CUHK's First Formal Danish Link

The University signed a letter of intent on academic and cultural exchange with the Technical University of Denmark (DTU) on 16th October, marking the University’s first formal academic linkage with a Danish institution at the university level. The two institutions were represented by Prof. Arthur K.C. Li, vice-chancellor of CUHK, and Prof. Hans Peter Jensen, rector of DTU. The signing paves the way for closer collaboration between the two parties in terms of faculty and student exchange, and joint research activities.

DTU is a technological university operating in a wide array of activities, such as research in biotechnology, communications technology, nanotechnology, and development of technologies for sustainable energy. It consists of 32 institutes and a number of major independent centres established as joint ventures with companies and research institutes. DTU embraces most engineering disciplines, and trains engineers up to the doctoral level.

During his visit to the University, Prof. Jensen also visited the Faculty of Engineering and met with staff and graduate students.

Mentor Programmes Flourish in the Colleges

The months of September and October saw the launch of three different mentor programmes in the University’s colleges.

- The United College Mentorship Programme, jointly organized by United College and the United College Alumni Association, was officially launched on 18th September at the Island Shangri-La Hotel. Over 120 guests, including mentors, mentees, alumni, and college staff attended the ceremony. Under the programme, each undergraduate student of the college is paired up with an alumnus of the college for a period of one year, with the aim of helping the students build self-confidence, develop ethical values and communication skills, and increase their knowledge beyond the classroom. There are currently 102 mentors and mentees participating in the programme.

  The project is made possible by the support of the college’s alumni and the generous donation of Mr. Shum Choi-sang, chairman of the College Board of Trustees.

- Chung Chi College held a reception on 21st September at the Hong Kong Jockey Club Happy Valley clubhouse to kick off this year’s mentor programme. It was attended by almost all of the 200 students and 90 alumni joining the programme this year. First introduced in 1999, Chung Chi’s programme aims at widening the horizons of its students, enriching their social experiences, and honing their communication skills by encouraging them to share the experiences of their mentors from various professions. It is done through a wide range of activities like concert-going, BBQ, work place visits, and informal dinners.

  The inauguration ceremony of the mentor programme of New Asia College took place on 21st October. The function began with a welcoming speech by Prof. P.C. Leung, head of college, which was followed by words of encouragement from Mr. Wong Kin-ping, president of the College Alumni Association. Over a hundred mentors and mentees introduced themselves to one another on the occasion.

  The objective of the programme, like other mentor programmes in other colleges, is to broaden the horizons of students and enhance their personal growth by allowing them to learn from the experience of college alumni.

CUHK Staff Selected Outstanding Young Person

Prof. Dennis Lo Yuk-ming, associate professor in the Department of Chemical Pathology, has been selected one of the Ten Outstanding Young Persons for 2000. The selection is organized by the Hong Kong Junior Chamber to give formal recognition to young persons who excel in professional endeavours and service to the community. The award is expected to provide incentive for promising young persons to seek advancement in personal achievement as well as public services.

Prof. Lo has made outstanding contribution in the application of DNA technology to medical diagnosis. He has also been actively involved in the development of new blood tests for common cancers in Asia, in particular nasopharyngeal cancer.

The award presentation ceremony will be held on 25th November at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre.

Prof. P.C. Leung giving a welcoming speech
More Research and Conference Grants

The following research projects and academic conference succeeded in attracting funding support from different quarters recently:

- **Therapeutic Effects of Pien Tze Huang Without Natural Musk on Hepatitis**
  - Principal investigator: Prof. Chan Woon-yee (Department of Anatomy)
  - Sponsors: Innovation and Technology Fund and Zhang Long Industrial Co. Ltd.
  - Co-investigators: Prof. David Yeung, Prof. Kwong Wing-hang, Prof. Kenneth Lee

- **Preparation for Pregnancy, Labour, and the Early Postpartum Period: An Evaluation of a Hospital-based Antenatal Education Programme**
  - Principal investigator: Prof. Eleanor Holroyd (Department of Nursing)
  - Sponsor: Health Care and Promotion Fund

- **Forum on Spatial Information Technology and the Greater Development of Western China**
  - Sponsor: The Croucher Foundation

**UC Plays Host to Budding Scholars from Nanjing**

Eight undergraduate students of Nanjing University, accompanied by their academic advisers, visited United College from 1st to 10th October under the College’s Budding Scholars Exchange Programme, now in its eleventh year. United College will pay their return visit to Nanjing from 27th December 2000 to 5th January 2001.

*On Friday, 27th October 2000, the Institute of Chinese Studies (ICS) held a cocktail reception in the foyer of Cho Yiu Conference Hall to celebrate three events: the publication of Growing Up With The Chinese University—CUHK & ICS: A Photo History 1949-1997; the launch of Century China, a cultural webpage; and the tenth anniversary of Twenty-First Century, a bimonthly journal for Chinese intellectuals, which together marked a new stage of development of the institute.*

- **ICS Reception in Celebration of Several Events**

**Two Colleges Celebrate Anniversaries**

- **United College** celebrated its 44th anniversary on 20th October at the Sir Run Run Shaw Hall. Officiating at the ceremony were the Hon. Mr. Justice K.H. Woo, Justice of Appeal of the High Court, and Dr. Thomas H.C. Cheung, vice-chairman of the College Board of Trustees.

- **Chung Chi College** celebrated its 49th anniversary on 27th October. A series of celebratory events were organized by the College Student Union and the College Alumni Association.

**On the same day, the Lin Dao Yang Memorial Garden was officially opened on the Chung Chi campus. The garden was built in memory of Dr. Lin Dao-yang, who was president of Chung Chi College from 1955 to 1960. Officiating at the ceremony were Mr. George Hung, chair of the Chung Chi College Board of Trustees, Prof. Rance Lee, head of Chung Chi College, Prof. Lin Hung-chang, representative of the donor, Mr. Stanley Hui, chair of the Chung Chi College Alumni Association, and Miss Chan Yuen-yau, chair of the Representative Council of the Chung Chi Student Union.**

- **Mr. Thomas Kwok speaking at Chung Chi’s Thanksgiving Service.**

As an expert forester, he made significant contribution towards the conservation of soil, water, and forest resources in China. He was responsible for the negotiations with the government for the relocation of the college to its present site in the Ma Liu Shui Valley.
**Research Focus**

As Hong Kong becomes more affluent, there is a trend to depart from a traditional southern Chinese diet of mainly grains, vegetables, and fish, to one that has a much higher fat content. People’s diets are richer but not necessarily healthier. As a result, obesity, which used to be the problem only of Western societies, is now an issue to be reckoned with in Hong Kong.

Here at The Chinese University, Prof. Susanna Lee Sau-tuen of the Department of Biochemistry has been studying obesity at the molecular level in mice, in the hope of identifying its implications for people. Her project, ‘Production of Transgenic Mice Lacking the Fatty Acid-activated Receptor (FAAR): An Animal Model to Study Adipose Cell Differentiation and Obesity’, has received funding from the Research Grants Council (RGC) for three and a half years.

Prof. Susanna Lee Sau-tuen graduated from Hong Kong Baptist College, obtained her MS in nutrition and in animal physiology from Mississippi State University, and her Ph.D. in environmental toxicology from Cornell University. From 1992 to 1995, Prof. Lee was a postdoctoral research fellow at the Laboratory of Molecular Carcinogenesis at the National Institutes of Health in Maryland. She joined the Department of Biochemistry at The Chinese University as assistant professor in 1995. Her research interests include application of transgenic mouse models for health research, fatty acid metabolism and obesity, and molecular mechanism of chemical-induced liver cancer.

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### Obesity of Mice and Men

**Two Types of Cells Related to Obesity**

One-to-two-thirds of our fat cell tissue are adipocytes, commonly known as fat cells, and preadipocytes—precursor cells which become adipocytes upon receipt of the right signals. Obesity is characterized by an increase in the number or size, or both, of adipocytes. When we overeat, large amounts of fat are released into our blood stream, but our system ensures that the amount of fat in our blood is in balance by storing this extra fat as extra cell energy in the adipocytes, which will be burned as fuel the next time we are hungry. The volume of fat that can be accumulated in an individual adipocyte is fixed, while the capacity of adipose tissue to expand in response to overeating is without limit. This means that preadipocytes can expand infinitely, if stimulated by enough and the right kinds of signals, whereas adipocytes cannot. Thus significant expansion of adipose tissue mass is largely attributed to the differentiation of preadipocytes into adipocytes. A detailed understanding of the molecular events that control such differentiation is therefore essential for the development of strategies to treat and prevent obesity.

**Agents That Control Differentiation into Fat Cells**

Recent evidence obtained from cell culture models suggests that the early stage of adipocyte differentiation may be mediated by a transcriptional activator, the fatty acid-activated receptor (FAAR). Transcriptional activators are proteins controlling gene expression. Upon receipt of stimuli, transcriptional activators such as FAAR will enter the nucleus of cells, and attach themselves to the relevant genes, and in doing so, change their level of expression. Without them, the particular genes will remain silent and inactive. During starvation, for example, when there is no glucose for us to burn as energy, the transcriptional activators will enter the nucleus of cells to turn on the genes that control the burning of the lipid stored in our cells. During overfeeding, the same genes will be turned off. However the precise roles of FAAR in regulating adipocyte differentiation and maintaining the balance of fat in our blood have never been tested and confirmed in an intact animal, due to the lack of suitable transgenic animal models for detailed studies.

**Experiments with Mice**

The aim of Prof. Lee’s project was to produce transgenic mice which lack FAAR so that she can study the differences in the fat mass and fat metabolism between such mice and their normal counterparts. The advent of gene targeting techniques has made it possible to demonstrate a functional requirement for a particular gene and to characterize the missing functions of the gene due to targeted disruption of the respective gene in an intact animal. Prof. Lee acquired this gene targeting approach as a postdoctoral fellow in the US, where she made four different kinds of transgenic mice. This is now her fifth attempt.

**How to Tamper with the Genes**

First she has to isolate the DNA related to the transcriptional activator, FAAR, from a genomic library obtained from a commercial company. Then the part of the FAAR gene that is responsible for translation and transcription is disrupted using DNA technology in the laboratory. The disrupted DNA is introduced into the embryonic stem cells of a mouse by electroporation. As embryonic stem cells cannot differentiate foreign DNA, the embryo will accept it. During cell division, this DNA will be treated as the embryo’s own. However the chances of this happening are often small, and researchers may have to try many times. Specific markers for the purpose are used to select which embryonic stem cell has this disrupted DNA, which is subsequently injected into mouse embryos and put into the body of a surrogate mother. If all goes well, the new-born mice will carry FAAR that cannot function normally. Making transgenic mice like that usually takes three to five years at least.

At this stage, Prof. Lee is almost done making the mice in collaboration with a research team in the US. It can be observed that mice without FAAR have smaller fat masses than normal mice, such as around the testies. In other words, the absence of FAAR has affected the development of fat cells in the transgenic mice.

**From Mice to Men**

Prof. Lee is currently starving the mice to see whether there are changes in their fat mass during starvation. However, the biggest problem she has encountered is that mice without FAAR has a hard time growing up. Many die because FAAR, which controls fat cell development, also affects survival. Cultivating a generation of mice for lab use takes four months—one for pregnancy and three for growth. Patience, therefore, comes as a real test for the researcher.

The next step will be to put the mice on a high fat diet for six months to see whether, without FAAR, their ability to metabolize fat will be lessened and they will become fat.

Prof. Lee said that it is not widely believed that FAAR is involved in the development of preadipocytes into adipocytes. Through these studies, she hopes to increase knowledge of the roles FAAR plays in adipocyte differentiation. And initial results of her experiments have shown that she is on the right track.
Arrangements for the Fifty-sixth Congregation for the Conferment of Degrees

The 56th Congregation for the Conferment of Degrees will be held in two parts on Thursday, 10th December. The time and locations of the ceremony are as follows:

**Part I**
- **Date & Time**: 10th December, 9.40 a.m.
- **Location**: Sir Run Run Shaw Hall

**Part II**
- **Date & Time**: 10th December, 3.00 p.m.
- **Location**: Shaw College Lecture Theatre

**Missing Information**
- **Venue details** for other parts of the ceremony are not provided in the text.

Suspension of Classes
Classes for Medical Years 1 and 2, the Intercollegiate Degree Programmes in Medical Science, and postgraduate programmes will be suspended for the day.

Temporary Closure of BFC Canteens
The Benjamin Franklin Centre (BFC) canteens will be closed from 7.30 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. as they will be used for the reception for higher degree graduates after Part I of the ceremony. The Fast Food Shop will also be closed from 11.30 a.m. to 2.30 p.m. for the lunch gathering of Part-time Degree Programme graduates and their families.

Wet Weather
In case of wet weather, Part I of the Ceremony will be held at Sir Run Run Shaw Hall while the New Asia College Graduation Ceremony and the Master’s Degree Graduation Ceremony will take place in the New Asia Gymnasium.

Vocational Staff Review of Non-teaching Staff Members

For the 2001-2002 period, the Review of Non-teaching Staff Members will be conducted under the Standing Orders of the University. The objective of the Review is to make nominations and recommendations concerning the retirement, extension of service, and promotion of non-teaching staff members on Terms of Service (B) and (C). The deadline for submission of nominations is 30th December 2000. Applications and nominations are invited from all full-time non-teaching staff on Terms of Service (A), with respect to retirement/extension of service and promotion, for consideration in the staff review exercise for the year 2001-2.
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。
民進黨成為執政黨後，其台獨傾向令北京政府提高戒心。而民進黨政府的大陸政策，勢必成為兩岸關係的重要變數。

此書作者孫同文和查重傳指出，從政策制訂的過程來看，民進黨呈派系共治的特性：其大陸政策是黨內各派系競爭和妥協的結果。民進黨執政後，會改為傾向台灣民眾的主流意見而設法維持現狀，並在大陸政策上故意採取模糊態度。

民進黨的大陸政策其實亦受制於外在因素。短期內，國際情勢和美國的對華政策應該不會有重大逆轉。由於世界政治體系已崩潰，區域經濟整合日趨重要，台灣當前面臨的外在環境也變得相對地穩定。但美國和中國結為戰略夥伴的策略發展，將會促使美國的對華政策持續向北京傾斜；台灣只得倚靠經濟實力、民主發展成績、軍隊自衛能力和美國的消極保護來維持兩岸相對均衡的局勢。

国际统一书号 962-441-112-3，平裝本，三十四頁，三十港元。
崇基校慶暨凌道揚園開幕禮

崇基學院上月舉行四十九周年校慶，重點活動為十月廿七日舉行的校慶感恩崇拜和千人宴。新鴻基地產發展有限公司副主席兼董事總經理郭炳江先生為感恩崇拜的主講嘉賓，在會上回顧創校（1951）得來的啟發，以及對個人的看法。

千人宴於嶺南運動場舉行，共有二千多名崇基學生、教師及校友出席。今年校慶學生節的慶祝活動包括嘉年華會、拔河比賽、舞蹈比賽、歌唱比賽、環校跑及烹飪比賽等。

另外，崇基學院同日舉行凌道揚園開幕典禮，由學院校董會主席熊翰章先生（右二）、院長李沛良先生（右一）主持開幕儀式。凌道揚園在崇基禮堂附近，是為紀念崇基學院故校長凌道揚博士建造。凌博士是國際知名學者，也是中國森林律法的首擬者。他於一九五五至六零年出任崇基學院校長期間，成功向政府爭取資助，使學院得以進一步發展和遷址馬料水。凌博士於一九九三年病逝美國。

聯合書院院慶（左起）聯合輔導主任鄒桂昌教授、院長黃鈞堯教授、張煊昌博士和校友會副會長何萬森先生主持晚會開幕儀式。聯合書院上月二十日假邵逸夫堂舉行四十四周年院慶典禮，由高等法院上訴法庭胡國興法官，以及書院校董會副主席張煊昌博士主禮，出席者包括校董、校友和學生。

典禮後的院慶生日會於聯合校園舉行，由書院教職員聯誼會送出四十磅重的大蛋糕，聯合國術會即興獻技。院慶聚餐有七十多名校董、校友、教職員等參加。是晚舉行的千人宴為院慶高潮，筵開一百二十一席，逾一千五百名師生及校友共聚，而書院校友會則一如既往慷慨贊助全場燒豬。晚會因天雨臨時改於書院體育館舉行，有系際歌唱比賽、樂隊表演及歌星獻唱流行曲，中場的幸運抽獎由熱心校董及校友捐贈禮品。

黃顯華教授

課程與教學學系

課程與教學學系新任系主任黃顯華教授指出，該系的工作正面對很多變數和挑戰，包括中小學課程及教學法的改革，資訊科技的發展，教師資格新制的推行，以及系內同事專案研究成果。這意味着，該系的教師必須不斷學習和更新自己的知識和技能，以應對不斷變化的社會和教育環境。

課程及教學法改革

黃教授曾在一九九六年替教育委員會進行九年免費強迫教育研究，發現不少學童在小學三年級開始已不喜歡學習，部分學生在中、英、數三科更出現學習困難。究竟問題出在哪裡？除了家庭教育因素之外，是課程設計不周，還是教學方法出了問題？「如果能夠改善此教育短樁問題，本港各大學特別是香港中文大學可以收錄到更高素質的大學生。」他說。

資訊科技及語文評核試的衝擊

如今資訊科技急速發展，而香港學生整體語文能力下降，備受公眾關注。黃教授認為，不論學生或教師都需要掌握資訊科技知識。對於該系的教學和課程應該進行修訂，以配合最新科技的發展，和提高教師的資訊教學能力，由於他上任不久，有待與博士後課程及大學院等課程專家更加密切合作，以期促進同事的教學和研究。

加強與學校聯繫

該系經常為中小學教師舉辦研討會，介紹不同學科的發展及新的課程內容和評估方法，亦會邀請其他學系的教師主講特定的課程。「這些活動可令中小學更加認識中大其他的科系，吸引高素質的學生入讀中大。」

有待解決的問題

談到學系發展的問題，他說：「最大的問題是人手不足，大部分科目只有二到三位教師負責。教師人手不足，難以進行充分的研究和實踐教學。」「還有，我們的課程和教學方法需要不斷更新，以應對不斷變化的社會和教育環境。」
內地本科生家在香江

本校的「內地本科生計劃」已实行了三年,現有九十四名內地優異生在校就讀。為了讓他們在假期佳節能夠享受家庭溫馨,本校與上海總會合辦「家在香江」親情計劃。

該計劃的成立禮於本月三日在逸夫書院大講堂舉行,由副校長金耀基教授和上海總會理事長李和聲先生主禮,出席嘉賓包括中聯辦教育科技部部長初志農和協調部部長王永樂。

「家在香江」的活動包括端午節吃糉子、中秋節吃月餅、滬港經濟學會國慶晚宴、蘇浙滬國慶晚宴等。

金耀基教授致辭時指出,在中國人社會裡,家是一個可愛的地方,它代表了溫暖和安全。「家在香江」讓內地學生在香港也有一個「家」,使他們更專心上學,加強對香港的認識,將來可以更好地為國家,為香港社會服務。

李和聲先生認為,這項活動能使學生接觸到課堂外的學問,增進對香港生活和文化的了解,更好推動香港與內地的融合。

盧煜明教授當選傑青

化學病理學系

盧煜明教授在脫氧核糖核酸(DNA)測試的醫學應用有突出貢獻,獲選為二零零零年度「十大傑出青年」。

傑青選舉主辦機構香港青年商會表示,盧教授在一九九七年發現胎兒會釋放DNA至母親的血漿,為醫學研究開闢了新領域,亦為發展新的非創傷性產前檢測奠下基礎;他去年又開發出新一代的鼻咽癌測試法,為鼻咽癌的檢測及監察帶來革命性的進展。

盧教授於一九九七年加入中大服務。

中風肇因華洋有別

香港每年有二萬多人因中風入院,其中三成多不治。西方的研究均指出,頸動脈狹窄是中風的主要原因,但本校的研究卻發現,華人中風原因以顱內腦血管狹窄為主。

負責該項研究的內科及藥物治療學系黃家星教授更指出,利用超聲波可以準確預測中風病人在六個月內的病情發展,從而對症下藥。研究人員以電腦掃描和超聲波檢查了七百多名急性中風華裔病人,了解他們腦血管的病變情況,並觀察他們六個月。結果發現,顱內腦血管有問題者比頸部血管病變者為多,亦有很多病人有多條腦血管異常,最嚴重者有九條出問題,而病變血管數目愈多者,中風和再次中風的比率亦愈高。

黃教授表示,計劃目的在於加強學生與校友之間的連繫,希望學生能借鑑學長的生活經驗,學習他們的處世之道,更全面地成長。