Two Wei Lun Lectures

Renowned Psychologist Probes Rules Behind Human Reasoning

According to Jean Piaget, one of the most influential psychologists of this century, all adults have the same repertoire of rules for reasoning. However, Prof. Richard E. Nisbett of the University of Michigan has more recently argued against this cardinal principle.

Theodore M. Newcomb Distinguished University Professor of Psychology at Michigan University, Prof. Nisbett elaborated his argument in a lecture entitled 'Rules for Reasoning' on 8th September as Wei Lun Visiting Professor to the University. He maintained that formal rules are little used in reasoning, and not all adults have the same inferential rules. 'Education adds to the rules one has, and specific forms of training such as psychology, statistics, and economics add specific rules systems.'

Prof. Nisbett taught at Yale between 1966 and 1971 after obtaining his Ph.D. at Columbia University. His research interests include evolutionary psychology, biological bases of behaviour and individual differences, and social cognition. His contributions to psychology have won him the Distinguished Scientific Contributions to psychology award from the American Psychological Association.

The Computer of Tomorrow More Intuitive?

Do our brains and the computer use the same mechanisms to process information? Or do they function according to completely different principles of information processing? Assuming the latter is true, can we improve computers by studying the principles used by the human brain?

These were some of the questions addressed by Prof. Shun-ichi Amari, professor of mathematical engineering and information physics at the University of Tokyo, in a Wei Lun lecture entitled 'Computer and the Brain' delivered on 18th September on the campus.

Human beings experience two different styles of thinking or reasoning: logical, where information is represented by words or symbols, and intuitive, where information is represented by excitation patterns over a huge number of neurons. The modern computer simulates the logical thinking style of the brain. Prof. Amari believes that the computer of tomorrow will be the neurocomputer—a computer which can simulate the more flexible intuitive thinking style.

Prof. Amari is currently director of the RIKEN Frontier Research Program on Brain Information Processing and president-elect of the International Neural Network Society. An expert in neural networks, he was awarded the IEEE Neural Network Pioneer Award in 1993 and the Japan Academy Award in 1995.

HK$5 Million Contract for CU Press

The Chinese University Press recently won two contracts worth a total of HK$4.9 million to design and produce teaching kits for local primary schools.

China Light and Hong Kong Electric have invited The Press to produce materials on environmental protection and energy conservation to be used for teaching general studies to pupils from primary four to six.

Ms. Teresa Siu, lecturer in curriculum and instruction, will design the instructional strategies in collaboration with her counterpart from the Hong Kong Education Department, while The Chinese University Press will design and produce video programmes, audio programmes, and simulation games. The target completion date is September 1996.

Art Museum Collections on Display in Osaka

Sixty-five paintings selected from the Art Museum's collection of paintings and calligraphy of Guangdong masters are now on display at the Osaka Municipal Museum of Art until 26th November.

Entitled 'Modern Paintings of Guangdong Artists', the exhibition features 42 paintings by Gao Jianfu, and 23 other pieces of work by three generations of painters: In Chao and Fu Lian, Gao Qifeng and Gao Jianshen, and Chao Shao'ang and Guan Shanyue. These masterpieces reveal the transition, evolution and creativities of the influential Lingnan school of painting.

The exhibition is jointly sponsored by the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office and the Osaka Municipal Museum of Art under the 'Hong Kong-Japan Partnership' programme.

Service to the Community and International Organizations

* Prof. C. Merreweell of the Department of Diagnostic Radiology and Organ Imaging has been appointed by the Secretary for Health and Welfare as a member of the Radiographers Board for one year from 1st September 1995.

* Prof. P.C. Luen of the Department of Orthopaedics and Traumatology has been appointed by the Secretary for Education and Manpower as chairman of the Occupational Safety and Health Council for three years from 22nd August 1995.

* Dr. Yu Tai-son, lecturer in community and family medicine, has been appointed by the Secretary for Education and Manpower as a member of the Occupational Safety and Health Council for three years from 22nd August 1995.

* Dr. Wong Sai-ling, senior lecturer in Chinese language and literature, has been appointed by the Secretary for Education and Manpower as a member of its Advisory Board of Literature and Arts for one year from September 1995.

HK$20 Million to the CUHK

The Chinese University of Hong Kong has recently been awarded a HK$20 million grant to design and produce teaching kits for local primary schools.

China Light and Hong Kong Electric have invited The Press to produce materials on environmental protection and energy conservation to be used for teaching general studies to pupils from primary four to six.

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2 No. 75 4th October 1995 CUHK Newsletter
Staff Superannuation Scheme
Have We Done Right?
From the University...

Dr. Fanny Cheung believes that the role of a faculty dean is to help facilitate the development of teaching and research in the various departments within the faculty. Specifically in relation to the faculty of social science, she said: "Our departments have been doing fairly well in both research and teaching. In particular I think our strengths lie in research relating to Hong Kong and the Asia-Pacific region. We have to learn from the centres of excellence in these areas and build on our own strengths." In this regard, Dr. Cheung has recently been appointed as the new associate dean of the Faculty of Social Science. This new position will allow her to further develop the social science department and ensure its continued success.

Piera Chen

From the University Bursar

At the beginning of the financial year commencing 1 July 1994 the University had two Staff Superannuation Schemes: one for Terms of Service (A) and (B) staff with 2,529 members, and another for Terms of Service (C) staff with 596 members. The former in its present form was set up in 1983, the latter in 1992. In this article we shall be dealing with the former.

In 1994 it was beginning to be clear that the first Staff Superannuation Scheme (SSS) was going to run into some solvency problems unless there was a sharp increase in investment return by December 1994. In the previous 12 years the SSS had been running reasonably smoothly, with a rate of investment return comparable to the average return of all other schemes in Hong Kong; but the rate of salary inflation of that period was in some years considerably in excess of the rate of investment return. A gradual erosion of the financial soundness of the scheme was seen to be emerging and it was recognized that unless a large gap appeared, it would be difficult to make up and that some action would be required.

The University's worst fears proved to be well founded. As at 31 December 1994, the average return of all staff superannuation schemes in Hong Kong was a negative 13.3 per cent, the worst it had been since the foundation of the University's scheme. The return for our own SSS was a negative one of 13.89 per cent. At the same time, there was a 2.6 per cent rise in the annual cost of living index, on which University salaries are based. This together with the increased liabilities of the SSS through promotion and benefit increases (2 to 3 per cent p.a.) meant that the University would be looking at a highly disheartening gap of over 23 per cent for the year. What was more, the prospects for 1995 and beyond did not look too promising with the gap becoming larger unless there was a dramatically increased rate of investment return, which in early 1995 seemed a very unlikely prospect.

The problems were further compounded by two other factors: a) The University was not able to increase its contribution to the scheme over and above the 15 per cent on salaries the University Grants Committee had allowed for in the giant allocations. If it could, as in the case of...
To be proactive, to be a pathfinder rather than a reluctant follower in the delivery of educational resources," Dr. Michael Lee, the University Librarian, so describes the approach of the University Library System in serving the campus community and the public at large.

In its continuous effort to maintain a state-of-the-art library system, two new dimensions have just been added to the ULS: the Hong Kong Newspaper Database and an Electronic Resources Centre.

The Hong Kong Newspaper Database came into effect on 1st June 1995, and was formally opened on 15th September. Vice-Chancellor Prof. Charles Kau officiated at the opening ceremony which was attended by more than 70 faculty and staff from CUHK and other tertiary institutions in Hong Kong.

The database is a project to collect, organize, index, store and search the full text and graphics of select Hong Kong based Chinese and English newspapers. It provides timely access to news about China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, and Macau through Internet. At present major economic, political and social news is selected from the Hong Kong Standard (English), United Daily News (Chinese), Wen Wei Pao (Chinese), Sing Tao Pao (Chinese), and Tai Kung Pao (Chinese); more newspapers will be included subsequently. The news is usually available by 1.00 p.m. on the very day (Hong Kong time) that it is published. Articles as well as photographs are stored and can be retrieved as images. Users can search desired information by newspaper, section, date and controlled keywords. The keywords can be topical, geographical, corporate, and personal; many exist in both Chinese and English forms to facilitate users of the two languages.

The Hong Kong Newspaper Database is spearheading the first multi-newspaper database in Asia. Prior to this, some Asian newspapers posted their own news items on Internet and some universities in Taiwan had a database for news items from one newspaper only.

The University has hired librarians, information specialists and support staff to work on the database which has received financial support from both the University and the Hong Kong Government for two years. ULS representatives have also met and worked with newspaper indexing and retrieval system developers in Beijing and Hong Kong to study cooperative systems.

Dr. Michael Lee also informed the CUHK Newsletter that a new Electronic Resources Centre (ERC) would be established in the Wu Chung Library at University College in October. As Dr. Lee explained, in keeping with the Information Revolution that started about 10-15 years ago, library information centres are changing, with many leading institutions in the world opting for non-book material libraries. At the CUHK, though so far users at the main and branch libraries have had access to different information networks, inadequate space and other resources have prevented the pooling of all electronic facilities under one roof. As chance would have it, the inconvenience caused to readers by the different locations of the Chinese History Collection and the Western Languages History Collection (the former at the Wu Chung Library, and the latter at the main library), and a subsequent decision to move the former to the main library, resulted in the availability of space at the Wu Chung Library for a new project. The Committee on University Library System and United College then decided to provide better service to the students of the electronic age through the establishment of an integrated electronic resources centre.

The ERC will facilitate learning at an individual pace and convenience, and serve as an ideal supplement to classroom instruction. In addition to information available through print media, the network will also include users access to stand-alone CD-ROM's covering a myriad of subjects and disciplines — literature, music, religion, education, arts, sports, the natural sciences, the learning of languages (English, French, German, Italian, and Spanish) and a treasure of Microsoft software spanning the Encarta, Art Galleries, Cinemania, and collections on music and animals. While similar facilities offered by the Hong Kong Urban Council and the Regional Council focus more on recreational material, at the University priority is given to material which is educational, instructional and research-related.

Initially the ERC will have 25 personal computers that can run multi-media material and other Macintosh computers. Subsequent additions will be subject to need.

The ERC is administratively under the direction of the ULS, and will represent a unique synthesis of the latest in information technology and library design. It will be a prototype of what is sometimes referred to as the 'library of the future', or the 'cyberlibrary'.

Dr. Lee's claim that 'We are the active participants of the electronic information revolution' is well borne out by these new feathers in the cap of our University Library System.

Shalini Bahadur
New Changes

The Chinese University Press

A Pharmaceutical Approach to Matters of the Heart

Professor Moses Chow, professor of clinical pharmacy at the University of London, will participate in future internal audit projects. The senior assistant bursar will be the contact person on matters relating to the internal audit function.

To participate in future internal audit projects, please consult the senior assistant bursar.

Contact Person: Senior Assistant Bursar.

Deadline for Contributions

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The Art of the Gao Brothers of the Lingnan School

The Art of the Gao Brothers of the Lingnan School, featuring 63 paintings by the Gao brothers — Gao Qifeng, Gao Jianful, and Gao Jianseng, selected from the collection of the University's art museum, is the second monograph of the Guangdong Painting School and the Art Museum. In the introductory essay to the volume, the director of the Museum prof. k. myewing provides an analysis of the activities and achievements of the Gao brothers.

With detailed descriptive entries of the paintings, a chronology, and selections of signatures and seals, this volume is an indispensable reference for the study of the Lingnan school of painting.

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請須輸入中大校園電子郵件密碼。
本校與國內交流大事年表

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<td>馬臨校長率領中大代表團正式訪問北京大學、清華大學、中國科學院、中國社會科學院及上海復旦大學。</td>
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<td>於秘書處設學術交流處，處理與中國交流之事務。</td>
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<td>全年接待八百多名國內來客，創歷史高峰。</td>
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<td>89</td>
<td>「六四」後，中大仍與國內學術機構保持緊密聯繫。</td>
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<td>大學全面檢討對外聯繫及學術交流計畫，七月成立學術聯繫辦事處，原學術交流處易名「中國學術交流組」，改隸該處。</td>
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與台灣學府交流新局面

今年七月，高錕校長與陳維昭校長分別代表中大和台灣大學簽訂學術交流合作協議書，為港台學術交流打開新局面，除實際學術合作外，亦深具歷史意義。

近年交往

中大以前雖不曾與台灣學府訂有任何交流協議，但素與台灣多所院校有密切學術聯繫。至九二年，中大與台大合作展開一項為期三年的「中國硏究與台灣交流發展計劃」。當年經副校長金耀基教授努力奔走，台灣蔣經國國際學術交流基金會慷慨撥款三百萬港元（分三年發放，每年一百萬元），資助兩所大學之中國研究。資助項目包括：

(一) 邀請國際知名學者擔任「中國講座教授」，到港台兩地主持研討會，講演或是短期任教。
(二) 資助兩地教硏人員及學生互訪及從事研究。至今兩校共有五十六名學者獲資助，台大佔六成名額，他們不少還藉機到大陸交流。

該計劃由兩校共同管理，中大主要負責行政工作，並為訪問學人提供住宿。校方委派王建元博士（前國際交換計劃學部主任）主理該項交流計劃。

王博士說，該計劃每年十一或十二月接受申請，獲資助的交流活動多於暑假舉行，以減少對教學的影響。

王博士稱，獲資助者事後須向該計劃委員會提交報告。他們均肯定該計劃的效益，希望擴展港台之間的交流計劃。王博士續說，該計劃除裨益獲資助者外，亦開拓了海峽兩岸和香港三地之合作硏究天地。關信基教授已因而與相關學者合作進行一項大型中國學術研究計劃。

簽約後，兩校高層合照留念

讀者來函及回應

當中大的景觀一天一天遭到破壞之際，我又自報章上驚聞校園內將興建「全亞洲效果最佳音樂廳」之消息（見《明報》21/6/95）；報導又說音樂廳將是樓高兩層，設四百座位，可容納管絃樂團及合唱團共一百二十人同台演出，可見工程規模不少，亦即可令崇基學院一帶之生態環境進一步陷入不復之境。

理論上，大學是社會良知之反映，是批判社會無反省地追求單線發展之觀念泉源。然而，中大歷來在綠化本地的思維與實踐上，既沒有特別建樹，反而背道而馳，令我作爲其中一員，深感不安。

回到音樂廳的問題上：香港已有演藝學院，中大音樂系的特色自然較偏重於學術和資料整存方面，此中有無盡的寶藏可供開採，實在毋須靠「最怎樣怎樣」的建築物去充撐場面。另一方面，香港即使缺乏民眾參加音樂活動的場地，也不能由位處中大內的音樂廳去塡補需要。凡此種種，不禁令我推想中大若果大興土木去建「第一」音樂廳，多少與要做「一哥」心態有關。

但要做一哥所衍生的山頭主義、妄顧大局和無視社群共同參與及決策等等情況，在當今之世，已屬落後意識；因為這不但有違締造負責任的生活方式的要求，也反映未能符合「尊重本土生物與文化資源多樣化」之可持續發展原則。

望有關當局臨崖勒馬。
經十七載編織的
「中國網絡」

香港中文大學是本地最早與國內開展交流的大專院校，現時與國內二百多所高等院校、研究院、學術機構、政府及地方部門保持緊密聯繫，正式簽訂之交流協議超過二十一份。

經十七載編織的「中國網絡」

「中國交流」的老大哥
香港中文大學是本地最早與國內開展交流的大專院校，現時與國內二百多所高等院校、研究院、學術機構、政府及地方部門保持緊密聯繫，正式簽訂之交流協議超过二十份。

中國在七十年代末實施開放政策後，國內院校及學術單位隨而響應，並透過駐港機構，與本校創校校長李卓敏博士接觸。有案可稽之最早交往始於一九七八年，李校長接見新華通訊社、北京市高等教育局、中國國家科學技術委員會及北京科學院之代表。

翌年二月，廣州中山大學（中國重點大學之一）組團來訪，並簽訂為期三年的學術交流協議，其後一直續約。這兩所「中大」的交流，開闢了本港與國內學術機構聯繫之通途。通過口碑推介，本校逐漸成爲國內學人訪港的接待單位及訪問對象，由是促進中大與國內院校的接觸，演變出中港學術交流的新紀元。

八七年達高峰
八三年，馬臨校長率領中大代表團，首次正式出訪北京大學、清華大學、中國科學院及上海復旦大學，進一步加強本校與國內院校之聯繫。

隨著雙方交流日益頻密，大學於八五年在校內設立學術交流處，主要協助教職員與中國有關機構展開交流計劃，其後接手原有之學術聯繫業務，由學術交流處主任倫熾標博士執行有關工作。倫博士自八三年開始負責接待國內來客，是中大與國內交流的要員。他謙稱，功勞至鉅是高錕校長和馬臨教授。馬教授十分關心國內教育事務，推動中港交流不遺餘力。也因如此，國內學術機構、院校代表來訪中大人數不斷上升，八七年達到高峰。「當年我們接待了八百多名國內訪客，馬教授幾乎每天都接見國內來訪學者，或共進午餐、晚餐。有一段很長的時間，不少日子都放映四次介紹中大的幻燈片，我也陪著看四次。」倫博士回憶說。

由被动變主動
九零年開始，學術交流處調整工作方針，主動與國內院校聯絡，介紹本校的發展方向及研究重點，以促進各種形式的交流。

倫博士表示，由於八五年後仍有國內學者來訪，中大與國內學術機構的聯繫沒有斷過。從此，大學與國內院校的交流不斷發展，產生了新的交流形式，擴大了交流的範圍，也提高了交流的質量。

倫博士透露，國內院校對中大的印象極佳，視中大為「國際學術集散地」、「信譽昭著的優良大學」、「誠信的合作伙伴」，因為中大不單把經驗和知識與大家分享，又互助互補地擴闊彼此的交流網絡。不少國內的院校，包括北京大學都表示，香港中文大學是唯一一所能由始至終且不間斷地與彼此保持良好關係的優良大學。它們在官方刊物談論與香港的學術聯繫時，「香港中文大學」往往上榜。今天中大很多老師都應邀出任國內多所著名大學的客座教授、兼職教授、顧問教授和名譽教授。

自被動變主動
九零年開始，學術交流處調整工作方針，主動與國內相關院校聯絡，介紹本校的發展方向和研究重點，以促進各種形式的交流。

倫博士解釋調整的需要：早年來中大訪問過的教硏人員很多已屆退休年齡，新一代的學者，無論是中大的，或是國內的，都需要增加了解，以在上一輩的基礎上發展更多的交流，共同登上學術高峰。此外，全國大學已有約一千零四十五所，加上研究所、政府及地方機構，數量實在眾多，要全部保持緊密聯繫是不可能的，因此中大需要就大學的發展和師生的興趣來選擇合適的交流對象。

中流砥柱
八九年「六四」後，國內學術機構對外的聯繫活動停頓下來，香港唯獨中大仍與它們保持聯繫。倫博士說，八九年後期仍有國內學者來訪，說明中大與國內學術機構聯繫之鞏固。倫博士續說，聯合國發展總署計劃在八九年資助中國國家經濟信息中心幹部到香港受訓，由中大負責，本於六月十九日開課。他一切準備就緒，「六四」後數天仍與國內單位通電，了解最新進度，無奈是次課程最終還是需要延期舉行。幸而九零年初順利開辦，且是連續兩期，可佐證中大與國內聯繫是綿延不斷，深厚不移的。

倫博士透露，國內院校對中大的印象極佳，視中大為「國際學術集散地」、「信譽昭著的優良大學」、「誠信的合作伙伴」，因為中大不單把經驗和知識與大家分享，又互助互補地擴闊彼此的交流網絡。不少國內的院校，包括北京大學都表示，香港中文大學是唯一一所能由始至終且不間斷地與彼此保持良好關係的優良大學。它們在官方刊物談論與香港的學術聯繫時，「香港中文大學」往往上榜。今天中大很多老師都應邀出任國內多所著名大學的客座教授、兼職教授、顧問教授和名譽教授。

中大規模與一百二十所多所重點大學、六十多研究所，以及多個各類機構保持緊密聯繫。

倫博士說，香港中文大學的學術交流活動，對提高中國大陸的學術水平，推動學術交流，都有很大的貢獻。他說：「在香港中文大學，我們的學術交流活動，對提高中國大陸的學術水平，推動學術交流，都有很大的貢獻。我們的學術交流活動，對提高中國大陸的學術水平，推動學術交流，都有很大的貢獻。我們的學術交流活動，對提高中國大陸的學術水平，推動學術交流，都有很大的貢獻。」
偉倫訪問教授講座

推理法則人人不同

美廸密西根大學心理學教授Prof. Richard E. Nisbett在本校訪問期間，主持公開講座，探討成年人是否採用相類似的推理模式。

本世紀一位甚具影響力的心理學家Jean Piaget認為，成人對事物的推理，根據自己的精神來決定。Prof. Nisbett則認為每個人的判斷和推理方法均不盡相同。

他認為在不同的教育熏陶下，人們會建立不同的推理系統。若他們再接受一些專業訓練如心理學、統計學和經濟學等，只會進一步異化他們各自的推理法則。

Prof. Nisbett專研行爲的生物基礎、推理及批判，以及文化心理學和演化心理學，曾獲美國心理學家協會頒授「傑出科學貢獻獎」，該獎為心理學界之極高殊榮。

電腦發展新方向——直覺思維

人腦和電腦皆是優良的訊息處理工具。所不同者，人腦經歷進化而成；電腦則是二十世紀科技的產品，其發展之迅速，令人驚歎。

東京大學數學工程及訊息物理學講座教授甘利俊一教授更表示，電腦快將具有人腦的直覺思維。

甘利教授表示，現代電腦已有數晶處理器及大型規模積體電路。現今的電腦只有邏輯思維，若加以改良，電腦必可發揮類似人腦的直覺思維。方法是設計具有人腦神經原結構和功能的電腦(神經原電腦)，使其「學習」直覺思維。這是電腦今後發展的方向和模式。

甘利教授對神經網絡計算貢獻甚大，是國際神經網絡學會創會會員，現為該會候任會長；九三年獲美國電機暨電子工程師學會神經網絡先驅獎，同年又獲頒日本學院獎。

校董參觀文物館展覽

十多位大學及書院校董於九月十三及十八日蒞校參觀「文物粹珍」展覽，由物館館長高美慶教授導賞，介紹徐氏藝術基金所藏的珍貴陶瓷靑銅器，以及該館庋藏的珍品。

文物館藏展品在大阪展出

文物館與香港經濟貿易代表處及大阪市立美術館合辦之「近現代廣東畫展」，已於九月二十九日起在日本大阪市立美術館舉行，展期至十一月廿六日。文物館是廣東畫的重點收藏機構之一，展品達一千三百餘種。是次響應港日合辦之「香港日本」推廣活動，應邀選藏品六十五幅展出。展品以二十世紀廣東畫壇巨擘高劍父的作品為主，另輔以廿三幅其師居巢、居廉，其弟奇峰、劍僧，以及現仍活躍港粤的趙少昂和關山月的佳作，勾劃清末到現在嶺南畫派三代的演變、承傳和創新。

中大出版社獲五百萬元製作合約

中文大學出版社應中華電力有限公司及香港電燈公司邀請，為本地四至六九年級小學生設計及製作一套常識科教材，向學生提供「電與生活」、「資源和環境」及「保護環境」的資料和有關概念。

教材由中大蕭麗萍女士及教育署鄺英偉先生撰寫，中大出版社負責製作並設計有關的錄像帶、錄音帶、高映片及模擬遊戲。整項計劃的費用超過四百九十萬港元，預計於一九九六年度完成，教材將送交全港小學使用。

兩大划艇賽：中大稱王封后

中大男女子划艇隊在九月廿四日第九屆兩大划艇賽，雙雙挫敗港大代表隊，囊括男女子組冠軍。中大女子隊在千五米賽事力克港大隊，重拾失落一年的冠軍獎盃；男子隊在三千米賽事憑後勁氣走對手，連續五年奪魁。