tech Development and Challenges: A Shenzhen Perspective’ on 4 August 2008. On the same occasion, he was conferred the title of honorary professor of the Faculty of Engineering by Prof. Lawrence J. Lau, CUHK Vice-Chancellor. About 200 mainland and local participants from the IT sector were in attendance.

Lecture by Henan Official

Mr. Xu Guangchun, Secretary of the Henan Provincial Committee, hosted a public lecture at CUHK on ‘History of Henan Province—A Perspective on the Relationship between Culture and Economy’ on 19 February 2009. Mr. Xu gave an account of Henan’s history and its rapid development in the past few decades. He also analysed the relationship between the cultural and economic development of the province. The talk was attended by an audience of over 200, including senior government officials, politicians, entrepreneurs, scholars, and students.
**Intellectual Cross-currents**

**British Consul-General on Climate Change**

CUHK presented a public lecture by Mr. Andrew Seaton, the British Consul-General to Hong Kong and Macao on ‘Climate Change: Hong Kong’s Role in the Global Challenge’ on 20 October 2008 on campus. The lecture, one of the Consul-Generals/Diplomats Lecture Series organized by CUHK since 2005, attracted some 200 attendants.

**Prof. Wang Gungwu on Overseas Chinese**

Hung Chi College, New Asia College and the Department of History jointly organized the ‘Yu Ying-shih Lecture Series in History’ in October 2008. Prof. Wang Gungwu, university professor at the National University of Singapore, was the guest speaker. His lectures, ‘Being Overseas Chinese’ and ‘Empires, Zhongguo, Tianxia: China and World History’, were delivered respectively on CUHK campus and at the Hong Kong Museum of History.

**Secretary for Justice on Leadership**

The Honourable Wong Yan-lung, SC, Secretary for Justice of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, shared his views on ‘Leadership and Service’ with some 1,500 students at the Shaw College assembly on 7 November 2008.

**US Consul-General on Hong Kong’s Success**

Mr. Joseph R. Donovan Jr., the Consul-General of the United States of America in Hong Kong, spoke on ‘Hong Kong’s Success is Important to the United States’ on 19 November 2008. Over 100 guests attended the lecture, including members of the political, business, and academic sectors, and foreign consuls.

**Prof. Lap-chee Tsui on ‘New Asia Genes’**

This year marks the 60th anniversary of New Asia College. The College hosted the first anniversary lecture on 20 February 2009 at Sir Run Run Shaw Hall. Prof. Lap-chee Tsui, internationally renowned geneticist and Vice-Chancellor of The University of Hong Kong, was invited to be the guest speaker. An alumnus of New Asia College, Prof. Tsui’s talk attracted an audience of close to 700, including members of the political, commercial and education sectors.
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Intellectual Cross-currents

Yu Kwang-chung’s Memories of Hong Kong

The exhibition ‘Memories of Hong Kong–The Literary Life of Yu Kwang-chung’ was held at the exhibition hall of the University Library from 15 December 2008 to 7 January 2009. Prof. Yu officiated at the opening ceremony on 15 December and hosted a talk to an audience of 500. He also recited some of his poems.

Jointly organized by the Faculty of Arts, United College and the University Library System, the exhibition placed special emphasis on Prof. Yu’s literary achievements during his stay in Hong Kong. On display were the manuscripts, letters, photos and private collections of Prof. Yu.

In Conversation with Margaret Atwood

The Department of English organized ‘Margaret Atwood in Conversation with Prof. David Parker’ on 16 March 2009 on campus. About 600 staff and students from CUHK, secondary school students, and members of the public were in attendance.

Atwood, a renowned novelist and poet, has received many awards including the 2000 Man Booker Prize throughout her 30 years of writing. She is the author of more than 35 volumes of poetry, fiction, and nonfiction.

Famous Climatologist Visits United College

Prof. Qin Dahe, Academician of the Chinese Academy of Sciences and director of the State Key Laboratory of Cryospheric Sciences, visited United College from 13 to 19 October 2008 as its Distinguished Visiting Scholar in 2008–09. Prof. Qin is an internationally renowned climatologist. Over the past three decades, he has been actively and productively engaged in cryospheric and global change studies. He is also a member of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Bureau, and vice president of the International Geographical Union.

During his stay, Prof. Qin delivered three public lectures on the changing climate with relevance to China’s sustainability and socio-economic development, an academic seminar and a night talk.

Prof. Ng Cheuk-yiu Serves as Chung Chi Visiting Fellow

Chung Chi College has invited Prof. Ng Cheuk-yiu to serve as Siu Lien Ling Wong Visiting Fellow 2008–09. Prof. Ng is a chemistry graduate of Chung Chi College (1971) and currently Distinguished Professor of the Department of Chemistry, University of California, Davis. During his visit to the College from 22 February to 7 March 2009, he hosted public lectures and met with staff and students.
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Sydney Chancellor Leads Delegation to CUHK

CUHK welcomed a 35-member delegation from the University of Sydney on 20 October 2008, led by the Chancellor Her Excellency Prof. Marie Bashir and Vice-Chancellor Dr. Michael Spence. Scholars from the two universities met to deepen collaboration in the arts, law, medical sciences, and science through meetings, conferences and symposia.

Notre Dame Delegation Visits CUHK

The University welcomed Provost Dr. Thomas Burish (1st right, front row) and other distinguished guests from the University of Notre Dame on 22 October 2008. The visit marked the inauguration of the Lanson Exchange Fund, which provides a generous donation of HK$5 million to support exchange between CUHK and the University of Notre Dame. Besides undergraduate student mobility, the two universities will develop programmes for graduate and staff exchanges, promoting exchange of ideas and research between the two universities, countries and cultures.

President of UC Berkeley Visits CUHK

Prof. Robert Birgeneau, President of UC Berkeley, and Mrs. Birgeneau visited CUHK on 9 November 2008. A number of CUHK faculty members who graduated from the institution were present to share with Prof. Birgeneau how their days at Berkeley had shaped their academic lives. Prof. Birgeneau also met with representatives from the Faculties of Arts, Business Administration, Medicine and Science, and the new Colleges.

CAS Academicians Visit CUHK

A delegation led by Prof. Li Jiayang (11th left), Vice-President of the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), visited the Chinese University from 23 to 28 February 2009, under the ‘Academicians Visitorship Programme’ to learn about the latest developments in medicine and bioscience at CUHK and to exchange ideas through lectures, discussions and laboratory visits.

The delegation was composed of six academicians including Prof. Li Jiayang, Prof. Meng Anming (6th right, director, Institute of Zoology, CAS), Prof. Deng Zixin (8th right, dean, School of Life Science and Biotechnology, Shanghai Jiao Tong University), Prof. Wang Enduo (10th right, principal investigator, Institute of Biochemistry and Cell Biology, Shanghai Institutes for Biological Sciences, CAS), Prof. Zhao Jindong (5th left, director, Institute of Hydrobiology, CAS), Prof. Wu Weihua (6th left, director, State Key Laboratory of Plant Physiology and Biochemistry, China Agricultural University and director, Life Science Division, National Natural Science Foundation of China), and Mr. Zhang Xinggen (1st right, director, Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan Affairs office, CAS).

On 24 February, the academicians delivered a series of lectures, attracting an audience of over a hundred, including staff, students, alumni, and members of the public.
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Top Economists Shed Light on China’s Economy

The Conference Celebrating the 30th Anniversary of China’s Economic Reform and the 100th Anniversary of Sun Yefang’s Birth was held on 23 and 24 October 2008 at CUHK. About 40 economists gathered to explore issues that have an impact on China’s development.

Conference on Chronic Illness Management

Over 300 local and overseas nursing academics and practitioners attended the Fourth Pan-Pacific Nursing Conference and the Sixth Hong Kong Nursing Symposium on Cancer Care organized by The Nethersole School of Nursing from 13 to 15 November 2008. The theme of the conference was ‘Managing Chronic Illness: Challenges and Opportunities for Nursing Practice and Research’.

International Conference on Childhood Obesity

The Department of Sports Science and Physical Education hosted Hong Kong’s first ‘International Conference on Childhood Obesity: Evidence and Practice from Exercise Science’ from 13 to 16 November 2008. Topics such as childhood obesity epidemiology, prevention and management issues, and the role of exercise were covered. More than 100 delegates from Australia, mainland China, Europe, Hong Kong, Japan, North America, and Taiwan took part in the conference.

Humanities and Social Sciences Forum

The Chinese University, Nanjing University and Taiwan Central University co-organized the ‘Third Cross-Strait Forum on Humanities and Social Sciences’ on 22 and 23 November 2008 on campus. The theme was ‘City, Society, Culture—Innovation and Continuation of Tradition’. Prof. Lee Ou-fan Leo (right), Professor of Humanities at CUHK and Academician of Academia Sinica, Taipei, and over 50 scholars in the humanities and social sciences from the mainland, Hong Kong, and Taiwan took part.
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Heads of Chinese Universities Aim for Greater Excellence

The heads of 10 prestigious universities from the mainland and Hong Kong came to CUHK on 16 December 2008 for the 2008 Association of University Presidents of China (AUPC) Meeting and Presidents’ Forum. They included university presidents of the founding members of the association: Prof. Gu Binglin (6th left), AUPC Chairman and President of Tsinghua University; Prof. Wang Shenghong (1st right), AUPC Vice-Chairman and President of Fudan University; Prof. Lawrence J. Lau (4th left), AUPC Vice-Chairman and Vice-Chancellor of CUHK; President Zhang Jie (2nd left) of Shanghai Jiao Tong University; President Chen Jun (3rd left) of Nanjing University; President Zhou Qifeng (5th left) of Peking University; President Zheng Nanning (2nd right) of Xi’an Jiaotong University; Vice-Chancellor Tsui Lap-chee (3rd right) of The University of Hong Kong; President Yang Wei (4th right) of Zhejiang University; and Vice-President Wong Yuk-shan of The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology. A total of 45 representatives from these 10 institutions were in attendance.

The theme of the forum was ‘Towards Developing World-class Status for Research-intensive Universities in China’. Prof. Wu Qidi (centre), Vice Minister of Education, delivered the keynote address. The participants also discussed the future development of AUPC.

International Conference on Judicial Review

World-renowned legal luminaries took judicial review to task in a ground-breaking conference from 10 to 12 December 2008 in Hong Kong. The conference was jointly hosted by the CUHK’s Faculty of Law and the Centre for Public Law of the University of Cambridge.

The conference, entitled ‘Effective Judicial Review: A Cornerstone of Good Governance’, attracted an outstanding array of speakers from jurisdictions across the world, including Australia, Canada, Hong Kong, India, Israel, mainland China, New Zealand, South Africa, South America, the UK and the US.

Bilingual Acquisition in Early Childhood

An international Conference on Bilingual Acquisition in Early Childhood was held at CUHK on 11 and 12 December 2008. The conference was organized by the Childhood Bilingualism Research Centre, Department of Linguistics and Modern Languages, and co-sponsored by the Linguistic Society of Hong Kong. A total of 183 attendees from 19 countries/regions and 70 institutions/organizations were represented. The conference was supported by CUHK’s Focused Investments Scheme and the Research Grants Council.

Translation Conference

The University’s Department of Translation and the Centre for Translation and Comparative Cultural Studies, University of Warwick, jointly organized the International Conference on Translation Studies and Translation between Chinese and English on 11 and 12 December 2008 at Esther Lee Building. The conference was sponsored by the University, Chung Chi College, and New Asia College.
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Obituary

The University mourns the passing of Prof. Tang Aoqing on 15 July 2008 in Beijing at the age of 93.

Prof. Tang was a senior member of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, renowned chemist and educator. He was President of Jilin University and director of the National Natural Science Foundation of China. Prof. Tang visited CUHK to render advice and was conferred the degree of Doctor of Science, honoris causa in 1994 by the University.

Spatially Integrated Humanities and Social Sciences Conference

Co-organized by CUHK, Peking University and Taiwan University, the First Conference on Spatially Integrated Humanities and Social Sciences was held on campus on 16 and 17 March 2009. The opening ceremony was co-chaired using video conferencing by Prof. Lin Hui (centre) of the Institute of Space and Earth Information Science, CUHK, Prof. Tang Xiaofeng of Peking University (2nd right), and Prof. Sun Chih-hong (2nd left) and Prof. Lay Jinn-guey of Taiwan University.

Over 100 scholars and research students from Hong Kong, the mainland, Taiwan and overseas presented research papers on the application of geoinformation science system, spatial analysis and spatial modelling in humanities and social sciences disciplines.

The conference is sponsored by the Hong Kong Pei Hua Education Foundation, United College and the Faculty of Social Science, CUHK.
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