



香港中文大學  
The Chinese University of Hong Kong



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

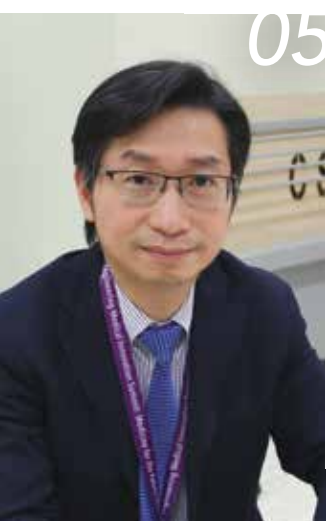


35th Anniversary  
三十五週年

# CUHK MEDICAL ALUMNI newsletter

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# WELCOME MESSAGE

"Buddies should become pillars of guidance for students embarking on their career path."

- Dr Philip Sin Ngai-chuen

(洗藝泉醫生, MBChB 1994)

Chief Manager

(Patient Safety & Risk Management),

Hospital Authority



A new academic year has dawned upon us and I am sure we are all raring to go to make this year another successful one...as always!

I would like to write about the CUHK Medical Alumni Buddy Programme. First of all, let me say that it is a great honour and pleasure to be a buddy for medical students.

Being a buddy is not a one-way street. On the one hand, I am giving guidance and advice to the freshmen and on the other, I am learning new ideas from them as well as from my fellow alumni buddies - this is really rejuvenating for both my heart and soul. It is indeed a win-win situation.

Having graduated from CUHK more than two decades ago, I witnessed

our alumni thriving well and taking up key positions in hospitals and in other fields. I am proud of them. However, their successes were earned and not given.

Buddies having passion and experience will certainly help our medical students tackle any challenges that lay ahead. We need more buddies to offer inspiration and advice to our younger generation in order to strengthen the bonds among ourselves and foster solidarity with our Faculty.

How do we know if our Buddy Programme is being successfully implemented or not? To me, engagement is all about proximity. Buddies need to approach their assigned students, or mentees, more

frequently so as to build up bonds. The ultimate goal of the Buddy Programme is to help and give advice to students and be there for them when most needed.

Buddies should become pillars of guidance for students embarking on their career path. As the famous American poet, Robert Frost (1874-1963) once wrote: "I am not a teacher, but an awakener." And I believe we, as buddies, should "awaken" the potential in our undergraduates.

Before I sign off, let me remind everyone...the Medical Alumni Homecoming Day will be held on 27 January 2018, and the theme is 'Unity • Heritage'.

See you all there!



Just when you thought that Science and Visual Arts don't really mix...well, these doctors will prove you wrong...big time!

## DISEASE OUTBREAK IGNITES CREATIVE JUICES IN YOUNG BOY, MAKING HIM A FAMOUS WRITER AMID BUSY LIFE AS A DOCTOR

"Whenever I look back on my experiences, I ask myself...how can I do better the next time."

- Dr Ray Leung Tsz-hang

(梁子恒醫生, MBChB 2011)

When the Sars outbreak struck Hong Kong in 2003, a 16-year-old boy stayed at home and waited with bated breath, fearing that at anytime soon, the police would come knocking on his door to say, "You are all now placed under quarantine. You can't go anywhere."

He had heard that residents of Amoy Gardens were being quarantined as many Sars cases had been reported there. "I was afraid that if I died of the disease, I would have left nothing in this world," Dr Ray Leung recalls. "I felt I had to write down something."

So he started jotting down his fears and feelings onto pieces of paper, thus developing his writing skills. Since then, he has published seven books. "Sars made me a writer," Dr Leung says.

After his diary on Sars, he began writing about his time in school. "I shared my experiences about life, about relationships and other very ordinary stuff."

His writings appeared in Xanga, a popular social networking website at the time.

When he started medical school with The Chinese University of Hong Kong in 2006, he penned about life as a student on campus. His popularity as a blogger began to grow.

His writing continued through his internships at Prince of Wales Hospital and Queen Elizabeth Hospital.

It was around 2011 when Ming Pao publishers approached him about printing his little nuggets of life as a medical student and an intern. Dr Leung recalls the time when he saw his first book. "I felt so proud, like a parent seeing his newborn baby."

By the time he joined QE's Accident and Emergency Department as a full-time doctor, Xanga had closed down. So he turned to Facebook, and under the pen name of Dr Ray, he began writing about his experiences as a doctor - but in a semi-fictional way. They spread fast and became extremely popular with the younger set.

Dr Leung draws his inspiration for his stories from everyday interactions with his patients and their relatives. "I would add a little bit of educational value in my stories too, explaining to the readers what the disease is and how to manage it."

Despite changing the identity of patients he writes about, some still recognise themselves in the narrative. "But they are not angry," he says. "Instead, they will thank me."

Dr Leung is now quite the celebrity - many patients as well as his colleagues now know who Dr Ray is. But fame hasn't gone to his head. "Writing helps me improve myself and my hospital work. Whenever I look back on my experiences, I ask myself... how can I do better the next time."

As a doctor at one of the busiest public hospitals in Hong Kong, how does he find time to write... "Oh, on my smartphone when I am travelling on the bus to work or while lying in bed."

CUHK's Faculty of Medicine holds a special place in his heart. "The spaciousness and environment of the campus make it very conducive to learning. The lecturers are very nice and the bond with classmates and staff is very strong."

Asked if perhaps one day he would hang up his stethoscope for a pen, he laughs: "Definitely not...then where will I get my story ideas from?"



# SURGEON'S OUTLOOK ON LIFE AND CAREER IS MAGICALLY "CARTOONIZED" ON PAPER

"I like to draw to depict my daily life and what happens in hospital."

- *Dr Lucci Lugee Liyeung*  
(李揚立之醫生, MBChB 2011)



She was only six years old when she was tasked to come up with a drawing for a dairy milk advertisement in Hong Kong. Anyone being given a job like that would have felt the pressure - but not so this little girl. She took it in her stride like a pro and voilà...a picture of a cow happily drinking milk on a green pasture became the ad for the dairy farm products. The ad ran for several months.



That little girl was Dr Lucci Liyeung, an orthopaedic surgeon at the Prince of Wales Hospital. A high profile of her artwork can be seen on the wall of a walkway connecting different buildings on the second floor of PWH. The mural was drawn in 2013.

"I have always been drawing as far as I can remember," Dr Liyeung says. Whenever she came across a blank canvas like shoeboxes or walls, she would start scribbling. That drove her mother up the wall, literally speaking. "I got told off by my mum and then, she would get me sketch books after sketch books."

She started with drawing cats and wild animals. Eventually large cats, like the cheetah, became her most favourite animal in the world. And she attributes that to a little stuffed cheetah toy she was given when she was a toddler. The toy, which she named "Cheeta-nini", followed her everywhere.

Growing up, she "published" her own weekly comic strips - drawn on A4 paper - which proved very popular among her friends. She also won several art competitions. Despite that, she got "Cs" for Art during her secondary school days. But that didn't deter her - she continued with her passion.

Dr Liyeung has been using her talent to help charities. From 2003-2005, she held a two-year fundraising event for the Hong Kong Children Cancer Foundation, where she designed a product line called "Pethletes", or pet athletes, and sold products such as umbrellas and bags. She managed to raise over \$20,000.

After obtaining a degree in 2005 in Biomedical Engineering from Imperial College London, she took a gap year - before joining CUHK's medical school - to travel to South America and Africa.

Volunteering at Namibia's Harnas Wildlife Foundation, she came across



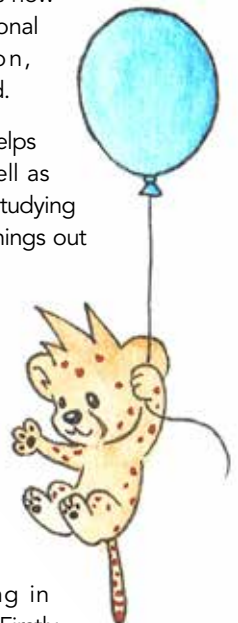
a cheetah orphan, named Duma. "I befriended Duma and there was this very strong connection between us. I felt I needed to do a little something to help conserve cheetahs and that inspired me to come up with a cheetah character."

Dumo was thus born and is now the mascot for an international charitable organisation, Cheetah Conservation Fund.

Dr Liyeung says sketching helps her cope with stress as well as with examinations. "When studying for exams, I tend to draw things out rather than writing down notes, just to make myself remember things better."

"I also like to draw to depict my daily life and what happens in hospital." The random snippets can be found on her website and Facebook.

Dr Liyeung says studying in CUHK was perfect for her. Firstly, the natural surroundings with its lush greenery helped with her creativity. "Nature is where I get inspired. And, secondly, I really like that the professors are interested in what we do outside of school...they tend to treat us as individuals, rather than just one of the students."





# SURGEON LIKENS CHINESE PAINTING TO PERFORMING MINIMALLY INVASIVE SURGERY

"There's no going back once you start... every step has to be precise."

- Professor Philip Chiu Wai-yan  
(趙偉仁教授, MBChB 1994)



What he saw impressed him so much that he too wanted to take up art. His mother agreed, but on condition that he took lessons from her teacher, the late Master Chao Shao-ang, well-known for Lingnan art, or the one brush stroke. Professor Chiu's mother, incidentally, is the famous artist Professor Ng Yuet-lau.

At 14, he started training with Master Chao...and has since become a painter in his own right.

Professor Chiu says Chinese art is steeped in symbolism and philosophy. His use of symbolisms was aptly demonstrated in a painting he did for an auction during the Faculty of Medicine's 35th anniversary dinner last year. His art-work depicted a black paradise flycatcher with a long tangerine-coloured tail perched on the branch of a kapok tree with red flowers.

The tall kapok tree symbolized "aiming high" while the flycatcher symbolized "longevity", he explains. Professor Joseph Sung, CUHK's Vice-Chancellor, provided the calligraphy.

There is also the Yin and Yang philosophy embedded in Chinese art. "Unlike western art, we don't fill the whole canvas with colours. In Chinese art, we deliberately leave a space blank for people to use their imagination."

Professor Philip Chiu possesses two qualities that most people would envy. He is a highly skilled surgeon in minimally invasive surgery and is extremely talented in the art of Chinese watercolour painting.

Professor Chiu, Assistant Dean (External Affairs) of CUHK'S Faculty of Medicine and Director of the Minimally Invasive Surgical Skills Centre, believes his training in Chinese art is responsible for his mastery in surgery. "The precise hand-eye coordination I use when painting is similar to that when I am performing minimally invasive surgery," he says.

Professor Chiu's interest in art began when, in his early teens, he decided to pop into his mother's room one day to see what it was that made her always late for dinner. "Parents are supposed to chase their children to eat but I often had to chase after my mum when it was dinner time."



Professor Chiu's most recent work can be found in a very famous restaurant.

"We received a request from the restaurant owner. Professor Joseph Sung wrote 'Full-House' in calligraphy while I drew some popular Chinese ingredients like crabs, sweet corn, onions and 'bak choy'."

And his latest creation? A grasshopper on a branch he drew using a surgical robotic arm.

Professor Chiu likens Chinese art to surgery. "In western art, a correction could be made by simply painting over the mistake. In Chinese brush painting, if there's a mistake, we tear it up and start all over again. That's why you need meticulous planning. It's the same with surgery. There's no going back once you start...every step has to be precise."

Painting is a great stress reliever, he says. "We have two cerebral hemispheres in our brain - right for creativity and left for logical thinking. If we can combine the two, life would be better."

Professor Chiu says he "treasures" the opportunities being given to him by the Faculty of Medicine. "Being a relatively young Faculty at the time when I joined, I saw how our professors and teachers worked really very hard to ensure the Faculty excelled in medicine. I am truly grateful for that."

# PHOTO-TAKING KEEPS BUSY DOCTOR GROUNDED, CALM AND HAPPY

"Photography reminds me to put everything into the right perspective."

- Dr Man Chi-yin

(文志賢醫生, MBChB 1986)



only time that Dr Man's staff would know he is into photography because he has his name on them.

Otherwise, one would have to befriend him on Facebook to see his array of photos. "I get quite a lot of 'likes' and positive comments about my photos on Facebook. That makes me happy and keeps me motivated to pursue this hobby," he says.

Dr Man became interested in photography after meeting a parent during a Parent-Teacher Association gathering at the school where his younger son was studying. "This parent had a lot of experience in photography and was teaching it as well," he says.

The two men clicked and soon, Dr Man - armed with his first camera, a Pentax model costing around \$4,000 - was following his mentor on photographic excursions. "Wherever he went to take photos, I followed," he laughingly recalls.

When he first started this hobby, he was already working as a Consultant at the Accident and Emergency Department of Prince of Wales Hospital. The only time he could go on his photo jaunts was during his vacation.

"As a beginner, I didn't have any subject preferences. But the first few were on sceneries," he says. His first photo-trip was to the famous East Lake in Hunan province where fishermen, on long boats casting their nets into the water, was the highlight of any camera-toting tourist.

"It was very impressive. I still have one of the photos in my office."



As years went by, Dr Man's photo subjects expanded but natural scenery remains his primary interest. He says he loves taking photos during sunrise or sunset. "The lighting is magnificent if you catch the right moment."

Photography keeps him grounded, he explains. "It calms me and makes me happy and reminds me to put everything into the right perspective. We can't just focus on work. We need to maintain a work-life balance.

"That's why I highly recommend colleagues to take up a hobby, not necessarily photography."

Being one of the first medical graduates of The Chinese University of Hong Kong's Faculty of Medicine, Dr Man clearly recalls the imparting words of a professor: "You are the first batch of medical students from CUHK. Everybody in the community will be watching you guys."

Those words, Dr Man says, left a lasting impression on him. It made him study even harder as a student and since graduating, he has not stopped working hard. "I was determined not to bring disrepute but fame to my alma mater."

It was about ten years ago when Dr Man Chi-yin was first introduced to photography. But looking at some of his photos today, you would think the Hospital Chief Executive of Alice Ho Miu Ling Nethersole Hospital (AHNH) and Tai Po Hospital is a highly professional photographer, with decades of experience behind him.



However, Dr Man insists he is just a photography-buff. "I don't take part in competitions. I am a member of an amateur photography club and every year, the club will send photos, mine included, for an exhibition at the Hong Kong Cultural Centre."

Sometimes, AHNH's Chaplain would ask him for a couple of photos, print Gospel words on them and stick them up in the hospital elevators. This is the



# CUHK MEDICAL CENTRE: SCALING THE HEIGHTS OF INNOVATIVE HEALTHCARE

"The whole idea behind the Medical Centre is based on a very strong social mission."

- Dr Fung Hong

馮康醫生

*Chief Executive Officer, CUHK Medical Centre*

It is without a doubt that The Chinese University of Hong Kong's latest pride and joy is the CUHK Medical Centre. It is now under construction in Shatin, next to the MTR University Station. And, once up and running in early 2020, the Centre - which is wholly owned by CUHK - will become Hong Kong's first non-profit private teaching hospital.

Leading the development of the Centre is Chief Executive Officer, Dr Fung Hong - a former Chief Executive of the New Territories East Cluster as well as ex-Hospital Chief Executive of the Prince of Wales Hospital.

"The whole idea of the Medical Centre is based on a very strong social mission," Dr Fung says. "We want to bridge the service gaps between the private and public healthcare sectors by creating some type of private healthcare that will be more affordable, especially for the middle class."

Currently, the public health system is buckling under the weight of increasing demand, mainly due to Hong Kong's ageing population. "The waiting time for non-urgent cases is getting longer and longer...sometimes the wait is three years, or even more," he says.

On top of that, private hospitals are getting more and more costly. He pointed out that the private sector medical insurance inflation now stands at 10 percent. "Many would like go to private hospitals but are finding it really expensive. So we saw a need for a change in the health system."

Dr Fung hopes to do just that by introducing a new business model that will not only bring down costs but operate differently from the existing private hospitals. "We are going to offer patients a more affordable and transparent pricing scheme which we call 'packaged prices.'"

Traditional private hospitals rely on visiting doctors and specialists to bring in patients, he explains. And these patients, besides coughing up for their doctor's fees, will also have to pay for items like drugs, bandages, cotton balls and so forth.







But under the 'packaged prices' model, everything will be bundled together for better transparency. "Under this system, doctors' fees and other medical charges are set beforehand so that patients will know exactly what they would be paying at the end of the day," Dr Fung says.

Therein lies another challenge. The Centre probably would have to employ a lot more doctors instead of just relying on visiting physicians. "So I need to figure out how can I design a package in such a way that will be attractive enough to lure doctors."

Besides packaged prices, Dr Fung will also be working with the insurers to offer health insurance and innovative health plans to patients.

Regarding nurses, Dr Fung says they already have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Baptist University's nursing school to start training enrolled nurses. So by the time the Centre opens, it will have some 20 nurses at the ready.

Another challenge facing the Centre is how to trim costs in areas without affecting quality. "We're exploring our medication and materials management by making use of third party logistics to improve efficiency," he adds. Medical consumables such as catheters, drips, bandages, plasters and dressings are additional costs to patients.

Dr Fung says they will

also look into lean management principles, i.e. identifying which areas are adding value and which are causing unnecessary waste. To better understand how the system works, Dr Fung led a team to Stanford Health Care in September to look at how the American hospital practises lean management.

Dr Fung says the Centre will also facilitate translational application of research. For instance, medical breakthroughs - such as researches into non-invasive prenatal testing and liquid biopsy for detecting cancer by the Chairman of CUHK's Department of Pathology and Director of the Li Ka Shing Institute of Health Sciences, Professor Dennis Lo Yuk-ming — can be translated into medical practice and meaningful health outcomes in the shortest time possible.

In other words, being a private hospital means new technologies and clinically proven treatments - like Professor Lo's - can be implemented more easily without having to face massive government red tape which public hospitals often do.

While PWH will remain the main teaching hospital for CUHK undergraduates, the Centre will play a complementary role in that it will strengthen the training and education of healthcare professionals. "Students will be taught how to communicate and engage with patients in the process of care...something which is difficult to do in the public sector because there are just too many patients," says Dr Fung.

Seventy-percent of the 516 in-patient beds will be set aside for

local residents since the Centre's commitment is to primarily serve the local population. But only 100 beds will be opened in the beginning, with the number gradually increasing each year. The Centre will also house 28 operating rooms, 49 consultation rooms with 80 day places. Once fully operational, an estimated 200 full-time doctors and 600 nurses would be needed.

To stay "smart" in this day and age, the Centre will extensively adopt Information and Communications Technology (ICT) to transform the model of care and improve efficiency in both clinical and business operations.

Dr Fung has high hopes for the Centre but says, what really counts is the patients' actual experiences. "It's not really important how we view ourselves but how patients view us. We're hoping that, by 2025, patients will *respect* us for our patient-centred services and also *recognise* us for our transparent and affordable pricing. We also hope the Centre will gain a good *reputation* for its new models in coordinated care and become *world-renowned* for its clinical experience."

Dr Fung says he is encouraged by the optimism shown by CUHK graduates, in particular the medical alumni, for the new Centre: "Thankfully, they're excited and have said they'll come forward to make it successful. So we very much welcome their continuous support and contribution.

"And, I hope the Centre will reflect the Faculty of Medicine's long term fundamental value...*Transforming our Passion into Perfection.*"

# CU MEDICAL ALUMNI BUDDY PROGRAMME

There's exciting news about the CU Medical Alumni Buddy Programme - in order to connect graduates with medical students for advice and career guidance, a Facebook fanpage has been established. The page has currently over 2,300 fans, comprising of CU medical alumni and students.

The ultimate aim of the MABP is to pass on our unique brand of mentorship to our successors and hope that they will continue this heritage for the CUHK Faculty of Medicine.

The programme - inaugurated in May 2016 - works differently from the conventional mentorship programme in that it specifically seeks to match senior alumni buddies to the "right" mentees through a series of activities.

MABP is mutually beneficial for both alumni and students. The alumni network offers channels for students to explore their potential, gain leadership skills and participate in social service and humanitarian work. Through this, students can better equip themselves for their future careers.

Alumni buddies, on the other hand, can gain valuable insights from their peers and students, while having the opportunity to update their knowledge and improve their own coaching, leadership and communication skills.

With the support of Alumni Affairs, CUHK Faculty of Medicine, the Buddy Programme got to a great start this academic year with the Pre-Orientation Camp Dinner and Orientation Camp Gathering.



## PRE-O CAMP DINNER

The Pre-O Camp dinner was held on 24 July 2017 at the canteen of CW Chu College, CUHK with some 70 people in attendance. The gathering provided a platform for alumni to share their experiences as a student as well as working clinicians in their fields. Students took the opportunity to find out more about the different medical specialties.

The dinner was just the first step to building relationships and networks among alumni buddies and student leaders before meeting the freshmen at O Camp.



## O CAMP GATHERING

During the O Camp, held on 21 August to 24 August 2017, undergraduates were introduced to the Medical Alumni Buddy Programme. About 370 students, including freshmen and student group leaders, met their alumni buddies for the first time. Mentors and mentees took the opportunity to learn about each other, gain each other's trust and form alliances.







## WORKSHOPS

On 19 September 2017, Professor Paul Lai, Director of CUHK's Office of Medical Education, Dr Siu Wing-tai, the convener of MABP and two senior medical students shared their experiences with Year 1 to Year 3 medical students. The talk, "How to excel in Preclinical Years", captivated the audience of 50 students, who said they were grateful for the study tips.

Another workshop, "To Survive and Thrive in Clinical Years", was held on 25 September 2017, aimed at helping Year 4 to Year 6 medical students cope with their clinical training. Speakers included Professor Enders Ng, Associate Dean (Alumni Affairs), Dr Siu Wing-tai and three young graduates. Around 40 students attended the session.

On 24 October 2017, a forum on Career Planning and Development was held at the Lui Che Woo Clinical Sciences Building. Some 130 students attended the exciting workshop, entitled "Quality of Trainees that Department Heads Like". Besides that, speakers also enlightened students on how to write a proper CV and how to impress potential employers during interviews. Dr Siu Wing-tai was the moderator.

Other stress relief workshops as well as talks on extra-curricular activities and work-life balance are also being planned for the year.



## CU PHYSICIAN ALUMNI'S GATHERING

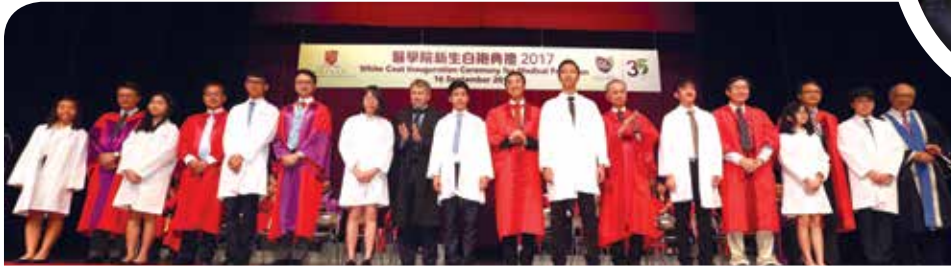


The first ever CU Physician Alumni's Gathering was held on 21 September 2017 at Adrenaline, Hong Kong Jockey Club, Happy Valley Racecourse. The event brought together graduates from different classes for networking as well as strengthening the CUHK team spirit.

Professor Francis Chan, the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, delivered a speech and so did Dr Bonnie Wong, Chairlady of the CUHK Medical Alumni Association. Everyone enjoyed a sumptuous buffet dinner amidst laughter and lively chatter.



# WHITE COAT INAUGURATION CEREMONY 2017



Nearly 250 medical undergraduates have begun their journey towards becoming doctors.

They will, in the coming six years, prove they are worthy of the white coats presented to them during the annual White Coat Inauguration Ceremony, held on 16 September 2017 at Sir Run Run Shaw Hall of CUHK Campus.

In his opening remarks Professor Joseph Sung, Vice-Chancellor of CUHK, urged students to practise medicine with integrity, respect and compassion. For his part, Professor Francis Chan, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, reminded the freshmen that processing medical knowledge is as important as adhering to medical ethics.

The Guest of Honour, Professor Peter Mathieson, President and Vice-Chancellor of The University of Hong Kong, told students never to forget the sense of privilege that medicine will give them. "People are at their most vulnerable when they are sick,

frightened or uncertain about the future. You will be their confidante, their trusted friend, sometimes their saviour.

Simple humanity will never be replaceable by technological advances," he said.

Families and friends watched with pride as the students were helped into their highly-coveted White Coats by Professor Mathieson and 35 other academics from the Faculty.

Professor Fok Tai-fai, Pro-Vice-Chancellor of CUHK and Choh-Ming Li Professor of Paediatrics, led the oath-taking where students pledged to maintain the highest standards of professional conduct and to care for patients as best as they can.

The whole event was a sea of colour as academics donned their own resplendent ceremonial gowns, some in red while others in black.

Afterwards, guests and participants were treated to a tea reception, held at the open piazza facing the University Science Centre and Choh-Ming Li Basic Medical Sciences Building. Everyone enjoyed themselves, taking photos among themselves as well as with our new friends - "Giant Medic Bear" and "Giant Surgeon Bear".

## DR LUI CHE WOO DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR PUBLIC LECTURE

The Dr Lui Che Woo Distinguished Professor Public Lecture was held on 29 September 2017 at Kai Chong Tong, Postgraduate Education Centre, Prince of Wales Hospital. About 150 people attended the event.

This year's guest speaker was Professor Freddie H. Fu, a Distinguished Service Professor and the David Silver Professor and Chairman of the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. He spoke about "60 Years of Excellence in Orthopaedic Research".





## GIANT MEDIC AND SURGEON BEARS

**H**eads-up, everyone! Our new friends – Giant Medic and Surgeon Bears are here. Standing at approximately 180 cm tall, they are brown in colour and made of glass fibre. Giant Medic Bear is donning a white coat and waving “hello” while Giant Surgeon Bear, in his green coat, is ready for a fist-bump.

Like their little cousins, Medic and Surgeon Bears, the white coat and green surgeon gown denote their highly skilled professions – a physician and a surgeon not to be messed with...!

These charismatic giant bears are now stationed in the lobby of Choh-Ming Li Basic Medical Sciences Building, CUHK, and are available for selfies!



## SUMMER CLINICAL ATTACHMENT PROGRAMME

**T**his year's Summer Clinical Attachment Programme (SCAP) was held for five days from 10 July - 14 July 2017. The annual event, organised by the Faculty of Medicine, is aimed at broadening secondary school students' perspective of the medical sciences and to gain a better understanding of the Faculty through interactions with distinguished speakers, staff, students and alumni.

More than 160 students took part - attending an infectious control workshop, listening to lectures by emeritus professors and distinguished guests, touring the campus and watching live broadcasts of surgical procedures. They also visited the Dissecting Laboratory, Orthopaedic Learning Centre and the Minimally Invasive Surgical Skills Centre.

The highlight of the programme was the doctor-shadowing sessions during which groups of students accompanied physicians on their clinical rounds.



## CUHKMAA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND DINNER



**T**he Annual General Meeting and Dinner of The Chinese University of Hong Kong Medical Alumni Association (CUHKMAA) for the last financial year was held on 2 September 2017 at the Shatin Jockey Clubhouse. We had the pleasure of having the Chief Executive Officer of the CUHK Medical Centre, Dr Fung Hong, speak to us about the vision and goals of the new Centre. Before the AGM, some medical alumni and their family members joined a guided tour of the Jockey Club Museum of Climate Change and, besides getting an education, they also had a lot of fun.

## INTRODUCTION OF FOUNDING PROFESSOR JOHN VALLANCE-OWEN

Professor John Vallance-Owen, or known to many as JVO, had a distinguished career in medicine and was a world-renowned expert in diabetes before joining CUHK's new medical school.

He was approaching retirement when, in 1983, he was invited to become the Foundation Professor and Chairman of the Department of Medicine by the then Dean of CUHK's fledgling Faculty of Medicine, Professor Gerald Choa.

JVO, it is said, was highly recommended by the late Professor Sir Melville Arnott who described him as an "academic of distinction".

One of the first things he did was to hire highly qualified academics from UK, Australia and New Zealand for the newly established department. It was reportedly said that JVO hardly held any departmental meetings, often settling matters "face-to-face within his office or along the corridor."

In 1984, he was appointed Associate Dean. One of JVO's greatest achievements was that he fought - and succeeded - in getting the General Medical Council of UK to recognise the degrees of the first group of CUHK medical graduates in 1986.

The first batch of CUHK medical graduates remember JVO with great fondness and deep respect.



"He was one of the most respected professors of my class," says Dr Luk Che-chung (MBChB 1986), the Chief Executive of the Hong Kong West Cluster of Public Hospitals as well as Chief Executive of Queen Mary Hospital. "He treated us as his own grandchildren and never lost his temper. In times of trouble, he always said: 'no worries, boys and girls, let me take care of it'. He was so soothing and was such a great man."

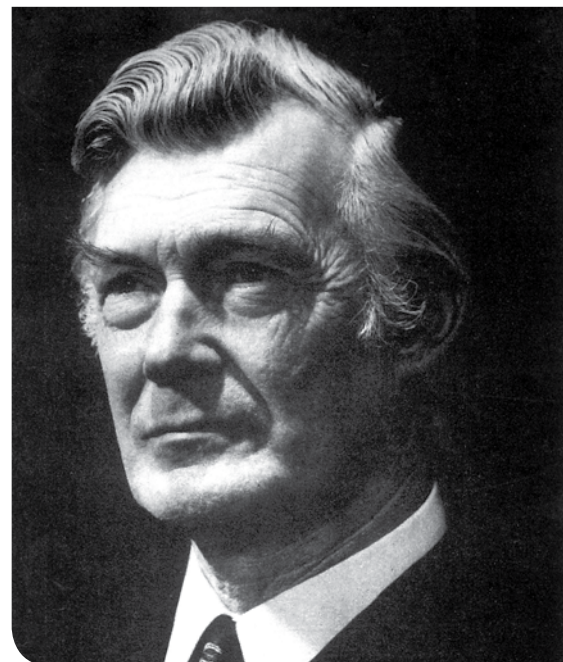
Dr Leung Ka-lau (MBChB 1986), a former Legislative Councillor, says he "really appreciated" JVO's contribution to the Faculty. "My classmates and I admired the excellent clinical skills he demonstrated regardless of his own physical condition." JVO was 63 when he joined the Faculty.

Dr Leung Chi-bon (MBChB 1986) had a longer relationship with JVO compared with his other classmates. He was recruited to work as a Medical Officer in the Department of Medicine by JVO as soon as he completed his one-year stint as a houseman. "JVO was well respected by all of us. With the rest of the 'founding fathers', he did his best to upgrade our learning and teaching," recalls Dr Leung, who is with PWH's Department of Medicine and Therapeutics.

Dr Leung says with his networking overseas, JVO helped the young medical school gain recognition worldwide. "JVO's teaching was clear and concise and he displayed such clinical sense and wisdom," Dr Leung adds.

JVO certainly believed doctors should empathize with their patients. In a CUHK bulletin published in 1983, he wrote: *It cannot be said too often that the patient is a person and not a disease, and it therefore follows that the physician must have an understanding of the individual and be able to consider his feelings. To understand the individual, the doctor must gather his experience and train his powers of observation in a spirit of charity, magnanimity and above all sympathy.*

JVO retired in 1988 and returned to England. He died in July 2011 at the age of 90.



1920-2011

MD (Cantab), FRCP, FRCPI, FRCPath

Photo: Courtesy of Hong Kong College of Physicians, Synapse (Aug 2011)

**A TIME OF FRATERNITY:  
GERALD CHOA MEMORIAL  
LECTURE CUM DINNER**

The Gerald Choa Memorial Lecture cum Dinner will be held on 15 December 2017. The Guest of Honour, Professor Joseph Sung, Vice-Chancellor of The Chinese University of Hong Kong, will deliver a speech, entitled "The Role of Medical Doctors in the Era of AI and Robotics."



## REUNION GATHERING OF CLASS 1988

The MBChB class of 1988 held a reunion gathering on 23 September 2017.

Some 42 graduates attended the dinner held at the Glorious Chinese Restaurant in Lai Chi Kok. They had a great time, eating, chatting and reminiscing about university days.



## ARTICLE AND PHOTO CONTRIBUTION

Calling all alumni and students...here's a chance to try your hand at creative writing.



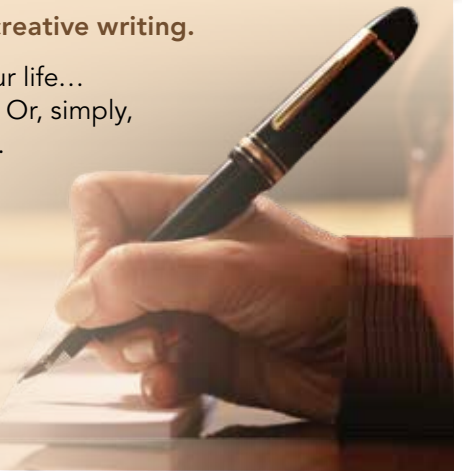
Send us stories about memorable moments in your life... a wedding, a newborn baby, your graduation day. Or, simply, encapsulate your daily activities and share with us.

**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](mailto:medical_alum@med.cuhk.edu.hk)

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



## CUHK MEDICAL ALUMNI HOMECOMING DAY 2018

### ONLINE REGISTRATION:



Save this date: 27 January 2018 - It's the Medical Alumni Homecoming Day!

The event, bearing the theme "Unity • Heritage", will be held at University Science Centre and Choh-Ming Li Basic Medical Sciences Building, CUHK Campus.

There will be a host of programmes on that day - starting with a Thanksgiving and Pledging Ceremony, to a visit to the Dissecting Laboratory and a guided bus tour of new colleges and landmarks. There will also be a carnival and fun fair and much, much more ... and one will get to meet our two latest additions - Giant Medic and Giant Surgeon Bears!

Light refreshments will be available. Admission is free and all are welcome, regardless of age. Prior registration is required.

Enquiries: **Kelly Tam (Assistant Alumni Affairs Manager)**  
Tel: **3943-3336** | Email: [medical\\_alum@med.cuhk.edu.hk](mailto:medical_alum@med.cuhk.edu.hk)

# MEDICAL ALUMNI CONTACT UPDATE FORM

Please "✓" the appropriate box(es)

Surname \* : [Grid]

Given Name \* : [Grid]

Chinese Name \* : [Grid]

Year of Graduation \* : [Grid]

Specialty \* : [Grid]  
(e.g. internal medicine, surgery, paediatrics)

Private Clinic    Hospital    Others

Please Specify \* : [Grid]  
(e.g. Prince of Wales Hospital)

Mobile \* : [Grid]

Email \* : [Grid]

\* Mandatory

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If you WISH to receive the *CUHK Medical Alumni Newsletter* from the Faculty, please state your preference below.

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