Grants from Health Services Research Fund for Six Projects

Six research projects proposed by staff of the University's Faculty of Medicine have received grants totalling HK$2,636,647 from the Health Services Research Fund since the fund's inception in 1994. The six projects are:

1. Hepatozellular Carcinoma Health Care Services (HK$600,000)
   Principal investigator: Prof. Anthony Chan Tak-cheung, assistant professor, Department of Clinical Oncology

2. Does Intensive Rehabilitation Improve the Functional Outcome of Traumatic Brain Injury? (HK$230,000)
   Principal investigator: Prof. Charles A. van Hasselt, professor of surgery

3. Epidemiology of Otitis Media with Effusion in Hong Kong Chinese School Children (HK$587,697)
   Principal investigator: Prof. Poon Wai-sang, associate professor, Department of Community and Family Medicine

4. To Use Magnetic Resonance Imaging to Assess Intra-Abdominal and Subcutaneous Fat in Normal and Obese Children of Hong Kong — a Case-control Study (HK$561,470)
   Principal investigator: Prof. Edith M. C. Lau, associate professor, Department of Chemical Pathology

5. Risk Factors for Primary Osteoarthritis of the Hip and Knee in Hong Kong Chinese — a Case-control Study (HK$535,050)
   Principal investigator: Prof. Christopher Lam Wai-kei, professor, Department of Chemical Pathology

6. Does Intensive Rehabilitation Improve the Functional Outcome of Traumatic Brain Injury? (HK$600,000)
   Principal investigator: Prof. Anthony Chan Tak-cheung, assistant professor, Department of Clinical Oncology

EUROPE COMES TO SHAW

Mr. Etienne Reuter, director of the Office of the European Commission in Hong Kong, spoke on 'Europe and Asia: a Promising Partnership' at the Shaw Theatre. Mr. Reuter highlighted the benefits of European cooperation and the potential for growth in the region. He emphasized the importance of cultural exchange and the role of the arts in fostering understanding between Europe and Asia.

28 STAFF MEMBERS EXHIBIT WORKS OF ART

The third CU Staff Joint Art Exhibition was held from 18th to 29th March at Sir Run Run Shaw Hall. On display were sketches, paintings, Chinese calligraphy, photography, and ceramics produced by 28 staff members from different units.
Comments from Senior Administration

The job market for university graduates has always been competitive, and has become more so now since the overall employment situation in Hong Kong has not changed for the better. Graduates of this university are facing steeper challenges when preparing themselves for the competition.

Experience tells us that the top jobs usually go to candidates who not only have impressive academic records, but more importantly, a broad range of skills — analytical, creative, adaptation, practice, experience, exposure, and interpersonal. It is also well-recognized that it is virtually impossible to acquire these skills overnight. Persistent hard work, practice, experience, exposure, and the will to achieve all contribute to the acquisition of what many will call core competencies for career success. Working within a three-year programme, students are well advised to start as early as the first year to acquire these skills by making use of resources at the University and the community at large.

The University has good teaching staff. It has good students. Its curricula are competitive. The challenge is to build on these fundamentals to develop an image of CUHK graduates as the future elites of the community. All members of the University, not least the students themselves, have a part to play in this mammoth marketing task. And it is through the students that prospective employers see whether the University’s efforts have paid off.

Sophisticated employers use vigorous screening processes, including multiple interviews, to identify the right candidates. An interview is interactive. It gives the employer a chance to find out the candidate’s aptitude, personal, aspirations, as well as his/her intellectual, creative, analytical, and language skills. It is also an occasion for the candidate to market himself/herself. Whether he/she will fit in with the corporate culture. Academic performance is not the only item on the agenda. Employers seek versatile graduates with all-round personalities.

To help nurture such graduates, the University student union, the four college student unions, faculty and departmental societies, academic associations and interest groups, the Office of Student Affairs, and the four College Dean of Students’ Offices work hand in hand to complement the training provided by the academic units. They organize a wide range of cultural, social and recreational activities, including conferences and tournaments, to facilitate the intellectual and personal growth of students, to broaden their horizons, and to enhance their understanding of themselves and of the community they will soon be serving. The moment of truth comes when graduates are interviewed by their prospective employers. Such interviews are a test of culture, and call for better preparation on the part of students. They should be given practical experience to improve their interactive skills and to boost self-confidence.

The Appointment Service at the Office of Student Affairs have thus planned a series of mock interviews this year for students who wish to sharpen their skills. Experienced interviewers and representatives from major employers are invited to give students useful tips on overcoming the hurdles of interviews and point out areas for individual improvement. This is a pilot programme which mainly uses resources on the campus. If its effects should prove beneficial, greater support will be drawn from the community to expand the programme.

K.M. Chan

Preparing CU Students for Challenges in the Job Market

The University Council has, at the request of the government, formally withdrawn its objection to the Pak Shek Kok reclamation/public dump project. The decision last month followed lengthy negotiations between the University administration and the Planning, Environment and Lands Branch of the Government Secretariat, and the government’s subsequent undertaking to access the public dump site by sea instead of through the University campus.

Under the new agreement, the government is also responsible for the implementation of stringent mitigation measures to minimize the impact of the project on the University’s environment.

The University’s objection was first lodged in October 1994, and its resolution to withdraw was made after consultation with a legal counsel and due consideration of the effects of its objection. The step is deemed appropriate on grounds that the government is adamant in pressing the project forward, and will seek an administrative ruling at the Executive Council if it fails to obtain the University’s consent. This will entail the re-entry and re-possession of necessary land on the University campus for construction of the road to the dump site.

The use of the sea route is seen as an acceptable alternative. Rather than passing through the University campus, construction waste will be transported to the site by barges from a bargeing point in Ma On Shan in 1997, and thereafter from Sha Tin.

The government has undertaken to reimburse the University for the costs of additional HVAC filters and for operations at land areas in the near vicinity of the HKIB; controlling and monitoring of the noise, dust and water pollution within the agreed standards; and temporary landscaping as appropriate before more permanent arrangements are made.

Major mitigation measures to be carried out by the government include:

(i) progressive restoration of the reclamation site with surface drainage and hydroseeding to minimize dust pollution;
(ii) speedy completion of the filling operations at land areas in the near vicinity of the HKIB;
(iii) controlling and monitoring of the noise, dust and water pollution within the agreed standards; and
(iv) temporary landscaping as appropriate before more permanent arrangements are made.

Environmental monitoring reports by government consultants will also be made available to the University as and when required, and liaison meetings between the University and relevant government offices will be held at reasonable intervals to discuss the impact of the project on noise, air, and water quality.

With the withdrawal of objection by the University, work on the dump site is expected to begin soon. The University has already set up a monitoring group to keep the administration posted of the project’s progress and the effects of mitigation measures.

Members of the monitoring group include Prof. Lam Kin-che (convener) of the Department of Geography, Prof. Nevin Wood of the Department of Biology, University Secretary Mr. Jacob Leung, Director of Buildings Office Mr. Vincent Chen, Director of Administrative Services Ms. Amy Yu, and Security Officer Mr. Richard Ma.

Construction Wastes to be Transported to Pak Shek Kok by Sea

CU Working Group Formed to Monitor Impact on Campus Environment

The University has already set up a working group to monitor the impact of the project on the University’s environment. The University’s objection was first lodged in October 1994, and its resolution to withdraw was made after consultation with a legal counsel and due consideration of the effects of its objection. The step is deemed appropriate on grounds that the government is adamant in pressing the project forward, and will seek an administrative ruling at the Executive Council if it fails to obtain the University’s consent. This will entail the re-entry and re-possession of necessary land on the University campus for construction of the road to the dump site.

The use of the sea route is seen as an acceptable alternative. Rather than passing through the University campus, construction waste will be transported to the site by barges from a bargeing point in Ma On Shan in 1997, and thereafter from Sha Tin. The government has undertaken to reimburse the University for the costs of additional HVAC filters and for cleaning the curtain walls and windows of the Hong Kong Institute of Biotechnology (HKIB), and to provide a buffer zone in planning the future use of the reclamation site.

Furthermore, the University’s decision rests on the government’s reassurance that what is most at stake — the campus environment — will be attended to. Apart from implementing mitigation and environmental monitoring measures in full, the government has agreed that if differences should arise between the two parties on agreed standards, the University can always discuss them directly with the Secretary for Planning, Environment and Lands.

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Environmental monitoring reports by
Search for New Drugs in the Plant Kingdom

There are various groups at the University that are involved in isolating potential new drugs from nature, of which traditional Chinese medicines represent an important source. Prof. Robert Jones, chairman of the Department of Pharmacology, compares this process to "finding a needle in a haystack." Yet it has not stopped him and his colleagues from combing the local Chinese herbal medicine shops for herbs. As part of the problem is the prevalence of adulteration in the marketplace, they also have connections in China who scour the hills for the authentic plants. These are no orientalized white-bearded gurus in the mountains who alone have the sacred key to all herbs since time immemorial, but experts from universities in China with a sharp eye for medicinal herbs. Samples of the herb are sent to the department and then begins the painstaking process of finding the chemical structure of the herb, identifying its beneficial compounds if such exist, testing their mechanisms on the body, and determining the form in which the herb can be used as a drug. And of the hundreds and thousands of identified compounds in a herb, often only one or two, if any, are useful.

A far more serious reason for the difficulty in finding natural remedies, as Prof. Jones points out, is the state of our environment: "We are destroying the rain forests and, in doing so, our potential future drugs. Although we can make almost any compound synthetically, it's not as efficient as getting it from nature. The plant kingdom has yielded more drugs than we could possibly have got if we had made them ourselves. Plants contain substances which interact with mammalian systems and, in ways we still don't quite understand, the plant kingdom acts as a kind of filter which increases our chances of success in our attempts to find new drugs."

Studying the Effects of Drugs at the Cellular Level

Interest in traditional Chinese medicines in the department started in the early 1980s under the direction of Dr. Kelvin Chan. Dr. Chan has since left for Liverpool and the interest is now continued by Prof. John Yeung, Alaster Lau, and Lin Ge, in collaboration with colleagues in the Department of Pharmacy and the Chinese Medicinal Material Research Centre. Enumerating the major changes in the department since his chairship, Prof. Jones says new research areas have been explored, which include inflammation research and research in anti-platelet drugs. Other projects of a more elementary scientific nature involve, to quote Prof. Jones, 'pinching off tiny pieces of cell membrane from the cell and looking at them to see what happens when the drug molecule interacts with the cell membrane'. Although such prolonged peering at our most basic selves may be less than gratifying for the moment, the knowledge obtained may hold promises for the future. However, it is not for those who like to play Nostradamus.

After all, 'manipulating test-tubes is a long way from what happens in the beating heart', as Prof. Jones succinctly puts it.

It is indeed a long way and one which grazing the sensitive issue of animal-testing. Prof. Jones believes it is necessary to keep the hierarchy of testing: "We have to take things by stages. After a potential drug is taken out of the test-tube, it has to be tested on the simple, then the complex, and then the very complex, which is the human being. I think the general public does not appreciate that thousands of new compounds are synthesized every year, but very few actually get through this selection process: some have bad side effects, some are too short-lasting... So when you come to the end of the line you may only have one drug out of five or ten thousand that actually makes it to a patient's arm."

Yearning for a Personal Approach

Teaching in the department will also be going in new directions, one of which is the multi-media approach. Although Prof. Jones acknowledges the benefits of multi-media teaching, his own taste seems to lean towards the more personal and traditional. To quote him, 'nothing beats small-group tutorials by experienced tutors when it comes to teaching', yet he admits that gaining that experience may take years. Prof. Jones also laments the fact that lab sessions have been cut, sometimes due to financial considerations. "The computer is seen as a substitute but it doesn't teach you manual skills except how to rattle keys," he comments wryly.

On the subject of the one-line budget, Prof. Jones points out that being one of the smaller departments in the University, the Department of Pharmacology cannot enjoy as much flexibility of spending as does a larger department under the one-line budget. He also finds the computerized system of organizing the department's finances to be non-interactive.

Ever since he came to Hong Kong over five years ago, Prof. Jones has been living on the University campus. Does the University give him the sense of interaction and communication that he finds so important? 'I feel more involved socially in this university than I did working in the UK. Maybe it's because I have been living on campus; or maybe it's because the campus is more small,' says Prof. Jones with his usual candour.

Piera Chen

A graduate student of pharmacology analyzing data on the computer.
New Publication of the Hong Kong Institute of Educational Research

The Pursuit of School Effectiveness: Research, Management, and Policy

Written by Cheng Yin-Cheng and edited by Tsang Wing-kwong, this book aims to explain the basic theories of school effectiveness, to analyse policies for successful school reforms, to guide school practices, and to develop research strategies. Using schools in mainland China, Hong Kong and Taiwan as the basis of study, the book covers major areas in educational research, including the pursuit of quality in education, and the management and effectiveness of moral and civic education in schools.

It is also the first of the educational studies series published by the Hong Kong Institute of Educational Research.


This book is available in the University Bookshop, John Fulton Centre. For information or to place mail order, please call Ext. 6999 or fax 26036850.

Service to the Community and International Organizations

- Prof. Pak-wai Liu, pro-vice-chancellor, has been appointed by HE the Governor as a member of the Advisory Council on the Environment for two years from 1st January 1996.
- Prof. Kenneth Young, pro-vice-chancellor, has been re-appointed by HE the Governor as a member of the University Grants Committee from 1st April 1996 to 31st March 1998.
- Prof. Chak-kuen Wong, professor of computer science and engineering, has been appointed a member of the Engineering Panel of the Research Grants Council for the period up to 30th June 1998.
- Prof. K.M. Chan, professor of orthopaedics and traumatology, has been elected President of the Asian Federation of Sports Medicine from 1996 to 2000.
- Prof. Benjamin Y. Chan, professor in the Department of Educational Administration and Policy, has been re-appointed as a member of the selection committees for the appointment of heads/principals of diocesan primary and secondary schools for two years from 1st March 1996. He has also been invited to serve as a member of the Internal Validating Panel of the Postgraduate Diploma in Education (Primary) Course and an external examiner for doctoral theses at the University of New South Wales in Sydney.
- Prof. Yee Leung, professor in the Department of Geography, has been appointed visiting professor at Beijing Normal University. He has also been invited to serve as an editorial board member of Geoinformatica, an International Journal on Advances of Computer Science for Geographic Information Systems.
- Dr. Sing Lee, senior lecturer in psychiatry, has been invited to serve as a member of the editorial board of the Hong Kong Japanese Club Choir, the Hong Kong Oratorio Society and the Hong Kong Sinfonietta to perform Mozart's Requiem on 11th February 1996 at the City Hall. Prof. Chan also conducted the Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra to premiere his new composition Encounters on 14th February 1996 at the Hong Kong Cultural Centre.
- Dr. Daniel T.L. Shieh, senior lecturer in social work, has been re-elected (1) chairman of the executive committee of the Society of Boys' Centres and (2) honorary secretary of Heep Hong Society for Handicapped Children from 1995 to 1996. Dr. Shieh has also been invited to serve as a member of the International Editorial Board of the International Journal of Adolescent Medicine and Health.
- Prof. Anthony P.C. Yim, associate professor in the Department of Surgery, has been invited to serve as a member of the Advisor Editorial Board of the Medical Updates on Therapy, Diagnosis & Prevention. Prof. Yim has also been elected as a member of the Society of Thoracic Surgeons from 4th February 1996.

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新任講座教授

Professorial Appointment

大學委任梁兆仁教授為
病理解剖及細胞學講座教
授，由一九九六年三月十一
日起生效。

梁兆仁教授於新加坡
在馬來亞大學醫學院，一
九七九年獲醫學博士學士
學位，一九八三年任馬
來西亞大學醫學院講座
教授。梁教授於本校教學
後，曾於第八四年及九○
八年任香港大學醫學院
教授，並於九三年任美
國馬里蘭大學醫學院臨
牀教授，及於九六年任新
加坡國立大學附屬大學
研究院醫療教授。”

梁教授於本校教學後，曾
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主宰未來的機械與自動化工程學系

學系動態
主宰未來的機械與自動化工程學系
仲光教授說:
「機械與自動化工程學系的發展速度比回時高，出乎我們意料之外。」
「我們的首要工作是建立基礎。」
「下學年會是我們最艱辛的一年。」

建立學系
仲光教授原隸訊息工程學系，九四年六月全身投入開辦機械與自動化工程學系的工作，並獲委任為創系系主任。
仲光教授說，該系在九四年九月招生首批本科生時，外間（尤以中學生父母）對該系的課程內容所知不多，所錄取的廿九名學生，在公開試的表現只屬一般。一年後，情況已大大改善了。該系錄取了兩名成績出眾的轉系生，以及六十名公開試成績良好的新生；而新設的哲學博士和哲學碩士課程則分別有四名和三名研究生。

學系名稱
校方籌設該系時，一直稱之為機械工程學系，及至正式開辦前才改名為機械與自動化工程學系。仲光教授解釋，設立新學系需時四、五年，最初只是暫擬名稱。由於課程內容自始至終圍繞自動化機械工程學，而非傳統的機械工程學，所以正式成立時便改名，以強調新學系的課程特色。該系學生主修自動化工程學未來發展的先進技術，也會接觸基礎機械工程訓練。

何謂自動化
自動化概念源出Norbert Wiener的控制論。現代自動化的研究項目，學生須結合電腦和電子科技，以及機械原理，把複雜的工序或產品自動化，它的用途廣泛，機器人、日本汽車的自動化生產線，以及生產家電產品等，是現代人熟知的例子。機器人是人手所不能及的工作，因此這個領域迅速發展。其學系名稱
校方籌設該系時，一直稱之為機械工程學系，及至正式開辦前才改名為機械與自動化工程學系。仲光教授解釋，設立新學系需時四、五年，最初只是暫擬名稱。由於課程內容自始至終圍繞自動化機械工程學，而非傳統的機械工程學，所以正式成立時便改名，以強調新學系的課程特色。該系學生主修自動化工程學未來發展的先進技術，也會接觸基礎機械工程訓練。

他補充，以「自動化」為系名在北美並不流行，但在中國大陸、俄羅斯、歐洲等地則常見，之為簡稱。可起推廣作用，讓港人和廠家認識這門學科及其對人類和工業的影響，促進香港高科技工業的發展。

課程設計
該系首批學生反映課外活動教學太多，仲光教授因課程繁重是無可避免的。他說：「工程學系各學系的課時都很多，本系也不例外。」

課程設計時，已全面考慮學生的時間、能力和就業前途，並透徹吸收。不過，當學生於第三年專研高級科目，並運用所學知識做畢業習作時，便會領會到各個科目均有聯繫。只要融會貫通，便能解決複雜問題，甚而創造新的概念和應用。仲光教授又說，本科生第一、二年的課程內容廣泛，對未來學術發展不致造成影響，學生於第三年完成所有主要課程。

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空間不足
何衛傑工程學樓本供工程學系使用，後機械與自動化工程學系加入，院方便從原有空間編出地方安置新學系。原設機械樓不少辦公室均是從系統工程與工程管理學系借出。

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空間不足
何衛傑工程學樓本供工程學系使用，後機械與自動化工程學系加入，院方便從原有空間編出地方安置新學系。原設機械樓不少辦公室均是從系統工程與工程管理學系借出。

仲光教授說，該系在九四年九月招生首批本科生時，外間（尤以中學生父母）對該系的課程內容所知不多，所錄取的廿九名學生，在公開試的表現只屬一般。一年後，情況已大大改善了。該系錄取了兩名成績出眾的轉系生，以及六十名公開試成績良好的新生；而新設的哲學博士和哲學碩士課程則分別有四名和三名研究生。

學系名稱
校方籌設該系時，一直稱之為機械工程學系，及至正式開辦前才改名為機械與自動化工程學系。仲光教授解释，設立新學系需時四、五年，最初只是暫擬名稱。由於課程內容自始至終圍繞自動化機械工程學，而非傳統的機械工程學，所以正式成立時便改名，以強調新學系的課程特色。該系學生主修自動化工程學未來發展的先進技術，也會接觸基礎機械工程訓練。

他補充，以「自動化」為系名在北美並不流行，但在中國大陸、俄羅斯、歐洲等地則常見，之為簡稱。可起推廣作用，讓港人和廠家認識這門學科及其對人類和工業的影響，促進香港高科技工業的發展。

何謂自動化
自動化概念源出Norbert Wiener的控制論。現代自動化的研究項目，學生須結合電腦和電子科技，以及機械原理，把複雜的工序或產品自動化，它的用途廣泛，機器人、日本汽車的自動化生產線，以及生產家電產品等，是現代人熟知的例子。機器人是人手所不能及的工作，因此這個領域迅速發展。其
校內多媒體輔助教學的最新發展

校方應加強網絡利便傳送
教師宜急起直追掌握技術

「多媒體是電腦應用的大趨勢,中大教職員對多媒體的認識日深,對它的輔助教學功能尤感興趣。」資訊科技服務處電算師羅若舜先生解釋,多媒體是特別設計的電腦程序,運用圖像、聲音、錄像、動畫和文字,把種種意念和資料傳達到用戶眼前,吸引力巨大,比電影優勝。其特點在於互動,用戶不再是受體,可選擇自己喜愛的或需要的片段來看;電腦也會因應用戶輸入的資料或答覆作出反應,用之於教學,多媒體軟件讓學生因應本身的能力學習,不再受制於傳統的學習程序和步伐。

羅先生一九九零年加入中大服務,主要協助教職員開發多媒體軟件。他說,電算機服務中心致力推廣電腦輔助教學,最初引進多媒體編寫軟件時,主動向教職員推介,希望先引起他們的興趣,再由他們共同開發輔助教學軟件。數年來,他們不斷引進新的科技,向教職員推介易學易用的編寫軟件,反應甚佳。據電算機服務中心的資料,過去一年,校內使用電腦輔助教學的計劃激增一倍,而尙未完成者多達數十項。

羅先生認為,推廣過程中最困難的地方,在於技術轉移。他們的目標是透過共同開發多媒體教學軟件,把有關技術轉移給教師,讓教師日後自行開發更多輔助教學軟件。可是,部分教師誤解了他們的服務,以為應說出要求,便可得到一套合用的軟件,所以未有積極投入學習;亦有部分教師未能撥出足夠時間參與製作,以致技術轉移的速度比預期慢。

所以,資訊科技服務處現在接到申請後,會先提醒有關學系必須派出教師或職員專責統籌,並預留足夠時間和經費投入製作。他們的服務對象限於校內部門與同人,所開發的多媒體軟件須與學生有關,又以教學為先。

資訊科技服務處負責多媒體開發的工作小組共有四名成員,包括羅若舜先生。羅先生補充說:「費用不很多,主要是材料費用和學生工資,但肯定統籌者要花很多時間。」

運用電腦作爲輔助教學工具,可以增加教學的靈活性,適合學生人數日益增多及學生素質參差的教學需要,更把教學的重點由「教」轉至「學」。可是,「由於多媒體軟件和數碼錄像所需的頻帶寬度較大,如經現時的校園網絡傳送,運行上會打折扣。現在使用的多媒體軟件,多在個別個人電腦或局域網操作,要全面普及還需時。」羅先生說。

談到未來的發展,他透露,其所屬小組將會繼續聘請軟件,「增加人手只治標,治本的方法還在於技術轉移。」另一方面,校方已開始研究,希望藉助校園網絡系統的容量和傳達速度,便利多媒體輔助教學的發展。

蔡世彬

「導航者」經驗

親身參與軟件開發

英語教學單位導師左治強先生曾參與開發多媒體軟件「導航者」(Pathfinders)的工作,以下是他的經驗和心得:

「我於九二年加入中大,當時電算機服務中心積極擴展校園訊息系統,我從該中心梁光漢先生處認識不少電腦的功用,並漸由門外漢變成為一個不怕電腦,想用電腦的人。」

「九三年萬維網在校園普及,安坐辦公室便輕易取得世界各地的資料,令我深深體會到電腦發展潛力之大。多媒體是桌上電腦加電視雙向互動,包括文字、圖像、聲音、動畫和錄像五項元素,對年靑學生的吸引力甚大。於是我開始構思一套切合中大學生需要的多媒體教學軟件。」

「由於當年入學的新生翌年將屆九七,時局轉變會影響他們的價値觀和職業選擇,這是學生的切身問題,相信會引起他們的興趣。我便以此為主題,為語文自學中心開發一套學習英語的軟件。」

「『導航者』分為兩部分。第一部分,學生可從金錢、權力、學識、家庭和社會公義五個大題目中選取一項,審視本身的價值觀。在四十五分鐘的航程內,學生會聆聽和閱讀與其取向有關的文章或詩篇,並答覆問題。當然,人生的範疇很大,豈是五個題目所能涵蓋。所以『導航者』第二部分會探討自由、民主、人權和法治的理念,鼓勵學生寫下感想,在電子新聞小組與其他參與者分享。學生從中可學習英文文法、生詞和它的用法。」

「工作小組的骨幹有四人,除我之外,還有電算機服務中心電算師林成勇先生,以及兩名校外人士。」

「我負責統籌,須協調劇本要求和電腦技術的限制。劇本曾大幅度改動八次,我想過放棄。」

「製作過程前後花了一年多,日常所耗的時間比我預計的多一倍;幸得文學院和英語教學單位的支持,我才有充足經費和時間完成計劃。」

「學生對『導航者』的反應不俗,若以五分為滿分,學生平均給它三點六分。」

「我學會了如何配合軟硬件使用電腦,對課程設計和講授方法有了新的體會和構想,又學懂如何與其他專業人士溝通和合作。」

「除多媒體外,電子新聞小組和電子郵遞也是有效的網上輔助教學模式,可補充傳統教學方法之不足。學生不受課堂和時間的限制,可隨時提問,解答者不一定是教師,可以是導師或同學,這樣,教學便由講授為主、教師導引、小組合作,和多對多的形式,及彌補講座為主、實踐為主,學習更為主動。」

「『導航者』的製作過程對我影響很大,加深了我對多媒體的認識,並激發了我對網絡教學的研究。我雖仍未能獨自編寫多媒體軟件,但仍對這極有興趣。我今年的教硏工作焦點,都離不開萬維網數據庫對網絡教學、硏究、通訊及出版的影響。」

「在電腦網絡以多媒體輔助教學是廿一世紀教育的大趨勢。校方有先見之明,支持發展網絡教學與硏究,使中大走在數碼化科技時代的尖端,不斷改善教學素質,發揮導航者的作用。電算機服務中心和文學院合作開發『導航者』,是科技與文化結合的很好例子。在此,我要感謝各位參與計劃的同事、老師和同學,以及文學院對計劃的支持和鼓勵。」
大學副監督榮休

大學副監督簡悅強爵士已於本年二月廿九日榮休，惟將繼續以終身校董身份，參與大學校董會的工作。

簡爵士與中大的情誼深厚，可追溯至中大成立之前。他在戰後初年即協助崇基學院獲得政府認可為專上學院，並於二零零六年九月獲委任中大校董，參與大學的發展。簡爵士為校董會的創立成員之一，於二零零零年受聘為校董會主席，後於二零零五年改任副監督及校董會主席。

生物系獲撥三百萬元

建立自動分子遺傳分析系統

本校生物系最近獲得研資局撥款二百九十萬元，用以建立「自動分子遺傳分析系統」。該系統包括核酸純化系統、自動分子生物學工作站、遺傳分析器/基因掃描器，以及光譜及光譜儀器。所有儀器設於中大校園，所有校園人員均可用。

張瀟談中國近現代思想

蜚聲國際中國近代思想史學家張瀟教授（左）於三月十五日主持「張國英週年講座」，講題為「轉型時代（一八九五至一九二一年）在中國近現代思想史上的重要性」。

白石角卸泥塡海計劃即將展開

校方設監察小組保護校園環境

本刊先後於九四年（第五十三及六十一期）及九五年（第七十一期）報導關於政府在白石角的卸泥塡海計劃，提及由於該計劃可能嚴重影響校園環境，校方曾去函反對。其後，經雙方多輪磋商，政府同意將卸泥塡海計劃延後一至兩年，並允諾採取多項緩解措施，盡量減低工程對大學之影響。學生會與校方亦倡議，興建一個較小的校園環境保護小組，以監察工程的進行。