

CUHK NEWSLETTER

Vol. 5/12 No. 61

December 1994

2,807 DEGREES CONFERRED AT THE 48TH CONGREGATION

For the first time in 10 years, the University combined the congregation for the conferment of honorary and higher degrees with that for the conferment of first degrees. A total of 2,807 degrees were conferred this year by the Rt. Hon. Christopher Patten, Chancellor of the University, at the 48th congregation.

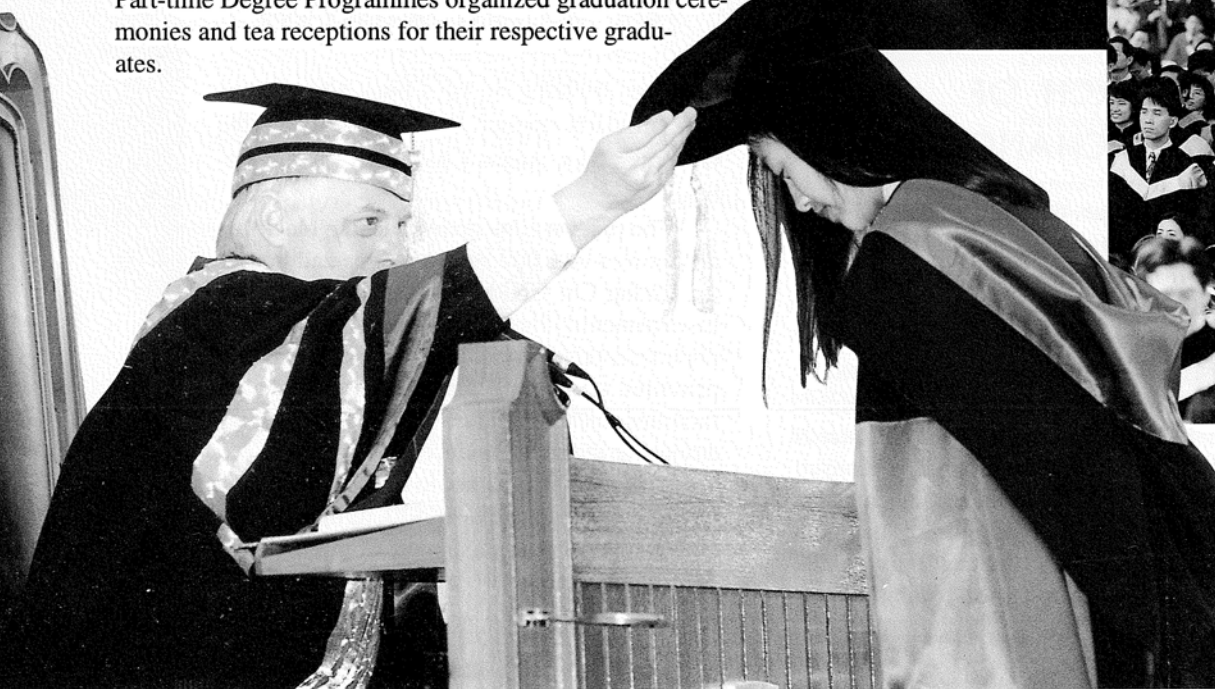
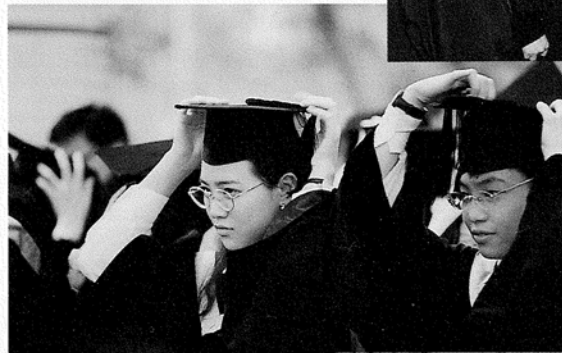
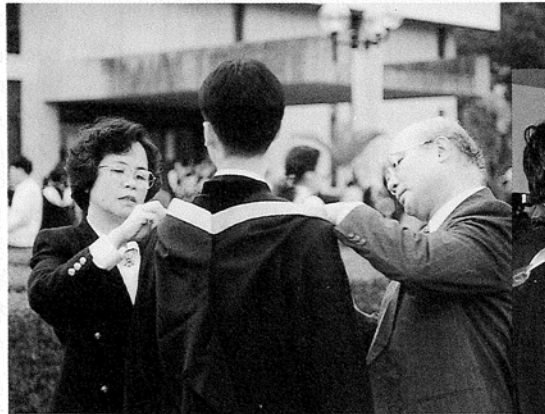
The ceremony took place on the morning of 1st December at the University Mall. The longest procession in 31 years, consisting of 143 faculty and staff, was marshalled that morning.

The four recipients of honorary degrees this year are Sir Eric Ash, Prof. Tang Auchin (in absentia), Mr. David Sin Wai-kin and Dr. Peter Woo Kwong-ching. Their citations were written and delivered by Mr. T.L. Tsim.

Among the 364 graduates who crossed the stage to receive higher degrees was Prof. Leung Ping-chung, professor of orthopaedics and traumatology. He was the first person to be awarded the degree of Doctor of Science by the University. The territory's first doctoral degree in accountancy was also awarded on the same occasion.

First degree graduates, 2,439 in all, received their degrees from the Chancellor en bloc, by degree, under the stage.

In the afternoon the four constituent colleges and the Part-time Degree Programmes organized graduation ceremonies and tea receptions for their respective graduates.



From the Editor

Mixed Response to Questionnaire

The results of the October survey on the format and contents of the *CUHK Newsletter* are out and can be found on page 12 of this issue. A heartfelt 'thank you' to all of you who squeezed time from your busy schedules to fill out our questionnaire.

There were altogether 212 respondents to our questionnaire, which make up about six per cent of the University's staff population. Readers' views were many and varied. There were criticisms interspersed with words of praise and encouragement. While it is gratifying to receive compliments we also feel obligated to improve along the lines of the criticisms. Our proposals for improvement are outlined on page 14.

Please note, however, that although 97 per cent of our respondents prefer the present size of the newsletter and 64 per cent find the monthly frequency appropriate, we will advance our plan of publishing the newsletter in the size of a tabloid on a fortnightly basis, starting from the next issue.

In so doing we don't mean to trespass against expressed sentiments; we simply want to take this opportunity to try out new ideas. We have set for ourselves a trial period of six months, during which we hope you will continue to give us feedback. If the response is favourable, we will keep the format; if not we will return to our present one. We need your help and vigilance in monitoring the content and quality of the newspaper.

Watch out for the next issue which will appear in a new format on 4th January 1995. Meantime have a merry Christmas and a happy New Year!

IN SEARCH OF A NEW VICE-CHANCELLOR

The University Council has decided to establish a committee to help search a successor to Prof. Charles K. Kao, who will retire from the vice-chancellorship of the University on 31st July 1996.

The Search Committee to be chaired by the chairman of the Council will consist of six other members nominated by the Council and the Senate from among their number. Membership will be announced in due course. The Search Committee has been requested by the Council to consult widely teachers and other staff members, students and alumni of the University in their search for the next vice-chancellor. A proposal to amend the University statute to admit three students to this seven-person committee was not accepted by the Council.

COUNCIL NEWS

Life Member

- Sir Quo-wei Lee, CBE, JP, has been appointed a Life Member of the University Council from 30th November 1994 in recognition of his distinguished service to the University for over three decades.

Sir Quo-wei's long association with the University began in the early sixties when he became the founding treasurer of the University, a post he held for 19 years until 1982. He has since served as chairman of the University Council.

Sir Quo-wei is very supportive of the University's new academic initiatives; he has made remarkable contributions towards launching, *inter alia*, the Three-year MBA Programme, the Development Programme for Teaching Material in Chinese, the Hong Kong Institute of Biotechnology Ltd., and The Chinese University of Hong Kong Foundation Ltd. He has also given substantial financial support towards the University's academic and development programmes, including the establishment of the Wei Lun Visiting Professorship/Fellowship Scheme, the construction of Lee Shu-Pui Hall, and the provision of scholarship funds.

An eminent banker, Sir Quo-wei is chairman of Hang Seng Bank and has a distinguished record of public service. His contributions are well recognized both in

NEW HOME BASE FOR THE SOCIAL SCIENCES

The Sino Building on the Chung Chi campus was officially opened by the Deputy to the Governor, Mrs. Anson Chan, on 19th November.

The pinkish nine-storey teaching block has a floor area of 5,000 square metres and houses the Chung Chi College Office, the Centre for Environmental Studies, and two social science departments: psychology and sociology. It provides up-to-date teaching and research facilities such as lecture theatres and laboratories for the social sciences.

The building is named in honour of the Sino Group which donated HK\$20 million to the University last year in support of research and development projects.



Hong Kong and overseas. He will continue to serve as chairman of the University Council after becoming a Life Member.

New Council Members

- Mr. Anthony Neoh, QC, JP, has been nominated by the Chancellor as a member of the University Council for three years from 27th November 1994, succeeding Dr. Victor K. Fung.

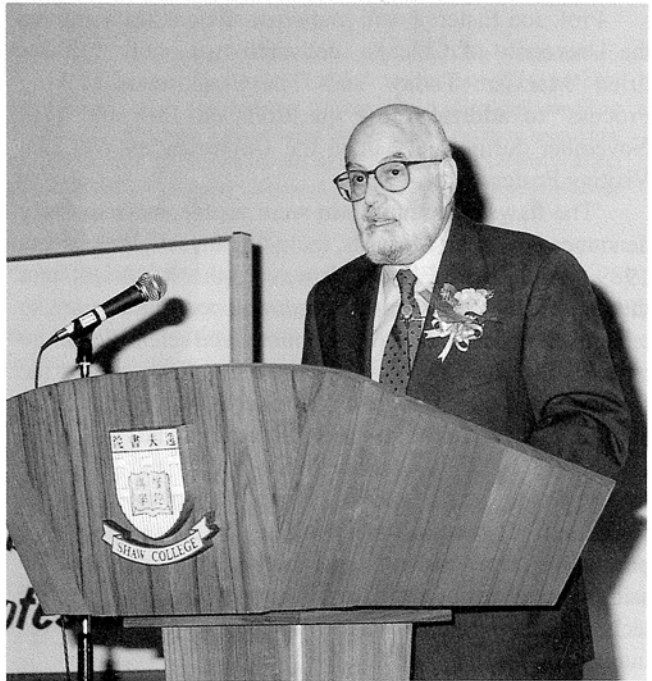
Mr. Neoh is a member of the English (1976 Gray's Inn), Hong Kong (1976), and California (1984) Bar, and specializes in town planning, land and constitutional and administrative law matters.

He is active in community service and is currently chairman of the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board, member of the Council of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange and the HK/China Liaison Group. He has just been appointed chairman designate of the Securities & Futures Commission.

- Mr. Raymond Kwok has been elected by the Council as a member of the University Council from 30th November 1994.

Mr. Kwok is vice-chairman and managing director of Sun Hung Kai Properties Group and a member of the boards of the Kowloon Motor Bus Company and USI Holdings Ltd. He currently serves on the Port Development Board and the Deposit-taking Companies Advisory Committee.

NATURE VERSUS NURTURE IN CHILD DEVELOPMENT



Prof. Robert A. LeVine, an authority on human development studies, presented a public lecture titled 'Human Nurture: A View from Psychosocial Anthropology' on 3rd November in the Shaw College Lecture Theatre.

The lecture examined how culture-specific parental priorities contribute to variations in child development, and the problem of nature versus nurture in the psychosocial development of children. Prof. LeVine used field data from many cultures in Asia and Africa to illustrate his theoretical position.

Prof. LeVine has devoted the last 40 years to the comparative study of parenthood, child development, and the life cycle, attempting to integrate social and psychological perspectives through research into different cultures. He has made important contributions to psychosocial theory and method.

Born in New York in 1932, Prof. LeVine obtained his PhD from Harvard University where he is now Roy E. Larsen Professor of Education and Human Development as well as professor of anthropology. He visited the University in November as Wei Lun Visiting Professor.

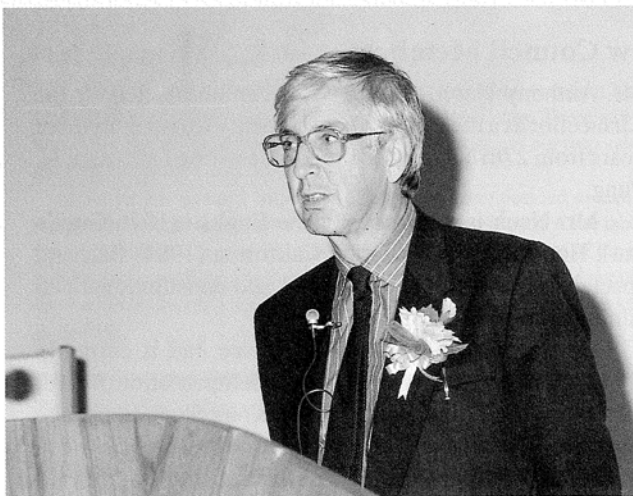


WEI LUN LECTURES BY ANALYTICAL MARXIST

Is Marxism dead? Or could this century-old ideology be applicable in this day and age? What has remained of Marxism after the fall of communism in Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union?

Prof. Jon Elster, a well-known analytical Marxist from the University of Chicago, delivered two public lectures titled 'Marxism Today' and 'The Constitution-Making Process' to address these questions on 15th and 17th November during his visit to the University as Wei Lun Visiting Professor.

'The flaws of communism were visible and massively denounced by many Marxists, including myself, long before 1989,' said Prof. Elster. However, the historical and theoretical links between Marxism and communism are so tenuous and complicated that the moral and scientific failure of the latter does not have clear-cut implications for the former. Prof. Elster argued that the fall of communism should not be taken to mean Marxism having been discredited as a philosophical, economic, and historical theory. While some Marxist concepts such as scientific socialism, dialectical materialism, and the theory of productive forces and relations of production are dead, he said, other theories such as alienation, exploitation, and technical change are alive and will continue to influence the intellectual present.



Prof. Elster is an internationally recognized expert in rational choice and decision-making theory and one of the founding scholars of the School of Analytical Marxism. He is currently Edward L. Ryerson Distinguished Service Professor of Political Science and Philosophy at the University of Chicago. He is best known for his unique multi-disciplinary perspective and his unusual breadth of knowledge, which spans the fields of philosophy, political science, history, technical economics, sociology, and law.

CHINESE AND AMERICAN EXPERIENCES OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

An international conference on violence against women was held from 16th to 19th November in the Cho Yiu Conference Hall. The Hon. Anna Wu, legislative councillor, officiated at the opening ceremony.

Jointly organized by The Hong Kong-America Center, the Gender Research Programme of The Hong Kong Institute of Asia Pacific Studies at CUHK, and the David C. Lam Institute for East West Studies of Hong Kong Baptist College, the function was attended by over 100 participants from Hong Kong, China, Taiwan and the United States. They exchanged research and work experience concerning various forms of violence against women in Chinese and American communities, including marital violence, rape, and sexual harassment. Discussion sessions and workshops were held to generate theoretical perspectives for the understanding of violence against women in the wider context of gender relationships and equality.



CIVIL SERVICE CAREERS EXHIBITION

A careers exhibition featuring a wide range of career opportunities in various government departments for graduates of tertiary institutions was held on 2nd and 3rd November in Sir Run Run Shaw Hall.

The exhibition was jointly organized by the University's Appointments Service and the Civil Service Branch. Representatives from 22 government departments were present to brief students on jobs available, qualifica-

tions required, salary scales, fringe benefits, training opportunities and career advancement.

Guests officiating at the opening ceremony include Senior Member of the Executive Council Baroness Dunn, Secretary for the Civil Service the Hon. Michael C.C. Sze, and chairman of the University's Appointments Board Mr. Paul Cheng.

UNITED COLLEGE CELEBRATES 38TH ANNIVERSARY



The 38th anniversary ceremony of United College was held on 28th October 1994 in Sir Run Run Shaw Hall. Mr. Shum Choi-sang, vice-chairman of the College Board of Trustees, and Mr. Nogami Yoshigi, Consul General of Japan in Hong Kong, addressed the assembly and presented prizes.

The ceremony was followed by a celebration party, and a thousand people's banquet rounded off the day.

Prior to the celebration Prof. He Feng-sheng, honorary director of the Institute of Occupational Health at the Chinese Academy of Preventive Medicine, visited United College from 13th to 27th November 1994 as Distinguished Visiting Scholar. During her stay, Prof. He gave three open lectures on the following topics: Chemical Toxicity of the Nervous System — Recognition & Prevention; Bio-markers in Monitoring Occupational & Environmental Chemical Exposure; and Current Global Needs in Occupational health.

Prof. He is a distinguished scientist in occupational neurotoxicology. She was awarded the prestigious 'Scipione Caccuri' International Prize in Italy in 1984, the 'First Class Prize for Scientific Research' in China in 1985, and the 'Distinguished Scientist of the Nation' in 1986.

CUHK CARD NOW OPEN TO STAFF

The third phase of the CUHK affinity card programme has been launched by Hang Seng Bank in association with the University.

Phase one of the programme, which was targeted at CUHK alumni, was launched in July this year; phase two, which was targeted at students, began in September. Both were well-received.

The new phase features Gold Visa and Gold MasterCard for CUHK alumni, staff, college trustees, and council members. All staff members of the University are eligible to apply for the new CUHK card but its issuance is subject to the credit criteria stipulated by the bank.

The CUHK card bears the name and logo of the University and will entitle its holder to the following benefits:

Hang Seng Bank will provide

- (i) first year annual fee waiver;
 - (ii) first two years' annual fee waiver on supplementary cards;
 - (iii) worldwide benefits of Hang Seng Gold Credit Card including interest-free repayment period, different types of insurance and discounts;
 - (iv) VisaPhone Global Calling Service at no enrolment fee for Visa Gold card members.
- The Regional Council will offer
- (v) 10 per cent discount on two tickets per performance of selected programmes (primary cards only).

Hang Seng Bank has also pledged to donate to the University Fund (i) a sum equivalent to half the aggregate annual fee of the second and subsequent years of primary cards; and (ii) 0.3 per cent of total spending effected through use of CUHK cards.

The University Fund will be used to improve campus facilities and support Convocation and student activities.

Application forms are available at all College offices, the Bursar's Office, CUSA/CUTA offices, the University SCR Clubhouse, the Alumni Affairs Office and the Hang Seng Bank office on campus. For further information, please call the Office of Director of Administrative Services (Ext. 7872, 7863).

The Golden Threads That Bind

*Prof. Rance P. L. Lee on the past, present and
future of Chung Chi College*



New Head of Chung Chi College

'I've been running back and forth since becoming head of Chung Chi College,' Prof. Rance Lee smilingly described his first few months in his new job. Familiarizing himself with college business and at the same time tackling heavy duties as dean of social science, Prof. Lee complained that he had not been able to finalize a single research paper since assuming the Head's office in August. He is, however, grateful to colleagues at the College Office and Dr. Leung Kwok, his associate dean, without whose assistance he would find the dual appointment rather difficult to cope.



longer living in Hong Kong. Prof. Lee is particularly moved by the concern of many of his contemporaries for the college's development.

Prof. Lee says he misses this footpath where men students used to take when walking their female counterparts back to their dormitories after the library closes at night.

Thirty Years Ago as an Undergraduate

But then, heavy as the work is, Prof. Lee is not complaining, for Chung Chi is home. He was an undergraduate at Chung Chi, and after taking his degree in 1965 he was nominated by his department chairman for a scholarship which enabled him to pursue postgraduate studies at the University of Pittsburgh. As the first Chung Chi graduate to win that coveted grant, the young Rance Lee was determined to do well at Pittsburgh so as to ensure that the same scholarship would be open to Chung Chi graduates in subsequent years. After obtaining his doctorate he chose to return and serve the *alma mater*, despite offers from a substantial number of American universities.



Reminiscing about his undergraduate days, Prof. Lee is still fascinated by the time when there were only a few hundred academics and students in the college. Nestled in its beautiful valley site, the college community was close and friendly. Students who graduated at the time maintain their friendship to this day, despite the fact that many are no

Career and Marriage

Prof. Lee also has Chung Chi to thank for his marriage. 'At that time I had just come back from the United States and started my teaching career. One day I was attending a career guidance session for final-year students organized by

the appointments service. A beautiful and well-mannered girl served me tea, and I was touched. Shortly afterwards, when I was at lunch with Mr Lo Po Yiu, who had taught in the BComm programme for a long time, I was told that there was a beautiful and intelligent young woman in the final year in Mr Lo's department, and that he would arrange for me to meet her. And, of course, when we met, I realized that both Mr Lo and myself were talking about the same person.' Thus began a love affair which eventually developed into a happy marriage. While attributing this to *yuan fen* (緣份), Prof. Lee also emphasized that the warm and cordial relations among staff and students in those days had made it possible for such romance to have happened.

College Life Today for Students

Things have changed considerably in the twenty-odd intervening years, and the greatest change occurred in the relationship between the colleges and the University. In the past the colleges were highly independent entities, with full authority in personnel recruitment, curriculum planning, and the admission of students. Nowadays these are the responsibilities of the faculties and the departments, and students are not bound to attend classes at their own colleges. Prof. Lee is of the view that, under the present circumstances, the college can hardly build up a sound college-student relationship on the strength of weekly or monthly assemblies alone. Furthermore, the University Grants Committee (formerly UPGC) places great emphasis on the improvement of quality in teaching and research, and much attention has been shifted to the faculties and the departments. It is inevitable that the role of the colleges has somehow paled in comparison.

But Prof. Lee points out that academic activities organized by the colleges, and STOT (Student-Oriented Teaching), are essential to a holistic education: he believes that it would be through these modes of informal, non-curricular education that students could develop their values and broaden their horizon. He said, 'The college is still the best place for students from different departments to mix and to exchange views, experiences and opinions.' According to him *college spirit* works in a transcendent way because informal education usually does not yield immediately cognizable results. At the moment Prof. Lee is working on how students in Chung Chi may better perceive the functions and spirit of the college. The first thing to do would be to enrich hostel life. He plans to obtain funds for improvements to hostels and non-resident halls by increasing the number of lounges where students can meet and chat, and by putting in better cooking facilities. He will also organize more hostel activities to help students learn to interact with each other



and raise their sense of belonging to the college. On the informal education front, Prof. Lee will seek the cooperation of the departments in organizing more distinguished visiting scholars' lectures and seminars as a means to strengthen the college's academic atmosphere.

What it Means to Teachers

Prof. Lee sees the relationship between academics and the college as one that is complementary and mutually beneficial. By taking an active part in college life, academics benefit themselves tremendously by coming into contact with colleagues in a large variety of fields and learning from their experience and expertise. On the other hand, the colleges can encourage teachers' sense of belonging by providing the best support possible for teaching and research activities.

It is the University's policy that contribution to college life is one of the factors considered when a teacher is due for substantiation or promotion. Prof. Lee, however, thinks that little can be achieved out of this. In the first place, department chairmen and faculty deans who place strong emphasis on research results and teaching experience will have little need to consider a colleague's involvement in college life. And many teachers are not even aware that this is a criterion to

be reckoned with. Prof. Lee thinks it might help if the college life element in the substantiation/promotion process could be formalized, and if applicants would be asked to declare what they have done to contribute to college life. This, he hopes, will raise the awareness of teachers, chairmen and deans as well as that of the Academic Staff Review Committee, which consists of the four college heads and the seven faculty deans.

Visions of a Secular Head

Prof. Lee, who is not a Christian, thinks that it is not essential for a Christian to head Chung Chi despite the college's strong Christian tradition. 'Dr. Philip Fu isn't a Christian either, but he did very well as head of the college. I think it is important that the head should believe in the freedom of religion, and at the same time subscribe to the Christian tenets of love and service for all men,' he said. Academic credentials, community and alumni relations, and personal style of work are, of course, the major considerations whenever the University has to appoint a college head.

Rapid expansion of the University in recent years has

resulted in extensive demolition and construction works on the Chung Chi campus. Most of the six-in-one teaching blocks have been pulled down and replaced by larger, grander buildings. Some graduates and students call these new edifices monstrous because little attempt has been made to harmonize them with the surrounding landscape. Prof. Lee is inclined to agree: 'One of the reasons why many alumni still have such an admirable concern for the college is that they have fond memories of an elegant, self-contained campus surrounded by lush greenery. With this gone, the attractiveness of the college and students' sense of pride for the place will unavoidably be diminished.' However, he also understands that expansion owing to the sharp increase in student numbers is inevitable. That is why he hopes, during his term as college head, to build a new campus ecology that is as warm and friendly, and as full of characteristics, as the one before. The first step in his grand scheme is to find a site on the Chung Chi campus to build a new, distinct complex that blends with the natural landscape, and where he plans to house all teaching, administrative and recreative functions of the college. ○

- Prof. Rance P.L. Lee, Head of Chung Chi College, has been reappointed as a member of the management committee of the Police Education and Welfare Trust for three years from 1st December 1994.

- Dr. Kenneth W.Y. Leung, lecturer in journalism and communication, has been reappointed as a member of the Advisory Committee on Travel Agents for two years from 1st November 1994.

- Dr. Samuel S.L. Tung, lecturer in the School of Accountancy, has been appointed to serve on the American Accounting Association's Notable Contributions to Accounting Literature Award Screening Committee for a year from August 1994.

- Dr. Stephen C.K. Chan, lecturer in English, has been invited by the Education Department Language Fund Advisory Committee to serve as an honorary external adviser in the vetting of language fund proposals for the year 1994-95.

Service to the Community and International Organizations

- Dr. Chan Wing Wah, senior lecturer in music, conducted the Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra to premiere his composition *Elevation* for organ and orchestra at the opening concert of the 20th anniversary celebration of the orchestra on 16th and 17th September 1994 at the Hong Kong Cultural Centre. Dr. Chan also served as the chief

delegate of Hong Kong at the UNESCO International Society for Contemporary Music conference held from 4th to 10th October in Stockholm, Sweden.

- Dr. Tam Kwok-kan, senior lecturer in English, has been invited to serve as a member of the Validation Panel for the Higher Diploma in Bilingual Communication and Modularization by the Department of Chinese, Translation and Interpretation of the Hong Kong Polytechnic University for the year 1994-95.
- Dr. Chew Eng-ching, reader in anatomy, has been invited to be a founding member of the Hong Kong Convention Ambassador Programme organized by the Hong Kong Tourist Association from November 1994.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Gifts? Bribery?

The University is a public body listed under the Schedule of the Prevention of Bribery Ordinance (CAP201, Laws of Hong Kong). All University employees are classified as 'public servants' under the ordinance and should be wary of accepting gifts which could be construed as being offered to them in connection with their 'public' duties.

As the Christmas and New Year holidays are approaching, members of the staff who wish to give away or accept any gifts in this festive season and who are in doubt as to whether such gifts are permissible under the law should first consult the Prevention of Bribery Ordinance.

Copies of the ordinance are available for reference at the University Library and its branch libraries, as well as the Information and Public Relations Office (2nd floor, Pi Ch'iu Building).

Staffing Arrangements on Christmas and New Year's Eves

The following staffing arrangements for Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve have been endorsed by the University since 1983 and will apply on 24th and 31st December this year:

1. For essential service units such as the Health Service, the Library System, the Operation Unit of the Computer Services Centre, the Security Unit, the Transport Unit, and the Maintenance Office of the Buildings Office, a task force should remain on duty on both Saturday mornings to provide basic services.
2. For all other offices in the University, a skeleton crew should be appointed to be on duty on both mornings to handle urgent matters and answer enquiries.
3. The skeleton staff on duty on either morning will each be given compensation leave of half a day.

Staff Bus Arrangements

Subscribers for the University staff bus service please note that the Transport Unit has arranged for the homing staff bus to leave the Benjamin Franklin Centre large car park at 12.45 p.m. on Christmas Eve (24th December) and New Year's Eve (31st December).

Staff Review of Non-teaching Staff Members on Terms of Service (B) & (C)

The Administrative Affairs Committee and the Sub-committee on Junior Staff Affairs have invited department chairmen/unit heads to make nominations and recommendations concerning the retirement, extension of service and promotion of non-teaching staff members on Terms of Service (B) and (C). The deadline for submission of nominations is 31st January 1995. The committees will not consider applications from individual staff members, who may, however, discuss their promotion prospects with their department chairmen/unit heads.

Reimbursement of Course Fees

The University will soon consider requests for reimbursement of fees to Terms of Service (B) & (C) and equivalent non-teaching staff who will attend training courses which start in or after January 1995. Applications from staff members in the faculties and departments and the following administrative units should be made on appropriate forms and forwarded through the department chairmen/immediate supervisors to the faculty deans/unit heads concerned for consideration:

Vice-Chancellor's Office
 College Offices
 Registry
 Secretariat
 Bursary
 Internal Audit Office
 Personnel Office
 Office of Director of Administrative Services
 Buildings Office
 Office of Student Affairs
 Office of the Graduate School
 University Library System
 Computer Services Centre
 Research Administration Office

Applications from all other units should be forwarded together with recommendations by unit heads to Mr. S.S. Tam, Secretary Administrative Affairs Committee, c/o Personnel Office, University Administration Building on or before Tuesday, 10th January 1995. To be eligible for consideration, applications must be submitted before the training courses start. Enquiries may be directed to the Personnel Office (Ext. 7286).

Research Grant Application: Social Science and Education

The Social Science and Education Panel of the Research Committee invites second-round applications from staff members of the Faculty of Social Science and the Faculty of Education for allocations from the RGC Direct Grant for Research for the 1994-95 academic year. Research proposals should not cost more than HK\$60,000 each and should be submitted to the panel before 7th January 1995. For further information, please contact Miss Grace Lee, secretary of the panel (Ext. 7908).

Mandarin and Cantonese Courses for Staff & Spouses

The New Asia Yale-in-China Chinese Language Centre will again offer Mandarin and Cantonese courses to the University's staff and their spouses from 17th January to 20th April 1995.

The following courses have been tentatively scheduled every Tuesday and Thursday from 2.30 to 4.15 p.m. in the Fong Shu Chuen Building:

- (1) Beginner's course in Mandarin for foreigners;
- (2) Beginner's course in Cantonese for foreigners;
- (3) Beginner's course in Mandarin for non-Mandarin speakers of Chinese origin;
- (4) Beginner's course in Cantonese for non-Cantonese speakers of Chinese origin.

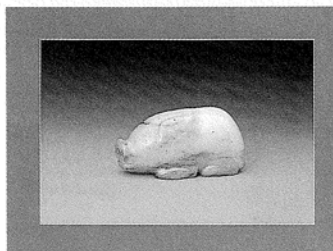
The size of each class will be limited to eight students and the minimum number of students to form a class is four. Enrolment will be on a first-come-first-served basis.

Basic tuition fee for each course is HK\$4,760. The University will subsidize 40 per cent of the tuition fee for all full-time academic and administrative staff as well as their spouses who are expected to be with the University for at least two years, and who are not receiving a language study subsidy from any other source. For enrolment, please contact the Chinese Language Centre at Ext. 6727 before 6th January 1995.

Professorial Inaugural Lecture

Prof. Sydney S. C. Chung, professor of surgery, will deliver his inaugural lecture titled 'Through the Looking Glass' on 6th January 1995. The lecture will be held at 5.00 p.m. in the lecture theatre on the second floor of the clinical sciences wing of the Prince of Wales Hospital. All are welcome.

Greeting Cards for the Year of the Pig



A variety of greeting cards are for sale at the Art Gallery, including a card with the design of a jade pig of the Six Dynasties period, donated by Bei Shan Tang, as well as four

designs of Christmas cards produced by the Friends of the Art Gallery. To place your order, contact the Art Gallery in person, by phone (Ext. 7416), or by fax (6035366).

Chung Chi College Staff Club 1994-95 Executive Committee

The Chung Chi College Staff Club has elected its executive committee for the year 1994-95:

Chairman	Dr. Lau Tze Yui
Vice-Chairman	Mr. Dang Shu Leung
Treasurer & Welfare	Mr. Yuen Kin Chung
Secretary	Mr. Hui Lap Chung

Sub-Committees

Club House Management	Dr. Wong Kam Fai	Prof. Tunney Lee
	Mr. Laurence Chiu	
Membership	Mr. Laurence Chiu	
Cultural Activities	Dr. Mary Waye	Dr. Cheung Wai Man
	Mr. Hui Lap Chung	Mrs. Lau Chan Yuk Lin
Social Activities	Mrs. Susan Ma	Dr. Leung Yee
	Dr. Mary Waye	

UPGC Renamed

The University and Polytechnic Grants Committee has been renamed the University Grants Committee from 26th November 1994.

Obituary

Dr. Wong Yau-chuen, reader in mathematics, passed away on 7th November 1994. He was 59. Dr. Wong first joined the University in 1965 and was promoted to reader on 1st January 1991.

A memorial service arranged by United College, of which Dr. Wong was a long-serving member, took place on 9th December 1994 in the Cheung Chuk Shan Amenities Building.



Survey on the CUHK Newsletter Summary Report

Questionnaires were sent out in mid-October with 4,000 copies of the CUHK Newsletter (2,400 in Chinese and 1,600 in English), and here are some findings.

At the time of analysis, 212 completed questionnaires were received of which 125 are Chinese, making up 59 per cent of the total, and 87 are English, making up 41 per cent. Unless specified otherwise, the percentages in parentheses in the following text are based on the total number of respondents to the questionnaire.

Identity of Respondents

The respondents are composed of 87 teaching/research staff (41%), 117 administrative/office support/technical staff (55%), six students (3%), and two outsiders (1%).

Reading Habit

As many as 85 respondents (40%) indicated they read all the items in each issue while 124(58%) said they would browse through the headings before choosing what to read.

Seventy-two respondents (34%) discard the *Newsletter* after reading; 76(36%) keep it only if certain articles are useful; and 58(27%) keep every issue, their main purpose being future reference.

Ideal Size of the Newsletter

A large majority of 205 respondents (97%) prefer the current A4 size while only four(2%) favour the A3 or tabloid size. The main reasons for preferring the A4 size are 'handiness' (49%) and 'makes easier reading' (22%).

Frequency of Issue

A total of 135 respondents (64%) find the current frequency, once a month, most suitable; 60(28%) prefer once every fortnight; seven(3%) prefer once a week; and four (2%) believe the *Newsletter* should stop publication.

Most Popular Items

The four top-ranking items voted interesting/useful by respondents are University news (193 votes), personalia (184 votes), announcements (171 votes), and feature articles/interviews (156 votes). Respondents choosing each of these four items constitute between 91 per cent and 74 per cent of the total number of respondents.

The item with least votes, 89, is service to the community and international organizations. It wins support from only 42 per cent of the respondents.

Least Popular Items

The four top-ranking items voted uninteresting/not useful are service to the community and international organizations (62 votes), college activities (30 votes), sidelights (21 votes) and a tie between announcements and feature articles/interviews (14 votes each). Respondents choosing each of these items constitute between 29 per cent and 6 per cent of the total number of respondents.

New Columns with Most Potential Interest

The three new columns with the most votes of interest are exposition and analysis of University plans and policies by senior management (138 votes), letters to the editor (132 votes), and open forum (122 votes). Around 60 per cent of the respondents voted for each item.

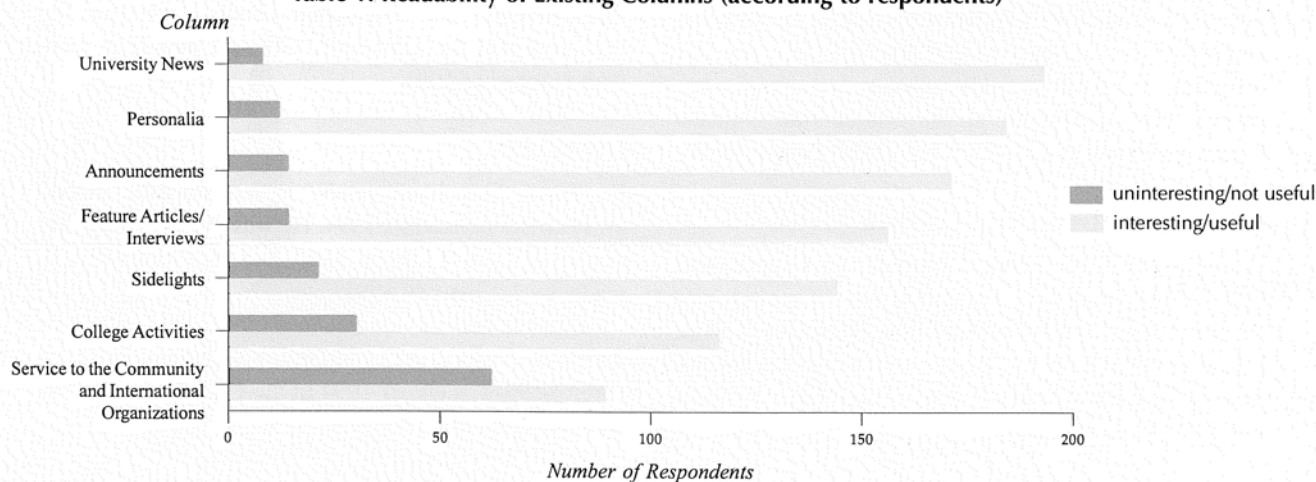
New Columns with Least Potential Interest

The three new columns with the least votes of interest are staff new publications list (41 votes), alumni news (42 votes), and book reviews (43 votes). About 20 per cent of the respondents voted for each item.

Pictures and Illustrations

Over 80 per cent of the respondents find the amount of pictures and illustrations in the *Newsletter* sufficient; only 26 respondents (12%) find them too scarce; and nine (4%) find them excessive.

Table 1: Readability of Existing Columns (according to respondents)





Major Shortcomings

The three major shortcomings of the *Newsletter*, as indicated by the respondents, are the lack of analysis and exposition of major University policies and developments (102 votes, 48%), uninteresting contents and presentation (46 votes, 22%), and insufficiency of useful information (38 votes, 18%).

Twelve respondents (6%) raised other criticisms. These include the unnecessary use of high quality paper; the over-official nature of the *Newsletter* and the lack of two-way communication; absence of a complaints column; discrepancy in content between the Chinese and English versions; lack of focus; articles being insufficiently intellectual; and unclear channels of distribution. A number of respondents indicated that the *Newsletter* has no major shortcoming; some even consider the quality of journalism to be excellent.

Language to Use

Of the 125 respondents to the Chinese questionnaire, 69 believe University news should of necessity be reported in Chinese. This is followed by announcements (64 votes) and personalia (55 votes). Each remaining item received fewer than 40 votes.

Of the 87 respondents to the English questionnaire, 66 believe University news should of necessity be published in English. This is followed by announcements (65 votes), personalia (47 votes) and feature articles/interviews (40 votes).

Eleven respondents expressed a wish that all columns be published in English as they cannot read Chinese.

The Newsletter as a Site for Airing Views

Only 62 respondents (29%) indicated they are willing to express their views of the University in the *Newsletter*; 55 respondents (26%) are only willing to write under pseudonyms; 90 respondents (42%) are unwilling to write at all, their main reasons being laziness and a desire to keep a low profile (37 votes), and the belief that open criticism will adversely affect their career in the University (20 votes). Fewer than 10 respondents chose each of the remaining reasons.

Interest in Contributing

Three quarters of the respondents have no wish in becoming irregular contributors to the *Newsletter* while 16 respondents (8%) are interested in doing so. The rest did not respond to this question.

Other Comments

Of the 31 respondents (15%) who gave comments and suggestions on the *Newsletter*, 15 wrote in Chinese and 16 in English.

All comments and suggestions given in English are printed below. Except for grammatical mistakes, they have not been edited.

Comments and Suggestions from 16 Readers

- ◆ There is always an insufficient number of newsletter distributed to CUHK staff working at PWH. Therefore, I've never been able to receive a copy of my own and need to share between several persons. Some of the latest news would cool down before I receive the information.
- ◆ This survey is a good idea.
- ◆ This publication seems to be the only means to obtain information about CUHK — its activities etc, for people new to CUHK and understanding no written Cantonese. It could be a unifying influence on campus, a publication that all are keen to read each week so that they are better informed about all parts of life on CUHK.
- ◆ Single issues should not exceed the present length — we already have more printed matter coming to us than we can handle. Basically the present range is fine — we could only do with extra in the way of commentary on what goes on in the university.
- ◆ I find the Newsletter informative, well-written and inviting. You are doing an excellent job!
- ◆ Good source of University news. Keep up the good work!
- ◆ I find CUHK Newsletter interesting and informative as it is at present. I always enjoy reading it.
- ◆ For me, a new CUHK staff, the newsletter is an interesting window into CUHK. Maybe after a year I would have more specific feedback for you, but for now I am just enjoying its contents and find them

helpful and informative.

- ◆ Would it not be much cheaper, cleaner, and quieter to run a tram service throughout the campus, or at least from the KCR to the colleges. I find it sad to see people having a healthy walk up the hill, only to be blasted with a cloud of black diesel fumes from university buses. In the long term, is a tram system viable? ...
- ◆ Interesting and useful information! Analysis and exposition of University policies and development are welcome!
- ◆ Presently very nice paper used, feels good etc, etc. But as I throw it all away — what a waste!
- ◆ Thank you.
- ◆ What is the relevance of married with two/three children? I do not need to know whether Dr X is interested in ANT or Pornography!! Cut out the crap about staff.
- ◆ Can you make some request form for those who would like to receive the newsletter individually and distribute the newsletter according to their addresses monthly, so that I will not miss any copy of it?
- ◆ The University lacks an intellectual publication which reflects the life and thought of its members, e.g. the Cambridge Review. However, the CUHK Newsletter is probably not the appropriate platform for this. An alternative, perhaps quarterly, publication is suggested.
- ◆ Nice format and content. Keep up the good work!

From the Editorial Desk

Prologue

Judging from the reading habits of the 212 respondents to our questionnaire, we can safely assume that they are regular readers of the *Newsletter*: as much as 40 per cent of them claim to read all the items in an issue and none claim to rarely or never read it. Of course, those who never or hardly ever read the *Newsletter* would not have known about the survey in the first place, nor be inclined to respond to it.

Those who have made their views directly known to us will naturally take priority on our agenda. Besides, their views may well be, to a certain extent, the views of the silent majority. It is by securing these readers that the *Newsletter* can hope to expand its readership. This is also the premise on which the following proposals for improvement are based.

General Support for Existing Columns

The existing columns fared quite well with respect to readability. The weakest seems to be 'service to the community and international organizations'. But although it scored the least votes in the interesting/useful category, and the most votes in the uninteresting/not useful category, the votes in the first instance come from 42 per cent of the respondents compared with only 29 per cent in the second.

Table 1 on page 12 clearly shows that respondents interested in the existing columns largely exceed respondents not interested in them. Therefore, all columns will remain. Those that are less popular will henceforth appear less frequently.

Readers Desire Diversity of Voices

The three most popular new columns are (1) exposition and analysis of University plans and policies by senior management, (2) letters to the editor, and (3) open forum. These preferences reflect a wish for a mélange of views in the *Newsletter* instead of purely official press releases. Not surprisingly, they also agree with answers to another question which reveal that close to 50 per cent of respondents find the shortage of analytical and commentative articles the *Newsletter's* major shortcoming.

We are keenly aware of such sentiments. But the crucial question remains: Who will write these articles?

On our part, we have already made plans to invite senior members of the University administration to write on new policies and plans; we also intend to invite people holding different posts in different departments to comment on specific topics. We will continue to encourage readers to express their views in the form of letters to the editor.

These three columns will be our top priority. However, their success depends not only on good intentions and effort on our part but also on whether there is a climate for open discussion in the University.

Other suggested new columns which gained less support from the respondents will be dealt with at a later stage.

Will Readers Speak Their Minds?

With all the enthusiasm for diversity of views in the *Newsletter*, less than 30 per cent of the respondents express the wish to air their views through the *Newsletter*. This is a blatant contradiction: most readers want to hear other people's voices but few are ready to speak their own minds.

We do understand what apprehensions our colleagues may have about raising open criticisms. So with an aim of allaying doubts, we stress that all personal information will be kept confidential and pseudonyms can be used. But of course, it is up to readers to trust us.

On the other hand, there are certain principles of editing we do insist on. We will not accept aimless or tendentious criticism, slander or anonymous complaints. We will only publish substantiated claims and constructive criticism.

Paper, Pictures and all the Rest

We will use a different kind of paper next year since less than 30 per cent of the respondents keep every issue of the *Newsletter*. There will not be any changes in the amount of pictures and illustrations as our respondents deemed the present amount adequate.

As for the size and frequency of issue, we have decided to take the matter into our hands for once. The new *Newsletter* will be in A3 or tabloid size and published once every fortnight. We believe the nature of the new columns warrants these complementary changes. However, should our plans be over-ambitious and readers detect a drop in quality, please let us know in writing.

Similarities and Differences Between Teaching/Research Staff and Administrative Staff

We have analysed the responses of these two categories of respondents and found no major differences between them in terms of preferences in reading. The only noteworthy point is that more of the latter keep every issue of the *Newsletter* for future reference whereas most of the former discard it after reading. The former tend to favour analytical and commentative articles while the latter prefer articles of a more entertaining nature. Almost all respondents who are willing to be contributors are teaching/research staff.

Comparing Chinese and English Readers

We seem to receive more compliments from readers of the English version of the *Newsletter* than from readers of the Chinese version. Perhaps the English version is, in fact, better, or perhaps western culture is more conducive to explicit compliments. More than half of the respondents who are willing to be contributors to the *Newsletter* also happen to be non-Chinese readers of the English version.

Many readers of the English version reiterated the wish to see all articles carried in English because they cannot read Chinese and do not want to miss out on any news. In contrast, as most of our Chinese readers are bilingual, there is far less of an insistence on reporting in Chinese.

To cater to the needs of different groups, we'll make sure that all essential items such as announcements and University news appear also in English; personalia will be reported in both languages; features will be reported in either language and translated only if time permits. Contributions from readers will be published in the original language, without translation.

New Format Begins in January 1995

The *Newsletter* will appear in a new format on 4th January 1995. We call upon all regular readers and potential contributors to note the publication dates and deadlines for contributions.

January to June 1995

Issue no.	Date of publication	Deadline for contributions
62	4th January	16th December 1994
63	19th January	4th January 1995
64	19th February	6th February
65	4th March	18th February
66	19th March	6th March
67	4th April	22nd March
68	19th April	3rd April
69	4th May	21st April
70	19th May	6th May
71	4th June	20th May
72	19th June	5th June

Personalia

Information in this section can only be accessed with [CWEM password](#).

New Publications of The University Press

The following books will be sold at a 20 per cent discount to staff members at the University Bookshop, John Fulton Centre.

- *The Other Hong Kong Report 1994*, edited by Donald H. McMillen and Man Si-wai, 538 pages, paperback, HK\$148.
- *My Son, Yo-Yo*, by Marina Ma as told to John A. Rallo, 170 pages, paperback, HK\$98.
- *The Language of English Studies: A Handbook for Advanced Students of English*, by John Dent-Young, 360 pages, paperback, HK\$148.
- *Community Work: Theory and Practice* (in Chinese), edited by Kam Ping-kwong, Leung Cho-bun and Chan Lai-wai, 326 pages, paperback, HK\$88.



CUHK NEWSLETTER

We welcome your contributions

1. The Newsletter will be published on the 4th and 19th of each month from January 1995.
2. All contributions and suggestions should be sent to the Editor, CUHK Newsletter, c/o the Publication Office, University Secretariat, The Chinese University of Hong Kong (tel. 6097297; fax. 6036864; e-mail pub2@uab.msmail.cuhk.hk).
3. Contributions should bear the writer's name and contact telephone number, and may be published under pseudonyms. Articles without Chinese translations will appear in the English version of the Newsletter only. No anonymous letters will be published.
4. The Editor reserves the right to reject contributions and to edit all articles for reasons of clarity, length or grammar. Those who do not wish to have their articles amended should indicate clearly in writing.
5. No part of this Newsletter may be reproduced without the written consent of the Editor.
6. This publication has a circulation of 1,600 and is primarily intended for staff members of CUHK. Copies are also sent to local educational institutions and individuals associated with the University. Those who wish to be included on the mailing list please contact the Newsletter direct.

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