



British Minister Warns of Threats to the World Environment

British Foreign and Commonwealth Office Minister, Mr. John Battle, MP, delivered a public lecture entitled 'The World Environment: Where Do We Go from Here?' on 14th March at the University during his third official visit to Hong Kong.

In his lecture, Mr. Battle outlined some of the environmental problems confronting governments the world over. These problems also present opportunities for greater recognition of the earth's fragility, for more investment in environmental projects, and for greater international cooperation between like-minded governments. He concluded by saying that the challenges are formidable but so must be the determination to conserve the environment for future generations.

As Minister of State at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, UK, Mr. Battle's portfolio includes the Asia Pacific, including Hong Kong, and environmental policy. During his three-day visit, he met with the Chief Executive of the HKSAR, senior government officials, and leading business and political figures in Hong Kong.



Novel Gene Found in Male Reproductive Tract

Researchers at the University's Epithelial Cell Biology Research Centre and the Shanghai Institute of Biochemistry of the Chinese Academy of Sciences have found in the epididymis of mice a novel antimicrobial gene. This gene has the potential to help develop medication against various microbes, including the AIDS virus and many sexually transmitted diseases. It is also important for the development of male contraceptives as well as for helping infertile men.

According to Prof. Chan Hsiao Chang, director of the Epithelial Cell Biology Research Centre, research leading to the discovery of the gene was all carried out in China, and the results were recently carried in the international journal *Science*. The discovery is a big boost to life sciences research in China.

The Epithelial Cell Biology Research Centre was jointly set up by the University and the Academy of Military Medical Sciences. Disturbance of epithelial cell functions leads to a wide spectrum of common disorders such as diarrhoea and lethal diseases such as cancer. The study on the mechanisms underlying epithelia-related diseases provides grounds for the development of better treatments and new drugs.

Singapore's Ambassador-at-Large on CU Campus

Prof. Tommy Koh, ambassador-at-large of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Singapore, visited Shaw College as the 2000-1 Sir Run Run Shaw Distinguished Visiting Scholar, and delivered a public lecture at Shaw College on 21st March.

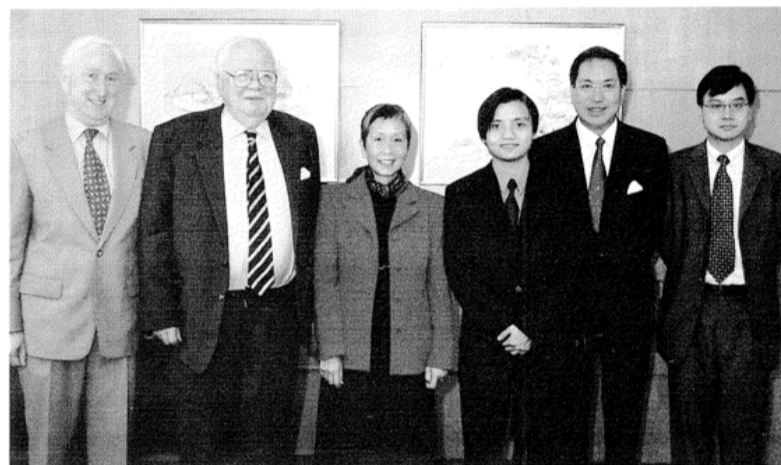
The lecture, entitled 'Asia and Europe in the New World of the 21st Century', explored the nature of the world in the 21st century—will it continue to be a unipolar world? Will Western Europe and East Asia emerge as the second and third poles of a multipolar world? Can Asia and Europe overcome the burdens of their history and build a new equal partnership?

Prof. Koh was trained in the legal profession, and began his diplomatic service for Singapore as early as 1968 as Singapore's Permanent Representative to the United Nations. At various times, he was Singapore's Ambassador to the United Nations, the US, Canada, and Mexico. He was also chairman of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea, chairman of the Main Committee of the United Nations on Environment and Development, and the UN Secretary-General's Special Envoy to Russia and the Baltic States.



Prof. Tommy Koh (right) and Prof. Yeung Yue-man, head of Shaw College

Journalism Student Wins Scholarship to Oxford



Mr. Chan Ho-yin (left 4) with the selection panel. (From left) Prof. David Parker, Dr. Robert Stevens from Oxford, Dr. Deanna Lee Rudgard, representing the donor, Prof. Arthur K.C. Li, and Prof. Dennis Lo

Mr. Chan Ho-yin, final-year student in Journalism and Communication, has been chosen as the scholar-elect for the year 2001 of the Esther Yewpick Lee Millennium Scholarship.

The scholarship is awarded annually to an outstanding graduate or a final-year undergraduate student of the University to study at the University of Oxford for two to three years. It covers all tuition fees, transportation expenses to and from Oxford, as well as an annual personal allowance for board and lodging and other maintenance costs.

Mr. Chan is the first to benefit from the scholarship scheme. He has demonstrated himself to be a person of high intellectual ability, and has maintained an outstanding academic record throughout his university study. He is also a young man of integrity, with a mature and outgoing personality. He will be leaving for the UK to start his BA studies in philosophy, politics, and economics in October 2001.

The Esther Yewpick Lee Millennium Scholarships scheme is established with funds from the estate of the late Dr. Esther Yewpick Lee. It serves to commemorate the Lee family's strong connection with and affection for both the University and the University of Oxford.

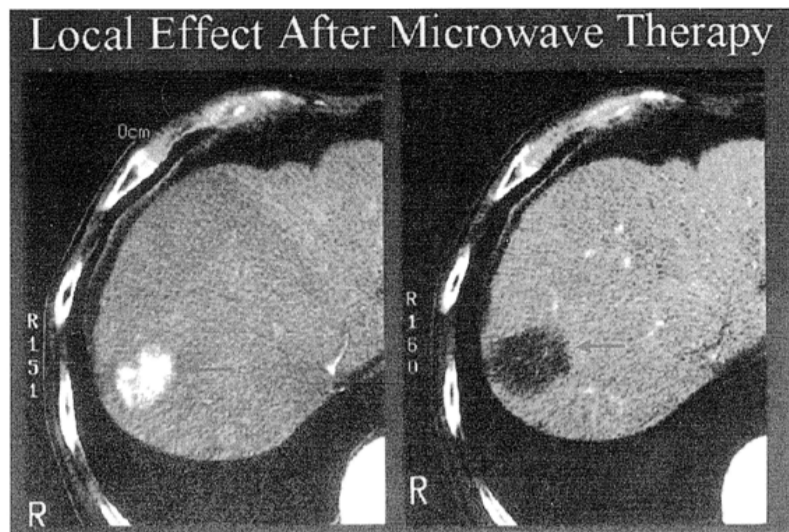
Japanese Cultural Critic on Conversionary Culture

Prof. Shuichi Kato, renowned literary critic and medical doctor, delivered a public lecture under the Distinguished Humanities Professorship Scheme 2000-1 in the Esther Lee Building on 12th March.

Entitled 'Japanese Conversionary Culture', the lecture presented and analysed some individual cases of 'conversion', i.e. radical change in people's mind and stance resulting from strong political or social pressure, in Japanese history. Attempts were made to place the phenomenon in a structural framework of traditional Japanese culture, as a system of interactions between the individual, small and large groups, and ideologies, at the levels of the mind, the emotional, and the intellectual.

Prof. Kato has had a distinguished career as a critic and commentator on Japanese culture, literature, and arts. He is a noted literary figure in his own right and has contributed to deepening the understanding of Japanese culture worldwide through his teaching and writing. He received the order of Officer des Arts et des Lettres from the French government in March 1993 in recognition of his outstanding achievements, exemplified in his works *History of Japanese Literature*, and *Nihon Bunkagaku Shi Josetsu*. He also received the prestigious Asahi Prize in January 1994 for his contribution to post-war Japanese culture.

Treating Liver Cancer with Microwave



Liver before (left) and after (right) therapy

Liver cancer is the number two cancer killer in Hong Kong. Ninety per cent of the patients diagnosed with the disease cannot be treated with liver resection, the preferred treatment of the disease, due to unfavourable tumour location or poor liver function. For such patients, local ablative therapy may be most suitable, for it can eradicate the tumour without causing damage to the rest of the liver.

The Faculty of Medicine has pioneered the introduction of a new form of local ablative therapy—heat treatment, or microwave coagulation therapy, to treat liver cancer in Hong Kong. Making use of the fact that cancer cells disintegrate at 45°C, electrodes are placed through the skin into the tumour to heat it up and destroy it. The therapy offers reliable and precise local ablation of liver cancer. It can be performed under local anaesthesia and requires only one to two treatment sessions. Treatment time is relatively short—about five minutes at each treatment spot. And apart from heat generation, microwave does not produce any physical effects within the human body.

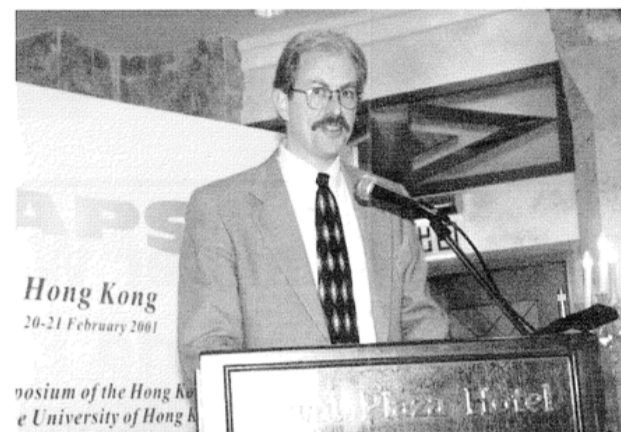
In a joint clinical research carried out in the Prince of Wales Hospital and the Chinese PLA General Hospital in Beijing, the five-year survival rate of 189 patients who have received such microwave treatment reaches 59 per cent.

Hong Kong Cancer Institute Hosts International Symposium

Over 200 delegates from 19 countries attended the Sixth Annual Scientific Symposium of the Hong Kong Cancer Institute held on 20th and 21st February 2001 at the Royal Plaza Hotel. Organized locally by the University's Departments of Clinical Oncology and Chemical Pathology, the meeting was held in conjunction with the Second International Symposium on Circulating Nucleic Acids in Plasma and Serum.

Some of the important breakthroughs during the last few years were discussed at the symposiums, including the detection and characterization of tumour-derived DNA in the plasma of cancer patients, and the discovery of foetal DNA in maternal plasma and serum.

This year's Cheng Suen Man Shook Foundation lecture, presented during the conference, was delivered by Dr. James G. Herman, a leading expert in cancer epigenetics from the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine. It was entitled 'Cancer Epigenetics: Biology and Clinical Applications'.



Dr. James G. Herman

High Risk of Heart Disease for Obese Children

A groundbreaking study by the University's Centre for Atherosclerosis Studies finds that obesity alone will result in severe atherosclerosis risk even in young children.

Obesity is one of the major risk factors of atherosclerosis and other chronic diseases like hypertension and diabetes mellitus. Between 1989 and 1998, the prevalence of obesity in Hong Kong has increased from 3.5 to 9 per cent, and the figure is increasing.

In adult atherosclerosis, many contributing factors coexist and it is difficult to sort out the role of obesity versus hypertension, diabetes mellitus, and high lipids, but this might be easier in children where obesity is isolated. The research team studied 82 obese and 58 normal weight children aged 7 to 12, evaluating the endothelial function of upper arm arteries (a key marker of earlier atherogenesis) using high resolution ultrasound. They found that the endothelial function of obese children are impaired by 33 per cent compared to normal children. Such an abnormality is similar to that found in elderly subjects and individuals who have been smoking for over 10 years.

The results of this study were presented at the 50th Annual Congress of the American College of Cardiology held in Orlando, USA, in March. The researchers have also arranged dietary modification and a regular exercise programme for the obese children to improve vascular function and prevent heart disease.

ITSC Update

Workshop on Web-based Teaching

The Information Technology Services Centre (ITSC) has organized visits to various faculties to provide teachers and their supporting staff with first-hand and updated information on web-based teaching and learning facilities (WBT) in the University.

These workshops were held between November 2000 and February 2001, starting with the Faculty of Arts.

Participants were first introduced to WBT, which was followed by an experience sharing session. They were also introduced to other available web-based teaching and learning services, and were provided with information about the future road map of the platform. Many questions were raised in the question-and-answer session.

Through web-based teaching links such as CU Forum and WebCT of the WBT platform, communication between students and lecturers, teaching methods, and course management have been enhanced. Moreover, learning is enriched as students can now use on-line experiments, simulations, and quizzes through multimedia technology.

ITSC would like to extend its gratitude to those teaching staff who have shared their experience in the workshops with the participants. They are:

- Mr. George Jor (English Language Teaching Unit) from the Faculty of Arts,
- Prof. Gordon Cheung (BBA Programmes) from the Faculty of Business Administration,
- Mr. Paul Sze (Curriculum and Instruction) from the Faculty of Education,
- Prof. Leung Man-sang (Physiology) from the Faculty of Medicine,
- Prof. Liu Chun-wah (Economics), Prof. Benjamin Ostrov (Government and Public Administration), Prof. Louis Leung (Journalism and Communication), Prof. Twila Tradif (Psychology), and faculty office staff from the Faculty of Social Science.

It was through their enthusiasm that participants understood how WBT could assist teaching staff in instruction, rather than replacing instructional design. Though WBT may not save preparation time, its greatest value lies in the flexibility of the instructional medium and enhanced communication beyond the classroom.

In addition to these workshops, a WBT community that focuses on providing an effective communication channel and nurturing a self-support culture for web-based teaching users in the University was established in October 2000. Through mutual experience sharing and discussion on topics of common interest, ITSC hopes that teachers in the University could continuously improve the quality of online instruction and use the tools provided more effectively. All academic staff are welcome to join this community. Registration can be made on-line at the WBT homepage (<http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/wbt>).

The success of WBT depends on both the devotion of teaching staff and their students' active participation in learning. ITSC will continue to promote innovative WBT tools to enhance teaching and learning, and hopes to receive support and feedback from the University community. For more information, please visit <http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/wbt>.

More IT Training Programmes for Staff

In April, ITSC will continue to hold instructor-based and online courses for University staff. The instructor-based seminars cover techniques on web-page authoring and advanced features of Office 2000.

Web-page authoring seminars include:

- Web-Page Authoring Techniques Using HTML
- Design Simple Web Graphics Using Photoshop—Intermediate

Office applications include:

- Office Skill Essentials—Access 2000
- Word 2000 New Features Highlight

The web publishing series emphasizes the use of Photoshop to create simple web graphics. The intermediate course shows you how to create special image effects by using layers and filters, and also how to create transparent GIFs and animated GIFs. Moreover, the basic techniques of HTML authoring will be addressed. In the Office 2000 series, the new look of Office 2000 will be introduced. This seminar can save you lots of time when adapting to the new version of Office so that you do not have to consult manuals to understand features for tables, graphics, web pages, and multilingual support. The access seminar shows you how to plan and design databases, how to build forms, and how to produce reports to automate your daily work.

In addition, the basic and advanced learning WebCT 2.1 courses are continuing on-line. You can learn how to use this tool at your own pace.

In order to evaluate the training programmes, ITSC would like to solicit your opinion on them. Please e-mail to useredu-help@cuhk.edu.hk to explain what you would like ITSC to offer and/or specify the courses that you have failed to register for due to full attendance. This information will help ITSC to offer more courses to meet your needs.

For registration and information, please visit <http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/itsc/training>.

Know the True Cause of Knee Pain

Osteoarthritis is a common degenerative joint condition that usually occurs at the hip, knee, or hand. Osteoarthritis of the knee is particularly common among Hong Kong Chinese and accounts for most of the disability of the elderly. Joint replacement is very often required.

A study conducted in 2000 by the Faculty of Medicine found that among men aged 50 or older, 17 per cent had persistent knee pain and 7 per cent could be diagnosed as having osteoarthritis of the knee.

The figures for women of the same age were 24 per cent and 13 per cent respectively. A second study revealed that being overweight, knee joint injury, and lifting of heavy loads at work are the three major factors contributing to osteoarthritis of the knee.

The study also found that contrary to popular belief, recreational activities such as jogging, ball games, and dancing do not cause osteoarthritis of the knee.



Prof. Jean Woo (left) and Prof. Edith Lau at a press conference to announce the results of their study on osteoarthritis

Yale Students Visit New Asia



Eight Yale students returned a visit to New Asia College from 4th to 17th March 2001 under the Eighth New Asia-Yale Student Exchange Programme. The students were led by Mr. Kevin Ming, programme coordinator.

The theme for this year's exchange being 'Youth Culture', academic talks on youth issues and visits to youth service groups were arranged for the American students. On 13th March, a symposium was held wherein the Yale students presented four reports, respectively on 'Women in American Youth Culture: Relationships, Sex, Marriage, and Eating Disorder', 'Youth Protest and American Politics since World War Two', 'Social Groups of American Youth', and 'Adolescent Drug Use and Drug Control Effort'.

New Department Head Series

Knowing Art Better Through Its History

Prof. Jenny So Outlines Development Plans for the Department of Fine Arts



New head of the Department of Fine Arts, Prof. Jenny So Fong-suk is an art historian, specializing in early Chinese art and archaeology. She was research consultant at the Department of Far Eastern Art of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York in the eighties, and for some 10 years before joining the University, she also worked as curator at the Freer Gallery of Art and Arthur M. Sackler Gallery, Smithsonian Institution.

Having worked in museums for so long, she is of the view that the study of art history cannot be divorced from the art object itself. 'There are some very theoretically oriented art historians out there. But I feel art history has to be based firmly on concrete artefacts. The University with its strong Fine Arts Department and a dedicated art museum that runs frequent loan exhibitions provides an ideal environment for teaching art history,' she pointed out. The department's strong studio art orientation, she said, will be balanced out by a greater emphasis on art history, but one that is grounded in the work of art.

The same adherence to the work of art applies to research. Prof. So's museum background exposed her to many different collections, in particular mainland collections.

She is also familiar with many private collections in Hong Kong. She hopes to tap into both mainland and local collections for her research and teaching, the access to which, she believes, is facilitated by her physical presence at the University. Her own research focus is jade, bronze, lacquer, gold and silver from the Neolithic through the Bronze Period to the Han and Tang Dynasties, as well as the cultural exchanges within China, between China and the nomadic cultures of Central Asia and the Silk Road.

Prof. So is currently reviewing and reconfiguring the academic curriculum so that it will be more attuned to the students' present-day needs. Apart from offering more interesting courses in art history and to attract more students to postgraduate studies in art history, she hopes to consolidate the course offerings so that students can maximize their choices and better direct their learning experiences according to their own interest during their three years in the department.

She foresees that the department will continue to maintain a close relationship with the Art Museum. She aims at developing a course structure that would complement the activities and strengths of the museum, and will lend her expertise to Prof. Peter Lam, director of the Art Museum and her friend of many years, to help strengthen the museum's collection. She also intends to collaborate with Dr. Tang Chung over the construction of a new Centre for Chinese Archaeology and Art and to organize more activities with the aim of nurturing interest in Chinese archaeology among the students. 'I hope to enable them to see archaeology from an art historian's perspective as opposed to an anthropologist's, i.e. how archaeology

contributes to the understanding of the artistic and cultural history of a period, and in the case of ancient China, how it even forces us to revise and re-evaluate written history,' she said. There are also plans to make use of the exhibition space at the new Centre for Chinese Archaeology and Art to mount exhibitions with special themes, drawing upon collections from the mainland.

Prof. So also intends to work with Prof. Peter Lam and Dr. Tang Chung to allow students opportunities to plan and execute an exhibition as part of their training. 'Working in museums is an obvious option for graduates of art history, or even fine arts. If they could have some training in and knowledge of museum work, it would be very useful,' she remarked.

Despite having studied and worked in the US for many years, Prof. So is no stranger to the University. Among the many friends she knows are Prof. Mayching Kao, former chair of the Fine Arts Department and director of the Art Museum; Dr. James Watt, previous director of the Art Museum for many years; and Dr. J.S. Lee, benefactor of the Art Museum. Over the years, she has participated in conferences organized by the Institute of Chinese Studies and the Department of Chinese Language and Literature.

Good teachers and an effective curriculum can open up new horizons and perspectives for students, as Prof. So's own experience in college testifies. Having majored in English Literature at Swarthmore College with a minor in art history, she decided to go on to study fine arts for her master degree and Ph.D. at Harvard University, all because of an excellent art-history professor who opened her eyes to an exciting and new learning experience. Hopefully Prof. So's own experience can be replicated at this university. ○

Piera Chen

Department of Fine Arts

藝術系
FINE ARTS



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請須輸入 [中大校園電子郵件密碼](#)。

Service to the Community and International Organizations

- Prof. Daniel Shek Tan-lei, professor in the Department of Social Work, has been re-appointed by the Chief Executive of the HKSAR as chairman of the Subcommittee on Research of the Action Committee Against Narcotics for two years from 1st January 2001.
- Prof. Japhet Law, professor in the Department of Decision Sciences and Managerial Economics, has been re-appointed by the Chief Executive of the HKSAR as a member of the Air Transport Licensing Authority for two years from 1st April 2001.
- Prof. Lam Kin-che, professor in the Department of Geography, has been appointed by the Chief Executive of the HKSAR as a member of the Advisory Council on the Environment for two years from 1st January 2001. He has also been re-elected as chairman of the EIA Subcommittee of the Advisory Council on the Environment, and appointed as an honorary professor of Nankai University in Tianjin, China.
- Prof. Dennis Lam Shun-chiu, professor of ophthalmology and visual sciences, has been appointed by the Chief Executive of the HKSAR as a member of the Advisory Council on the Environment for two years from 1st January 2001.
- Prof. Eden Yu Siu Hung, senior college tutor in Shaw College, has been appointed by the Chief Executive of the HKSAR as a member of the Small and Medium Enterprises Committee for two years from 15th December 2000.
- Prof. Lee Shiu-hung, honorary professor of community medicine, has been re-appointed by the Secretary for Security as a member of the Governing Committee of the Beat Drugs Fund Association for two years from 1st April 2001.
- Prof. Wong Tze-wai, professor in the Department of Community and Family Medicine, has been appointed by the Commissioner for Labour as a member of the Labour Advisory Board Committee on Occupational Safety and Health from 8th February 2001 to 31st December 2002.
- Prof. Fanny Cheung, professor in the Department of Psychology, has been appointed as an honorary professor of the Education Science College of Capital Normal University.
- Prof. Ann Mackenzie, professor of nursing (clinical nursing), has been appointed as a visiting professor to the Faculty of Health and Social Care Sciences, Kingston University and St. George's Hospital Medical School, London University. She has also been appointed as a member of the Health and Medical Development Advisory Committee for one year from 1st March 2001.

(Information in this section is provided by the Information and Public Relations Office. Contributions should be sent direct to that office for registration and verification before publication.)

宣布事項 ANNOUNCEMENTS

公積金計劃投資成績

Investment Returns of Staff Superannuation Schemes

財務處公布公積金計劃內各項投資基金於二零零一年二月的回報如下：

From the Bursary

The investment returns of February 2001 in the Designated Investment Funds of the 1995 Scheme and 1983 Scheme are as follows:

二零零一年二月 February 2001

基金 Fund	計劃 Scheme		指標回報 Benchmark Return
	1995	1983	
	(未經審核數據 unaudited)		
增長 Growth	-7.30%	-5.37%	-6.60%
平衡 Balanced	-5.69%	-4.17%	-5.18%
穩定 Stable	-2.54%	-2.00%	-2.34%
港元銀行存款 HKD Bank Deposit	0.43%	0.44%	0.34%
	(年息 Annualized 5.64%)	(年息 Annualized 5.72%)	(年息 Annualized 4.39%)
美元銀行存款 USD Bank Deposit	0.47%	0.46%	0.38%
	(年息 Annualized 5.87%)	(年息 Annualized 5.73%)	(年息 Annualized 4.88%)

公積金投資簡布會內容

Investment Forum Materials Available on the Web

大學同人若需了解二零零一年三月八日及十二日舉行之公積金投資簡布會的內容，可瀏覽大學財務處的網頁(<http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/bursary>)。

The presentation materials for the Investment Forums held on 8th and 12th March 2001 have been posted on the Bursary's web page (<http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/bursary>).

強積金計劃成員更改自願供款百分比

MPFS—Change of Voluntary Contribution Percentage

強積金計劃成員可於每年四月一日及十月一日更改自願供款的百分比。

打算自本月一日起改變自願供款百分比者，可向薪津及公積金組索取更改表格，或從財務處網頁(<http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/bursary/eng/default.htm>)下載，並將填妥之表格於四月十日(星期二)前送達或傳真(二六零三七八九零)至公積金組。

查詢或索取表格，請與公積金組卓小姐(內線七二三六)或吳先生(內線七二五一)聯絡。

MPFS members are allowed to change the nominated percentage of 'Employee Voluntary Contribution' twice a year on 1st April and 1st October respectively.

MPFS members who wish to change the percentage of their voluntary contribution from 1st April 2001 should complete the 'Change of Voluntary Contribution Form', downloadable from the Bursary website (<http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/bursary/eng/default.htm>) or obtainable from the office of the Payroll and Superannuation Unit. Please return the completed form to the Bursary by mail or fax (26037890) on or before 10th April 2001 (Tuesday).

You can contact Ms. Shirley Cheuk at 26097236 or Mr. Alan Ng at 26097251 for the form or enquiries.

圖書館消息

Library Closure

大學圖書館及所有分館將於二零零一年五月一日(勞動節)停止開放一天。

The University Library and its branch libraries will be closed on Labour Day, 1st May 2001.

基礎教育研討會2001

「兩岸三地基礎教育課程改革論壇」將於本月七日上午九時至下午一時在利黃瑤璧樓舉行，與會者包括教育部基礎教育課程教材發展中心主任助理劉堅先生、台北師範學院課程與教學研究所所長莊明貞教授、中大課程與教學學系林智中教授和黃顯華教授。研討會設有工作坊環節，讓與會者交流經驗。

詳情及報名表格(四月五日截止報名)已刊於香港教育研究所網頁(<http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/hkier>)，亦可致電(二六零九六九六三)查詢。

大學游泳池重新開放

University Swimming Pool Notice

大學游泳池將於本月十七日(星期二)重新開放，每週七天，假日照常。開放時間及收費如下：

第一節：上午十時三十分至下午一時四十分

第二節：下午二時三十分至六時十五分

類別	入場費	套票(每套十二張)
優惠時間：星期一至五上午(假日除外) [教職員、教職員家屬及學生家屬(配偶及子女)適用]	五元五角	—
學生	五元五角	五十五元
教職員及其家屬	十一元	一百一十元
教職員家屬(十八歲以下)	五元五角	五十五元
校友(持中大信用卡或已繳付校友游泳證年費者)	十一元	一百一十元
上述人士攜同之訪客	三十元	三百元
校友游泳證年費	二百二十元	
補領游泳證/遺失儲物櫃鑰匙	十七元五角	

游泳池辦事處(范克廉樓一零二室)於四月開始接受申領及換領游泳證。

The University Swimming Pool will re-open on Tuesday, 17th April 2001. The pool is open seven days a week including public holidays. Daily opening hours are 10.30 a.m. to 1.40 p.m. and 2.30 p.m. to 6.15 p.m.

Admission charges are as follows:

Type	Admission charge	Coupons (12 tickets)
Off-peak Hours: Monday to Friday morning session (except public holidays) [applicable to staff, dependants of staff, and dependants of students (spouse and children)]	\$5.50	—
Students	\$5.50	\$55.00
Staff and dependants	\$11.00	\$110.00
Staff dependants (aged under 18)	\$5.50	\$55.00
Alumni (with CU Credit Card or swimming card)	\$11.00	\$110.00
Accompanied guests	\$30.00	\$300.00
Annual subscription for alumni swimming card	\$220.00	
Penalty for loss of swimming card or locker key	\$17.50	

The issue and renewal of admission cards will begin in April at the Swimming Pool Counter, Office of Student Affairs, Room 102, Benjamin Franklin Centre.

Corrigendum

In the feature article on the face-lift of the University Health Service (UHS), carried in issue no. 179 of the *CUHK Newsletter*, the amount allocated by the University to the UHS for the project should have been HK\$15 million instead of HK\$1.5 million.

中大通訊 CUHK NEWSLETTER

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

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- The *Newsletter* is published on the 4th and 19th of each month.
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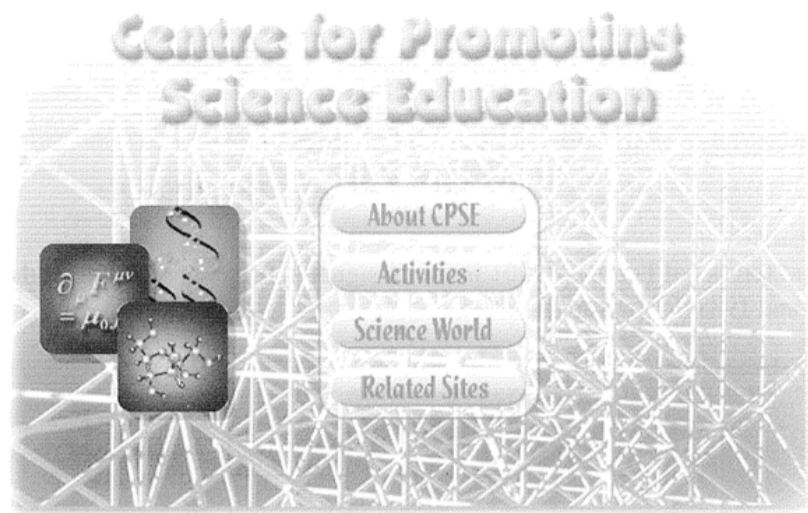
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理學院成立科學教育促進中心 協助港人建立喜愛科學的文化

糾正對科學的誤解

很多人一聽到「科學」便叫怕怕，認為它艱澀難懂，又與日常生活無直接關係。其實，科學精神在於思考和創造，為了糾正市民對科學的誤解，理學院近年舉辦了多類活動，積極推廣科學教育，部分更特別以中學生為對象，例如一九九四年創辦的刊物《攀登》，就是免費供中學生及教師索閱的，現時每期發行六萬一千多份，分發至四百多間中學及社區中心。

理學院教師又經常到中學、太空館和科學館等機構主持科普講座，一九九九至二零零零年度這類講座共有四十八個。由一九九九年，該院每年暑假都舉辦專供中學生參加的科學鐵人盃比賽。生物系過去兩年也主辦了暑期科普講座及研究夏令營，讓中六學生參觀該系的研究工作，又讓他們開展一些小型實驗。物理系亦有主辦類似活動，今年更與太空館合辦中學生天文訓練計劃。

全面推廣科學教育

學系各自舉辦活動，多只著重其專長範圍，如生物、化學或物理等，難免不夠全面。有見及此，理學院院長柳愛華教授、材料科學講座教授劉煥明教授和該院的執行委員會提議成立科學教育促進中心(網址<http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/cpse>)，統籌該院所有科學推廣工作，希望可集中院內資源，協調各系，提供全方位的科學推廣活動。

該中心去年十月成立，是本港大專院校中首個專責推廣科學教育的單位，由生物化學系曾守焯教授及物理系劉煥明教授出任主任及副主任(中心成員詳見右表)，而辦公室則設於科學館北座三三五室。

曾守焯教授說：「中心旨在協助學生建立正確的科學觀，並從日常生活入手，引起他們對科學的興趣。若在中學階段打好科學知識的基礎，將有利他們在大學修讀相關的課程。我們更希望為香港建立喜愛科學的文化；科學能普及，有助提升社會的創造力。」

劉煥明教授補充，在中小學階段的科學教育，不少仍是單向式的講解，不重視啟發，不能引起學生對科學的興趣，過份死板的教學方式會扼殺他們的創造力。今天，香港強調工業多元化和發展高新科技，更必須以科學為基礎，因為「科學的精神就是創新精神。」

劉教授解釋，中心除舉辦各種科普活動外，還會向教育署、中學和其他組織反映中大理學院對科學教育的意見、院方可提供的服務，和希望扮演的角色。「現在教育署有意增加中學科學的吸引力，著重科學在日常生活的應用。但是，課程應該怎樣改革呢？中學和大學的課程又如何銜接呢？中心可在這方面擔任更重要的角色。其實，教署得知中心的成立後，曾主動接觸我們，討論改革中學科學教育的問題。另一方面，隨著課程的改動，中學科學教師便須接受再培訓，我們也可代為開設培訓課程。」

不乏成功經驗

曾教授指出，理學院在舉辦科學推廣活動方面，成績一向不俗。去年三至五月承辦教署的中學生物教師培訓課程，協助更新他們的生物科知識。課程結束後，九成以上的參加者都給予「佳」或「極佳」的評語。

一九九九年創辦的科學鐵人盃比賽，參賽人數亦急劇增加。第一屆的籌備人員要大力籲請中學派學生參加，第二屆已有八十多家中學的校長主動推薦學生參賽，由於資源所限，見遺者不少。

理學院去年與沙田區的中學合辦「科學趣味在沙田」，共同擬訂科普講題，由院方教師到各中學主講，吸引他們探索背後的科學理論。這個試點計劃極受歡迎，日後或會擴展至其他區域。曾教授表示，中心會珍惜這些成功經驗，並以此為基礎，尋找資源，主辦更多樣化的活動。□

陳偉珠



劉煥明教授(左)與曾守焯教授

科學教育促進中心主要成員

- 主任：曾守焯教授(生物化學)
副主任：劉煥明教授(物理)
成員：江紹佳教授(生物化學) 黃創儉教授(生物)
李偉基教授(化學) 區國強教授(數學)
朱明中教授(物理) 劉大成教授(統計學)
秘書：湯兆昇博士(物理)
林竹韻女士(理學院院務處)



中學生物教師培訓課程：生物系鍾國昌博士(左一)向學員講述實驗前的準備工作



科學鐵人盃：科學鐵人盃比賽是寓學習於遊戲的比賽。參賽者須在兩天內進行十一個回合的馬拉松式科學常識競賽，比賽項目涵蓋各主要的科學領域如數、理、生化、統計、食品及營養科學、環境科學及中醫學等。賽會將前沿的科學新知融入遊戲中，例如為參賽者提供不同的物料(數張咭紙及一些普通文具)，要求他們製作一個平台，最少須能承托一個人的重量。

婦女與資訊科技



性別研究中心主任張妙清教授(左)致送紀念品予尤曾家麗女士

香港亞太研究所性別研究中心上月十七日假崇基學院謝昭杰室舉辦「兩性角色工作坊」，主題為「婦女與資訊科技」，目的是透過公眾論壇，喚起大眾關注資訊科技如何影響婦女的處境。

資訊科技及廣播局局長尤曾家麗女士擔任開幕禮演講嘉賓，講述政府在有關方面的政策。專題演講嘉賓包括新聞與傳播學院梁永熾教授、現代語言及文化系陳潔詩女士、香港婦女中心協會總幹事陳瑜女士，以及北電網絡(亞洲)有限公司高級經理劉淑君女士。

第二屆國際血漿及血清核酸研究會議

香港癌症研究所於二月二十至二十一日假帝京酒店舉行第六屆科研周年會議暨第二屆國際血漿及血清核酸研究會議，共有二百廿五名來自十九個國家的學者出席，與會人數遠超主辦單位的估計。

會議的香港籌委由本校腫瘤學系和化學病理學系組成，並邀請美國約翰霍普金斯大學醫學院的癌症漸生學權威Dr. James Herman主持鄭孫文淑基金會講座。

過往數年，醫學界在血漿及血清核酸的研究有不少突破，例如透過檢驗病人血漿內癌細胞的脫氧核糖核酸的濃度，可判斷病情，以及透過檢驗孕婦血漿內的脫氧核糖核酸，亦可判斷胎兒有否患上遺傳病。中文大學更在這些研究領域上處於領導地位。

大會今年的優秀論文獎改由全體與會者投票選出，三名優勝者分別來自英國、香港和德國。



李國章校長(右四)與主講嘉賓

預防心血管病 最好從小做起

醫學院的研究發現，肥胖可嚴重損害人體血管功能，對兒童的影響亦極為明顯。研究結果已於上月舉行的第五屆全美心血管專科學院年會上發表。

肥胖是動脈血管粥樣硬化，以及高血壓和糖尿病等慢性疾病

的主要成因之一。香港市民體重超重的比例由一九八九年的兩成半，上升到一九九八年的四成；肥胖比率由百分之三點五升至百分之九，現在仍不斷上升。醫學研究已證明，八至十歲的兒童若體重指數介乎二十至二十三，十年後超過五成半人都會成為體重指數達二十五至三十的肥胖青年。本港兒童的肥胖率為一成，已成為一個嚴峻的社會問題。

為了確定肥胖對兒童早期心血管硬化病變的影響，內科及藥物治療學系胡錦生教授和兒科學系宋銀子教授領導的研究小組，對兩組七至十二歲的肥胖兒童及正常兒童進行研究，檢測他們的肱動脈功能，結果令人吃驚。肥胖兒童血管功能的障礙程度，幾乎與一個六十多歲的或吸煙逾十年的成年人相同。

研究小組又安排專業人士為肥胖兒童制定個別的飲食計劃，以及合適的運動鍛鍊。經過六週，這些兒童的血管功能均有明顯改善。

胡教授總結說，兒童超重或肥胖，可能導致動脈血管內皮功能出現不同程度的障礙。隨著年齡的增長，更可能引致一系列心血管疾病和其他代謝疾病。因此，如能控制兒童期的飲食，並加強運動，不僅能改善生活素質，更可減少心血管疾病的發生。



中大校隊大專運動賽成績佳



中大女子越野隊

中大校隊奪得本屆大專體育運動比賽女子團體總季軍，以及女子越野賽和男子網球賽兩項冠軍，成績良好。

賽事由「香港大專體育協會」舉辦，每年十一月至翌年三月在各大專院校舉行。今年共有十一所院校參賽，角逐十項男女子錦標。比賽項目包括水運會、陸運會、越野賽及各項球類比賽。本校亦在女子羽毛球和女子網球賽獲得亞軍，以及女子游泳、女子排球、男子田徑和男子壁球的季軍。

體育部認為，由於各院校近年增加收錄具潛質的運動員入學，其中不乏現任或退役的香港代表隊和青年軍成員，所以比賽過程越加激烈。中大代表隊在強敵林立的情況下獲得如此佳績，已是難能可貴。除了教師的悉心指導外，學生以「勝不驕，敗不餒」的精神奮力拼搏更加重要。

退行性關節炎成因與預防

退行性關節炎是常見的關節退化問題，通常在髖關節、膝關節或手關節出現。膝關節炎在香港最為普遍，也是引致年長者行動不便的主要原因，病人大都需要換上人造關節。

社區及家庭醫學系去年初調查四百多名成年男士及六百多名成年女士，發現五十歲或以上的男性，一成七曾有持續性膝關節疼痛，百分之七患上膝關節炎；同齡群婦女的百分比，依次為兩成四及一成三。而婦女在停經後的膝關節炎及髖關節炎發病率更迅速增長。

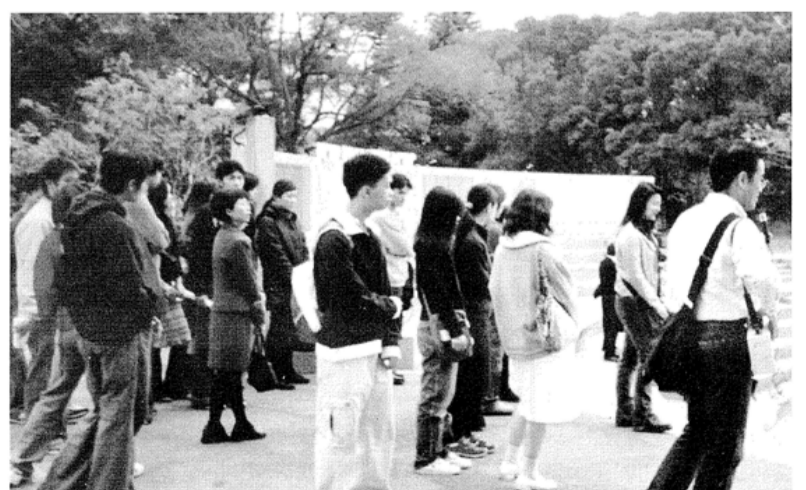
第二項相關研究的對象為膝關節炎病人及普通人士，每組各六百五十人。結果發現導致膝關節炎的三大原因，依次為身體過重、膝關節受損、工作需提舉重物。

該系胡令芳教授和劉明珠教授建議四個預防膝關節炎的方法：

- (一) 減輕體重——只要減輕十磅便能減低患膝關節炎的風險達百分之五十。
- (二) 慎防受傷——職業運動員(例如職業足球員)應避免激烈的身體碰撞。一旦受傷，必須接受專科的治療及讓患處充分復原。
- (三) 關注提舉重物的工作——政府宜制訂有關職業性提舉重物的政策及指引。僱主應為僱員提供提舉重物的輔助器械。工人宜加強鍛鍊四頭肌，以預防關節受損。
- (四) 參與康樂體育活動——公眾應多參與康樂體育活動，退行性關節炎患者若有適當運動，可加速康復。

逾三十部門參加展翅計劃

校方今年繼續響應政府的呼籲，大力支持「展翅計劃」，共有三十多個部門參與，為學員提供工作和實習訓練。人事處上月十日在中國文化研究所舉行了迎新活動，介紹本校概況、工作安全須知、工作與服務原則等，讓學員適應大學的環境及投入工作。



展翅計劃學員參觀校園



英國務大臣論世界環境



英國外交及聯邦事務部國務大臣貝德禮上月十四日蒞校，並於祖堯堂主持公開演講，談論「世界環境：何去何從？」。

貝德禮上月十二至十四日訪港，是其任內第三度官式訪問香港；期間曾會晤特區政府高層，以及商界、政界及非政府機構的要員。貝德禮專責處理亞太區事務，包括香港及環境政策。

發現生育調控基因鑰匙

上皮細胞生物學研究中心與中國科學院上海生物化學研究所發現，老鼠的上皮細胞有一種特異的抗菌肽基因，率先打開調控生育基因研究大門。

研究由中大陳小章教授和中科院張永蓮教授主持，並已成功進行基因克隆，她們的研究成果已刊於《科學》期刊。

陳教授表示，這個新基因不單可發展新型男用避孕藥，也可用以防止性病，更重要是給男性不育者帶來新希望。

新加坡外交部巡迴大使 出任逸夫書院傑出訪問學人

新加坡外交部巡迴大使許通美教授上月出任逸夫書院二零零零至二零零一年度邵逸夫爵士傑出訪問學人，並於三月廿一日在該院大講堂主持公開講座，探討「二十一世紀新世界的亞洲與歐洲」。

許教授是新加坡大學法律學院的元老，並曾代表新加坡參與聯合國組織和出任多國大使。他的學術和外交成就為人稱許，曾應邀訪問耶魯、達夫、史丹福等大學，主持不少極有分量的講座；更獲得荷蘭、智利、芬蘭、盧森堡和新加坡等政府頒授榮譽，表揚他對國際社會的傑出貢獻。

一九九零年，他出任新加坡國家藝術局皇后坊亞洲文明博物館的主席，而自一九九七年起，則為新加坡的亞歐基金會的創會執行董事。



首位利黃瑤璧千禧獎學金得主

新聞與傳播學院學生陳豪賢獲選為利黃瑤璧千禧獎學金的首位得主，本年六月完成中大社會科學學士課程後，將於十月前赴英國牛津大學深造，攻讀哲學、政治和經濟的學士課程。

獎學金遴選委員會對陳豪賢的學業表現及個人品格都非常讚賞。他除了學業成績優異，課外活動表現出色外，亦積極參與社會服務，從中六開始，即於聖雅各福群會當義工，曾獲多項服務獎。在遴選過程中，陳豪賢承諾如學有所成，會回饋香港和國家，讓遴選委員留下深刻的印象。

利黃瑤璧千禧獎學金乃以利黃瑤璧博士遺贈予中大的捐款設立。利氏家族熱心教育，長期以來大力支持香港中文大學。這項獎學金永誌利氏家族對本校的貢獻，且進一步加強中文大學與牛津大學的聯繫。

獎學金的資助年限為兩至三年，金額包括大學及學院之學費與雜費，來回牛津與香港的交通費用，以及個人生活津貼。



左起：獎學金遴選委員會主席兼捐贈代表利德蓉博士、陳豪賢先生、李國章校長

肝癌微波凝固療法成效顯著



放射診斷學系率先利用微波凝固治療法殲滅肝腫瘤，成效良好。

肝癌是香港的第二號癌症殺手，每年約有二千人患上，其中九成病人因肝腫瘤位置不理想或肝功能欠佳，未能接受最有效的治療方法——肝臟切除手術。

微波凝固治療是一種有效的熱能局部消融治療技術，可以針對性地消滅肝臟內的腫瘤，不會對肝臟整體造成損害，是這類病人尤其肝功能欠佳者的最佳治療方法。

治療原理是針對癌細胞在攝氏四十五度或以上便會變質和解體的特點，把針狀儀器刺進腫瘤內，使腫瘤的溫度上升來殺死癌細胞。

這方法可靠準確，只需在皮膚局部麻醉下便可進行，經一至兩次治療便可完成。每次治療需時甚短，除熱能外，微波在人體內不會產生其他作用。

威爾斯親王醫院和北京中國人民解放軍總醫院(301醫院)合作進行的微波凝固治療臨床研究中發現，一百八十九名肝癌病人(合計二百八十二個直徑平均四公分的腫瘤)經治療後，能生存五年的機率為五成九。

新亞書院環保週 重點探討中國水污染防治策略

新亞書院環境委員會於三月下旬舉辦「環保週」，邀請北京清華大學環境科學與工程系錢易教授(中)主持「中國水污染防治策略」專題講座。

講座於三月二十三日在新亞書院會議廳舉行，討論要點包括中國水污染狀況及其危害、中國水污染防治的經驗及教訓，以及防治策略。

錢易教授為新亞書院創辦人錢穆博士的女兒，九四年當選中國工程院院士，現兼任清華大學環境模擬與污染控制國家重點聯合實驗室主任。

錢教授長期從事環境工程的教學、研究和新技術開發，其專長為水污染防治工程，曾主持多項國家科技攻關項目及國家自然科學基金項目，分別獲得國家科技進步獎二等獎、三等獎，國家教委科技成果進步獎一等獎(兩次)，其中不少已成為國家科委科技成果重點推廣項目。

