

INVESTMENT IN SCHOOLING MAY YIELD HIGH RETURNS



High returns from schooling investments have been registered in both industrialized and newly developed countries, and such a phenomenon was the subject of a lecture given by Prof. Mark Rosenzweig, professor of economics at the University of Pennsylvania and a fellow of the Econometric Society, on 12th April, in the capacity of a Wei Lun Visiting Professor at the University.

In his lecture 'Why Are Returns to Schooling High?' Prof. Rosenzweig

examined the circumstances under which schooling improves productivity in both the labour market and in the household, the relationship between schooling and learning, and the association between schooling investments and economic growth. He quoted empirical findings of relevant studies in the United States, India, the Philippines and the Latin American countries to illustrate when and where schooling is productive and warrants increased resource allocations.

A Review of Primary Education in Hong Kong



About 700 educators gathered on Chung Chi campus on 14th April to participate in a conference on primary education jointly organized by the University's Faculty of Education and the Hong Kong Primary Education Research Association. The theme this year was innovative developments in primary education and their effectiveness.

Dr. Tam Man-kwan, chairman of the Board of Education, was guest of honour

and delivered a keynote speech. He reviewed the development of compulsory education in Hong Kong and suggested areas for improvement. In the 20 discussion sessions that followed, participants of the conference exchanged their views on different topics such as quality of primary education, student suicide, the target-oriented curriculum, and language teaching.

New Council Members

* **Dr. Chou Wen-hsien** has been elected by the Board of Trustees of New Asia College, in accordance with Statute 11.1(e) and 11.4 of the University Ordinance, as a member of the University Council for a period of three years from 16th April 1995, succeeding Mr. H. C. Tang.

Dr. Chou, managing director of Winsor Industrial Corporation and chairman of Ocean-Land, is well-known for his involvement in community services. He has held executive and advisory posts in various charitable organizations in Hong Kong. He also chairs the Chou's Foundation and the Winsor Education Foundation which have been set up to promote education, learning, and culture, and have enabled many local students in financial hardship to further their studies.

Dr. Chou's business interests are wide-ranging, covering textiles, real

estate, construction, shipping, food, insurance, and retailing. Dr. Chou has been awarded numerous honours over the years, including an OBE in 1986 and the title of Commander of the Order of the Finnish Lion in 1991. He was the honorary consul for Finland in Hong Kong from 1983 to 1993. He is currently vice-chairman of the Board of Trustees of New Asia College, and chairman of the Board of Directors of the Hong Kong Music Institute.

* **Prof. Kao May-ching** has been elected by the Assembly of Fellows of New Asia College, in accordance with Statute 11.4 and 16.6(a) of the Ordinance, as a member of the University Council under Statute 11.1(h) for a term of three years from 27th April 1995, succeeding Dr. Serena Jin.

Prof. Kao is professor of fine arts and curator of the University's Art Gallery.

US Executives Learn Business the Asian Way

Thirty-three Executive MBA students of the University of Pittsburgh in the United States were in Hong Kong from 17th to 20th April to participate in an Asia Advanced Management Programme entitled 'Asia-Pacific Challenge: Hong Kong and China'.

During their visit, the students participated in lectures and panel discussions at the University's MBA Town Centre in Tsimshatsui East. To enhance their understanding of developments in China, arrangements were also made for them to

visit a production facility in Dongguan. These activities were conducted by members from the Faculty of Business Administration and five key executives from the business community.

Jointly organized by the University's Asia-Pacific Institute of Business and the University of Pittsburgh, the programme is now in its seventh year. Its objective is to expose participants to the various aspects of business and management practices in Hong Kong and southeast Asia.

H-12 and W-3 to Mind Your 501's

An invention by Dr. Mark Kai-keung of the Biology Department to combat pollution brought about by the dyeing industry was displayed at the Hannover Fair in Germany, Europe's most prestigious industrial and technological fair.

Dr. Mark's bio-removal approach is targeted at two dyes — indigo and sulphur black. Manufacturers of denim in particular traditionally use environmentally-toxic agents to reduce the two dyes in a process known as 'stone-washing' to create the 'faded' look. The toxic residues

of the dyes after the treatment pose threats to the environment. To provide an alternative, environmentally-friendly bleaching method, Dr. Mark has identified two strains of bacteria, H-12 and W-3. H-12 offers a benign substitute for bleaching indigo and W-3 removes sulphur black through bio-absorption. Both can be used to treat waste water.

This year's exhibition, held from 3rd to 8th April, focussed on energy and environmental technology, electric automation technology, and power transmission and control.



Comments from Senior Administration

From the Director of Personnel

- * 'Look at this, The Chinese University of Hong Kong is looking for faculty staff in various disciplines. Should we give it a try? Living and working in an Asian city may be interesting.'
'Yes, why not?'
- * 'There's an express mail for you from Hong Kong. It must be the contract. Quick, open it. ...'
'I don't understand some of the terms. I'd better clarify with their Personnel Office.'
- * 'I just received an e-mail from the Personnel Office. Now that they have clarified the terms for me, I do think I'd like to take the job.'
- * 'We'll be flying to Hong Kong in three months. We need to reserve plane tickets and ship our things. And where are they going to house us? Don't forget we also need to find a school for Katie.'
'Don't worry. It is stated in the contract that air passages, housing and visa application will all be taken care of by their Personnel Office. We just need to take a little time to fill in these forms. For Katie's schooling, let me ask if the Personnel Office there can help us in any way when I write to accept their offer.'

* 'I just got these two booklets in the mail. This *Guidebook for New Staff* contains the answers to some of our questions. It states that we can bring pets to Hong Kong, so we can bring Bobby. There's also a list of schools. The Personnel Office suggests that we write to one of these schools and register our need for a place there. This will expedite the application process for admission. I'll go through the *Staff Handbook* to see what they have on leave, medical benefits, outside practice...'

* 'Look at this. The Personnel Office says quarters may not be available for us right away when we arrive in Hong Kong. They ask whether we'd like to stay at a hotel or the University Guest Houses for a few days before we move into the flat on campus. I think we should. I'll e-mail Personnel to tell them we've received our employment visa and picked up the plane tickets. Have we missed anything?'

* 'Welcome to the University! Was it difficult for you to find your way to the hotel?'
'Not at all. The department arranged for a staff member to pick us up at the airport last Saturday. I really appreciated that. You know, my wife, my daughter and I were carrying so many things with us and we arrived late in the evening.'
'Sorry campus accommodation is not immediately available. The flats on campus are quite limited. Some flats need to be vacated before they can be renovated and made ready for the

newcomers.'

'That's all right. We're fine at our hotel. Here are the receipts for shipping my baggage. I've also filled in the new employees' forms sent to me. I'm supposed to give them to the Personnel Office, which means I should give them to you. Am I right?'
'Yes, you can leave them with us.'
'By the way, I have written down some questions that I still have about the University. I wonder who can help me.'

'Let me see — the Staff Quartering Unit will be happy to help you with the questions relating to your flat. The Accounts Office will arrange for

for conference attendance, outside practice and staff development. Matters such as individual grievances, staff relation problems, and misconduct calling for disciplinary action also require our attention. And in the meantime, proactive and reactive policy and developmental work are undertaken to correspond to changing University needs.

The functions of the Personnel Office are multifarious. Its basic objective is to recruit individuals who can provide the expertise and manpower needed to accomplish the educational mission of the University. On the one hand, we have to ensure that the

University is well-equipped to meet this objective; on the other hand, we have a duty to help the

University provide a working environment conducive to personal and professional growth, and in keeping with the basic personnel principles of consistency, fairness, and equity. With competing demands, conflicting interests, resource constraints, and people-related complexities and sensitivities, it is not an easy task.

There is of course always room for improvement in delivering personnel services — we could be more prompt in providing assistance and there could be a more personal touch in dealing with individual problems. There are also policies to be reviewed from time to time. The Personnel Office will continue to work towards realizing the goals of the University, and would earnestly request understanding, cooperation and support from all members of CUHK.

Sophie Lau

Right Where You Start

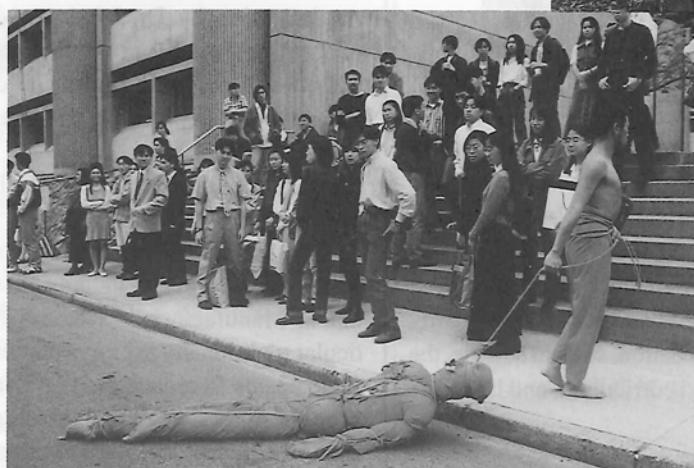
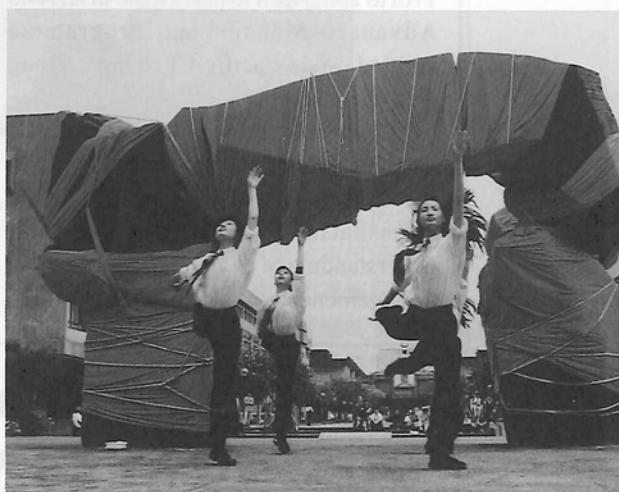
the reimbursement of your baggage allowance. If you prefer bank transfer, we can also arrange for that. Let me check with my colleague about your staff ID number. With that you can go to the University Library to apply for the library card.'

'Thank you very much. Could I call you again if I have further questions?'
'Certainly. You are always welcome.'

This is just one scenario from the initial experiences of an overseas staff at CUHK. The Personnel Office currently lends its services to over 4,000 staff. The services include recruiting people for different departments, helping appointees to settle in, dealing with matters after appointment such as substantiation, promotion, and retirement, administering benefits such as leave, education allowance and medical care, as well as processing applications

DANCE PROJECT COMES TO A CLOSE

The closing performance of the dramatic dance event 'Podium Dance Project — University Station' was staged on 24th March at the University Mall. Jointly presented by Sir Run Run Shaw Hall and Dancing City, the performances which spanned seven days took place in different locations on campus, including the University Square and major bus stops. Combining original dance movements with stunning visual images, the project was an attempt to explore the possibilities of dance and provoke thoughts about this art form.



Getting Prepared for Teaching and Learning Quality Process Audits

Parallel to the Research Assessment Exercise, UGC has been consulting institutions it funds about an exercise on teaching quality assessment. For the immediate future, UGC has decided to proceed with Teaching and Learning Quality Process Audits (TLQPA) first. CUHK and HKU are the first two institutions to be audited in January 1996 while the remaining five UGC-funded institutions will be audited in the following 12 months.

Process audits aim to assess the effectiveness of mechanisms and procedures designed to maintain and improve teaching and learning quality. Apart from visits at the institutional level, there will also be selective reviews of departmental procedures and practices. Institutions will be informed of the departments selected for review a few weeks before the visit. UGC plans to hold a discussion session on the TLQPA for faculty deans and department heads of CUHK in September 1995.

The vice-chancellor is forming a task force to help prepare for the TLQPA and to advise on matters relating to teaching and learning quality.

The text of a speech by the chairman of the UGC on the subject is reproduced below.

The UGC decided in September 1994 to undertake TLQPAs of the UGC-funded institutions starting in 1995-96. The results of these audits would not, indeed by then *could not*, have any direct bearing on the assessment of the recurrent grants or funding for the 1995-98 triennium. Rather the audits should aim to study and assess, in a collegial and supportive rather than judgmental way, the effectiveness of the various mechanisms for maintaining and improving teaching and learning quality in the institutions.

I should add that we have not ruled out altogether the possibility of undertaking some form of teaching and learning quality *assessment* exercise at some future date, but we shall definitely defer a decision on this at least until after the first round of TLQPAs.

The UGC's decisions in this regard were conveyed to the institutions in October 1994, but apparently have still not percolated through to all academic colleagues. I hope that, as a result of this forum and other measures we plan to take, the message will be more widely spread through the institutions.

TLQPA

Turning then to TLQPAs, in order to ensure that mechanisms for promoting and improving teaching and learning quality in the institutions are in place and functioning as they should, the UGC has, as mentioned earlier, decided to undertake TLQPAs of all the institutions starting in 1995-96. These audits will aim to study and assess the effectiveness of the various mechanisms for maintaining and improving teaching and learning quality in the institutions.

We envisage currently that a process audit will have the following components: documentation review, audit visits, and audit report and follow-up.

Documentation Review

The documentation review is meant to provide the audit panel, which will consist mainly of local academics and UGC members, but also probably some overseas experts appointed for the purpose, with a checklist of items on which they should focus during the audit visit. Institutions will be required to submit a brief covering document/executive summary of what mechanisms are in place for improving teaching and learning quality, and sample documents showing their quality assurance processes in action.

Audit Visits

The audit visit, which will last for at least one and a half days, will aim to ascertain whether the mechanisms and procedures for assuring teaching and learning quality that the institution describes actually exist; and if so, whether they are operating effectively, and more importantly, whether they have an impact on improving teaching and learning quality. Apart from visits at the institutional level, there will also be selective reviews of departmental pro-

cedures and practices.

Audit Report and Follow-up

Following the visit, an audit report will be produced. The report will not aim to grade the quality of teaching and learning of the institution being audited, but will simply record the observations of the audit panel during the audit visit in respect of the quality assurance processes. It may also include recommendations/suggestions with regard to the implementation of quality assurance procedures concerning teaching and learning at both institutional and departmental levels. The findings will not be used, in any way, to rank institutions in terms of their actual teaching and learning standards, but will serve as the basis for further discussion between the UGC and the institutions with a view to maintaining and continuously improving the teaching and learning quality of higher education in Hong Kong.

The UGC will discuss with the institutions regarding the distribution of the audit report and indeed whether the report should be published. No decision has yet been made on this.

Embodying the spirit of cooperation and collaboration with the institutions in the planning and design of TLQPAs, a Consultative Committee comprising representatives from the seven UGC-funded institutions has been set up to act as a focal point for the exchange of views with the UGC regarding the process audits. The

UGC's Quality Sub-Committee met with the Consultative Committee for the first time in early January and had a useful exchange of views on how the process audits should proceed. A further meeting with the Consultative Committee is planned for April 1995. Following a recommendation from the Consultative Committee, the UGC has decided that the first process audits will

be undertaken in January 1996, rather than September 1995 as originally planned.

Conclusion

The above are the current thinking of the UGC regarding TLQPAs. The Committee welcomes views of all present today on this issue, in particular, on how TLQPAs should proceed, the distribution of the audit report and the follow up action to be taken as a result, in order to further improve the planning of the whole exercise and make it a success.

The UGC looks forward to working closely with the institutions in the development of TLQPA procedures and other processes to assure the quality of teaching and learning, and to provide adequate means for all stakeholders in higher education to be satisfied that the highest possible standards of teaching and learning are being achieved in the UGC-funded institutions. I am sure these aims will be shared by all present today and I look forward to a lively and frank discussion of how they may best be achieved through both the TLQPAs and other means. ○

UGC Chairman Explains What to Anticipate

Opening speech by Mr. Antony Leung, chairman of the University Grants Committee, at the UGC's Teaching and Learning Quality Process Audits Forum organized by the Society of Hong Kong Scholars on 25th February 1995

I should like to thank the Society of Hong Kong Scholars for organizing this forum and inviting me to attend. I and my colleagues from the University Grants Committee (UGC) welcome the opportunity of having another frank and open exchange of views with academic colleagues and members of society: this time on the subject of Teaching and Learning Quality Process Audits. I am sure we shall all be better prepared for the exercise as a result.

I should first, however, like to dispel two misunderstandings. That at least one of these misunderstandings is quite widespread is evidenced by the fact that it appears again in the brochure about this forum!

Teaching versus Research

The first misunderstanding I should like to dispel, again, is that the UGC is mainly concerned with the development of research and the assessment of research performance, and has, in the process, overlooked the importance of teaching and learning in higher education.

The UGC recognizes, and indeed strongly advocates, that teaching and learning are and should remain central to the roles and missions of all UGC-funded institutions. Indeed, more than 75 per cent of each institution's recurrent grant is provided for the teaching of students. A high quality institution should always be committed to continuous improvement of teaching and learning quality. As I have now said on many occasions, the UGC considers teaching to be of paramount importance in the higher education sector in Hong Kong.

TLQAE versus TLQPA

The other misunderstanding relates to teaching and learning quality *assessment*. The UGC did at one time consider undertaking an assessment exercise on teaching and learning quality (TLQAE), on similar lines to the Research Assessment Exercise (RAE), with a view to the results

also being factored into the Committee's assessment of recurrent grants for the 1995-98 triennium. However this idea was dropped quite early on for a number of reasons.

We recognized, and still recognize, that it is very difficult, if not impossible, to establish a set of *quantitative* indicators to measure in any meaningful way the quality of teaching and learning in a higher education setting. The introduction of an element of *qualitative* assessment, through inspections, peer review, visits, etc., might make such a process more meaningful, but it would still be highly controversial — as witness efforts in this direction made in the UK and elsewhere — and would also make the results more difficult to factor into funding.

Furthermore it is questionable whether it is more appropriate to award funding to support teaching assessed to be of good quality, or rather to provide more resources to foster improvements where teaching is assessed to be below par. It is also not altogether clear who is to determine what constitutes good or bad teaching and learning, anyway.

These concerns were, and I am sure still are, shared by many academics in the UGC-funded institutions. They were raised, often quite passionately, when the issue was discussed at two seminars on teaching and learning quality organized by the UGC with senior academic staff of the institutions in April and September 1994. It was however recognized that, for reasons of public accountability, some means has to be found of monitoring the quality of teaching and learning in higher education institutions which are so substantially supported from public funds.

Taking into account all these factors, we concluded that the focus should be on reviewing the institutions' teaching and learning quality assurance *processes*, and the appropriateness and adequacy of these processes for actually maintaining and improving the quality of teaching and learning in the institutions — hence Teaching and Learning Quality Process Audits (TLQPA).



Mr. Antony Leung

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Information in this section can only be accessed with **CWEM password**.

若要瀏覽本部分的資料，
請須輸入**中大校園電子郵件密碼**。

Material Safety Data Sheets

Your Key to Chemical Safety

Living in the modern world, you probably are aware that the use of chemicals offers convenience and progress at home and at work. Naturally, you want to avoid overexposure to chemicals. Such overexposure is possible no matter where you work, even in an office.

One important element of chemical safety is relevant knowledge and an awareness of potential hazards.

Easy ways of access to information are

1. warning labels on containers;
2. Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS); and
3. safety training.

What's on an MSDS?

MSDS are printed pages which give you crucial information on how to use, transport, and store chemicals in a safe way, as well as dos and don'ts in cases of emergency and overexposure. Information on an MSDS includes:

- the chemical's name (or names)
- the chemical's ingredients
- conditions or substances which can cause the chemical to catch fire, explode, melt, or generate dangerous gases
- how the chemical usually looks and smells
- how to put out a fire involving the chemical
- what to do in case of spillage or leakage
- how to prevent dangerous exposure
- possible harmful effects on health, such as cancer and skin irritation
- symptoms of overexposure
- how to deal with overexposure

The information on an MSDS is normally put together by the manufacturer or distributor of the chemical. MSDS are however often neglected or even lost when the chemicals arrive. The University Laboratory Safety Office (ULSO) has a CD-Rom that contains the MSDS of about 40,000 chemicals in both Chinese and English. If you need the MSDS for your chemicals, feel free to contact the office at ext. 7958. In September 1995, the full CD system will be installed in some other departments.

Some Advice

You should always read the MSDS before you begin work involving a chemical. Even if you've used the chemical before, the manufacturer may have changed its formula, which may change the steps you should take to protect yourself. Taking the precautions listed on the MSDS, such as wearing a respirator, can help prevent undesirable results.

If you don't understand something on the MSDS, or have questions about the University's safety programme, ask your supervisor or the University Laboratory Safety Office. Our safety programme will work better if you are fully involved and informed.

University Laboratory Safety Office

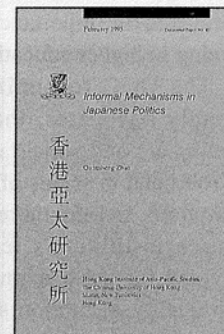
Adapted from PARLAY INTERNATIONAL

New Publications of the Hong Kong Institute of Asia-Pacific Studies

Occasional Paper No.41

'Informal Mechanisms in Japanese Politics' by Zhao Quansheng (Research Fellow, HKIAPS), 44 pages, paperback, \$30.

The paper analyses the Japanese policy-making process at three levels: societal, institutional, and individual. It examines not only regular political institutions but also informal social and cultural aspects as these are equally important in Japanese policy-making processes. The paper specifically discusses three components of the informal mechanism: social environment and network (*tsukiai*), informal political actors and organizations (*kuromaku*), and behind-the-scene consensus-building activities (*nemawashi*).



Occasional Paper No.42

'Development Corridor in Fujian: Fuzhou to Zhangzhou' by Yeung Yue-man (Professor of Geography) and David K. Y. Chu (Senior Lecturer in Geography), 50 pages, paperback, \$30.

The paper examines the economic reforms, as well as the economic and social restructuring of Fujian, a province that has undergone modernization and rapid development since 1978 under China's open policy. The paper also identifies, in the coastal corridor between Fuzhou and Zhangzhou, five models of development which represent different ways of maximizing local endowments and foreign investment to accelerate economic development. It concludes by looking at the major problems and achievements of the province's reforms.



劃一服務條件七月實施

Implementation of Equal Terms of Employment

大學校董會業已通過實施劃一服務條件的建議。由一九九五年七月一日起，按(甲)類服務條例或同等條例受聘的教職員，不論其國籍，將以相同的服務條件受聘。於劃一服務條件實施日期前已在職的長職或定期合約僱員，其服務條件則維持不變。

新的劃一服務條件的修訂項目，主要為海外僱員的住屋福利及旅費和行李津貼；其他福利包括公積金、假期、醫療及子女本地教育津貼維持不變。根據僱員的原居地提供的子女海外教育津貼及有關旅費仍繼續適用，直至政府停止向公務員提供該等福利時止。

按定期合約受聘的在職僱員，倘日後獲轉聘為長職僱員或獲續訂定期合約者，如其轉聘或新合約於實施日後廿四個月內生效，可因轉制而獲特別過渡安排。有關計劃的實施詳情，可向人事處(內線七二八六或七二八八)查詢。

The University Council recently approved the implementation of a single set of terms of employment for all Terms of Service (A) or equivalent appointments irrespective of their countries of origin. The new terms will be implemented from 1st July 1995 in respect of new appointments approved on or after that date. There will be no change to the existing terms for serving appointees on superannuable or fixed-term contracts.

In the new set of conditions of service under equal terms, the provisions for housing benefits, passage and baggage allowance for employees recruited from overseas have been revised while other benefits remain unchanged. Overseas education allowance and school passages for dependent children based on the staff members' place of permanent home will continue to be provided to new appointees recruited from overseas as a residual arrangement, but on the understanding that the provision of overseas education allowance will be abolished when the Government abolishes the same benefit for civil servants.

There will be a transition period of 24 months from the date of implementation to facilitate the transfer arrangement for serving fixed-term appointees who may be offered superannuable terms of appointment or renewal of their contracts after the implementation date. Enquiries on the detailed implementation arrangements may be directed to the Personnel Office (Ext. 7286 or 7288).

共濟會研究東亞學科基金

The Freemasons' Fund for East Asian Studies

共濟會研究東亞學科基金 (The Freemasons' Fund for East Asian Studies) 現接受一九九五年度資助申請。

該基金乃為資助及促進香港專上院校有關東亞之學術研究而設。資助形式包括提供獎學金，以及贊助學術研究、公開講座及出版專書。資助額可為有關活動之全部或部分費用。

申請人須擬訂詳細之計劃書及財政預算，透過有關之學系主任/部門主管及學院院長，於五月十六日前送交人事處主任梁陳德英女士轉呈英國共濟聯合總會香港暨遠東地區總分會審閱。查詢請電人事處(內線七二八六或七二八八)。

The Freemasons' Fund for East Asian Studies now invites applications for grants to subsidize studies relevant to East Asia at local institutions of higher learning in 1995.

Full or partial support to these studies can be given in the form of research fellowships, sponsorships for surveys, public lectures and publications.

Applications accompanied by detailed study proposals and budgets should be sent to Mrs. Amy Leung, assistant secretary of the Personnel Office, via the applicant's department head and faculty dean before 16th May 1995. They will be submitted to the District Grand Lodge of Hong Kong and the Far East for consideration. Further details are obtainable from the Personnel Office (Ext. 7286/7288).

婦女健康及地理信息會議

Chung Chi College Hosts Academic Conferences

崇基學院與香港亞太研究所性別研究計劃將於五月二十日上午假信和樓 LT2 室合辦「婦女健康面面觀」會議，由副衛生福利司劉李麗娟主持開幕禮，並由多位醫學界及服務界專業人士主講婦女健康之有關問題及服務。

崇基學院又於五月廿五至廿八日，與地理系合辦「地理信息學 '95」香港國際學術研討會。本屆主題為「遙感、地理信息系統及全球定位系統的理論和在持續發展和環境監測中的應用」。會議及工作坊將假王福元樓及信和樓進行，展覽則於廿六及廿七日在崇基康樂室舉行。

歡迎參加上列會議，查詢請電崇基院務室(內線六四五零)、性別研究計劃(內線八七七五)或地理系(內線六五二八)。

Chung Chi College will host two academic conferences in May: the 1995 annual gender role workshop, 'Women and Health', coorganized with the Gender Research Programme, and 'GeoInformatics '95 Hong Kong', an international symposium on remote-sensing geographic information systems and global position systems in sustainable development and environmental monitoring, coorganized with the Department of Geography.

The gender workshop will be held on 20th May in Lecture Theatre 2 of the Sino Building. Four guest speakers from the medical and service professions will speak on topics related to women's health.

'GeoInformatics '95 Hong Kong' and a number of related workshops will be held from 25th to 28th May in the Wong Foo Yuan Building and the Sino Building. There will also be an exhibition in the multi-purpose hall of Chung Chi College on 26th and 27th

宣布事項 ANNOUNCEMENTS

May.

All are welcome to the above conferences. For enquires, please call the Chung Chi College Office (Ext. 6450), the Gender Research Programme (Ext. 8775), or the Department of Geography (Ext. 6528).

Tax Return Queries

Tax returns for the year ended 31st March 1995 have been distributed to members of staff. Any queries on the financial input please contact the Payroll Office (Ext. 7185). Queries on personal data please contact the Personnel Office (Ext. 7330).

圖像處理數學講座

數學系將於五月十三日假邵逸夫人樓舉行「圖像處理——還我廬山真面目」講座，由陳漢夫博士主持，主要對象為本港中學生及教師。

傳真圖像或拍攝的照片模糊不清，現可應用數學理論及數學工具，以先進電腦科技將其還原，變得清晰。陳博士會在講座上示範如何將模糊的照片還原，並解釋其原因。

講座約需一小時，分別在上午十時及下午二時開始。講解完畢，參加者將獲安排嘗試動手還原圖像。有興趣者請致電數學系(內線七九八八)查詢。

暑期體育訓練班及球拍類比賽

Summer Sports

體育部將於五月至八月為教職員開辦短期初級體育訓練班，並舉辦球拍類比賽，詳情見下表。有意參加者請攜同費用，於週一至週五上午九時半至中午十二時半，親臨大學體育部報名，先到先得，額滿即止。

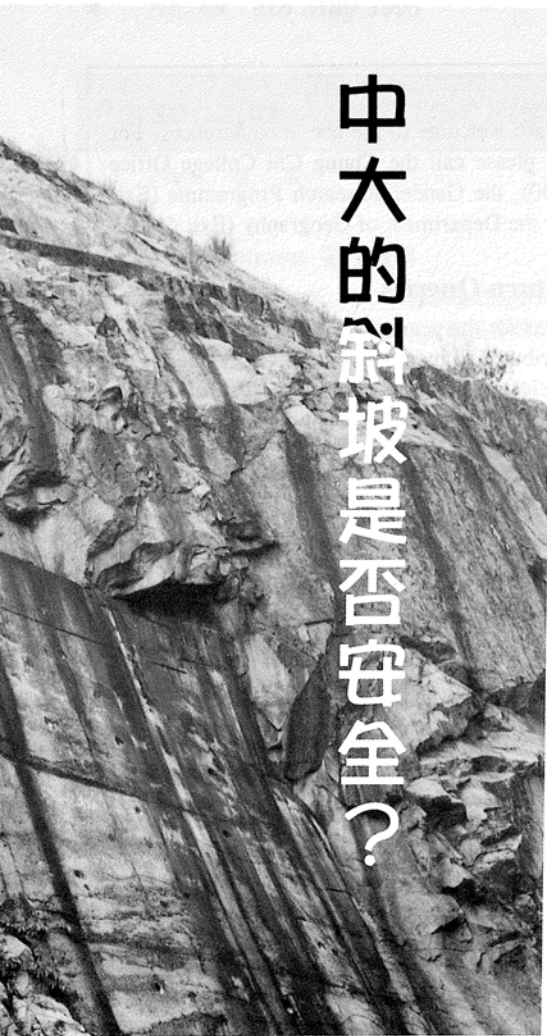
體育部亦為學生開辦暑期體育訓練班，詳情已張貼於體育館報告板。

項目	組別	名額	日期/時間	地點	費用
訓練班					
網球	男/女	十六	五月八至十九日 逢一、三、四、五下午五至七時	3,4,5號網球場	一百元
羽毛球	男/女	十六	五月廿二日至六月五日 逢一、二、四、五下午五至七時	新亞體育館	一百元
壁球	男	十六	六月五至十六日 逢一、二、四、五下午五至七時	汾陽體育館	一百元
壁球	女	十六	七月四至十四日 逢一、二、四、五下午五至七時	汾陽體育館	一百元
健身	男/女	二十	五月八至十九日 逢一、二、四、五下午五至七時	中大健身室	五十元
比賽					
羽毛球	男/女單 男/女雙	卅二人 卅二對	五月八至十七日 逢一、三、五下午五時	新亞體育館	五十元
網球	男/女單 男/女雙	卅二人 卅二對	五月廿二至六月五日 逢一至五下午五時	3,4,5號網球場	五十元
乒乓球	男/女單 男/女雙	卅二人 卅二對	六月五至九日 下午五時	崇基康樂室	三十元

The Physical Education Unit will organize a series of sports courses and competitions for staff members during the summer vacation. Interested parties should register at the University Sports Centre counter which is open Monday through Friday from 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. Enrolment is on a first-come-first-served basis.

Event	Sex	Quota	Date/Time	Venue	Fee
Staff Training Courses					
Tennis	M&F	16	8th May - 19th May Mon. Wed. Thu. Fri. 5.00-7.00p.m.	tennis courts 3,4,5	\$100
Badminton	M&F	16	22nd May - 5th June Mon. Tue. Thu. Fri. 5.00-7.00p.m.	New Asia gym.	\$100
Squash	M	16	5th June - 16th June Mon. Tue. Thu. Fri. 5.00-7.00p.m.	Kwok Sports Bldg.	\$100
Squash	F	16	4th July - 14th July Mon. Tue. Thu. Fri. 5.00-7.00p.m.	Kwok Sports Bldg.	\$100
Weight Training	M&F	20	8th May - 19th May Mon. Tue. Thu. Fri. 5.00-7.00p.m.	Uni. weight training room	\$50
Staff Competitions					
Badminton	M&F singles M&F doubles	32 32 pairs	8th May - 17th May Mon. Wed. Fri. 5.00 p.m.	New Asia gym.	\$50
Tennis	M&F singles M&F doubles	32 32 pairs	22nd May - 5th June Mon. - Fri. 5.00 p.m.	tennis courts 3,4,5	\$50
Table Tennis	M&F singles M&F doubles	32 32 pairs	5th June - 9th June Mon. - Fri. 5.00 p.m.	Chung Chi recreation centre	\$30

中大的斜坡是否安全？



去年一場豪雨，導致觀龍樓護土牆倒塌，多人死傷，市民紛紛關注其住宅周圍斜坡的安全程度。中大依山而建，有不少斜坡，它們是否安全呢？雨季經已開始，校方的安全措施又是否足夠？

「校園的斜坡大致相當安全。」建築處主任陳尹璇先生說。他指出，政府對於斜坡的處理如斜度及護土牆的設置等，都有規定，校方亦按需要及法例要求不時修葺斜坡，山泥傾瀉的機會甚微。不過，即使依足規定行事，也不能說百分之百安全。因為有關的安全措施只可應付一定程度內之環境變化，要是遇上不尋常的天災，像百年難見的大雨，山泥傾瀉亦非絕無可能。

事實上，中大地質堅硬，泥土所佔比例不高。大學開闢現址作校園時，山上大部分的泥土已被移作修築船灣淡水湖堤壩之用。興建逸夫書院時，該址的泥土亦移作吐露港公路的建築材料。故此，校本部、新亞、聯合及逸夫書院範圍內不少的斜坡只餘下堅硬的花崗岩，間接減低了山泥傾瀉的可能性。

雖然崇基學院的情況不一樣，但陳先生指出，崇基的山坡斜度不算大，而且建築物附近的斜坡均加上了護土牆；王福元樓、教學樓第三座及信和樓等，

都有足夠保護。

陳先生表示，建築處的職員經常巡查各個斜坡，檢驗有沒有鬆散的石塊、渠道有否淤塞或破損、護土牆有否被侵蝕、風化、剝落或滲水等現象。發現問題便立即修葺。

可是，建築處的職員並非土力工程專家，光憑肉眼觀察，未必覺察斜坡的潛在危險。陳先生承認他們未具此方面的專業知識，但強調每當職員對斜坡安全有懷疑時，該處會即時延聘專業顧問公司作深入調查。他舉例說：「如八三年，我們留意到中央道邵逸夫堂旁的大石壁常有小石塊墜下，於是聘請顧問公司作全面研究，測度石質、地下水滲透……其後更把所有鬆散的石塊移走，又進行削壁工程，減少它的斜度。」他又透露：「其實政府每年也會抽查校園內一些斜坡。」在雙重監察下，同人大可安心。

為何不乾脆聘請土力工程顧問公司檢查全校的斜坡？陳先生解釋：「校園面積廣大，這樣做費用不菲。即使做完調查，按建議做足安全措施，但隨著時間推移及環境變化，斜坡和護土牆仍會風化、剝落、受侵蝕，那豈不是要經常聘請顧問公司來監察？恐怕大學負擔不

來。」

他繼續說：「中大歷年只有一次較嚴重的塌泥事件。去夏崇基教職員宿舍E座旁的斜坡瀉下山泥，部分頗接近一單位的廚房，情況不算嚴重，之後這個斜坡已被視作『危險斜坡』處理。」

原來，政府獲報有山泥傾瀉後，必往現場查勘，並按情況敦促業主聘請專業顧問作調查評估，及提供有效修葺方案和適當安排。待當局認可後，方可照審批計劃著手修葺。工程完成後，經政府檢視滿意，「危險斜坡」之名才被刪除。「是次，縱然我們第一時間清理塌泥現場，進行善後工作，延聘專家作評估，並按其建議修葺，但因設計及招標需時，部分工程仍未完竣，故該斜坡尚未洗脫危險斜坡之名。」陳先生說。

陳偉珠

花崗岩利弊

校園地質堅硬，除可降低山泥傾瀉的機會外，興建樓宇時，地基可以較淺，替大學省回一些建築費用。然而，花崗岩卻會妨礙植物茁壯生長。

停電了，怎麼辦？

你可曾有這樣的經驗：在電腦桌前埋首工作時，電燈和電腦屏幕突然熄滅，瞬即電力又回復正常。雖然時間極短，但剛輸入的資料已全部消失，要重做一遍！

電力供應只是出現小小的干擾，就可阻礙許多人的工作，要是校園供電突然全面中斷，會是怎樣的一個情況？

電力供應穩定

校園的電力來自中華電力有限公司供電系統的火炭電力站，供應一向尚算穩定，停電機會不大，這是因為電力公司通常採用環式供電系統（ring system）——若一端發生故障，可由環的另一端繼續供應電力。當供電給中大的某條電纜損毀，其餘的電纜仍能負荷，

不致停電。電力公司的主要供電分站亦是採同樣的系統：一個分站出現問題，可由另一分站接替。所以，除非供電總站發生事故，否則不容易出現電力全面中斷的情況。

應變設施足夠

雖然如此，校方並沒有忽略停電的應變措施，例如在水泵房裝設後備發電機，確保停電期間整個校園的供水不斷。根據政府建築條例的要求，近年落成的樓宇及人群聚集的地方如何善衛工程學大樓、逸夫書院大講堂及邵逸夫堂等，校方亦已裝設後備發電機，以維持必須的照明、通風及消防設施繼續運作。此外，舊樓宇如科學館，其實實驗室多且研究活動不斷；電算機服務中心所

處的碧秋樓，更是提供電腦服務的樞紐，在這些地方，校方均預設發電機。至於其他沒有發電機的樓宇，很多都裝置了電池燈，並備有電池提供能源，確保消防設施可正常操作。

能否保持恆溫？

然而，使用電腦的同人必須留意，後備設施乃應急之用。後備發電機主要是維持必要設施的運作，以及避免操作中的電腦因停電而損毀或失去已輸入的資料。因此若是停電超過十至十五分鐘，便應先把資料儲存好，然後關掉所有電腦。因為電腦運作會產生熱量，在沒有冷氣供應的情況下，室內難以保持恆溫，而高溫容易引致電腦器件損壞。

需要保持恆溫的還有文物館，館內珍藏品如書畫、陶瓷、古碑帖拓本、印璽、玉器、金石等，都需要收藏於恆溫恆濕的環境中，以減低文物老化的速度。不過文物館卻沒有後備發電機。據

負責文物修復工作的甯雄斌先生解釋，所有藏品若不是置放於密封的展覽箱，便是妥善存於收藏庫，即使停電，其中的溫度與濕度也不會迅速改變，況且停電時間不會太長，對藏品影響不大。

「嚴重」停電紀錄只有一次

據建築處提供的資料，大學只有過一次電力突然全面中斷達數小時的經驗。事發在八零年初，因沙田發展迅速，工程繁多而引起。近年出現較多的倒是一些電力供應上的小波動，導致電燈閃爍不定。由於每天每段時間各區的用電量不一，電力公司會根據需要而調較供電系統，開關轉換調較之時，便產生短暫的干擾。通常這些干擾無損一般電器用品，但會影響電算機及較精細的儀器，故校方於科學館及碧秋樓加設穩壓器穩定電壓，以免影響科學實驗的精確性及電算機服務中心的操作。

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（No publication in July and August. A special supplement will be published on 19th August for Personalia and Announcements.）

教師隊六奪「蜆殼杯」



每年一度的「蜆殼杯」師生網球賽上月一日假大學三、四、五號網球場舉行，教師隊又一次擊敗學生隊，連續六年奪得獎杯。

學生隊近年表現平平，去年更未能一勝，以零比九落敗。該隊今年改變戰術，派出女將助陣，終可把戰果拉得近一點，只以三比六見負。

賽後由醫學院副院長李川軍教授頒發蜆殼杯予教師隊隊長麥繼強(生物

系)。教師隊其他參賽球員為譚兆祥(生理學系)、鄭勳斌(微生物學系)、林柏良(臨牀免疫學組)、譚旭浩(麻醉及深切治療學系)和劉永松(體育運動科學系)。學生隊成員為羅文遜、何俊雄、余偉、關國耀、薛力凱、馬卓軒、呂榮樂、王兆銘和陳岷。陳岷是本校女子網球隊隊長，九二年曾奪南華會網球公開賽雙打亞軍，並且是九二及九四年亞太區大專網球賽的香港代表。



再度奪標

中大代表隊在香港大專體育協會主辦之一九九四至九五年度賽事中，表現優異，除獲得男子足球和女子網球冠軍外，並勇奪男子團體總冠軍及女子團體總季軍。中大運動員先前已取得本年度兩大划艇賽男子組冠軍和兩大體育節全場總冠軍。

如何處理及使用危險化學品

近期日本和香港先後發生了數宗化學品中毒事件，引起很多同事對化學品安全的關注和討論。化學品除可在實驗室內找到，也存在於辦公室和家居內。其實，各種化學品都有潛伏的危險性，以及獨特的處理方法，本文只能介紹一些簡單的基本原則。

安全第一

若有較安全的替代品，應避免使用那些毒性較強或致癌的化學品。對於新出產的化學劑，更應提高警惕，了解它們對人體有甚麼壞影響，小心處理。

應用危險化學品時，必須採取適當的隔離措施，最好採用密封的自動化操作系統，以減少接觸的機會。使用局部排氣設施(如實驗室內的風櫃)，有助排除毒性較高的氣體及懸浮微粒；增加室內通風，則有助稀釋毒性較低的污染物。恆常的環境監測及定期維修保養通風系統，有助確保工作環境的安全。

所有化學品應以堅固及適當的容器盛載，並貼上標籤，清楚註明該化學品的名稱、性質、危害、安全使用方法、意外事故的處理、急救措施等。去年香港曾有人誤飲天拿水，正是因為用了貼有某種飲品標籤的瓶子盛載天拿水。

使用化學品後，應將容器緊蓋妥當，減少揮發或傾瀉的機會。該等容器應儲存在適當的化學品安全櫃內，切勿存放在風櫃內。不相容的化學品如易燃品及助燃品、強酸與氰化物等千祈不要放在一起，以避免劇烈及不良的化學反應。三年前某中學的實驗室發生火警，就是因為易燃品及助燃品放在同一木櫃內所致。

由於化學品主要是透過呼吸及皮膚進入人體，故有需要時，應配戴合適的呼吸器具及手套，切忌赤手接觸化學液體，特別是有機化合物！良好的個人衛生習慣亦非常重要——不要在實驗室內進食，以免化學品經食道進入體內。工作後要更換工作服並清潔皮膚。

應變措施

意外發生後，若情況危急，應即通知附近人士及撤離現場，確保脫離險境後則應從速尋求援助，例如致電保安組(內線七九九九)說明事故，及要求保安組通知大學實驗室安全事務處提供協助。千萬不要在沒有配備合適防護器具的情況下，自告奮勇闖入肇事地點。

若發生小型事故，在可能情況下，從速採取應急措

施。如屬氣體洩漏，應盡快打開窗戶，增加通風，熄滅火種，並立即撤離現場。如屬液體傾瀉，則在可能情況下應予以中和或稀釋，再作事後清理。皮膚或眼睛接觸化學品後，一般最可靠的方法，就是以大量清水沖洗，並脫去受污染的衣物，切勿因尋找正確的中和劑而延誤；如情況嚴重，清洗後應盡快到醫院診治。

認識化學品

其實，每種化學品的處理方法都不盡相同。所以，最重要是掌握充足的安全資料，並加強對化學品的認識。

目前，不少國家已規定化學品供應商，要為產品提供一份物料安全資料單張(MSDS)，內容包括：

- (一)化學品名稱及別稱
- (二)有害成分
- (三)屬性
- (四)導致火災及爆炸的危險因素
- (五)危害健康資料及急救措施
- (六)化學反應資料
- (七)傾瀉及洩漏的處理方法
- (八)特殊保護措施
- (九)特別安全措施

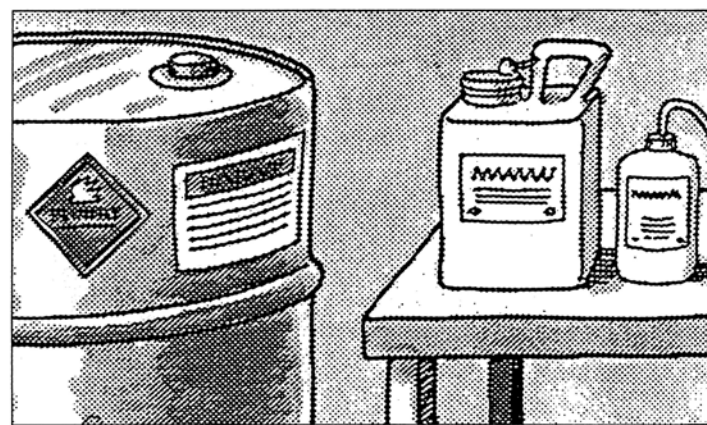
若在事前能獲得這類資料，使用時便會更加安全，發生意外及中毒事故的機會就會降低，拯救人員亦可作出最恰當的處理。可是，香港目前沒有法例規定供應商必須提供這類單張，很多化學品進口時附有的安全資料單張均不知所蹤。

資料何處覓

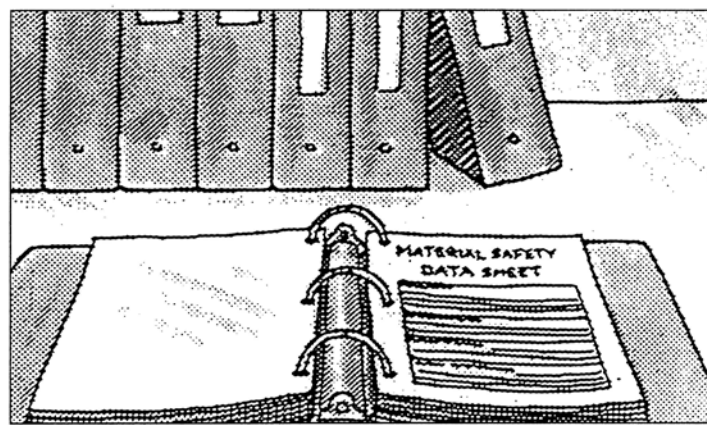
大學實驗室安全事務處現置有電腦光碟，儲存約四萬種化學品的中文及英文物料安全資料單張。同人可致電內線七九五八索閱所需的物料安全資料。下學年開始，我們將可提供有限度的電腦網絡查閱服務。有關實驗室安全的問題，歡迎來電查詢或提供寶貴意見。

葉崇達
大學實驗室安全事務處

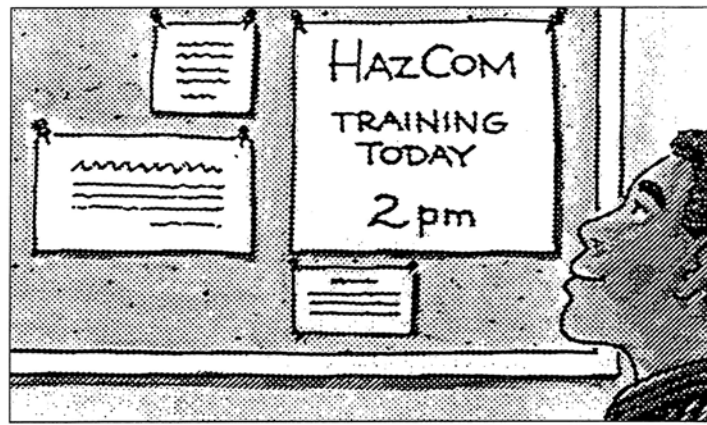
註：本文部分內容節錄自余德新醫生《職業健康》一書(由中文大學出版社出版)。



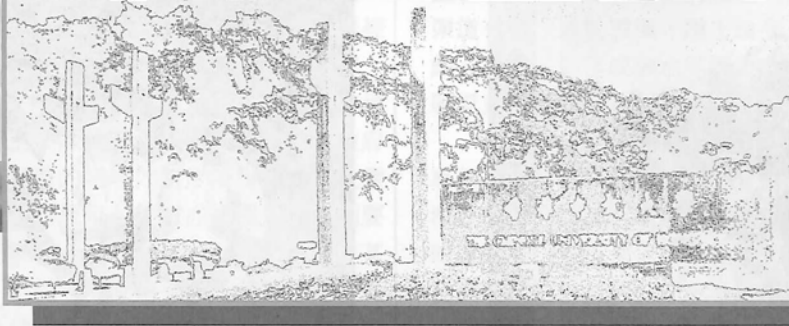
化學品容器應貼上正確標籤



物料安全資料單張



參加實驗室安全研討會及訓練班



教育投資的回報

近年先進工業國和新興發展國家在教育投資的回報上升，而低收入國家亦願意撥出更多的資源發展教育。人們不禁會問：教育投資回報為何可觀？

著名應用微觀經濟學家Prof. Mark Rosenzweig 上月十二日在本校主持講座，公開回答該問題。

Prof. Rosenzweig 為美國賓夕法尼亞大學經濟學講座教授，專門研究發展中國家的經濟及家庭經濟學，包括低收入農村的勞動市場。他上月中旬應邀出任本校偉倫訪問教授，並在王福元樓第四講室演講。

他在講座上，運用美洲和亞洲的調查及研究數據佐證，指出各國政府在基礎教育的投資，可在短期內提高國民的

工作效率，並取得很好的回報；而個別家庭作類似的投資，雖則短期內會加重家庭的經濟負擔，但長遠來說，可提高家庭的生產力，增加收入。

他表示，因輸入新的工業技術和意念而導致經濟增長的發展中國家，其國民會察覺教育的重要性，並願意投入更多資源提高下一代的教育水平。但與此同時，政府卻不應盲目發展教育，因為教育投資是經濟發展的重要夥伴，必須互相配合。他指出不少地方如菲律賓和阿根廷等都擁有大批曾受高等教育的國民，但它們的經濟表現卻未見突出。

Prof. Rosenzweig 跟著闡釋在何種情況下，才值得增加教育資源，他又指出投資高等教育的回報未必及基礎教育的大。

新任校董



周文軒博士



高美慶教授

周文軒博士及高美慶教授獲新亞書院推選出任大學校董。

新亞書院校董會乃依據大學規程第十一・1(e)條及第十一・4條，推選周文軒博士，繼唐翔千先生出任大學校董，任期三年，由一九九五年四月十六日起生效。

周博士為南聯實業的首席常務董事和海南發展的主席。南聯集團業務包括地產、建築、船務、貨運、倉儲、食品、醫藥保健品、保險和零售等，投資區域遍及中國、東南亞、西歐和北美。周博士現任本校新亞書院校董會副主

席，平素熱心服務社會，歷任許多慈善團體的總理或顧問，並設立數項基金，促進教育事業和推動學術研究。周博士屢獲榮譽，包括英帝國官佐勳章和芬蘭雄師高級勳銜。他曾擔任芬蘭駐港名譽領事十年。

高美慶教授則獲新亞書院院務委員會依據大學規程第十一・4條、第十六・6(a)條及第十一・1(h)條推選，繼金聖華教授出任大學校董，任期三年，由一九九五年四月廿七日起生效。

高教授為藝術系講座教授兼文物館館長。

美國工管研究生來港取經



三十三名美國匹茲堡大學工商管理碩士學生上月來校參加由亞太工商研究所舉辦的亞洲高級管理課程——「亞太區新挑戰：香港與中國」。

該課程是中大與匹茲堡大學的一項合作計劃，由本校為匹茲堡大學的工商管理研究生提供訓練，促進學員認識香港及亞太區的工商業前景和管理運作。

課程於四月十七至二十日假本校工商管理碩士課程市區中心舉行，內容包括講座及小組討論等，除由本校商學院講師授課外，五位香港工商界資深行政人員亦應邀講述本港工商管理的實際運作。此外，學員又獲安排到東莞的中外合資機構實地考察一天，以探討中國的經濟趨勢。

本校向國際展示環保新發明

本校應香港工業署邀請，參加四月三至八日的漢諾威工業展，展出一項處理有害染料的新發明。

該處理方法是利用兩個新品種的細菌H-12和W-3，分別對付藍靛和硫化黑這兩種染料。

發現H-12和W-3者為本校生物系麥繼強教授。他表示，藍靛和硫化黑主要用以漂染藍色和黑色驟布，布料經漂染後，尚要經「石磨」步驟以製造褪色效

果，而整個過程完成之後，殘餘的化學物質不溶於水，排入大海會嚴重危害海洋生態。H-12用酵素迅速分解藍靛，溶解物不會損害海洋環境和海洋生物；W-3則以「生物吸附作用」吸取硫化黑，並回收貴重的化學副產品——硫代硫酸鈉（大蘇打）。

漢諾威工業展為歐洲一年一度的工業界盛事，今年的展出單位達六千八百個，來自六十個國家。

小學教育的創新與反思



約七百名教育工作者於四月十四日參加本校教育學院主辦，香港初等教育研究學會協辦的研討會，切磋本港小學教育的創新措施及其成效。

研討會假崇基校園舉行，由教育委員會主席譚萬鈞博士主禮並發表專

題演講，回顧及瞻望香港強迫教育的發展。

與會者其後分組探討小學教育質素、學童自殺、目標為本課程、教師的個人成長、語文教學、幼稚園與小學的銜接等問題。