



P4

「陳之藩教授是稀有的『雙棲奇才』。」

黃國彬教授

'Prof. Chen Chih-fan was a rare "amphibian".'

Prof. Wong Kwok-pun Laurence



P5

「沒有經過連串的失敗而取得的成功都是虛空的。」

'Success is empty without failures.'



P10

「開辦新課程的理念，初期可能是來自個別教師的構想，非正式場合的討論……。」

'A new programme may originate from a very preliminary idea of a teacher or from informal discussions.'



台上台下

由非洲烏干達愛滋及戰亂遺孤組成的Watoto兒童合唱團重臨中大，於2月29日晚上在善衡書院何善衡館獻唱。充滿動感的非洲節奏和舞蹈，帶出感恩積極的胸懷，台下逾七百名觀眾深受感染，紛隨音樂舞動，當中包括沈祖堯校長伉儷（下圖右五及六）、善衡書院院長辛世文教授伉儷（左三及四）、中大校友及I-CARE博群計劃捐助者之一陳力旋伉儷及其女兒（右一至三）。

On and Off Stage

The Watoto Children's Choir, consisting of children orphaned by AIDS or the war in Uganda, re-visited the Chinese University and sang at Ho Sin Hang Hall, S.H. Ho College, on the evening of 29 February. The soulful blend of native African rhythms and ethnic dance impressed some 700 members of the audience, including Prof. Joseph J.Y. Sung (5th right, below), Vice-Chancellor, Mrs. Sung (6th right), Prof. Sun Sai-ming Samuel (4th left), Master of S.H. Ho College, Mrs. Sun (3rd left), Mr. David Chan (an alumnus and a donor of the I-CARE Programme) and his family (1st to 3rd right) who rose to their feet and danced along with the music.

遠瞻未來 回應當下 Vision and Solution

研究院新課程 New Postgraduate Programmes

中文大學第一個學士後深造課程於1965年由教育學院開辦，翌年，研究院正式成立，提供學士後的研究訓練，開辦了中國語言及文學、工商管理、地理、歷史和哲學五個碩士課程。其後研究院不斷擴展，並於1980年開辦首個博士學位課程。2011至12年，修讀研究式及修課式課程的學生總人數逾一萬二千，獲頒高級學位的畢業生累計已逾四萬二千人。

教育普及，愈來愈多人在修畢本科或工作一段時期後，考慮繼續深造，增加知識的深度與廣度。另一方面，知識發現突飛猛進，累積速度驚人，專業知識漸趨尖新之餘，對跨範疇專才的需求也日漸增加。近年不少高等院校的研究院課程無論在數量和類別，都已超逾本科課程。2012至13年度，中大研究院將開辦二百三十四項課程，其中七個是新開辦的，包括研究式及修課式，部分修課式課程更兼備全日制和兼讀制，無論課程設計和修課模式，都反映了學術科研發展的新趨勢，也緊貼回應社會人士進修的渴求，以及各行業對人才的需求。

日本研究文學碩士課程

日本研究學系開辦日語研究與教學文學碩士課程已有六年，專供已達日本語能力試一級程度的日語教師進修，然而，能符合此入學資格的人數始終有限，所以該課程亦已完成歷史任務。學系不斷致力改良課程，日本研究學部主任吳偉明教授說：「新開辦的日本研究文學碩士課程把對象定位為以香港人為主要，並把入學門檻稍為調低，讓不懂日文但對日本研究有興趣者，也可以申請。」新課程以英語教學，除了必修科外，還有多達十四個涵蓋日本管理學、歷史、流行文化、電影、文學、人類學、語言、日文教學和中日傳譯等選修科可選擇。

生物醫學工程哲學碩士博士銜接課程

生物醫學工程發展一日千里，是一門融合工程學、醫學和生物學的學科。生物醫學工程學部主任張元亭教授說：隨着社會人口老化，長者常見的慢性疾病如心臟病、糖尿病等有增加趨勢，要及早發現及治療，極需嶄新的技術及儀器，應用於家居護理的環境。課程由政府資助，旨在培育掌握先進知識和技術的工程專才，並提供多個研究範疇供學生選擇，如生物材料、生物力學和生物組織工程等。

診斷超聲波理學碩士課程

影像及介入放射學系朱昭穎教授解釋，近年本港放射診斷醫生流失嚴重，雖然這課程不是直接培訓有關的專科醫



左起：張元亭教授、左中教授、研究院院長黃永成教授、朱昭穎教授、吳偉明教授和何培斌教授
From left: Prof. Zhang Yuan-ting, Prof. Zuo Zhong-juan, Prof. Wong Wing-shing, Dean of Graduate School, Prof. Chu Chiu-wing Winnie, Prof. Ng Wai-ming Benjamin, and Prof. Ho Puay-peng

生，但亦對整個專業極有幫助。這是全港首個超聲波診斷碩士課程，對象是已有醫學或醫護學位的在職本地註冊醫護人員。為期兩年的兼讀課程培訓學生掌握超聲波在腹部及血管的臨床應用。除了課堂和實習，亦有研究元素，學生需完成研究論文。

藥物製造及品質學理學碩士課程

藥劑製品的監管是保障醫療系統成效、市民健康和生命的重要環節。政府在2009年建議檢討香港藥劑製品監管制度，藥劑學院遂着手設計這個香港首創的課程，首年只有二十個兼讀學額。藥劑學院副院長（科研與研究生事務）左中教授說：課程適合現職本地藥廠藥品品質管理授權人，或有志投身這專業並持有藥劑或相關專業如生物化學、化學、化學工程及其他相關學位人士報讀，以掌握藥方設計及製造、生產設備和流程設計、藥品質量標準，以及風險評估管理的知識，希望藉此培訓為政府、學術界或藥廠提供藥物品質保證的專業人士。

文物建築保育與設計理學碩士課程

文物建築保育已成為社會的重要議題，要保護及彰顯歷史建築的價值，同時為它重新設計，在在需要保育與建築設計的专业知識。有見現時本港尚未有相關課程，建築學院遂推出新課程，內容包括保育規劃及存檔、策略制訂、歷

史建築的閱讀及闡釋，以及如何協調新舊建築的設計等。建築學院院長何培斌教授說，上述元素部分也見於現有的碩士課程，但新課程將着重啟發學生於文物建築保育與設計理念與實踐之間尋找新方向；且更強調與內地及海外院校合作及交流，是具有建築學、園景建築、都市規劃或其他相關範疇學歷人士上佳的進修選擇。

都市設計理學碩士課程

都市設計對締造可持續宜居城市舉足輕重。何培斌教授說，香港和珠三角是當代都市規劃的最佳研究與教學基地，課程透過設計工作室及其他科目的結合，引導學生整合社區議題、生態系統和交通網絡等方面的知識，同時涉獵都市歷史、環境及城市經濟等科目，了解個人設計項目怎樣影響環境和社會。課程收生要求與文物建築保育與設計理學碩士課程相同，畢業生累積工作經驗後，可註冊為認可的專業城市設計師。

神經科學理學碩士課程

這個一年全日制或兩年兼讀制全英語授課課程是香港首個有關神經科學的研究生課程，旨在幫助內地、香港及東南亞的醫學本科畢業生提升專業技能。教學重點是神經疾病的臨床和基礎研究，包括神經外科、神經內科、神經病理學和基礎醫學發展等。課程設計按照社會和醫療市場的需求而編排，幫助學生畢業後加入相關專業工作。



The University first introduced programmes at the postgraduate level with the establishment of the School of Education in 1965. In the following year, the Graduate School was formally founded to undertake research training of postgraduate studies in five Master's degree programmes in Chinese language and literature, business administration, geography, history and philosophy. Since then, the Graduate School has been developing both horizontally and vertically. The first doctoral programme was launched in 1980. In 2011–12, over 12,000 students were enrolled in taught or research postgraduate programmes and about 42,000 graduates had been conferred higher degrees by 2011.

More and more young people nowadays are opting to pursue further studies upon graduation or after working for a period of time to deepen and broaden their knowledge. At the same time, knowledge development is advancing at an astonishing rate. Professionals in specialized subjects and interdisciplinary fields are in huge demand. In recent years, many postgraduate programmes have overtaken their undergraduate counterparts in terms of numbers and types. In 2012–13, the CUHK Graduate School is offering a total of 234 programmes—seven newly launched, including research and taught programmes. Some of the latter provide both full-time and part-time modes. The new trends in academic and research development are reflected in the curriculum design and mode of study, which also echo the needs of society and the demand for expertise in different industries.

MA Programme in Japanese Studies

The Department of Japanese Studies had been offering an MA programme in Japanese language and teaching for six years to Japanese language teachers who have passed the Japanese Proficiency Test (Level 1). The programme has fulfilled its mission, and the Department of Japanese Studies is offering a new MA programme in Japanese studies. Prof. **Ng Wai-ming Benjamin**, head, Division of Japanese Studies, said, 'The new programme is designed mainly for local people who may or may not have had Japanese language training but who would like to deepen their understanding of Japanese culture.' Features include using English as the medium of instruction; a flexible course structure with over 14 elective courses covering Japanese management systems, history, popular culture, film, literature, anthropology, linguistics, Japanese teaching, as well as Chinese-Japanese interpretation.

MPhil–PhD Programme in Biomedical Engineering

The development of biomedical engineering, a new interdisciplinary study at the interface of engineering, medicine and biology, is remarkable. Prof. **Zhang Yuanting**, head, Division of Biomedical Engineering, pointed out that as the number of elderly suffering from common chronic illnesses such as heart disease and diabetes has been increasing due to an ageing population, new technology and equipment for home care are in high demand for early detection and treatment. Funded by the HKSAR Government, the programme is aimed at producing professional engineers with advanced knowledge in the field. A selection of research areas, including biological materials, biomechanics and biological tissue engineering, are offered.

MSc Programme in Diagnostic Ultrasonography

Prof. **Chu Chiu-wing Winnie** of the Department of Imaging and Interventional Radiology explained that due to the exodus of radiologists in recent years, the

department introduced this programme, the first of its kind in Hong Kong, in support of the profession in general. Applicants should be locally registered in-service medical or health care professionals with a Bachelor's degree in medical or health care science. The two-year part-time programme is aimed at enhancing students with sonography skills in general abdominal and vascular examinations. The programme activities comprise lectures, clinical attachment, as well as research and a thesis.

MSc Programme in Pharmaceutical Manufacturing and Quality

The regulation of pharmaceutical products plays a crucial role in ensuring the effectiveness of the medical system, maintaining community health as well as saving lives. In view of the announcement of recommendations to review the regulatory regime of pharmaceutical products in Hong Kong in 2009 by the HKSAR Government, the School of Pharmacy began planning a part-time programme for 20 students in its first year. Prof. **Zuo Zhong Joan**, associate director (research and graduate affairs) of the school, said that, the programme is aimed at developing professionals in quality assurance of pharmaceutical products for the government, academia and industry. It is suitable for those who have assumed or are aspiring to assume the roles of authorized persons in local pharmaceutical manufacturing companies, and have a recognized Bachelor's honours degree in pharmacy, or related disciplines such as biochemistry, chemistry, or chemical engineering. They will be equipped with knowledge in formulation design and manufacture, facilities and process design, quality standards of products, and risk evaluation and management.

MSc Programme in Architectural Conservation and Design

Architectural conservation has become increasingly important. Expertise in conservation and architectural design is required to preserve and restore historic buildings. The School of Architecture launched a newly-designed programme covering the areas of

conservation and archiving, strategic planning, reading and interpretation of historic buildings, and congruence of new and old buildings. Prof. **Ho Puay-peng**, director of the School, said the existing Master programmes also have some of these components while the new one will place emphasis on encouraging students' innovative pursuit of theory and practice in the conservation of and design with historic buildings. The programme will also seek exchange opportunities with mainland and overseas institutions.

MSc Programme in Urban Design

Urban design plays a key role in creating liveable and sustainable cities. Prof. Ho Puay-peng said that Hong Kong and the Pearl River Delta were the best places to study and research on contemporary urban planning. Through a combination of design studios and focused modules, students develop design skills while integrating new knowledge about essential areas for urban design, such as community participation, ecosystems and transport networks. Courses in urban history and environmental economy provide a deeper understanding of the forces of urbanism and the impact of urban design on the environment and society. Admission requirement is the same as that of the MSc programme in architectural conservation and design. After accumulating working experience, graduates can register as chartered urban designers.

MSc Programme in Neurological Sciences

Taught in English, this one-year full-time or two-year part-time programme targets medical graduates from mainland China, Hong Kong and Southeast Asia. The first of its kind in Hong Kong, it gives new medical graduates a strong background in both the clinical and laboratory aspects of the neurological sciences and prepares them for residency training in neurosurgery, neurology, neuropathology or basic neuroscience research. The curriculum is designed specifically to meet the needs of society and the medical market. 📄



www.iso.cuhk.edu.hk/english/features/style-speaks/

Caption

A picture says a thousand words. What about a photo caption?

According to *The Chicago Manual of Style (15th ed.)*, a caption is the explanatory material that appears outside (usually below) an illustration. It will not be anywhere near a thousand words, but there are some commonly accepted editorial conventions regarding a caption. It may consist of a word or two, an incomplete or a complete sentence, several sentences or a combination. But no punctuation is needed after a caption consisting solely of an incomplete sentence. Thus, the following are all examples of photo captions:

Happy reunion

The Vice-Chancellor seen with guests from Cambridge

Professor Wong holds proudly on to the prestigious trophy. Next to him is the president of the awarding authority.

It should be noted that the sentence that serves as a photo caption should be in the present tense, even though the event or action depicted in the photo happened in the past. The first sentence below belongs in the article, while the second is a caption:

Two thousand alumni gathered on the Mall while it rained hard.

Two thousand alumni gather on the Mall while it rains hard.

Editor

青春不是人生的一段時光，
青春是心情的一種狀況。
青春不是柔美的膝，
朱紅的唇，
粉嫩的面龐。
青春是鮮明的情感，
豐富的想像，
向上的願望，
像泉水一樣的清冽與激揚。

.....

春風輕輕的去了——懷念陳之藩教授 Remembering Prof. Chen Chih-fan (1925–2012)

陳之藩教授的妻子**童元方**教授，有一次在中大翻譯系的活動中朗讀伍立曼 (Samuel Ullman) 的詩 'Youth' 的中譯〈青春〉，說是陳教授的譯筆，在座許多人才知道陳之藩譯詩譯得那麼出色。

現在的大學強調培養兼具人文和專業素養的人才，陳教授就是融會科學與人文的典範，本行是電機工程，卻熱愛寫作，並以散文享譽華人世界，他的《旅美小簡》、《在春風裡》、《劍河倒影》等，都是膾炙人口的作品。他以兼具理性與感性的筆觸，論科技談文學記人情道世事，詩詞歌賦軼聞故事隨手拈來，字裏行間又處處流露知識分子的家國情懷。此外，他還擅長翻譯，英詩譯作輯成《蔚藍的天》一書。正如中大翻譯系研究教授**黃國彬**所說：「能出入於科學與文學之間而無窒礙的作家少之又少，陳之藩教授是其中之一。在我看來，他是稀有的『雙棲奇才』。」

出掌電子學系

陳之藩教授在1977年應聘到中大出任電子學系講座教授及系主任，直至1985年初。現任中大副校長**程伯中**教授在1984年加入電子學系，他回憶最初見到陳教授的趣事：「我剛上任第一天去見陳教授，當時電子學系在科學館北座，經過系辦公室後就是系主任的房間。我去到，站在他房間門口，明明約好時間，為甚麼看不見人？其他同事也說他在啊。但我就是見不到他。原來他的桌子堆滿書本紙張雜物，很亂的。他人就躲在後面，被擋住都看不見了。」

程教授說陳教授的思考方式很獨特，他舉一個例子：「有一次我下午去找他，見到他房門打開就敲門，然後就聽到他說：『伯中，你為甚麼敲我的門把我吵醒？』我說：『我不知道你在睡覺啊。』他說：『我已經特地把門打開。』我說：『一般人休息是會把門關起來。』他答：『我把門打開，讓人家見到我在睡覺，就不會來吵我。』」

正是由於這位系主任思考獨特，電子學系有許多開風氣之先之舉。程教授舉例：「今天我們常說科技轉移，就是把大學做出的學術研究供給工業界使用。當年香港一個相當成功的例子，就是在中文大學電子學系。那時候有兩三位老師掌握最新的液晶體科技，陳教授就為這些同事提供很大的空間，讓他們把理論變成實踐，創立一家相當成功的科技公司。」當時大學尚沒有科技轉移政策，這種「老師下海」的做法如果要規管，是可以管得很死。但陳之藩教授鼓勵同仁做出有用的研究，影響社會。程教授說：「他在這方面看得很遠。」

此外，陳教授任內開設電子學博士課程，是中大最早的博士課程之一，中大第一個博士生就是由他擔任指導老師。2002年陳教授重回中大，出任電子工程學系名譽教授。

以香港為家

從中國大陸飄泊到台灣、美國、英國的陳教授，晚年定居香港。2012年1月底，陳教授與童元方教授曾回台北過農曆新年，童教授回憶說：「我們待在他台北的家，可是他就一直問：『我們甚麼時候回家？』」可見香港這個他曾形容為「未到之前，並不想來；可是到過之後，就不想離開的地方」，已經成了他最眷戀的家。今年2月25日，已回到香港的陳之藩教授，在威爾斯親王醫院溘然長逝。心情悲痛的童教授寫下幾句話，想向陳教授說：「感謝你的信任，這樣將身心託付。感謝你的勇敢，改變了我的一生。感謝你的愛情，我這輩子才沒有白活。」

今年1月14日，抱病在身的陳教授仍堅持回校，在童元方教授陪同下，出席由中大聯合書院、工程學院及台灣國立成功大學合辦的「雲淡風輕——陳之藩教授文物特展」開幕儀式。這個為表揚陳教授的貢獻和文學成就的展覽，現於聯合書院胡忠多媒體圖書館二樓舉行，展期至2012年4月13日。

「雲淡風輕近午天，傍花隨柳過前川；時人不識余心樂，將謂偷閒學少年。」陳教授小時候背《千家詩》，第一首就是這首〈春日偶成〉。這位如春風吹拂過文壇的文學家，輕輕的吹來，現在又輕輕的去了。

Prof. Chen Chih-fan, honorary professor of the Department of Electronic Engineering, died on 25 February, leaving us with one less figure who was able to seamlessly fuse arts and science.

A renowned writer and scientist, Professor Chen was an incarnation of the ideal Renaissance Man that modern universities strive to produce. Trained as an electronic engineer, he was an inspiring essayist known for his elegantly simple writing style. He wrote with sense and sensibility about science, arts, contemporary people and current affairs. His essays are interspersed with rich knowledge of literature and anecdotes, and imbued with his care and concern for the Chinese nation. Professor Chen was also a skilled translator who published a

collection of his translations of English poetry. As Prof. **Wong Kwok-pun Laurence**, research professor of the Department of Translation, commented, 'Very few writers can move freely between science and literature. Prof. Chen Chih-fan was one of them. I would describe him as a rare "amphibian".'

Helming the Electronics Department

Professor Chen came to CUHK to serve as Professor of Electronics and chairman of the Department of Electronics in 1977. He left in early 1985. Prof. **Ching Pak-chung**, Pro-Vice-Chancellor, joined the Department of Electronics in 1984. He recalled meeting Professor Chen on his first day of work. 'I went to his office to see him. At that time the Department of Electronics was located at the North Block of the Science Building, and the chairman's room was right behind the general office. When I arrived, no one was there. The staff at the general office insisted that he was there. It turned out that he was blocked by a mountain of books and a sea of paper on his desk, which was a chaotic mess.'

Professor Ching said that Professor Chen had a unique way of thinking. 'Once I went to his office to see him. I knocked on the door seeing that it was open. And I heard his voice: "P.C., why did you knock on my door and wake me up?" I said: "I didn't know you were sleeping." He said: "I left the door open." I said: "Normally people close the door when they're taking a rest." He said: "I left the door open so people can see that I'm napping and won't wake me up."'

Thanks to this maverick chairman, the Department of Electronics was a pioneer on many fronts. Professor Ching gave an example: 'Today technology transfer is a buzzword. That means universities should make their scientific and technological developments accessible to industry. In the 1980s, one of the most successful examples of technology transfer took place at CUHK's Department of Electronics. Professor Chen gave substantial help to a couple of teachers who developed the newest LCD technologies, so they could turn theory into reality by establishing a technology company.'

In those days policies to promote technology transfer were basically nonexistent. The department could keep a tight rein on its staff members' entrepreneurship. But Professor Chen was very proactive and supported staff in using their research to make positive impact on society. Professor Ching commented, 'He was a visionary in this regard.'

During Professor Chen's chairmanship, the Department of Electronics launched one of CUHK's first PhD programmes, and he was the adviser of CUHK's earliest PhD student. In 2002, Professor Chen returned to CUHK to serve as an honorary professor of the Department of Electronic Engineering, the successor of the former Department of Electronics.

An Endearing Home

After moving his home from mainland China to Taiwan, and then the US and England, Professor Chen settled in Hong Kong in the twilight of his life. In late January this year, he went back to Taipei with his wife Prof. **Tung Yuan-fang** to celebrate the Lunar New Year. Professor Tung recalled, 'We stayed in his house in Taipei. But he kept asking me: "When will we go home?"' In his heart, Hong Kong, a city that he described as a place 'where you don't want to go before you actually visit it, and where you don't want to leave after you have been there', became his most endearing home. On 25 February, he passed away in the Prince of Wales Hospital in his beloved city. In great distress, Professor Tung wanted to express her gratitude to her husband: 'Thank you for

entrusting me with your mental and physical well-being. Thank you for your courage, which has changed my life. Thank you for love, which has made my life worth living.'

Earlier this year on 14 January, accompanied by Professor Tung, Professor Chen returned to the CUHK campus, despite ailing health, to attend the opening ceremony of the Documentary Exhibition of Prof. Chen Chih-fan. The exhibition is organized by United College and the Faculty of Engineering of CUHK in collaboration with Taiwan's National Cheng Kung University to acknowledge Professor Chen's contributions to the University and his literary achievements. It's on at 2/F, Wu Chung Multimedia Library, United College, till 13 April 2012. 📖



校園消息

CAMPUS NEWS

李歐梵教授細味失敗的高雅

Lee Ou-fan on the Nobility of Failure

「沒^有經過連串的失敗而取得的成功都是虛空的。」中大洗為堅中國文化講座教授李歐梵教授主持3月8日舉行的I·CARE「博群花節」第一回博群大講堂時，以此勸勉出席聽講的四百多名中大師生。

李歐梵教授是國際知名文化研究學者，縱橫馳騁於文學、電影、音樂、歷史以至都市文化，唸的教的都是赫赫有名的大學。原來，這張亮麗的履歷表是由無數挫敗熬煉而成的，故他特意以「挫而彌堅」為題，與師生分享他如何在挫敗中學習，鑄鑄今天的學養。

李教授訴說，第一次挫折是小六時候，數學考試只得四十分，「但要考上中學，最少也要六十分。那時感到抬不起頭來，更愧對父母。可幸最後後備錄取了。」

在台灣大學外文系畢業後，計劃出國深造之際，又再遇挫。「一口氣申請了數間大學的研究院，原以為有把握的大學都拒絕了我，還好是芝加哥大學錄取，但只提供學費部分的獎學金。」家境不算富裕，沒有全費獎學金去留學，實在是很吃力的。

李教授還是到了芝大唸國際關係，不過，深覺對於所學沒有慧根，終明白自己仍心繫中國文學，遂轉到哈佛大學。即使博士畢業後，也不是一片順景的，在普林斯頓大學未能取得終身教席，令他一度徬徨無助，柳暗花明讓他轉到印地安那大學任教，讓他在研究中國現代文學開了一片天空。

講座中，李教授多次強調，在美求學和研究過程中，發現自己學問基礎不足，所以狂啃書本，「人家看十本書，我看二十本。」因此，他以愛爾蘭劇作家塞繆爾·貝克特 (Samuel Beckett) 的馬語總結講座——「屢試，屢敗；不打緊。再試，再敗，敗得漂亮點。」鼓勵大家無懼失敗，敢於去闖。

'Success is empty without failures,' said Prof. Lee Ou-fan Leo, Sin Wai Kin Professor of Chinese Culture, CUHK, to over 400 students and staff at the first University Lecture on Civility on 8 March. The lecture was part of the I·CARE's Blossoms of Life Floral Festival.

An internationally-renowned scholar in cultural studies, Professor Lee has a sea of interests encompassing literature, movie, music, history, and urban culture. He studied and taught in renowned universities, but who would have thought his impressive career path was paved with failure. Professor Lee spoke on 'The Nobility of Failure' to share with the audience his bad days and how he learnt from failure.

Professor Lee encountered his first failure in primary school, when getting a score of 40 out of 100 in a mathematics exam. 'It took at least 60 to be admitted to secondary school. I was so ashamed and felt so guilty towards my parents. Fortunately I was put on the waiting list and eventually was allowed to enrol.'

Upon graduation from the Department of Foreign Languages and Literature of Taiwan University, Professor Lee experienced another setback as he prepared to further his studies in the US. 'I had applied to several universities that I felt confident would accept me. But I was turned down by every one of them, except the University of Chicago which offered me a scholarship covering only tuition.' As his family was not wealthy, supporting him through overseas studies would have been hard without a full scholarship.



In the end, he did begin postgraduate studies in international relations at the University of Chicago. He soon realized that his interest was Chinese literature rather than international relations, and he transferred to Harvard University. But life was not meant to be easy for him as a young academic. He failed to get tenure at Princeton University. But just when he was feeling helpless, he got an offer to teach at Indiana University where he inaugurated the study of modern Chinese literature.

Professor Lee mentioned several times during the lecture that because he felt inadequate during his studies and research in the US, he read a lot. 'Others read 10 books. I would read 20.' He wrapped up with a quote from Samuel Beckett: 'Ever tried. Ever failed. No matter. Try Again. Fail again. Fail better.' 📖

傅育寧博士談粵港經濟合作

Fu Yuning on HK-Guangdong Economic Cooperation



全球經濟及金融研究所於2月28日邀請招商局集團有限公司董事長傅育寧博士蒞校主持講座，題目為「粵港經濟合作之前景與挑戰」，探討在國家十二五規劃下，香港和廣東如何在服務業、工業及創新科技等領域合作。他又特別論述本港的大學應把科研知識轉移為內地企業可應用的技術及產品，讓粵港兩地達至雙贏。

Dr. Fu Yuning, chairman, China Merchants Group Limited, was invited by the CUHK Institute of Global Economics and Finance, to deliver a public

lecture on 'Economic Cooperation between Hong Kong and Guangdong: Development, Challenges and Prospect' on 28 February.

In the lecture, Dr. Fu indicated that there were great opportunities for the cooperation between Hong Kong and Guangdong, during the National 12th Five Year Plan period and beyond. Based on respective advantages, new collaboration models can be explored in areas such as service sector, industry upgrade and new technologies. Dr. Fu also pointed out that universities in Hong Kong should play a more important role in transferring their research into viable products so that a win-win situation and a sustainable development of the region could be achieved. 📖

首屆中國社會科學院學者訪校計劃

First CASS Scholars Visit Programme

中大今年首度舉行「中國社會科學院學者訪校計劃」，旨在促進與中國社會科學院（社科院）的學術交流和合作。首屆訪校計劃以考古學研究為主題，社科院考古研究所王巍所長（左）、許宏研究員（中）及劉國祥研究員（右），於2月8至11日蒞校訪問，並為「社科院學者講座系列」擔任主講嘉賓。



Prof. Wang Wei (*left*), director of the Institute of Archaeology; Prof. Xu Hong (*centre*) and Prof. Liu Guoxiang (*right*), both professors of the Institute of Archaeology, CASS. During the visit, the scholars delivered public lectures at the Lecture Series by CASS Scholars.

王巍教授以「從考古發現探討中華文明的起源」為題，探討早期中華文明的特點及其在人類文明發展史上的地位。許宏教授的講題為「二里頭與最早中國」，以河南偃師二里頭遺址為切入點，闡述東亞歷史上最廣域王權國家，即早期「中國」形成的過程。劉國祥教授主講「東北紅山文化玉器」，介紹中國史前玉文化發展史的第一個高峰期，以及紅山玉器對中國用玉制度、玉禮制系統形成的影響。

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The Chinese University launched the first Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS) Scholars Visit Programme to enhance linkage with CASS. It was held from 8 to 11 February on the theme of archaeology. Three CASS scholars visited the University, including

Prof. Wang Wei gave an overview of a number of research accomplishments that explored the origin of Chinese civilization.

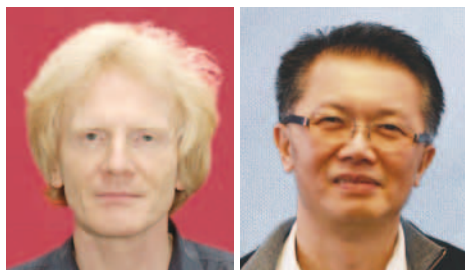
Prof. Xu Hong examined the factors in the emergence and development of early China, via the introduction of the excavation of the Erlitou site. Prof. Liu Guoxiang talked about the prehistoric influence of jade culture.

The delegation visited the Department of History; the Centre for Chinese Archaeology and Art, and the Art Museum, the Institute of Chinese Studies; to exchange ideas on relevant research projects.

中大再添兩位IEEE院士

Two Professors Elected IEEE Fellows

工程學院Prof. Thierry Blu（左）及劉紹強教授（右），獲工程學國際權威組織電機及電子工程師學會（IEEE）頒授2012年度院士榮銜，以表揚他們的傑出科研成就。連同這兩位教授在內，中大現有二十八位IEEE院士，數目為本港院校之冠。



效能，後者已被Linux電腦內置操作系統採納。劉教授擁有八項美國專利。

Prof. Thierry Blu (*left*) and Prof. Liew Song-chang (*right*) of the Faculty of Engineering have been

elected Fellows of the prestigious Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) in 2012 for their extraordinary accomplishments in scientific research. This brings the total number of IEEE Fellows in CUHK to 28, the highest among all institutions in Hong Kong.

Prof. Thierry Blu from the Department of Electronic Engineering was named an IEEE Fellow for his fundamental contributions to approximation theory in signal and image processing. Professor Blu has received several best paper awards from the IEEE Signal Processing Society. In 2007, he transferred his patented research on

the interpolation of 'sparse signals' to a large international wireless telecommunications corporation, Qualcomm Inc., for applications in Ultra Wide Band communications. Professor Blu has been focusing his research on the optimization of the representation of signals from digital samples, multi-scale signal processing and the restoration of images. His research has yielded fruitful results which are widely applied in biomedical imaging.

Prof. Liew Song-chang from the Department of Information Engineering was recognized by IEEE for his contributions to wireless communications and networking. In 1993, he initiated and built the first inter-university ATM network tested in Hong Kong. Professor Liew's research team pioneered the concept of Physical-layer Network Coding, and proposed Transmission Control Protocol (TCP) Veno, a version of TCP to improve its performance over wireless networks which has been incorporated into a release of Linux OS. He owns eight US patents.

社會科學院表揚優異師生

Social Science Faculty Honours Outstanding Teachers and Students

社會科學院於2月25日舉行2011年模範教學獎暨院長榮譽錄頒獎典禮，獲得模範教學獎的是新聞與傳播學院利嘉敏教授（前排右一）、心理學系濱村武教授（前排右二）及社會工作學系黃洪教授（前排右三）。

典禮於李兆基樓七號演講廳舉行，由特區政府環境局副局長潘潔博士（前排右四）主禮，同場並頒發院長榮譽錄證書予學術成績優異的學生。

Three teachers in the Faculty of Social Science were honoured with the Faculty's Exemplary Teaching Award on 25 February. They were Prof. Kaman Lee (*1st right, front row*) of the School of Journalism and Communication, Prof. Takeshi Hamamura (*2nd right, front row*) of the Department of Psychology and Prof. Wong Hung (*3rd right, front row*) of the Department of Social Work.

The award presentation ceremony took place in Lecture Theatre 7 of Lee Shau Kee Building, with Dr. Poon Kit Kitty (*4th right, front row*), Under Secretary for the Environment of the HKSAR Government, as the guest of honour. On the same occasion, Dean's List certificates were presented to students of the Faculty for excellent academic achievements.



櫻花樹誌慶日本研究學系周年紀念

Cherry Trees Planted on Anniversary of Japanese Studies Department

日本研究學系於2月28日在新亞書院合一亭草坪舉行植樹儀式，栽種了二十棵櫻花樹，以誌慶該系成立二十周年。主禮嘉賓包括沈祖堯校長（右六）、日本駐香港副總領事松永大介先生（左七）、MRT (HK) Co. Ltd.社長溝口鐵一郎伉儷（左二及三）、永新企業有限公司副董事長曹其鏞伉儷（左五及六）、副校長黃乃正教授（右四）、新亞書院校董會主席梁英偉先生（右五）、新亞書院署理院長朱嘉濠教授（右三）、協理副校長馮通教授（右一）、文學院院長梁元生教授（右二）、日本研究學系系主任中野幸江教授（左一）和北村隆則教授（左四）。近百位學系和書院的友好、日本商界賢達及中大同仁聚首一堂，見證櫻花樹落根於中大校園。

櫻花標誌春天的來臨，而春天萬象更新，代表着希望與機會。沈校長在致辭時表示：「櫻花樹與合一亭及美麗的中大校園融為一體，充分展現人文和自然之間的和諧。當櫻花盛放時，所有中大的學生，無論曾否到日本留學，均可在中大校園內欣賞櫻花，即日本人所說的『花見』。」

The Department of Japanese Studies (JAS) celebrated its 20th anniversary by joining New Asia College (NA) to plant 20 cherry trees on the College's campus on 28 February. The event assembled about 100 friends of the College and JAS, representatives from the Japanese

business community, as well as staff and students, at the Pavilion of Harmony to welcome the arrival of the cherry trees to the campus.

The ceremony was officiated by Prof. Joseph J.Y. Sung, Vice-Chancellor (6th right); Mr. Daisuke Matsunaga (7th left), Deputy Consul-General of Japan in Hong Kong; Mr. and Mrs. Mike Mizoguchi (3rd and 2nd left), president of MRT (HK) Co. Ltd.; Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Chao (6th and 5th left), vice-chairman of Novel Enterprises Ltd.; Prof. Henry N.C. Wong (4th right), Pro-Vice-Chancellor; Mr. Leung Ying-wai (5th right), chairman, Board of Trustees of NA; Prof. Chu Ka-hou (3rd right), acting head of NA; Prof. Fung Tung (1st right), Associate Pro-Vice-Chancellor; Prof. Leung Yuen-sang (2nd right), dean, Faculty of Arts; Prof. Lynne Nakano (1st left), chairman, JAS; and Prof. Takanori Kitamura (4th left) of JAS.



Cherry blossoms mark the arrival of spring—a season of hope and opportunity. 'The trees will fully integrate with the Pavilion and the beautiful campus of CUHK to reflect the harmony between man and nature. When the trees blossom, all students at CUHK—including those who haven't had a chance to study in Japan—can enjoy *hanami* (or "flower viewing") on campus,' said Professor Sung in his welcoming remark.

香港社會工作政策與實踐

Social Work Policy and Practice in Hong Kong



中大社會科學學院客席教授、賓夕法尼亞大學社會政策及實踐學院的理查德·埃斯蒂斯教授 (Richard Estes)，應社會工作學系邀請於2月23日在崇基學院主持題為「社會工作實務模型全球化：香港社會工作政策與實踐」公開講座，百多名社會工作教師、學生和社會工作界人士出席。

埃斯蒂斯教授首先介紹了四個在美國和全球採用的社會工作與社會政策的模型，以及各模型的歷史淵源和優點，繼而論述與香港社會現狀相關的案例。

Prof. Richard Estes, visiting professor of the CUHK Faculty of Social Science, and Professor of Social Work in the School of Social Policy and Practice of the

University of Pennsylvania, was invited to host a public lecture on 'Models of Social Work Practice in a Global City: Social Work Policy and Practice in Hong Kong' on 23 February at Chung Chi College. The lecture attracted more than a hundred social work teachers, students and social work personnel.

During the lecture, Professor Estes identified four alternative models which inform the international dimensions of social work and social policy as practised locally and globally. He then described the historical origins and strengths of each model, and presented case illustrations relevant to Hong Kong's current social situation.

中大生程式設計比賽掄元

Engineering Students Shine in Contest

兩隊共六名計算機科學與工程學系學生於2月11日舉辦的「IBM全港大學程式設計比賽」中分別奪得冠軍及季軍。他們由該系孫漢秋教授（前排右三）指導，於比賽中展示了廣博的電腦知識和群策群力解決問題的技巧。

第五年舉辦的程式設計比賽，要求參賽隊伍在兩小時內就實際電腦難題提出解決方案，旨在考驗大學生的程式設計的技術，以及培養他們的團隊精神。

Two teams comprising six students of the Department of Computer Science and Engineering have snatched both the championship and the second runner-up position in the IBM Inter-University Programming Contest 2012 on 11 February. Coached by Prof. Sun Hanqiu (3rd right, front row) of the department, the teams demonstrated extensive software knowledge, great team spirit and efficient problem-solving skills in the contest.

Organized for the fifth consecutive year, the contest aims at sharpening students' programming skills and team work through real-life computing practices. Participants have to solve a set of programming questions and real-life problems within two hours.



綠色健康行

Walking for Green and Health



3月2日早上，約一千名學生及教職員齊集港鐵大學站，在沈祖堯校長帶領下，參與「樂步行暨無車日2012」，實踐綠色生活，並透過行動將步行文化植根校園。

沈校長在開步典禮致辭時說：「步行有益身心，今天我是從辦公室步行下山，原來每行一公里，等於消耗四顆方糖的熱量。今天的路線剛好一公里，步程二十分鐘。安步當車對減低碳排放量很重要，路面較少汽車行走，溫室氣體二氧化碳的排放也相應減少，有助減緩地球暖化。」

步行路線以港鐵大學站為起點，途經崇基學院未圓湖、眾志堂、明華堂、利樹培堂等，至終點善衡書院。人龍浩浩蕩蕩，主禮嘉賓一馬當先，包括常務副校長華雲生、副校長兼健康促進及防護委員會主席鄭振耀、副校長兼校園可持續發展委員會主席程伯中、校園環境委員會主席朱利民、社區醫學榮休講座教授李紹鴻和大學保健處處長陸偉昌醫生。

On the morning of 2 March, close to 1,000 students and staff gather at the MTR University Station to join the '2012 Walking Campaign and Car-free Day'. Led by Prof. Joseph J.Y. Sung, Vice-Chancellor, the procession made its way uphill in support of environmental sustainability and to help promote walking on campus.

At the kick-off ceremony, Professor Sung said, 'Walking is beneficial to the mind and the body. This morning, I walked from my office downhill to this place. Walking 1 km can burn calories equivalent to four sugar cubes. Today, our route is exactly 1 km long and it takes about 20 minutes to complete. With fewer cars on the road, emissions of carbon dioxide, which is one of the main greenhouse gases causing global warming, can be reduced.'

Participants followed a route starting from the piazza of the MTR University Station, crossing Lake Ad Excellentiam, passing Chung Chi Tang, Ming Hua Tang, Lee Shu Pui Hall, and ending at S.H. Ho College. Guests at the head of the procession included Prof. Benjamin W. Wah, Provost; Prof. Jack C.Y. Cheng, Pro-Vice-Chancellor and chairman of the Committee on Health Promotion and Protection; Prof. Ching Pak-chung, Pro-Vice-Chancellor and chairman of the Committee on Campus Sustainability; Prof. Chu Lee-man, chairman of the Committee on Campus Environment; Prof. Lee Shiu-hung, Emeritus Professor of Community Medicine; and Dr. Scotty Luk, director of the University Health Service.

女子壁球隊蟬聯大專盃冠軍

Women's Squash Team Wins Two Consecutive Championships

中大女子壁球隊於2月25日擊敗香港理工大學，衛冕「大專盃」壁球冠軍。

賽事以三盤兩勝決勝負，中大梁善雅（中，體育運動科學系三年級）先拔頭籌勝出首場。接着由麥珮軒（右二，中醫學院二年級）出戰，但首兩局不敵對方強悍壓迫及體力化的打法而落敗，經教練體育部導師陳志明先生（右一）提點，以及在場的體育部主任盧遠昌先生（左一）、隊友、親友和校友打氣後，沉着應戰，調整節奏及策略，連贏三局反勝，終助中大隊摘下冠軍獎盃。

The CUHK Women's Squash Team defeated players from the Hong Kong Polytechnic University to clinch the championship of the University Sports Federation of Hong Kong Cup on 25 February.

It took the best of three games to win the match.

Miss Leung Shin-nga (centre, Sports Science and Physical Education, Year 3) of CUHK team won in the first game. Miss Mak Pui-hin (2nd right, Chinese Medicine, Year 2), playing in the second game, lost to her opponent's aggressive and physical play in the first two sets. Having taken advice from her coach, Mr. Chan Chi-ming (1st right), instructor of Physical Education Unit (PEU), and cheered on by Mr. Lo Yuen-cheong (1st left), director of PEU, her teammates, players' parents and alumni, Pui-hin played with calm and



confidence, and started to control the pace and adjust her tactics. She then won over her counterpart in the following three sets to capture the trophy for CUHK.

法語副修生勇奪演講比賽冠軍

CUHK Student Wins French Speech Competition



語言學及現代語言系法語副修課程學生Yasmine Zahir（中，法律學院四年級），在2月25日舉行的粵港大學生法語演講比賽中，擊敗十二名來自珠江三角洲，包括香港、廣東和廣西等地優秀大學的參賽者奪得冠軍。是次比賽由法國駐港總領事館及港澳法語教師協會合辦，比賽的主題為「珠江三角洲——中國之門」。Yasmine獲得全數獎學金赴法國南錫參加為期三周的法語課程。

Yasmine Zahir (centre, Law, Year 4), a French minor in the Department of Linguistics and Modern

Languages, triumphed in the French Speech Competition over 12 students from universities in Hong Kong, Guangdong and Guangxi held on 25 February. The contest was co-organized by the French Consulate of Hong Kong and Macau, and the Association of French Teachers in Hong Kong and Macau. The theme of this year was 'Le Delta de la Rivière des Perles, porte de la Chine (The Pearl River Delta as the Door of China)'. Yasmine was awarded a fully-sponsored three-week language immersion course in Nancy, France.

為文化遺產添新象

Enlightening Heritage



知識轉移處在2月16日舉辦經驗分享午餐會，邀請澳洲國立大學勞拉簡·史密斯博士（Laurajane Smith，左）及中大人類學系系主任張展鴻教授（右）擔任主講嘉賓，探討如何將看似無形的非物質文化研究成果，經由不同渠道傳揚，以在社會培養文化遺產欣賞力。當日座無虛設，出席者來自人文及社會科學等領域。

史密斯博士是知名的考古和人類學學者。她分享在英國期間擔任一項關於奴隸交易的研究項目主任的經驗，為博物館人員和學者之間提供了寶貴的交流機會和平台。該協作衍生了豐富成果，其中包括互動網站、系列工作坊，以及為


展覽業務、社區諮詢、觀眾反饋和業界經驗而開發的四套創新工作方法，盡顯學術知識結合了博物館實戰經驗後，在人文知識轉移中所發揮的潛力和效益。

張展鴻教授闡述他所參與的知識轉移基金項目，從人類學的角度，展示上環舊社區如何有助提高遊客對香港本土文化的認知，生動地勾畫出學術研究和社區之間的互動。

On 16 February, Dr. Laurajane Smith (*left*) of Australian National University and Prof. Sidney C.H. Cheung (*right*), chairman, Department of Anthropology, CUHK, were invited to talk about the transfer of seemingly intangible knowledge to the community through various means at a lunch sharing session organized by the Knowledge Transfer Office. The aim was to foster appreciation for the richness of our cultural heritage.

The full-house event received active support from colleagues from the arts, humanities and social sciences. A scholar in archaeology and anthropology, Dr. Smith shared her experience in the UK as the principal investigator of the 1807 Commemorated project on slave

trade. Her collaboration with seven national museums has generated a spectrum of deliverables, such as the construction of an interactive website, the sequence of workshops throughout the project lifecycle, and the creation of four toolkits for exhibition development, community consultation, audience responses, and practitioner experience. It has been an exemplary knowledge transfer project that showcases what impact can be made when academic knowledge and practical curation come together.

Professor Cheung gave a brief account of his CUHK Knowledge Transfer Project Fund Project, 'Learning from Neighbourhood Tourism in Sheung Wan, Hong Kong'. It is a vivid example of how a local neighbourhood can help to boost visitors' understanding of Hong Kong from an anthropological perspective, bringing inspiration to cherished cultural aspects in Hong Kong's tourism development, and exhibiting the essence of collaboration between the community and research. 



PERSONALIA

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研究院院長黃永成教授 Prof. Wong Wing-shing, Dean of Graduate School

研究院在大學裏發揮甚麼功能？

研究院的管理結構是矩陣式的，沒有專屬的教學人員，課程通過各學院學系裏的學部籌辦。我們主要是訂立長遠策略，管理研究生課程，確保質素，提供基本支援，也給研究生一個集中的諮詢點，幫助他們處理學業問題。

研究院對研究生的學習有何支援？

研究式與修課式課程同樣要求學生有本科訓練，在知識層面和所習專業有一定闊度和深度，繼而在這基礎上鑽研，例如開拓新思維或深造專業。Improving Postgraduate Learning是研究院唯一直接開辦的學習單元，廣及資料搜集、實驗室安全、論文寫作、抄襲剽竊、陳述技巧等課題，也有語文訓練，可說是研究生應有的「通識」。

中大研究生人數在四五年前趕上本科生人數，其後更一直超越之。這個現象反映了甚麼？

本校研究生人數約一萬二千，是多是少，要看大學的定位。研究式課程學生人數在研究型大學的比例應較重，在外國，與修課式課程學生多是五五之比。我們的研究式課程學生才約二千，如可提高，研究型大學的角色便能發揮得更好。學生人數增長主要在修課式課程，八間學院開辦的廣泛課程吸納不少學生。學生來源也起了變化，以前是兼讀為主，現在全日制的多了，有好幾千，不少是內地生。香港其他院校也出現這個情況。

你怎樣看研究院課程成為大學的賺錢工具這個說法？

修課式課程以自負盈虧的模式運作，始自十多年前，政府認為某些課程能滿足社會和學生的需求，但未必需要用公帑支持，所以決定不再直接資助。另一方面，現在為配合政府實踐發展香港為教育樞紐的使命，招收了不少外地生。大學在發展之餘必會兼重質素保證和本身的長遠目標，課程和學生不可無止境增長。而且，應怎樣發展教育產業，整個社會應有共識，值得探討。

促使研究院課程產生的因素是甚麼？

研究式課程的產生較多學系主導成分，最近推出的生物醫學工程哲學碩士博士銜接課程，主要是大學和工程學院主導的；既立意開拓這方面的學術研究，便要招收研究生。修課式課程則受社會發展影響較大，如醫學院推出的一批新課程，明顯是回應社會對某些專業訓練的殷切需求。開辦新課程的理念，初期可能是來自個別教師的構想，非正式場合的討論，這往往是重要的創造源頭。

展望未來，研究生課程需要怎樣求變？

哲學博士是研究式課程的重心，這課程的制度沿用了上百年，嚴格來說是為立志以學術研究為終身事業的人而設的。然而，一方面全球學術研究工作的崗位實在有限，另一方面有部分剛唸完本科而又想繼續進修的，未必確定以投身學術研究為目標，卻由於種種原因，選擇了哲學博士課程。這亦是很多發達國家和地區面對的同一難題：獲政府資源培訓的哲學博士，如果最終非以學術研究為終身事業，那是否資源錯配？社會急速發展，對科研人才的需求不斷更新，值得重新檢討課程內容的設計，例如，是否應提供額外訓練，於個別哲學博士課程加入行政管理的知識，像德國將工業培訓納入課程，又或在哲學博士以外多發展不同的博士學位等。這都是整個社會跟教育界須共同探討的。我必須強調這不是香港單獨面對的問題。

如何兼顧教研與行政？

時間分配其實簡單不過，因為行政工作有其迫切性，故必優先處理。教學也是。我仍保持每年教授一科和督導研究生。一有時間我便會做通訊和信息控制的研究。教學和科研給我更大的樂趣，尤其是行政工作遇上困難，難題未能解決時，做研究也可視為調劑。當然，收到學生對課程的好評，也帶給我很大的滿足感。

公餘有何嗜好？

游泳和音樂是我紓緩工作壓力的兩大嗜好。無論古典音樂或中西流行樂曲，只要是有創意、有意境的，我也喜愛。享受音樂是一種感性的過程，但音樂也有它自身的邏輯和規律，亦可提供抽象分析的無限空間。

What role does the Graduate School play in CUHK?

The Graduate School has a matrix management organization. We don't have our own teachers. Instead, all of our programmes are moderated by the graduate divisions of different Faculties and departments. The school's role is to formulate long-term strategies, manage postgraduate programmes, assure quality, provide basic support to postgraduate students, and help them to deal with academic problems by serving as a one-stop information gateway.

What support does the Graduate School provide to students?

Both research and taught postgraduate programmes require students to demonstrate that they've been properly trained in their fields during their undergraduate studies. Building on the depth and breadth of their knowledge, they are expected to move on to develop new ways of thinking or receive further professional training. Improving Postgraduate Learning is the only group of modules organized by the Graduate School. The modules cover topics ranging from information search, laboratory safety, thesis writing, plagiarism, and presentation skills, to languages, which can be described as general knowledge for postgraduate students.

The number of postgraduates caught up with that of undergraduates about four or five years ago and has exceeded it ever since. What does this tell us?

CUHK has a postgraduate population of about 12,000. The size of postgraduate research population depends on how the University positions itself. The proportion of research postgraduates is usually higher in a research university. In overseas research universities, the research-taught postgraduates ratio is 50:50. We have only 2,000 research postgraduate students. If we have a bigger population of these students, our stature as a research university can be further enhanced. A large proportion of the growth in our postgraduate students is found in the taught programmes which, offered by the eight Faculties, feature an attractive diversity. The major source of students has also shifted from part-time to full-time students. There are several thousands of them and many from mainland China. This is a phenomenon common to all other local universities.

Some say postgraduate programmes have become cash cows for universities. What's your view on this?

Taught programmes have operated on a self-financing basis for a dozen years. It's the government's view that certain programmes should not be funded by public money although they can meet the needs of society and of students. So it has been decided not to fund these programmes directly. Now, to support the government's policy of developing Hong Kong into an education hub, we recruit many non-local students. The quality of education and long-term objectives of the University should never be sacrificed for its development. The number of programmes and students cannot increase infinitely. We have to reach a consensus with society regarding the development of the education industry.

How is a postgraduate programme conceived of?

New research programmes are mainly initiated by academic departments. The newly introduced MPhil-PhD Programme in Biomedical Engineering is a joint brainchild of the University and the Faculty of Engineering. Taught programmes are mainly introduced in response to the needs of society. For example, the Faculty of Medicine has rolled out a number of new programmes to meet needs for training in certain fields. A new programme may originate from a very preliminary idea of a teacher or from informal discussions.

How will postgraduate programmes change in the future?

PhD programmes form the cornerstone of research programmes. The system has been used for more than a century. Strictly speaking, these are intended for those who want to pursue a career in academia. While academic research provides limited jobs globally, some people who enrol on PhD programmes, due to various reasons, may not be very interested in an academic career after they've finished undergraduate studies. Isn't it a misallocation of resources for the government to fund someone to study a research programme when he or she doesn't really want to pursue an academic career? This is a problem faced by many developed countries and regions. Demand for scientific research talent changes with the times and societal needs. Maybe it's time to review our programme designs. Should additional training be provided? For example, adding administrative management knowledge to the PhD programme structure, or adding industrial training to it as the German do, or providing more doctoral degree programmes other than the PhD. I have to point out that this is a problem to be addressed by our community and the education sector at large, and it is not unique to Hong Kong.

How do you juggle teaching, research and administrative duties?

Allocation of time is easy. Administrative duties take priority because they're usually urgent in nature. So does teaching. I teach one course a year and serve as a graduate adviser. Whenever I am free, I conduct research on communication and information control. I take much pleasure in teaching and research. When I encounter difficulties in administrative work, research offers me an escape from those problems. Of course, I derive great satisfaction from positive evaluations given by students of a programme.

What are your favourite pastimes?

I turn to swimming and music for relieving stress at work. I like music that is creative and moodful, be it classical or pop, Chinese or Western. The enjoyment of music is an emotion-laden journey. Music has its own rules and logics, but it also provides us with a rich source for metaphysical thinking.

下期預告 Coming

英文系系主任 Prof. Simon N. Haines
Prof. Simon N. Haines,
chairman, Department of English