Funding Support for CUHK Research

The following five research and research-related projects undertaken by faculty members of the University have attracted funding support from different quarters:

- **Disease and the Capital Institute of Paediatrics in Beijing.**
  - **Establishment of the Mobile Fall Risk Assessment Centre**
  - **Parent-Child Reading in Hong Kong Bilingual Context**
  - **DVD production of three episodes**
  - **Establishment of the Shanghai-Hong Kong Joint Laboratory in Chemical Synthesis**

The study jointly with the Guangzhou Institute of Respiratory Disease and the Capital Institute of Paediatrics in Beijing. Apart from two graduates who chose to further their studies, all 27 other graduates have found employment, with most having received offers from multinational corporations by the end of June 2004. These included HSBC Asset Management, Standard Chartered Bank, the Bank of East Asia, the Bank of China, JP Morgan, Barclays Capital, Big 4 accounting firms, and Morgan Stanley.

The average monthly salary of the graduates is HK$313,291 with the highest being HK$390,000 per annum. The survey shows that the University's quantitative finance graduates are highly competitive and much sought after by major employers.

New Explanation for Variations in Childhood Asthma Prevalence

Asthma, the most common chronic disorder in children, varies in prevalence worldwide but is generally on the rise. Factors relating to the increasing prevalence of asthma remain largely unknown.

The University’s Faculty of Medicine conducted a large-scale study jointly with the Guangzhou Institute of Respiratory Disease and the Capital Institute of Paediatrics in Beijing. The study identified important factors affecting the variation in asthma prevalence in different regions.

Close to 11,000 school children aged 10 years in Hong Kong, Beijing, and Guangzhou were studied. Randomly selected subgroups of children from each city underwent a skin prick test for sensitivity to eight common aeroallergens, such as pollen and dust. The association between current wheeze and environmental factors and diet was then evaluated.

The findings were published in a recent issue of the British Medical Journal.
New Device for Monitoring Eye Pressure at Home

Glaucoma is one of the leading causes of blindness in Hong Kong and worldwide. There are about 100,000 glaucoma patients in Hong Kong.

Traditionally treatment has been largely based on lowering the level of elevated intraocular pressure (IOP). However studies have shown that diurnal fluctuations in IOP do occur. Sometimes the level measured in eye clinics may not be the same as that measured at home. Treatment based on one reading alone may lead to further damage to the optic nerve. Prof. Dennis Lam, chairman of the Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences, said that while attempts were made to devise instruments for home IOP monitoring, they were not accurate, safe, affordable or simple enough to use.

The pressure phosphene tonometer (PPT) is a new device using phosphene to measure IOP at home. It involves measuring IOP by means of the visual sensation resulting from applying pressure through the eyelid to the eyeball and then the retina. The Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences has been conducting pioneering clinical studies on PPT on over 300 patients.

Prof. Lam said that PPT works best for glaucoma patients with large diurnal fluctuations or those with unstable IOP control. It is less applicable to those with hard tonometry, those who cannot understand or perceive the phosphene, or those with moderate to advanced glaucoma.

Sailing Fun Organized for Children

On 13th August 2004, the Student Sailing Club and the Water Sports Centre Supervisor jointly organized a sailing fun day for parents and children of the Hong Kong Society for the Protection of Children. An seminar was held at the Water Sports Centre, after which nine families were sailed to the beautiful beach at Wu Kai Sui for lunch and further training.

Service to the Community and International Organizations

- Prof. Sin Yat Ming Leo, professor in the Department of Marketing, has been appointed by the Secretary for Health, Welfare and Food as a member of the Hong Kong Council on Smoking and Health for two years from 1st October 2004.
- Prof. Jean Woo, professor of medicine, has been appointed by the Secretary for Economic Development and Labour as a member of the Occupational Safety and Health Council for three years from 22nd August 2004.
- Prof. Lee Shiu Hung, emeritus professor of community medicine, has been appointed by the Secretary for Health, Welfare and Food as a member of the Health Care and Promotion Fund Committee for two years from 1st August 2004.
- Prof. Lam Wan Yee Joseph, professor of surgery, has been nominated to serve as the second member to the Medical Council, representing the University, for the unexpired period of membership of Prof. T.F. Fok from 1st July 2004 to 30th September 2006.
- Prof. Weng Yu Michael, professor in the Department of Automation and Computer-Aided Engineering, has been appointed to serve as an editor of IEEE Transactions on Automation Science and Engineering (T-ASE), a new technical publication of The Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE), for five years from July 2004. He has also been invited to serve as a guest editor of a Special Section on Workholding and Fixturing in the second issue of T-ASE.
- Prof. Li Wen Jung, associate professor in the Department of Automation and Computer-Aided Engineering, has been invited to serve as a guest editor of a special issue on Nano-scale Automation and Assembly published in IEEE Transactions on Automation Science and Engineering.
- Prof. Moses Sing Sum Chow, director of the School of Pharmacy, presided over the Inaugural Conference of the Asian Association of Schools of Pharmacy (AASP) held from 4th to 6th June 2004 in Beijing. He was also made founding president of the association.

Awards

- Prof. Michael Harris Bond, professor of psychology, was awarded an Honorary Fellowship by the International Association for Cross-Cultural Psychology (IACCp) in recognition of his continuing and distinguished contributions to the field of cross-cultural psychology. He is also president of IACCP.

- A paper entitled ‘Orientalist Knowledge and Social Theories: China and the European Conceptions of East-West Differences from 1600-1900’ authored by Prof. Hung Ho-fung, assistant professor in the Department of Sociology, was awarded the 2004 best article prize of the American Sociological Association (for the section on the Political Economy of the World System).

- M.Phil. student Ngai Chi-kin and his supervisor Prof. Raymond Yuen of the Department of Information Engineering have won the Best Paper Award in Communication Theory at the 2004 International Conference on Communication, Circuits and Systems held in Chengdu, China from 27th to 29th June 2004.
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計量財務學畢業生就業情況理想

工商管理學院的二零零四年本科生就業調查顯示，在二十七名計量財務學課程畢業生之中，除兩人繼續升學外，其餘全部受聘，大部分更於六月底前已獲聘書。他們服務於摩根大通、巴克萊銀行、四大會計師行、華資銀行及基金公司等跨國企業，從事計量財務分析、金融管理分析、企業財務顧問等工作，平均月薪逾三萬元，最高入息者達二十八萬港元。

計量財務學課程主任周應峰教授表示，自一九九八年開辦以來，他們不斷吸納成績優異的精英學生，一直是全校收生成績最佳的首三個課程之一。今年的新生學額增至三十三名，共錄取了十二名尖子。「他們的會考成績出眾，包括一名十優生，四名九優生，三名八優生和四名七優生，平均每人取得七優佳績。」

改善家居環境及飲食習慣可防兒童哮喘發作

根據一項跨區研究顯示，已發展國家有較高哮喘發病率的原因，可能與環境因素和飲食習慣有關。研究結果已刊於《英國醫學雜誌》。該研究由本校兒科學系和內科及藥物治療學系主持，合作機構包括廣州呼吸病研究所和首都兒科研究所。研究分別在香港、北京和廣州三個現代化程度不同的城市進行，調查了逾萬名十歲兒童。

兒科學系黃永堅教授及梁廷勳教授在八月二十七日的記者會上指出，哮喘是最普遍的兒童慢性疾病，世界各地的發病率都有差異。他們的研究顯示，香港兒童的哮喘發病率明顯比內地高，而因哮喘惹起的睡眠障礙、學習障礙及社交障礙等問題亦較嚴重。研究人員發現，使用棉被、每天進食生果，以及每星期至少進食一次新鮮蔬菜，可以預防哮喘。

青光眼病人量度眼壓新方法

眼科及視覺科學學系引進「閃光眼壓計」，供青光眼患者在家中自行量度眼壓，協助醫生診斷病情。青光眼是由於眼球壓力過高引致視神經病變的眼疾，也是致盲的主要成因。香港年逾四十歲的人口中，約有百分之三（約十萬人）會患上青光眼。降低眼壓是主要的治療方法。眼科醫生一般會以病人在診所量得的眼壓作為治療依歸，但眼壓有晝夜波動，病人在家中的眼壓可能與在診所時的不同，這差異有可能導致視神經進一步受損。

眼科及視覺科學學系系主任林順潮教授指出，若能同時知道病人於診所及家中的眼壓，對治療將有莫大幫助。閃光眼壓計最先在美國使用，眼科及視覺科學學系二零零二年一月起開始這方面的研究，迄今已成功應用於二百多名病人身上，並分析了它的準確度、安全度及為病人接受的程度。研究人員又將閃光眼壓計與現時量度眼壓的國際標準「平壓式眼壓計」比較，結果令人滿意。閃光眼壓計對眼睛無損傷、無刺激及眼壓手動不穩定的病人，尤其有用。部分研究結果將刊於權威的醫學雜誌。

招商局總裁論港口發展

招商局集團總裁傅育寧博士在七月七日的EMBA論壇上指出，香港港口業務仍會受惠於區內經濟的蓬勃發展。傅博士分析了創立於一八七二年的招商局的演變，如何由傳統的航運業擴展至十五種行業;在亞洲金融風暴後，又如何重組核心業務，至現在集中於港口、房地產、金融、能源領域和物流四大類。

他又以數據闡釋近年中國港口迅速發展的原因。展望未來，該公司會在各區完成港口戰略布局，強化港口的綜合服務功能。他說：「適度的競爭，會從中使香港企業降低成本和提高效率，這有利於保持和增強珠三角作為『世界工廠』的競爭力，並把市場擴大。」

EMBA論壇是由中大行政人員工商管理碩士課程每月舉辦的學術活動，由工商界翹楚向學員及校友講述他們的管理心得及實戰經驗。

青光眼病人量度眼壓新方法

眼科及視覺科學學系引進「閃光眼壓計」，供青光眼患者在家中自行量度眼壓，協助醫生診斷病情。青光眼是由於眼球壓力過高引致視神經病變的眼疾，也是致盲的主要成因。香港年逾四十歲的人口中，約有百分之三（約十萬人）會患上青光眼。降低眼壓是主要的治療方法。眼科醫生一般會以病人在診所量得的眼壓作為治療依歸，但眼壓有晝夜波動，病人在家中的眼壓可能與在診所時的不同，這差異有可能導致視神經進一步受損。

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