Ancient Texts Translated Under ICS and YUP Collaboration

The CHANT Project (Chinese Ancient Texts Database) of the Institute of Chinese Studies has signed an agreement with Yale University Press in July 2001 to publish a series of books under the title Culture and Civilization of China Series. Under the agreement, the CHANT Project will provide the Chinese text of Pre-Han and Han works, which will be translated by prominent scholars invited for the purpose by Yale University Press.

The collaboration will enable ancient Chinese literary works to be more accessible to non-Chinese readers, and also bring them closer to the Chinese original.

The objective of the CHANT Project is to establish a computerized database of the entire body of extant Pre-Han and Han Chinese texts. Since its launch in the late 1980s, the project has completed some 1,000 different texts with a grant from the Research Grants Council. Different editions of a text are collected and modern punctuation, added to them. Citations found in ancient Chinese encyclopedias and parallel passages found in other texts are used for collation purposes. Textual notes made by famous scholars such as Wang Niansun and his son Yinzhi are also included.

$42 Million for Four Research Projects

The following four research projects by the University have attracted funding support from local sources:

- Development of TCM-based Products with Known Active Ingredients and Verified Oral Absorbability (HK$5,500,000)
  - Sponsor: Innovation and Technology Fund, and Kinetana Hong Kong Herbal Pharmaceuticals Ltd.
  - Principal investigator: Prof. Gu Lin (Department of Pharmacology)
  - Co-investigators: Yun K. Tam, Hugh A. Semple, Xing-Fang Li, Vijayalakshmi Damaraju, Robert L. Jones, Albert H.L. Chow

- Neuropsychological Intervention Programme for Primary School Underachievers — A Research Project (HK$1,200,000)
  - Sponsor: Quality Education Fund
  - Principal investigator: Prof. Agnes Chan Sui-yin (Department of Psychology)

- Quality Schools Project (HK$34,176,700)
  - Sponsor: Quality Education Fund
  - Principal investigators: Prof. Chu Chi-sheng (Centre for University and School Partnership)

- Life-wide Learning Project (HK$1,000,000)
  - Sponsor: Education Division, Tung Wah Group of Hospitals, funding from Quality Education Fund
  - Principal investigator: Prof. John Lee Chi-kin (Department of Curriculum and Instruction)

Conference Shows the Latest in Mechatronics

The IEEE International Conference on Mechatronics and Machine Vision in Practice was jointly organized by the Department of Automation and Computer-aided Engineering of the University and the relevant units of the City University of Hong Kong from 27th to 29th August 2001 at the Regal Kowloon Hotel.

The aim of the conference was to provide a forum for international experts and researchers to present and review advances in mechatronics and machine vision, which have culminated in practical applications, or which promise practical implementation in the very near future.

'Mechatronics' refers to the blending of mechanics, electronics, and computer control into an integrated design. It forms the basis of an ever-growing list of products of much technical and commercial value.

Mechatronic design can often result in products that are simpler than their predecessors.

The conference included exhibitions and live demonstrations of the latest technologies in robotics, sensors, automation, and engineering design. In particular, there were demonstrations of driving animation and three-dimensional visualization of a virtual dolphin.

The keynote speakers were Prof. John Billingsley from the University of Southern Queensland, Australia, Prof. Henrik I. Christensen from the Royal Institute of Technology in Stockholm, Sweden, Prof. Ludwik Finkelnburg from City University in London, and Prof. Shiguo Hirose from the Tokyo Institute of Technology, Japan.

The programme also included a visit to either the CUHK, Department of Automation and Computer-aided Engineering or the Centre for Intelligent Design, Automation, and Manufacturing of CityU on 29th August.

50th Anniversary Celebration Activities of Chung Chi College

HIGHLIGHTS FOR SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER

- Distinguished Historian Lecture
  - Speaker: Prof. Agnes Chan Sui-yin
  - Date: 5th October
  - Time: 4.00 p.m.

- Cantonese Operatic Song Concert
  - Date: 27th September
  - Time: 7.30 p.m.

- Opening Ceremony of the Academic Conference on Development of High Technology and Reconstruction of Humanity
  - Date: 6th October
  - Time: 9.30 a.m.

- College Administration Building
  - Research in Women's Health from Knowledge to Practice
    - Date: 6th October
    - Venue: Kai Chung Hall, School of Public Health, Prince of Wales Hospital
  - Souvenir Sale
    - Date: 15th—18th October
    - Venue: Myland, YMCA — Kowloon Centre

- Golden Jubilee Founders' Day Student Festival
  - Date: 19th October
  - Time: 11.30 a.m.
  - Venue: Chapel

- Opening Ceremony of Golden Jubilee Founders' Day Student Festival
  - Date: 19th October
  - Time: 11.30 a.m.
  - Venue: Chung Chi campus

- Golden Jubilee Founders' Day Student Festival
  - Date: 19th October
  - Time: 11.30 a.m.
  - Venue: Chapel

- Chun King Memorial Lecture
  - Speaker: Prof. Miema Hooker
  - Date: 19th October
  - Time: 7.30 p.m.
  - Venue: YMCA — Kowloon Centre
Programming Their Way into the World

Computer Engineering Students All Geared up to Win International Programming Contest

A team of Year 3 students from the Faculty of Engineering clinched the championship title at the IT Contest 2001. The contest was a warm-up to the regional contest of the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM), which is preliminary to the World Finals — the Computing Machinery (ACM), which is organizers jointly by the Information Technology Services Department (ITSD), Hong Kong Polytechnic University (HKPolyU), and the Hong Kong Chapter of ACM on 2nd June 2001 at the HKPolyU.

This year, there were 14 participating teams in the IT Contest, among whom four came from the CUHK Faculty of Engineering — two from the Department of Computer Science and Engineering, one from the Department of Systems Engineering and Engineering Management, and another from the Department of Information Engineering. The winning team, who called themselves 'Mercury', consisted of four students from the Department of Computer Science and Engineering: Yeung Kam-wah (middle), Li Kwok Ching (left 2), Gary Chan Chi-hang (right 1), and Kelvin Liu Yun-kai (left 1). They were presented a cash prize of HK$20,000 at the ACM ICPC World Finals, held in Vancouver, Canada.

The ACM ICPC Regional

There will be a total of six regional contests, to be held respectively in Asia, Africa and the Middle East, Europe, North America, Latin America, and the South Pacific. Each region is further split into competition sites. In the Asia region, for example, there are eight sites: Shanghai, Taipei, Singapore, Dhaka, Bangkok, Kanpur, Tehran, and Tsing. All contestants may apply to the contest of any site within their region. Usually each site will have approximately 20 to 40 participating teams, and the total number of teams in all six regions will come to well over 2,000. The top 64 teams (approximately 12 per region) will advance to the world finals.

Both the regional and the world finals are sponsored by IBM.

Since the mid-1990s, students from the Faculty of Engineering have taken part and excelled in the ACM International Collegiate Programming Contest (ICPC). In March 2000, a team, also from the Department of Computer Science and Engineering, came eighth place among 60 finalist teams in the world finals held in Orlando, US, marking the first time a team from the territory had ranked among the top 10 in this competition. To keep up this glorious tradition, 'Mercury' has to attain very high ranking at the ACM regional contest, which will take place from mid-October to mid-December this year.

The winning team, who called themselves 'Mercury', consisted of four students from the Department of Computer Science and Engineering: Yeung Kam-wah (middle), Li Kwok Ching (left 2), Gary Chan Chi-hang (right 1), and Kelvin Liu Yun-kai (left 1). They were presented a cash prize of HK$20,000 at the ACM ICPC World Finals, held in Vancouver, Canada.

Format of the Contests

In the Hong Kong contest, participating teams had to solve six problems in graph theory, geometry, combinatorics, constraint satisfaction, and simulations within four hours using either the C, C++, Java, or Pascal programming language. The teams submitted the program codes to a panel of judges, which comprised academics and members of the Hong Kong Chapter of the ACM, who would assess whether they were correct. The team which solved the most problems with the fewest penalties was declared champion. 'Mercury' solved the same number of problems as the first and second runners-up from the University of Hong Kong, but they won on accuracy with fewer time penalties. The regional and world contests are similar in format to the local contest but the questions will be more difficult and the contest time, longer.

Training and Preparation

How did the team prepare for the contest? ‘They have been undergoing training since the summer of 2000. The training is still ongoing as their aim is the world finals and not the local contest,’ said Prof. Irwin King, the team’s coach and professor in the Department of Computer Science and Engineering.

The department has been running a systemic training programme for the ACM contest since 1996 as an extracurricular activity for capable and interested students. Students are selected through a departmental competition. Those who are invited to join the programme would be given problems to solve on their own and would discuss their solutions and problem-solving skills with other students one night every week for two four hours. Students who had participated in the contest in the preceding years would sometimes be invited to relay their experience and insights to their successors. Prof. King said the students are drilled in programming skills, and how to make decisions on, for example, what data structures or algorithms to use. ‘To win, the students need besides knowledge, skills for delegation of tasks and smooth collaboration, in short, interpersonal skills. They have to solve six problems using only one computer. The contest is also a test of their character; they have to know how to panic or stress while coping with the challenges of an unfamiliar environment,’ he pointed out.

Hurdles to Overcome

Besides, the competition has been very keen in recent years. Prof. King gave several reasons for this. ‘IT technology itself has raised awareness of the latest knowledge and skills. The new generation of students have been brought up on computers; hence, there have been more sophisticated contestants in the contest. And as the contest matures over the years, the questions are getting tougher, the teams more well-prepared, and the competition more stiff. Our students will really have to know a lot more than their predecessors in the 1990s,’ he remarked. Apart from ‘Mercury’, the department will be sending two or three more teams it has been training to various contest sites in Asia.

The students said the greatest difficulty in preparing for the contest has been time. Given the many demands, homework and otherwise, on their time, their weekly discussion sessions often have to run late into the night. It is worse for those residing off-campus as they often have to rush to the train station to catch the last train home. The students also foresaw time as the greatest challenge in preparing for the regional contest as it may coincide with their mid-term or even their final exams.

Winning the ACM contests requires competence, hard work, collaboration, and most of all, commitment. But the students enjoy the full support of their department. They have done well, as had their predecessors, and they are set to do well. Besides, winning aside, the exposure and experience offered by the contests should be worth every bit of their effort.

Piera Chen
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。
Professorial Appointments

Professor of Music

Professor of Psychology

Reappointment of Pro-Vice-Chancellors

Staff Development Grants/Programmes 2002-2003

SCM Moving

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcements

No. 188 19th September 2001 CUHK Newsletter

Professor of Psychology

He has been chairman of the Department of Music since 1992, and sub-dean of the Faculty of Arts since 1999.

Professor of Music

He has been chairman of the Department of Music since 1992, and sub-dean of the Faculty of Arts since 1999.

Professor Fanny Cheung Miu-ching has been appointed professor of psychology with effect from 1st October 2001. She is now chairperson of the department, as well as the founding director of the Gender Research Centre. From 1995 to 1996, she was dean of the Faculty of Social Science.

Prof. Chan Wing-wah has been appointed professor of music with effect from 1st October 2001. Prof. Chan obtained his BA in music from The Chinese University in 1979, and his master’s and doctoral degrees in music (composition) from the University of Toronto in 1981 and 1985 respectively. He was appointed coordinator of the Part-time Degree Programme in Music at The Chinese University in 1989, and head of the Graduate Division of Music in 1992. He has been chairman of the Department of Music since 1992, and sub-dean of the Faculty of Arts since 1999.

Prof. Chan is chairman of the Hong Kong Composers’ Guild, director of the Composers and Authors Society of Hong Kong, appointed trustee of Inter-Artes, UK vice-chairman of the Asian Composers’ League, and elected member of the executive committee of the UNESCO International Society for Contemporary Music.

Prof. Chan has about 60 major compositions. He has also written many congregational hymns and anthems, as well as children’s songs and school songs.

Aim

To help needy local students by providing opportunities for paid campus work, in the form of assisting University academics/administrators in their projects.

Nature of Work

(a) To assist academic staff in their research projects.
(b) To assist administrative staff in projects which require a large task-force on a short-term basis.
(c) Any other job assignments as may be approved by the Committee on Student Campus Work Scheme.

Remuneration

HK$50 per hour for both undergraduate and postgraduate students.

Application

Staff members who are interested in applying should return the completed application forms to the Secretary, Committee on Student Campus Work Scheme, c/o Office of Student Affairs at 1/F, Benjamin Franklin Centre no later than 4th October 2001.

Remarks

(a) Approved funds should only be used as remuneration for students of The Chinese University of Hong Kong.
(b) Students will not be allowed to work for 18 hours or more in any one week for four weeks or more.
(c) The duration of each engagement should not exceed 59 days. There should be a break of service for at least one month between two engagements as student helper in the University.
(d) Approved funds should be expended in full before 30th September 2002.
(e) Supervisors of approved projects will be requested to forward a report to the Secretary, Committee on Student Campus Work Scheme, c/o Office of Student Affairs by 31st October 2002, for onward transmission to the donors for information.

Staff Development Grants/Programmes 2002–2003

The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) is now recruiting a full-time Administrative and Planning Committee for the Academic Year 2001-2002.

The University is seeking to appoint a full-time administrative assistant to the Academic and Planning Committee (A&P) on a fixed-term basis for the academic year 2001-2002.

The University is seeking to appoint a full-time administrative assistant to the Academic and Planning Committee (A&P) on a fixed-term basis for the academic year 2001-2002.

Further enquiries may be directed to the Personnel Office (Ext. 7191 or 7288).
中大文化徑

中大校園景色素為人樂道，亦是許多旅遊團的觀光點，但大部分遊人패走馬看花，對中大的認識僅停留於光影表象。

參加者講解員及學生

由邵逸夫堂策劃的「音樂劇夏令營」，為預科生提供專業演藝培訓，舞當作全面的介紹，既可向外推廣大學，亦可讓校內學生深入了解自己的工作或學習環境。

「中大文化徑」未來還可以試辦文化徑。
中產階級不滿香港教育政策

根據社會科學院的民意調查顯示，中產階級對政府近年的教育改革評價不高，四成受訪者更聲稱若條件許可，會送子女到國際學校或外國讀書。

「市民對香港教育政策態度調查」由社會科學院資助，社會工作學系王卓祺教授、教育學院盧乃桂教授及學校與家庭合作事宜委員會主席狄志遠先生合作，是該院的社會政策研究計劃之一。研究人員上月中以隨機抽樣方式成功訪問了一千零五名市民，回應率接近一半。若可信度為九成半，最大抽樣誤差為正或負百分之三點零九之內。為使調查資料更符合香港實際人口分布，是次調查資料作了適當的加權。

調查發現，三成受訪者認為特區政府在教育發展、提高人材素質的表現及格，而對政府表現評價較低的市民主要為收入較高，高主觀社會階層、高教育程度、有子女接受中小學教育的家長，情況令人關注。

約六成人贊成政府推行母語教學政策。然而，年齡在三十一至五十歲、大專教育程度及高收入的人士（月薪四萬元以上），愈不同意母語教學。

另一方面，約有五成半受訪者反對取消精英班制度，但這比率在低收入，高主觀社會階層及專業人士中高達六至七成。六成受訪者認為精英班制度只會使學生發展不均，而亦有六成受訪者認為香港教育制度應該「有教無類」的方向發展，只有兩成六人贊成精英教育。研究人員的推論是，市民並不反對普及教育，但對培養精英，即「拔尖」的制度也十分支持，尤其是中產階級。

校外進修學院學生服務中心啟用

校外進修學院上月二十五日舉行學生服務中心啟用典禮暨公開講座，由副校長廖柏偉教授、蔣氏工業慈善基金秘書長蔡敏康先生及該院院長李仕權先生剪綵及主持切燒豬儀式。該院隨後更為學員及公眾人士舉行多項專題及課程講座，包括「失敗的防止」、「膽固醇知多少」、「穿衣增值與人際溝通」、「公共關係實務」、「中醫食療保健」等。

為了節約能源，政府放寬使用淡水水冷式空調系統的限制，並已選定五個區域為第一階段的試點。今年六月六日將十一個地區納入節能空調系統先行計劃之內。改用淡水水冷式空調的商戶，預計可節省百分之十七的空調電費開支。新成立的學生服務中心設置多個課室及多媒體教室，並為學員提供報名及支援服務。該院鑑於近年開辦的課程數目不斷增

節約能源 保障健康

為了節約能源，政府放寬使用淡水水冷式空調系統的限制，並已選定五個區域為第一階段的試點。今年六月六日將十一個地區納入節能空調系統先行計劃之內，改用淡水水冷式空調的商戶，預計可節省百分之十七的空調電費開支。

其實，本學年學校於去年二月已將碧秋樓的氣冷式中央空調系統更新為水冷式，並使用淡水蒸發式冷卻塔。由於水的熱容量比空氣高，製冷力較佳，可節省更多電能。記錄顯示，在相同的負載下，碧秋樓的新空調系統可節省電力高達百分之十九。

新系統也比舊系統的負載量高，可保障室內的空氣素質。在舊系統下，碧秋樓最多只可同時容納二百多人，否則便沒有足夠的新鮮空氣；新系統由於製冷力較佳，送風量也相對地提高，能提供足夠的新鮮空氣，故可同時容納三百多人。

冷氣機節能原則

（一）溫度設於攝氏二十四度為宜，勿過低。溫度設定每提高攝氏一度，就可省下約百分之六的電能。室內室外溫差勿超過攝氏八度，以免染病。

（二）冷氣機不需使用時，應關掉電源。

（三）閒置的課室，應關掉冷氣電源。如要預冷房間，可調至低出風量及低冷凍能力。

（四）開好門窗，避免冷氣外洩。清除障礙出入風口的物件，以免降低冷氣機效率。

（五）選購高能源效率值的冷氣機。

（六）依房間大小選擇適當容量的冷氣機，並參考機電工程署發出的能源標籤。

（七）裝設遮陽蓬或窗簾阻擋陽光直射屋內，以免冷氣機耗電量，並避免使用電爐、電熱水器等發熱器具。

（八）分體式冷氣機的配管要短，彎曲半徑要大，以提高冷氣機的效率。

節能省電工作小組

中大通訊
耶魯將英譯出版中大古籍校本

中國文化研究所古文獻資料庫研究計劃於七月與美國耶魯大學出版社簽訂合約,由後者將資料庫歷年校訂之先秦兩漢古籍翻譯成英文出版。

該叢書名為Culture and Civilization of China Series,由世界著名學者翻譯,以協助外國人加深對中國古代文化的認識。

中國文化研究所獲研究資助局資助,於一九八八年開始建立傳世文獻的電腦資料庫,迄今已處理之古代文獻千餘種。處理方法是先蒐集中各種不同版本,參校其他文獻中之重文,以及類書如《太平御覽》、《資治通鑑》等之引文,詳加比勘,復著新式標點,疑難處加注說明,七務求翔實無誤。至於歷代學者如王念孫、王引之等之著作,亦多所徵引,以期恢復原著原貌。

資料庫自推出以來,廣獲學術界推許,屢被徵用。是次與耶魯大學出版社之合作計劃,更確立中大的古籍校本在學術界之地位。

化學教師獲國家傑出青年科學基金

化學系謝作偉教授最近獲得國家傑出青年科學基金(海外),並決定運用所得金額,支持設於中國科學院上海有機化學研究所內之滬港化學合成聯合實驗室,繼續展開研究及培養博士生。

基金申請者須在自然科學基礎研究取得國際同行承認的創新成就,並曾在國際著名期刊發表有重要創見的論文。各項申請經五名同行專家評審。本屆初選了十一名來自美國、加拿大的候選人,再由評審委員會於西安面試,經十三名專家,其中大部分為中國科學院院士,以不記名投票表決,選出六名獲主,謝教授即為其中之一。