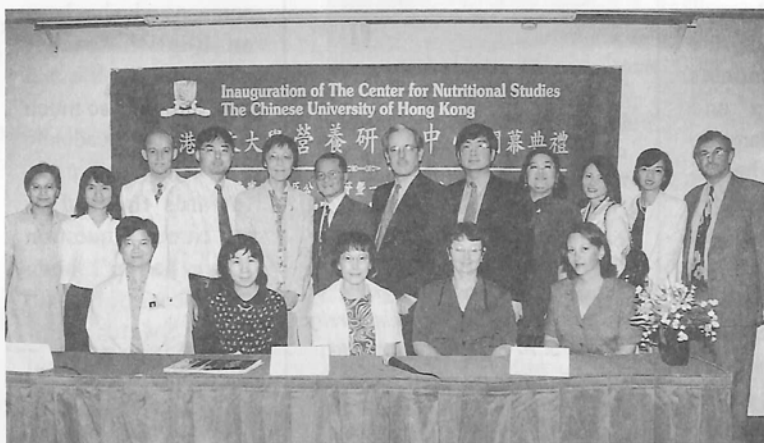


The First Centre for Nutritional Studies Inaugurated on Campus

To promote nutrition research locally and enhance awareness of the importance of nutrition among health care workers and the public, experts from different academic departments pooled resources and set up Hong Kong's first centre for nutritional studies on campus last March.

In a press conference held on 5th September to introduce the centre to the public, Prof. Edith Lau Ming-Chu of the Department of Community and Family Medicine spoke on how high intake of animal protein and salt and a low-calcium diet are related to the epidemic of osteoporosis in Hong Kong. Prof. Sophie Leung Suk-Fong of the Department of Paediatrics discussed the findings of an assessment of diet in relation to health for Chinese adults in the territory, and the measurement of child growth by a set of locally-devised standards. Prof. Walter King of the Department of Surgery talked about the importance of nutritional support in the provision of total care for hospital patients.



The centre also organized its first annual scientific symposium at the Prince of Wales Hospital on 6th September for some 120 doctors, nurses, and dieticians from local hospitals, as well as students majoring in food and nutritional studies and in biochemistry. Themes of discussion ranged from antioxidants, obesity, bone health, osteoporotic fracture to local growth nutritional studies and nutritional support for elderly Chinese vegetarians and hospitalized patients.

Facilities for the Disabled

The University was recently allocated a one-off grant of HK\$3 million by the University Grants Committee for the acquisition of equipment and facilities for disabled persons on the campus. A working group has been set up to examine the specific needs of students and other persons with hearing impairment, visual impairment, and other forms of disabilities, and how such needs can be met by installing special equipment in the library, computer centres, classrooms, and hostels to facilitate learning and general movement. Members of the

working group are drawn from the Registry, the Secretariat, the Office of Administrative Affairs, the Buildings Office, the Office of Student Affairs, the University Library, the University Health Service, hostels as well as student unions.

The number of disabled students in the University as at the end of August 1997 was 23, including seven with impaired vision, eight with impaired hearing, and another eight with other forms of disabilities.

Getting a Taste of Quality Teaching

Thirty-eight new teachers from 25 academic departments took part in a two-day orientation programme organized for them by the University's Teaching Development Unit (TDU) on 28th and 29th August.

With 'Nurturing a Culture of Quality of Teaching' as its theme, the programme began with an experience-sharing session. Six experienced teachers — Profs Andrew Chan (Marketing), Tunney Lee (Architecture), Li Wai Kee (Chemistry), Leslie Lo (Educational Administration and Policy), Teresa Siu (TDU), and Jean Woo (Medicine and Therapeutics) — shared their views on teaching and their actual teaching experience with the newcomers.

A discussion session followed in which participants were divided into small groups to discuss 'Powerful Ideas



in Teaching'. Profs Chua Bee Leng (Management), Cecilia Chun (Curriculum and Instruction), David Coniam (Curriculum and Instruction), Charles Leung (Economics), and Alisa Shum (Anatomy) served as facilitators of discussion.

The new teachers also watched videotapes featuring an effective and an ineffective instructor, and listened to

presentations by representatives of the Computer Services Centre, the University Library System, and the Personnel Office on facilities and services available on campus and the University's organization structure.

Each year the TDU organizes similar programmes for new teachers to familiarize them with the University and cultivate a greater awareness of the importance of good teaching.

\$8.7 MILLION FOR RESEARCH

Three research projects undertaken by University staff members have recently won substantial funding support from different sponsors:

■ Identification and Evaluation of Biologically Active Compounds Present in Chinese Green Tea

Sponsor: Wei Lun Education Endowment (HK\$835,000)

Researchers: Profs Z.Y. Chen, W.P. Fong, K.P. Fung, Y. Huang, T.T. Kwok, and K.N. Leung

■ Increasing Women's Knowledge of the Prevention of Cervical Cancer and the Uptake of Cervical Screening: The Implementation of a Nurse-led Community Outreach Project

Sponsor: Health Care and Promotion Fund (HK\$533,576)

Researchers: Dr. Sheila F. Twinn and Prof. June M.H. Mak

■ Preclinical and Clinical Validation of Fructus Crataegi and Green Tea in Lowering Blood Lipids

Sponsor: Industrial Support Fund (HK\$7,311,000)

Researchers: Profs Walter K.K. Ho, Julian A.J.H. Critchley, K.K. Mark, B. Tomlinson, Z.Y. Chen, Henry N.C. Wong, David C.C. Wan, Christopher W.K. Lam, and M. Zhu

Hong Kong Institution of Science Holds Annual Scientific Conference on CUHK Campus

The Hong Kong Institution of Science held its fifth annual scientific conference at the University's Ho Sin-Hang Engineering Building on Saturday, 6th September to discuss the development of scientific research as well as science and technology policies in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, mainland China, and Taiwan.

Mr. Kwong Ki-Chi, Acting Financial Secretary of the government, gave a keynote speech on 'Science and Technology Policy for the HKSAR'. Prof. Liu Chao-Shiuan, chairman of the Science Council in Taiwan, spoke on 'Science and Technology Policy in Taiwan'. Prof. Leroy Chang, president of the Hong Kong Institution of Science, delivered on behalf of Prof. Lu Yong-Xiang, president of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, a speech on 'The Prospects of Science, Technology and Education into the 21st Century'.

Established in 1992, the Hong Kong Institution of Science draws its members from academics in the faculties of science, engineering, and medicine of local universities and key figures from the government and the industrial sector.

A Linguist's Reflections on English for Academic Purposes

Prof. John M. Swales, the father of English for Academic Purposes (EAP), visited the University as Wei Lun Visiting Professor last month. A 32-year career in EAP, an impressive publication record, an interdisciplinary approach to teaching, and a talent for synthesizing theory and practice, amongst other things, have made Prof. Swales one of the leading authorities in this applied field. He is currently professor of linguistics and director of the English Language Institute at the University of Michigan.

EAP is the branch of English as a Second Language concerned with special courses for university staff and students. How does it differ from ESP (English for Specific Purposes), a closely connected area on which Prof. Swales has also written widely?

There are two possible differences, Prof. Swales explained. EAP is always academic whereas ESP can refer to both occupational or professional English, e.g., English for taxi-drivers, English for navigators on aeroplanes, and academic English in a sense slightly different from EAP. In this second sense, ESP becomes English for academic specific purposes. 'A university might have a general course teaching any student how to write academic papers — that's EAP. But an ESP course is more specific, often catering to the needs of a department or faculty. There might be, say, an ESP course teaching students how to write geology reports. I personally tend to use EAP to refer to both specific and non-specific teaching within the university, and ESP to refer to other situations. But other English teachers may use the terms differently. It might be a bit confusing,' Prof. Swales admitted.

ESP courses are generally more focused since they are tailor-made for a group of students with a relatively homogenous academic/career background. They are also, ideally speaking, interdisciplinary in approach. 'To me, ESP is a rather attractive combination of studying an educational situation, looking at the texts and the spoken discourses in that situation, deciding on your pedagogical aims and objectives, and then developing a

methodology that will allow you to deliver what you want to deliver. For me, as both a kind of linguist and English teacher, it is a very good way of combining my interests.

I can do research into, for example, how economics lectures are delivered, and then I can develop a programme to help people understand those lectures better. That's why I like it. It allows me to get to know other disciplines quite well. I've taught ESP for over 30 years. I always surprise the doctoral students in engineering and medicine who came to my classes in the US because I usually remember a famous name or something important from their field,' said Prof. Swales.

ESP/EAP is 'very strong' in Hong Kong, compared to some other parts of Asia. All the local universities have well-established units to organize EAP/ESP courses. At The Chinese University, the English Language Teaching Unit offers an EAP course 'Introduction to Academic Writing', and an ESP course 'Communication in Business Studies' to undergraduates. Prof. Swales believed that 'Hong Kong could probably put the world's best team of ESP together.' The situation in Japan is slightly different. 'The Japanese tend to be more traditional and humanistic in their approach to language learning,' Prof. Swales observed. 'They want to learn English for social interaction. They are not so interested perhaps in investing in it as a way of reading or writing scientific research articles.' Thailand has a long tradition of ESP dating back to the 1960s in places like Chiangmai, and at Chulalongkorn University in

Bangkok, but it has declined somewhat in recent years. Malaysia is an up and coming ESP country. It is also quite widely used in Singapore as well as in mainland China.

During his visit to the University, Prof. Swales delivered a public lecture entitled 'Language, Science and Scholarship' wherein he examined the academic linguistic imperialism of English, a topic he professed to be 'strange' for someone who has been an English teacher almost all his life and who has done so much research into academic English. 'And now, towards the end of my career, I question if we haven't been too successful,' said Prof. Swales contemptuously. He went on to point out: 'Something like over 85 per cent of the homepages in the world are written in English, and only two per cent in French. Is English becoming too powerful? Of course

some people will say it's very "efficient" to have one language for global inter-communication. But is this overwhelming predominance of English preventing academic cultures in developing countries from developing?' Prof. Swales quoted Henry Kissinger to describe the situation: 'One side's total security is the other side's total insecurity.' To help strengthen weaker academic languages, Prof. Swales argued for more research into their linguistic and rhetorical properties.

But then will English lose its dominant world position in the future? 'There are two schools of thought,' Prof. Swales answered. 'One argues that because English is so widespread, its position will go

unchallenged in the future unless... electricity disappears. The other says no, there always has been a change; the era when English is the dominant language will come to an end one day to be replaced by Spanish or Chinese.'

The lecture also looked at whether feelings of insecurity in non-native speakers of English when attempting to write in English may be increased by postmodern trends toward more informal writing styles in academic discourse. For example, the use of the first person pronoun 'I', direct questions and imperatives, the employment of 'and' and 'but' at the beginning of sentences, writing in incomplete sentences — in other words, writing styles many people were told to steer clear of in secondary school. Prof. Swales has been doing a research project with the international postgraduate students at the University of Michigan wherein he conducted panel discussions and interviews with them. Do they think this relaxed writing style is a good thing or a bad thing? Do they feel threatened by it? Do they like this new freedom? Of the students he interviewed so far, all except one believed it to be a threat. 'They said it's hard enough to learn in any case,' Prof. Swales said. 'What they want is for everybody to use a formal, academic style. They don't want to have to think — in addition to their computer science or political science — whether, say, it is a good moment in their writing to use 'I', whether an imperative would give offence, whether a direct question would make their writing look too simple...'

But would the relaxation of certain rules mean having to follow new and different rules? In that case, the new 'freedom' is a qualified freedom. Prof. Swales agreed: 'Those rules are very hard. I start some sentences with 'and' and 'but', but I don't think I can explain exactly why I feel it's right in this sentence, but would be wrong in that sentence where I should use 'however', 'moreover', or 'additionally'. These are almost literary considerations. Engineers don't seem to want to know about them.'

Piera Chen



Educated at Cambridge University and the University of Leeds, Prof. Swales spent much of the early years of his career teaching at universities in the Middle East, becoming professor of English and director of the English Service Language Service Unit at Khartoum University in 1973. In 1978 he returned to England, where he was tutor for the MA course 'Teaching English for Specific Purposes' at Aston University, becoming reader in English for Specific Purposes four years later. Since 1987, he has been professor of linguistics and director of the English Language Institute at the University of Michigan.

Feng Kang Prize on Scientific Computing Goes to CUHK Mathematician

Prof. Raymond H. Chan of the Department of Mathematics, concurrently associate director of the University's Institute of Mathematical Sciences, is one of the two winners of the 1997 Feng Kang Prize.

The Feng Kang Prize was established by the Chinese Academy of Sciences in 1995 in memory of Prof. Feng Kang, founder of computational mathematics in China, who won world renown by his independent discovery of the finite element method and the development of

the finite element theory. The finite element method has been regarded as one of the most efficient numerical methods in the field of engineering and scientific computing.

Prof. Raymond Chan has been selected because of his achievements in numerical linear algebra and scientific computing, and his contribution to the solving of Toeplitz systems, which are important in signal and image processing. He will be presented the Feng Kang Prize later this year in Beijing.

Service to the Community and International Organizations

- Prof. J.A. Gosling, professor of anatomy, has been appointed by the Secretary for Health and Welfare as a member of the Nursing Board of Hong Kong for one year from 1st September 1997.
- Prof. Leslie Lo Nai-kwai, professor in the Department of Educational Administration and Policy, has been appointed by the Secretary for Education and Manpower as a member of the Curriculum Development Council for one year from 1st September 1997.
- Prof. Daniel Shek Tan-lei, professor in the Department of Social Work, has been appointed by the Secretary for Health and Welfare as a member of the Nursing Board of Hong Kong for three years from 1st September 1997.
- Prof. C.N. Yang, Distinguished Professor-At-Large, was appointed a member of the Pontifical Academy of Sciences by Pope John Paul II in April 1997.
- Prof. Lee Sing, associate professor in the Department of Psychiatry, has been appointed as an associate editor of *Transcultural Psychiatry*, a publication of McGill University, from 1st January 1997, and a member of the editorial board of *The Chinese Journal of Clinical Psychology* for four years from May 1997. He has also been appointed as honorary lecturer in the department of social medicine at Harvard Medical School from 1st July 1997.
- Prof. Anthony P.C. Yim, associate professor in the Department of Surgery, has been elected fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons in Glasgow from September 1997.
- Prof. Ronald C. Li, associate professor in the Department of Pharmacy, has been selected for inclusion in the fifteenth edition of *Who's Who in the World* published by Marquis Who's Who, a leading biographical publisher in America.

(Information in this section is provided by the Information and Public Relations Office. Contributions should be sent direct to that office for registration and verification before publication.)

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中大通訊 CUHK NEWSLETTER

網址 website <http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/puo/>

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2. 來函或投稿請寄沙田香港中文大學秘書處出版事務處《中大通訊》編輯部（電話 2609 8584，圖文傳真 2603 6864，電子郵件 pub2@uab.msmail.cuhk.edu.hk）。
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7. 本刊每期發行三千八百份，免費供校內教職員索閱，部分郵寄本地教育機構及與大學有關人士。私人索閱，請致函本刊查詢。

1. The *Newsletter* is published on the 4th and 19th of each month.
2. All contributions and suggestions should be sent to the Editor, *CUHK Newsletter*, Publication Office, University Secretariat, The Chinese University of Hong Kong (tel. 2609 8584; fax. 2603 6864; e-mail pub2@uab.msmail.cuhk.edu.hk).
3. Contributions should bear the writer's name and contact telephone number, and may be published under pseudonyms. No anonymous letters will be published.
4. The Editor reserves the right to reject contributions and to edit all articles for reasons of clarity, length or grammar. Those who do not want to have their articles amended should indicate clearly in writing.
5. The views expressed in the *CUHK Newsletter* are those of the authors, and are not necessarily those of the University or the Editor.
6. No part of this newsletter may be reproduced without the written consent of the Editor.
7. This publication has a circulation of 3,800 and is primarily intended for staff members of CUHK. Copies are also sent to local educational institutions and individuals associated with the University. Those who wish to be included on the mailing list please contact the *Newsletter* direct.

截稿日期 Deadlines for Contributions		
期數 Issue no.	出版日期 Issue date	截稿日期 Deadline for contributions
114	19.10.97	25.9.97
115	4.11.97	17.10.97
116	19.11.97	1.11.97
117	4.12.97	14.11.97
118	19.12.97	2.12.97
119	4.1.98	11.12.97
120	19.1.98	2.1.98

子女教育津貼 Children's Education Allowance

隨政府最近調整公務員子女教育津貼，本校自一九九七年九月一日起，亦相應修訂教職員子女教育津貼之最高津貼額如下：

- 小學 —— 每年三萬一千九百五十元
- 中學 —— 中一至中三：每年五萬三千零廿五元
中四及以上：每年四萬九千二百卅八元

教職員子女如就讀中四年級或以上者，其應繳之基本費用，亦由每年四千四百五十元增至五千零五十元。

符合申請資格之同人，請盡早填寫申請表，連同學費收據寄回人事處。查詢請電人事處(內線七二九一)。

Following the government's revision of education allowance rates for dependent children of civil servants, the maximum allowance payable to eligible appointees in the University has been increased from 1st September 1997 as follows:

- For each child attending a primary school: HK\$31,950 per year.
- For each child attending a secondary school:
 - (i) Secondary 1 to Secondary 3 — HK\$53,025 per year
 - (ii) Secondary 4 and above — HK\$49,238 per year.

The basic amount an appointee has to pay towards the school fee of his/her child who attends Secondary 4 or above has also been revised from HK\$4,450 to HK\$5,050 per year.

Eligible appointees should complete an application form for each child and return it with receipts of school-fees to the Personnel Office as early as possible.

Enquiries should be directed to the Personnel Office (Ext. 7291).

Golf Club Membership

From the University Bursar

The University holds a debenture of the Hong Kong Golf Club (HKGC) in Fanling and is a founding member of the Mission Hills Golf Club (MHGC) in Shenzhen. Staff from the University may be nominated as members of these two

宣布事項 ANNOUNCEMENTS

clubs. Terms (A) and equivalent terms staff are invited to bid for the privilege of being the University-nominated member (w.e.f. 1st January 1998) on the following terms and conditions:

1. The minimum bid (monthly charge payable to the University) is \$800 for HKGC membership and \$400 for MHGC membership.
2. Membership is subject to the nominee remaining a full-time Terms A/equivalent employee of the University.
3. The new member pays the non-refundable nomination transfer fee of \$10,000 charged by the HKGC and \$778 charged by the MHGC.
4. The minimum term is one year, which can be extended for another year at the request of the member, subject to agreement by the University.
5. The vice-chancellor has discretion over the assignment of membership. In cases of similar bidding prices, preference will be given to those who have not been a nominee before.
6. In addition to the monthly charge payable to the University, the nominated member is required to pay a monthly membership fee to the golf club concerned, plus other usage charges.
7. The member is required to abide by the rules of the relevant golf club.

Eligible staff members who are interested should submit their bids to the Tender Board, c/o Business Office, G/F, John Fulton Centre, indicating the amount he/she is willing to pay to the University as the monthly charge. Bids for HKGC and MHGC membership by the same

person should be submitted separately, in envelopes marked 'Application for Golf Club Membership'. All submissions must reach the Tender Board before 2.30 p.m. on Thursday, 30th October 1997. Applicants will be informed of the results in due course.

Please contact Mr. Louis Heung, Senior Assistant Bursar (Ext. 7242), for any further information.

公積金計劃投資成績 Investment Returns of Staff Superannuation Schemes

總務處公布公積金計劃內各項投資基金於一九九七年八月之增長如下：

From the Bursary

The returns for the month of August 1997 in the Designated Investment Funds of the 1995 Scheme and 1983 Scheme are as follows:

基金 Fund	計劃 Scheme		指標回報 Benchmark Return
	1995	1983	
	(未經審核數據 unaudited)		
增長 Growth	-9.24%	-7.59%	-11.00%
平衡 Balanced	-7.73%	-8.06%	-7.96%
穩定 Stable	-4.20%	-1.98%	-3.08%
貨幣市場 Money Market	0.46%	0.23%	0.60%
銀行存款 Bank Deposit	0.63%	0.63%	0.60%

Supplementary Information on Osteoporosis Research

The principal investigator of the research project titled 'A Randomized Controlled Trial of the Effect of Milk Supplementation on the Rate of Bone Loss in Postmenopausal Women in Hong Kong' has provided additional information about co-researchers to supplement the report carried in issue no. 111 of the *CUHK Newsletter*:

Researchers: Profs Edith Lau, Jean Woo, and Sophie Leung

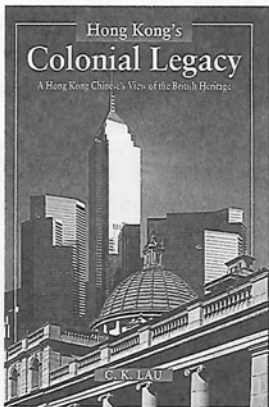
中文大學出版社新書 Chinese University Press New Books

大學同人在富爾敦樓大學書店購買下述書籍，可獲八折優待。

The following books will be sold at a 20 per cent discount to staff members at the University Bookshop, John Fulton Centre.

Hong Kong's Colonial Legacy

A Hong Kong Chinese's View of the British Heritage



After ruling Hong Kong for 155 years, what did the British leave behind when they withdrew at midnight on 30th June 1997?

C.K. Lau, currently public policy editor of the *South China Morning Post*, answers this question for the lay reader in *Hong Kong's Colonial Legacy: A Hong Kong Chinese's View of the British Heritage*.

Issues tackled include the attitude of Hong Kong Chinese towards British rule and towards the resumption of Chinese sovereignty, their failure to master English despite one and a half centuries of colonial rule, the future of common law, what Hong Kong's leaders mean by 'executive-led government', Hong Kong's recipe for economic success, and the future of press freedom in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.

ISBN 962-201-793-2, 200 pages, HK\$120.

《香港評論1997》

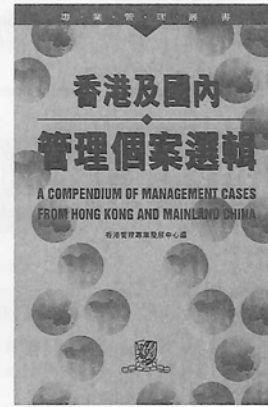


本書由鄭宇碩主編，作者來自大專院校、公營部門或機構、志願團體，以及本港的大企業，重點評述一九九六年發生的重大事件，並嘗試前瞻一九九七年以後的發展，以向香港特別行政區政府進言。

多篇文章的作者都認為：香港目前很多重要的政策均需徹底檢討，檢討過程要有市民廣泛的參與。這樣不但能收集思廣益之效，也可就未來的施政方針取得社會的共識；而市民的參與可望增強特區政府的認受性。《香港評論1997》希望能就這政策檢討過程作出貢獻，提供有關專家的研究心得。

國際統一書號962-201-779-7，平裝本，五百廿六頁，一百六十八港元。

《香港及國內管理個案選輯》



在港所見的管理書籍多據歐美的個案編寫輯錄而成，且以英文為主，無論是行文用詞或社會背景，均對以中文為母語的人士構成學習困難。以本地個案為例的管理書籍少之又少，兼以中文撰寫的更如鳳毛麟角。

有見及此，本書輯錄了二十一篇以中文編寫的管理個案，部分描述香港企業的管理問題，部分則探討內地企業的經營情況。全書內容分為五部分：人事管理、市場管理、酒店管理、企業發展及變革，以及企業形象。

書中每個個案都設討論問題，以加強讀者的思考和認識，書末更附問題的參考答案。本書由香港管理專業發展中心編輯，對管理階層、商管學生及培訓課程的導師均有參考價值。

國際統一書號962-201-787-8，平裝本，二百廿二頁，一百五十港元。

新教學助理輔導講座



教學發展組上月四及五日舉辦教學助理輔導講座，共有一百零三名新到任者參加。

教學發展組主任盧乃桂教授致辭後，由六名教師和助教分別向與會者講述教學心得，並分組討論教學技巧。電算機服務中心和大學圖書館系統也派員簡述各自提供的服務。

兩岸科學政策發展會議

香港科學會第五屆周年會議上月六日假本校何善衡工程學大樓演講廳舉行，探討內地、香港及台灣的科學發展方向，並為未來的科學合作及交流創造更多機會，也讓香港科學界了解香港政府的科學政策，以作周詳完備的配合工作。

署理財政司司長鄭其志先生及台灣的劉兆玄教授為大會主講嘉賓，分別就香港及台灣的科技政策與發展發表演說。香港科學會會長張立綱教授代表中國科學院院長路甬祥教授宣讀演辭，題為「二十一世紀科學及教育展望」，陳長謙教授則發表「二十一世紀的生物醫學科學展望」，而旅美日本財經專家黃其富博士以「金融市場與輿論學理論」作專題報告。

香港科學會成立於一九九二年，會員來自本港專上學府之理、工及醫科教研人員，以及工業界和政府部門的要員。

數學系陳漢夫教授 獲馮康科學計算獎

數學系陳漢夫教授最近獲中國科學院馮康科學計算獎評委會頒授一九九七年度「馮康科學計算獎」，表揚他在數值線性代數及科學計算領域中的卓越成就。頒獎典禮將於今秋在北京舉行；此獎項另一得獎者為加州理工學院的侯一釗教授。

馮康教授是中國計算數學的奠基者，也是國際計算數學的權威。他獨立於西方而發展了有限元方法，享譽科學界。有限元方法自面世以來，一直是工程及科學計算中最常用和最有效的工具。馮教授於一九九三年病逝，中國科學院為紀念馮康教授，於一九九五年設立此獎項，隔年頒發。

陳漢夫教授因為解決了Toeplitz系統的難題而獲獎，該系統對訊號及圖像的處理極為重要。

新任學系/學科主任

本學年有數位教師首次獲委任為學系主任或學科主任，本刊訪問了他們，請他們談談各自的抱負。本期率先刊登機械與自動化工程學系徐揚生教授的訪問，其他的會分別在本刊中、英文版陸續刊載，敬請垂注。

機械與自動化工程學系徐揚生教授



徐揚生教授早年於浙江大學攻讀機械工程，其後負笈美國，八九年獲賓夕法尼亞大學頒授工程學博士學位，旋即任教於卡內基梅隆大學，並從事機械人研究，更於該校創建了世界首間宇宙機械人實驗室，研製了多種功能各異的機械人及智能控制系統。

徐教授今年一月加入本校機械與自動化工程學系，八月即接下系主任的擔子。他笑說：「自年初上班以來，我幾乎每天都與同事或學生共進午餐或交談，盡量利用時間了解本地環境及大學事務。其實要妥善處理系務並不困難，要訣是事前仔細策劃和組織，充分發揮同事所長。」徐教授已組成六個委員會，協助處理不同系務，例如本科生招收委員會，就是負責研究如何招收更優秀的學生。

兩個目標 三項工作

徐教授認為學系的研究水準很高，去年向研究資助局提交的九個研究計劃，便有八個獲得資助，成功率達百分之八十九（整個香港高校申請成功率為百分之四十三）。該系今後的發展目標是（一）發展成為亞洲機械工程自動化的研究中心；（二）培育一流的畢業生，為香港社會作出貢獻。

徐教授為此定下了三項優先進行的工作：

增加與工業界的交流合作——機械與自動化工程學的應用範圍十分廣泛，從機械製造、化學過程控制、銀行金融系統電腦軟件設計、運輸系統，以至辦公室自動化，都納入其中。他有感該系甚少與工業界聯繫，便計劃定期出版系訊，報導學系動態及研究成果，又會安排學生與工業界人士互訪，以促進了解，發掘合作機會。該系正與香港科技中心及威爾斯親王醫院商討合作開展醫院自動化的研究，又就製造和裝配地下鐵路等方面與有關公司洽談合作研究開發事宜。

徐教授曾兼十餘間美、日、韓公司的顧問，同時也是國家高科技發展空間自動化領域的首席顧問。他強調，與內地工業界合作研究是該系未來發展的重要項目之一。該系早前已與中國科學院合組「先進自動化系統研究中心」，從事有關研究，並於上月和本月接待到訪的中國產業界人士。

加強系內溝通及學生諮詢——學系每兩星期會舉辦一次內部研討會，每位教授每年須至少主持一次，講述其研究進度，以加強溝通及交

流，提升研究水準，鼓勵教師間的合作研究。徐教授又設立了師生諮詢委員會，由三位教師負責具體運作，增開渠道供學生反映意見。

提高知名度——機械與自動化工程學系九四年正式成立，因此今年才有首批本科畢業生，外界目前仍不大了解該系。徐教授認為有必要提高該系的知名度，以利汲納優秀師生和吸引合作交流。學系設立了專責委員會，計劃攝製學系簡介錄像帶，並以英語、普通話及廣東話旁述。系方又會重新設計該系的網頁，以達至推廣的目標，並計劃本年底或明年初舉辦下世紀的自動化技術國際研討會。

更上層樓

經過三年發展，學系師資基本完備，在人工智能、機械人，及自動控制的研究方面均有專才。最近聘請的教師有專研微電子機械系統的，更加強了學系的研究實力。徐教授表示，未來發展可能側重機械設計、力學分析、人機交互技術等方面，也會進一步加強課程中有關基礎理論的科目。

陳偉珠

偉倫講座

英語教育學權威 論語言與學術交流

英語教育學權威Prof. John M. Swales上月十一日在王福元樓四號演講廳主持偉倫訪問教授講座，以「語言、科學與學術」為題，探討英語對學術交流的影響。

英語是目前學術界的主要溝通語文，並是公認的國際學術交流的有效及必然媒介。Prof. Swales卻擔心英語這種強勢會窒礙某些地區的學術文化發展。對非以英語為母語的人來說，以英語作為溝通語文必然涉及文化及修辭習慣的改變，可能會產生不安。他又探討非英語地方尤其亞洲區的人士，應如何處理這種不安，如何適應英語之不斷改變和其非正式的寫作格式，以及如何在英語主導的學術世界中自處。

Prof. Swales在英國劍橋及列斯大學接受教育，早年任教中東多所大學，其後專注於英語作特殊用途的研究，並自一九八七年起出任美國密西根大學英語學院主任兼語言學講座教授。他的著作甚豐，曾著述或合著九本專論及逾八十篇文章。過去二十年，他曾到廿五個國家講學。

科研快訊

本校教研人員最近獲撥八百六十多萬元經費，開展三項研究，詳情如下：

■ 鑑定中國綠茶的活性成分

本校教研人員：陳振宇教授、方永平教授、馮國培教授、黃聿教授、郭添德教授、梁國南教授

贊助機構：偉倫基金會

贊助金額：835,000元

■ 實行一個由護士專責的社康外展計劃：加強婦女對子宮頸癌及其預防方法的認識，並採用于宮頸癌預防服務

本校教研人員：程思雅博士、麥梅卿教授

贊助機構：健康護理及促進基金

贊助金額：533,576元

■ 山楂及綠茶的臨床前及臨床效應檢定

本校教研人員：何國強教授、郭志良教授、麥繼強教授、湯寧信教授、陳振宇教授、黃乃正教授、溫志昌教授、林偉基教授、朱敏教授

贊助機構：工業支援資助計劃

贊助金額：7,311,000元

本校首創營養研究中心 推動營養教育

香港中文大學營養研究中心上月六日在威爾斯親王醫院舉行第一屆周年學術會議，討論香港人的體質、營養和飲食等課題。

約有一百二十人出席，他們均為本地各大醫院的醫生、護士、營養師和研究員，以及修讀食品及營養科學和生物化學的大學生。

營養研究中心是本港首個專注營養學的研究中心，於一九九七年三月成立，集合本校多個學系的專家，開展本地營養研究，向學生、醫護人員和市民推廣營養知識，並與其他國家的同類組織交流。

該中心上月五日舉行開幕典禮並召開記者招待會，向公眾介紹其工作，由社區及家庭醫學系劉明珠教授講



解香港人的飲食習慣與骨質疏鬆的關係，兒科學系梁淑芳教授介紹一套供本港使用的飲食量度方法和香港兒童的生長標準，外科學系金永強教授則暢論如何為病人提供胃腸外營養。

加強設施服務殘障學生

本校獲大學教育資助委員會撥款三百萬港元，於一九九八至二零零一年間加強對殘障學生及校內其他殘障人士的服務。

校方已成立專責工作小組，籌劃購買有利學習的設施，協助殘障學生完成學業。工作小組的成員來自註冊組、秘書處、行政事務處、建築處、學生事務處、圖書

館、保健處、大學及書院學生會，以及學生宿舍等。預算添置的設備會方便肢體殘障、弱視、弱聽等人士使用圖書館和電腦中心，以及往返課室及宿舍。

截至八月底，本校有殘障學生廿三人：七名弱視、八名弱聽、八名肢體或其他殘障。

中藥研究中心舉辦講座 提高中藥廠的管理知識

中藥研究中心獲工業署贊助，舉辦一系列講座，以各地優秀中藥廠為例子，介紹中藥廠的規格模式及管理經驗，讓業界進一步了解如何提高生產及品質管理的標準。

首次講座於上月十三日假溫莎公爵社會服務大廈一樓禮堂舉行，介紹台灣順天堂藥廠股份有限公司的經驗，由該藥廠總經理沈重光先生及生產技術處處長溫國安先生分別講述優良藥品製造規範(GMP)的概念、實際運作和市場擴展策略，以及生產軟硬件的配套和管理；



主講嘉賓：(左起)溫國安先生、許順吉教授、沈重光先生

而台灣師範大學化學系許順吉教授則介紹「GMP中藥廠」的科研開發與質量控制。

台灣近年在中醫藥管理方面進步神速，通過制度化、標準化管理，使中藥業邁向優良製藥標準。順天堂藥廠是台灣首間科學化中藥製劑藥廠，生產及品質管理達至台灣的優良藥品製造規範，又獲日本厚生省發出最高藥效評價

稱號，以及澳洲藥政管理局之GMP認可證。講座由香港中華製藥總商會、港九中華藥業商會、香港藥行商會及香港製藥商會協辦。