

中文大學校刊  
THE  
UNIVERSITY  
BULLETIN

Winter 1975





# The University Bulletin

## Winter 1975

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# New

## Fulton Commission

The Chancellor of the University, Sir Murray MacLehose, has appointed a commission to advise on whether any changes should be made to the Constitution of the University and its Constituent Colleges, subsequent to the submission of the Final Report of the Working Party on Educational Policy and University Structure in July 1975.

The Chairman of the Commission is Lord Fulton of Falmer, who in 1962-63 chaired the Commission whose Report led to the University's inauguration. Other members include Sir Michael Herries, Chairman of the University and Polytechnic Grants Committee from 1965 to 1973; and Prof. C.K. Yang of the University of Pittsburgh. Mr. I.C.M. Maxwell of the Inter-University Council for Higher Education Overseas, Secretary to the first Fulton Commission, serves as Secretary to this new Commission.

The terms of reference of the Fulton Commission are:

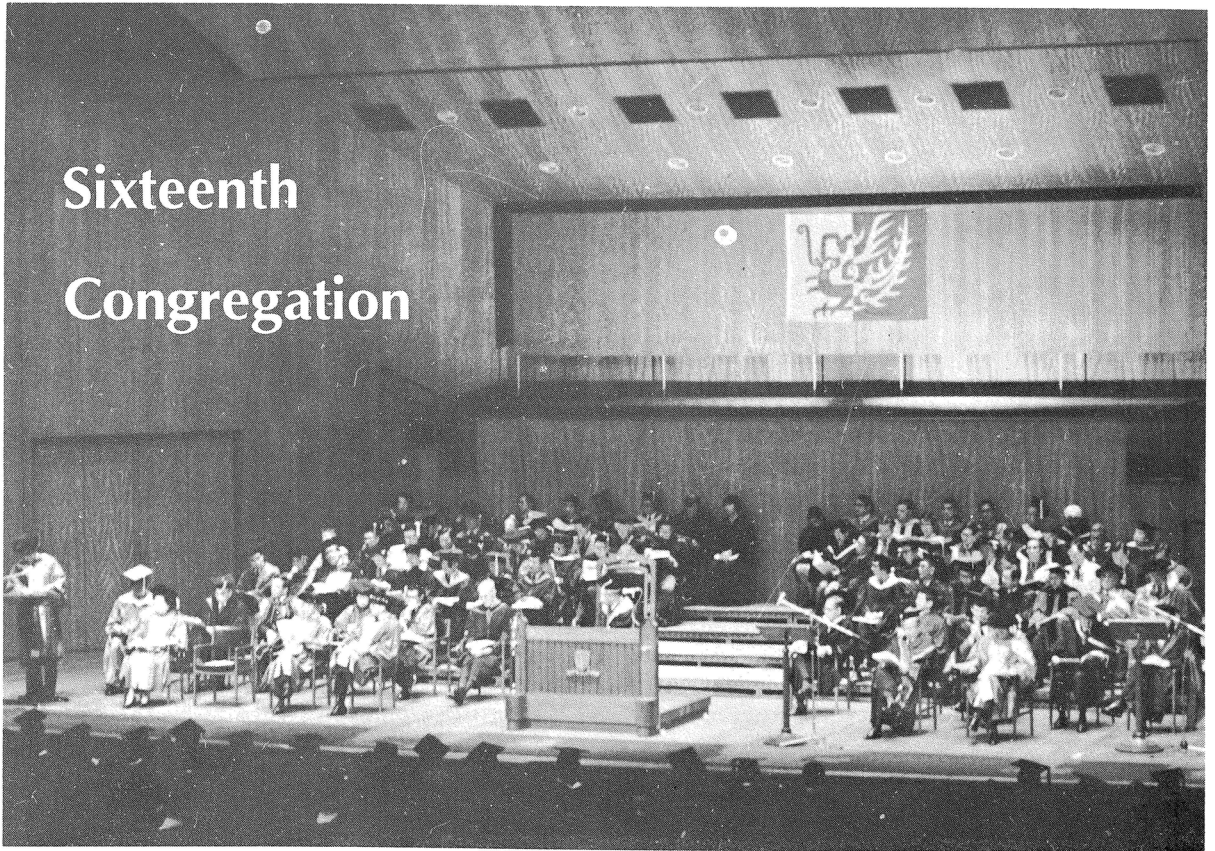
“Bearing in mind experience gained in the first decade of The Chinese University of Hong Kong's development and the Final Report of the Working Party on Educational Policy and University Structure, to advise on whether any changes are necessary in the governance, financial and administrative machinery, ordinances and statutes of the University and its Constituent Colleges.”

The new Fulton Commission came to Hong Kong on 5th December and spent a week on formal hearings. Officers and faculty of the University and the Constituent Colleges were invited to give their views at the hearings. The Commission will assemble in Britain to prepare a Report, to be submitted to the Chancellor in late February 1976.



*(From left to right) Mr. I.C.M. Maxwell, Sir Michael Herries, Lord Fulton of Falmer, and Prof. C.K. Yang*

# Sixteenth Congregation

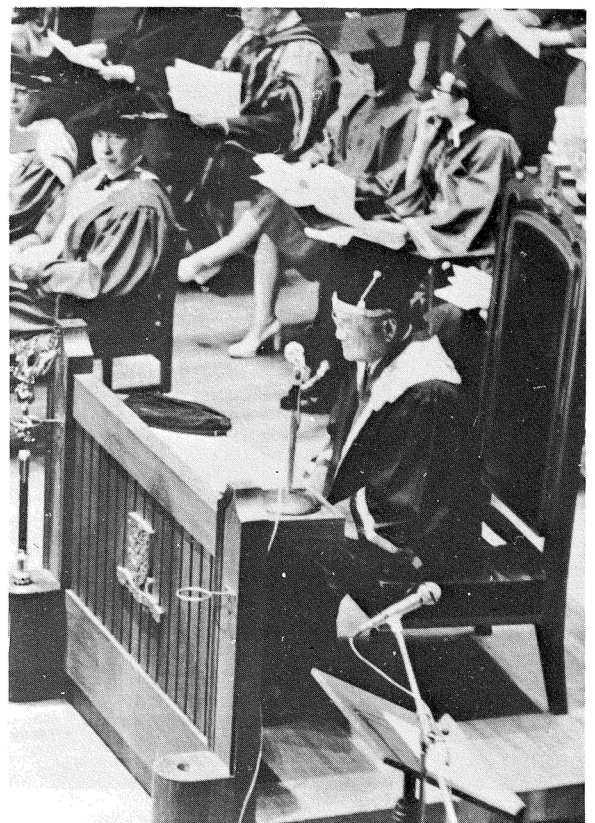


The University held its Sixteenth Congregation for the Conferment of Honorary Degrees and other Degrees at the City Hall on 22nd October, 1975. Dr. Choh-Ming Li, Vice-Chancellor, presided at the ceremony.

The University conferred the degree of Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*, on three eminent persons: Miss Aw Sian, Chairman of the Sing Tao Newspapers Limited; Prof. Ping-ti Ho, James Westfall Thompson Professor of History at the University of Chicago; and Prof. D.C. Lau, Professor of Chinese at the University of London. Prof. Ping-ti Ho addressed the Congregation after the conferment of all degrees.

This year, 83 Master's degrees and 593 Bachelor's degrees were conferred on graduates of the University: 46 Masters of Philosophy, 24 Masters of Business Administration, 4 Masters of Divinity, 4 Masters of Arts, 5 Masters of Arts (Education), 159 Bachelors of Arts, 159 Bachelors of Science, 84 Bachelors of Business Administration and 191 Bachelors of Social Science.

The Public Orator was Prof. Ma Lin.



*Vice-Chancellor presiding at the ceremony*

## Citations on the Honorary Graduates

### Miss AW Sian, O.B.E., J.P., S.S.ST.J.(A)

As Chairman of the Sing Tao Newspapers Limited for over two decades, Miss Aw Sian is not only a brilliant leader in the local journalistic world, but has also become a highly respected figure on the international press scene. She was elected World Chairman of the International Press Institute for 1970–71, thus becoming the first Asian woman to hold the post. Founder of the Chinese Language Press Institute, she now serves as Chairman of the Executive Board. She has made a splendid contribution to the improvement of the Chinese language press all over the world.

Apart from her admirable leadership in the journalistic world, Miss Aw has also contributed significantly to supporting the development of studies in journalism and communication, as well as the promotion of social welfare and cultural activities. This University is particularly indebted to her for her services as a member of the Advisory Committee of the Institute of Chinese Studies in past years, and as an Honorary Member of the Graduate Studies Committee in Communication.

In recognition of her outstanding achievements mentioned above, may I present Miss Aw Sian for the conferment of the degree of Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*.

### Prof. Ping-ti HO, B.A., Ph.D.

Prof. Ping-ti Ho is a historian of international renown. A graduate of the National Tsinghua University in China, he was sent to the States as a Sino-American Boxer Fund Scholar in 1945, and later obtained his doctoral degree in British History in Columbia University. After a long career of teaching in universities in the States and Canada, Prof. Ho is now James Westfall Thompson Professor of History in the University of Chicago. He has recently been elected President of the Association for

Asian Studies, the first Asian ever to hold the post.

Prof. Ho has many works on history to his credit, including *Studies on the Population of China, 1368–1953*, *Ladder of Success in Imperial China, Aspects of Social Mobility, 1368–1911*, and *The Loess and the Origins of Chinese Agriculture*, which are highly acclaimed by scholars all over the world. A forthcoming title is to be published jointly by this University and the University of Chicago Press. Prof. Ho has, over the past years, made many valuable suggestions to the University, especially on teaching and research in the field of History.

In recognition of his brilliant academic achievements, this University recommends Prof. Ping-ti Ho for the conferment of the degree of Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*.

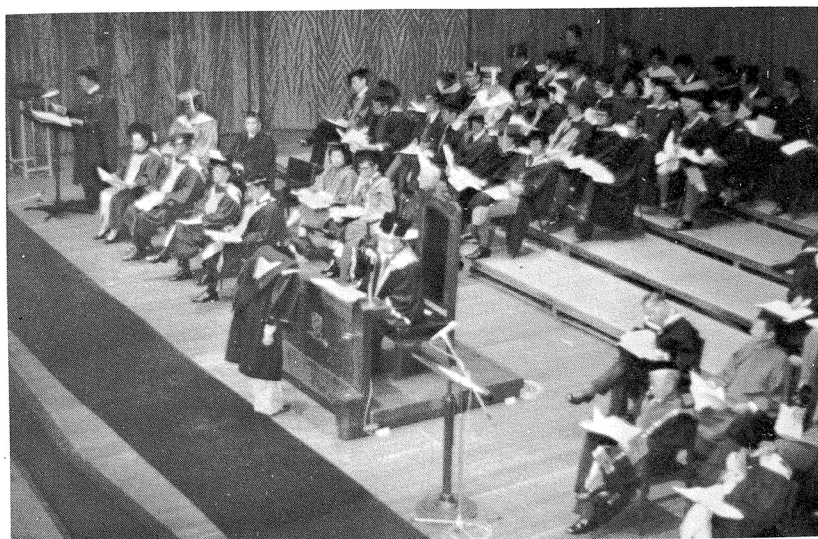
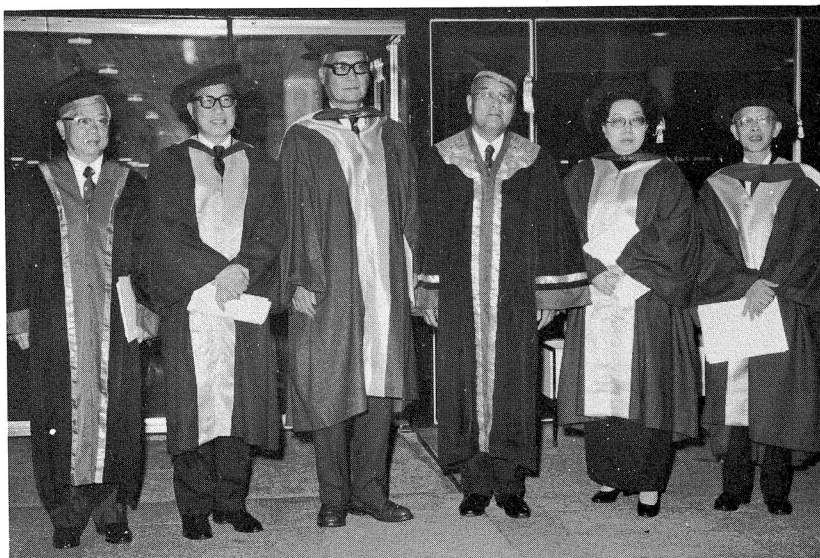
### Prof. D.C. LAU, B.A., M.A.

Prof. D.C. Lau is known to the world as a distinguished scholar in Chinese Philosophy. After his graduation from the University of Hong Kong, he served the Allied cause in Free China. When the War ended, he went to Scotland to read philosophy in the University of Glasgow. Later, he joined London University where he now serves as Professor of Chinese—he was, in fact, the first Chinese to be appointed to a chair of Chinese in Britain.

Prof. Lau has published a wide variety of works on Chinese philosophy, among which *Lao Tzu: Tao Te Ching* and *Mencius* have received particular acclaim. Two years ago, he proposed that this University bring out a modern edition of Wang Nien-sun's *Kwang Ya Shu Cheng* with punctuation and indices, and will himself be responsible for the final supervision of this project.

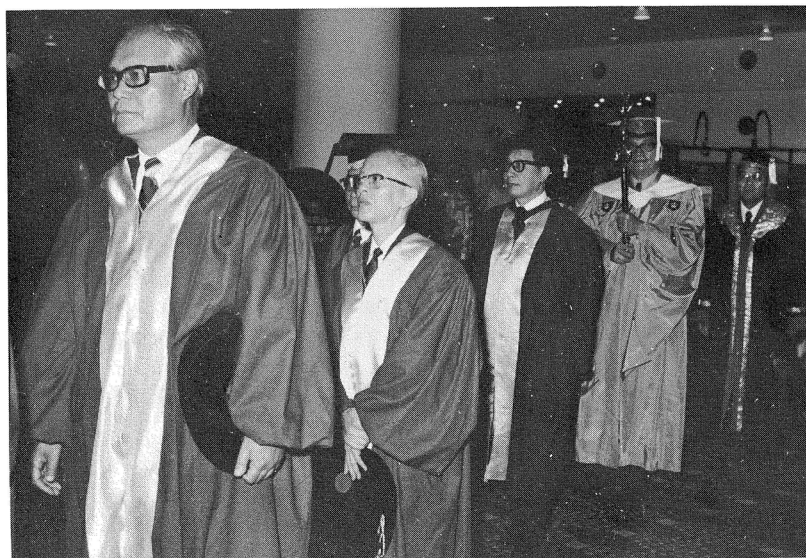
In recognition of his dedication and achievements in the promotion of Chinese culture overseas, Prof. Lau is presented for the conferment of the degree of Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*.

*(From left to right)  
Mr. T.C. Cheng,  
Sir Yuet-Keung Kan,  
Prof. Ping-ti Ho,  
Vice-Chancellor  
C.M. Li,  
Dr. Aw Sian, and  
Prof. D.C. Lau*



*Capping*

*The procession entering*



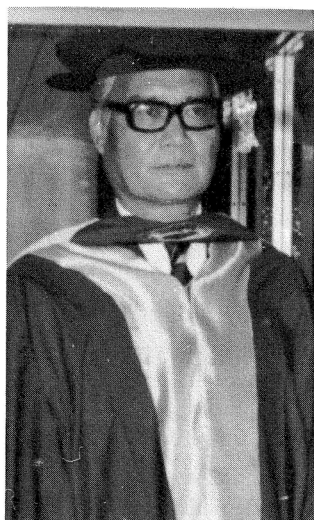
## Prof. Ping-ti Ho's Speech

### Longevity of Chinese Civilization

The longevity of Chinese civilization is generally conceded to be something of a unique phenomenon in world history; as such it has evoked explanations ranging from the plausible to the esoteric. An intellectually more acceptable interpretation is now possible, thanks to the availability of massive archaeological and scientific data pouring out of China since 1949. By making a preliminary integration of such new data with archaic Chinese literary records I have uncovered two basic factors that may provide a fresh interpretation as to why the Chinese civilization is the only major civilization of ancient origin that is still distinctive and vital today.

### Self-sustaining Agriculture

First, there is China's self-sustaining agriculture. Combined archaeological and scientific evidence indicates that a self-sustaining agricultural system made its debut in the Yang-shao nuclear area around 5000 B.C. The Yang-shao nuclear area embraced the southeastern portion of the loess highlands, that is, the Wei River basin in Shensi, southern Shansi, and western Honan. This self-sustaining agriculture was an outcome of the response of the Yang-shao proto-Chinese to a natural environment which was in some ways restrictive but in one peculiar way uniquely favorable. The environment was restrictive in terms of extremities of climate, light rainfall, relative scarcity of plant resources, and rather dissected landforms. The one most important endowment of this area, which on balance more than offsets its natural disadvantages, is the loess. With a rare sense of history among pioneering investigators of the loess, Raphael Pumpelly, an American geologist who led an archaeological expedition to Russian Turkestan in 1904, pointed out the important role played by the loess in the history of man, with special reference to the loess in China:



"Its fertility seems inexhaustible, a quality it owes partly, as (Ferdinand von) Richthofen remarks, to its depth and texture, partly to the salts brought to the surface after rain by capillary attraction acting through tubular channels left after the decay of successive generations of the grass stems inclosed during its accumulation, and partly to the increment of fresh dust that is still brought by winds from the interior. Its self-fertilizing ability is shown by the fact that crops have been raised continuously, through several thousand years, on its immense areas in China, and practically without fertilizing additions. It is on these lands that dense populations accumulate and grow up to the limit of its great life-supporting capacity.\*"

Since the slash-and-burn system of the tropics is dictated primarily by the inability of the soil to restore its fertility without long fallow, and since the loess of China is famous for its self-fertilizing capacity, it is fairly obvious from the standpoint of agronomy that the Yang-shao agricultural system was not slash-and-burn in the conventional sense and may be regarded as self-sustaining from its very inception.

As a precaution against any possibly naive correlating of a few scientific facts for a conjectural reconstruction of Yang-shao agricultural practices, I asked Dr. Jack R. Harlan of the University of Illinois at Urbana, a leading authority on the history of crops in general and on the origins of wheat and barley in particular, without first telling him anything about the fallow system recorded in Chou literature, what he would think, in the perspective of agronomy and comparative primitive agriculture, to have been the Yang-shao practices. He said without hesitation that the Yang-shao practices would be different from those of the slash-and-burn system, which would require at least eight times as much land as was actually cultivated each year to make a long fallow feasible; that Yang-shao farmers would probably need no more than three times as much land as was actually cultivated each year;

that part of the land cultivated by Yang-shao farmers would require a short two-year fallow; and that the loess soil of superior moisture-holding capacity could grow *Setaria* millet consecutively without difficulty. His most important conclusion, hitherto little understood by archaeologists specializing on China, is that the crucial problem in the slash-and-burn system is fertility, while the crucial problem in Yang-shao agriculture is not fertility but moisture.

The Yang-shao system of short fallow which Dr. Harlan and I have reconstructed out of principles of agronomy accords almost exactly with the fallow system described in those parts of *The Book of Documents* and *The Book of Odes* that can be ascertained to have been written very early in Chou times. The three key terms for agricultural land in these early Chou works are: *tzu* 菑, *hsin* 新, and *yü* 畝. The character *tzu* consists of three components—the upper part is the radical for grass, the middle part is an archaic form of the character which means “to bring calamity to” or “to kill”, and the lower part means the field. From various ancient Chinese etymologists’ commentaries we learn that *tzu* has two essential meanings: first, the process by which “grass residues are returned to the soil” after the virgin sods have been turned, and second, the first-year land that is not yet ready for planting. As a matter of fact, without previous experience in field agriculture, the first Yang-shao farmers would almost certainly plant millet soon after the sods were broken up. It should not take them long to learn that the yield of the first year was meagre but the yields of the second and third years were much better. This is because during the first year the nitrogen in the soil is mostly consumed by the various microorganisms which are the main agent in decomposing plant residues. This is precisely the first meaning of *tzu*, a process by which grass residues are returned to the soil. By the second year, when the plant residues have already been decomposed, the various microorganisms, instead of continually tying up the nitrogen in the soil, release it to nourish the seed-plants. This phenomenon of vastly different yields would naturally lead Yang-shao farmers to

the formulation of the simple rule that fresh-broken land be rested for a year and millet be grown from the second year onward.

The term *hsin* means the land in its second year of preparedness, ready for planting. That this word literally means new is because it is the new land to be actually planted. The term *yü* means the well-treated land in its third year of preparedness, still good for planting. For types of loess soil which do not hold moisture too well, the land that had grown millet for two consecutive years had to be rested for a year or two because of the necessity of conserving moisture. This short three-year cycle is further confirmed by the principle of land allotment stated in the *Chou-li*: “In case of the nonchanging land, each (peasant) household be allotted 100 *mou*; in case of the once-changing land, each household be allotted 200 *mou*; and in case of the twice-changing land, each household be allotted 300 *mou*”. The science of agronomy and archaic literary records, therefore, act like the two halves of a tally stick in establishing the essentially self-sustaining character of northern Chinese agriculture since Yang-shao times.

In retrospect, it was largely nature, more specifically the loess, that from the very beginning shaped the self-sustaining character of the northern Chinese agricultural system. But it was mainly through human effort and ingenuity exerted for more than two thousand years that the southern Chinese agricultural system has become self-perpetuating and highly productive. Whereas progressive changes in soil salinity and sedimentation contributed to the breakup of past civilizations in Mesopotamia, and whereas the destruction of the local ecological patterns and the consequent failure of food resources contributed to the decline and fall of the ancient Harappan civilization in the Indus valley, even today Chinese agriculture still manages to support nearly a quarter of humanity out of a cultivated area amounting to only 75 percent of that of the United States. By virtue of its ability to endure, Chinese agriculture has contributed signi-



ificantly to making Chinese civilization the most enduring in the annals of man.

### Biological and Social Perpetuation

Second, the overriding concern of the Chinese for biological and social perpetuation. To use an anthropological expression, this concern for biological and social perpetuation may well be regarded as a focal value in Chinese culture, which can now be traced back to the beginnings of Chinese religion in prehistoric times. The discovery since 1949 of ceramic and stone phallic symbols in a number of prehistoric cultures, the etymology of the character for ancestor, *tsu* 且, 祖, itself a phallic symbol, and detailed cumulative knowledge about Shang religion indicate that the center of gravity of earliest Chinese religion was ancestor worship. There were three prerequisites to ancestor worship. First, a kinship group had to be able to perpetuate, if not constantly to multiply, itself biologically, for without descendants there could be no ancestor worship. Second, since in Shang-Chou times ancestor worship was a cult mainly for the high ruling class, it was an absolute requisite for descendants of royal and of various noble lineages to maintain forever, if not further to improve, their status. For the political hierarchy determined the ritualistic hierarchy of ancestor worship. Third, since the sacrificial rituals had to be performed by the legal heir and that heir had to be a male, ancestor worship required the breeding of sons and grandsons. This earnest desire for male heirs was amply reflected in early Chou literature and bronze inscriptions.

Although the original religious tenets of ancestor worship were much diluted through rationalization by Confucius and Hsün Tzu, its social importance was greatly enhanced during the subsequent two millennia. For, with the dawning of the imperial age in 221 B.C., ancestor worship was no longer a cult mainly for the ruling aristocracy; it gradually permeated all social strata. The long historical process of the universalization of an ancient focal value—the emphasis on the continuity of patrilineal descent—was facilitated by the efforts of the elite

since Later Han times to strengthen family and kinship ties and by the efforts of both the elite and commoners since A.D. 1050 to organize themselves into common descent groups. Consequently, the famous saying of Mencius which was originally referred to the aristocracy only—of all unfilial deeds none is more serious than the failure to produce male descendants—has exerted abiding influence over the high and low alike. In further analysis, what is perpetuated is a line of descent which can be continued by the adoption of a son when a man biologically fails to produce one. It is therefore social perpetuation, achieved whenever possible biologically. While a man's desire to reproduce his own species is certainly universal, never in world history has a large nation been more subjected to powerful and sustained ethical and cultural pressures for biological and social perpetuation than the Chinese.

The present Chinese government has made systematic efforts to modernize the family system and to shake off the burden of the past. But there is little in its repeated exhortations to the nation that is not in keeping with a long series of traditional didactic sayings to the effect that the individual, the family, the various work units, and the nation should work hard, live frugally, and make sacrifices, if necessary, for posterity. Throughout the millennia, therefore, there has been no weakening of the overriding concern of the Chinese for posterity, which offers a striking contrast to the current Western way of "living on credit".

In conclusion, the uniquely Chinese concern for biological and social perpetuation—which originated from the prehistoric and early historic cult of ancestor worship and which in the course of time became the most primary of all human considerations—has contributed probably as much to making Chinese civilization enduring as China's self-sustaining agriculture.

\* Raphael Pumpelly, ed., *Explorations in Turkestan: Prehistoric Civilizations of Anau* (2 vols., Washington D.C., 1908), I, p. 7.

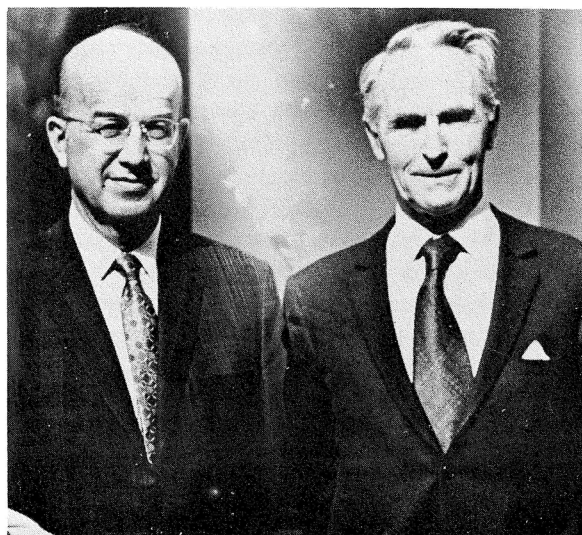
## Vice-Chancellor Attends Conference

In mid-August, Dr. Choh-Ming Li, Vice-Chancellor, attended a meeting of the Steering Committee for Overseas Vice-Chancellors' Conference of the Inter-University Council for Higher Education Overseas (IUC) in London and the General Conference of the International Association of Universities (IAU) in Moscow. Dr. Li then visited the United States for discussions with various foundations and institutions.

## Visit of Overseas Council Members

Two overseas Council members of this University, Dr. Clark Kerr, Chairman of the Carnegie Commission of Higher Education in U.S.A., and Sir Cyril H. Philips, Vice-Chancellor of the University of London, came for a one-week visit in October.

Their programme included a Council meeting on 21st October and discussions with the Vice-Chancellor and other members of the University on matters relating to the future plans of the University, in the light of its progress and current problems.



*Dr. Clark Kerr (left) and Sir Cyril Philips*

## Student Enrolment 1975-76

### I. Undergraduates

	M.	F.	
Arts Faculty			
Chinese	94	150	244
English	67	123	190
History	148	101	249
Philosophy & Religion	70	35	105
Fine Arts	32	23	55
Music	16	30	46
	427	462	889
Business Administration Faculty			
Accounting & Finance	236	74	310
Marketing & International Business	170	39	209
General Business Management & Personnel Management	68	22	90
	474	135	609
Social Science Faculty			
Economics	259	62	321
Geography	88	71	159
Government & Public Administration	72	24	96
Journalism & Communication	39	23	62
Social Work	58	63	121
Sociology	154	116	270
	670	359	1,029
Science Faculty			
Biochemistry	75	17	92
Biology	113	54	167
Chemistry	185	31	216
Mathematics	130	24	154
Physics	181	10	191
Electronics	157	3	160
	841	139	980
			3,507
<b>II. Post-graduate Students</b>			
M.Phil.	95	19	114
M.A.	2	1	3
M.A.(Ed.)	5	6	11
M.B.A.	49	3	52
M.Div.	8	2	10
Dip.Ed.	18	13	31
(Part-time)	130	72	202
	307	116	423
	<b>Total:</b>		423
			3,930

# Personalia

## I. Appointments

### University Deans of Faculties

Faculty of Arts	Prof. Te-k'un Cheng (1975-77)
Faculty of Business Administration	Prof. Hsin Sutu (1974-76)
Faculty of Science	Dr. Shu-ting Chang (1975-77)
Faculty of Social Science	Prof. Shou-sheng Hsueh (1975-77)

### Directors of Research Institutes

Institute of Chinese Studies	Prof. Li Tien-yi
Institute of Science and Technology	Dr. Hson-mou Chang
Institute of Social Studies and the Humanities	Prof. Mo-huan Hsing

### School of Education

Director	Mr. T.C. Cheng
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### Graduate School

Acting Dean	Dr. Shang-wai Tam
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### Academic staff

#### Faculty of Arts

Prof. Takeo Yazaki Visiting Professor of Japanese Studies, Chung Chi
Dr. Paul Clasper Senior Lecturer in Theology, Chung Chi
Mrs. Cheng Huang Wen-tsung Honorary Lecturer in Fine Arts, New Asia
Mr. Tsuneo Hasegawa Visiting Lecturer in Japanese Studies, Chung Chi
Dr. Michael A.E. Nentwich Visiting Lecturer in German Studies, United
Mr. Laurent Sagart Visiting Lecturer in French Studies, New Asia

Dr. Tam Yue-him  
Lecturer in History, New Asia (concurrently)

The Rev. Alan C.C. Chan  
Assistant Lecturer in Theology, Chung Chi

Mrs. Hélène Morel  
Visiting Assistant Lecturer in French Studies, New Asia (concurrently)

#### Faculty of Business Administration

Mr. Chan Tsang-sing  
Assistant Lecturer, Chung Chi

Mr. Benjamin Tai Yuk-kwong  
Assistant Lecturer, United

#### Faculty of Science

Prof. James Arthur Campbell  
Visiting Professor of Chemistry

Dr. Wilkin W.K. Cheung  
Lecturer in Biology, Chung Chi

Dr. Ho Kwok-keung, Walter  
Lecturer in Biochemistry, United

Mrs. Hélène Morel  
Visiting Assistant Lecturer in Chemistry, New Asia

Mr. Kong Luan  
Temp. Assistant Lecturer in Computer Science,  
United

#### Faculty of Social Science

Prof. Francis L.K. Hsu  
Visiting Professor of Anthropology, New Asia

Dr. Chan Ying-keung  
Lecturer in Sociology, United

Dr. Lau Siu-kai  
Lecturer in Sociology, United

Mr. Peter N.S. Lee  
Lecturer in Government and Public Administration,  
United

Dr. Liu Pak-wai  
Lecturer in Economics, United

Mr. Cheung Hok-yu  
Assistant Lecturer in Geography, Chung Chi

Mr. Lau Chong-chor  
Temp. Assistant Lecturer in Sociology, New Asia

### **Administrative Staff**

Dr. Mok Oi  
Acting Bursar, Chung Chi (concurrently)

Dr. Tam Yue-him  
Dean of Students, New Asia

Mr. Wu Chen-hsiung  
Comptroller, New Asia

Mr. Liang Shing-hok  
Probationary Administrative Assistant, Buildings  
Office

University of California Study Centre

Prof. Bruce D. Larkin  
Director

Prof. Elijah P. Lovejoy  
Associate Director

### **Research Staff**

Mr. Lee Yim  
Senior Research Fellow, Art Gallery

Dr. Hu Shiu-ying  
Honorary Research Fellow in Biology

Mr. George Kao  
Editor-at-large of *Renditions*, Translation Centre

Mr. Lo Meng-tze  
Honorary Research Fellow in History, New Asia

Mr. Leonard L. Chu  
Project Specialist, Centre for Communication  
Studies

Mrs. Cathie S.W. Kueh  
Honorary Research Associate, Marine Science  
Laboratory

## **II. Promotions**

### **Academic Staff**

Mr. Chang Teh-chang  
Reader in History, Chung Chi

Dr. Chen Ching-ho  
Reader in History, New Asia

Mr. Chang Chien-min  
Senior Lecturer in Business Administration, United

Dr. Philip Fu  
Senior Lecturer in Business Administration, Chung  
Chi

Dr. Rance Lee Pui-leung  
Senior Lecturer in Sociology, Chung Chi

Mr. Su Lin-kuan  
Senior Lecturer in Physics, New Asia

Mrs. Gail B. Schaefer Fu  
Lecturer in English, Chung Chi

Dr. Lee Kam-hon  
Lecturer in Business Administration, Chung Chi

### **Administrative Staff**

Mr. D.A. Gilkes  
University Bursar

Mr. Vincent W.S. Chen  
University Deputy Buildings Officer

Mr. Perry Siu  
Senior Staff Tutor, Department of Extramural  
Studies

### **Research Staff**

Miss Diana Yu  
Managing Editor of *Renditions*, Translation Centre

## **III. Transfer**

Mr. Foo Tak-sun  
Assistant Registrar, Chung Chi

Dr. Pedro Ng  
Lecturer in Sociology, United

## **IV. Retirements**

### **Academic Staff**

Prof. N.E. Fehl  
Professor of World History, Chung Chi

Mr. Lee Yim  
Reader in Chinese, New Asia

Dr. Hu Shiu-ying  
Senior Lecturer in Biology, Chung Chi

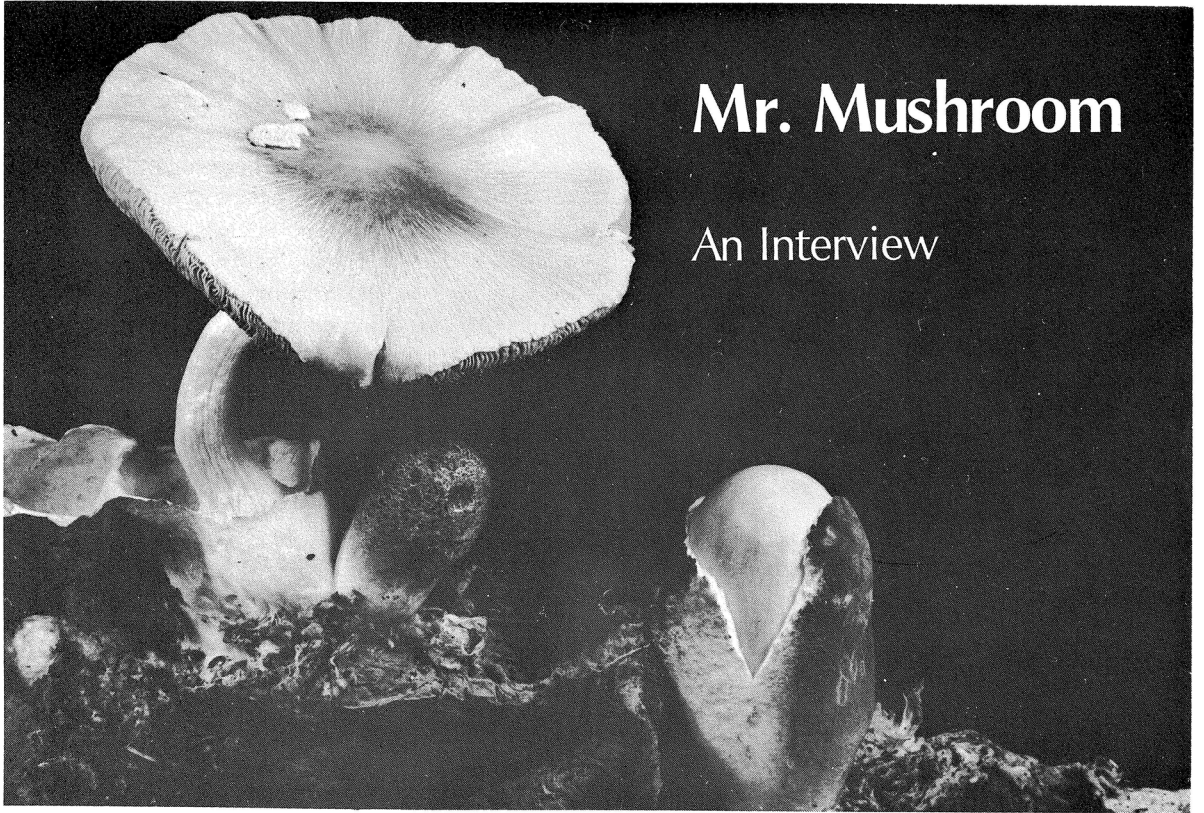
Mr. Chang Chi Shui  
Lecturer in Chinese History, United

Mr. Wong Mang Khui  
Lecturer in Chinese, Chung Chi

### **Administrative Staff**

Mrs. E.J. Fehl  
University Bursar

Mr. Chiu Wan-long  
Assistant Bursar, United



# Mr. Mushroom

## An Interview

*Dr. S.T. Chang, an M.Sc. and Ph.D. of the University of Wisconsin, has taught at Chung Chi College since 1960, before the establishment of The Chinese University, and is now Reader in Biology.*

*Dr. Chang has studied genetics and cytology of fungi for years at Harvard University, Tokyo University and Australian National University. His publications include: The Chinese Mushroom, Chinese Mushroom and Its Culture (in Chinese) and Straw Mushroom (in Chinese), as well as numerous articles, and an English-Chinese Glossary of Biological Terms.*

*Dr. Chang is at present co-editing The Biology and Cultivation of Edible Mushrooms, with contributions from twenty-eight prominent researchers and practical workers on mushrooms and other edible fungi.*

*Dr. Chang is now Dean of the University Faculty of Science.*

Q. Dr. Chang, how do you like being known as "Mr. Mushroom"?

A. I feel greatly honoured by this compliment. I have been studying mushroom for more than a decade and have often received letters inquiring about the culture of Chinese mushroom. Recently I received a letter from an Indian who addressed me as "Mr. S.T. Chang, Mushroom, The Chinese University of Hong Kong". Isn't this interesting?

Q. *Volvariella volvacea* is generally known as straw mushroom. Why do you choose to refer to it as Chinese mushroom?

A. *Volvariella volvacea*, commonly known as straw mushroom, was first cultivated in the Canton region in China's Kwangtung Province, and mass-produced in China and in other countries with Chinese residents. The Japanese mushroom "Shiitake", grown on wood, is not often referred to as "wooden mushroom", and the common white mushroom, cultivated on horse manure compost, is not referred to as "manure mushroom" but "French mushroom" "champignon". By the same token, I simply refer to straw mushroom as "Chinese mushroom", or "cho ku".

Q. Chinese mushroom is an inexpensive food with high protein content. What in fact is the nutrient value of this kind of mushroom? Is it even higher than that of white mushroom?

A. Chinese mushroom, like all other mushrooms, has a higher mineral salt content than meat or fish, and almost twice as much as any other vegetable. Their protein value, though much less than meat and fish, is double that of asparagus, cabbage and potatoes, four times that of tomatoes and carrots, and six times that of oranges. Fresh Chinese mushroom has also a certain quantity of vitamin C. Studies have shown that Chinese mushroom surpasses the white mushroom in nutritional value.

Q. It is said that edible mushrooms have medicinal properties and can even cure cancer. Is it true?

A. Devoid of starch, it is an ideal food for diabetics, and although no experiment has yet been done to demonstrate its value for hypertension, it is known to help reduce excessive cholesterol. As for the cure of cancer, experiments have been carried out in many parts of the world to extract anti-cancer components from edible mushrooms and reports have been published. A detailed exposition is given by Prof. K.W. Cochran of Michigan University in his paper on the Medical Effects of Edible Mushrooms.



[*This paper will be included in The Biology and Cultivation of Edible Mushrooms edited by Dr. Chang and Dr. W.A. Hayes of The University of Aston in Birmingham.*]

Q. Did you undertake research on the cultivation method of Chinese mushroom because of the world-wide food crisis?

A. Literature on the study of Chinese mushroom being scarce, I have, since 1962, been interested in the study of its nutrients, physiology, cytology, ultrastructure, genetics, morphogenesis as well as its cultivation. The way in which mushrooms can be grown from a great variety of cheap (some almost worthless) materials such as agricultural and industrial wastes greatly enhances their importance as food. Besides, the fruiting bodies of Chinese mushroom appear in the beds within 8-14 days, no

other cultivated mushroom produces a crop in such a short time. Although Chinese mushroom cannot help to alleviate the world-wide food shortage as staple food, it may constitute a valuable source of supplementary food through mass production, and help to produce a more diversified diet and better quality foods.

Q. You suggested using cotton waste beds to cultivate Chinese mushroom instead of the conventional straw beds. What are the advantages of this new method?

A. In Hong Kong, the price of cotton waste is only one-third that of dry straw. Moreover, local supply of rice straw is scarce. The small amount available is mostly consumed by the Royal Hong Kong Jockey Club and import of this material has proved to be very expensive. On the other hand, cotton waste, being a by-product of local textile industries, is easily obtainable and inexpensive. The yields for cotton waste beds is three to four times that of rice straw bed, their average yields are 35 kg per 100 kg cotton waste and 10 kg per 100 kg straw. In 1970 we started experimenting by using cotton waste as heating material and straw as composting material to cultivate mushroom, later only cotton waste was used and the result turned out to be very satisfactory. I believe the mushroom cultivating industries in Hong Kong will soon be depending solely on cotton waste as cultivation material.

Q. Mushroom cultivating industries? Are there any such industries in Hong Kong?

A. Yes, at Lau Fau Shan, but their yield is far from satisfactory. In the summer months of April to October, Hong Kong people consume nine tons of Chinese mushroom a day, only 7% of which is produced locally. I feel that there is yet much room for development.

Q. I heard that you have rented a piece of farmland in the vicinity to experiment on mushroom culture. This must have helped you a lot in your research.

A. Yes, but mushroom culture experiments are carried out on the University campus now.



*Cultivation of straw mushroom on cotton-waste compost*

Without these field studies, I would not have been able to make such close sustained observations.

Q. Would you please tell us what is the present emphasis of your research?

A. At present there are 3 major areas of research: I am continuing with the study of the genetics and sexuality of Chinese mushroom, and the selection of the best spawns; I am also studying the chemical composition, physical properties and microbiology of cotton-waste compost; and I have just begun research on Actinomycetes, which is a by-product of my mushroom study. Recently we installed a 15 Hp boiler to pasteurize cotton-waste compost and we found that after treatment there is always a greyish-white powder-like "substance" on the compost, which, while preventing harmful fungus from growing, promotes the growth of the Chinese mushroom.

Q. Apart from mushroom study, you have compiled an *English-Chinese Glossary of Biology Terms*.

Have you undertaken any similar projects since?

A. Yes, I am collaborating with four Biology teachers to compile a Dictionary of terminology in Biology. Instead of just translating the English biological terms into Chinese as in the *Glossary*, which contains 40,000 entries, we are adding to each of the 20,000 entries in this new Dictionary both English and Chinese explanations of the term. For this new endeavour, the University has provided us with a research grant, enabling us to engage some students to assist us.

Q. I understand that as from this year, you, as Dean of the University Science Faculty, have to undertake more administrative work. Would this additional work take up too much of your time and hamper the progress of your research?

A. No doubt, undertaking more administrative work means spending more time on meetings etc., hence a resultant increase in workload. However, this should not pose a very serious problem if we can organize our work properly.

# Fourth Commonwealth Conference of University Registrars

The First Commonwealth Conference of Registrars of Universities of the Southeast Asia and Pacific Area was inspired by the very successful conference of administrators held in Makere, Uganda, in 1969. Encouraged by the Inter-University Council for Higher Education Overseas to hold a similar conference and with travel funds provided by the Trust for the Development of Higher Education Overseas, the first group of university administrators gathered in Port Moresby at the University of Papua and New Guinea in November 1971 to discuss a variety of university problems, to exchange ideas and to learn from one another. This was the first gathering of registrars from Commonwealth universities of Southeast Asia and the Pacific Area. Since then two more conferences have been held—in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, in 1972 and in Hong Kong in 1973. Between 1971 and 1974 three training courses aimed at middle-management university administrators were organized, each a direct outcome of the Conferences that had been held.

This Fourth Conference was jointly hosted by the two Universities in Singapore, Nanyang University and The University of Singapore, from 10th to 15th November, 1975. Mr. Nelson H. Young, University Secretary, and Mr. William H.C. Wan, Assistant University Secretary, attended the Conference as delegates of this University.

The main theme of the Conference was the "Servicing of Student Affairs in the University of Today", and the topics for discussion were:

- (1) The student as a member of university community
- (2) Student finance
- (3) Student unrest or student problems and their solutions
- (4) Health, recreation and counselling,
- (5) Accommodation and catering

Sir Hugh W. Springer, Secretary-General, Association of Commonwealth Universities, set the discussion going with a keynote address which points out:

"Administrators are the servants of this community, as the title of our theme recognises, whose task it is to ensure by all means in their power that the community fulfils its function of sustaining and encouraging intellectual growth and excellence. And an important element of this function lies in sustaining the young apprentices in order that they may go successfully through the difficulties of emotional and intellectual growth. Hence the importance in a modern university of careers guidance and of health and counselling services, through which young students can be helped to overcome the stresses of transition from adolescence to adulthood, from school to university, from a variety of backgrounds to the corporate life of the university; and to recover from the anxiety caused by the anticipation of examinations, by the cultural shock of moving from the simplicity of the village to the sophistication of the university, or by the consciousness of old values being eroded and new values still to be acquired, by financial worries or family worries and sometimes by mental illness."



# University Health Service



The University Health Service of the Chinese University is planned to meet the health needs of students, staff and their dependants through direct provision of services and cooperation with extra-university services.

## University Health Service

An interim University medical scheme was introduced in July 1965, and the University Health Service was formally established in January 1970 with the appointment of a full-time Director and was temporarily housed in the Chung Chi College Clinic. With the opening of the University Health Centre in September 1971 and the recruitment of more professional personnel, the Health Centre came into full operation. The services offered include consultations, 24-hour emergency care, infirmary care, dental examinations and consultations, periodic physical examination, and coordination of access to diagnostic laboratory and x-ray services, referral to appropriate specialists and treatment centres when necessary, and admission to hospitals. With the exception of the dental service and home visits, there is no charge for any of the clinical services provided directly by the University Health Service.

## University Health Centre

The University Health Centre is a gift of the Yale-in-China Association (now Yale-China Association), as a testimony of seventy years of friendship with the Chinese people. It is a two-storey building with an out-patient clinic, minor surgery, laboratory, x-ray suite, dispensary, dental suite, consultants' room, and infirmary with rooms for 11 beds. Its facilities are specially designed for the carrying out of preventive care, health education and personal medical services.

## Extracts of Report 1974/75

General out-patient visits totalled 23,879 compared to 22,491 of the previous year, representing an increase of 6.2%. Attendances by undergraduate students were up 12.1%, which corresponds closely with the rise in enrolment of 12.3%. During the year, 11,642 visits were made by 2,771 undergraduates for consultations, representing a consultation rate of 4.2 visits per student and a student utilisation rate to the extent of 90% of the total undergraduate student population. Dental visits totalled 5,275 consultations. (See Table I below.)

The general pattern of diseases was similar to that of last year. (See Table II below.) Respiratory disorders topped the list of prevalence of conditions diagnosed, followed by diseases of the skin and the digestive system. About one in eight cases, however, were labelled as symptoms or conditions ill-defined. This underscores the importance of the practice of preventive medicine and the need to make available services for continued observation and care to check any possible undesirable developments. Psychosomatic and psycho-social problems continued to be of grave concern to the Health Service personnel because of the limited time they could squeeze out of the busy clinic sessions at moments of need, frequently at short or without prior notice.

Altogether 113 students and 224 staff or their dependants were referred for various specialty consultations and 104 hospital admissions recorded

for special investigations or treatment during the year.

Two separate chest x-ray surveys were carried out as part of the tuberculosis control programme on all incoming students and the general University population. Only one student and one staff were found to require treatment as a result of the two surveys. The total prevalence of known cases of active and non-active pulmonary tuberculosis among the undergraduate student body as at June 1975, was 0.2% (7 cases) and 2.4% (76 cases) respectively. No students, however, have had to interrupt their studies in order to undergo treatment.

Looking ahead, priorities will be given to the further development of health education and disease prevention programmes. At the same time, every effort will be made to carry on essential health service functions and to uphold an acceptable standard of high quality care.

Table I

**General Utilisation Pattern**

(Academic Year 1974-75)

**Health Visits**

Student (undergraduate)	12,617
Staff	6,180
Staff dependant	3,987
Other	1,095
<b>Total</b>	<b>23,879</b>

**Dental Visits**

Student (undergraduate)	2,818
Staff	1,391
Staff dependant	948
Other	118
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,275</b>

**Grand Total** 29,154

Table II

**Student (Undergraduate) Morbidity Pattern**

	No.	%
Diseases of the Respiratory System	3,681	41.3
Diseases of Skin & Cellular Tissue	993	11.2
Diseases of the Digestive System	710	8.0
Infective & parasitic Diseases	482	5.4
Diseases of the Nervous System & Sense Organs	459	5.2
Accidents, poisonings & violence	328	3.7
Mental, Psychoneurotic & Personality Disorders	264	3.0
Diseases of the Genito-Urinary System	137	1.5
Diseases of the Circulatory System	97	1.1
Diseases of Bones & Organs of Movement	83	0.9
Neoplasm	38	0.4
Diseases of Blood & Blood Forming Organs	28	0.3
Endocrine, Metabolic & Nutritional Diseases	9	0.1
Symptoms & Ill-Defined Conditions	1,594	17.9
<b>Total:</b>	<b>8,903</b>	<b>100.0</b>

# Director of UHS on Health Service



*Dr. Robert Dan obtained his M.B., B.S. at the University of Hong Kong and a Diploma in Social Medicine at the University of Edinburgh. He is now a member of the American College Health Association, the British Student Health Association, the Australia and New Zealand Student Services Association, the Pacific Coast College Health Association and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Health.*

*Dr. Dan joined Chung Chi College in 1963 as College Physician and was appointed Director of Health Service of this University in 1970.*

Q. Would you say the Health Service of this University is comparable to that of other universities?

A. The aim of the University Health Service to meet the health needs of all members of the University is more or less the same as that of its counterparts at other universities. Nevertheless, universities differ a lot in the formulation of their health programmes owing to the different cultural background, the medical facilities, the public health policy of their own country and the conditions and needs of each university, i.e. the financial resources, student enrolment, percentage of resident and non-resident students, the presence or absence of a medical school, and the availability of other medical services in the vicinity.

These differences are reflected in the following:

- (1) the organizational setup: whether the health service is an independent unit or under the student services section or the medical school of the university;
- (2) the staffing of the health service: whether the professional personnel comprises only doctors and nurses or other kinds of medical workers as well;
- (3) scope of service: it may range from simple consultative services to an comprehensive, integrated medical system with even a specialist hospital.

To speak more specifically, Health Service of this University is at the same stage of development as most universities in Southeast Asia, in the context of having a similar social

system where no general medical insurance or free medical services are provided. However, in comparison with the other local university, the University of Hong Kong, our conditions are less favourable. The resident population on campus is greater at The Chinese University; the University of Hong Kong, being not so far removed from town, need not provide 24-hour emergency service throughout the year. Moreover, the University of Hong Kong has a medical school. It is quite regrettable that the funding authorities tended to overlook these differences in the allocation of grants.

Q. What difficulties have you encountered in the operation of the University Health Service?

A. We have naturally encountered some difficulties. They may be summed up as:

- (1) Limited means. This University basically offers free medical service, and draws its funds entirely from the University budget. As a result, the operation of the University Health Service is completely dependant on the financial well-being of the University and the Government. In the recent Economy Drive of the University, for instance, various health projects were shelved. For universities administering a health insurance scheme where members are required to subscribe, their health services may be in a better position to

programme their development, knowing beforehand how much they can spend.

This is the case with "income". How about "expenditure"? Hong Kong is a highly commercialised society with an essentially egoistic population. Inevitably with our free medical service there are certain members of the University who tend to abuse or mis-use the service. They fail to realise that although no fees are charged at the time of service, the provision of an acceptable level of high quality care not only costs but may cost dearly if utilisation of the services were not made with care or in an appropriate manner.

- (2) Lack of professionally trained personnel. University health service has become a specialized discipline in its own right after nearly a century's development, and there should, in theory, be no problem to recruit professionally trained personnel to staff the Health Service here, but in practice, it is not so. Take mental health, for example. There are not many psychiatrists in Hong Kong and this University has neither the means nor the condition to attract or retain any of them to join the Service at the present stage of its development. The advisability of recruiting an expatriate staff from overseas with a different cultural and social background is also debatable.



*University Health Centre*

(3) Difficulties encountered at the operational level. The success of running a health service, in my opinion, lies in how to make the best use of limited resources to satisfy the aspirations of the medical staff on the one hand and the expectations of the patients or users on the other. Unfortunately certain members of the University continue to have misconceptions about the function of the University Health Service and are not altogether clear about their own rights and responsibilities as users of the Service. They usually take the Centre to be a place for free treatment services only. They fail to realize that treatment is but one of our many functions, by no means the most important function, and that such "free" service not only costs, but can be very costly if not used properly. As for the nature of the Centre, it is neither a casualty ward, nor a private clinic, nor a government clinic. It is far from being just a place for treatment because we believe we have an obligation to educate and we also like to place emphasis on prevention. In short, it may be looked upon as a "medical advisory centre", a key which opens the gateway to the complicated network of modern medical care system.

Q. It is said that students are prone to illness under the pressure of examinations. Is this true at this University?

A. This is certainly true for conditions such as psychoneurosis and psychosomatic diseases. I suppose this is one of the reasons for giving people the impression that students are more prone to illness under the pressure of examinations. Since examinations and tests are still the chief means of measuring the achievements of students, it is perhaps natural that students react to the threat of examinations with a mixed feeling of trepidation and fear.

Q. Do you find that psychological and mental illnesses are among the most knotty cases? What is the best way to promote mental health?

A. Psychological and mental illnesses are most knotty in terms of time. At times, however, their managements could be most rewarding. I find that students are more readily responsive to treatment, whatever that may mean, and

given adequate time be spent to dig into the background of their difficulties. Those who have worked closely with students have gradually come to appreciate that human growth is always uneven, proceeding most of the time by fits and starts, and to realize that sudden regression may not only be completely resolved, but may, with appropriate guidance and support, be made use of as the necessary recoil to bring forth the succeeding "big leap forward".

To distinguish emotional setbacks that prove temporary and ultimately benign from those that are ominous and eventually damaging challenges even the most experienced physician to make, with complete confidence.

There is, in fact, no best way to handle these cases. A lot depends on an understanding of the various causes which lead to mental ill health. To promote mental health in a university setting, a prerequisite surely must be to try to identify areas or factors associated with the University environment that are likely to be productive of stress. Secondly, early recognition of various individuals or groups at risk e.g. students with academic, personality, or motivational difficulties. They should be followed up with effective counselling and guidance. Thirdly, skilled aid must be aimed at increasing the ability of students to cope with progressive level of stress. Stress is a fact of life, destructive when overwhelming or absent, but highly creative when well within the adaptability of the individual. Last but by no means least there should be educational intervention aimed at the advancement of "positive" health as well as repeatedly expounding upon a series of principles of mental health.

In view of the multi-factorial origin of mental illness which, for practical purposes, may be broken down into academic, psychosocial, personality and financial factors, the teaching, administration and student services units (Deans of Students and student counselors are very important personnel of these units) in the University, as well as parents at home have to share the responsibility of making the University and home-environment conducive to the attainment of mental health.

It follows, therefore, the University administration needs to be reminded time and again of the socio-political determinants of mental health. And, I think, the student should be given every assistance to cultivate an

independent character and responsible personality.

Q. How do you, as Director of the University Health Service, promote health education within the University?

A. To answer your question, let us first look at the objective of Health Education. In my opinion, the primary objective of education on health is not merely to impart knowledge but to try to influence the persons' behaviour so that it becomes characterized by sound decision and practices on matters affecting their own health and that of others. Conventionally, health education is taken to mean the provision of more and better information about health problems. This conception is based on the assumption that the student is a rational being guided in his action by what he knows. Therefore, provision of health information is presumed sufficient to induce students to act intelligently where their health is concerned. It is not surprising that efforts spent in such manners yield only small dividends. In order to promote health education with any degree of effectiveness within the University I think it is important to integrate elements of health education into various components of the health service programme. In other words, health educational efforts should permeate through every staff-student contact at the Health Centre. Broadly speaking the following serve as my working guidelines in the promotion of health education.

- (1) Emphasis must be upon helping the students learn how to think, not what to think.
- (2) Effective, realistic health education programmes can be developed and maintained in viable forms only when the recipient is invited to participate actively in planning, presenting and evaluating such programmes.
- (3) Health instructions should not be restricted to specific courses, or fragmented into still smaller subject areas such as smoking, sex education and so forth, but should be infused into other related curriculum areas whenever possible. Education, biology, journalism and sociology are but a few examples of studies or disciplines which will be enriched by introducing a conscious concern for health.

(4) Furthermore, health education should help to relate individual concerns to broader social issues such as housing, population, family planning, pollution control etc. and should sensitize individuals to their responsibilities as students, citizens and future leaders of the community.

(5) Efforts should be initiated and directed to equipping health practitioners with requisite education skills, which appear to be generally lacking in those presently called upon to undertake this highly challenging responsibility.

Q. Looking ahead, what will be the main thrust of future development?

A. The development of the Health Service will proceed in accordance with established orders of priority and will endeavour to keep in step with the actual needs of the University, subject to adequate resources being available in time as planned. Existing services will of course be improved and expanded. These include health education and counselling, mental health service, dental health service and emergency care. Other services to be introduced include specialist care—to provide the necessary back-up service through the appointment of a panel of Honorary Visiting Consultants in various specialities: environmental health and safety—to provide a positive programme for identifying environmental hazards, both physical and emotional, and maintaining effective surveillance and control; x-ray service—to provide on-campus x-ray facilities for simple radiodiagnostic procedures; and sports medicine—to provide preventive and therapeutic services for athletes and other high-risk groups.

Above all, future development will be dependent on the timely provision of:-

- (1) the building of an extension to the University Health Centre and nurses quarters,
- (2) the recruitment of additional professional personnel, and
- (3) the installation of additional facilities.

It is hoped that we may be given adequate resources to get on with the job of developing a comprehensive health programme to meet the needs of the rapidly growing University community.



## **The University Bulletin**

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