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The Chinese University of Hong Kong

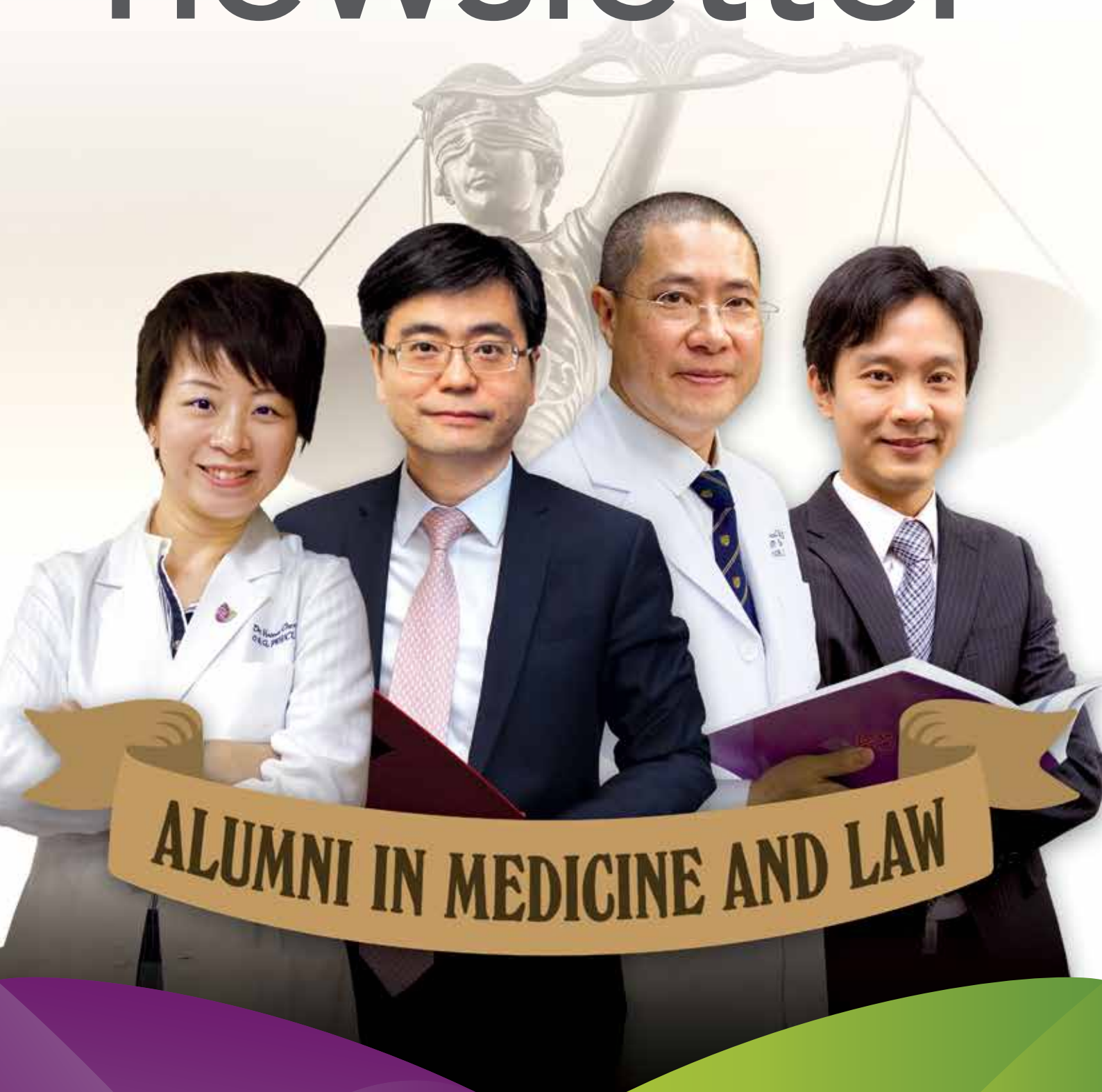


香港中文大學醫學院
Faculty of Medicine
The Chinese University of Hong Kong



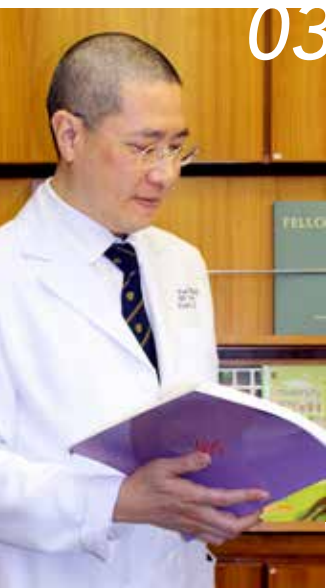
35th Anniversary
三十五週年

CUHK MEDICAL ALUMNI newsletter



ALUMNI IN MEDICINE AND LAW

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WELCOME MESSAGE

“GPS is still a developing programme and it won’t be successful without the generous support of our fellow alumni.”

- *Professor Justin Wu Che-yuen*

(胡志遠教授, MBChB 1993)
Associate Dean (Development)

We are already past the first half year mark, and so much is happening with our CUHK Medical Alumni Association. And, in this issue, I am taking the opportunity to speak about something that is close to my heart...the Global Physician-Leadership Stream (GPS) (環球醫學領袖培訓專修組別) of the MBChB programme.

The programme, established in 2013, is the first undergraduate medical leadership scheme of its kind in Asia. The primary objective is to nurture medical students with talents and aspirations to become future world leaders in different sectors of the medical profession, namely clinical service, research, education and management. The establishment of GPS is based on core values of early nurturing of leadership skills in medical education. We wish to develop budding leaders with servant leadership, integrity and strong desire to serve others and address societal needs. Our strategy is to encourage experiential learning through reaching out to the community and going international. GPS

has also brought innovations to the pedagogy of medical education in CUHK. In addition to the core professional training of medical knowledge, skills and attitudes, GPS offers personalised mentorship, medical leadership workshops, supervised projects and internship opportunities in world-renowned institutions.

Since 2014, GPS has become the top JUPAS programme in Hong Kong. It continues to evolve as an international benchmark and role model of medical leadership education for other medical schools worldwide. Despite a very short history of less than four years since its establishment, over 20 students have been awarded prestigious scholarships in the field of innovation and technology. Our students have published dozens of first-authored papers in top biomedical journals and earned a number of young investigator awards and oral presentations at international medical conferences.

GPS offers dual admission pathways for both prospective students from secondary schools

and medical undergraduates. The GPS team proactively identifies and approaches high-performing MBChB students and invites them to apply for the programme. To date, GPS has evolved to become a platform that serves the individual learning needs of *all* MBChB students with special talents and aspirations. We provide counselling support, academic network and postgraduate scholarships to *all* MBChB students who are determined to pursue a special career path. GPS is still a developing programme and it won’t be successful without the generous support of our fellow alumni. I am looking forward to more contributions from the alumni as mentors and advisers on course development and networking.

To this end, I wish you all the very best and will leave you with this quote: “*The greatest leader is not necessarily the one who does the greatest things. He (or she) is the one that gets the people to do the greatest things.*” (Ronald Reagan, former US President)

They may be medical experts in their own fields...but having a law background has enhanced their understanding of the legal aspects of medicine.

SURGEON'S LAW BACKGROUND HELPS HIM TEACH STUDENTS TO AVOID LEGAL TRAPS

"Surgeons are at the frontline for negligence...many are not aware of the legal implications of malpractice."

- Professor Paul Lai Bo-san
(賴寶山教授, MBChB 1990)

When Professor Paul Lai was very young, he would watch his grandfather – a herbalist - write prescriptions for his patients using Chinese brushes. Professor Lai would help him by preparing the ink.

"I was very close to my grandpa. So whenever I was asked what I would like to do in future, I always said...I want to be a doctor like grandpa."

He has achieved that dream - he is now an academic surgeon at Prince of Wales Hospital, director of CUHK's Office of Medical Education and president of the College of Surgeons of Hong Kong.

But these are not all the professional qualifications Professor Lai has garnered.

While in secondary school, the study of law began to tickle his fancy. He believes his innate interest for law intensified when he joined the debating team.

"Many of my friends in the debating society then went on to become lawyers. I was the odd man out," he recalls.

But this "odd man out" is now, not only a qualified surgeon, he also holds a Masters Degree in Medical Law from Northumbria University, UK. In 2006, Professor Lai took up a three-year part-time distance learning course with the University because it had modules such as informed consent, patients' confidentiality and medical negligence. "I knew all these

would be relevant to my teaching and work," he says.

Professor Lai says his legal background has helped him tremendously in his role as an academic surgeon. "In fact, surgeons are at the frontline for negligence. Many doctors and students are not aware of the legal implications of malpractice. So I educate them to be mindful of the legal pitfalls in medicine."

Having a law background also gives him credence when writing medical-legal reports or preparing legally-sensitive audits such as the performance of public hospitals. Professor Lai is Programme Director of the Surgical Outcome Monitoring and Improvement Programme.

Besides that, his legal knowledge comes in handy when his expertise is sought by the courts to clarify complex medical issues.

As a young, upcoming surgeon, Professor Lai worked himself to the bone. It was a competitive environment, he recalls.

But he has had a wake-up call since then - thanks to a book, recommended by a Facebook friend, called *Who Will Cry When You Die? Life Lessons from a Monk Who Sold His Ferrari*, by Canadian writer, Robin Sharma.

"I cried when I read the book. It got me thinking...if I departed this world due to a stroke or an accident, who would cry at my funeral? Of course, my wife, two daughters, my parents and



friends would mourn my passing. But the hospital will still carry on without me. That was my light bulb moment."

He decided to set his priorities straight. "I am still pretty much a workaholic but my family, friends and taking care of my spiritual growth, are now my main priorities."

Professor Lai says he chose to do medicine at CUHK because it was "a young medical school -still is - with nice, caring and energetic professors, some of whom have made sacrifices for the betterment of patient care."

His advice to students: "As doctors, you are entrusted to treat patients well and effectively...don't let them down."

LAW STUDIES DEEPEN DOCTOR'S UNDERSTANDING OF THE REAL MEANING OF RESPECTING PATIENTS' AUTONOMY

"Studying law within the realm of medicine made me a more caring and better doctor, and not a defensive one."

- Dr Danny Lee Wai-hung
(李偉雄醫生, MBChB 1991)

Dr Danny Lee can easily be mistaken for a lawyer - he has three law degrees under his cap. But he insists: "I'm not a lawyer and am not intending to be one."

Dr Lee says he loves medicine and would not give it up for anything. But admits he has a deep "passion" for medical legal ethics, or bioethics - a field that looks into ethical issues in healthcare, medicine and other wider perspectives like human surrogacy.

When he was a medical undergraduate at The Chinese University of Hong Kong, bioethics was not a subject per se. "In those days, we only had one or two hours of lectures on basic medical ethics and medical law...that was it," he says.



But that passion to study more about bioethics remained deeply ingrained in Dr Lee but he had to keep that burning desire to pursue it on hold.

After graduating, he spent 11 years with the Hospital Authority. He spent a year at Johns Hopkins University, from 1996-1997, returned to Prince of Wales

Hospital and then was transferred to North District Hospital where he worked until 2003.

That year he volunteered to retire under a scheme offered by the HA and went into private practice.

It was only after he left the public sector that Dr Lee had more time to do the things he wanted. After achieving his doctorate in medicine (MD) in 2005, he decided to turn to bioethics.

When he first took up medical law he found himself grappling to understand a lot of the materials. He realised he needed a strong legal background if he intended to go forward. So he enrolled for a part-time course in general law at the City University of Hong Kong because it was closer to his private practice.

He remembers those "tough" days - a surgeon during the day and a law student in the evening. On top of that, he had ward rounds. Despite the hectic schedule, he persevered for four and a half years.

Dr Lee says he is particularly keen on the issue of *informed consent*. "Previously, we just got the patients to sign a document and then took them in for the operation. This practice has changed. From the biomedical ethics point of view, informed consent means to explain, in detail, the medical procedure to the patient and the risks involved."

"Studying law within the realm of medicine made me a more caring and better doctor, and not a defensive one. It improved my communication with patients and made me understand what is meant by respecting a patient's autonomy."

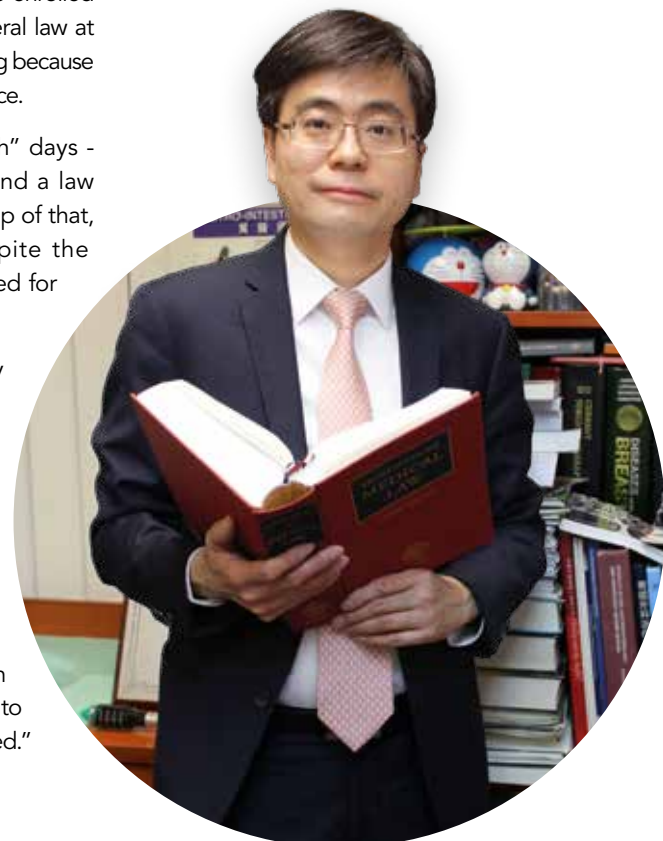
Dr Lee is sometimes called on to provide expert reports to the Hong Kong Medical Council, civil courts and the Coroner's Court. "My legal studies have given me more confidence in reading and writing such reports."

He is also an accredited mediator.

Dr Lee is a part-time lecturer at CUHK, teaching medical legal ethics to undergraduates and postgraduates.

He says CUHK, without a doubt, had taught him about curiosity - to always ask questions about everything. "And, I believe that by including general education in its medical syllabus, CUHK has helped me develop an all-round personality."

His advice: "Keep an open mind and have interests other than medicine."



DOCTOR TURNED BARRISTER SAYS BOTH PROFESSIONS ARE INTERTWINED IN MANY WAYS

"Anyone can do law and medicine...because only by experiencing both will you know how to bring them together."

- *Dr Alexander Wong Shing-tak*
(黃承德醫生, MBChB 2004)



Dr Alexander Wong graduated from the Faculty of Medicine of The Chinese University of Hong Kong in 2004 and like every other new doctor, he settled into a job which he thought, inevitably, would be his life-long career.

But that wasn't to be. He found something else that irked his curiosity - law. And from then on he just fell for it...hook, line and sinker.

"My first brush with the law was when I had to help an elderly family member who was involved in a property dispute. I had to go to court to handle the matter."

At the time, Dr Wong had just completed his internship in 2005 at various hospitals and was working as a fully-fledged family doctor at a private clinic.

It was during his frequent trips to court that triggered his keen interest in law. So two years into his work as a private doctor, Dr Wong enrolled with the Juris Doctor Programme run by CUHK in 2007. He graduated in 2009 but could not be considered a professional lawyer because he still had to take up Postgraduate Certificate in Laws, PCLL.

After obtaining his PCLL, he decided to pursue a Master of Law degree at Cambridge University in 2011.

"Then, I had to go through one-and-a-half years of pupillage," Dr Wong says.

All in all, it took him six years of studying before he got to where he is today - a barrister in a set of reputable Chambers in Central.

Working part-time at a private clinic afforded him a lot of time to pursue his full-time studies. "It was intense... clinic sessions in the morning, classes in the afternoon, then back again to the clinic," he recalls. He would get home at around 10 pm, grab a few hours of study before sleep and then start all over again the next day.

Asked if he missed medicine, Dr Wong laughs: "I do...sometimes. But you know, medicine and law are intertwined in a lot of ways.

"Take *informed consent*, for instance. The law requires doctors to tell the patients about their treatments, the risks involved and what could happen if we don't do certain things.

"A lot of medical disputes require the law to resolve them so it's important for doctors to know what their legal obligations are."

And, Dr Wong adds, his medical expertise has not been put to waste. As a barrister, he does come across cases which involve medical negligence or he has to make judgements on the mental capacity of clients.

He says being a barrister certainly gives him more quality time with his



family because he can control his work schedule. It also gives him time to share his legal knowledge, through invitational talks, with other doctors.

He remembers his alma-mater fondly: "I have been with CUHK for over a decade...studying medicine and law. In some respects, it has moulded me into the person I am now. It taught me discipline and helped me excel in problem-solving."

Dr Wong has a vision to bridge the gap between the two professions, saying: "Anyone can do law and medicine... because only by experiencing both will you know how to bring them together."

STUDY OF LAW SHARPENS OBSTETRICIAN'S SKILLS IN REASONING AND CRITICAL THINKING



"Legal issues tended to crop up in all aspects of medicine, especially in obstetrics and gynaecology."

- Dr Yvonne Cheng Kwun-yue
(鄭昆瑜醫生, MBChB 2004)

"Medicine is the one profession which deals with lots of legal or ethical issues," she points out. "It is especially true in obstetrics because you will come across many situations that require legal and ethical considerations."

She cites an example of the debate involving miscarried fetuses which are less than 24 weeks. "The dilemma is ...should parents be allowed to take it home to be buried because legally, a foetus is *only* considered as having 'life' at 24 weeks of gestation," she explains.

Dr Cheng also recalls a case where an abnormality was discovered in one of a set of twins while in the womb. "When we diagnosed the abnormality, it was already beyond 24 weeks...so legally, we weren't allowed to terminate the pregnancy. However, we were concerned that this abnormality could affect the other twin and the health of the mother.

"So in order for the other baby and the mother to have better prospects, we applied to the court for approval to terminate the twin with the abnormality."

Dr Cheng, who specialises in fetal medicine, says a lot of critical analyses are needed in her research work and her legal background has helped sharpen her skills at reasoning, logic and critical thinking.

But she insists she has no plans of becoming a full-time lawyer. "I am doing clinical work. I'm also teaching and conducting research - this is the path for me."

Her outlook on life has changed somewhat, compared to her much younger days when she was always looking for ways to keep busy. Nowadays, she does not take her work home and tries spending more quality time with her child. "I know now if I don't strike a work-life balance, I won't last long in the field," she says.

Dr Cheng believes CUHK has taught her to be passionate in whatever she does. "The Faculty of Medicine's motto...*Transforming our Passion into Perfection*...tells students to follow their passion and strive for the best.



"This is what makes the CUHK medical community very strong and very unique. That's why I ended up working for the Faculty," she says.

Dr Cheng is advising students to really think about other aspects of medicine rather than just concentrating on medical knowledge.

"I'm not saying that all medical students should also study law but medicine has become more and more challenging, with lots of legal issues involved."

For Dr Yvonne Cheng, boredom is a word seldom found in her vocabulary. She is always looking for new challenges. So it was no surprise when she took up law soon after graduating as an obstetrician.

"I was young then," she recalls. "I had just graduated. My sister was studying law and I thought it was so cool. And I wanted the challenge, too."

She enrolled in a part-time law course at University of London and after juggling for three years between her work at the United Christian Hospital and going for classes in the evenings, she finally obtained her Bachelor of Laws degree, LLB, in 2008.

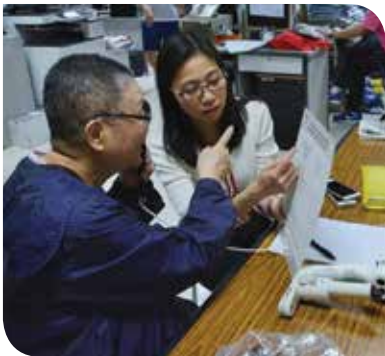
Dr Cheng, who joined the Prince of Wales Hospital in 2011, became a clinical assistant professor in 2013. She says she is glad she followed her instincts because she discovered that "legal issues tended to crop up in all aspects of medicine, especially in obstetrics and gynaecology."

EYE DOCTOR SEES IT HER DUTY AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY TO HELP THE UNDERPRIVILEGED

Dr Ruby Ching lives by this philosophy... "Everybody has a duty and responsibility to make society better." To that effect, this eye doctor has devoted herself to doing charity work for the underprivileged.

Often, when not at work, she and other volunteers would arm themselves with an eye chart and instruments and set up a make-shift mobile clinic to give eye checks to poor people, such as street sleepers.

"The Eye Care Charitable Foundation, which some other kind doctors and I set up, targets local underprivileged people who, for example, are not recipients of government subsidies. Many street sleepers are not covered by this safety net, or refuse to see doctors, and so with the help of the Society for Community Organisation, SOCO, we offered our free services to this group of people," says Dr Ching.



But Dr Ching's charitable work is not limited to the Foundation. She also volunteers for Christian Action, a non-governmental organisation, which caters for, among others, refugees. Occasionally, she receives calls from other NGOs for help.

For instance, a couple of years ago, some social workers asked if she could perform cataract surgery on four of their clients, all elderly

"No matter how high your position is, your patient's health must always be your first priority."

— ◆ —
- Dr Ruby Ching Hok-ying
(秦學瑩醫生, MBChB 1995)

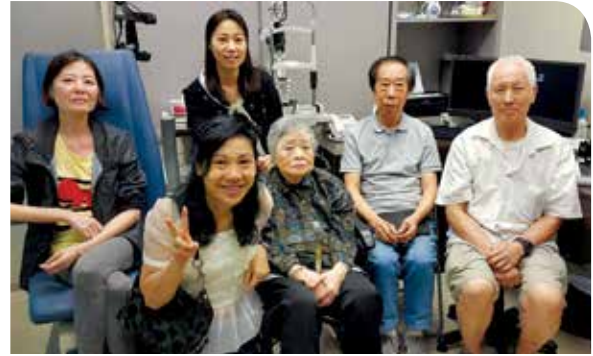
singletons. She recalls that after the operations, the patients went back to her clinic to have their eye patches removed. "They were so excited and kept talking and talking in my clinic. They were so noisy." But it gave her immense satisfaction to see them so happy because they were able to see clearly again.

Treating eye diseases can be an expensive venture for the poor. While she and other volunteers do all they can to help, there are some treatments that are beyond the reach for some. The medication for macular eye disease, for example, is very expensive - one Anti-VEGF injection can cost as much as \$10,000. And usually, one shot is not enough.

Dr Ching has imparted her charitable nature to her two teenage daughters. In fact, when they were younger, she would take them with her on her voluntary rounds in hopes they would learn about duty and social responsibility. "Now that it's summer, I have asked them to go take up some voluntary work," she laughs.

It is a blessing, in a way, for society that Dr Ching is still passionate about helping the underprivileged with their eye problems because - not many people know this - being an eye doctor had not exactly been her dream job. She had always aspired to be a surgeon.





After graduating, Dr Ching interned as a general surgeon for half a year. "During the six months, I felt very satisfied. I really liked the rapport with the patients and their families."

But she realised one thing - she was too empathetic to be a surgeon.

"I would be very upset when patients died. I became too involved and emotional. I was afraid that this would affect my decisions in life-and-death situations."

Dr Ching has this theory. She believes that certain specialities are meant for certain personalities... and she certainly didn't have the personality to become a surgeon. "I realised that because of my strong empathy with patients, I may not become an exceptional surgeon. I think if I worked in Oncology, I might cry the whole day."

So she discussed her conflicting emotions with senior doctors who advised her to think really hard about it.

She then decided to join the Accident and Emergency Department. She admitted she was drawn to A&E after watching the popular US television series, ER. "I was fascinated with the series because they were so exciting."

However, after nine months with the A&E department, Dr Ching began to feel restless. "I received a lot of training at the A&E department and that was very satisfying. I learnt how to handle a patient. When they came in, we had to examine every inch of their body, from head to toe."

Despite all that training, she still felt something was missing...and that something was "rapport" with patients.

"During my internship as a general

surgeon, there was great rapport between doctors and patients. But at A&E, I would only see patients for around 10 to 20 minutes and then they would be sent to the wards. They didn't even know who I was."

She finally decided to be an eye surgeon. Dr Ching explains that as an eye doctor, there are hardly any life-threatening situations...an occupation she felt she could handle.



Dr Ching says she will be forever grateful to the Faculty of Medicine of The Chinese University of Hong Kong. "I wasn't really an outstanding student. My HKCEE results weren't that good but at the same time, they weren't that bad either. But CUHK gave me the chance to study medicine."

Dr Ching also remembers the Faculty teachers as being "really nice". She recounts an experience involving a professor that left an indelible imprint on her. The professor was attending to an elderly patient who was suffering from severe constipation. Without much ado, she rolled up her sleeves, put on some gloves and performed digital evacuation on the patient.

"She was a professor, she didn't have to do it," Dr Ching says, "but she did it because she was really concerned. A lot of people would have found the procedure disgusting."

"I was really impressed with the professor's attitude," she adds. "It taught me that no matter how high your position is, your patient's health must always be your first priority."

She is advising students who want to become doctors to have the heart and passion for it. "Don't take up medicine for the glory and money. You have to ask yourself why do you really want to be a doctor."

"I came from a poor family but I was very fortunate compared with many others. The society gave me a lot of chances to improve myself over the years. For example, I went to a band one secondary school. CUHK took me in and gave me the chance to grow and learn and Tung Wah Eastern Hospital - where I received my eye training - supported me tremendously."

"Now, I want to give something back to society...that's why I am volunteering my services to helping the underprivileged in Hong Kong with their eye-sight."



CU MEDICAL ALUMNI BUDDY PROGRAMME

It has been a little over a year since the Medical Alumni Buddy Programme (MABP) was officially launched...and activities to increase the bond between alumni and students have continued unabated.

The year kicked off with a Career Talk on Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Paediatrics, Orthopaedics and Traumatology. This was held on 18 January 2017 at Lui Che Woo Clinical Sciences Building of Prince of Wales Hospital. Moderators included Dr Siu Wing-tai (MBChB 1989), Professor Patrick Yung (MBChB 1994) and Professor Grace Kong (MBChB 2001). The speakers comprised of doctors from the private and public sectors.

Then, on 19 January 2017, the MABP - together with the CUHK Medical Alumni Association - hosted a New Year's party at the Hong Kong Jockey Club for members and fellows of the College of Surgeons of Hong Kong, as well as interns pursuing a career in surgery.

On 13 February, another session on Career Talk was held. This time around, topics ranged from Psychiatry, Emergency and Family Medicine to Health Administration and Pathology.

These talks are particularly beneficial for medical students who still have not decided on which specialty to choose.

Under the MABP, alumni will undertake the role of mentors to guide and advise students during their university days.



LAUNCHING CEREMONY OF THE CUHK-NAM INTERNATIONAL HEALTH FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMME CUM PUBLIC LECTURE



The CUHK-NAM International Health Fellowship Programme is a joint initiative between The Chinese University of Hong Kong and the US National Academy of Medicine.

Come September, it will start recruiting applicants from a pool of health professionals from CUHK as well as CUHK-affiliated clinicians from the Hospital Authority.

Successful applicants will continue working at CUHK or the Hospital Authority during

their two-year fellowship programme, with six months at NAM's offices in Washington, DC.

The launching ceremony of the project was held on 2 June 2017 at Kai Chong Tong, Postgraduate Education Centre at the Prince of Wales Hospital. Among the 150 participants were Professor Joseph Sung, CUHK's Vice-Chancellor, and Dr Victor Dzau, President of the National Academy of Medicine, who delivered a lecture.

CUHK MEDICAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND DINNER 2017

The Annual General Meeting and Dinner of The Chinese University of Hong Kong Medical Alumni Association (CUHKMAA) is scheduled for **2 September 2017** (6:30 - 9:30pm) at Lion Rock, 6/F, Shatin Clubhouse, Hong Kong Jockey Club. We are pleased to announce the Executive Director of the CUHK Medical Centre, Professor Fung Hong, will be the guest speaker on the topic: "CUHK Medical Centre - Bridging the Health System Chasm."

Prior to the AGM and Dinner, there will be a guided tour of the Jockey Club Museum of Climate Change for CUHKMAA members (3:30-5 pm) at the Yasumoto International Academic Park, 8/F, CUHK, Shatin (near University MTR Station).

The AGM and Dinner is opened to all CUHKMAA members.

Fee: \$800 (adult); children under 6: FOC

Reservations can be made using the **QR code** or via online: medical_alum@med.cuhk.edu.hk

Please provide **1** your name **2** graduation year **3** institution and specialty
4 number of guests and **5** contact details

Payment will be collected on-site.



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2017 TEACHERS' AND STUDENTS' AWARDS PRESENTATION CEREMONY



The annual Teachers' and Students' Awards Presentation Ceremony was held on 25 February 2017 at Sir Run Run Shaw Hall at The Chinese University of Hong Kong.

More than 800 Faculty members, donors, teachers, students and their families attended the event. It was officiated by Professor Joseph Sung, CUHK's Vice-Chancellor, Professor Fok Tai-fai, Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Professor Francis Chan, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, and Dr Lo Su-vui, Cluster Chief Executive, New Territories East Cluster, Hospital Authority.

Top academics were presented with Teachers' Awards during the ceremony and outstanding students from within the Faculty - including Medicine, The Nethersole School of Nursing, School of Chinese Medicine, School of Pharmacy and The Jockey Club School of Public Health and Primary Care - were awarded some 100 prizes and scholarships in recognition of their brilliant achievements.

In his welcome address, Professor Sung expressed gratitude to the benefactors



and donors of the Faculty of Medicine. He also paid tribute to the teachers, pointing out that... "excellent students are the sweet fruits borne from the selfless efforts of their teachers."

He also had high praise for the students and urged them to continue to strive for excellence in order to become brilliant leaders in the fields of medicine and healthcare.



A tea reception was then held at the University Mall for all to enjoy.

FUN RUN 2017

More than 450 people, including top academics, donned their running shoes on March 18 this year for the annual Fun Run.

The health-promoting event, launched in 2001, is jointly organised by the Faculty of Medicine and Chung Chi College of The Chinese University of Hong Kong.

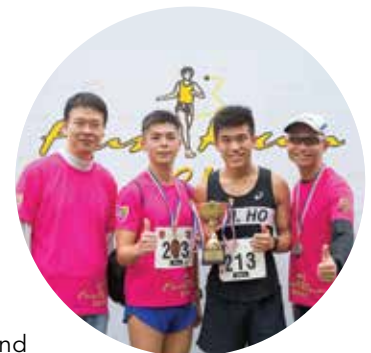
Participants had the choice of two routes of 5km or 10km. One of the races started at Prince of Wales Hospital and ended at Lingnan Stadium of Chung Chi College.

A new route along the scenic On King Street Park promenade was the highlight of this year's Fun Run, replacing the usual track at Penfold Park.

Professor Albert Martin Li, Assistant Dean (Development), Faculty of Medicine, and Professor Fong Wing-ping, Head of Chung Chi College, were also spotted that morning.

Participants ran, walked, chatted and most of all, as the name Fun Run suggests, simply had plain good old-fashioned fun.

Fun Run, touted as a healthy way of socialising, is open to students and alumni of CUHK's Faculty of Medicine and Chung Chi College.





DR AND MRS TZU LEUNG HO HONOR SOCIETY OUTSTANDING ACADEMIC AWARDS PRESENTATION CEREMONY CUM ANNUAL DINNER



A total of 12 medical students have received medals and cash prizes for their distinguished academic performance during the 7th Dr and Mrs Tzu Leung Ho Honor Society Outstanding Academic Awards Presentation cum Dinner ceremony. The celebratory event took place on 21 April 2017 at Ho Sin Hang Hall, S.H. Ho College, The Chinese University of Hong Kong.

Professor Joseph Sung, the Vice-Chancellor, Dr and Mrs Tzu Leung Ho and Professor Francis Chan, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, were among the prominent guests. Besides enjoying a sumptuous dinner, the 120-plus participants were serenaded with music and songs by a group of undergraduates, calling themselves "MedBand22".

To show gratitude for their generous donations and charitable work over the years, the Guests of Honour, Dr and Mrs Ho, were presented with a souvenir - a block of treated wood with their caricatures on it, plus those of Professors Sung and Chan and the awardees.

Dr Ho, a pre-eminent urologist, has dedicated himself to improving medical education in Hong Kong, mainland China and abroad.

Every year, the Dr and Mrs Tzu Leung Ho Honor Society selects outstanding students to become its members and present them with Grand, Gold, Silver and Bronze medals.





WHITE COAT PARTY FOR MEDICAL GRADUATES 2017

If you happened to have walked past the Jockey Club School of Public Health and Primary Care at the Prince of Wales Hospital on 24 March 2017, you would have heard a lot of excited chatter and laughter emanating from one of the halls.

Well, that was because on that particular day, the traditional White Coat Party was in full swing. After five years of gruelling studies, some 200 medical graduates were able to finally let down their hair and have fun as they toasted their success with their teachers, families and friends.



This annual event is being held every year to mark the graduation of final year students.

In his speech, Professor Francis Chan, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, reminded the future doctors that the new white coat they were wearing, with their names embroidered, was the Faculty's "little gift" to them. He said although the gift might appear simple, it symbolizes authority and professionalism. And he left them with the age-old adage: *"When the going gets tough, the tough get going."*

These fresh graduates still have to undergo a one-year internship before becoming fully-fledged physicians.

The party was also attended by representatives of the CUHK Medical Alumni Association.



INTRODUCTION OF LATE PROFESSOR GERALD CHOA

Thanks to the late Professor Gerald Choa - founding dean of The Chinese University of Hong Kong's Faculty of Medicine - many medical students have had the opportunity to pursue their studies locally and abroad.

This year, 28 outstanding students were awarded scholarships under the Gerald Choa Memorial Fund. Four awards - ranging from \$10,000 to \$50,000 - were given out based on admission results, financial needs and project-based proposals.

The Fund was established in 2013 by the Faculty of Medicine of The Chinese University of Hong Kong in recognition of Professor Choa's immense contributions to the Faculty of Medicine during its fledgling years and the reverberating effects he had as an educator, administrator and historian on the medical community. Many people had helped establish the Faculty of Medicine but it was the late Professor Choa who spearheaded the move and is now fondly remembered as the key founder and founding dean of the Faculty.

He was CUHK's Pro-Vice-Chancellor from 1979 to 1981.

Professor Choa's foresight, wisdom and tenacious planning laid a solid foundation for the rapid growth of the Faculty of Medicine, from a small cohort with 60 medical students to a world-renowned institution consisting of five schools (medicine, nursing, pharmacy, public health and Chinese medicine). To date, the Faculty has more than 15,000 undergraduates and postgraduates.

Professor Choa received his MBBS and MD degrees from the University of Hong Kong, and was a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians of London (FRCP London), a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh (FRCP Edinburgh) and a Fellow of the Faculty of Community Medicine (FFCM). After an illustrious career with the government, he joined CUHK in 1976.



1st MBChB graduates of 1986



Medical Advisory Committee in 1976

GERALD CHOA MEMORIAL LECTURE CUM DINNER

One other significant activity to honour Professor Choa is the Gerald Choa Memorial Lecture cum Dinner, where local influential personalities, from both the private and public sectors, are invited to speak. This year's event - the fourth on record - will be held on 12 December 2017.

Further details will be announced on our Faculty website:





REUNION GATHERING OF CLASS 2003

The MBChB class of 2003 held a reunion gathering on 8 January 2017. The happy occasion took place at the "Medic-Canteen" on CUHK campus. Nearly 100 people turned up - 42 classmates with 23 families and 31 children in tow.

Special thanks go to the canteen boss and staff who kindly opened the premises for the event despite it being a Sunday.



For all those who love to write... here is your chance.

We are looking for alumni and students to share their stories on any topic of their choice.

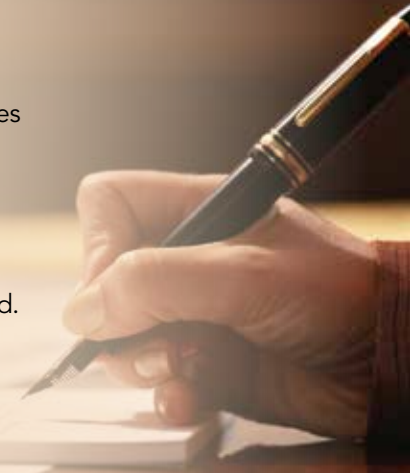
Words (English or Chinese): approx. 500

Photos are welcome.

Only selected stories by the Editorial Board will be published.

Send your articles to:  medical_alum@med.cuhk.edu.hk

** Please provide ① your name ② graduation year ③ email ④ contact numbers



SAY 'HI' TO OUR NEW CUHK MEDICAL ALUMNI AFFAIRS CONTACT POINT

We are happy to announce that Ms Kelly Tam has joined our medical alumni family as the new Assistant Alumni Affairs Manager of the CUHK Faculty and Planning Office.

So if you need anything connected with medical alumni affairs, such as booking venues or even ordering delicious lemon pies from "Medic-Canteen" for reunion gatherings, Kelly is your "point man".

She can be contacted on 3943-3336 or via email: kelly.tam@cuhk.edu.hk



MEDICAL ALUMNI HOMECOMING DAY 2018

Hear Ye! Hear Ye!

Save this date: 27 January 2018...it is the Medical Alumni Homecoming Day!!

See you all at the piazza of the Choh-Ming Li Basic Medical Sciences Building, CUHK, between 2:30pm and 5:30pm.

