

New Centre to Give Techno Boost to Industry



The Advanced Surface and Materials Analysis Centre, a centre which assists metal finishing and related manufacturers tackle practical production problems and setting operation protocols for quality control, was officially set up by the University and the Hong Kong Productivity Council (HKPC) on the University campus on 18th January 1999.

The University has been engaged in materials science research and has made significant contribution both in practical application and theory. The setting up of the centre exemplifies technology transfer from academia to industry and partnership between the two in promoting technology-intensive industry in Hong Kong.

Established with grants from the Industrial Support Fund, the centre consolidates the existing facilities and expertise of the Departments of Physics,

Chemistry, and Electronic Engineering, and the experience of the HKPC in industrial liaison to provide user-friendly, one-stop service to manufacturers in surface analysis, reverse engineering, process and product development, quality control and assurance.

The centre is equipped with state-of-the-art materials analysis machines including the X-ray Photoelectron Spectrometer and the Scanning Auger Microscope. The centre has the active participation and support of over 20 manufacturers.

Advanced surface analysis is vital to the development of high value-added manufacturing. The metal finishing and related industries yield a major portion of the gross manufacturing earnings in Hong Kong because they involve a series of high value-added processes, often for the production of critical components. Their businesses include surface finishing as well as the production of watches, jewellery, spectacle frames, batteries, magnetic devices, integrated circuit leadframes, circuit boards, computer components, and electronics components.

Guests at the grand opening of the centre included Mr. Francis Ho, director-general of the Industry Department of the HKSAR, Mr. Thomas Tang, executive director of HKPC, and Prof. Arthur K.C. Li, vice-chancellor of the University.

Mathematician on Mathematics as Cornerstone of Science and Technology

Prof. Yau Shing-tung, professor of mathematics at Harvard University and director of the Institute of Mathematical Sciences at The Chinese University, delivered a lecture entitled 'Mathematics and Society' on 15th January 1999 at the lecture theatre of Shaw College. The lecture was a Sir Run Run Shaw Distinguished Visiting Scholar Public Lecture.

In his lecture Prof. Yau analysed the role played by mathematics in social development. He pointed out that the economy of modern society is largely influenced by industry whose technological advancement requires the support of the basic sciences. And mathematics is the language of the basic



sciences.

Prof. Yau read mathematics at Chung Chi College and pursued postgraduate studies in the US, obtaining his Ph.D. from the University of California at the tender age of 22. Fields medallist in 1982, he was once known as the most influential world-class mathematician under 50.

Education Conference Examines Teacher Professionalism for the Next Century

An international conference on 'New Professionalism in Teaching: Teacher Education and Teacher Development in a Changing World' took place at the University from 15th to 17th January 1999. The conference was organized by the Hong Kong Institute of Educational Research and the Faculty of Education in collaboration with the international research network PACT (Professional Actions and Cultures of Teaching), an interdisciplinary and international network of scholars and practitioners who share a common interest in a broad range of issues affecting teaching, teachers' work, and professionalism.

The theme of the conference was the multi-faceted role of teachers and the direction of their development in the rapidly changing world today. Six scholars from the US, the UK, Canada, Australia, and Hong Kong delivered keynote addresses in the plenary sessions which were broadcast live on the Internet: 'Towards a Principled Professionalism', 'Professional Development in the US: Practices and

Policies', 'The Status of the New Professional in Schools of the Third Millennium: Benchmarking Against the Best in Medical Practice', 'Building an Electronic Professional Community of Teachers', 'Teacher Development and Education in Rapidly Changing Societies', and 'Professionals and Parents: Personal Adversaries or Public Allies?'

Concurrent sessions for paper presentations, symposiums, and round-table discussions were held each day after the plenary sessions.



New Programmes of Study

The following programmes of study have recently been approved by the University Senate:

- Four-year full-time Bachelor of Education Programme in Physical Education and Sports Science for introduction in 1999-2000;
- Professional Diploma Programme in Health Promotion and Health Education for introduction in January 1999;
- Advanced Diploma Programme in Security Studies (Distance Education) for introduction in January 1999 by the School of Continuing Studies; and
- Revised Certificate Programme in Japanese for introduction in Spring 1999 by the School of Continuing Studies.

International Nursing Scholar Visit

The Department of Nursing recently hosted a visit from international nursing scholar, Prof. Janice Morse, the Director of the International Institute for Qualitative Methodology. During her visit she gave research seminars and workshops to staff and guests from all over Hong Kong. Prof. Morse is celebrated for her scholarly writings on clinical research and methodology.



New Head of Department Aims to Make Hong Kong See Better

Prof. Dennis Lam, new head of the Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences, may look familiar to many people due to the frequent appearance of his bespectacled face in the media. This is something he can't help, being someone whose business is something extremely close to home. Of all our senses, sight is perhaps most deeply rooted in our sense of being and how we interpret the world. With industrialization and the birth of cities, visual communication in such forms as film, television, neon signs, and window displays was given even greater precedence over sound, smell, taste, and touch. The overriding importance we give to sight is reflected even in language. We say 'the way we see' or 'the way we look at' the world when we mean the way we 'think' of the world; we say 'I see' when we mean 'I understand'. Yet most of us take our sight for granted. Often it is only when something comes in the way of seeing that we realize its importance in our lives.

Ophthalmology, the scientific study of the eye and its diseases, is a subject with tremendous potential for development. The department, established in 1993 under Prof. Mark O.M. Tso in response to a need to develop ophthalmology into a specialty, is relatively young. Prof. Lam, its second chairman to date, pointed out, 'vision has an important status in the information age — over 90 per cent of the information that goes to our brain does so through vision.' Ophthalmology is also technology-driven, relying heavily on equipment for tests, eye examinations, surgery, etc. The many advances in equipment technology in recent years means that a lot more can be done in the field. Social demand



Prof. Dennis Lam

is also on the rise. 'We all live longer now and one of the things that go wrong often is our eyes. The population is ageing. Moreover, there are many medical conditions which affect our eyes, e.g., diabetes,' said Prof. Lam.

The department's two most important areas of research are myopia and the molecular genetics of eye diseases.

Myopia or shortsightedness is a condition with many environmental risk factors. This can be seen by its variation in prevalence among places with the same genetic pool. For example, epidemiological studies have shown that the percentage of the population in glasses increases as one moves from the country in mainland China to the cities, and then to Hong Kong. Animal studies have also shown that shortsightedness can be induced through the manipulation of visual environment.

The department is studying the causes and treatment of myopia through epidemiological and animal studies. It will conduct surveys on the prevalence of myopia in Hong Kong and mainland China; it is also developing a new animal model for the animal

studies. As to what (unfortunate) animal that will be, Prof. Lam said, it cannot be revealed. In any case the study will examine the effect of environmental factors on myopia such as light and darkness, or user abuse theory by, to use two simplified examples, putting rhinos in rooms with only a TV and nothing else for a period of time so that all they can do is eat and watch TV, or making armadillos wear glasses with only one prescription lens, and then comparing these animals with others used as control. As regards treatment, experiments on certain medicated eye drop will be performed to see if it can arrest the progression of myopia.

Many eye diseases are genetically-based. It is only by understanding the defective gene mutations behind them that the related functional problems can be effectively dealt with. Yet genetic mutations of eye disease may be different between Chinese and Westerners. Prof. Lam pointed out that squinting, for example, tend to be convergent among Westerners and divergent among the Chinese. There is also a higher incidence of myopia among the Chinese, indicating different genetic makeup. 'The first step in molecular genetic research is to identify the defective gene. The next question is why is there this illness when there is this gene? There must be a linkage in the form of a defective protein or enzyme that is determined by the disease-causing gene. If we can identify the defective protein/enzyme, we can have supplement or replacement genetic reengineering,' Prof. Lam said.

In Hong Kong, where the prevalence of myopia in the student population is one of the highest in the world, the use of traditional and laser surgery to correct the condition is gaining popularity. One often hears models and beauty queens oohing and aahing over their miraculous effects, and understandably so since nothing — definitely not the clumsiness of prescription glasses and not even the subtle contrivance of the contact lens — comes close to having naturally perfect vision. Yet there is also much skepticism over their risks, the skill of the doctor performing the operation, the high costs involved, etc. Prof. Lam is probably the man to ask in Hong Kong about these operations. He said, 'All procedures carry risks and limitations. These operations differ from other eye operations in that they have good substitutes. If a patient with cataract is not operated upon in time, the cataract will block his/her vision, or if operation comes late

to a patient with retinal detachment, his/her vision will be similar to overexposed images even if the retina is reattached. For these eye operations, the patient does not have any choice. But for myopia, the patient does have a choice. For this reason the considerations and expectations of safety and efficacy are particularly high for both doctors and patients in such operations.'

To date there are mainly four kinds of myopia operation: (1) RK or Radial Keratotomy; (2) PRK or Photo Reflective Keratoplasty; (3) LASIK or Laser-assisted in-situ Keratomileusis; and (4) clear lens extraction/intraocular lens implantation. Both RK, belonging to the first generation of myopia operation, and PRK, the second generation, are suited for shortsightedness of up to 600 degrees. LASIK, the third generation, is state-of-the-art and is suited for shortsightedness of over 600 degrees. Patients with shortsightedness of over 1,200 degrees should consider clear lens extraction/intraocular lens implantation which involves the replacement of the lens with a crystal. As laser technology is making fast improvements, better technology may be in store for those who opt to wait.

The department will continue to train medical students from The Chinese University and the University of Hong Kong in primary eye care, and train eye specialists for the Hospital Authority. Recently it participated in the establishment of joint eye institutes with mainland universities such as Shantou University and Peking University. The institutes will provide patient care, and training and education programmes for up and coming eye doctors on the mainland, and engage in collaborative research between Hong Kong and the mainland. Prof. Lam indicated that if resources permit, more such joint eye centres will be set up. The department will also continue to conduct patient care research with the aim of 'helping the greatest number of patients at the best possible level within given settings'. Besides it will carry on its good work in helping the official publication of the College of Ophthalmologists of Hong Kong become an eye journal of international standard. 'The department is full of hope and confidence that ophthalmology and visual sciences will develop even more rapidly in the future,' said Prof. Lam. ○

Piera Chen

CSC/ITSU Seminars on Technology for Teaching and Learning

To provide teaching staff members with a better understanding of technology for teaching and learning currently provided by the Computer Services Centre/Information Technology Service Unit (CSC/ITSU), a series of seminars and workshops have been organized to take place in February.

Classroom Presentation Technology Primer

Interested in enhancing your classroom lectures? This session illustrates and discusses the selection of hardware and software, and design strategies for creating effective computer presentations.

Classroom Presentations

Microsoft PowerPoint 97 is a powerful presentation tool. Try using its key features in preparing computer-enhanced lecture presentations.

World Wide Web Search Strategies

Don't know how to search the web? Search results not useful? This session gives you practical means for using popular search engines to find what you need.

From the Classroom to the Web

Learn how to convert your PowerPoint or presentation slide shows quickly to web pages for your students. Participants learn to adapt an existing PowerPoint slide show for use on the web. Resizing and resolution issues, along with content decisions, are discussed.

(Prerequisite: experience creating presentations using PowerPoint.)

Optimizing Web Images Using Macromedia Fireworks

Is your web page loading as fast as it can? Learn how to optimize your existing images for greater performance. This session explores Macromedia's new web design application, Fireworks.

Creating Web Animations Using Macromedia Flash and Fireworks

Want to make your web page more interesting? Want to enliven and clarify complex concepts for your students? Using Macromedia Flash and Fireworks you can make both vector and bitmap animations with ease.

Please register online at <http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/csc/learning/workshops> and direct enquires to the following staff:

Registration matters: Ms. Sara Chung 2609 8801 sara-chung@cuhk.edu.hk
 Ms. Wendy Chan 2609 8881 wendychan@cuhk.edu.hk
 Seminars: Ms. Eva Cheung 2609 8913 eva-cheung@cuhk.edu.hk
 Learning Technology: Mr. Stanley Yuen 2609 8905 stanley-yuen@cuhk.edu.hk
 Mr. Augustine Lo 2609 8837 augustine@cuhk.edu.hk

Schedule for the seminars

Code	Description	Type of Event	Date	Time	Venue	Language
3E	Classroom Presentation Technology Primer	Seminar	6th Feb.	9.30 a.m. – 10.30 a.m.	Room 120, Pi Ch'iu Bldg.	English
4E	Classroom Presentations	Hands-on	6th Feb.	11.00 a.m. – noon	Room 104, Pi Ch'iu Bldg.	English
5C	World Wide Web Search Strategies	Seminar	9th Feb.	12.45 p.m. – 1.45 p.m.	Room 120, Pi Ch'iu Bldg.	Cantonese
5E	World Wide Web Search Strategies	Seminar	13th Feb.	9.30 a.m. – 10.30 a.m.	Room 120, Pi Ch'iu Bldg.	English
6C	From the Classroom to the Web	Seminar	10th Feb.	12.45 p.m. – 2.15 p.m.	Room 120, Pi Ch'iu Bldg.	Cantonese
6E	From the Classroom to the Web	Seminar	13th Feb.	11.00 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.	Room 120, Pi Ch'iu Bldg.	English
7C	Optimizing Web Images Using Macromedia Fireworks	Seminar	23rd Feb.	12.45 p.m. – 1.45 p.m.	Room 120, Pi Ch'iu Bldg.	Cantonese
7E	Optimizing Web Images Using Macromedia Fireworks	Seminar	27th Feb.	9.30 a.m. – 10.30 a.m.	Room 120, Pi Ch'iu Bldg.	English
8C	Creating Web Animations Using Macromedia Flash and Fireworks	Seminar	24th Feb.	12.45 p.m. – 1.45 p.m.	Room 120, Pi Ch'iu Bldg.	Cantonese
8E	Creating Web Animations Using Macromedia Flash and Fireworks	Seminar	27th Feb.	11.00 a.m. – noon	Room 120, Pi Ch'iu Bldg.	English

宣布事項 ANNOUNCEMENTS

公積金計劃投資成績

Investment Returns of Staff Superannuation Schemes

財務處公布公積金計劃內各項投資基金於一九九八年十二月及截至該月的累積回報如下：

From the Bursary:

The monthly and cumulative returns for December 1998 in the Designated Investment Funds of the 1995 Scheme and 1983 Scheme are as follows:

一九九八年十二月 December 1998

基金 Fund	計劃 Scheme		指標回報 Benchmark Return
	1995	1983	
	(未經審核數據 unaudited)		
增長 Growth	1.60%	1.47%	1.31%
平衡 Balanced	1.85%	1.78%	1.82%
穩定 Stable	1.49%	2.16%	1.73%
港元銀行存款 HKD Bank Deposit	0.64%	0.66%	0.43%
	(年息 Annualized 7.55%)	(年息 Annualized 7.75%)	(年息 Annualized 5.12%)
美元銀行存款 USD Bank Deposit*	0.50%	0.51%	0.44%
	(年息 Annualized 5.26%)	(年息 Annualized 5.37%)	(年息 Annualized 5.10%)

一九九八年七月一日至十二月卅一日 1st July to 31st December 1998

基金 Fund	計劃 Scheme		指標回報 Benchmark Return
	1995	1983	
	(未經審核數據 unaudited)		
增長 Growth	8.17%	5.59%	14.09%
平衡 Balanced	8.15%	7.65%	13.43%
穩定 Stable	7.21%	5.79%	11.85%
港元銀行存款 HKD Bank Deposit	4.73%	4.66%	3.56%
	(年息 Annualized 9.38%)	(年息 Annualized 9.24%)	(年息 Annualized 7.06%)
美元銀行存款 USD Bank Deposit*	1.79%	1.84%	1.74%
	(年息 Annualized 5.37%)	(年息 Annualized 5.52%)	(年息 Annualized 5.22%)

* 一九九八年九月一日開始投資 Launched from 1st September 1998

Golf Club Membership

As a founding member of the Mission Hills Golf Club (MHGC) in Shenzhen, the University may nominate a staff to MHGC membership. Full-time Terms (A) and equivalent staff are now invited to bid for the privilege of being the University's nominee with effect from 1st April 1999.

The minimum bid, i.e. the monthly charge payable to the University, is HK\$900. The vice-chancellor has discretion over the assignment of membership. Preference is given to those who have not been nominated before when bidding prices are similar. Membership, subject to the nominee remaining a full-time Terms (A) or equivalent employee of the University, has a minimum term of two years and can be extended for another year at the member's request and with the University's agreement. The new member pays a non-refundable nomination transfer fee of HK\$20,000 charged by the MHGC as well as a monthly membership fee plus other charges.

Eligible and interested staff members should submit their bids to the Tender Board, c/o Business Office, G/F, John Fulton Centre, in envelopes marked 'Application for Golf Club Membership' before 2.30 p.m. on 23rd February 1999. Applicants will be informed of the results in due course.

For further information, please contact Mr. Louis Heung, Senior Finance Manager, at Ext. 7242.

藝聚中大

邵逸夫堂與藝術公社將於本月八至十三日合辦「藝聚中大」，透過展覽及自由評論區與員生交流。

藝術公社是一個供本地民間青年藝術創作及交流的中心，除提供創作空間，培訓年青藝術愛好者外，又籌辦各類展覽及藝術活動，並組織海內外藝術交流。由該社設立的「香港視覺藝術資料閣」，負責搜集、儲存和展示有關香港的藝術資料。

是次展覽會將在邵逸夫堂舉行，展出多位香港青年藝術家的作品，並介紹藝術公社的發展歷史和未來動向。「香港視覺藝術資料閣」會展出部分有關本地藝術的書刊和畫冊。而評論區則供觀眾發表意見。歡迎員生出席。

認識骨質疏鬆症

Osteoporosis Preventive Campaign

骨質疏鬆症是退化性疾病，病徵不明顯，及至後期骨骼變得脆弱易折才察覺。大多數人的骨質從卅五歲起便漸漸減少。

保健處特於二月廿二至廿五日舉行「認識骨質疏鬆症」健教活動，並安排免費骨質密度測試(二月廿二至廿四日)及講座(二月廿五日下午一至二時)，歡迎同人參加。

查詢及預約，請電黃姑娘(內線六四二八)。

Osteoporosis is a debilitating bone disorder. After the age of 35, most people begin to lose bone mass with visible symptoms appearing only after the disease has reached an advanced stage. Now you can check your bone status at the Health Education Room on the first floor

of the Health Centre from 22nd to 24th February 1999. Pre-registration is necessary. Please call Ms. Wong at Ext. 6428.

Prof. Edith Lau will give an update on osteoporosis in Cantonese on 25th February 1999 on the first floor of the Health Centre.

師生中心歲晚新春開放時間

BFC and JFC Closed During Chinese New Year Holidays

范克廉樓及富爾敦樓將先後於二月十五日(星期一，即戊寅年三十)下午四時及五時關閉，並分別於二月十九日(星期五，己卯年正月初四)上午七時半及八時重開；各商業服務單位歲晚及農曆新年之營業時間如下：

	暫停營業	恢復營業
大膳堂	二月十五日(年三十)下午二時	二月十九日(年初四)上午七時半
咖啡閣	二月十五日(年三十)下午二時	二月十九日(年初四)上午七時半
快餐店	二月十五日(年三十)下午六時	二月十九日(年初四)上午八時
影印服務中心	二月十五日(年三十)下午二時	二月廿二日(年初七)上午九時
銀行	二月十五日(年三十)下午五時	二月十九日(年初四)上午九時
理髮店	二月十五日(年三十)下午六時	二月廿三日(年初八)上午九時
大學書店	二月十五日(年三十)下午二時	二月十九日(年初四)上午九時
超級市場	二月十五日(年三十)晚上九時	二月十八日(年初三)上午八時半
大學紀念品銷售處	二月十五日(年三十)下午五時	二月十九日(年初四)上午九時

The Benjamin Franklin Centre (BFC) and the John Fulton Centre (JFC) will be closed respectively at 4.00 p.m. and 5.00 p.m. on 15th February 1999 and will reopen at 7.30 a.m. and 8.00 a.m. on 19th February 1999. The opening and closing hours of the various service units are as follows:

Units	Closing times on 15th February	Reopening times
Staff & student canteens	2.00 p.m.	7.30 a.m., 19th February
Coffee Corner	2.00 p.m.	7.30 a.m., 19th February
Fast Food Shop	6.00 p.m.	8.00 a.m., 19th February
Printing Services Centre	2.00 p.m.	9.00 a.m., 22nd February
Bank	5.00 p.m.	9.00 a.m., 19th February
Barbershop	6.00 p.m.	9.00 a.m., 23rd February
Bookstore	2.00 p.m.	9.00 a.m., 19th February
Supermarket	9.00 p.m.	8.30 a.m., 18th February
Souvenir Counter	5.00 p.m.	9.00 a.m., 19th February

圖書館歲晚新春開放時間

Library Opening Hours During Chinese New Year Holidays

日期 Date	大學、崇基及新亞圖書館 UL, CC, NA	大學圖書館視聽資料組 UL-AV Dept	聯合及建築學圖書館 UC, ARL	醫學圖書館 MEL
15.2.99	8.20 a.m.-12.30 p.m.	9.00 a.m.-12.30 p.m.	9.00 a.m.-12.30 p.m.	8.30 a.m.-12.30 p.m.
16-18.2.99	停止開放 Closed	停止開放 Closed	停止開放 Closed	停止開放 Closed
19.2.99	9.00 a.m.-7.00 p.m.	9.00 a.m.-7.00 p.m.	9.00 a.m.-7.00 p.m.	8.30 a.m.-9.00 p.m.
20.2.99	9.00 a.m.-5.00 p.m.	9.00 a.m.-5.00 p.m.	9.00 a.m.-5.00 p.m.	9.00 a.m.-5.00 p.m.

備註：醫學圖書館由二月十九日起，其餘各館由二月廿一日起恢復正常開放時間。

Note: Medical Library resumes normal opening hours from 19th February 1999 and all other libraries from 21st February 1999.

CSC Hours During Chinese New Year Holidays

Computer/Network Services	15th Feb.	16th Feb.	17th Feb.	18th Feb.	19th Feb.
Computer Systems, Campus Backbone Network, ClassNet, ResNet and Dialup Services	Unattended operation starting from 5.00 p.m.	Unattended operation	Unattended operation	Unattended operation	Attended operation resumes at 7.00 a.m.
User area including consultation room, manual reading room, and training rooms (1/F of Pi Ch'iu Building)	Closed at 3.00 p.m.	Closed	Closed	Closed	Opens at 9.00 a.m.
Information counter (G/F of Pi Ch'iu Building)	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Opens at 9.00 a.m.
User area including consultation room, manual reading room, and printer room (Room 103 of Wong Foo Yuan Building)	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Opens at 9.15 a.m.

Details can be found online at <http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/csc/announce/chinese99.html>. Please direct enquiries to the CSC Electronic HelpDesk at <http://helpdesk.csc.cuhk.edu.hk> or e-mail csc-help@cuhk.edu.hk.

Service to the Community and International Organizations

- Prof. Liu Pak-wai, professor of economics, has been re-appointed by the Financial Secretary of the HKSAR as a member of the Industry and Technology Development Council for one year from 1st January 1999.
- Prof. S.H. Lee, professor of community medicine, has been invited by the Director of Home Affairs to serve as a member of the Community Involvement Sub-committee of the 'Healthy Living into the 21st Century' campaign for two years from 1st December 1998.
- Prof. Helen Chiu, associate professor in the Department of Psychiatry, has been elected president of the Hong Kong College of Psychiatrists for two years from December 1998.
- Prof. C.S. Cockram, professor of medicine, undertook a short term consultancy for the World Health Organization, from 3rd to 25th November 1998, advising the government of the Solomon Islands on strategies for dealing with diabetes on the islands.
- Prof. Xu Yangsheng, associate professor in the Department of Mechanical and Automation Engineering, has been appointed as guest professor by Harbin Institute of Technology in November 1998.
- Prof. Chan Wing Wah, professor in the Department of Music, conducted the Hong Kong Oratorio Society, Hong Kong Children's Choir, and the Hong Kong Sinfonietta for a Christmas concert on 19th December 1998 in the Concert Hall of the Hong Kong Cultural Centre. Prof. Chan also conducted the China National Symphony Orchestra augmented by musicians from Hong Kong and Macau to perform his composition *Morning Sun* on 29th December 1998 in the Great Hall of the People in Beijing.

(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.)

中文大學出版社新書

《晚清商約外交》

中國於十九世紀備受列強侵略，舉國沉淪，萬民瘠啞，國土淪喪，民生凋零，億萬國民於不平等條約之下呻吟不已。

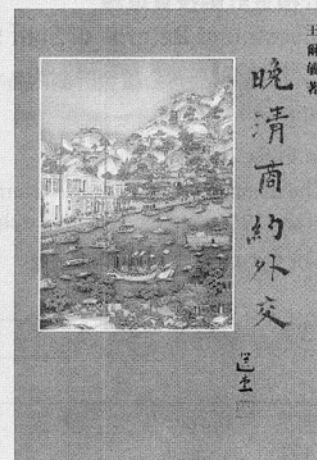
此書論述在該些不平等條約簽訂之後，所進行的許多繁複外交交涉活動，涵蓋條約的訂定經過，期間清朝受列強外交官的強索和愚弄，不平等條款的形成，列強特權的擴張，以及清朝官員的怯懦無知。於二十世紀初始見清朝在外交的醒覺和其挽回利權的努力。

此書分兩編。上編「中外商約交涉之濫觴」闡釋中英通商章程之議訂及其對各國之通行，列強議訂商約特權之永久持續規定，中俄會訂陸路通商約章之權輿，以及英日外交勢力對中國商權之擴張；下編「晚清十年間之中外商約交涉」論列中英、中美、中日、中葡、中德通商行船條約之議訂，以及海關稅則之評估簽訂和晚清議訂商約的意義。

作者王爾敏，畢業於台灣師範大學史地系，歷任中央研究院研究員、香港中文大學和台灣師範大學教授。主要著作有《史學方法》、《淮軍志》、《清季兵工業的興起》、《中國近代思想史論》、《晚清政治思想史論》、《清季軍事史論集》、《上海格致書院志略》、《明清時代庶民文化生活》和《明清社會文化生態》，另編纂史料書達十三種三十餘冊，專門論文七十餘篇。

國際統一書號 962-201-846-7，三百六十九頁，平裝本，一百二十港元。

大學同人在富爾敦樓大學書店購買該書，可獲八折優待。



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查探細胞基因變異特性：

開闢治癌新路向

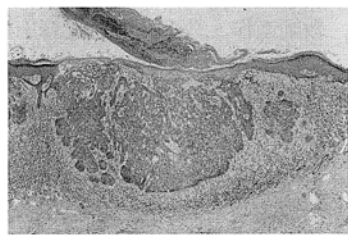
機緣巧合

化學病理學系林青雲教授形容他的發現是機緣巧合。九五年年底，他與三藩市加州大學三名研究人員商討皮膚癌的研究計劃，剛好全美頂尖的生物科技公司 Genentech 確定了一個新基因——圓滑蛋白 (Smoothed) 的 DNA 序列，於是三方合作，由林教授和三藩市加大的研究員負責探討圓滑蛋白是不是會導致癌症。

從皮膚癌著手

林教授表示，全球每年有超過一百萬宗基底細胞瘤(一種常見的皮膚癌)新症，威爾斯親王醫院則每年錄得三百宗，並有上升趨勢。這種腫瘤生長緩慢，很少轉移或致命，但會破壞身體的組織，後果會很嚴重。基底細胞瘤的治療方法主要是外科切除，但由於很難完全清除，復發便很普遍。這種癌症以散發性腫瘤表現出來，膚色淺的年長者最易患上。

研究小組於是從散發性基底細胞瘤病例著手，鑑定了圓滑蛋白的一種活化突變，可令致圓滑蛋白基因變為腫瘤基因，最終衍生基底細胞瘤。研究結果已於去年在《自然》科學期刊中發表。



顯微鏡下的基底細胞瘤

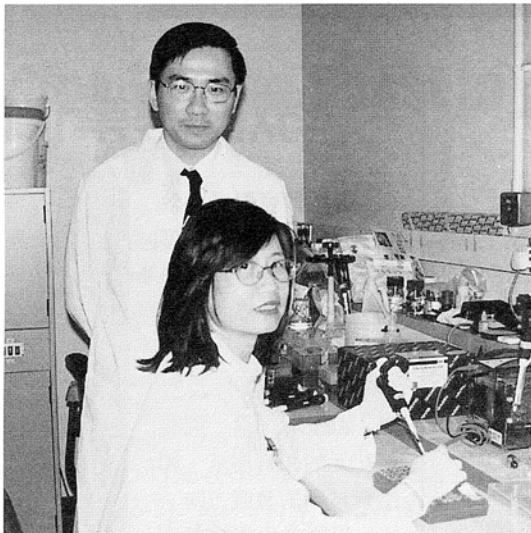
基因突變引致癌症

取得初步成功，研究小組推論這種基因突變也可能引致其他癌症。他們刻意選擇髓母細胞瘤作進一步研究，因為它於腦部出現，屬內在癌症，患者又以兒童為主，種種現象都與基底細胞瘤剛好相反。

結果，他們於髓母細胞瘤中再次發現這種基因突變，顯示它有廣泛性，並可能與其他癌症有關。

治癌新方向

林教授說，研究結果昭示了診斷和治療癌症的新方向——從基因著手。



林青雲教授在本校習醫，九一年取得內外全科醫學士學位，其後分別於九四、九七及九八年獲授澳洲臨床生化學專科學院院士、澳洲皇家病理科學院院士及香港病理學專科學院院士。林教授曾任瑪嘉烈醫院病理科醫生，九五年加入中大為化學病理學系助理教授。圖為林教授與研究小組成員湯瑞芬女士。

他解釋，未來只要抽血檢驗基因，便可知人體是否存在有癌細胞，及早以藥物控制圓滑蛋白基因，使它變得不活躍，即可有效治療基底細胞瘤、髓母細胞瘤，甚或其他癌症。

失望與興奮

林教授表白，這項研究的難度，在於開始時根本不認識這個新基因，在完全沒有把握的情況下，一切都得走著瞧。「做了二十個基底細胞瘤樣本測試仍未有頭緒時，我曾經考慮要不要繼續下去。」他說：「那時很失望，情緒也有波動。」他們作跟進研究時，三藩市加大的夥伴在三十個髓母細胞瘤樣本中未能找到圓滑蛋白的變異，要放棄之際，林教授卻在香港的樣本中找到了，「那一刻的心情最興奮，並即時如釋重負。」他說。

深入研究 結果三月發表

研究有成，林教授去年又取得大學直接撥款九萬七千多元，進一步研究華人的基底細胞瘤和髓母細胞瘤與圓滑蛋白突變的關係，結果將於三月發表。○

陳偉珠

崇基推出「優質活動獎勵計劃」 鼓勵學生舉辦創新活動

崇基學院去年十月推出「優質活動獎勵計劃」，資助學生多舉辦和參與課外活動，藉以豐富非形式教育，增加書院活力和學生的歸屬感。

屬會活動受資源限制

這個計劃的構思來自崇基學院輔導主任張越華教授。他說：「根據我們的觀察，學生組織的發展並不興旺，特別是一些屬會。它們主辦活動的數量和規模也都有限，主要原因是經費不足。大學雖然設有學生活動基金，資助各類已註冊的學生組織，但該基金每年分撥予書院的經費只有約十二萬元，逐一分配予各屬會、院系會、級社、走讀生舍堂、學生會等，每個會通常只得一千多元，最多的亦不過數千元，實不足以讓他們籌辦大型的活動。」不少學生也曾向他反映經費不足的困難和影響。

因此，張教授便向書院建議設立一個獎勵計劃，提供額外資源資助學生舉辦課外活動。

資助具規模及創意的活動

甚麼才是「優質活動」呢？張教授解釋，優質活動的標準是「活動必須有創意和具規模的，能讓越多學生參加越好，並能有助書院達至非形式教育的目標。」

崇基學院已經成立了一個評審小組，甄選學生的申請。小組由張教授任主席，成員包括書院院務室主任、獎助學金及獎狀委員會和綜合基本課程委員會代表各一名。

該計劃每年九月及三月接受申請，資助金額由五千至二萬元不等。所有隸屬崇基的學生組織都可申請；該院學生也可以個人名義聯名申請。

學生受惠 書院獲益

張教授表示，該計劃的資助範圍和金額都較大，並且不局限於已註冊的學生組織，可彌補大學學生活動基金的不足，更可激勵學生的創意，舉辦大型的活動，從中學習策劃、組織、管理、評估、宣傳等技巧；而書院的生活也會更熱鬧和多姿多采，學生的歸屬感也就更大了。

該院在去年十月底的感恩崇拜才宣布推出獎勵計劃，剛巧又碰上上期中考，學生專注溫習，申請資助的只有崇基扶輪青年服務團。考試結束後，已陸續有屬會申請資助，其中兩項申請獲接納：日本研究學系的日本文化節和「崇基歌唱比賽 98」。前者已於上月杪舉行，後者的決賽日期為本月十一日。

張教授又積極與一些屬會聯絡，介紹計劃的細則，鼓勵它們策劃優質活動，例如由國術會推廣國術的精神及其與文化和健康的關係，國樂會在末園湖舉辦午間中樂欣賞會。

張教授說：「院方尚未設定優質活動獎勵計劃每年的撥款額，要視乎申請情況再作決定。」他期望在不久的將來，校園會有更多意念新穎的大型學生活動。○

陳偉珠

首個獲資助的優質活動

「要是沒有優質活動獎勵計劃的資助，恐怕我們這次到新加坡及馬來西亞的交流活動要流產了。」崇基扶輪青年服務團國際服務部負責人趙美玲(工商管理學院二年級生)說。

扶輪青年服務團每年暑期都會接待海外的扶青團，並於年底往海外交流。他們計劃了於去年底至今年初探訪星馬的扶青團，並以教育制度和環保為交流主題，但報名者寥寥可數。

趙美玲說：「雖然這項活動很有意義，但因團費要四千二百元，並不便宜，且當時亦有其他學會舉辦類似的活動，目的地也是星馬。」反應不理想，她正擔心可否成行之際，崇基學院推出優質活動獎勵計劃，他們便向院方申請，得到二萬元的資助，使參加者的團費可便宜七百元，「同學負擔得來，三十個名額沒多久便爆滿了。」



探訪新加坡痲瘋病復康中心

中大通訊 CUHK NEWSLETTER

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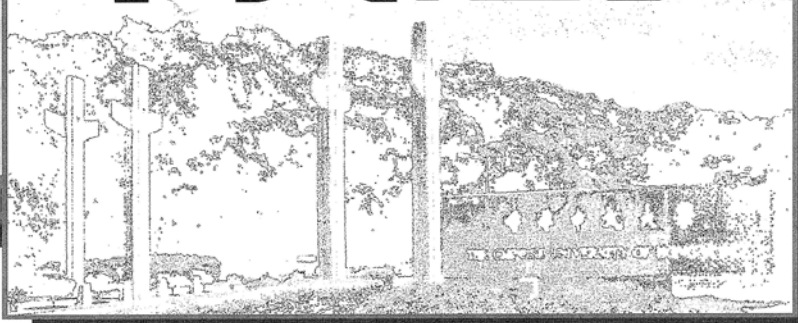
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設立表面及材料分析中心 推動材料科學教研及工業發展

本校與香港生產力促進局合作建立的「表面及材料分析中心」於上月十八日舉行開幕典禮，由李國章校長、香港生產力促進局總裁鄧觀瑤先生和工業署署長何宣威先生主禮。

該中心獲工業署工業支援資助計劃撥款購置先進器材，並於去年七月啟用，為廠商提供生產過程、產品開發、品質控制和保證，以及倒序製造等支援服務。

本校物理系、化學系和電子工程學系的教研人員積極從事材料科學的研究及開發工作多年，

在材料分析及新材料研究方面建立了良好基礎，並且引進了不少

(左起)劉煥明教授及楊利堅博士(香港生產力促進局化學及冶金部)向何永鴻先生(工業署技術發展部)及伍偉雄先生(香港關鍵性零部件製造業協會會長)介紹在不同的工業產品上的表面及材料分析。



先進的材料分析儀器及技術，以配合本地高增值工業的發展。中心的成立是本校回饋社會，將科技轉移予工業界的又一例子；而工業界也鼎力資助和積極參與中心的籌建及運作。

表面及材料分析中心主任劉煥明教授表示，香港的金屬加工及相關工業屬高增值生產程序，用以製造有關產品的重要部分，佔本港製造業收入的很大比例。這類需表面加工的產品包括鐘錶、首飾、眼鏡框、電池、集成電路、電腦及電子配件、磁頭及汽車零件等。廠商要掌握高水平的表面及材料分析技術，才能了解競爭對手的產品，檢驗本身產品出錯的原因，解決生產問題，並開發新產品。中心新購置的X射線光電子能譜儀及掃描俄歇電子顯微鏡，均是本港獨有的表面及元素分析儀器，有助解決廠商，特別是中小型廠商的需求。

香港金屬表面處理學會會長郭振華先生說，過去產品出現問題，只能倚靠外國提供的分析服務，代價不菲，只有大廠家才能負擔，中小型廠家根本無法加入競爭。但中心成立後，可以協助廠商減低成本，提高生產效率，並減少次貨，故極受中小型企業歡迎。

劉教授透露，中心還會積極推動廠商與大學在教研、學生培訓及就業等方面的整體配套合作，建立有效的校企合作模式。

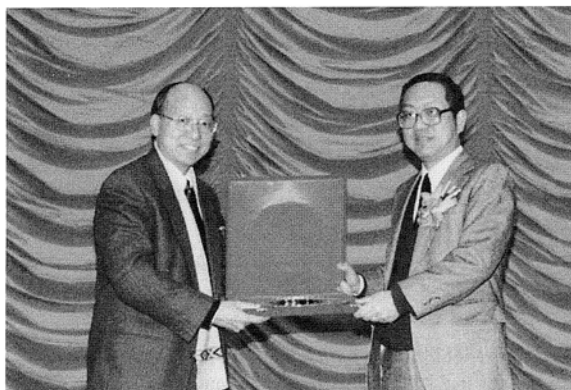
丘成桐教授論數學與社會發展

丘成桐教授出任逸夫書院一九九九年度邵逸夫爵士傑出訪問學人，並於上月十五日在逸夫書院大講堂主持公開講座，講題為「數學與社會」。

丘教授在本校肄業，僅以三年時間便完成了當時的四年制課程，其後赴美深造，受業於陳省身教授，二十二歲取得加州大學哲學博士學位。丘教授學術活力旺盛，多次攻克棘手的數學難題，聞名於世，成就卓越。一九八二年獲授等同諾貝爾獎的菲爾茲數學獎，曾被譽為「五十歲以下最具影響力的世界級數學家」。丘教授曾在美國多所著名大學任教，現為哈佛及中大數學講座教授。

丘教授在講座上分析數學對社會發展的影響。他表示，現代社會的經濟極受工業左右，而工業的發展則走向尖端科技；要發展尖端科技得靠基本科學支持，而數學就是基本科學的語言。

他解釋，當今社會對數學的依賴與日俱增，在國家安全、醫療技術、電腦軟件、電訊企業、投資策略等方面尤為顯著，二十一世紀將會是數學的世紀。當衛星追蹤物體時，電腦程式要應用數學的自動控制理論；當疫症出現時，數據分析是開展治療的第一步。機場、稅務局和工商界要



逸夫書院院長楊汝萬教授(左)致送紀念品予丘成桐教授

處理大量數據，要找到最佳的資源分布時，就要用到線性規劃。

數學在社會和文化上的貢獻更加深遠。數學能夠訓練人的邏輯思維，又是社會科學的基礎，更可解決現代通訊的種種問題。科技先進的國家，它們的數學家都是第一流的；而數學研究與科技成就是成正比的。

丘教授指出，香港和內地要發展基礎科學研究，必須注意三點：第一、研究人員必須有極大的自由，發揮其所長。第二、政府必須有極大的包容性，廣納各地科學家。第三、要有健全的評審制度，獎勵科學家上進。

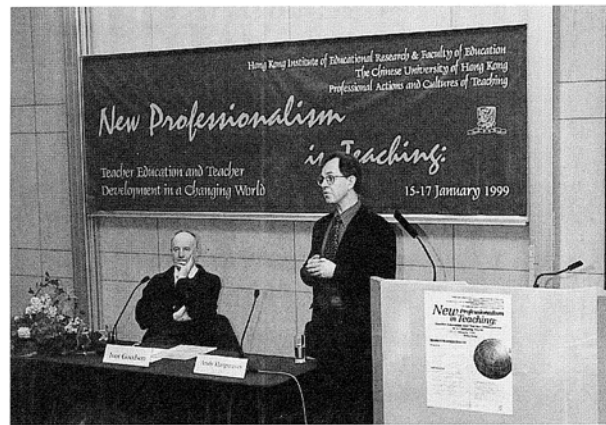
教師專業化國際研討會

各地教育學者及教師上月十五至十七日雲集校園，或透過互聯網，參與「教學的新專業化特性：變化中的世界裡的教師教育及發展」國際研討會，探討新紀元的教育需求，和師資培訓的發展方向。

研討會由本校教育學院及香港教育研究所與國際研究機構「教師專業行動與文化」合辦。後者是由多國學者及教育工作者於一九九二年成立的研究機構，專注於教師工作及專業化發展。

來自美國、英國、加拿大、澳洲及香港的著名學者在會上發表專題演講，探究教師的多重角色及專業發展方向，如何能配合社會的發展步伐。其他議題有教學文化、教師工作、教育政策和進修方法，旨在讓教師訂定本身的專業發展路向。

研討會開幕儀式於一月十五日假何添樓B6室舉行，由副校長金耀基教授主禮。



創意領袖培訓計劃

教育學院「資優計劃」獲得優質教育基金撥款，於本年舉辦一個創意領袖培訓計劃，內容包括溝通技巧、創意思考、領導技巧、朋輩支援等。

該計劃邀請十所中學參加，各自甄選六名中四至中六的學生受訓。他們於上月中旬至本月下旬參加一個為期五週，逢星期六上課的培訓課程，由富有資優教育經驗的導師悉心指導，啟發他們的創意和領導才能。



完成課程後，這六十名學生領袖會在資優計劃的導師和原校老師的協助下，為校內其他同學籌辦一系列的「才能發展課程」，以及籌組並領導「朋輩支援計劃」。這可讓資優學生實踐所學，更可讓他們的同學得益。他們在校本活動進行期間和完成後，仍會接受教育學院的其他培訓。

是項計劃的開幕儀式於上月九日假何善衡工程學大樓五零八演講廳舉行，由香港教育研究所所長盧乃桂教授(圖)主持。

新設課程

教務會去年十二月十六日通過增設下列課程：

- 自一九九九至二零零零年度起開設四年制體育運動科學教育學士課程
- 自一九九九年一月起開設健康教育專業文憑
- 自一九九九年一月起由校外進修學院開設保安學高級文憑課程(遙距課程)
- 自一九九九年春季起由校外進修學院開設經修訂的日語證書課程