University News

Faculty of Medicine Celebrates Tenth Anniversary

The Faculty of Medicine held a series of activities in late April and early May to mark its 10th anniversary.

Celebration activities began with a symposium on 'Cancer Today' on 25th April at the lecture theatre of Shaw College. Eminent local and overseas medical experts were invited to present papers on a wide range of topics related to cancer, and Prof. Sir Anthony Epstein of the Department of Clinical Medicine, University of Oxford, delivered a keynote lecture on 'Current Progress towards Human Trials of an Epstein-Barr Virus Vaccine'.

On the same day, the faculty held a celebration dinner at the Hong Kong Hilton Hotel.

To introduce to the public the history, development and research activities of the medical faculty, a 'Tenth Anniversary Exhibition' was also staged, first at the exhibition hall of the City Hall from 27th to 30th April, and then at the exhibition gallery of Shatin Town Hall from 1st to 3rd May. There were 21 exhibition booths giving information on the faculty's 19 teaching departments, its student association—the Medical Society—and its medical library.

The Faculty of Medicine admitted its first batch of students in September 1981, and has now produced close to 500 graduates.

The Vice-Chancellor Honoured by Thames Polytechnic

Professor Charles K. Kao was made a Centenary Fellow of Thames Polytechnic, London, on 29th April.

Dr. Norbert Singer, director of the polytechnic, came to Hong Kong to personally present the honour.

The presentation ceremony was held at the Cho Yiu Conference Hall and among the audience were some 40 recent graduates of the polytechnic. Prof. Kao himself was a graduate of the polytechnic in 1957.

The citation for Prof. Kao reads, 'He is one of those unique individuals, an academic of the first rank, an innovator, a manager, someone who can apply his research findings to great common good, the common good that has changed the world of communications.'

A total of seven centenary fellowships have been awarded by Thames Polytechnic to distinguished individuals to mark its centenary this year.
Hong Kong Telecom Foundation Supports Telecommunications Research

The University recently received HK$800,000 from the Hong Kong Telecom Foundation to conduct applied research in computer and telecommunications studies. The presentation ceremony was held on 15th April, and Prof. Charles K. Kao represented the University to receive the donation from Mr. John Tonroe, finance director of Hong Kong Telecom.

Several major research programmes currently undertaken by the Faculty of Engineering will benefit from the donation.

The first is the development of a medical imaging network system for transmitting magnetic resonance imaging and computer tomographic scans between hospitals.

The second is the development of a Chinese computing system for electronic data interchange. The system will be capable of not only intelligent processing of Chinese texts but also multi-lingual information processing.

The third project is the production of state-of-the-art opto-electronic devices and systems locally for the telecommunications and electronics industry.

The $800,000 is only the first part of a three-year grant pledged by the Hong Kong Telecom Foundation to support the research activities of the Faculty of Engineering. Other applied research programmes that will be subsidized by the donation include the development of graphics databases, multimedia applications, software for sophisticated computer networks, and broadband communication networks.

President of Royal Society Gives Talk at CUHK

Sir Michael Atiyah, president of the Royal Society, visited the University on 25th April and gave a lecture on ‘The Dynamics of Soliton’ at the Science Centre.

A world-renowned mathematician and a Fields Medalist, Sir Michael is currently Master of Trinity College, Cambridge, and director of the New Isaac Newton Institute for Mathematical Sciences.

Sir Michael recently led a Royal Society delegation to China and Hong Kong for academic exchange and his visit to the University was organized by the Department of Mathematics.

Two Wei Lun Lectures

Professor James Michael Holquist, professor of comparative literature and head of Department of Soviet and East European Studies at Yale University, gave two lectures on 15th and 23rd April as the University’s Wei Lun Visiting Professor.

In his first lecture, entitled ‘Nationalism and (Auto) Biography: Reflections on a Russian Doll’, Prof. Holquist stressed the intimate relationship between individual experience and attempts to make sense of collective identities such as the national consciousness. The metaphor of the Russian stacking doll was introduced to demonstrate the assumption that stories that shape individual lives derive their coherence from collective stories.

Prof. Holquist’s second lecture entitled ‘From Cultural Studies to Cultural Criticism: Remembering Censorship’ tried to evaluate the place of cultural studies within current debates in various countries about multiculturalism. The argument was directed against certain recent attempts to
change curriculum in the belief that a single set of courses could satisfy representatives of many different cultural backgrounds. Specific examples were drawn from recently imposed required courses at several universities in the States.

Professor of Accountancy Gives Inaugural Lecture

Professor Ferdinand A. Gul, professor of accountancy, gave his inaugural lecture entitled 'Accounting Information Systems, Individual Differences and Human Behaviour' on 24th April.

His lecture focused on two issues that confront researchers studying the relationship between accounting information, individual judgment and decision making: how one should systematically study judgment and decision making, and what factors there are that affect such processes. He presented the Brunswik lens model as an elegant way of studying judgments and decision making since it facilitates the measurement of the weights placed on the different cues relied upon in the judgment process and the making of accurate judgments. The factors that can affect decision making were identified as cognitive styles, personality, culture and demographic variables. Prof. Gul then went on to explain how such variables affected different aspects of accounting decision making.

CUHK Runs Advanced Management Programme for MBA Students of Pittsburgh

The Asia Pacific Institute of Business and the Faculty of Business Administration jointly organized an advanced management programme for 37 executive MBA students of the University of Pittsburgh from 13th to 16th April at the MBA Town Centre.

Entitled 'Asia-Pacific Challenge (Hong Kong and China)', the programme aimed at enhancing the participants’ understanding of various aspects of business and management practices in Hong Kong and Southeast Asian countries.

The four-day programme consisted of lectures, case studies and panel discussions. Tutors were drawn from staff of the Faculty of Business Administration, key executives from local businesses, and senior government officials. Participants examined many critical issues related to China's economic reform, and visited a joint-venture production factory in Shenzhen.

BA Faculty Participates in the Training of Trainers in China

The Faculty of Business Administration has been invited by the World Bank to design and teach courses for a 'Training for Trainers' programme to improve the management skills of cadres from the less developed regions of China.

The programme, which began on 4th May at the Shenzhen Agricultural Science Research Centre, is financed by the United Nations Development Programme. The objective is to prepare trainers for the economic development of poor areas in China. The cadres to be trained come from different parts of China and are expected to transfer the skills they learn to the people in their home provinces, most of which are still underdeveloped.

The World Bank will provide its own specialists to teach courses on planning, management, and training-needs assessment. The University’s Faculty of Business Administration will be responsible for designing courses on development economics and marketing as well as adult learning and teaching methods.
First CU Staff Joint Art Exhibition

Over 30 staff members and their spouses took part in the first Staff Joint Art Exhibition organized by the Sir Run Run Shaw Hall from 30th March to 3rd April.

Dr. Kao Mayching of the Art Gallery and Mr. Tsui Chi Yu of Chung Chi College were honorary consultants of the exhibition and the function was formally opened by Prof. S.W. Tam, the pro-vice-chancellor, on 30th March.

There were over 40 entries covering a wide range of works of art: oils and watercolours, sculpture, Chinese calligraphy, photography and ceramics. They fully demonstrated the versatility and creativity of the participants, and attracted a large number of viewers.

Because of the encouraging response from the University community, the Sir Run Run Shaw Hall plans to organize the exhibition on a biennial basis to further promote artistic pursuits on the campus.

Services to the Community and International Organizations

- Prof. S. J. Oppenheimar, professor of paediatrics, has been elected as a council member of the Hong Kong Paediatric Society for 1992-93.
- Dr. Wong Tze-wai, senior lecturer of community and family medicine, was elected a member of the Faculty of Public Health Medicine, UK, on 5th March 1992.
- Prof. Ferdinand A. Gul, professor of accountancy, has been appointed as associate editor of the UK-based journal Accountancy Education from 1992 to 1994. Prof. Gul has also been appointed as a member of the Examinations Board of the Hong Kong Society of Accountants until December 1992.
- Dr. Tsui Hung Tat, senior lecturer of electronic engineering, has been appointed by HE the Governor as a member of the Committee on Training of Technologists of the Vocational Training Council until 31st March 1993.
- Dr. Mok Hoi, reader of economics, has been appointed by HE the Governor as a member of the Chinese Textbooks Committee for two years from 1st April 1992.
- Prof. S. T. Chang, professor of biology, has been elected honorary president of Guangdong Society of Botany from 8th January 1992 to 31st December 1995.
- Prof. Leung Ping-chung, professor of orthopaedics and traumatology, has been appointed by HE the Governor as a member of the Health and Medical Development Advisory Committee for two years from 1st March 1992.

Awards & Honours

- Prof. Charles K. Kao, the vice-chancellor, has been awarded the Gold Medal of the International Society for Optical Engineering for 1992.
Presentation of Long Service Awards 1991-92

What actually did Prof. Charles K. Kao, the vice-chancellor, present to the awardees at the long service award presentation ceremony held on Saturday, 11th April in the University Guest House?

In answer to this, a smiling Terms-A awardee proudly displayed a gold pin in the shape of the University emblem, the feng, and hastened to add, 'It's 18 karat gold, with my name inscribed at the back.' In his other hand, he held a certificate of long service, the other part of the 'award' he'd just received from the vice-chancellor.

All Terms-A awardees plus six Terms-B staff this year received awards of the same type - a gold pin and a certificate. Fifteen other Terms-B awardees, however, chose to receive a cash award of HK$2,000 each.

Yes, Terms-B awardees are given a choice between the gold pin and $2,000. The choice was introduced last year at the suggestion of the Chinese University Staff Association (CUSA), who found that a considerable number of Terms-B awardees would much rather have received the gold pin, which is a more lasting souvenir. Prior to that, all Terms-B honourees had been given cash awards.

And from 1988 to 1991, a total of 79 staff members were honoured with long service awards. Sixty-eight of them were male and 11 female.

This year 29 male and 4 female staff members were similarly honoured by the vice-chancellor. As in previous years, the university bursar and the chairman of CUSA served as masters of ceremonies at the award presentation, and the function was attended by many University officers and unit heads despite the heavy downpour on that particular morning. Group photos were taken after the ceremony and many stayed for drinks and amiable chats. The party didn't break up until after 11.00 a.m.
They Add up to 200 Years of Service
And thus eight awardees look back upon their experience in the University

Mrs. Chan Ng Pul-kan
General Clerk I, University Press

'I joined the University in the belief that it being a large institution, the work system and the benefit package would be better than those of small businesses. In the beginning, I worked in the University Library, and was responsible for providing secretarial support to Dr. A. Kaiming Chiu, the University Librarian at that time. I later transferred to the Publications Office, which was reorganized into The Chinese University Press in 1977, and have served there ever since.

My days at the University Library were pretty hectic, for my duties included not only secretarial work but also the handling of office correspondence. At the University Press, I have had the chance to learn new things and new skills. The former post kept me busy all the time while the latter has always been stimulating, and so I have found both to my liking.

The location of my work has changed many times over the years: first I worked in On Lee Building in town, then in Liu Chong Hing Bank Building, and in Hang Seng Bank Building. Even after relocation to Sha Tin, my office has been 'hopping' from here to there: from the Humanities Building to Pi Chi'iu Building, Chung Chi Teaching Block, and now to the new Hui Yeung Shing Building. Naturally, I prefer working in Sha Tin – I enjoy the refreshing air, not to mention the picturesque campus. My present office at the Hui Yeung Shing Building probably ranks top among the rest for one simple reason – it is spacious.

What I cherish most here is the cordial relationship established over the years with my fellow colleagues. Whenever a colleague leaves, I can't help feeling down for quite a while.'

Dr. Chen Fong-ching
Director, Institute of Chinese Studies

'Well before going abroad for further studies, I had already made up my mind to return after graduation to work in Hong Kong. That's why I gave up a number of job opportunities while studying in the States. Immediately upon completion of my doctoral studies, I joined The Chinese University and have worked here ever since.

Over the last 25 years, the University has given me ample opportunities for personal growth and development. I started my working life in the Physics Department, where I was able to concentrate on teaching and research. Later on, the former vice-chancellor, Prof. Ma Lin, invited me to take up the post of University Secretary. I accepted that challenging assignment, and the experience was highly rewarding. I came into contact with people of different backgrounds and gained wide exposure to different kinds of work experience.

The six years as University Secretary was but a brief interlude in my working life. In 1986, I applied for a transfer to the Institute of Chinese Studies when its directorship became vacant, and was eventually offered the post. I have since been asked by many why a person trained in the natural sciences should ever be interested in the job. The fact is, people tend to have different interests in different stages of their lives, and it so happens my interests are multifarious. I'm as interested in literature, history, and philosophy as I am in science. It is only because of my belief that the essentials of the natural sciences are relatively harder to grasp by self-study that I chose to do science when I was a student. In my present position, I can pursue my interest in Chinese Studies and contribute what I can towards making the natural sciences part of Chinese culture.

My pastimes are equally wide-ranging: sailing, skiing, hiking, tennis, classical music and reading, to name just a few.'

Dr. Cheng Tong-yung
Senior Lecturer
Economics Department

'Time flies, and 25 years have passed without my realizing it. The award gives me a chance to reflect upon my history at CUHK.

I was teaching in Singapore when I came across The Chinese University's recruitment advertisement in the newspapers. The terms offered were rather attractive so I wrote to apply. What followed has been a teaching career of two and a half decades in Hong Kong.

Having grown up in Taiwan, I arrived in Hong Kong with little knowledge of the city, and unable to speak a word of Cantonese. Blunders were inevitable. Fortunately, most teachers and students of New Asia College spoke Mandarin and we had basically no problem in communication. That diluted much of my homesickness. Later, my family came over to join me and life has since become even more pleasurable.

I am taciturn by nature, and have no interest whatever in administrative work. I have been focusing on teaching and research all these years and they have never bored me. During my spare time, I enjoy listening to classical music, or hiking with a few friends. It is also my habit to make use of my long leave to travel abroad every year – for recharging, as they say.'
Mr. Leung Keung
Office Assistant, University Library System (Chung Chi College Library)

‘My cousin, Mr. Leung Shing (workman at the Chung Chi College Office) was among the first batch to receive the long service awards. This year my turn has come.

Before joining the University, I used to do floor decoration work on the island side and I was making a fairly good living until the riots broke out in 1967. Business dropped and my income shrank. With the help of my cousin, I soon managed to get a more stable job at the Chung Chi College Library.

At first, I had no intention of quitting my floor decoration job for good. At my cousin’s prompting, however, I finally decided to stay after the riots. To save the trouble of commuting, I even moved from Shek Kip Mei to Sha Tin.

Looking back, I think it was a good decision to stay. I might have earned more money working elsewhere but I would not then have enjoyed the pleasant environment and the benefits here. Both my cousin and I were allocated quarters in the same building, though on different floors. Moreover, all my colleagues, regardless of their ranks, have been most friendly. I have also had very understanding supervisors. I will remember how we jokingly asked the college librarian, Mrs. Sylvia Shen, to let us take a day off after the removal of the Chung Chi Library from its old site to the Elizabeth Luce Moore Library building in 1971. It really came as a surprise that Mrs. Shen took us seriously and presented our request to Mr. Robert Rayne, the college vice-president, and you know what - our wish was granted!’

Mr. Liu Ching
Sub-Librarian, University Library System

‘I majored in Chinese during my undergraduate years and was a frequent visitor to the library. The frequent use of library facilities resulted in a fervent interest in library studies, a subject which I took up later at graduate school. Before joining the United College Library, I worked in libraries at National Tsinghua University in Taiwan and Nanyang University in Singapore. It looks as if my destiny is tied to the library; my love for it has persisted over the years.

Here in the University Library we emphasize team work. Colleagues take charge of different areas - acquisitions, cataloguing, systems and communications, public services and administration work - but they work in close collaboration. I have been involved in the work of many divisions and have found much pleasure in each.

It brings me great joy and satisfaction to witness the growth of the University Library, to see how the library building emerged from a barren construction site and became a distinctive landmark on campus, and how it will soon be supplemented by a new extension. Of course I also cherish the days at United College, and have fond memories of how we laboured hard to move the college library from the Bonham Road campus to Sha Tin.

Apart from job satisfaction, the University offers me a picturesque campus and a quality swimming pool, both of which I fully enjoy. But I don’t forget about my profession in my spare time - I have for many years been teaching extramural courses in the history of bibliography at the Hong Kong University.’

Mr. Lo Chiu-ching
Lecturer, History Department

‘After graduation from New Asia College, I joined the University first as part-time assistant lecturer at New Asia College. Three years afterwards I was transferred to a lecturer post at Chung Chi. Thereafter I’ve never again had the chance to work for my alma mater. Well, both colleges are part of the University!

I have always felt strongly attached to the University, to the History Department in particular. I have spent a large part of my life here and reminiscences are still so vivid. I remember distinctly how, when I attended Dr. Ch’ien Mu’s classes for the first time, his strong Wuxi accent confounded me. I took more than a month to adapt.

Dr. Ch’ien Mu belonged to the founding generation of teachers in the History Department, and I consider myself the second generation. A few colleagues in the department were once my students, and they may be counted as the third generation. I am looking forward to welcoming the fourth generation soon. Just imagine, all within 25 years!

Because of this keen sense of belonging to the History Department, the idea of leaving has never crossed my mind. In fact, it gives me much comfort and consolation to see so many of my students graduate each year, ready to make contributions to society in different capacities.

Retirement? Well, I haven’t given it any serious thought yet. I shall carry on with my research work for the time being. I’m not a sportive man and my usual pastime is reading - newspapers, magazines, and classical literature all suit me fine.’
Dr. Ng Lun Ngai-ha  
Chairman, History Department  

'I was surprised to find my name on the list this year as I thought I had to serve for three more years to qualify. I joined the University in 1963 as tutor in the History Department, left in 1967 to undertake doctoral studies overseas, and returned two years afterwards in 1969. I thought my tutor years wouldn't count towards my length of service but I was wrong. What a pleasant surprise!

I have always felt at home here at the University. I 'grew up' here and have witnessed the remarkable progress of the History Department through the years: more and more colleagues are taking part in the running of the department, and teaching and research methodologies have advanced with the times. I am pleased to be part of such development.

I've also derived much satisfaction from my teaching duties - some students still send me their greetings years after they have graduated. From their letters I know indirectly how well I have fared as a teacher, and I get to know how well my students have been faring. I only regret to see that an increasing number of students today study merely for the sake of higher marks.

In the area of research, my most unforgettable experience is certainly the launching in 1973 of my research into Hong Kong history. Few scholars had conducted any serious work in this area, and I really take pride in having initiated studies in this once neglected subject, which has now become a major topic for research in many universities. As a matter of fact, more and more of our graduate students are working in this area.

As soon as I have the chance to relieve myself of administration work, I will expedite the progress of several research programmes I have now in hand. I also plan to spend more time and effort on my speciality: Hong Kong history.'

Mr. Wong Siu-wing  
Senior Technician, Physics Department  

'After graduating from New Asia College, I taught in a secondary school for a few years before getting an offer as demonstrator in the Physics Department. A secondary school teacher was better paid in those days, but the opportunity to serve my alma mater and the pleasant campus environment that would accompany the new job were, to me, irresistible temptations.

I have always been devoted to my job, which involves the preparation of apparatus for use in class experiments. It is satisfying to be able to help students come off well in their assignments.

I am an enthusiastic lover of classical music. Making use of my knowledge in physics, I assemble hi-fi equipment in my spare time. I also enjoy tinkering with machines. My son and I once worked together to fabricate an automated machine for feeding the goldfish we kept at home. However, the experiment was not altogether successful, and I shall further improve the machine when I have time.

My interests are by no means confined to music and machines. Buddhism and taijiquan (shadow boxing) also fascinate me. My interest in Buddhism was first aroused by an article in a journal, and it soon developed into a yearning to know more about the religion. As for taijiquan, the philosophy and theory that is associated with its various postures and movements intrigues me, and after work I usually join a few colleagues for an hour or two of the exercise.'
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

VC's Cup Tournament Suspended
The Information Office has confirmed that the annual VC's Cup Tournament, first launched in 1981, will be suspended for a year in 1991-92.

University Health Service
* Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation Course
The University Health Service will offer a five-session first aid course in cardio-pulmonary resuscitation for interested students and staff. The course intends to explain the basic theory and practice of cardio-pulmonary resuscitation as a life-saving measure in emergency and will run on five consecutive Wednesday afternoons (2.30-4.30 p.m.) from 3rd June. Certificates of attendance will be issued on request upon completion of the course.
Application forms are available at the Health Centre. Please enrol before 25th May.

* Smoking and Health Exhibition
An exhibition on 'Smoking and Health' will be held at the University Health Centre from 25th to 30th May to publicize the harmful effects of smoking. All are welcome.

Medical Alumni Association Established
The Medical Alumni Association of the University was formally inaugurated on 7th March. At its first annual general meeting held on the same day, the following were elected members of the executive committee for the year 1992:
Chairman: Dr. Wing Yun Kwok
Vice-Chairmen: Dr. Chan Chi Wai, Angus Dr. Lam Yan Kit
Secretaries: Dr. Lee Tak Shing Dr. Ko Tin Choi
Treasurers: Dr. Siu Wing Tai Dr. Chan Chi Kwok
Members: Dr. Chan Wai Shing Dr. Cheung Yun Cheong Dr. Chung Chi Chiu Dr. Kwong Kwok Hung Dr. Lam Kwok Kei Dr. Lee Wing Kin Dr. Leung Ka Lau Dr. Tong Chi Fai

The Medical Alumni Association welcomes all graduates and staff of the Faculty of Medicine to register as members. Enquiries should be directed to Dr. Wing Yun Kwok (Tel.6363634).

Fine Arts Students Graduate Exhibition
Each year the Art Gallery holds an exhibition to display the works of art by graduates of the Department of Fine Arts.
This year the exhibition will be held from 23rd May to 21st June. Exhibits will include Chinese paintings, Chinese calligraphy, seal carving, oil paintings, print-making and sculptures, all produced by the 18 graduates of the department.
The opening ceremony of the exhibition will be held at 5.00 p.m. on 22nd May. All are welcome.

New Publication of the University Press
The following book will be sold at a 20 per cent discount to staff members at the University Bookshop, John Fulton Centre.

We welcome your contributions
1. Items for the next issue (mid-June 1992) should reach the Editor by 27th May 1992.
2. All contributions and suggestions should be sent to the Editor, CUHK Newsletter, the Publication Office, University Secretariat, The Chinese University of Hong Kong (tel. 6097297; fax. 6035503).
3. Contributions should bear the writer's name and contact telephone number, and may be published under pseudonyms. Articles without Chinese translations will appear in the English version of the Newsletter only. No anonymous letters will be published.
4. The Editor reserves the right to reject contributions and to edit all articles for reasons of clarity, length or grammar. Those who do not wish to have their articles amended should indicate clearly in writing.
5. No part of this Newsletter may be reproduced without the written consent of the Editor.
6. This publication has a circulation of 1,100 and is primarily intended for staff members of CUHK. Copies are also sent to local educational institutions and individuals associated with the University. Those who wish to be included on the mailing list please contact the Newsletter direct.

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