BA STUDENTS WIN INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION AS FIRST-TIMERS

Four students from the Faculty of Business Administration won the 17th McIntire International Case Competition (MICC) held in the US on 21st February.

One of the most prestigious competitions for undergraduate business students, the MICC is organized by the McIntire School of Commerce at the University of Virginia and sponsored by the General Electric Fund. Previous competitions have received extensive coverage by the Wall Street Journal and other business periodicals. CUHK is the first and only university from Asia to have been invited to take part in the competition.

Participants this year also included the University of Texas at Austin, the University of North Carolina, the University of Dublin, and Queen's University. Each team was given 14 hours to tackle a case prepared by the McIntire professors, after which it had to produce a written solution and present it orally in 20 minutes.

On the CUHK team were Julie Cheng (marketing), Venus Ho (finance), Anne Tse (finance), and Carol Wong (finance), with Prof. Danny Cheng as their adviser.

New Asia-Yale Student Exchange

Eight New Asia students spent two weeks in the US exploring gender issues under the fifth New Asia-Yale University Student Exchange Programme. Between 24th January and 7th February, they presented papers on sexual discrimination and harassment at a symposium held at Yale University and exchanged views with different student groups. They also visited relevant organizations such as the Permanent Commission on the States of Women and Planned Parenthood, and toured the cities of New York and Washington D.C.

Yale students will return the visit this month.

Personal News Service (PNS) for IT Users

The Information Networking Laboratories of the University has developed a new tool for handling the colossal amount of information available to users of the Internet. The tool, PNS, was displayed at the Hong Kong Information Infrastructure Expo and Conference last month at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre.

PNS collects information from all sorts of news homepages, local and overseas, and traces such information automatically. When used with a full-text searching system, also developed by CUHK, PNS can search and sort materials according to the commands of users and send relevant details to them via the Internet, e-mail, or fax.

PNS can also analyse and categorize news according to key phrases chosen by individual users. This is done automatically with 100 per cent accuracy.
In this issue, three new teachers from different faculties talk about their experiences in the first few months of teaching and working in the University.

My First Semester at CUHK
by Mahesh Gupte

Prof. Mahesh Gupte teaches operations management and quantitative methods at the College of Business of the University of Louisville, USA. He is spending his sabatical year at The Chinese University as visiting associate professor in the Department of Systems Engineering and Engineering Management. Prof. Gupte comes from Jammu, a small city in the Jammu and Kashmir State of India. This piece was written in late 1997.

So far the first semester has been a very exciting, challenging, and memorable experience in many ways. Finding a conveniently located apartment, learning how the University administration works, preparing lecture notes for classes, and trying to understand the expectations of the students as well as colleagues are probably the most vivid aspects of my stay in Hong Kong. These aspects have occupied most of my time and consumed the bulk of my energy over the past few months. It is very refreshing to take a seven-to-eight-minute walk from my apartment to the KCR/Prince Edward Station and then merge into a crowd heading for the University Station. The busy lifestyle of Hong Kong people with their beepers and cell phones still remains a mystery to me.

My teaching assignment in the first semester at CU was three lecture classes with about 50 to 60 students each. They are foundation courses for first-year students. These courses have really challenged my ability to keep the students engaged and interested in the subject-matter. I find CU students very hard-working, energetic, and motivated to learn and do well in their course work. The most difficult and challenging task has been to communicate effectively with them. Through the mid-term course evaluations, I found out that they were having some difficulty understanding my accent and it seems that we are beginning to understand each other. I was very satisfied with their performance in the mid-term test. It remains a challenge, however, to engage them in a discussion, but I guess the lecture format is not conducive to such engagements. It also took me a while to realize the importance of graduate assistants. They have helped me tremendously in grading the papers and offering tutorials so that the students can discuss important aspects of the lectures. Many times I feel I am missing something by not being able to speak Cantonese. Although the students are very respectful, it has been difficult to establish an effective communicative relationship with them.

A major reason I decided to spend my sabatical year in CUHK was its prevailing academic standard and research achievements in the areas of engineering management, information systems, and operations research. It is very exciting to be surrounded by faculty members and graduate students who are actively involved in research. The environment has stimulated my thought processes. Even though my teaching duties have kept me extremely busy and prevented me from attending workshops, a number of opportunities do exist for me to share my research interests with colleagues and graduate students. I have been able to initiate at least two research projects with my colleagues and I hope to work on them more aggressively in the coming months. The computing and library facilities are excellent and comparable to many top US universities.

When compared with CUHK, the College of Business in the University of Louisville is primarily a teaching school even though research is encouraged and rewarded. The college does not have a stream of students working on their master's and Ph.D. theses which generally provide a fertile ground for research ideas. Although my research efforts have been appreciated within the school as well as at the university level through many research awards, it was becoming extremely difficult to sustain such efforts. Last year when the University of Louisville awarded me the tenure and granted me a sabbatical year, I decided to take the time to reflect on and inventory my skills and research work. It seems that my appointment as a visiting associate professor here has provided me an excellent opportunity to accomplish my objectives. I am already looking forward to the next semester as I am scheduled to teach two sections of the same course. Since I now have a good understanding of student expectations and the prevailing culture, there will be enough time this semester to interact actively with other faculty members and concentrate on the research projects I have initiated.

Impressions of the University and the Students
by Kimberly McGrath, instructor at the English Language Teaching Unit (ELTU)

It was almost six months ago that I began life at The Chinese University. I arrived directly from four years at the Harvard Institute for English Language Programs into the typhoons of Hong Kong. During those first weeks I found myself sloshing around in rain that usually swallowed my feet, and people who kept talking about the 'storm numbers' and potential mudslides. My only concern was how to make it from home to the University without getting lost or drenched! Having said all that, my first day on campus was an unforgettable one. Although muggy and hot (the humidity level felt about 200 per cent!), the sun in all its brightness revealed the unique beauty of the campus with its lush foliage and dazzling flowers. I walked around campus that day looking high for hopes of the students that I would soon teach.

I teach two courses for the ELTU — Communications for Business and Technical Communications — and my students are mostly first year undergraduates. The aim of such courses is to help students become more effective communicators in written and spoken English. My experience in language teaching has prepared me for the reserve of the first day of class at both teacher and student try to get a feel for the group and communication styles. My first day of class at the University was no different. I had also been forewarned that the students may seem quiet and unwilling to speak out. This is often true, especially if a teacher is new. Always the first few classes were filled with my nervousness. I quickly noticed a key characteristic of my students. They are apprehensive about speaking out in a large group setting, but if given a pair or small group task, they can be enthusiastic that it is sometimes difficult to get them to wrap up the task. Their motivation and communicative nature during these activities show that students here are willing to take an active role in their learning when given the opportunity.

I am now beginning my second semester at CUHK. When I first arrived my thoughts focused on who my students would be. I asked my colleagues questions and looked at the past work of students in order to gain a clearer perspective of my would-be audience. But this time around I feel I have a clear idea of who my audience will be, and I welcome the opportunity to work with and encounter more bright young CU minds.

Chatting about Himself and His Impressions of CUHK

Prof. Monica of the Department of Psychology prefers chatting with the CUHK Newsletter reporter about his impressions rather than writing about them. Here is an excerpt of the chat that took place last November.

(M: Monica; I: Interviewee)

I: I know you’re from Italy. Have you taught or studied elsewhere? Could you talk a little about your background?

M: I was born in Italy and lived there, in Genoa, up till age 25. I completed my undergraduate studies in psychology in Padua. When I was 25, I received a scholarship to go to Finland and at the same time got accepted for a doctoral programme in the University of Chicago. For a while I was both in Chicago, defending my thesis, and in Finland, first studying and then working for the Finnish National Institute of Occupational Health. From Finland, I moved to Paris where, for over three years, I worked first as an institute of health and then at a grande école. After that I was given the opportunity to teach in Italy on a one-semester contract.

I: What are your first impressions of the University?

M: I’ve only been here for three months, so my observations may be superficial. My first impression of The Chinese University, even before I got here, was that it is extremely well-equipped. I’m used to moving and I know one normally encounters many problems in moving, e.g., visa application. But everything was arranged neatly and clearly for me here. When I first arrived in Hong Kong, it was very hot. The heat sapped my energy but I could start work right away because I didn’t have to run to different offices to fill out forms, like I did in all the other institutions. Another impression is that the University is very well equipped technically. The computer systems are excellent. Of course I could propose new things — one could always ask for more. But the system as it is works very well.

I: What about your colleagues and students?

M: Almost all my colleagues have got degrees from the US or England. We can relate to each other very easily. Even when I have problems understanding things, they know exactly what could be my difficulty. As for the students, I was warned that they are ‘very passive’ at the orientation for new teachers. That scared me. But what I quickly noticed is that this is not true. Actually they do talk to me. But in my personality class which consists of psychology majors, I had to tell them very clearly that class participation doesn’t count in the final grade. I had the feeling there was some kind of reciprocal control, which means the students felt if they talked to the professor, they’d be seen as a, pardon my expression, brown nose. I’m also aware of the difference in ways of reasoning in science and also linguistically between myself and my students. Let me give you an example — the word ‘latent’. I asked the students of my personality class what it means and they said ‘hidden inside’, which is in a way is correct. But in Italian and Latin the word has a much more powerful meaning. For example, cancer can be latent, i.e., it can explode. So if I say ‘latent’ and allow my students to think of something that’s ‘hidden’, the word doesn’t convey the power that I want it to. My point is that theories cannot always be observable; they have something to do with empirical phenomena and a lot to do with how we think.

I: On a different note, where do you live?

M: At On Shan.

I: Have you been around town?

M: I’ve seen Kowloon and Hong Kong Island. I just went to a very nice dolphin watch trip organized by Shaw College. I don’t have much free time but in general I don’t like to have free time. I work all the time. What I do in my free time depends a lot on my wife and she works all the time too. We’re an academic couple of the most horrible type. 😄
**New Books**

**Chinese University Press**

- **佛學** (合訂本)...
  四十六頁,十五港元。
  ——
  聯絡電話及訂購請致電
  香港亞太研究所(內線八七七零)
  或香港教育研究所
  (內線六九九九)。
  本校員生在大學書店購買中文大學出版社
  的書籍,可獲八折優待。

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**The Poverty of Political Education in Hong Kong**

By Ng Mee-kam and Tang Wing-shing

ISBN 962-441-069-0

The book reviews the issues concerning the present of domestic order by the SAR government and explores the maintenance of relationships with domestic order by the SAR government and domiciled residents. The book reviews the issues concerning the present of domestic order by the SAR government and explores the maintenance of relationships with domestic order by the SAR government and domiciled residents.

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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。
**Professional Inaugural Lecture**

Announcements

Professorial Inaugural Lecture

Speaker: Prof. Wong Wing Shing, professor of information engineering, will deliver his inaugural lecture entitled "Wireless Communication From the Bursary" in room 126 of the Institute of Chinese Studies. All are welcome.

**Hepatitis Preventive Campaign**

Hepatitis A Preventive Campaign will be held at the Health Centre from 12th to 24th March. It will feature an exhibition and blood tests for University staff, their dependants and students, who can take the test on 12th and 13th March. Vaccination is available on 19th and 20th March. The cost of each blood test and vaccination is $100.

**First-Aid Course in Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation**

First-Aid Course in Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation will be given on 10th March (4.00 p.m.) by Prof. Wang Mingda, Research Fellow of the Institute of Chinese Studies. All are welcome.

**Jades of the Liangzhu Culture**

Jades of the Liangzhu Culture will be on display in the West-wing Galleries of the CUHK Art Museum from 7th March to 16th April. A talk on 'Problems Relating to the Liangzhu Jades Excavated from Yuhang, Zhejiang' will be given on 10th March (4.00 p.m.) by Prof. Wang Mingda, Research Fellow of the Institute of Chinese Studies. All are welcome.

**Heart Lung Resuscitation**

The Health Centre will be on display in the West-wing Galleries of the CUHK Art Museum from 7th March to 16th April. A talk on 'Problems Relating to the Liangzhu Jades Excavated from Yuhang, Zhejiang' will be given on 10th March (4.00 p.m.) by Prof. Wang Mingda, Research Fellow of the Institute of Chinese Studies. All are welcome.

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遠程教育在中大
資訊科技的發展，為人類帶來許多方便。例子之一是日趨普遍的遠程會
議，縱然大家相距萬里，也可進行實時雙向或多向溝通，既免除舟車勞累之苦，又節省時間和金錢。

這種通訊科技現已廣泛應用於教學。本校九六年已開始舉辦大型遠程會
議，隨後有遠程會診，還有遠程教學。醫學院率先主辦遠程會議

醫學院前年十一月舉行「遠程醫療九六年」會議，利用影像傳送技術，連接香
港、北京及倫敦三地，集千名專家學者，進行會議、會診及手術示範。醫學
院教師更成立了「香港遠程醫療協會」，提供渠道讓各地遠程醫療組織交換意
見。該會主席由化學病理學系Prof. Magnus Hjelm任。

九七年六月三十日，醫學院再接再厲，舉辦更大型的「不落的太陽」遠程醫
學會議，以先進科技輪流連繫內地及世界十五個著名醫學中心，作連續二十四
小時的交流和討論，探討遠程醫療的發展及應用。

兩個月後，醫學院遠程醫療專家小組遠赴新彊，訪問石河子大學醫學院
及第一附屬醫院，視察當地遠程醫療的技術環境。九月初，兩校醫學院締結
合作協議書，就遠程會診項目，遠程會診教育項目（如短期培訓班、延續醫學教
育）及遠程教學業務項目（專業學術講座、遠程醫學會議、技術指導、訊息資
料交流、設備故障支援）等範疇合作交流。

地理資訊遠程教學

正式把遠程科技應用於教學上的，是中大與台灣大學於九七年九月合辦的
「地理資訊與永續發展」課程。該課程為兩校交流協議活動之一。

大學局局長張文彬教授去年杪
參觀本校中國考古藝術研究中心，看到南丫島大灣發現的商代玉牙
璋，興奮地表示：「這不單是港寶，更
是國寶級的文物！」，本校在一九八七
年起，積極在香港及澳門四十多處進行考
古調查和發掘，發現大量出土文物，對
研究香港歷史的來龍去脈，有很重要的
學術意義。

現代世界的國家、民族和社會，無不以自己的悠久歷史和珍貴文物自
豪。據本校考古學家的發現，七千年前
已有人在香港生活，香港尚有一百多處
古文物遺址，是相當豐富的考古資源。

但近代香港都市發展迅速，不少遺址受到破壞，令人痛心。如果我們現在還不
大力發展香港的考古工作，香港的鄉土
歷史實難說起。

近十年來，本校考古工作已在香港
及澳門四十多處進行政治考察和發掘。從
中發現大量出土文物，對研究香港歷史的來龍去脈，有很重要的
學術意義。

在考古學家眼中，地球表面像一本活頁書籍，無從井然有序地
進行考古調查和發掘。在考古學家眼中，地球表面像一本活頁書籍，無從井然有序地
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進行考古調查和發掘。
香港時光隊道七千年
「古代香港與東亞」文物展

然，以地層的顏色、土質及蘊藏的文物，便可研究人類數百萬年的物質歷史。

為公開本校發現的出土文物，供校內外人士研究、學習和交流，中國考古藝術研究中心於中國文化研究所新翼二樓二零二室舉辦「古代香港與東亞」展覽，展出出土文物、現場照片和遠古房子復原的模型，展期至九月三十日。

在一九八七至八九年間，該中心在大嶼山東灣約三米深的地層，發現了七千年前經歷晉唐以至現代的六個不同時代文化堆積。展覽的東灣地層剖面圖，是通往古代香港的時光隧道。

一九九零年，該中心又在南丫島出土一件牙璋和一套完整(十八件組件)的串飾。牙璋可能是多種功能的禮器，有祭山、祭天等宗教意義。東亞迄今共有廿三處遺址出土牙璋，共一百四十九件。大灣的牙璋及串飾現於尖沙咀香港藝術館的「國寶——中國歷史文物精華展」中展出。

長期以來，香港史採取本區先民是以船為家的說法。近十年來，中國考古藝術研究中心在大嶼山東灣、扒頭鼓、白芒、南丫島大灣等遺址發現史前時期的房子遺跡，香港遠古居民為船民的說法不攻自破。本校建築學系學生特按史前遺跡，復原約四千年前的本地房子的模型，在展覽中展出。

展覽開放時間為星期一至五上午十時至下午四時，公眾假期關閉。有興趣參觀的人士或團體，可向中國考古藝術研究中心查詢(電話二六零九七四一七)。
亞洲教育國際研討會

過去二十年，亞洲大部分國家在經濟及社會發展上均有顯著成就，中國更被認為會在下一世紀成為經濟強國。但最近的金融風暴令人懷疑亞洲神話是否已經幻滅。面對資訊爆炸及經濟體系全球化的趨勢，亞洲國家必須調整人力資源的發展方向，提升國家的勞動力素質，以及從根本改善教育體系的效能，以迎接下一世紀的挑戰。

香港教育研究所及教育學院上月十二至十四日假何添樓舉辦「亞洲教育知識基礎的再建構國際研討會」，匯集各國精英，尤其亞洲學者及教育工作者，探討重新建構亞洲教育體系，並交流研究成果及實踐經驗。

是次研討會是本校卅五周年紀念活動之一，亦為慶祝《教育學報》創刊二十五周年。研討會開幕禮由教育學院院長鍾宇平教授主持，專題演講嘉賓包括中國中央教育科學研究所周南照教授、臺灣師範大學楊深坑教授、本校香港教育研究所所長盧乃桂教授等。盧教授以香港及上海為例，探討教育在社會發展特別是金融風暴之後所扮演的角色。其他演講嘉賓的發言則圍繞教育的未來發展與資訊爆炸，以及全球化對教育的影響。

新時代的電子報攤

工程學院訊息網絡研究所上月參加由貿易發展局及電訊管理局合辦的「香港資訊基建博覽會」，在「未來社會」的環節中，展出開放項目「電子報攤」。

「電子報攤」提供個新報紙及新資訊服務，擁有自動追蹤並搜集新聞和資訊網頁系統，又可利用工程學院開發的全文搜索引擎，使報紙和網頁等新聞服務網絡化。電子報攤亦可根據用戶的要求訂位，整個過程不經人手，並且百分百準確。

工科研究院課程開放日

工科研究院上月十四日在何善衡工程學大樓舉辦課程開放日，向各界及學生介紹各課程的內容、學科的研究範圍，並介紹研發計劃、獎學金和申請入學的標準等，並由導師及在校學生提供第一手資料。

各學系亦開放實驗室和安排一些示範操作，包括採用全新檢測儀的材料科學及工程的實驗室，以及採用最新儀器的電子工程系等。

新亞耶魯學生互訪

八名新亞書院學生於年初獲選參加「第六屆新亞/耶魯大學學生交流互訪計劃」，到美國耶魯大學訪問兩週，與耶魯學生交換對兩性問題的見解。

他們須就本年的交流主題「性別」作個別研究，並於耶魯大學發表研究結果。研究範圍包括「性別歧視與性騷擾」、「廣告中的男性女性」、「香港父母的性別取向」及「性別」等。

代表團亦與耶魯大學多個學生組織討論同性戀、婚姻、愛滋病、墮胎等備受美國社會關注的問題，也曾拜訪當地機構如「女性地位委員會」等，並遊覽紐約及華盛頓。

耶魯大學訪問團一行九人則於本月回訪新亞書院，並將於三月十七日在新亞書院發表研究報告。在港期間，他們將安排訪問多個機構，以了解香港兩性問題的現況。

商學生楊威國際商業個案分析比賽

工商管理學院學生代表上月廿一日奪得第十七屆商學生國際商業個案分析比賽冠軍。

該比賽由美國紐約大學商學院主辦，選出最有創意，是美國最具盛名的歷史悠久的商學院本科生比賽之一。過去十六屆均非常成功，獲美國全國性報紙及《華爾街日報》廣泛報導，亦曾在電視節目上展現。

今年共有五所大學獲邀參賽，包括中大（首次參賽）、香港中文大學和聖約翰大學、香港大學及加拿大多倫多大學。本校是亞洲第一所獲邀參賽的大學。

經過校內甄選，市場學系的鄭佩芳（左二）、以及財務學系的何穎欣（右二）、盧繼英（左一）及王凱芝（右一）代表本校出賽。她們在二十四小時內完成撰寫研究報告，然後撰寫分析報告及準備一份二十分鐘的口述報告，以優異表現力壓對手奪魁。

隊長鄭佩芳表示，是次比賽機會難得，可考驗他們在會計財務分析、市場概念應用、創作和英文寫作的能力，以及報告技巧。