



<http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/sci/>



學院通訊

Newsletter



二〇〇八年四月號

ISSUE 23, APRIL 2008

STATE KEY LABORATORY IN AGROBIOTECHNOLOGY SET UP AT CUHK WITH STATE APPROVAL



The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) has obtained approval of the Ministry of Science and Technology of China to set up the State Key Laboratory for Agrobiotechnology (CUHK), the second state key laboratory (SKL) at the University following the establishment of the State Key Laboratory in Oncology in South China (CUHK) in 2006.

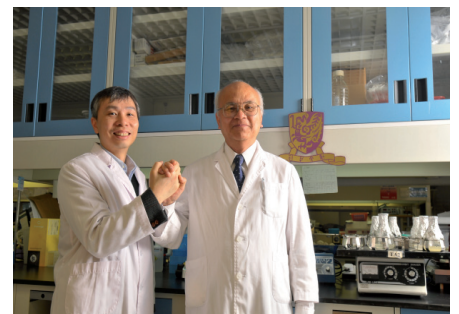
The mission of the Laboratory, positioned at the national level, is to up-scale China's agricultural technology to the world frontier with a view to increasing agricultural productivity, safeguarding food security in China, and improving people's nutrition. It will tap into Hong Kong's advantages in global networking, international human resources and modern management, and the mainland's strengths in economy, research capacity and abundant natural resources.

The State Key Laboratory for Agrobiotechnology (CUHK) is housed in the complex comprising the Science Centre and the Centralized Science Laboratories Building. The Laboratory is directed by Professor Samuel Sun Sai-ming, who is a member of the Chinese Academy of Engineering and Director of the UGC-AoE Centre for Plant and Agricultural Biotechnology of CUHK since 2000.



CUHK and China Agricultural University (CAU), both leaders in agrobiotechnology, have developed a long cooperative relationship, thereby laying a solid cornerstone for the SKL. Under the auspices of Commerce and Economic Development Bureau, Education Bureau, and Innovation and Technology Commission of the Hong Kong SAR Government, the Laboratory will carry out research in collaboration with CAU on the development of molecular biotechnology, increase of rice yield, improvement of the nutritive value of rice and crop resistance.

SKL is staffed by researchers from the Institute of Plant Molecular Biology & Agricultural Biotechnology of the Biology Department, which has established close and extensive collaboration with a number of units on the mainland, including the China National Hybrid Rice Research and Development Centre, the Institute of Genetics and Developmental Biology of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, the Institute of Crop Sciences of the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences, Peking University, Tsinghua University, Yangzhou University, the China National Rice Research Institute in Hangzhou, and the Economic Crop Research Institute of the Shanxi Academy of Agricultural Sciences. It has also embarked on an international research project, funded with HK\$ 88 million by the Bills & Melinda Gates Foundation, to increase the nutritive value of rice in collaboration with six laboratories from four countries. In addition, the Institute is involved in joint projects working with researchers from the US, Britain and Japan on crop improvement, stress resistance, and plant cell biology.



12 CUHK MATHEMATICS STUDENTS RECEIVE FULL SCHOLARSHIP TO FURTHER STUDIES AT TOP OVERSEAS UNIVERSITY

Twelve undergraduate and graduate students of Mathematics Department have received full fellowships/ studentships amounting to more to HK\$20m from top universities in North America to further their studies. The universities include Stanford, California Institute of Technology, Columbia, Indiana, UCLA, Illinois, North Carolina, and Waterloo. In order to attract excellent overseas graduates, these universities generally provide each student with a 5-year scholarship of US\$40,000 – \$50,000 per year.



The awardees are as follows:

Undergraduate

Cheung Man Wai, University of Illinois
 Cheung Yuen Lam, University of Waterloo
 Chiu Kim Hong Fraser, Columbia University
 Fong Chin Lung, Stanford University
 Sun Hui, University of California, Los Angeles
 Tse Shu Tong, University of Minnesota
 Wong Wing Hong Tony, California Institute of Technology
 Wu Tao, University of North Carolina

Postgraduate

Chan Wai Kit, Indiana University
 Hui Chun Yin, University of Illinois
 Lo Chi Yu, Indiana University
 Mak Kit Ho, University of Illinois

SUMMER ACTIVITIES

The Faculty will host a string of summer activities for secondary school students

1. Iron Man of Science Competition 2008

to be held at the end of July 2008

Website: <http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/sci/ironman>

2. Summer Science Programme 2008 for 12-14 year old

to be held from 15 - 18 July 2008

Website: http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/sci/summer_camp

3. Summer Courses

Enrichment Programme for Young Mathematics Talents

CSS1606 Complex Number & Non-Euclidean Geometry

CSS1613 Towards Differential Geometry

Date Offered: 3 July 2008 to 4 August 2008

Target Group: finishing Form 5

Summer Institute

CSI1112A/1112B Frontiers in Molecular Biology and Biotechnology

Date Offered: 21 - 25 July 2008 and 28 July 2008 - 1 August 2008

Target Group: Current Secondary 6 students

The above courses are open to the public for enrolment.

Details can be found at: <http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/osp/d/d4.html> (For CSI1112A/1112B)

<http://www.math.cuhk.edu.hk/epymt/> (For CSS1606, CSS1613)

FACULTY STRATEGIC PLAN WORKSHOP 2008

The Faculty will conduct an open forum to brief faculty members on the strategic plans in 2008. The forum will be held on Thursday 5 June 2008 in L1, Science Centre from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon

PROGRAMME REVIEW 2008

The Faculty has completed the programme review on the MSc Programme in Data Science and Business Statistics in March 2008.

Two undergraduate programmes, Molecular Biotechnology and Environmental Science will conduct their programme review in May and June 2008 respectively.

TEACHING AND LEARNING

The faculty conducted a talk "A Review on Teaching and Learning Activities and Quality Assurance" for staff members on 2 April 2008.



BIO-X LUNCH COLLOQUIUM

The Faculty organises monthly BIO-X lunch colloquium in C N Yang Reading Room for staff interested in participating in this inter-disciplinary research initiative. The last two topics were:

12 March 2008 (Wednesday)

Topic: Discovery of structures and processes from biological data -- an outsider point of view
Speaker: Professor Leung Yee, Professor of Geography, Department of Geography & Resource Management, Faculty of Social Science, CUHK



9 April 2008 (Wednesday)

Topic: Disease gene hunting in the "post"-genomic era
Speaker: Professor Nelson Tang, Professor, Department of Chemical Pathology; Principal Investigator, Laboratory for Genetics of Disease Susceptibility, Li Ka Shing Institute of Health Sciences, Faculty of Medicine, CUHK



The next BIO-X Colloquium will be held on 30 April 2008 (Wednesday), details as follows:

Title: Recent progress in phylogenetic combinatorics
Time: 12:30 pm – 2:00 pm
Venue: L2, Science Centre
Speaker: Professor Andreas Dress, Director, Chinese Academy of Sciences and Max Planck Institute, Partner Institute for Computational Biology, Shanghai Institutes for Biological Sciences.

All are welcome~~

JOINT FACULTY RESEARCH DAY 2008

The Joint Faculty Research Day co-organized by the Faculty of Engineering and Faculty of Science on June 12, 2008 (Thursday) aims to promote and foster interdisciplinary research between the two faculties. The programme of the Joint Faculty Research Day will include an invited talk by an external speaker and thematic talks by professors of the two faculties on latest research development and specific research topics related to engineering and science disciplines. Details on the programme rundown of the Research Day will be announced later.

Student Posters Competition

This year, a student posters competition across the two Faculties is also introduced as part of the programme for the Joint Faculty Research Day. Student authors are invited to submit posters on original work describing their current research and novel ideas in the areas of engineering and science (recently published works are acceptable). Students with their projects supported by experimental evaluations are also encouraged to make their submissions. The best 20 posters will be short-listed for board display on the Faculty Research Day to compete for the "Best Student Poster Award".


Prize(s) for the Student Posters Competition

The winner(s) will be awarded HK\$2,000 & a certificate.

Important Dates

Student Posters Submission Deadline: May 9, 2008 (Friday)
Announcement of Short-listed Posters: May 26, 2008 (Monday)
Joint Faculty Research Day & Prize Presentation:
June 12, 2008 (Thursday)

More details: <http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/event/sci-erg/researchday08>



The Chinese University of Hong Kong
Faculty of Engineering & Faculty of Science

Joint Faculty Research Day 2008 June 12, 2008

The Joint Faculty Research Day co-organized by the Faculty of Engineering and Faculty of Science aims to promote and foster interdisciplinary research between the two faculties. The programme of the Joint Faculty Research Day will include an invited talk by an external speaker and thematic talks by professors of the two Faculties on latest research development and specific research topics related to engineering and science disciplines. Details on the programme rundown of the Research Day will be announced later.

STUDENT POSTERS COMPETITION

This year, a student posters competition across the two Faculties is also introduced as a part of the programme for the Joint Faculty Research Day. **Student authors** are invited to submit posters on original work describing their current research and novel ideas in the areas of engineering and science (recently published works are acceptable). Students with their projects supported by experimental evaluations are also encouraged to make their submissions. The best 20 posters will be short-listed for board display on the Faculty Research Day to compete for the "Best Student Poster Award".

Winner Prize
The winner(s) will be awarded HK\$2,000 & a certificate


Important Dates

Paper submission deadline	May 9, 2008 (Friday)
Announcement of short-listed posters	May 26, 2008 (Monday)
Joint Faculty Research Day & Prize Presentation	June 12, 2008 (Thursday)

Submission
Please submit your poster at
<http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/event/sci-erg/researchday08/submission.html>

Enquiries
URL: <http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/event/sci-erg/researchday08>

Faculty of Engineering	Faculty of Science
Mr Leo Cheung	Miss Jay Leung
Email: wwcheung@erg.cuhk.edu.hk	Email: jayleung@cuhk.edu.hk
Tel: 3163 4294	Tel: 2609 6250



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF ALUMNI DONATION

Giving our heartfelt thanks!!

The following alumnus have made generous donations to our Faculty. We would like to express our sincere appreciation of their kindly support here:

Name	Department
Mr. Au Tit Kwan	Biology
Dr. Feng Maoqi, Mark	Chemistry

More details of alumni donations to Faculty is located at: <http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/sci/Donation/donation.html>

理學院通訊 Faculty of Science Newsletter

地址: 香港新界沙田香港中文大學科學館北座G43室

Address: G43, Science Centre North Block, CUHK, Shatin, N.T.

電話/Tel: 2609 6327 傳真/Fax: 2603 5156 電郵/Email: sfo@cuhk.edu.hk

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