Scholarships Awarded at Chung Chi’s Friday Assembly

Over 600 alumni, students, and guests attended the Friday Assembly of Chung Chi College on 23rd November 2001, which saw the presentation of the Chung Chi Alumni Scholarships for Excellence and the Chung Chi College Scholarships for Excellence to outstanding students of the college. The guest speaker for the occasion was Mr. Joseph Y.W. Pang, a college alumnus who is also executive director and deputy chief executive of the Bank of East Asia Ltd. He shared his views on liberal arts education with the audience.

In 1995, Chung Chi College established the Alumni Scholarships for Excellence with the support of the college alumni association and donations from individual alumni. This year the alumni donated 30 scholarships. Each freshman recipient of the alumni scholarship with the support of the college alumni association and donations from individual alumni. This year the alumni donated 30 scholarships. Each freshman recipient of the alumni scholarship will have a chance of being awarded the Chung Chi Scholarship of Excellence, established by the College Board of Trustees, in the next two years upon attainment of satisfactory academic results and with active participation in extracurricular activities.

Teaching Economics via Experiments

About 130 secondary school teachers participated in a workshop held by EconExperiments on 8th December 2001 to acquaint themselves with economic experiments in class. Funded by the University Grants Committee, EconExperiments is a project to enhance the teaching of economics in secondary school by way of experiments.

In the workshop, the project leader, Prof. Wong Ka-fu of the Department of Economics, explained to the participants the benefits and costs of using economic experiments in teaching, stating that their use can arouse student interest and convey economic concepts more effectively.

The teachers were divided into four groups to conduct four different economic experiments led respectively by Prof. Teresa Siu of the Department of Curriculum and Instruction, Dr. Linda Yung and Dr. Yan Wai-hin of the Department of Economics, and Ms. Lau Sau-yin, a secondary school economics teacher.

For other activities of EconExperiments to be organized during the year, please visit http://rface.econ.cuhk.edu.hk.
Plans for More Infrastructural Development at the University

The Chinese University has an extensive campus where, in recent years, construction works are as ubiquitous and constant as birds and trees. While such undertakings may cause temporary inconvenience to people, they are efforts at improving the overall well-being of the University. Knowing more about plans for campus development may help to increase understanding about the general direction of the University's growth.

Among the many new structures to be erected at the University, the Engineering Building Complex (Phase II) and the extension facilities for the clinical departments of the Faculty of Medicine at the Prince of Wales Hospital have taken a rather long time to implement. The original proposals were submitted to the University Grants Committee (UGC) back in 1995 and 1996 respectively, but were shelved during the space survey of tertiary institutions conducted by the UGC. Approval in principle for the projects to go ahead was given in 1998, but there have been other delays due to unforeseeable circumstances. Construction of the new engineering building has eventually commenced at site and new facilities for the Faculty of Medicine should be able to proceed once the current kinks are ironed out.

Worthy of mention are also a Purpose-Designed Building for Centralized Science Laboratories near the Science Centre, an extension to the University Administration Building, extension facilities for the Faculty of Education, and a teaching hotel.

Engineering Building Complex (Phase II)

The design of this building has taken into consideration an existing sister building, the Ho Sin-Hung Engineering building. The new extension not only has to be compatible with the old in terms of appearance and elevation, but provisions also have to be made for the flow of pedestrian and vehicular traffic between the two, which are to stand side by side. 'We have been struggling with the building plans because the funding agency does not think these considerations important,' said Mr. Vincent Chen, director of the Campus Development Office (CDO). 'Another problem we've had is the height of the building. The new building is located at a prime site. We'd like to make the best use of it by incorporating a few more floors, but the approved scope and funding for the project are fixed and restrictive. This means the University will have to find private resources to finance any extended construction.'

Extension Facilities for the Clinical Departments of the Medical Faculty

The Prince of Wales Hospital didn't have much extra space, so we were given a carpark site not immediately connected to the original clinical sciences building for this building,' said Mr. Chen. Given such a space to work with, the CDO needed a design that would be both creative and functional, and compatible with the existing building.

There were other obstacles. The hospital was about to undergo redevelopment on a large scale and usually causes serious human or animal disease and that may present a serious health hazard to laboratory workers, and a risk of spread to the community. Research on such organisms, therefore, must be conducted within appropriately established physical containment Level 3 laboratories. As the University has never constructed such facilities before, overseas consultants were invited over to give talks to the CDO staff and potential users, and advise on the design.

If all goes well according to schedule, construction work will begin this autumn and be completed by early 2005.

A Purpose-Designed Building for Centralized Science (High Risk) Laboratories

The existing Science Centre is a composite building with classrooms, common rooms, offices, and laboratories. Not only is it bursting at the seams, but, being quite an old building, it is having a hard time keeping up with current safety standards. The new building, which will be constructed on the slope south of the existing Science Centre, will house only high risk science laboratories, meaning laboratories that deal with research functions and operations that may pose potential risks, like those associated with biosafety Levels 2 and 3 manipulations, volatile chemicals that may explode or evaporate under certain circumstances, laser hazard, toxic substances, infecting agents, radiation, etc.

The ultimate size of the building may be up in the air for a while yet, but provisions have been made in the foundations for the extra floors. Allowance has also been made for the core services to be extended in the first instance to cover the additional floors. Fortunately the government is agreeable to such arrangements.

A special feature in the new building will be a Clean Room for research and teaching in the areas of microelectronic and optoelectronic device fabrication. It is basically a specially constructed, enclosed area with strict control over airborne particles, temperature, humidity, air motion, vibration, noise, and lighting. Associated with it will be defined areas of clean space where the concentration of air-borne particles is controlled within specific limits. Sophisticated plants and facilities including dangerous goods stores are necessary in providing an effective functional system that complies with prevalent fire and safety regulations.

The building project is expected to be completed for use by the Faculty of Engineering some time in 2004.
Approval in principle for this project was not given until recently, with full approval of plans pending until March 2002, though the proposal originated way back in the mid-90s. This has to do with the UGC's space criteria for consideration of priority support. The current administration building, built over 30 years ago, is today considered generally user-unfriendly, although some of the most important decisions of the University are made there. It has no facilities for the disabled and no lifts; cars cannot drive up to its entrance, to which the only means of access are flights of steps. And not only that: there is no facilities for the disabled and no lifts; cars cannot drive up to its entrance, to which the only means of access are flights of steps. And not only that: there is a bone. It will also be linked to the original building to allow sharing of facilities. And most importantly, the old banyan tree and its impressive natural canopy and all the creatures that live in it will not be disturbed.

The earliest commencement date for construction is mid-2003, and the building will take two years to complete.

Extension Facilities for the Faculty of Education

New facilities for the Faculty of Education will be built on a site in Pak Shek Kok north of the University, granted by the government to the University in compensation for land yielded up earlier for the Southern access road to the Science Park. The Hong Kong Institute of Education already has a spot to the north of that area, and the government has plans to build a primary and a secondary school in the vicinity. Seeing the enormous potential the location has for educational research, the University decided to locate the new facilities for the Faculty of Education there, so that it can interact more easily with the schools in connection with its research.

The Faculty of Education currently occupies 4,000 to 5,000 square metres in the Ho Tim Building and other buildings on the campus. 'It will be difficult and not very efficient or economical to move everything to the new site at the outset as it is a bit off the main track of most University units. The initial plan is to keep regular teaching units and classrooms on the main campus and move the offices and research facilities there,' Mr. Chen said.

Also awaiting full approval of plans like the extension to the University Administration Building, this one will be undertaken by Simon Kwan & Associates Ltd. Noise will be a major problem for the site as it is right next to the Tolo Highway and railway tracks. If things go smoothly, construction may begin by mid-2003.

New Teaching Hotel

The new teaching hotel, built in collaboration with New World Development Co. Ltd., has come quite a long way for different reasons. Many of the obstacles boil down to the application for approval from the Town Planning Board to build a commercial enterprise on the grounds of the University, a non-profit-making entity. Mr. Chen was happy to report that almost all the problems have been ironed out, and the groundbreaking ceremony for the hotel finally took place on 19th December last year. 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 iconic 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. It 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.

All the new buildings will be energy conserving 'intelligent' buildings that try to make use of natural light and recycle resources as much as possible, except in cases where safety is of utmost importance, e.g. in the clean room. Then going green might have to take a back seat.

Other projects pending approval include a Centre for Chinese Archaeology and Art — an extension to the Art Museum, additional classrooms on central campus, and a project that has been repeatedly put forth for consideration by the UGC but rejected — a sports hall incorporating an indoor swimming pool.

Piera Chen
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經歷三十年風雨
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保健醫療中心

保健醫療中心經過五個月的重修工程後，終於讓保健處於去年十一月七日遷回大本營，為大學提供更佳的療育及康健服務。保健處處長彭國雄醫生說：「保健醫療中心於一九七一年落成啟用，至今已三十年，損耗在所難免，近年出現的維修問題亦愈趨嚴重，加上時代轉變，員生對該中心的服務要求也提高了不少。」彭醫生遂趁該兩層高建築物去年春開展大型修繕工程之便，重新規劃其間隔，並改進和添加設施。

中心現在從外觀到內籠，都有令人耳目一新之感。新的外牆是選用了花崗巖碎的飾面塗料，其粗糙、樸實的質感，與原本的清水牆接近。地下入口處依然用作診所的接待處，但鹽時的裝飾，加上天上的二層外窗改用了玻璃，陽光灑入，使候診室也明亮起來；而位於樓上的牙科接待處也不再面壁，給人開揚舒泰之感。

這種寬敞舒適也見諸診症室。彭醫生指出，現在的診症室都有充分的自然光，可使人放鬆心情，有助提高醫生的工作效率，亦緩和病人對病情的焦慮。 「我們又把七間診症室集中在入口處一帶，既可減少病人在中心內走動，也可節省地方，我們的工作也更有效率。」彭醫生接續說：「所有診症室都標準化了，面積相若外，醫療設備齊全，可望改善服務質素。」

類似的改動，隨處可見，例如改用密集式文件櫃集中存放病歷，以盡量利用空間。彭醫生說，他們還預留了空間，供作未來的发展。他說：「我們會利用這個空間，擴充規模，以應付未來的需求。」

海洋科學研究中心

生物系海洋科學研究中心座落校園東廓，原址於一九七一年落成，並於一九七九及八七年擴建。中心成立初期，參加研究的成員就有數十人，至今已發展成國內外具影響力的研究中心。

中心主任胡應劭教授說：「由於原址位處政府一條新規劃的公路之上，所以需要搬遷。將土地交還政府，政府則按一貫的收地政策，補回面積相若的土地，又負擔新址的建築，並承擔所有設計及建築費用。」

胡教授指出，新址中心只有一層，樓宇和設備已經十分陳舊，整體的教學環境其實不甚理想。他們趁是次「迫遷」及重建，參與設計合乎實際需要的樓宇，增添了不少新設施如淨化海水的紫外光殺菌及生物過濾系統，從而改善中心的教學條件。

新中心樓高三層，設備新穎，共有大小實驗室五個，各裝置了風櫃、沖身花灑、自動灑水系統等安全設施。除增闢會議室外，又加設了快艇放置室。胡教授說：「中心的快艇過去是露天放置的，有一次給颱風刮到樹上去了，損失不菲。」所以，他們在新址預留了室內空間，供存放快艇。「快艇要利用汽車拖動，才能出海或上岸。由於舊址的下滑道太短而快艇卻很重，容易引致汽車損壞，所以新址的下滑道加長了，而且設置了新型機械。現在出海方便多了。」

新址解決了很多問題，但胡教授還表示：「雖然中心的可用面積多了，教學設備也較過去完善，但建築商的水平卻不敢恭維。地台不平之餘，窗戶與牆壁之間又有縫隙……。」

去年夏天連場大雨，中心便到處滲水，幸未造成嚴重損失。政府應承進修，但工程至今仍未完成。

另方面，乾燥的科學園建築工程如火如荼，各種大型車輛不斷穿梭往來。「可是，馬路卻沒有行人道，學生到中心上課，經常出現人車爭路的情況，險象環生，我們只能囑咐學生加倍小心。相信要待科學園落成後，這裡的交通才會有所改善。」

胡應劭教授

中大通訊 第一九六期 二零零二年一月十九日
中華經濟圈的持續發展

滬港發展聯合研究所上月十九至二十日在祖堯堂主辦第一次年度學術會議，主題為「進入世貿後中華經濟圈的持續發展」，由來自復旦大學、中文大學、台灣佛光大學綜合經濟研究所等各大專院校的專家學者，從多角度多方面深入討論中國內地和台灣相繼成為世界貿易組織成員後，對兩岸三地的影響，以及各自的發展方向。

副校長金耀基教授、滬港發展聯合研究所所長楊汝萬教授和復旦大學周斌教授分別在會議上致開幕辭。出席開幕典禮的嘉賓包括上海總會理事長李和聲先生、明天更好基金行政總裁袁金浩先生、副校長廖柏偉教授、教務長何文匯教授、大學秘書長梁少光先生、香港亞太硏究所副所長劉兆佳教授等。會議獲上海總會和港龍航空公司贊助。

海內外專家研討EB病毒

「EB病毒有關的癌症之分子生物學及其臨床應用」研討會上月八日在香港中文大學賽馬會公共衛生學院舉行，討論細胞增生、病毒學及免疫治療法。海內外專家在研討會上將就EB病毒與癌症關係的分子生物學及其臨床應用進行深入討論。

中大通訊