The ground-breaking ceremony of the University's teaching hotel was held on the afternoon of 19th December 2001. The first of its kind in Hong Kong and perhaps the region, the hotel will be built on a site adjacent to the University Train Station, overlooking the scenic Tolo Harbour. It will be a 600-room four-star international hotel with 10,000 square metres of conference and teaching facilities for use by the University. The teaching hotel will provide the facilities and teaching support for hands-on training of students and other practicum and development programmes coordinated by the University's School of Hotel Management.

Established in 1998, the School of Hotel Management has worked closely with the Hotel School of Cornell University and the local hospitality and tourism industry to launch high quality and widely acclaimed programmes for the training of hotel professionals and the promotion of executive education and research. And the University has taken the initiative to build a teaching hotel on the University campus in collaboration with New World Development Company Limited.

Tourism plays an important role in the economy of Hong Kong. Located conveniently at the heart of Asia and the gateway to the mainland, Hong Kong has always been and will remain both an international business hub and a popular tourist destination. The aspiration of the School of Hotel Management to develop into a regional centre of excellence in hotel management is in line with the Hong Kong Government's vision to establish and promote Hong Kong as Asia's premier international city, and a world-class destination for leisure and business visitors.

In his welcoming speech, vice-chancellor Prof. Arthur K.C. Li said that with its own teaching hotel, the School could offer not only programmes at the undergraduate level, but also top-notch professional and executive training courses for high-powered practitioners in the field.

'The School can experiment with new service ideas, new products, and new systems.' He said, 'It can also expand the scope of its activities to include consultancy services for relevant industries on the mainland and in other parts of Asia. It can aspire to become a regional training centre for hotel property management, hotel investment, and hospitality-related services.'

On the same occasion, Dr. Cheng Yu-tung of New World Development Co. Ltd. expressed his delight in the collaboration and believed the teaching hotel would be conducive to upgrading the standard and image of the hotel industry in Hong Kong. 'In the past, hoteliers learnt their profession mostly via on-the-job training,' Dr. Cheng said, 'The teaching hotel project will combine textbook knowledge and on-the-job practice, elevating the standards of our graduates who desire to enter the hotel industry. It will provide a good training platform for aspiring hoteliers.'

Dr. Alice K.Y. Lam, chair of the University Grants Committee, supported the project and called for greater collaboration between academia and the industry to benefit both parties and Hong Kong as a whole. 'Such an undertaking is indicative of the staunch support from the industry itself for hotel and hospitality education at the tertiary level. While the UGC fully backs any worthy educational programme that can develop and upgrade human capital for our community, we always encourage the universities to solicit extra resources from the private sector to enhance the quality of education they offer.'

Department of Nursing Renamed Nethersole School of Nursing

The University's Department of Nursing was renamed the Nethersole School of Nursing at a dedication ceremony held on 14th December 2001 in the Esther Lee Building.

The original Nethersole School of Nursing of the United Christian Medical Service was the first hospital-based nurse-training school in Hong Kong, and had served the local community for over a century. With the introduction of nursing education at the tertiary level in Hong Kong during the 1990s, the Alice Ho Miu Ling Nethersole Hospital considered the historical task of hospital-based nurse training schools completed, and resolved to transfer the name of its nursing school to the Department of Nursing at The Chinese University of Hong Kong, so that its culture of 'compassionate care' may continue. The CUHK Department of Nursing has, over the last decade, provided quality nursing education which is vital to the advancement of the profession in Hong Kong. Bearing a new name, it will continue to uphold its mission of 'serving the community through quality education, caring practice, and advancement of health sciences' and to promote the concept of 'serving the community with compassion'.

Guests officiating at the dedication ceremony included the Rt. Rev. Louis Tsui, bishop of the Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui Diocese of East Kowloon; Dr. Alice K.Y. Lam, chair of the University Grants Committee; Mr. John Li, chairman of the United Christian Medical Service Board; Mrs. June Li, chair of the Nethersole School of Nursing School Advisory Committee; Mr. Simon Sit, chairman of the Executive Committee of Alice Ho Miu Ling Nethersole Hospital; and Prof. Arthur K.C. Li, vice-chancellor of the University.

Support for Four Research Projects

The following four research projects undertaken by University staff members have succeeded in attracting funding support from different quarters:

- Real-time Bilateral Teleoperation of Internet-based Robotic Systems (HK$725,200)
  Sponsors: National Natural Science Foundation of China and Research Grants Council
  Principal investigator: Prof. Liu Yunhui (Department of Automation and Computer-aided Engineering)

- Life Clinic, a Three-tier Coordinated Service Model—Joint Project on Prevention of Elderly Suicide (HK$1,771,230)
  Sponsor: Hong Kong Council of Social Service
  Principal investigator: Prof. Helen Chiu Fung-kum (Department of Psychiatry)

- A Web-based Database and Training for Hong Kong Flora and Vegetation (HK$1,500,000)
  Sponsor: Quality Education Fund
  Principal investigator: Prof. Chu Lee-man (Department of Biology)

- Economic Reforms and Labour Market Transitions in Urban China (HK$696,000)
  Sponsors: National Natural Science Foundation of China and Research Grants Council
  Principal investigator: Prof. Zhang Jui-jun (Department of Economics)
UN-sponsored Workshop on Natural Disaster Management

Over 20 government officials and professionals from Vietnam, Thailand, Indonesia, Cambodia, Malaysia, Mongolia, Benin, mainland China, and Hong Kong participated in the International Training Workshop on Natural Disaster Management Using Remote Sensing and GIS Technologies. The workshop was organized by the CAS-CUHK Joint Laboratory for Geoinformation Science from 7th to 16th December 2001 as part of China’s international aid programme for developing countries in Asia.

The coorganizers included the International Institute of Spatial Information Technology, the National Remote Sensing Centre of China, and the Hong Kong Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing. The function was sponsored by the Ministry of Science and Technology of China and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission.

The 10-day workshop comprised lectures and system demos on remote sensing and GIS applications on monitoring and managing disaster weather, floods, earthquakes and landslides, forestry disasters, and drought. The speakers were from CUBHK, the Chinese Academy of Sciences, the Hong Kong Observatory, Hong Kong Baptist University, the Asian Institute of Technology, and other research centres in China. Prof. Yeung Yue-man (front row, left 3), head of Shaw College and an academic advisor to UNESCO, gave a welcoming speech at the opening ceremony. The participants were also given technical tours to the Hong Kong Observatory and the Geotechnical Engineering Office of the HKSAR Government.

Empowering the World with Knowledge of Health

Medical and health experts from Hong Kong, the mainland, Taiwan, Macau, and Europe participated in two events organized by the Centre for Health Education and Health Promotion of the Faculty of Medicine and Chung Chi College on 7th and 8th December.

The events were aimed at promoting academic exchange among medical professionals on the issue of health promotion, and strengthening Hong Kong’s role as a bridge between the East and the West. The underlying concept was that health education should be promoted to enable people to understand the determinants of their health, so that they can take control of them.

At the Conference on Healthy Cities and Health Promoting Universities held on the first day in the Esther Lee Building, keynote speeches were delivered by Dr. Hisashi Ogawa, representative from the World Health Organization, Prof. John Ashton, Regional Director of Public Health, North West Region of England, Dr. Chen Jingen of the Jiading District Health Bureau of Shanghai, Prof. Eileen Martin and Prof. Mark Doonis of the University of Central Lancashire, and Prof. S.H. Lee, chairman of the Steering Committee of Health Promotion on Campus at CUHK. Officiating at the opening ceremony were also Prof. Arthur K.C. Li, vice-chancellor of the University, Prof. Yin Dakui, vice-minister of health of the PRC, Ms. Shelly Lee, Director of Home Affairs of the HKSAR Government, Prof. Sydney Chung, dean of the Faculty of Medicine, and Prof. Rance Lee, head of Chung Chi College.

At the Symposium on Health Education and Health Promotion, held on the second day in the Sino Building, local primary and secondary school representatives joined the speakers to discuss their experience in developing health education. Officiating guests were Mr. Anthony Tong, deputy director of the Education Department, Dr. Ko Wing-man, Director of Professional Services and Public Affairs of the Hospital Authority, Dr. Regina Ching, Assistant Director of Health, and Prof. Maurice Mittelmark, president of the International Union of Health Promotion and Education. Keynote speeches were delivered by Prof. Mittelmark and Dr. Alyson Moon of the Wessex Institute for Health Research and Development, University of Southampton.

The prizes for the Logo Design Competition of the Hong Kong Healthy Schools Award were also presented at the symposium.

Understanding How the Brain Works

Different brain areas do not function independently. Even a simple task involves the synchronous operations of several areas. To promote research on such linkages within the brain, a two-day workshop was organized by the Department of Psychology on 14th and 15th December last year. The theme of the workshop was the study of brain synchronization with EEG, or electroencephalography, a technique to aid people with neuromuscular diseases. The event was sponsored by Chung Chi College in celebration of her 50th anniversary, and it took place in the Sino Building.

Prof. Walter Freeman of the University of California at Berkeley and Dr. Joydeep Bhattacharya of the Austrian Academy of Sciences gave a welcome speech. They also made the suggestion that the workshop be held in the Sino Building, which was later accepted.

The idea for the event originated from Prof. David Parker, chairman of the Department of English. The department has always harboured a strong interest in drama, and a competition will provide a good opportunity to enhance the practical awareness of drama in performance, and improve the spoken English and self-confidence of the participants. Prof. Parker discussed and developed the idea with other members of the department and finally decided on an annual contest that is open to all English majors and minors in the department. Then on the evening of 31st October, they presented the audience at Sir Run Run Shaw Hall with their renditions of the plays of their own choice: Chung Chi with an excerpt from Shakespeare’s Much Ado About Nothing, United with another piece from the Bard, Romeo and Juliet, New Asia with The Applicant by Harold Pinter, English playwright known for his ‘comedies of menace’, and Shaw, the winning team, with ‘Maybe Lady’, a free adaptation of Bernard Shaw’s Pygmalion.

The Applicant

The drama scene at the University is very much alive and kicking. Apart from the annual Intercollegiate Drama Competition organized by the four colleges, and the contributions to local theatre of Sir Run Run Shaw Hall, there is now the Andrew Parkin Drama Cup, which will be held every year.

The idea for the event originated from Prof. David Parker, chairman of the Department of English. The department has always harboured a strong interest in drama, and a competition will provide a good opportunity to enhance the practical awareness of drama in performance, and improve the spoken English and self-confidence of the participants. Prof. Parker discussed and developed the idea with other members of the department and finally decided on an annual contest that is open to all English majors and minors in the department. Then on the evening of 31st October, they presented the audience at Sir Run Run Shaw Hall with their renditions of the plays of their own choice: Chung Chi with an excerpt from Shakespeare’s Much Ado About Nothing, United with another piece from the Bard, Romeo and Juliet, New Asia with The Applicant by Harold Pinter, English playwright known for his ‘comedies of menace’, and Shaw, the winning team, with ‘Maybe Lady’, a free adaptation of Bernard Shaw’s Pygmalion.

The highlight of the evening was the presentation of awards by none other than Prof. Parkin himself who had flown in from Paris to attend the competition and give out the awards. It was a moving occasion for both the audience and the participants.

The winning team, judges, guests and professors of the English Department. Third from the left is Prof. Andrew Parkin.

Biochemistry Department Celebrates 30th Birthday

The Department of Biochemistry invited all alumni to a homecoming visit on 1st December in celebration of its 30th anniversary in 2001.

The celebratory programmes included two guest lectures by Prof. W.W. Tsao and Mr. Y.L. Lo on ‘Biochemical Weapons’ and ‘Business Opportunities in the Biosciences’ respectively, a guided tour of the department, and, the highlight of the day, a homecoming banquet attended by close to 300 biochemistry staff and alumni.

A special 30th anniversary magazine, with old class pictures and articles contributed by the past and present chairmen and alumni of the department, was also published to mark the occasion.
There's No Place Like Home or Is There?
Study Examines Families’ Response to Placing Elderly in a Home

‘Having an elderly person at home is like having a treasure,’
goesthe saying. In a society like Hong Kong, the dictates of filial piety
prove upon putting parents and grandparents in homes for the
elderly. Yet living space is scarce, with large families often
having to cram into unbelievably small homes, and the young too
busy with work and school to take care of someone old and frail.
An increasing number of elderly people are moving into
residential care homes. According to figures released by the Social
Welfare Department in 2000, there are at present over
40,000 elderly people residing in residential care facilities,
representing five per cent of the entire elderly population in the
territory.

What adjustments do family members go through after
placing their elderly relatives in a residential home? How do
these adjustment experiences change over time? What role do
Chinese cultural beliefs play in this experience? To examine
these and other questions, Prof. Diana Lee of the Nethersole
School of Nursing embarked on a study entitled 'Chinese
Families’ Experiences with Residential Care Placement of
Their Elderly Relatives' with the study’s co-investigator, Prof.
Ann Mackenzie.

Preparation and Methodology

The groundwork for the study was laid in November 2000, which
consisted of approaching the homes, explaining the study, sorting out
the work schedule, and contacting potential informants. Data collection
began in January 2001. Funded by the Research Grants Council, the project is expected to last until July 2002.

The families of some 20 elderly people are the subjects of this study.
In-depth interviews are conducted upon admission with the main family
carer (pre-admission), who can be a daughter, a wife, a husband, a daughter-in-law,
or a son. The interviews are repeated at one to two weeks following admission,
and then every two months thereafter until no new information is found. The
elderly people themselves are also interviewed to gauge their potential
influence on the families’ adjustment experiences. Prof. Lee predicts that a
total of 80 interviews with family carers will have been conducted by the end of
the project.

Five care homes are involved in the study, all of them government
subvented. Prof. Lee has decided not to mix private and non-private homes
in this study because they are expected to generate very different data. There
is a huge discrepancy between the two types of homes in terms of the system
of care, elderly population, and qualifications of care-takers. The experiences of the elderly people and their families towards the homes are also very different. Admission to a government subvented home is preceded by a strict evaluation of eligibility and a wait of three to four years. Those admitted usually feel ‘lucky’ to have been admitted.

Initial Emotional Response

The study’s preliminary findings show that in the one to two weeks following their relatives’ admission, families express emotions ranging from sadness to a sense of relief that their relatives are being taken care of. The latter leads, in some cases, to improved relationships with the relatives. They see the residential placement as beneficial as it makes the future more certain. This greater sense of certainty appears to reassure families and moderate their emotional reaction to the placement. Other emotions following placement are found to be linked to the reaction of the elderly relative to being
admitted, to kinship, to relations between the carer and the relative prior to
placement, and whether the admission is voluntary or not.

At this early post-placement stage, socio-cultural influences on
the families’ experiences are not evident. Informants try to justify the admission
in their minds but are reluctant to discuss their emotions with other family
members. They are unable to describe the emotions of other family members.
They prefer to solicit advice and support from outside. This lack of
communication among family members may be due to feelings of guilt
and the emotional turmoil they experienced before coming to the
decision. This is an area to be followed up in later interviews.

At this early stage, feelings of ambivalence about relinquishing care
and uncertainties of residential care provision commonly described in the
literature, largely Western, do not seem to apply to the Chinese families in this
study.

Two Months Later

About two months after admission, informants begin to verbalize more
conflicting emotions. They may say the placement has not relieved them emotionally or physically. They may say they are still worried about their elderly relatives, they still cook for them every day and bring them meals, they find transportation a headache, etc. At the same time, the effects of socio-cultural influences become more
evident. However, such effects are different on different carers. Wives,
daughters, and daughters-in-law who are themselves elderly often wonder if
they have done the right thing in placing their relatives in a home. They are afraid to tell other family members about their uncertainties. Young sons and daughters do not see this as a problem. Their attitude is one of 'I care, therefore I put
them in the home.' They feel their decision has improved familial
relationships and their relationship with the elderly relative.

Shift of Families’ Focus

At this stage there is also evidence that families are starting to shift their
focus from the relative to the home itself. They become more critical of the
quality of the homes and begin to propose ways of improvement based on
observations made during visits.

Although the different rounds of interviews have not been completed,
Prof. Lee has made some predictions about the reactions of the elderly
residents based on the findings of another research of hers on how
Chinese elders adjust to residential care placement. 'Eldery people in Hong
Kong do not have the same problems as their Western counterparts. They
don't tend to complain about the lack of privacy in the homes and they are
more relaxed about sharing facilities. They instead worry about how
to deal with their families after admission. They may miss their
families yet feel guilty about having them come to visit too often. They may
also have to deal with being bullied by more domineering inmates', said Prof.
Lee. 'We may have underestimated how rational elderly people are nowadays.
We may still expect them to be thinking in the old way but in fact many old
people now do not want to be a burden to their families,' she continued.

Implications for the Community

The findings of the project will provide a theoretical framework for
health care professionals to identify and evaluate interventions that meet the
specific needs of families at particular points in the post-placement period.
When families are given help to overcome the difficulties associated
with the placement, they will be able to continue contributing to the physical
and emotional well-being of their loved ones in residential care homes.

Piera Chen

Researcher Profile

Prof. Diana Lee, associate professor in the Nethersole School of Nursing, obtained her Master’s in nursing and education from the University of Edinburgh in 1993, and her Ph.D. in medical sciences from The Chinese University in 2000. She joined The Chinese University as lecturer in 1994.

Her research interest includes gerontology and long-term care, in particular community care of elders with chronic illness, residential care and nurse-led developments in the rehabilitative and community care of elders. She is now pursuing post-doctoral work at the University of London.
The Senate approved the change of name of the Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) programme, which is a four-year undergraduate degree in business management. The programme is divided into three streams: university-wide courses, core courses, and electives.

Other than the above changes, the Senate also approved the establishment of the Master of Science in Banking and Finance, which is aimed at providing students with advanced knowledge in banking and finance. The programme is designed for students who have completed a degree in economics or related fields.

The programme will be taught in three languages: English, Chinese, and Punjabi. The programme is divided into three streams: university-wide courses, core courses, and electives.

The Senate also approved the establishment of the Master of Science in Accounting and Finance, which is aimed at providing students with advanced knowledge in accounting and finance. The programme is designed for students who have completed a degree in business administration or related fields.

The programme will be taught in three languages: English, Chinese, and Punjabi. The programme is divided into three streams: university-wide courses, core courses, and electives.

The Senate also approved the establishment of the Master of Science in Information Systems, which is aimed at providing students with advanced knowledge in information systems. The programme is designed for students who have completed a degree in computer science or related fields.

The programme will be taught in three languages: English, Chinese, and Punjabi. The programme is divided into three streams: university-wide courses, core courses, and electives.

The Senate also approved the establishment of the Master of Science in International Business, which is aimed at providing students with advanced knowledge in international business. The programme is designed for students who have completed a degree in business administration or related fields.

The programme will be taught in three languages: English, Chinese, and Punjabi. The programme is divided into three streams: university-wide courses, core courses, and electives.

The Senate also approved the establishment of the Master of Science in Economics, which is aimed at providing students with advanced knowledge in economics. The programme is designed for students who have completed a degree in economics or related fields.

The programme will be taught in three languages: English, Chinese, and Punjabi. The programme is divided into three streams: university-wide courses, core courses, and electives.

The Senate also approved the establishment of the Master of Science in Environmental Science, which is aimed at providing students with advanced knowledge in environmental science. The programme is designed for students who have completed a degree in environmental science or related fields.

The programme will be taught in three languages: English, Chinese, and Punjabi. The programme is divided into three streams: university-wide courses, core courses, and electives.

The Senate also approved the establishment of the Master of Science in Psychology, which is aimed at providing students with advanced knowledge in psychology. The programme is designed for students who have completed a degree in psychology or related fields.

The programme will be taught in three languages: English, Chinese, and Punjabi. The programme is divided into three streams: university-wide courses, core courses, and electives.

The Senate also approved the establishment of the Master of Science in Sociology, which is aimed at providing students with advanced knowledge in sociology. The programme is designed for students who have completed a degree in sociology or related fields.

The programme will be taught in three languages: English, Chinese, and Punjabi. The programme is divided into three streams: university-wide courses, core courses, and electives.

The Senate also approved the establishment of the Master of Science in Political Science, which is aimed at providing students with advanced knowledge in political science. The programme is designed for students who have completed a degree in political science or related fields.

The programme will be taught in three languages: English, Chinese, and Punjabi. The programme is divided into three streams: university-wide courses, core courses, and electives.

The Senate also approved the establishment of the Master of Science in International Relations, which is aimed at providing students with advanced knowledge in international relations. The programme is designed for students who have completed a degree in international relations or related fields.

The programme will be taught in three languages: English, Chinese, and Punjabi. The programme is divided into three streams: university-wide courses, core courses, and electives.

The Senate also approved the establishment of the Master of Science in Environmental Law, which is aimed at providing students with advanced knowledge in environmental law. The programme is designed for students who have completed a law degree or related fields.

The programme will be taught in three languages: English, Chinese, and Punjabi. The programme is divided into three streams: university-wide courses, core courses, and electives.

The Senate also approved the establishment of the Master of Science in Public Administration, which is aimed at providing students with advanced knowledge in public administration. The programme is designed for students who have completed a degree in public administration or related fields.

The programme will be taught in three languages: English, Chinese, and Punjabi. The programme is divided into three streams: university-wide courses, core courses, and electives.

The Senate also approved the establishment of the Master of Science in Business Administration, which is aimed at providing students with advanced knowledge in business administration. The programme is designed for students who have completed a degree in business administration or related fields.

The programme will be taught in three languages: English, Chinese, and Punjabi. The programme is divided into three streams: university-wide courses, core courses, and electives.

The Senate also approved the establishment of the Master of Science in Finance, which is aimed at providing students with advanced knowledge in finance. The programme is designed for students who have completed a degree in finance or related fields.

The programme will be taught in three languages: English, Chinese, and Punjabi. The programme is divided into three streams: university-wide courses, core courses, and electives.

The Senate also approved the establishment of the Master of Science in Management, which is aimed at providing students with advanced knowledge in management. The programme is designed for students who have completed a degree in management or related fields.

The programme will be taught in three languages: English, Chinese, and Punjabi. The programme is divided into three streams: university-wide courses, core courses, and electives.

The Senate also approved the establishment of the Master of Science in Accounting, which is aimed at providing students with advanced knowledge in accounting. The programme is designed for students who have completed a degree in accounting or related fields.

The programme will be taught in three languages: English, Chinese, and Punjabi. The programme is divided into three streams: university-wide courses, core courses, and electives.
Information in this section can only be accessed with CWEM password.

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梁永波教授

鞏固課程基礎 應付未來挑戰

應用化學與管理學學科主任梁永波教授說：「應用化學與管理學課程在今個學年才擴展為獨立的學位課程，現階段先要打好基礎。」

梁教授指出，香港有很多工商業都需要具備化學知識的人才，如鈷線板的製造，錶殼、錶帶和眼鏡之表面處理，金銀飾物的生產，合成電路的裝嵌等。商貿方面，化學儀器、化學品、藥物及原材料的貿易，以及貨品測試，亦吸納了不少化學系畢業生。

提供化學與商科知識

他說：「一般商科畢業生的理科基礎較薄弱，對化學品往往一知半解，從事與化學相關的行業時，便面對不少難題。化學系畢業生雖然有專科知識之利，卻欠缺管理及商科知識，需要一段時間才能掌握到工商業運作的竅門。近年來，有許多校友向化學系反映這些問題，促使我們考慮開辦兼顧化學和商科的課程。我們又曾諮詢學生的意見，他們也認為課程加添商管科目會有助就業。於是，化學系在一九九九年開設了『化學與管理』專修組，今年更擴展為一個獨立的『應用化學與管理學』本科課程。」

應用化學與管理學課程的特色，是在提供完整的現代化學訓練之餘，也加入多個由工商管理學院開辦的商業及管理科目，讓學生既具備紮實的化學專業知識，亦掌握到工商業的運作情況，擇業範圍更大，工作也能盡快上手。

學生反應

梁教授表示，初辦「化學與管理」專修組時，已有許多化學主修生表示有興趣，不少更申請轉組。申請人除須成績合乎要求外，還須通過面試，才獲准轉組。然而，由於這是一門嶄新的課程，仍未為預科生普遍認識，所以申請入讀的新生人數未見踴躍。梁教授認為要積極向中學生介紹課程內容，「我們會趁理學院到中學主持科普講座時，大力推廣。首批學生畢業後，若由他們向中學生介紹，相信效果會更佳。」

就業前景樂觀

近年政府積極發展及資助高科技和高增值的工業，社會對科技人才的需求顯著增加，而應用化學與管理學課程的設計，正是配合這些新發展。梁教授認為，課程畢業生的出路將會十分廣泛，況且他們修讀的科目，大部分與化學主修課程提供的相同，若不選擇馬上工作，仍可進研究院深造。

梁教授透露，該課程未來的發展都是致力提高學生的競爭力，例如他們已邀請了相關的工商機構合辦暑期培訓計劃，以增加學生的實際工作經驗。他還構思舉辦暑期海外領袖訓練計劃，以加強學生的獨立和管理能力，並擴闊他們的視野。

楊偉豪教授

創辦新世紀的新學科

工程學院今個學年開辦的互聯網工程學課程，是全港第一個專門培養互聯網工程師的學士學位課程，將有助香港發展成為全球互聯網中心之一。

高層次互聯網專才

楊教授表示，互聯網的出現，不僅加快了資訊流通，更衍生了電子銀行、電子貿易、遠距教育、遠距通訊、宏微維修及保安等商機，引發了對新技術的需求。工程學院的學生近年返校時，也出現偏重修讀互聯網科目的趨勢。加上互聯網對二十一世紀的經濟發展舉足輕重，訊息工程學系和計算機科學與工程學系便整合兩系的專長及人力物力，合作開辦新課程，並於同年九月正式開課。

課程內容精闢，內容主要包括三個部分：基礎理論、應用、實踐。楊教授強調，課程設計是要培養學生的自學能力，掌握互聯網發展趨勢和應用，為日後的職業做好準備。

培訓工作著手先鞭

「香港應趁現在的空檔，做好培訓人才的準備工作，一俟這些核心技術面世，便可早著先鞭，迅速開拓和佔據市場。」他又說：「中文大學在這方面很有擔當。早於一九七三年，大學便率先創辦全港第一個電子計算學系，一九八九年又創辦香港第一個訊息工程學系，致力培訓通訊和資訊科技人才，現在也大力支持互聯網工程學課程的開設，提供充足的地方、設備、財政及人力。」

楊教授認為掌握新學科的發展，能讓他有更大的發揮空間。鑑於課程由兩個學系合辦，學生的身分認同會較弱。所以，他會鼓勵師生增進溝通，以加強學生對課程的歸屬感。

他亦會與業界建立聯繫，藉此推廣該課程的特色，並了解僱主對人才的要求。『雖然課程不設實習學分，但我們極之鼓勵學生兼任與互聯網有關的工作，汲取實戰經驗。(不擔心他們像Bill Gates般中途輟學嗎?)最好有學生能像Bill Gates般創業成功……能為香港培養出色人才最重要。』

蔡世彬

新書

新紀元全球華文青年文學獎作品集《春來第一燕》

香港亞太研究所

新書

香港亞太研究所

研究叢刊第五十四號《社會轉型與文化變貌：華人社會的比較》

從一九九零年起，「華人社會社會指標研究研討會」每隔數年舉行一次，此書是第四屆研討會的論文結集，由劉兆佳、尹寶珊、李明堃和黃紹倫合編，共收論文二十二篇，由中國內地、台灣和香港的學者撰寫，反映了兩岸三地在這方面研究的最新成果和動態。作者從社會轉型、經濟變遷、文化面貌、環境意識、族群與階級關係等方面，就備受關注的課題提供實證數據和深入的分析。
香港社會學學會周年大會

社會學系上月一日在信和樓李冠春堂主辦香港社會學學會第三屆周年大會，集合本地各大專院校的社會學者，探討「華人社會發展的挑戰」，並交流研究心得。

社會學系主任劉兆佳教授及學會會長李明堃教授在開幕禮上致辭，世界知名社會學者、美國史丹福大學Prof. John W. Meyer則應邀出任主講嘉賓。

香港社會學學會於一九九八年成立，首屆會長為本校金耀基教授，香港理工大學應用社會科學系李明堃教授去年起接任為第二屆會長。學會除舉辦周年大會外，亦頒發最佳畢業論文獎並出版《香港社會學學報》，推動本地社會學的發展。

感謝香港工業界的支持

自動化與計算機輔助工程學系上月三日在蒙民偉樓一號演講廳舉行「香港工業界獎學金頒發典禮」，表揚十名學業成績優異的學生，並感謝本地六間公司的支持。

寶利機械有限公司、寶力機械公司、茂森精藝金屬製造有限公司、穎新五金製品有限公司、協益五金有限公司及金德精密五金有限公司相繼設立獎學金，獎勵該系學生。嘉浦香港有限公司代表在典禮中介紹了該公司學習培訓計劃，讓中大學生了解香港的工業培訓概況。

徐揚生教授(左)致送紀念品予寶力機械公司黎啟發先生。
護理學系重新命名

護理學系已重新命名為「香港中文大學那打素護理學院」。命名典禮於上月十四日在利黃瑤璧樓一號演講廳舉行,出席嘉賓包括香港聖公會東九龍教區徐贊生主教(左二)、大學教育資助委員會主席林李翹如博士(右二)、基督教聯合醫務協會董事會主席李國謙先生(左三)、那打素護士學校管理諮詢委員會主席李福慶夫人(右四)、雅麗氏何妙齡那打素醫院執行委員會主席薛磐基先生(左四)、李國章校長(右一)和護理學系系主任麥建思教授(左一)。

隨著時代之改變,香港護理教育已提升至大學學位課程的水平,而基督教聯合醫務協會那打素護士學校作為全港第一間院辦護士學校之歷史任務亦已完成,基督教聯合醫務協會是以決定將有逾百年歷史的護士學校併入本校的護理學院,並慷慨撥款成立發展基金,以支持中大進一步拓展香港的護理教育及培訓工作。

過去十年,中大護理學系一直為香港提供優質護理教育,在護理研究方面亦佔重要地位。新學院在新名稱下,將繼續其使命——以卓越的教學及科研,促進優質護理實務,以及秉承基督教聯合醫務協會那打素護士學校「矜憫為懷,役於社會」的精神,為香港培育優秀的護理人才。

監測與管理自然災害研討班

地球信息科學聯合實驗室上月七至十六日舉辦「利用遙感和地理信息系統技術監測與管理自然災害國際培訓研討班」,培訓二十多名來自越南、柬埔寨、泰國、馬來西亞、印尼、蒙古、台灣、中國內地和香港的學員。

各地政府已認識到並陸續採用遥感應用(遙感、地理定位、通訊)技術和地理信息系統技術,作為監測和管理自然災害的重要手段。研討班由中國科學院、中國林科院、香港中文大學、香港浸會大學、國家水利部遙感中心、亞洲理工學院、香港天文台和香港徠卡公司等的專家講課,又演示應用系統;課程內容包括監測颱風、地震和洪災,干旱、水災、森林火災、旱災等,學員亦獲安排參觀香港天文台和地質公園。

研討會獲中國國家科技部和聯合國亞太經社會資助,由中國國家空間信息技術研訓所、中國國家遙感中心,以及地球信息科學聯合實驗室共同組織,並得到香港攝影測量與遙感協會的支持,亦是實驗室連續第四年舉辦國際研討班的重要學術活動。閉幕儀式由地球信息科學聯合實驗室主任兼中國遙感中心香港基地主任林李翹如教授主持,逸夫書院院長兼聯合國教科文組織科學顧問楊汝萬教授致辭。

續有教師獲國家傑出青年科學基金

自動化與計算機輔助工程學系王煜教授最近獲得國家二零零一年度傑出青年科學基金(海外),與華中科技大學機電工程學院合作,開展研究及培養研究生。

該基金由國家自然科學基金委員會管理,目的是鼓勵和支持海外(包括港澳地區)優秀青年學者與內地的專家合作,進行相關的科學和技術研究;王煜教授的合作夥伴為華中科大機電工程學院的丁漢教授。是年度該基金在工程學科共選出五名得主。本校迄今共有兩名教師獲二零零一年國家傑出青年科學基金,另一名得主為早前公布的化學系謝作偉教授。

推動健康教育

醫學院健康教育及促進健康中心與崇基學院上月合辦兩場會議,促進香港的健康教育,並志慶崇基成立五十周年。

「健康城市及健康大學研討會」於十二月七日在利黃瑤璧樓一號演講廳舉行,主禮嘉賓包括李國章校長、國家衛生部副部長殷大奎教授、世界衛生組織西太區代表Dr. Hisashi Ogawa、香港特別行政區民政事務總署署長李麗娟女士、中大醫學院院長鍾尚志教授及崇基學院院長李沛良教授等;多名來自海峽兩岸和歐洲的著名學者在會上發表論文,檢討健康城市和健康大學在全球的獲益情況。

「健康教育及健康促進學術交流會」翌日在信和樓李冠春堂舉行,由教育署副署長湯啟康先生、醫院管理局專業及公共事務總監高永文醫生、衛生署助理署長馮程卓端醫生、國際健康促進及教育聯會主席Prof. Maurice Mittelmark主持開幕儀式,並頒發香港健康學校獎勵計劃標誌設計大賽的獎項。海內外專家學者在會上交流健康教育及健康促進學院計劃的心得。

展望中華經濟圈

決策科學與企業經濟學系上月七及八日假沙田麗豪酒店主辦「進入世貿後的中華經濟圈」國際研討會,深入討論世貿規例、外資與中國企業、中國金融業、電子商貿、網絡產業、中國入世對香港經濟的影響、中國入世後的引資政策、總產力的國際比較,以及亞太區非關稅障礙。

與會者來自兩岸三地與美國,在會上發表論文者約二十人。