



University News

30th Anniversary Lecture: Dementia, Aging and Amyloidosis



30th Anniversary Celebration Activities Highlights for February and March

The first 30th anniversary lecture, organized by the Faculty of Medicine, was held on 19th January at the Sir Run Run Shaw Hall. Dr. D. Carleton Gajdusek, Nobel Laureate in Physiology and Medicine, delivered a public lecture on 'Dementia, Aging and Amyloidosis', which attracted an audience of over 800.

Dr. Gajdusek, virologist of the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, National Institutes of Health, USA, is renowned for his discovery of the 'slow viruses', which are the infectious agents in *kuru* and other related

chronic degenerative brain diseases. He was awarded the Nobel Prize in Medicine and Physiology in 1976 for the discovery.

In the lecture, Dr. Gajdusek described dementia as a group of conditions characterized by progressive deterioration of intellectual functions with associated pathological changes in the brain. Clinical manifestations include failing of memory, loss of language ability, cognitive degeneration, and signs of disease in one or more areas of the brain.

He pointed out that dementia was very common among old people in the Western countries and there were many causes of the disease. He then went on to discuss the characteristics of the slow viruses, how they cause pathological changes in the brain, and how amyloid, an abnormal extracellular protein found in patients with immune disorders and chronic infections, are pathogenetically linked to Alzheimer's disease, a common form of dementia in old people.

The lecture was sponsored by the Wei Lun Foundation Ltd.



- ◆ 30th Anniversary Lecture: Recent Economic Developments, the Clinton Administration and Business Education Development in the United States
Speaker: Prof. Lester C. Thurow, Dean of Sloan School of Management, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, USA.
Date: Thursday, 18th February
Time: 4.30 p.m.
Place: Lecture Theatre LT6, Lady Shaw Building
Organizer: Faculty of Business Administration
- ◆ 30th Anniversary Lecture: The Decline of Donnish Dominion
Speaker: Prof. Albert Henry Halsey, Emeritus Professor of Social and Administrative Studies, University of Oxford, UK.
Date: Wednesday, 10th March
Time: 4.00 p.m.
Place: Lecture Theatre L1, Science Centre
Organizer: Faculty of Education
- ◆ Critical Care '93 – the Seventh Congress of the Western Pacific Association of Critical Care Medicine
Date: 12th to 15th March
Place: Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre
Organizer: Department of Anaesthesia and Intensive Care
- ◆ 30th Anniversary Lecture: The Combination of Chinese and Western Cultures – The Modernization of Chinese Culture
Speaker: Prof. Tse-tsung Chow, Professor of Chinese Literature and History, The University of Wisconsin, USA.
Date: Thursday, 18th March
Time: 4.30 p.m.
Place: Shaw College Lecture Theatre
Organizer: Faculty of Arts
- ◆ 30th Anniversary Exhibition
Date: 26th to 29th March
Place: Exhibition Hall of the City Hall

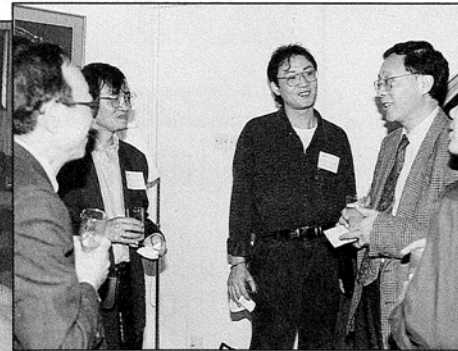
中大通訊

An international conference jointly organized by the University's Research Institute for the Humanities and the Center for Psychosocial Studies in Chicago was held in Hong Kong from 29th December 1992 to 10th January 1993.

With cultural criticism as its central theme, the conference was a key event in the University's 30th anniversary celebration programme, and brought together some 100 leading scholars and cultural workers from different parts of the world. Participants came from diverse cultural backgrounds and had different specialities, ranging from philosophy, ethnic studies, social science, literature, political studies, journalism, and architectural design to the visual and performing arts.

Some of the prominent guests included Prof. Charles Taylor of the Department of Political Philosophy at McGill University; Prof. Craig Calhoun, director of International Studies of the University of North Carolina; Prof.

International Conference on Cultural Criticism 1993



Richard Rorty of the University of Virginia; and Boris Mikhailov, head of the US-Canada Institute of the Academy of Sciences in Moscow.

The conference aimed at promoting cross-cultural and cross-discipline exchange, which could stimulate participants to reflect on their indigenous culture and strengthen their international perspectives. A series of keynote speeches, talks, and round-

table discussion sessions were held in the 13 days, covering six major themes respectively entitled 'Culture, Modernity and Democracy in Comparative Perspectives', 'Cross-cultural Negotiations: Images and Boundaries', 'Cultural Identification and the Public Sphere', 'Cultural Criticism and the Public Sphere', 'Modernity, Identity and Cultural Ambivalence', and 'For a Politics of Cultural Criticism'.

International Research Meeting on Chronic Fatigue and Neurasthenia



An international research meeting on the chronic fatigue syndrome and neurasthenia was held on the Shaw College campus from 19th to 23rd December 1992.

Jointly organized by the Department of Psychiatry and Shaw College, the meeting drew together 26 researchers from eight centres of learning to carry out collaborative

clinical and anthropological studies on chronic fatigue in different societies. Eminent participants included Prof. Arthur Kleinman from Harvard, Prof. Keh-Ming Lin from UCLA and Prof. Derson Young from Hunan, China. Prof. C. N. Chen of the Department of Psychiatry was the chairman of the meeting.

Funded by the Pacific Rim Research Program at the University of California, the multidisciplinary meeting enabled researchers to reach a consensus regarding the conceptual and methodological issues in the study of chronic fatigue. Data collection and analysis are expected to follow in the coming nine months. The research group also plan to establish formal mechanisms for other trans-Pacific collaborative research endeavours in the future.

Wei Lun Lecture



Prof. Tang Au-chin, honorary chairman of the National Natural Science Foundation of China, delivered a lecture on 'Fundamental Scientific Research in China - The Role of the National Natural Science Foundation' on 14th January as the University's Wei Lun Visiting Professor.

Prof. Tang traced the development of basic scientific research in China over the last 40 years, and described the achievements of the National Natural Science Foundation of China, which was established in 1986 to administer research foundations and subsidize their activities. He pointed out that the foundation had supported many basic research projects which subsequently produced important scientific findings, initiated the provision of consultancy services for foreign governments, and actively promoted international technological cooperation and exchange. As a result, he said, the international standing of Chinese scientists had greatly improved.

Sir Run Run Shaw Distinguished Visiting Scholar 1993

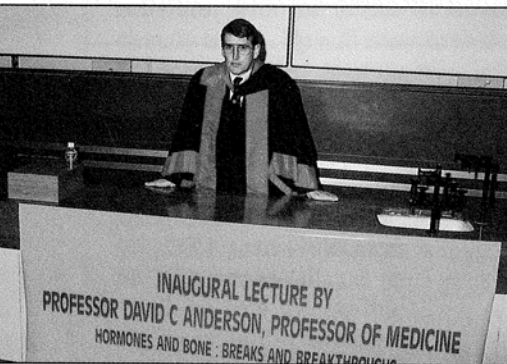
Prof. Richard Rorty, University Professor of Humanities of the University of Virginia, visited Shaw College last month as the college's Sir Run Run Shaw Distinguished Visiting Scholar 1993. During his two-week stay, he gave two public lectures: 'Human Dignity, Rationality and Sentimentality' on 15th January, and 'A World Without Intrinsic Properties' on 18th January.

Prof. Rorty has been hailed as 'the most interesting philosopher in the world today' and is widely known as an anti-philosopher. He has inherited Dewey's pragmatism and is a humanist denouncing dogmatism and authoritarianism. He was admitted to the University of Chicago at the age of 14,



completed his M.A. studies there, and obtained his doctorate at Yale University. His works have been translated into 12 languages including German, French and Chinese. The most famous ones are *The Linguistic Turn*, *Philosophy and the Mirror of Nature*, and *Contingency, Irony and Solidarity*.

Professorial Inaugural Lecture



Prof. David C. Anderson, professor of medicine, delivered his inaugural lecture entitled 'Hormones and Bone: Breaks and Breakthrough' on 15th January.

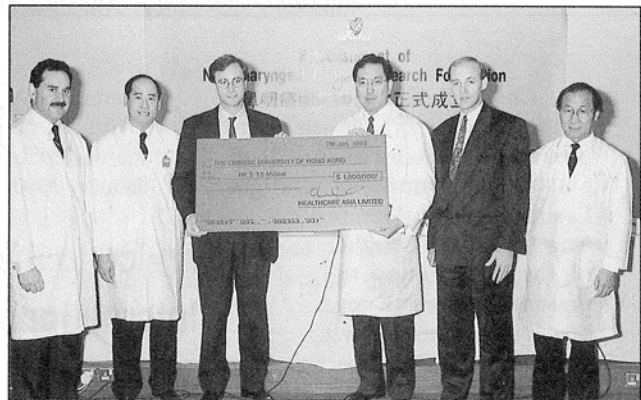
In his lecture, Prof. Anderson described the structure and function of bone as a living tissue, how it grows and adapts to stress, and how hormones and vitamin D help to control it. He said that knowledge of such processes had helped in the understanding, prevention and treatment of two bone diseases: Paget's disease and osteoporosis. The former is common in the UK but rather rare in Hong Kong, while the latter is very common in both places.

Nasopharyngeal Cancer Research Foundation Established

A Nasopharyngeal Cancer Research Foundation was recently established in the University to encourage research on nasopharyngeal cancer (NPC) and promote related educational activities.

NPC is so prevalent in southern China that it has been dubbed the 'Cantonese Cancer'. In Hong Kong, an average of one in 2,500 adults aged under 50 is stricken with the cancer each year. The high incidence of NPC has made it a special Hong Kong responsibility to fight the disease, and for years a workgroup on NPC at the Prince of Wales Hospital has actively promoted interdepartmental cooperation on its prevention, early diagnosis, and effective treatment.

With recent donations of HK\$1.5 million from Health Care Asia Inc. and HK\$0.5 million from the Providence



Foundation, the NPC workgroup has now been strengthened and enlarged into the Nasopharyngeal Cancer Research Foundation. To be housed in the Sir Y. K. Pao Cancer Centre at the Prince of Wales Hospital, the foundation will continue the good work of the NPC workgroup and aspire to become an international information centre for different aspects of nasopharyngeal cancer.

CUHK advisers to the foundation include Prof. Arthur K. C. Li, Dr. P. Choi, Dr. D. P. Huang, Dr. John Tam, and Mr. C. A. Van Hasselt.

HK\$1.6 Million from Croucher Foundation for Medical Research

Two research projects proposed by members of the Faculty of Medicine have recently succeeded in obtaining financial support from The Croucher Foundation.

The first project is a two-year research on the role of calcium in anion secretion by cultured rat and human epididymal cells, to be conducted by Prof. P. Y. D. Wong of the Department of Physiology. The second project is a three-year research programme entitled 'Comparative studies on the effects of pharmacological anti-allergic agents on inflammatory release and intracellular calcium mobilization of purified rat peritoneal mast cells' proposed by Dr. Alaster H. Y. Lau of the Department of Pharmacology. The former has been granted HK\$504,000, and the latter, HK\$1,088,385.

Shaw College Celebrate Founder's Day



Shaw College held its founder's day celebration at its Lecture Theatre on 12th January. More than 400 guests, staff and students attended the function. Speeches were delivered by Prof. Ma Lin, chairman of the College Board of Trustees, Prof. C. N. Chen, head of college, and representatives from the college student union and alumni association, and prizes were presented

to students with outstanding academic performance. Guests of honour included Mr. Leslie Sung, member of the College Board of Trustees, Prof. Richard Rorty, Sir Run Run Shaw Distinguished Visiting Scholar 1993, Prof. C. N. Yang, Distinguished Professor-at-large, and Prof. D. C. Lau, Senior College Tutor. The celebration was concluded with a cake-cutting ceremony and a tea-reception at the college's multi-function hall.

To mark the fifth birthday of the college, its student union also organized a series of activities including inter-departmental competitions, talks, and a 'feast-for-a-thousand' from 8th to 12th February.

- Prof. Charles K. Kao, vice-chancellor of the University, has been elected president of the Association of South-east Asian Institutions of Higher Learning, and an Administrative Board Member of the Association representing Hong Kong, both for a term of two years from 1st December 1992.
- Prof. Arthur K. C. Li, dean of medicine, has been appointed by HE the Governor as a member of the Education Commission for two years from 1st January 1993.
- Prof. C. N. Chen, head of Shaw College, has been reappointed by the University as its representative on the Council of the Hong Kong Baptist College.
- Mrs. Eva Ko, senior lecturer in social work, has been appointed by HE the Governor as a member of the Action

Committee Against Narcotics and the chairman of its Sub-committee on Research for two years from 1st January 1993.

Service to the Community and International Organizations

- Prof. David C. Anderson of the Department of Medicine has been appointed a member of the Licentiate Committee of The Medical Council of Hong Kong for three years from 1st January 1993.
- Dr. Ching Pak-chung, senior lecturer in electronic engineering, has been elected chairman of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Hong Kong Section, for 1993.
- Dr. Robert E. Allinson, senior lecturer in philosophy, has been appointed (1) external assessor for

promotions from full professor to distinguished professor at the Philosophy Department, State University of New York, Buffalo, with effect from November 1992; (2) an external examiner of the philosophy area of Complementary Studies of the Hong Kong Baptist College from 30th November 1992 to 31st August 1995.

- Dr. Cynthia S. Y. Chan, lecturer in community and family medicine, has been appointed an examiner in the diagnostic interview and oral segments of the 1992 Conjoint Fellowship Examination of the Hong Kong College of General Practitioners and the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners held in November 1992. Dr. Chan has also been appointed a council member of the Hong Kong College of General Practitioners for one year.

(All information in this section is provided by the Information Office.)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Special Adviser to the Vice-Chancellor

Prof. Baysung Hsu will take up the position as Special Adviser to the Vice-Chancellor from 1st March 1993 upon the expiry of his term of office as pro-vice-chancellor of the University on 28th February 1993. As Special Adviser to the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Hsu will deal with matters relating to the University and Polytechnic Grants Committee (UPGC) and act as the central interface between the University and the UPGC. He will also assist in the preparation of the University's Five-Year Plans.

Reassignment of Responsibilities of Pro-Vice-Chancellors

Prof. Ambrose Y. C. King, pro-vice-chancellor, will from 1st March 1993 assume overall responsibility for the University's academic planning and development. He will also supervise the establishment of the Centre for Hong Kong-American Educational Exchange, but will cease to oversee the Office of Academic Links.

Prof. S. W. Tam, pro-vice-chancellor, will from 1st March 1993 assume an added responsibility for the overall development of the University's academic linkage activities, with the Office of Academic Links reporting directly to him. He will cease to be the dean of the Graduate School and chairman of the Research Committee.

Dean of the Graduate School

Prof. Kenneth Young, dean of science, has been appointed by the University Council as dean of the Graduate School from 1st March 1993 to 31st August 1994, succeeding Prof. S. W. Tam. He will also serve as chairman of the Research Committee, with the Research Administration Office reporting directly to him.

Changes in Shuttle Light-bus Service Schedule

Starting from 22nd February, the University's shuttle light-bus service will be extended to cover the Health Centre/Guesthouses, and a new down-route stop near the Lady Shaw Building will be installed. New time-tables for the shuttle light-bus service have been compiled and are obtainable from the Transport Unit. Please direct all enquiries to the Unit at Tel. Ext. 7990.

University Health Service

Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation Course

The University Health Service will offer a five-session first aid course in cardio-pulmonary resuscitation for interested students and staff. The course intends to explain the basic theory and practice of cardio-pulmonary resuscitation as a life-saving measure in emergency and will run on five consecutive Wednesday afternoons (2.30-4.30 p.m.) from 3rd March. Certificates of attendance will be issued on request upon completion of the course. No course fees will be charged.

Application forms are available at the Health Centre. Please enrol before 25th February.

Prevention of Hepatitis

The University Health Service will launch its annual health campaign from 15th to 26th March at the Health Centre. The theme for 1993 will be hepatitis prevention and the campaign will feature an exhibition, blood tests for hepatitis surface antigen and antibody, and vaccinations. Souvenirs and pamphlets will be distributed free. All are welcome.

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.

- *Studies on Economic Reforms and Development in the People's Republic of China* (in English) by Hsueh Tien-tung, Sung Yun-wing, Yu Jingyuan, 380 pages, paperback, HK\$195.
- *A Glossary of Translation Terms: English-Chinese Chinese-English* (in English) by Chan Sin-wai, 232 pages, hardcover, HK\$95.
- *China's Capital Market* (in English) by Hu Yebi, 192 pages, paperback, HK\$165.





Marching into the Community

A Walker from the Faculty of Medicine

It was 8.15 a.m. on an overcast, cold Sunday morning, and only 9° Celsius. With the arrival of each KCR train, people began to pour into the Lingnan Stadium – toddlers, students, teachers and many alumni with their families. Others came from different directions and converged on the registration area, all smiling, greeting each other good morning and chatting.

‘Take your form and get a cap at the registration desk.’

Slowly the sea of yellow walkathon caps were mixed with caps of other colours, milling around in front of the grand stand. In spite of the chilly weather, the enthusiasm of all those present were infectious. ‘We are here to walk and to raise money for the Hong Kong Cancer Institute.’ The VIPs were arriving. The short ceremony of acceptance of the generous

donations from Mr. Thomas Chen and Mr. George Cheng was conducted with simplicity and heartfelt thanks. Suddenly, we heard drums of the lion dance and saw two agile lions leap into the tracks of the stadium. Our hearts throbbed in unison with the rhythmic beats of the drum.

‘We are ready to walk. Follow the VIPs.’ Group by group, with banners raised and amid cheers, we marched up the Station Road, crossed the No.2 Bridge and walked, jogged, or ran along the path next to the sea. Looking back, we saw the majestic Hong Kong Institute of Biotechnology standing proudly, watching the walkers stream by with approval.

‘Hi! How are you? Haven’t seen you for a long time. Nice meeting you on this walk.’ Greetings were everywhere from people who during



30th ANNIVERSARY WALKATHON

17th January 1993



A Vote of Thanks

David A. Gilkes
Convener, Subcommittee on
30th Anniversary Walkathon

the busy working hours did not have the chance to exchange informal greetings. There were also clusters of four or five engaged in intense discussions on philosophy, on architecture, on weather, or on politics as they walked. Others were joking and laughing. There were no faculty or department lines; we were all part of the walkathon.

'Look, there is the Water Sports Centre.' The Marine Science Laboratory looked somewhat deserted.

'What a good view across the Shing Mun River! There is the new Shatin Infirmary, the Bradbury Hospice Building and the Cheshire Home.' There were scullers gliding on the silent, dark Shing Mun River. With each splash of water against the oars, our steps and the rowers' movements became synchronized.

'I'm getting much warmer now. We'll soon be at the finish point. Drinks are waiting for us.' We heard cheers. 'It must be those who have arrived. Right ahead is the Central Park and Town Hall. What a wonderful smell of food.'

'Cheers! We have made it. How much did you raise?' People's faces were flushed with the warm generated from exercise and the joyous feeling of accomplishment.

'Well done.'

'Let's get together for a group photograph.'

'How do we get back?' 'Hey, our department chairman is treating us to lunch.'

Over 2,000 participated in the event and finished the walk of seven kilometres. All enjoyed the exercise and the companionship. ○

'To lead, innovate and serve' is the University's motto for the 30th Anniversary, which falls this year in 1993. It was in this spirit that it was decided to start the anniversary celebrations by organizing an event that had not been done before in the University, i.e. a walkathon.

It was also decided that although the walkathon would be symbolic with the University walking into the community, responding to and serving its needs, opportunity should be taken to raise funds for the Hong Kong Cancer Institute: these funds would help to ensure that the Hong Kong Cancer Institute and the Prince of Wales Hospital Cancer Centre will have the most effective diagnostic and treatment facilities for cancer in Asia.

A great deal of hard work and planning is required in organizing a



walkathon and the University owes a great deal to all those who put so much time into this: particularly the Information Office, the Security Unit, the Transport Unit, the Buildings Office and all those outside organizations including the Royal Hong Kong Police, the Government Information Services, the Civil Aid Services, the All Stars Football Team, the Kiangsu-Chekiang School (Shatin) Band, the Hong Kong Girl Guides Association, and the Auxiliary Medical Services. Mention must also be made of the contributions made by the New Asia Martial Arts Association and the OISP Lion Dance Team who provided the necessary good fortune for the opening ceremony.

No event such as this however can be successful without walkers, and when two days before the event the weather turned into one of those perfectly horrible days we would all like to forget, there was a good deal of apprehension about whether the walk would take place at all. Two days later however there was some relief and as from 8 a.m., staff, students, families and friends of the University began to assemble in the decorated Lingnan Stadium of Chung Chi College. They came in great numbers, around 2,500 in total, all suitably and colourfully clothed against

the cold. By 9.30 a.m., a long trail of walkers had been formed, and started to move towards their destination via the Marine Science Laboratory, the Staff Boat Club, and the bicycle track running to the Sha Tin Town Hall. The seven-kilometre walk was ably led by Prof. Charles Kao, the vice-chancellor.

The University is grateful to all those who sponsored the event, no matter whether their contributions were large or small. Particular thanks must go to Mr. Thomas Chen and Mr. George Cheng for their magnificent donations of HK\$10 million each, and to Sir Q. W. Lee, chairman of the University Council, Dr. Alice Lam, treasurer of the University, Prof. Gerald Choa, chairman of the Hong Kong Cancer Institute, Mrs. Elizabeth Wong, Secretary for Health and Welfare, and Mr. John Chan, Secretary for Education and Manpower, all of whom braved the weather and helped to make the event a memorable one.

And the money raised from other donations and the sponsored walkers? A further \$1 million was pledged. This represents tremendous support from within and outside the University and is a great tribute to all those who responded. The University has been greatly encouraged to live up to the anniversary motto and face the challenges that lie ahead. ○

TOLO LIGHTS

An Evening of English & Chinese
Poetry Reading

Lecture Theatre, Shaw College
The Chinese University of Hong Kong
7.30 to 9.30 p.m., Wednesday
10th March 1993

All are welcome

Jointly presented by Shaw College and
Departments of Chinese, English, and
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Personalia

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We welcome your contributions

1. *Items for the next issue (mid-March 1993) should reach the Editor by 24th February 1993.*
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. 6035503).*
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 1,500 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.*

Published by the Publication Office, The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Editor : Amy K. Y. Leung Assistant Editors : Lawrence Choi; Florence Chan Graphic Artist : Stella P. C. Lai