New Pro-Vice Chancellor Appointed

Prof. Liu Pak-wai, professor of economics, has been appointed pro-vice-chancellor of the University by the University Council for two years from 1st October 1995.

Prof. Liu graduated from Princeton University in 1971 and obtained his Ph.D. in economics from Stanford University in 1977. He joined the University as lecturer in economics in 1976, and was promoted to professor rank in 1994.

Apart from teaching and research, Prof. Liu has held numerous administrative posts in the University and has been closely involved in the formulation of major academic and administrative policies. He was United College dean of students in 1978-79, university registrar from 1982 to 1986, chairman of the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Admissions, and convener of the Working Group on New Funding Methodology. He has also been chairman of the Economics Department since 1991.

As pro-vice-chancellor, Prof. Liu will share major administrative duties with the two existing pro-vice-chancellors, Prof. Ambrose King and Prof. Kenneth Young. He has been assigned responsibilities relating to the bursary function, the buildings office, library services, health services, and other central administrative functions. A chart in the 'Announcement' section of this Newsletter delineates the new administrative structure of the University and shows the portfolios of the three pro-vice-chancellors.

Outside of the University, Prof. Liu now serves as research director of the Hong Kong Centre for Economic Research, managing editor of the Asian Economic Journal published by the East Asian Economic Association, and member of the Flat Supply Sub-committee of the Land and Building Advisory Committee. He is also the founding member of the Hong Kong Committee of Pacific Economic Co-operation, and once served on the Central Policy Unit of the Hong Kong government.

Orientation Day for Sixth-formers

Interested students of local secondary schools, their parents, and teachers visited the University on the Orientation Day for Sixth-formers held on 30th September. The University's teaching and research facilities were opened to the visitors. There were also video shows, exhibitions, talks, counselling sessions, and printed materials to introduce the full range of undergraduate programmes on offer.

The Faculty of Medicine recently announced the successful application of new methods to treat intractable seizure and leukaemia.

Patients suffering from intractable epilepsy in Hong Kong are now offered another therapeutic option in the form of vagus nerve stimulation. A device called the vagal nerve stimulator (VNS) consists of a small generator with three electrodes wrapped around the vagus nerve in the patient's neck. Every five minutes a current is released to stimulate the vagus nerve. It is believed that the anti-epileptic effect of VNS, mediated through the brainstem, will slowly build up in the brain over a few months.

The Prince of Wales Hospital is the first neurosurgical centre in Southeast Asia to use the VNS. The device was recently implanted in three of its epileptic patients. All of them showed encouraging signs of improvement after the implantation.

For the first time in Southeast Asia, an allogeneic blood stem cell transplant was also successfully carried out April 1995 at the Lady Pao Children's Cancer Centre. Since then three leukaemic children have been treated with this method. So far none of them has shown any sign of recurrence.

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Allogeneic blood stem cell transplant is the transplantation of the most primitive blood-producing cells, or blood stem cells, from a donor into a patient. Stem cells are normally found in the bone marrow, and only a few of them are present in the peripheral blood. Compared with bone marrow transplant, the collection of blood stem cells is simpler and less painful, requiring neither general anaesthesia nor hospitalization for the donor. The recipient also recovers faster and with fewer complications.

To celebrate its 15th anniversary, the Faculty of Medicine has produced jointly with RTHK a ten-programme docu-drama series entitled 'Tide of Life'. The series, launched on 1st October, is based on real cases at the Prince of Wales Hospital, including the two new treatment methods just described.
Comments from Senior Administration

From the Director of Student Affairs

Gaining admission to a university is generally regarded as a matter of 'success'. Oftentimes this success is savoured not only by the students but also by their entire families, both personal and familial aspirations for further success soar. However, once the initial excitement and complacency subsides, the students have to face the challenges of university life. Many then begin to experience confusion and stress, and more are finding it difficult to cope with this newly acquired situation.

This phenomenon that is becoming more pronounced in recent years needs to be analyzed in a broader context. The massive expansion in tertiary education since 1989 has brought about drastic changes in the contents, approaches and expectations of university education. The student population has also become much more diversified in terms of levels of academic preparation, aspirations, motivations, and socio-economic backgrounds. Impending changes in the territory have bred greater apprehension about the job market and keen competition among university students when they graduate. All these have contributed to a higher level of stress in different ways.

New entrants who are less competitive in their academic abilities may soon find themselves lagging behind their fellow classmates and under tremendous stress. Those who are accustomed to a very programmed and examination-oriented approach in learning may have difficulties adjusting to a more independent and self-initiated learning style. Those who are lacking in social and interpersonal skills may be overwhelmed by the exposure to diverse values, lifestyles, and interpersonal experiences which are more complex than those in their earlier years. Self-perception and previously established standards may start to falter. Such success as was anticipated; further success is in doubt.

All freshmen have to face the challenges of adjusting to different aspects of university life and of living up to the role expectations of a university student. Those who manage to cope successfully with such challenges often emerge as more confident, mature, and competent individuals. Those who fail to cope effectively may suffer lasting and debilitating consequences.

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Coping with Success: the First-year Experience

It is evident that the ability to make a good start and have satisfying experiences in the first year of university will have long-term effects on the student's subsequent development. It is therefore more than justifiable that the Office of Student Affairs should direct increasing efforts towards preventive services that reach out to freshmen who are experiencing psychological stress and adjustment problems. This is done through an annual mental health screening exercise for first year students. Through their responses to a health questionnaire, students with psychiatric symptoms can be identified, and follow-up interviews and counselling can be immediately arranged. The exercise also enables student counsellors to establish initial contact and rapport with particularly vulnerable students.

Equal emphasis is placed on developmental and educational programmes. Workshops and discussion groups addressing issues like university adjustment, self-understanding, interpersonal relationships, and stress-management are held on a regular basis. These provide students with an opportunity to understand more about themselves, develop realistic expectations, explore and actualize their potential, improve relationships, and acquire stress-management skills. Such activities also allow participants to experience peer support and realize that it is not they alone who are experiencing disturbance. Through open sharing and the development of trust, a mutual support system can evolve which will enable the students to examine their concerns in proper perspective and learn new skills from one another. This is also the reason why the colleges have been requested to increase their emphasis on the development of peer support and on counselling programmes through which freshmen can be reassured of the 'normality' and transient nature of many of their adjustment problems.

The Office of Student Affairs also periodically organizes seminars and workshops for staff who have frequent and direct contact with students — student affairs officers, student workers and tutors, academic advisers, lecturers, and health workers. It is essential that all are well-acquainted with the supportive services available to students as well as the basic knowledge and skills in the early detection and assistance of students at risk.

Ultimately, our major tasks are to help freshmen adjust to their new learning and social environment, to overcome obstacles that block their personal effectiveness, to develop their intellectual and personal potential to the fullest, and to ensure that their university experiences constitute a rewarding and memorable phase of their lives.

First Batch of Home-grown Cancer Nurses

The first batch of 46 graduates from the territory's first integrated hospital-based specialist course in cancer nursing care received their certificates on 30th September at the Prince of Wales Hospital. The one-year part-time course, organized by the University's Department of Clinical Oncology, aims to help nurses face up to the many daily challenges in cancer wards. The majority of the 46 graduates are working in oncology wards or related areas, with some experience in cancer nursing ranging from six months to seven years.

Centralization vs Regionalism in China and Europe

Both China and Europe are experiencing problems of social and legal integration. In China, market reform has led to an expansion of regional power. Local and regional governments have now taken over powers previously exercised by the central government. However, the relation between central and local governments as well as that among local governments themselves have yet to be clarified. Likewise Europe is undergoing a process of integration in which the boundaries of European and national power are being redefined. There are similar situations relating to regionalism and nationalism examined at the Symposium on Centralization and Regionalism: Social and Legal Recomposition in China and Europe jointly organized by the University's Chinese Law Programme and the French Centre on Contemporary China in Hong Kong. Speakers came from mainland China, Europe, North America, and Hong Kong. Discussion was divided into three parts. In the first part, social scientists explored the local impacts of national and regional integration in the Chinese and European contexts. The second part dealt with the legal problems associated with local-governmental relations. In the third part, constitutional scholars and political scientists discussed how changes in local legal relations may have implications for constitutional and political reform.

The symposium ran from 22nd to 23rd September at the Cho Yiu Conference Hall.

To Promote Research in BA Faculty

An intensive workshop on behavioural business research took place from 5th to 7th September on campus. Around 20 faculty members from the Management, Marketing, and International Business Departments participated in the workshop, which aimed at cultivating a better environment for and raising the standard of research in the Faculty of Business Administration. It is hoped that the discussions will activate greater communication and co-operation between faculty members and guest speakers as well as among faculty members themselves.
Towards Multimedia Teaching

Introducing Two More Projects Funded by Teaching Development Grants

As reported in the 74th issue of the CUHK Newsletter (19th September), a total of seven projects received Teaching Developments Grants in 1994-95. In this issue, we bring to readers details of two of them to show how new technology can help improve the quality of teaching and learning.

Development of Support-learning Multimedia Courseware for Use in Teaching Laboratory Courses in the Department of Biology (HK$ 77,000)

Grant recipient: Dr. J. A. Buswell, Department of Biology

Labatory classes have always been important in the teaching of practical skills. Such classes have however always placed a heavy demand on the financial, personnel and space resources of the teaching department. There is also a growing awareness that traditional laboratory courses may not always be effective in terms of educational productivity, and student motivation. As a result many academic institutions are now seeking to supplement them with multimedia-based teaching materials.

Dr. Buswell's project represents the initial stage of a long-term programme to develop, produce, and implement multimedia courseware for the teaching of the biological sciences. It seeks to prepare a sample of an appropriate multimedia package using material that Dr. Buswell himself designed as well as selections from material currently adopted by major overseas educational institutions, especially those with strong teaching programmes in biology and related disciplines. An integral part of the project is the establishment of a link with the Bio-informatics Research Group (BRG) of the University of Nottingham in England, which has been investigating the information storage and distribution potential of computer-driven multimedia technologies since 1984. The sample package will be introduced this term and evaluated by students, technical staff, and teachers.

The multimedia package, as it is now, consists of two systems. The first, called 'EXAMINE', enables students to assess their understanding by answering questions on topics they have learnt. It has just been implemented in this year's General Microbiology course. Dr. Buswell said, 'There's a general reluctance on the part of the students to ask questions. When I invite questions from students, they very rarely respond. I believe it will be helpful if we have a self-assessment system which students can use when they want to.'

The second system, called 'The Knowledge Tree', is much more ambitious in scope as it will enable students to discuss a particular topic with one another through the computer, or even key in to experts in other parts of the world. Dr. Buswell says he has yet to make arrangements with the Computer Services Centre about how to set up this system. Its implementation moreover depends very much on whether additional funding will be made available.

Dr. Buswell hopes the exercises will bring about increased student involvement in the practical side of biology courses, a reduction in the number of traditional laboratory classes, better trained graduates, and a long-term link with the BRG.

A Pilot Project on Computer-aided Teaching in Biochemistry (HK$ 195,500)

Grant recipient: Prof. C. Y. Lee, Department of Biochemistry

With the advent of CD-ROM technology, more and more computer-aided self-help learning programmes are beginning to appear in Hong Kong. However, most of the existing programmes produced commercially are for social science or arts subjects. Software for the natural sciences remains relatively rare.

Prof. C. Y. Lee's project has been designed to fill this gap. He believes that computer graphics are particularly useful in the teaching of biochemistry which studies the interaction between macromolecules. 'The traditional didactic approach to teaching is fine, but we also have to take into account that students vary in background and capability,' says Prof. Lee. 'As teachers we need to help them learn at their own time, and pace, and in the space of their choice. Our project seeks to improve teaching and enhance learning efficacy.'

The project is expected to produce, by February 1996, computer-aided self-help tutorial materials covering eight basic topics in biochemistry. Concepts related to these topics are explained and then questions about their various aspects asked. The computer will indicate whether an answer is correct and in the case of incorrect answers, students can opt to retry or be given an explanation. By giving immediate feedback, the courseware enables students to know quickly how much they have learnt from textbooks and lectures. Teachers can also retrieve and analyse students' scores to find out major weaknesses in understanding and, if necessary, adjust their teaching accordingly.

Apart from tutorial materials, computer-aided teaching materials covering introductory topics relating to biomolecules will also be produced. This courseware will combine texts, sound, graphics (including three-dimensional display of molecular structures), and video scripts, to increase student interest and facilitate understanding. Such teaching materials can be applied, after slight modifications, to studies in medicine, environmental and food sciences.

In their endeavours, colleagues at the Biochemistry Department are given advice by the staff of the Computer Services Centre on courseware development, setting up of the database, creation of computer graphics, and other technicalities. Right now the courseware materials are available on hard disk only, and will probably remain so for the length of the project. Prof. Lee however hopes that ultimately they will be available on CD-ROMs.

The grant was received in March 1995 and has been used mainly for the procurement of computer software, electronic and computer equipment, and the hiring of student helpers.
From CUWO:

The Chinese University Women’s Organization (CUWO) was formed in 1989 for the women who work or live at the University. Our stated objectives are to enable women within the University community to meet and pursue common intellectual and social interests, to help them pursue career development goals, and to help newcomers become acquainted with the University community.

To these ends, CUWO has formulated a programme of activities and community events. We organize regular talks, seminars, and workshops on a variety of subjects including women’s health and women’s issues. We support, by fundraising, organizations such as the Chung Chi Nursery, the Home of Loving Faithfulness (which cares for handicapped children), and Sowers Action (which provides primary education for children in rural China). We also sponsored two Chinese University women to further their studies in religion and nursing respectively.

In order to gain more exposure and recognition, we have increased links with other units on campus, including the Personnel Office and the Information and Public Relations Office. We are also working with these offices to help ease the problems faced by newcomers to the University. The first two editions of our booklet Settling in and Finding Out — the CUWO Guide to Local Living have been well received and we are now inviting comments and submissions from University members for the third edition.

We are aware that comments have been made on the dominance of expatriate women in CUWO. We are open to all women and would love to see more local women contribute their ideas and volunteer their service. But then we also realize that not many local University members may feel the need to join us as they generally have well-developed networks and support. On the other hand, many expatriate women are cut from their support networks, and need groups such as ours to help ease the transition to life in Hong Kong.

Several of our current expatriate committee members have expressed that their willingness to serve on the committee has been a result of the help they received, and a subsequent desire to help other women facing similar difficulties. Our committee works very hard to provide a diverse programme and we are always open to ideas.

CUWO membership is a modest HK$70 a year. For application forms and further information, write to CUWO, Membership Secretary, c/o PWH Staff Quarters, Block A, Flat 10A, or call Mrs. Amy Chan at 2647 3281.

CUWO AGM

CUWO will hold its annual general meeting on Wednesday, 25th October 1996 at 7.30 p.m. at the vice-chancellor’s residence. The rest of the evening’s programme includes presentation to CUWO patron, reading of poems by Prof. Andrew Parkin of the English Department, and refreshments. We recommend carpooling as parking space is limited. For registration and information, please contact Mrs. Andrea Chan at 2647 7187 or Mrs. Poon at 2603 3829/28, 2603 3829.

CUHK Newsletter

New Publications of The Chinese University Press

Hong Kong Reflections: Health, Illness and Disability in Hong Kong Children written by Prof. David O. Davies, the book is divided into three parts consisting of papers on pediatrics and child health. Part one is on themes related to growth and nutrition in early childhood. Part two deals with different aspects of medical education in Hong Kong. Part three covers miscellaneous topics such as bedwetting and not death in Hong Kong children, as well as medical responsibilities in the mentally handicapped. This book should be of interest to pediatric and child health transnation of Hong Kong, parts of South China, and other areas of Southeast Asia. 318 pages, paperback, HK$250.

From Colomy to SAR: Hong Kong’s Challenges Ahead edited by Joseph Y. S. Cheng and Susan S. H. Lo, this book examines the challenges facing Hong Kong in the last two years of its transition to a Special Administrative Region under the People’s Republic of China. It brings together academics, professionals, and journalists to share their thoughts on various political, economic, legal, social, and cultural issues in Hong Kong. Topics include Sin-British relations, political parties, the economy, labour and employment, education, environment, social welfare, press freedom, public opinion and culture.

Books are sold at a 20 per cent discount to staff members at the University Bookshop, John Fulton Centre.

Sequence Design for Spread Spectrum

The performance of a communication or radar system using spread spectrum technique critically depends on the correlation properties of the code sequences used. Written by Wai Ho-Ho, this book considers these topics in the design of sequences for spread spectrum applications: sequence design for synchronous code-division multiple access, a unified theory of perfect polyphase sequences, and McEliece’s open problem on maximas aperiodic correlation.

128 pages, paperback, HK$250.
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Administrative Structure of the University

The Administrative and Planning Committee has approved a new organization chart which has become effective since 1st October 1995.

New Academic Titles Scheme

By the 1995-96 academic year, the University has adopted the following new academic titles for teachers:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Existing Grade</th>
<th>New Academic Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>assistant professor</td>
<td>lecturer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>associate professor</td>
<td>or professor II*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>professor I (in a department)*</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>professor II (in a department)*</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(*For teachers who meet the criteria and the requisite review for this title; the designations of ‘I’ and ‘II’ after ‘associate professor’ and ‘professor’ will be omitted in official publications and day-to-day communications.)

The new academic titles shall apply to all new teachers. Serving teachers who wish to adopt an appropriate new title for which no review is required may do so with immediate effect. For those new titles which require review, serving teachers may present an up-to-date curriculum vitae to the Personnel Office for consideration by the relevant committee. The adoption of new academic titles will not affect either the existing grades of appointment or salary scales as stipulated in the appointees' letters of appointment. Enquiries can be directed to the Personnel Office (Ext. 7285 or 7288).

Swimming Pool News

The Swimming Pool will be reserved for the Intervarsity Swimming Gala on Sunday, 29th October 1995.

Art Museum Exhibitions

The Art Museum will host two exhibitions from 21st October 1995 to 11th February 1996:

- **The World of Wong Po-yeh**
  - Opening ceremony on 20th October at 4.30 p.m.
  - West-wing Gallery
  - Some 70 paintings by Wong Po-yeh (1901-1968) on Hong Kong landscapes of the 1950s and 1960s; some 50 of his other paintings and sketches on traditional themes.

- **Selections from the Art Museum Collection**
  - East-wing Gallery
  - Ceramics, tomb bricks, stone steles, paintings and rubbings ranging from the Han to the Qing dynasties.

The Swimming Pool will be reserved for the Intervarsity Swimming Gala on Sunday, 29th October 1995.
Information in this section can only be accessed with CWEM password.

若要瀏覽本部分的資料，
請須輸入中大校園電子郵件密碼。
與體育部主任談
中大教職員運動風氣

中大空氣良好，體育設施齊備，是理想的運動地方，但教職員的運動風氣似乎並不熾熱。

運動風氣之起與跌
體育部主任韓桂瑜女士說，中大教職員現今的運動風氣已不比當年。

以中大為例，當年中大教職員運動風氣甚為熱烈，但現在似乎較冷淡。

運動設施及活動
體育部自發推廣運動風氣，韓桂瑜女士強調，他們是自願撥出時間和精力在暑期舉辦各類賽事和訓練。體育部老師在很多時間和精力，以配合教職員的興趣，提供更多的運動設施。

運動成果
體育部的運動成果也不容忽視，韓桂瑜女士表示，「部分參賽者常於小學時已擁有良好的運動基礎」。

運動風氣之展望
體育部老師表示，今年的運動風氣有望改善，他們會繼續推廣運動風氣，以強身健體。

體育部及運動愛好者
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歡迎參觀
中大北大台大運動友誼賽

體育部將於十一月六日至八日舉辦友誼賽，以中大及北大為主辦單位，賽事將於中大體育館及北大體育館舉行。

韓桂瑜女士透露，體育部老師在當年競賽時已將運動視為一種快樂，因此運動風氣已不比當年。

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說明表
表一：教職員免費使用體育館時間表

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>職位</th>
<th>時間</th>
<th>活動</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>教職員</td>
<td>周一至五下午五時至七時</td>
<td>籃球</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>聯系人</td>
<td>周一至五下午五時至七時</td>
<td>籃球</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>新亞體育館</td>
<td>周一至五下午五時至七時</td>
<td>籃球</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

體育部自發推廣運動風氣

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體育部的運動成果也不容忽視，韓桂瑜女士表示，「部分參賽者常於小學時已擁有良好的運動基礎」。

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廖柏偉教授任副校長

大學校董會委任經濟學系廖柏偉教授為大學副校長，任期兩年。由一九九五年十月一日起生效。

廖柏偉教授負責掌領本校財務、圖書館服務、建築修繕工程及保健服務等，詳情請參閱本期「宣布事項」的大學組織圖表。

廖柏偉教授為本校資深教師，七六年起在經濟學系任教，九零年升任教授，九四年起任經濟學講座教授。

廖教授熱心社會服務，曾任港府中央政策組成員，現擔任土地及建築諮詢委員會之樓宇供應小組委員會委員，又是太平洋經濟合作理事會香港委員會委員。

廖教授現任本校香港及亞太區經濟研究計劃主任，香港經濟硏究中心研究主任，及《亞洲經濟學報》執行編輯。