To Increase Linguistic Awareness Among Hong Kong Students

Prof. Samuel Cheung Hung-nin from the Department of East Asian Languages and Communication reveals that, despite uncertainty about press freedom after 1997, Hong Kong from two angles: linguistic and socio-linguistic.

Hong Kong is a multi-lingual society: while Cantonese is used for everyday oral communication, the written language is based essentially on Putonghua. The spoken language is, however, often interspersed with English, while Cantonese expressions find their way into written Chinese. The phenomenon, Prof. Cheung points out, is seen by intellectuals as a 'deviation from accepted standards', and a 'pollution of language'. Although Putonghua teaching would help to improve writing ability and reduce the use of dialect in written Chinese, its full implementation takes time and the improvement of language ability requires immediate attention. Prof. Cheung is of the view that students should not abandon the use of their mother tongue, Cantonese; they should instead be taught to increase their awareness of the language they use. The lecture attempted to analyse the problems of Chinese language education from different aspects, and suggested concrete teaching methods to improve students' confidence in and awareness of the language, in order to enhance their interest in language learning.

Prof. Cheung is currently chair of the Department of East Asian Languages at the University of California at Berkeley. His visit to CUHK is the first of its kind sponsored by the Wilson T. S. Wang Visiting Professorship in Language Education Scheme, set up with a generous donation by Dr. Wilson T. S. Wang.

Hong Kong Journalists Oppose Self-Censorship

A survey conducted in the summer of 1996 by Prof. Clement So, Prof. Joseph M. Chan, and Prof. Chin-chan Lee of the Department of Journalism and Communication reveals that, despite uncertainty about press freedom after 1997, most Hong Kong journalists oppose media self-censorship during the transition period.

Self-administered questionnaires were distributed to randomly-selected journalists from 22 news organizations last summer, and 535 completed questionnaires were received, giving a response rate of 62 per cent.

Over 80 per cent of the respondents objected to the statement that 'To maintain stability and prosperity during the transition, journalists should not expose too much of the dark side of society'; only 5 per cent identified with it. Some 60 per cent disagreed that 'For the sake of public interest as a whole, it is appropriate for the media to give up a little freedom' and that 'In the pursuit of truth, journalists may not have to be neutral'. More than half worried that press freedom in the territory would be affected after the handover. The feasibility of 'one country, two systems' elicited a wait-and-see attitude from about half of the journalists, with about 15 per cent feeling positive and 20 per cent feeling pessimistic. Some 47 per cent thought that in case of a conflict between Hong Kong and China, the Hong Kong media should remain neutral; only 1 per cent believed they should side with China; 37 per cent believed they should take a pro-Hong Kong stand.

With respect to self-censorship, only 5 per cent agreed with the statement that 'Nowadays most journalists hesitate to criticize the Hong Kong government'. One-third found that journalists hesitate to criticize the large corporations in Hong Kong. Half of the respondents believed that local journalists hesitate to criticize the Chinese government. Most respondents however felt themselves bolder than their peers. Those expressing hesitation in criticizing the Hong Kong government, the large corporations, and the Chinese government constituted only 4, 13, and 21 per cent of the respondents respectively.

The Department of Sports Science and Physical Education, initially established in 1989 as the Department of Physical Education, began offering Hong Kong's first degree course in sports science and physical education in 1994. The first batch of Bachelors of Education in sports science and physical education are graduating this year. To mark the occasion, the department held a press conference on 9th May to introduce the graduates as well as its latest research.

Then, on 10th May, the department organized the '97 Symposium on Research in Sports Science and Physical Education: South-East Asia Perspective'. Speakers from China, Taiwan, Macau, and Hong Kong presented their latest research findings on physical education from social and biological perspectives.

SEMINAR HELD TO SOLVE PROBLEMS IN CHINESE LANGUAGE TEACHING IN HONG KONG

A seminar on Chinese language teaching in Hong Kong was held at the University from 15th to 17th May. The organizers were the Department of Chinese Language and Literature, the Ng Tor-tai Chinese Language Research Centre of the Institute of Chinese Studies, the Hong Kong Examinations Authority, the Curriculum Development Institute and the Advisory Inspectorate of the Hong Kong Education Department.

The seminar was conducted in two sessions: the tertiary session held on 15th and 16th, and the sixth form session on 17th. The tertiary session featured lectures given by Prof. Samuel Cheung Hung-nin of the Department of East Asian Languages at the University of California at Berkeley, and Prof. Chew Chong-hak, director of the Centre for Chinese Language and Culture of Nanyang Technological University in Singapore. The topics discussed included the necessity of introducing an exit examination on proficiency in Chinese, and whether the establishment of an independent learning centre in tertiary institutions can raise students' Chinese language standards.

The sixth form session was attended by over 200 sixth form teachers. Prof. Dang Shu-leung, chairman of the Department of Chinese Language and Literature, spoke on Chinese Language Proficiency of Secondary Students and Undergraduates'. Participants exchanged experiences in teaching sixth form Chinese, and discussed the future of the Chinese curriculum as well as assessment objectives in public examinations.

More Research Grants

The following two research proposals submitted by members of the University recently received funding locally and from overseas:

- Project title: Occupational Noise Exposure and Hearing Impairment Among Employees in the Service Industry in Hong Kong
- Sponsor: Health Services Research Fund, Hong Kong

Principal researcher: Prof. Ignatius Yu Tak-sun

First Batch of Locally-Trained PE Degree Holders

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Accountancy Graduates Score Highest in HKSA/ACCA Exams

Graduates of the University's School of Accountancy outdid other candidates in the HKSA/ACCA joint examinations held in December 1996. The Hong Kong Society of Accountants announced in the May/June 1997 issue of The Prospective Account: The Students' Journal of the Hong Kong Society of Accountants that the top students for these non-exemptible papers in the professional stage examination are CUHK professional accountancy graduates.

1996 graduate Kwok Man-chung topped other candidates in Paper 10 — 'Accounting and Auditing Practice' (HK), while Regina Lee Sau-yee, also a 1996 graduate, was the top scorer in Paper 13: 'Financial Reporting Environment' (HK) and Paper 14: 'Financial Strategy'. Kwok is an accountant at Price Waterhouse, and Lee is now a finance management trainee at Mass Transit Railway Corporation.
Visit by Presidents of Teaching Hospitals in China

A delegation from the National Association of Presidents of Teaching Hospitals of Medical Universities, China, headed by a former director of the Drum Tower Hospital of Nanjing, Prof. Tao Yin, visited the University from 5th to 11th May 1997.

During their visit, the delegation participated in "Challenges for Teaching Hospitals", a seminar organized by the University's Faculty of Medicine. Challenges faced by teaching hospitals, including those in administration, finance management, teaching, and research were discussed in depth.

The delegation then visited the Faculty of Medicine and its teaching hospitals, including the Prince of Wales Hospital, Sha Tin Hospital, and the Hong Kong Eye Hospital. They also toured the newest Teaching Hospitals in the local territory in 1982 to join the University's new entity.

From Birth to Maturity

When Prof. Allan Chang first arrived in the territory in 1982 to join the University's new Faculty of Medicine, the immediate task was to develop a Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at the Prince of Wales Hospital (PWH) that could provide quality service to its patients and be worthy of a teaching hospital. In the 3-4 years that this took, the department also established its undergraduate teaching. Thereafter, emphasis was put on research and postgraduate training. With increasing experience and expertise, the department has since 1991-92 been engaged in more basic research, such as the study of menopause and its chemistry, such as the study of menopause and its chemistry, such as the study of menopause and its chemistry, such as the study of menopause and its chemistry, such as the study of menopause and its chemistry.

The Largest O & G Unit in Hong Kong

They deliver 78-8000 babies a year, teach the speciality of obstetrics and gynaecology at the undergraduate level, and train specialists at the postgraduate level. Their programs cover parenthood, reproductive medicine, endocrinology, urogynaecology, and gynaecological oncology...

Medical Students Help Measure Physical Fitness of the Elderly

Your 4 medical students attached to the Department of Community Medicine conducted two community health projects from 3rd February to 17th March: 'Body Measurement and Physical Fitness of the Elderly in Tuen Mun' and 'Physical Activity and Fitness of Institutionalized Elderly in Sha Tin'. The projects gave the students the experience of conducting a field survey and serving the community's senior citizens.

Law Professor Examines Relevance of Basic Law to Business

Prof. Frankie P. L. Leung, adjunct professor of law at Loyola Law School and lecturer in law at Stanford University, gave a lecture at the University entitled "Is the Basic Law Good for Business?" on 10th May. The lecture was organized by the School of Accountancy.

Prof. Leung reviewed the underlying assumptions of the Basic Law with special reference to articles therein dealing with interpretation rights, the relationship between the Hong Kong SAR government and Beijing, Article 23, and nationality issues. The emphasis was on the pertinence of the Basic Law to the business community.

Prof. Leung obtained his BA from the University of Hong Kong, his M.Sc. from Birmingham University, and his law degrees from Oxford University. He was a visiting scholar at Harvard Law School and practiced as a barrister in Hong Kong for eight years. Currently a partner at a 200-strong law firm in Los Angeles, Prof. Leung is also the correspondent on Hong Kong for the International Legal Materials of the American Society of International Law.

Severe understaffing and excessive clinical workload. While this overload problem is faced by all the departments of the medical faculty, Prof. Chang believes it is especially urgent for his department because, "When a woman has a baby, everything else must wait."

In other areas of community service, mainly to improve and upgrade the profession as a whole, Prof. Chang is currently the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine's vice-president for education and examination. He has just completed three years as the president of Hong Kong College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, with Prof. Christopher Haines, a senior lecturer in the department, as the secretary in 1991-93. Prof. Haines is presently an adviser to the WHO on menopause.

Quality Assurance

Prof. Chang points out that in general, the O&G departments in the world have had quality assurance programmes far earlier and far ahead than any other specialty in medicine. Hence, a quality audit was introduced as soon as the department was established. What was also quickly established was a weekly meeting to evaluate cases with unexpected outcomes.

They also have what very few units have internationally — visits to the paediatric department nurseries to see all the babies with problems and to analyze whether better service could have been rendered during either pregnancy or childbirth. He says in a matter-of-fact manner, "We don't talk about quality assurance because it is very much a part of our job. In our field, we have been doing it for the last 30 years."

Any Achilles' Heels?

"Yes, we have considerable weaknesses," is the frank and forthcoming reply from Prof. Chang, who evaluates weaknesses as readily as strengths. "The first weakness is that traditionally obstetrics does not attract serious researchers. The problem is related to the discipline worldwide — rather than to the efforts of individual O&G departments. It has thus taken the department very long to establish itself in research."

And then in Hong Kong, Prof. Chang points out, the specialty of obstetrics has for many years been neglected. The government has failed to provide many needed services like prenatal counselling or universal assurance of babies in early pregnancy. According to Prof. Chang, these are services that are available in any 'civilized' Western country. Requests for these services and additional resources from the Hospital Authority have long been ignored, and hence Hong Kong's clinical services and care in this area is sometimes not on a par with that of Western countries of comparable wealth. "The quality of our care is sometimes poor because the manpower, space and resources at our disposal are only adequate for one-third or one-fourth of the cases that we are currently looking after," says Prof. Chang.

"It is shortcomings such as these that constitute the more unfortunate moments — moments when a baby is born damaged or dead, and moments when you have to tell certain patients that, because we do not have enough resources and their condition is not life-threatening, we cannot look after them any longer. These are all moments that I would much rather not have, but they concern us as doctors." He concludes by saying, "Being a doctor is like being a general — you win some battles, you lose some, and when you lose, you feel tmraitized. But statistics being what they are and biology being what it is, you cannot guarantee a successful outcome to every case. We can only try our best."
**CUHK Newsletter**

No. 109  4th June 1997

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**Seeking Protection for Your Inventions**

By Mrs. Yip, an employee of the Patent Committee of the University.

The Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks has received an application for a patent on a new and useful invention. The invention is related to the field of telecommunications.

The application is being processed by the Patent Office, and the inventor will be notified of the outcome. In the meantime, the inventor is advised to continue promoting the invention to potential users and manufacturers.

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**Whens and Hows**

One of the major challenges in patenting is choosing the right country to apply in. The choice depends on the market and the potential consumer base. For instance, if the technology is primarily for the European market, applying in Europe would be more appropriate.

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**Protection for Your Inventions**

Through the Patent Committee of the University.

Patent applications can be filed in over 100 countries worldwide. The Patent Office in the United States processes over 150,000 patent applications each year. The process involves searching for prior art, examining the application, and granting a patent if the invention is novel and non-obvious.

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**Service to the Community and International Organizations**

* Prof. Chen Ching, director of the Chinese Medicinal Research Centre, has been appointed by the Secretary for Health and Welfare as a member of the Preparatory Committee on Chinese Medicine for two years from 1st April 1997.

* Prof. Dr. Yingbin, deputy director of the School of Public Health, has been reappointed by the Secretary for Health and Welfare as a member of the Preparatory Committee on Chinese Medicine for two years from 1st April 1997.

* Prof. Wu Chi, director of the School of Engineering, has been reappointed by the Secretary for Education and Manpower as a member of the Preparatory Committee on Chinese Medicine for two years from 1st April 1997.

* Prof. Madam Yip, director of the School of Social Sciences, has been reappointed by the Secretary for Education and Manpower as a member of the Preparatory Committee on Chinese Medicine for two years from 1st April 1997.

* Prof. Tony L. Lee, director of the School of Business, has been reappointed by the Secretary for Education and Manpower as a member of the Preparatory Committee on Chinese Medicine for two years from 1st April 1997.

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Research Centre for Translation

NEW...

Renditions Paperbacks
Marvels of a Floating City
by Xi Xi
edited by Eung Hong

Xi Xi weaves Western culture and local perception, reality and fantasy into an alchemy of words, paintings and images that grip the people of Hong Kong in a crucial period of their history.

ISBN 962-7255-18-1
xx + 106 pages HK$399

Renditions Nos. 47 & 48
A special issue on Hong Kong writing of the 90s, illustrated with the works of Hong Kong artists. Recent works of local writers featuring a new generation of poets: prose and fiction by both established authors and newer voices.

(index) 238 pages HK$190

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

A Book That Marks 1997 But Is Not About It

Our book is not about 1997 or how people feel about 1997. There are no big political statements at all. We're not interested in politics. Everybody's tired of politics,' says Tim Nutt and Chris Bale about their latest venture called Hong Kong: A Moment in Time, published by The Chinese University Press. Despite their claims, the book is bound to prompt many questions about its relation to 1997 precisely because of the latter's absence in the manifest content, juxtaposed with its implied presence in the title and the fact that the book is published now. The authors explain away these textual tensions: '1997 is clearly a landmark year, so we thought it'd be nice to do a book that marks that year. We're not implying that 1997 marks the end of anything or the start of anything. It is simply a moment in time.'

What can a book on Hong Kong be like, that marks 1997 but is not about it, and that is produced by two expatriate men who have lived in the territory for 20 years? To quote Nutt, it is a visual and impressionistic book, a book with over 400 photos of Hong Kong and ten interviews with their 'old friends'. Nutt was mainly responsible for the photos, while Bale took care of the interviews and put the text together. So how does this book differ from the myriad glossy publications spewing with Hollywood-as well as Hong Kong means to them also grace the pages of this book. The idea for the book came about when Nutt, walking in the hills one afternoon last summer, suddenly felt he had to do something to mark 1997. He drew up questionnaires about people's thoughts of Hong Kong and sent them to 800 friends. There were four sets of questionnaires: 'expat friends living in Hong Kong', 'friends who have left Hong Kong', 'Chinese friends living in Hong Kong', and 'visitors to Hong Kong'. With slight variations, the questions asked included 'What unique image do you associate with Hong Kong?' 'What food [colour, smell, texture, noise] do you associate with Hong Kong?', 'Describe your view of Hong Kong in terms of its focus and its motivation', and 'What do you associate with Hong Kong?'. As Nutt and Bale went through each returned questionnaire looking for quotes to use in the book, what struck them was 'how positive people are about Hong Kong'. Those who have left miss it; those who are about to leave dread leaving. Among the Chinese respondents, there is a strong sense of cultural identity as 'Hong Kong Chinese'. Twenty years ago, most people living here were born in China; now there is a Hong Kong generation who were born and raised in the territory. Their impressions of Hong Kong and their memories generated themes for photography. There are 400 photos, but obviously there are 4,000 others that have had to be left out. It's the same with the interviews. We're not pretending these ten people represent every walk of life in Hong Kong. We chose the ten whom we think have different perspectives of Hong Kong, and whose life stories also show different aspects of Hong Kong,' explains Bale about the choice of interviewees. They include an artist, a movie star, an executive, a civil servant, a mother, and a social worker. None of them, Bale feels, said the 'typical' things that contributed to the 'tired old images of Hong Kong', and for him that was the most enjoyable part of making the book. For example, when asked if she thought Hong Kong is a land of opportunities where people all have a fair chance to do better in life, social worker Christine Fang said no. Although she'd 'like to say it is fair because it gives people hope', she feels many people are not given a fair chance. Graphic designer John Au was asked if he found Hong Kong a very difficult place to be creative because it is so money-oriented. He replied that if creativity is making something out of nothing, then a family with a monthly income of $5,000 that manages to put five children through school and university is demonstrating creativity at the highest level.

What were the main difficulties in making the book? 'Getting the pictures,' says Nutt. 'We didn't seriously begin the photography and the interviews until January and the book has to be out in June. There has to be visual continuity. We can't just get a whole bunch of photos and throw them into a book. Some of these pictures were taken almost 20 years ago. We also needed specific pictures to go with the theme. That meant I had to take them in February and March when the visibility in Hong Kong was terrible.'

Piera Chen

The book (ISBN 862-201-772-X, hard cover, 124 pages) is expected to be out in early June. It will be sold at HK$310, or HK$250 if ordered through The Chinese University Press.
公積金投資成績
Investment Returns of Superannuation Schemes

總務處公布公積金各項投資基金於一九九七年四月份之投資增長如下：

From the Bursary
The returns for the month of April 1997 in the Designated Investment Funds of the 1995 Scheme and 1983 Scheme are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>基金</th>
<th>1995 計劃</th>
<th>1983 計劃</th>
<th>基準指數</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>增長</td>
<td>Growth</td>
<td>1.14%</td>
<td>1.37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>平衡</td>
<td>Balanced</td>
<td>1.08%</td>
<td>1.34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>穩定</td>
<td>Stable</td>
<td>0.89%</td>
<td>0.77%</td>
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<td>貨幣市場</td>
<td>Money Market</td>
<td>0.43%</td>
<td>0.50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>銀行存款</td>
<td>Bank Deposit</td>
<td>0.46%</td>
<td>0.46%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

大學游泳池延長開放時間
University Swimming Pool News

大學游泳池將於六月十六日至九月七日延長開放時間：每日上午八時至下午一時四十分，及下午二時卅分至七時十五分，並逢星期三晚上八時至十時十分加開一節夜泳，星期日及公眾假日照常開放。

From 16th June to 7th September 1997, the opening hours of the University Swimming Pool will be extended as follows:

First session: 8.00 a.m. - 1.40 p.m.
Second session: 2.30 p.m. - 7.15 p.m.

The following canteens on campus will be closed for renovation during the following periods:

- BFC staff and student canteens and VIP dining rooms
  - New Asia College staff/student canteen and 1st to 15th June
  - Yun Chi Hsien
  - BFC fast food shop 10th to 18th June
  - Basic Medical Science Building canteen 28th June to 6th July
  - Chung Chi College staff club 5th to 19th July
  - Postgraduate Hall Complex canteen 8th to 30th July

The United College canteen, the Shaw College canteen, the BFC coffee shop, and Chung Chi Tang have resumed business after renovation.

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。
要申請專利權嗎？

香港大學研究生院於八十代中期,創立中大專利專責機構,校方成立專利權委員會,協助教職員申請專利權。

大學於一九八九年成立專利權委員會,處理一切與專利權有關的事宜。該委員會於一九九七年重新命名為專利權委員會(現屆成員名單見另表)。

專利權委員會

主席:李國教授(校長)
委員:譚容教授或其代表
研究委員會主席或其代表
李教授(生物科技工程學系)
黃教授(化學系)
潘博士(生物及生物科技研究員)
秘書:研究事務主任

由於大學研究所得之發明研究成果,如發明申請專利權時,其申請專利權期間,大學有專利權申請的權利。專利權申請有種類別,又有專利權申請的期限。

中大專利權委員會曾於本年三月舉辦研討會,由美國法學教授講解與專利權有關的事項,其中一個主題論述何時是適當的時間申請專利權。委員會是整體考慮以下十項而作出決定的:

(一) 它有科學價值嗎？
(二) 可申請嗎？
(三) 創新性？
(四) 為何專利權重要？
(五) 前科未有專利權？
(六) 可轉換以其他專利權應用嗎？
(七) 為何不？它可否應用在其他地方？
(八) 它可用於科學研究？
(九) 手頭資料足以申請專利權嗎？
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(十) 它有經濟價值？
全國教學醫院院長團來訪

全國高等醫學院校附屬醫院院長來訪後應本校醫學院長李川軍教授(左)致送紀念品。代表團一行十五人，由華中醫科大學院長王恩和(右)率領，來訪前曾親自接見，並與李教授就兩地未來發展的可能領域交換意見。本校教職員香港仔遊艇會舉辦的「教學醫院的挑戰」研討會，與代表團就教學醫院的挑戰和解決方法，並就教學醫學教育的交流進行交流。此外，全國發行的《中國醫院管理雜誌》也派編輯隨團採訪香港的醫院管理情況。

當前教學醫院的挑戰

代表團一行十五人，由華中醫科大學院長王恩和(右)率領，來訪前曾親自接見，並與李教授就兩地未來發展的可能領域交換意見。本校教職員香港仔遊艇會舉辦的「教學醫院的挑戰」研討會，與代表團就教學醫院的挑戰和解決方法，並就教學醫學教育的交流進行交流。此外，全國發行的《中國醫院管理雜誌》也派編輯隨團採訪香港的醫院管理情況。
王澤森語文教育訪問敎授
張洪年談語言自覺

張洪年教授表示，要在短期內提高學生的語文水平，便要設法提高他們對自己語言的自覺，了解各種語言的使用空間、時間、對象和場合。一旦他們知道溝通和得體的重要，自有學習的動機。

張教授為本校首位「王澤森語文敎育訪問敎授」，並於上月十四日舉行授課儀式和最後公開講座。「從『語言自覺』看香港語文教育的發展」。

張教授認為推行普通話教學有助於寫作，也可糾正文章混雜方言的惡習，但他不同意要求學生放棄以粵語學習。他認同香港推動「兩文三語」的主張，要求學生在語法、語義和語用方面加強掌握普通話和英語的能力。

他指出，要提高學生的「語言自覺」，必須使學生知道溝通和得體的重要，了解各種語言的使用空間、時間、對象和場合。一旦他們知道溝通和得體的重要，自有學習的動機。

張教授為本校首位「王澤森語文敎育訪問敎授」，並於上月十四日假何善衡工程學大樓演講廳主持公開講座：「從『語言自覺』看香港語文教育的發展」。