The Areas of Excellence Sub-Committee of the University Grants Committee (UGC) announced the results of the first round of the AoE scheme on 20th September.

'Plant and Fungal Biotechnology', a proposal submitted by the University, was among the three projects selected for funding support for five years. It is awarded HK$38.8 million in the form of earmarked grants. Team leader of the proposal is Prof. Samuel Sun of the Department of Biology. The project will employ state-of-the-art genetic engineering and related technology to contribute to the production of food and health products in order to meet the needs of Hong Kong and the mainland.

'Information Technology', a joint proposal submitted by The Chinese University, the University of Hong Kong, and the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, also won an allocation of HK$51 million. Prof. Liew Soon Chang of the Department of Information Engineering represents CUHK in this joint project.

CUHK thus claims to get 44.3 per cent of the UGC's $126 million budget for the first ever AoE exercise in Hong Kong.

In assessing the eight projects shortlisted from a total of 99 submissions from local tertiary institutions, the UGC paid special attention to the potential of the proposed AoE in achieving an international standard of excellence, its relevance to the social and economic development of Hong Kong, and whether it is built on the existing strengths and achievements of its mother institution.

All selected proposals are found to demonstrate great potential for gaining international recognition and are deemed deserving of additional investment in state-of-the-art facilities and long-term development to maintain and advance their status in their subject area.

The concept of identifying areas of excellence in UGC-funded institutions was first put forward by the UGC and endorsed by the HKSAR government in 1997. The institutions were invited to submit proposals for gaining international recognition and are deemed deserving of additional investment.

Recognized Research Efforts

Three CUHK research projects have recently attracted funding from local sources:

- Nocturnal Nasal Positive Pressure Ventilation Plus Oxygen Therapy Versus Oxygen Alone in Severe Stable Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (HK$763,956)
  - Principal investigator: Prof. David S.C. Hui, Department of Medicine and Therapeutics
  - Sponsor: Health Services Research Fund

- Nutrition and Physical Activity as Possible Factors Affecting Bone Mineral Status in Adolescent Idiopathic Scoliosis (AIS) — Cross-sectional and Case-control Studies (HK$789,950)
  - Principal investigator: Prof. Jack C.Y. Cheng, Department of Orthopedics and Traumatology
  - Sponsor: Health Services Research Fund

- Developing an Intelligent On-line Monitoring System for Metal Stamping Operation (HK$2,138,450)
  - Principal investigator: Prof. Xia Cui, Department of Mechanical and Automation Engineering

Two inventions by CUHK staff have succeeded in obtaining US patents:

- Parallel Polynucleotide Sequencing Method Using Tagged Primers
  - Inventor: Prof. Wong Wai-fung*, Department of Statistics
  - This is a new method of sequencing which allows simultaneous sequencing of multiple templates. By incorporating it into a certain DNA sequencing system, it could boost the performance of the system significantly.

- Teaching Model for Beating Heart Coronary Artery Anatomous
  - Inventor: Prof. Mohammad Bashir Iqaz, Department of Surgery
  - This instrument is a model of a beating heart consisting of a moving platform which holds a model of a coronary artery. It allows training surgeons to practise performing anastomosis within a preset time.

And two more CUHK projects supported by earmarked research grants were rated 'excellent' by the Research Grants Council, bringing the total number of CUHK projects so rated since 1988 to 30. The two projects are:

- Immunohistochemical, Molecular, and Neurochemical Studies Using Neurons From Developing and Adult Cerebella of Rodents and Humans Under Normal and Pathological Conditions
  - Principal investigator: Prof. David Yew, Department of Anatomy

- An Integrated Approach for Improving Urban Housing Quality in China
  - Principal investigator: Prof. Tumas Lee*, Department of Architecture

Honours for CUHK Staff, Students, and Alumni

- The book Gender and the South China Miracle, written by Prof. Lee Ching-luan of the Department of Sociology, has won this year's Outstanding Book Award of the American Sociological Association (Asia and Asian Americans Section).

- Dr. Chen Xiao Ming, an alumnus of the University, won the 1999 Distinguished Young Scientist Award of the Qiu Shi Science and Technologies Foundation in China. He studied for his Ph.D. under the supervision of Prof. Thomas Mak of the Chemistry Department from 1989 to 1992. He is currently professor and associate dean of the School of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering at Zhongshan University.

- Dr. Ronald C.C. Wong, a graduate of the University, has been awarded a postdoctoral fellowship from DAAD, the German Academic Exchange Service.

The first Hong Kong student to have won the award, Dr. Wong completed his Ph.D. studies in Obstetrics and Gynaecology at the University in February 1998. He then joined the Biosciences Special Programme at the Institute of Biochemistry at Germany's Humboldt University from May to August 1999 as a visiting postdoctoral fellow.

- CUHK rowing teams captured the championship trophy in both the men's and the women's races in the Thirteenth Intervarsity Rowing Championship held on the Shing Mun River on 19th September. It was the third consecutive win for the men's team in the coxed-eight 3,000-metre race and the fifth for the women's in the coxed-four 1,500-metre race.

* Former Staff Member
CU to Undertake a Comprehensive Environmental Audit

The University is due to start a comprehensive environmental audit and review. This audit, the first of its kind in tertiary institutions in Hong Kong, will be coordinated by the Centre for Environmental Studies. It aims to provide the information required for the formulation of an environmental plan for the University in the next decade.

Initiated by the University’s Environmental Monitoring Group and supported by the senior administration including the vice-chancellor, this audit will take six months to complete. As chairman of the Monitoring Group and Director of the Centre for Environmental Studies, Prof. Lam Kin Che is very excited by the potential benefits the audit may bring to the campus community. He points out that the beautiful campus is one of the greatest assets of the University, and providing a clean and green environment for academic pursuit is fundamental to the fulfilment of the University’s mission. He also sees the audit as an opportunity for the administration and faculty to show to the public that the University practises what it preaches and that it is an environmentally responsible member of society.

He foresees a well-conceived plan in place at the conclusion of the audit to build a clean, pleasant, and comfortable campus — a place that all can enjoy and be proud of.

The audit will assess the existing environmental performance of the campus against environmental legislation; gauge the environmental quality of the campus, including the ambient environment as well as indoor air quality and energy efficiency; review the existing environmental management structure, policies, and practices within the University; identify key issues of concern and preferences amongst staff and students through an opinion survey; establish priorities and set targets for improvements; and identify cost-saving opportunities for the University.

An environmental auditor has been recruited to coordinate the review, and a number of units including the University Safety Office, Campus Development Office, Estates Management Office, and the Bursary have pledged to provide the necessary information, assistance, and support.

Cooperation from all departments and units will be crucial to the success of this project. Any comments on the campus environment or suggestions to make it better can be directed to the environmental audit team (Ext. 6641 or e-mail: franklymo@cuhk.edu.hk).

A New Supercomputer to Support Data-intensive Research

In order to accommodate the ever-increasing volume of data-intensive research work at the University, the Computer Services Centre (CSC)/Information Technology Service Unit (ITSU) has recently installed another high-performance supercomputer, a Sun Enterprise 6500. With ten 336MHz UltraSparc CPUs, 4 gigabytes of memory, and more than 240 gigabytes of usable disk storage, it can perform high-speed data retrieval as well as data mining and data analysis.

The Sun Enterprise 6500 has different strengths from the CSC’s Silicon Graphics Origin 2000. While the latter can best be utilized for numeric-intensive calculation, the new machine is suited for use in data-intensive research requiring high computing power to draw focused information and classification from large pools of raw data.

The new supercomputer is positioned in the high-performance computing platform of CSC/ITSU as a data-intensive computing server. It is, therefore, best suited for research topics or applications that involve huge amounts of data and require fast responses. The High-Performance Computing Support Team of CSC/ITSU is responsible for system and end-user support, resource allocation, project proposal vetting, and documentation of projects. In general, project proposals that have well defined objectives, workable solutions, and a clear timetable receive higher priority. More information is available at http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/isc/compresources.

Faculty of Medicine Visit Beijing

A 17-member delegation from the Faculty of Medicine, headed by Prof. Sydney Chung, visited Beijing from 3rd to 5th September. They attended the ground-breaking ceremony of the Beijing Medical University/CUHK Joint Eye Centre, and met with representatives of BMU to review the collaboration between the two medical schools over the past two years.

New projects including the study and development of Chinese medicine-related drugs, the joint supervision of higher degree students, and summer exchange visits were highlighted for action in the next few years. The delegation also visited the Capital University of Medical Sciences to discuss student exchange activities.

Colourful Summer for CC Students

Forty-seven Chung Chi students participated in the Summer Study Abroad Programme, launched for the first time this year by the college to provide its students with the opportunity to better understand other cultures and broaden their perspectives.

Most of the students went to universities in the United States of California system: 18 went to Berkeley, 15 to Los Angeles, and four to San Diego. The remaining 10 went to the University of Washington. For five to nine weeks they attended courses of their own choice, interacted with international and local students, and went on sightseeing tours.
Language

The students of the programme will be required to learn a third language (besides Chinese and English), which could be one of the European languages offered at the department, i.e. French, German, Italian, or Spanish; or Japanese, offered at the Department of Japanese Studies. For students with backgrounds in languages not being offered at the University, the University will help them find formal instruction outside to ensure they are given the chance to attain the required level of proficiency in the language of their choice for graduation. Students of the European languages can also participate in the summer language courses and cultural tours to Europe organized by the department.

Linguistics

The department's linguistics component focuses on general linguistics, contrastive linguistics, and socio-linguistics. Knowledge of linguistics is beneficial for language acquisition as it enhances understanding of language and language acquisition. Socio-linguistics deals with issues relevant to inter-culturalism and multi-culturalism such as diaspora.

Intercultural Studies

The 'inter' in the department's intercultural studies component should be written in italics. It does not have the sweeping perspective of the prefix it, say, the Hong Kong International Airport. Rather it has the sense of a positive 'in-betweenness' à la Homi Bhabha.

Intercultural studies are based upon the idea that clean-cut individual cultures are no longer possible in our world today. Prof. Wong pointed out, 'Biculturalism and bilingualism have been the tradition of the University's education. In my view, it should be replaced by interculturalism. What is Chinese culture? We are Chinese but we wear Western clothes, eat Western food, speak English ... It has become problematic to dichotomize cultures.' Based on this theoretical position, the intercultural studies curriculum at the department will guide the students in exploring how, in accordance with its temporal and geographical space, Hong Kong culture can find its identity and position in the global culture, using theories related to postcolonialism, postmodernism, cultural identity, and multiculturalism. Prof. Wong pointed out that whereas traditional cultural studies emphasize resistance to mainstream culture, intercultural studies adopt a more positive approach.

Technology and Culture

An important part of the curriculum will be technology and culture, which of course includes Prof. Wong's passion, cyber-culture. And he won't be seen demonstrating outside the American Embassy against the invasion of Mickey Mouse. 'I know the American cultural imperialism argument and all that. I don't want my students to be ignorant of the cultural meaning of Disneyland of course. But Fantasy City, Entertainment, Shopertainment, Edutainment and the like — these cultural combinations represent an era. It's futile to resist them just as it's futile to resist the construction of Disneyland in Hong Kong. Fantasy City will be the city of the 21st century. Disney has entered every nook and cranny of our lives. It used to be an other worldly fantasy; now it's gone into our homes. Hong Kong culture is not only what happened 150 years ago. The students need to know what kind of world they're living in. In the end it all goes back to the globalization/localism dialectic or what is now called gloclicism,' he explained. He hopes that his students, like himself, will learn to observe and think critically, and be 'active and creative consumers' of Disney culture or any culture for that matter.

Hong Kong Identity

The Hong Kong identity has always been a complex identity. Some would think that, because of its colonial past, it is constructed at the expense of a Chinese identity, that to be Hong Kongers means having to renounce identification with China, and because of that, the Hong Kong identity is not a strong one. How could Hong Kong people position themselves post-1997 between what's known as the 'little Hong Kong' mentality and an imposing and reductive Chinese identity? What ways of resolving their cultural identity would the students find in intercultural studies? Prof. Wong said the me/other dialectic will definitely be covered in the curriculum. 'The students will be given a chance to think about in what ways they are an integration of a Hong Kong person and a Chinese person, and in what ways are the two identities separate. Here ideas relating to diaspora, the hybrid, the transnational, the postnational, the "celebration of difference" come in. We may live in a local milieu but we face the global. The space between me and the other is a fluid space; intercultural studies explores that space. This is the space of the "inter," he explained. Prof. Wong further pointed out that though the Hong Kong identity may not be a strong one due to historical and political reasons, he sees it more as an opportunity than a setback: 'Cities like Hong Kong and Shanghai that have undergone colonization have a far greater chance of becoming the metropoles of the 21st century. The Hong Kong identity is an optimistic identity,' he concluded.

Emphasis on Theorizing

For the past few months the department has been engaged in publicizing the new programme. Besides promoting through the media, staff were sent to local secondary schools to introduce the programme. The principals of 50 secondary schools were invited to come to the University to discuss the contents of the programme and other technical details with the department's staff.

The programme will be taught not only by the department's full-time staff but also by staff from other departments such as history, philosophy, religion, and Chinese language and literature, teaching concurrently at the department. Students will be given a lot of flexibility in their choice of courses.

But whatever their academic orientation, theorizing will be the emphasis. And this continuous and unending process of theorizing is itself, Prof. Wong believes, the highest ideal of education.
Council Membership

- Mr. Lee has been elected by the Board of Trustees of Shaw College, Mr. Lee has made a major contribution to the college and the University, including the establishment of the Lee Woo Sing Self-learning Resources Centre. Currently managing director of Shun Loong Holdings Ltd., Mr. Lee was a founding director of the first Board of the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Ltd. He is also a keen supporter of traditional Chinese art and culture, and serves as many public and private institutions as chairman, honorary president, and consultant.

- Ms. Li has been elected by the Convocation, in accordance with Statute 11.1(e) and 11.4 of the University Ordinance, as a member of the University Council for three years from 1st September 1999, by virtue of her capacity as chairman of the Convocation, succeeding Mr. Lee Kam-chung.

- Prof. Vaclav Smil, distinguished professor in the Department of Geography, University of Manitoba, Canada, will deliver a Wei Lun Lecture entitled 'Long-term Perspectives on China's Energy' at 4.00 p.m. on Thursday, 7th October 1999, at the University's Level 5 auditorium of the Ho Sin-Hang Engineering Building. All are welcome.

- The University holds a debenture of the Hong Kong Golf Club (HKGC) in Fanling and another of the Mission Hills Golf Club (MHGC) in Shenzhen. Staff from the University may be nominated as members of these two clubs. There are now three openings, one at HKGC and two at MHGC, available for nomination. Terms A and B (equivalent terms staff are invited to bid for) respectively offer HK$35,905 per year and HK$34,182 per year for HKGC and MHGC respectively, for a period of one year for HKGC and two years for MHGC.

- The University provides a children's education allowance to eligible appointees. The amount paid for each year of study at government or recognized private school (i.e., Secondary 1 to Secondary 3 — HK$53,025 per year) is refundable, provided that the member's child attends a designated school for the full period of study. The University also provides a 20% discount on secondary school fees for eligible appointees' children.

- The current maximum allowance payable to eligible appointees in the University is as follows:
  - For each child attending primary school — HK$31,950 per year
  - For each child attending secondary school
    1. (i) Secondary 1 to Secondary 3 — HK$53,025 per year
    2. (ii) Secondary 4 and above — HK$54,225 per year

- The basic amount an appointee has to pay towards the school fee of his/her child attending Secondary 4 or above is HK$53,025, or to be determined by the University.}

- The Board has also elected Mr. Glenn Fok and Ms. E.V. B.C. Li to be members for a term of three years from 1st August 1999.

- Mr. Glenn Fok is a director of Schroders Asia Limited and a non-executive director of Bank of America (Asia) Limited. He is also a member of the Rotary Club of Hong Kong, the British Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong, the Federation of Hong Kong Buddhist Association (Old People Centres).

- Ms. E.V. B.C. Li joined United College in 1965 and retired in 1993. During her 28 years of service, Ms. Li served the College, the University, and a host of government and voluntary agencies in capacities. She is currently a council member of Hong Chi Association and an associate member of the Hong Kong Council of Social Service. She is also a consultant to the Hong Kong Aged Concern Ltd., and the Hong Kong Buddhist Association (Old People Centres).

- The annual returns for August 1999 in the Designated Investment Funds of the 1995 Staff Superannuation Scheme are as follows:
  - The current maximum allowance payable to eligible appointees in the University is as follows:
    - For each child attending primary school — HK$31,950 per year
    - For each child attending secondary school
      1. (i) Secondary 1 to Secondary 3 — HK$53,025 per year
      2. (ii) Secondary 4 and above — HK$54,225 per year

- The basic amount an appointee has to pay towards the school fee of his/her child attending Secondary 4 or above is HK$53,025, or to be determined by the University.
中大評議會特别會員大會
香港中文大學評議會書務委員
會將於一九九九年十月廿三日(星期
六)下午五時半,假中環德輔道中十七
號大廈廿一樓大禮堂召開本年度特別會員大會，補選(甲)評議會常務委員一名，任期至二零零零年八月卅一日止；及(乙)評議會之大學校董一名，任期至二零零零年七月十一日止。當晚七時半於中環怡和大廈廿一樓酒店舉辦校友
聚餐，歡迎新進的當屆主席李金鐘先生及歡迎新主席樑巧兒女士，餐費每位一百五十元，歡迎參加。
凡列名中大評議會名冊之中大校友，即中大學位畢業生及已登記加入評議
會之原成員書院文憑或研究院文憑畢業生，均有權出席特別會員大會，並有投
票權。
有意出席上述會議之中大校友，須填覆出席登記表格。有關表格已刊於九月
十五日出版之中大校友九月號季刊；校友亦可直接向評議會秘書索取。截止
登記出席日期為十月廿二日下午六時。
已登記出席會議而未出席之成員，可以書面形式委任其他評議會成員
代表出席會議，並於議程中列明之選舉事項投票。委任書表格可向評議會秘書處
索取，填妥之委任書必須在會議舉行日前四十八小時，以郵寄或電傳真送達評議
會秘書。
凡中大評議會成員，亦可提名或接受提名參選評議會之校董或校董代表等職位。有意參選者可直接向評議會秘書索取提名表格及《選舉章則》。填妥之提名表格
必須於十月二日正午十二時前交回評議會秘書處。
成員有意提出討論事項者，亦須於一九九九年十月八日下午五時前，以書面
通知評議會秘書。
會議議程連同所有資料將於會議舉行前一星期，郵寄予已登記出席之成員，
未獲在開會前收到資料者，可於會場索取。
查詢請聯絡「新界沙田香港中文大學評議會秘書處」(電話二六零九七八三
二；傳真二六零三六二二六或二六零三六九七九)。

翻譯研究中心書展
RCT Book Exhibition
翻譯研究中心於即日至二零零零年一月九日，在香港藝術館
書展「大業藝苑」舉辦中國古典文學專題書展，展出該中心歷來出版的各種英譯中
國古典文學作品。
書展期間，翻譯研究中心會推出由中國文
化研究所名譽高級研究員卜立德教授編譯的新書The Chinese Essay，該書是中國古今散文
代表作的第一個外國譯本，並為書展的焦
點。
The Research Centre for Translation is organizing
a book exhibition on ‘Classical Chinese Literature’
at Tai Yip Art Book Centre at the Hong Kong
Museum of Art from 1st October 1999 to 9th
January 2000. The highlight of the book exhibition
will be The Chinese Essay, a new Renditions Book
to be included in the exhibition upon its
publication. The book, edited and translated by
David E. Pollard, is the first collection of
representative classical and contemporary Chinese essays translated into a foreign
language.

圖書館消息
University Library System Closure
大學圖書館暨各分校圖書館於十月十八日(星期一，重陽節翌日)停止開放。
The University Library and all branch libraries will close on 18th October 1999
(Monday), the day following Chung Yeung Festival.

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。
新任學系學科主任

[全文内容]

全面革新教研策略 历史系苏基朗教授

从这学年开始，历史系的课程及教改方向都会有大幅度的改革。我希望能够在新学期

的课程中，尝试在三个课程中教授新方向。历史系正主任苏基朗教授

苏基朗教授是大学中文系系主任，他在今年年初被任命为系主任后，已经开始筹备新学

年的历史系课程。他希望在未来的课程中，能够体现出历史系的特色。

新课程内容与选科组合

历史系本学期将采用新的课程，它的特色是“活学活用，各展其才，兼容并蓄。”

新课程革新了沿用已久的学科知识分类方法，把世界史和中国史合并为“一般历史”，另

加入比较史和公众史，配合该系的卓越发展方向。

所谓“活学活用”，即强调历史知识及历史学训练对学生的实用性，希望他们能学以致用，对

社会作出贡献。“各展其才”就是给予学生最大的选课自由，让他们各就本身的背景、专

长、兴趣及事业取向选修科目，发展所长。“兼容并蓄”是指系方设定了四个以事业取向为主

的选科组合：研究、教学、文化（传播、出版、博物馆等）及行政，供学生自由选择，目的

是让他们及早考虑毕业后要从事什么行业，以统筹未来发展方向。

开扩研究经费来源

大学的使命之一是要领导社会。要实践这目标，得依靠高素质的研究结果。历史系每年均

从香港研究资助局取得不俗的竞争性研究拨款额，反映了该系的研究实力。

教授希望同时开扩私人和非政府机构的赞助，为学系争取更多研究经费资源。为此，该系

会加强推广工作，如举行或派员出席公开科学讲座，向外发布突出的科研成果和介绍新的

研究计划。
醫學院代表團訪京

醫學院院長鍾尚志教授上月三日至五日率代表團訪問北京。代表團一行十七人，除了出席中大與北京醫科大學的聯合眼科中心奠基儀式外，也與北醫大舉行兩周年慶祝活動，並商約來年的工作合作，包括學生的選修和暑期交流活動等。

代表團另訪問了首都醫科大學，與該校校長徐群淵教授會面。兩校未來將加強學生交流活動。

教育工作者個人成長講座

教育學院及香港教育研究所上月十八日在何添樓舉辦教育工作者個人成長講座系列首講，以「『還看這一代……Y2K的需要，我們的挑戰？』」為題，探討作者在困難重重的工作環境中，如何得享春風化雨的樂趣。會議由香港教育研究所副所長黃顯華教授主持，教育心理學系林孟平教授、梁湘明教授和劉兆瑛教授主講。

文化與翻譯國際學術研討會

翻譯研究中心與北京大學英文系聯合籌辦的「文化與翻譯國際學術研討會」，於八月廿五至廿八日在北京舉行，與會者二百餘人，來自十六個國家及地區。

崇基首辦暑期留學計劃

崇基學院今年首辦「暑期留學計劃」，資助學生到海外學習，以擴闊學生的視野，加深他們對不同文化的認識。受惠學生共四十七名，他們分別前往華盛頓大學及柏克萊、洛杉磯和聖地亞哥加州大學進修，並按自己的興趣選讀為期五至九週的短期課程。他們在學習餘暇，到處參觀遊覽，以體驗及了解當地風土人情及生活習俗，感受文化異同。不少學生認為該計劃提供了一個非常難得的學習機會，可增廣見聞及鍛鍊解決問題的能力。

保健處之寶 臨別細說往事

今年榮休的保健處護士長蔡余美英在中大服務了近三十年，是該處資歷最深的職員。九九年七月三十一日是她離職的前一天，剛巧又是保健處每月的午餐聚會，處長彭國雄醫生遂趁機邀請蔡太在聚會上談談保健處的軼事。

蔡太仍然保留著八五年她隨中大籃球隊前往南京作賽的特刊，這裏是她於特刊內的玉照，再看今天的她，是否「百變」？

蔡太覺得自己是「百變蔡余美英」，能夠適應保健處不斷的改變，工作更能切合彭醫生求變的原則。說起往事，她娓娓而談：「我在六八年十月十四日到任……當年是從《工商日報》的廣告得悉中大將成立保健處，需招請護士。廣告最特別之處是明言求職信必須手寫，反倒沒有規定須採用的語文。原因是甚麼？至今我也不知道，或許他們想從筆跡鑒別求職者的性格吧。至於試用期，當年已採用英語、粵語和普通話，比現在電視台的麗音廣播，還多了一個頻道！」

當夜更時，Dr. Plummer還要求我們計算藥物存量，又要準備往來文件的信封，即使沒有病人，也一定要端坐門診櫃檯至十時。蔡太從小便參加聖約翰救傷隊，早年也兼負中大各項大型活動的救傷工作：她曾隨崇基師生登上馬鞍山礦場；八五年擔任中大女子籃球隊管理，往南京大學參加全國大學生金陵盃籃球賽。而任內難忘的事更多不勝數，例如崇基渡海泳有百多人被水母所傷，崇基師生千人宴後集體肚瀉等。

多年來，蔡太也曾遇過一些令她氣惱的事情。例如有學生把藥丸當棋子，在火車上玩中國跳棋；也有學生領到透明藥膏，未看清楚，便質問蔡太為何給了他一個空盒，更當面把藥膏拋進垃圾箱。在生氣之餘，當然要尋開心消消氣。蔡太和她的同事會在聖誕聯歡會後「著令」醫生掃地；交換禮物時，刻意把比堅尼內褲送給體型頗胖的大學財務主任范愛貞女士；把「皇冠」牌衛生紙送給黃冠醫生；把算盤送給事事計算的同事。眼看保健處由當初只得十二名職員，發展至今有五十一名同事，蔡太深感「不枉此生」。她將會十分懷念這個大家庭。退下中大的工作崗位後，蔡太隨即會投入另一項「神祕的」義務工作。
居港權系列調查終結篇
正視社會分化

居港權系列調查最終結論
正視社會分化

中大獲資助開拓其中兩個卓越學科領域

大學教育資助委員會於九月二十一日公布卓越學科領域的甄選結果，決定撥款一億二千六百萬元，資助三個項目發展成為舉世公認的卓越學科領域。本校會致力開拓其中兩個卓越學科領域。

大學教育資助委員會於九月二十一日公布卓越學科領域的甄選結果，決定撥款一億二千六百萬元，資助三個項目發展成為舉世公認的卓越學科領域。本校會致力開拓其中兩個卓越學科領域。由生物系辛世文教授主持的「植物與真菌生物技術」項目獲資助三千八百八十萬元，以發展先進的基因工程及相關技術，提高糧食及保健食品的產量和素質，協助香港成為國際的生物科技中心。

而由中山大學及校方合資開拓的「資訊科技」項目，將獲得五千元，以便發展網絡技術及軟件設計，並與工商業界合作把科研成果轉化為商品，鼓勵青年人創業，使香港躍升為世界主要的資訊科技中心。訊息工程學系劉紹強教授將代表中大參與主持這個計劃。

卓越學科領域的概念於數年前由教資會提出，後來得到特區政府的支持，於一九九八年邀請大專院校提交項目建議。教資會收到的建議近百份，初選挑出十三份，本年初再篩選出十一份進入複選，最後僅有三個項目勝出，中大獨佔一又三分之一，成績驕人。

教資會卓越學科領域小組委員會表示，評審準則包括該項目必須具有發展至國際卓越標準的潛力，可對香港的社會或經濟發展作出貢獻，以及是建基於原校的既有利勢並預期可取得更大的成就。

中大率先開展環境審核
預期校園更環保更美麗

本校率先成為開展校園環境審核的香港專上院校，該計劃會收集校園環境的基本資料及數據，供校方制定未來十年的環境規劃。

環境審核是一種漸為政府部門及各大企業採用的內部環境管理工具，但尚未為大學廣泛採用。中大的環境審核計劃由校內環境督導小組建議，獲校長等高層管理人員支持。

該計劃由中大環境研究中心統籌，預計於半年內完成。校內環境督導小組主席兼環境研究中心主任林健枝教授指出，中大美麗的校園，既是大學寶貴的財富，亦為員生提供優良的學習與研究環境。林教授深信，是次審核會為校方和員生帶來許多好處，例如以行動顯示校方重視環境，而這也是另一種環境教育。至於審核所得的資訊與期間引發的檢討，則有助建立一個更環保、更美麗的中大校園，使員生引以為傲。

林教授透露，他們會檢討大學的活動及排放的廢物是否合乎香港法例的環保規定，並會改善校園的空氣品質及能源使用，作一些初步探討；更會收集員生對校園環境的意見，以及檢討校方現在的環境管理架構、政策與實踐。

劃艇隊捷報頻傳

中大男、女子划艇隊上月十九日分別技壓港大的代表隊，奪得「第十三屆兩大划艇賽」冠軍。男子隊連續三年奪魁，獲頒冠軍盃及象徵三連霸的永久盃；女子隊更連續五年獨佔鰲頭。

而九月初舉行的「第五屆大學划艇錦標賽」，中大劃艇隊獲得全場總冠軍、女子全場冠軍及男子全場亞軍。