

The cover features a close-up, low-angle shot of an open book with many pages, creating a sense of depth and movement. The pages are a warm, light brown color. The background is a solid, muted teal color. The text is positioned in the upper right and center of the cover.

CHINESE
UNIVERSITY
BULLETIN

No. 1, 2015

Literacy
Culture
on and
beyond
Campus



CHINESE UNIVERSITY BULLETIN

No. 1, 2015

© The Chinese University of Hong Kong 2015
The *Chinese University Bulletin* is
published biannually by the
Information Services Office

Address all correspondence to
Information Services Office,
CUHK, Sha Tin, N.T., Hong Kong SAR,
The People's Republic of China

E-mail
iso@cuhk.edu.hk

Website
[www.iso.cuhk.edu.hk/
english/publications/bulletin/](http://www.iso.cuhk.edu.hk/english/publications/bulletin/)

Advisory Committee on
Chinese University Bulletin

Prof. Ho Che-wah
Prof. Joseph Man Chan
Prof. Simon N. Haines
Prof. Lai Pan-chiu
Mr. Eric S.P. Ng
Ms. Amy Y.M. Tsui
Mr. Daniel Cheng
Mr. Tommy W.K. Cho

Contents

2 Literacy Culture on and beyond Campus

- 
- 4 Growing Trees in the Forest of Knowledge:
Chinese University Press
 - 8 Finding New Homes for Old Books:
Timing Bookstore
 - 10 An Oasis for Book Lovers:
City Centre Book Club
 - 12 Chalk Poetry on Campus:
The Power of Words
 - 14 The Pleasure of Leisure Reading:
Good Reads Corner
 - 16 College in a Living Room:
Lidian Reading Group

20 The 76th and 77th Congregations

24 A Date with Warren Buffett

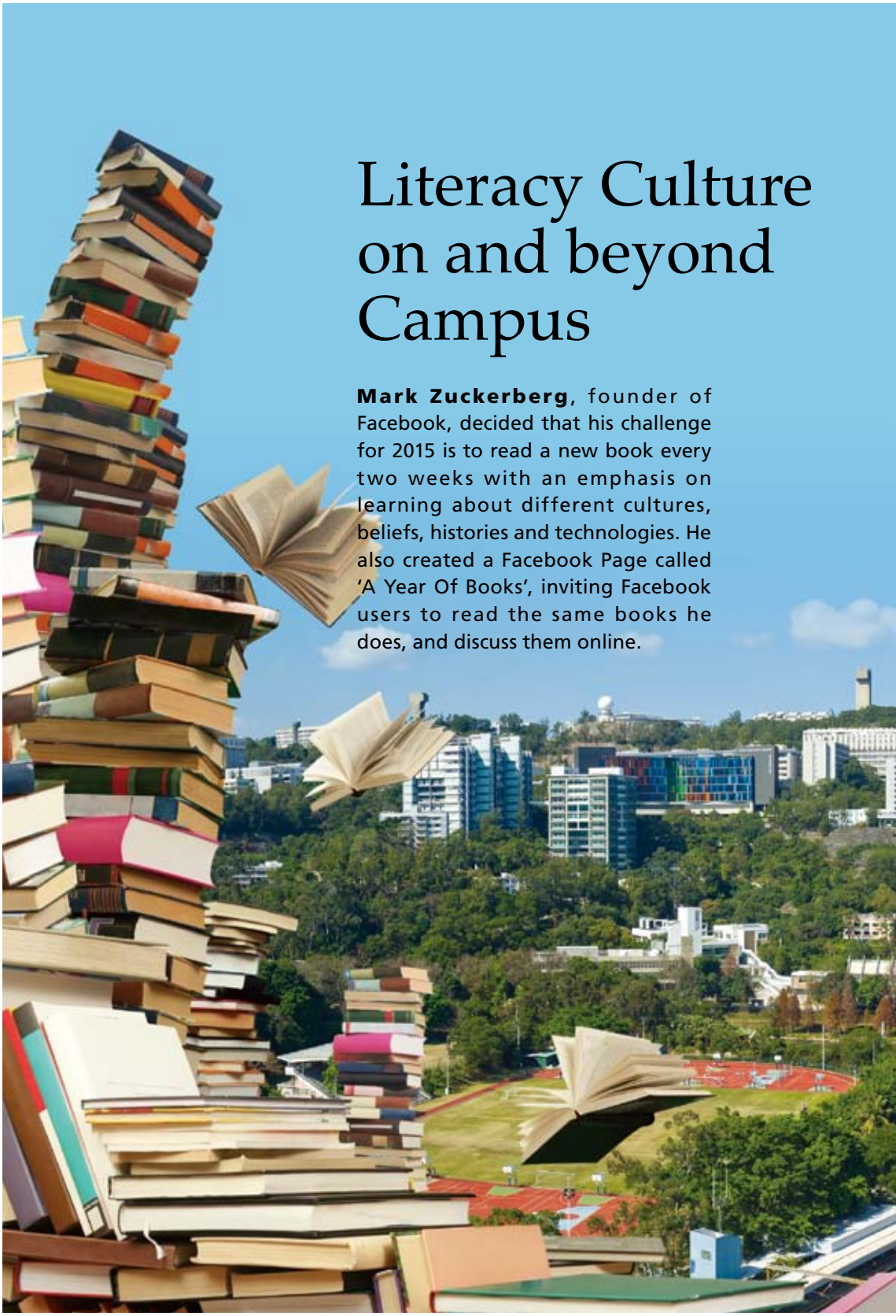
28 Gardens of Delight at CUHK

32 Interweaving Flowers with Poetry, Film and Music

34 The Best and the Brightest

36 News in Brief

- 36 Appointments
- 37 Honours and Recognitions
- 39 Research
- 41 Activities and Events
- 46 Intellectual Cross-currents

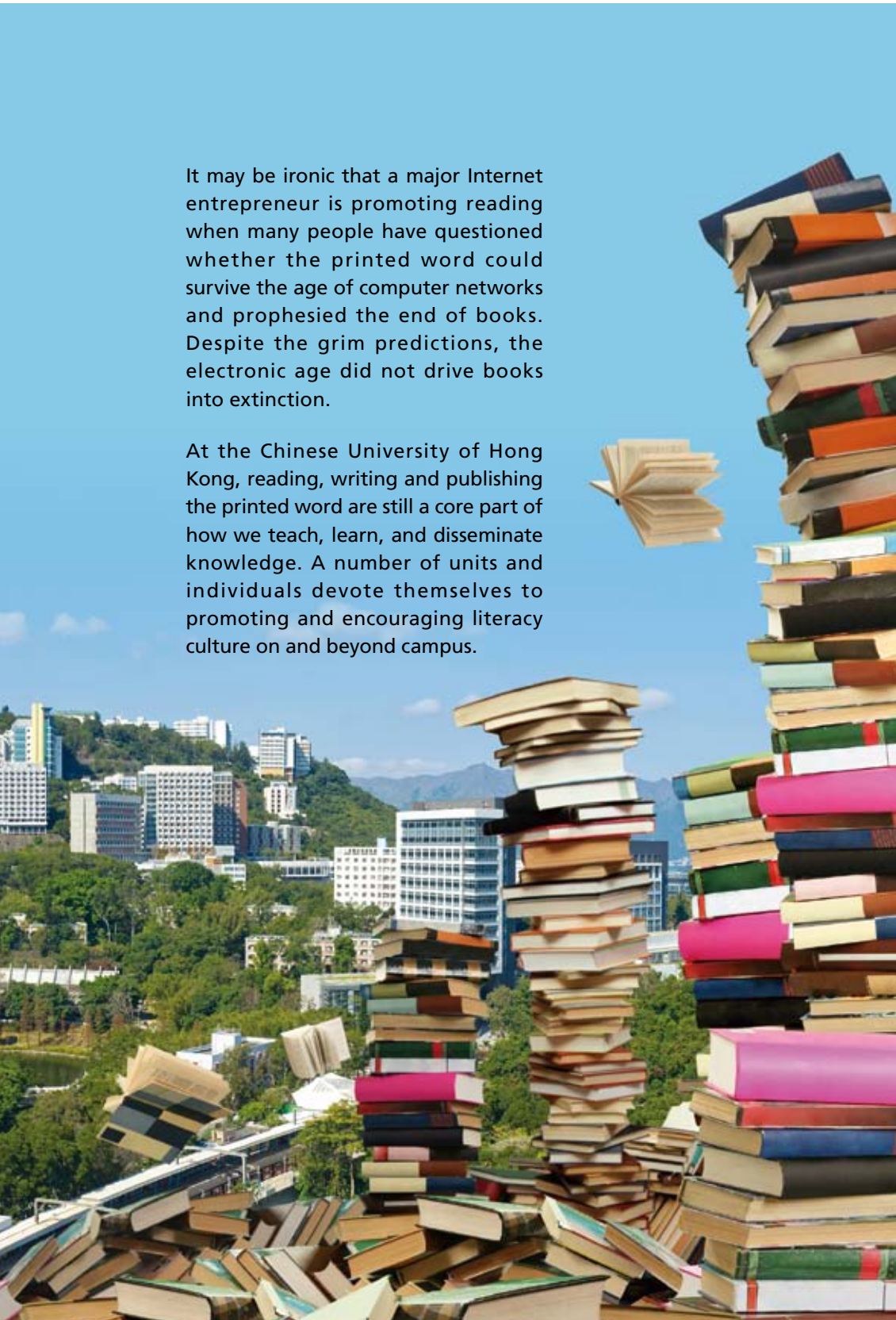


Literacy Culture on and beyond Campus

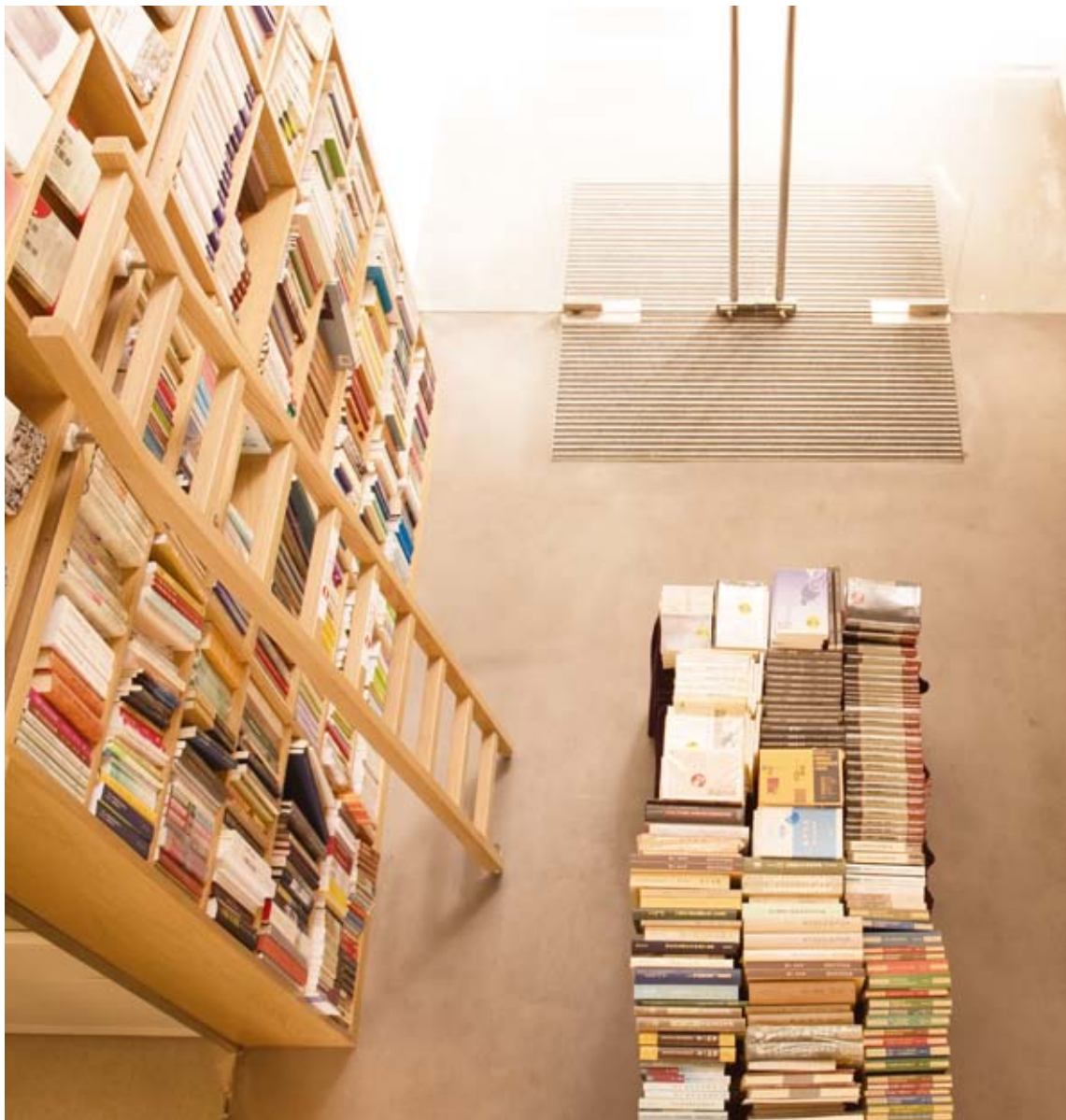
Mark Zuckerberg, founder of Facebook, decided that his challenge for 2015 is to read a new book every two weeks with an emphasis on learning about different cultures, beliefs, histories and technologies. He also created a Facebook Page called 'A Year Of Books', inviting Facebook users to read the same books he does, and discuss them online.

It may be ironic that a major Internet entrepreneur is promoting reading when many people have questioned whether the printed word could survive the age of computer networks and prophesied the end of books. Despite the grim predictions, the electronic age did not drive books into extinction.

At the Chinese University of Hong Kong, reading, writing and publishing the printed word are still a core part of how we teach, learn, and disseminate knowledge. A number of units and individuals devote themselves to promoting and encouraging literacy culture on and beyond campus.



Growing Trees in the Forest of Knowledge: Chinese University Press



Not every university in the world has its own press. CUHK set up the University Publications Office in 1968, just five years after the establishment of the University. The office was reorganized into the Chinese University Press (CUP) in 1977. This fact underscores the University's value of its press.

Counting from the University Publications Office, the CUP is 47 years old. Its managing editor Dr. **Lin Ying** says, 'Since its establishment, the press has devoted itself to the advancement,

preservation and dissemination of knowledge, as well as the promotion of multi-cultural academic exchanges. This is something that hasn't changed over all these years. This mission statement dovetails with the University's mission and vision. But in the 21st century, the issues facing the press and the University are quite different to those half a century ago. For example, the relations between Hong Kong and the world, and the relations between China and the world are different now.'



Dr. Lin Ying



Integrating Knowledge in the Age of Hyper-specialization

The scene of higher education today is characterized by specialization and institutionalization, which has resulted in the increasing complexity of the academic landscape. New branches of knowledge have kept appearing and the gulf between different academic disciplines yawned wider than ever. But Dr. Lin believes that academic publishers have a role to play in integrating knowledge in such a trend. She says, 'Academic editors can move beyond the barriers between different disciplines, and weave knowledge of different subjects of study into a meaningful whole by inviting potential authors to submit manuscripts and editing academic journals. So, a good university press should never be a passive receiver of the results of scholarship undertaken in its parent institution. Instead, it should be an active player in this intellectual endeavour through the interaction with its scholarly community.'

The CUP has reformed the manpower of its editorial team in the last few years. Now nearly a half of its editors are PhD holders. Dr. Lin explains, 'Sound academic training enables an academic editor to get a panoramic view of the

scholarly endeavour in the higher education sector and to detect the trend in the changing academic landscape.'

Developing Book Series

In recent years the CUP has put a great deal of effort into producing its book series. Dr. Lin says, 'Any good university press would develop book series that have profound influence. This is instrumental in building a long lasting academic legacy. We've devoted much effort to the development of our book series.' They include the *Modern and Contemporary Chinese History* series, the *30/30* series, the *Bordertown Thinker* series, the *Bilingual Chinese Classic* series. And the newest one is the *Calligrams* series launched in early 2015.

The *Calligrams* series is a partnership between the Chinese University of Hong Kong Press and the New York Review Books, which is an American publishing house with a high international reputation. This is the first time it has launched a book series with another publisher. The launch of the *Calligrams* series is aimed at rediscovering out-of-print titles with great value in fields of Chinese culture and literature and introducing European and American readers to classical cultures of Asia.



The Press has entered into a co-publishing partnership with many foreign university presses before. But the launch of the *Calligrams* series has opened up another distribution channel for its non-scholarly titles. Dr. Lin says, 'We hope that our high quality English books can have a wider impact beyond academia and reach the general readership in the English-speaking world by this partnership.'

How Many Years Can a Book Last?

Now the CUP publishes about 60 new titles and reprint about 30 backlist titles annually.

For a commercial publisher, the yardstick for measuring success of a book is its sales figures. What about the CUP? Dr. Lin says, 'For us, the first and only criterion is its academic value. Sales figures are secondary. It's because books with high value may not be big sellers.'

She uses *The Mozi: A Complete Translation* as an example. With over 1,000 pages, it is the first complete translation of *Mozi*. An Australian translator devoted 20 years to its translation and the CUP spent two years editing it. Dr. Lin says, 'We've devoted a lot of energy and editorial resources to it. But you'd never expect that it could be a hit. What we had in mind was we had to produce the best English translation

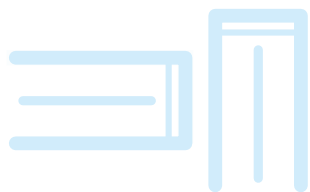
of it because the promotion of Chinese culture is our responsibility. One of our considerations when we're reviewing a manuscript is: how many years can it last? If it will still be read 50 years from now, we'll publish it regardless of the price.'

Meeting the Next Generation of Scholars

One of the CUP's future endeavours is finding and supporting the new generation of scholars in the field of Chinese studies, especially young Chinese scholars. The CUP plans to help them publish original works. Dr. Lin says, 'A university press has a symbiotic relationship with the scholarly community with which it affiliates. Its future success lies in whether it has a group of new writers who are intellectually active and able to make an impact on academia in the next 20 years.'

Ch'ien Mu said, 'Today's world is heading towards one great union. As Chinese, we cannot close our door and lock ourselves inside. We should see things from the perspective of the world and act as a member of humanity.' What can China contribute to the world in terms of culture besides its economic power? Striving to be the best bilingual publisher in the field of Chinese studies, the CUP can do its bit in this regard.

Finding New Homes for Old Books: Timing Bookstore



'If I'm not in some used bookstore, I must be on my way to one.' The sentence written by a Taiwanese writer rightly captures the obsession of many bibliophiles. Used bookstores sell whatever books they get hold of. So, each of them has its unique selection, offering customers the pleasure of making serendipitous discoveries that cannot happen in big bookstore chains selling only bestsellers.

A city is culturally impoverished without used bookstores. Those in Jimbocho, Tokyo and the 'Bouquinistes' along the banks of the Seine in Paris are fascinating attractions in their respective cities. In January 2015, Timing Bookstore started business on CUHK campus, giving old books a new life and enriching our cultural fabric.

The story of Timing Bookstore started from the I•CARE Book Festival in 2012. Close to 10,000 books donated by enthusiastic alumni, teachers, and students were

on display in Sir Run Run Shaw Hall. To facilitate the circulation of books and knowledge, students and staff were encouraged to read and take home their favourite books. This hugely popular activity was held for a few days only, which prompted several students to ponder: Can we have this meaningful event every day to facilitate the flow of books among readers?

After some door-knocking, the students, including **Lee Tsz-ming**, a graduate of the Department of Japanese Studies, and **Lee Ting-hin**, Year 1 student of Social Science, won the S.H. Ho College's Young Entrepreneur Programme and were given a 30 sq. m. indoor space on the ground floor of Chan Chun Ha Hall on campus to run the bookstore. The I•CARE programme also provided them with funding which endows them with the freedom to explore possibilities.

Though small, the place is clean and



Lee Ting-hin

Lee Tsz-ming



comfortable, without the dirty, messy, dark and uninviting chaos of old-style used bookstores. Besides books, it also sells consignment items of local artists. In bookstores that sell new books, new arrivals and bestsellers are displayed on feature tables at prominent spots. Used bookstores are different. Their owners display and promote books to readers according to their interest. These bookstores have their own characters. When Timing Bookstore first opened, it arranged books by the colour of their spines rather than their content. The intent was to change reading habits, but the bookstore received criticism for ignoring the contents. Now most of the books have been rearranged by subject.

Unlike big bookstore chains, many independent bookstores are run not merely for profit, but in pursuit of certain ideals. Some devote themselves to social issues, some serve as a community or cultural hub. The Timing team has an 'experiment

group' responsible for the ideas of reading experiments. For instance, 'Blind Date' wherein a book is wrapped with only a sentence from it written on the cover. The exercise is meant to enable people and books to meet by chance and create opportunities for reading something unexpected. 'Suspended Books' invites people to buy a book for the next visitor; 'Small Podium' allows people to meet regularly to share their knowledge; 'Flash Mob Poem Reading', co-organized with ToloPoem, features live music and readings of poems about food in the College's communal dining hall. These experiments greatly enrich the possibility of reading and set Timing apart from other bookstores.

Perhaps starting a bookstore itself is an experiment that explores the significance and value of a brick-and-mortar used bookstore in the age when online bookstores and e-books are making big inroads into the publication market.

An Oasis for Book Lovers: City Centre Book Club

At the lecture theatre entrance of the CUHK School of Continuing and Professional Studies (SCS) Centre in the Bank of America Tower, a line is formed almost every month on a Friday evening. Some of the people in the line are in suit and tie, carrying briefcases, apparently just off work. They are waiting to attend the Book Club co-organized by the CUHK Office of University General Education (OUGE), the SCS, and the Second Bookstore.

There was a small bookstore called the Second Bookstore in the Li Wai Chun Building on Chung Chi campus. The Book Club was the brainchild of the bookstore. Mr. **Leung Cheuk-yan**, a CUHK alumnus, was one of the proprietors of the bookstore. He says, 'We opened the bookstore not just for selling books. We also wanted to promote reading. That's why we started the Book Club. At first it took place on Saturdays around 2:30 pm at the coffee shop next to our bookstore.'

Later the bookstore teamed up with the University. Prof. **Leung Mei-yee**, Director of University General Education, recalls how the partnership began: 'Prof. **Cheung Chan-fai**, the then Director of University General Education, and Ms. **Tsuei So-shan Susanna**, the then assistant registrar of the OUGE went to the bookstore to browse. We struck up a conversation with **Tse On**, the shopkeeper. The conversation gradually shifted to the Book Club. Professor Cheung was greatly impressed. He believed that promoting general education in classrooms was not enough. At that time the community didn't know much about general education and failed to appreciate its importance. Liberal studies were not yet taught as a mandatory subject in local secondary schools. We had promoted general education with the aims of providing students with a broad intellectual perspective, motivating them to be lifelong learners, and encouraging them to remain curious and inquisitive. The



Mr. Leung Cheuk-yan

Prof. Leung Mei-yee

Book Club is a good means to achieve these objectives. Professor Cheung suggested a partnership between the OUGE and the Second Bookstore to organize the Book Club.'

In 2003 when the Second Bookstore stopped its operation on CUHK campus, finding a new place to hold the Book Club became an issue. At this moment, the SCS gave a helping hand by providing its lecture theatre in Central as a venue for it. Professor Leung says, 'When the Book Club moved to Central, it gradually attracted many people from outside academia, including lawyers, accountants, bankers and other professionals.'

Mr. Leung compares the difference between the two venues: 'The venue in Central is a lecture theatre. At first we thought that the atmosphere would not be as heated as in the coffee shop, because when the Book Club was held at the coffee shop, many participants stood to listen, and the speakers stood to talk. The atmosphere was very lively. In Central everyone is seated. The interaction seems not

At its gathering entitled 'The Irredentist Yu-Yen Campaign' in 2004, the Book Club had one of its youngest participants. A Form One student, **Victor Lai** was 14 and had a great interest in Chinese history. In an article for the Fifth Anniversary Brochure of the Book Club, he wrote, 'Right after the talk, I told my family that I would join every talk of the Book Club.... I've never experienced in school such a way of communication. It's so inspiring.'

Victor proudly says that he had 95% attendance in the early years though he joined less frequently later because of public exams.

After that he has taken part in a wide range of book club gatherings, immersing himself in the sea of knowledge. The then book-loving teenager is now a university graduate. He is still a voracious reader who reads two to three books per week. He says, 'Reading allows you to do impossible things like living other lives and travelling through time and space.'

He always carries a book with him so that he can read whenever he has time. He shares a tip with those people who think they are 'too busy' to read: 'Read when you're waiting for or travelling on public transport, when others play with their mobiles. This may add up to more than two hours per day.' He thanks the organizers and speakers of the Book Club for their effort to promote reading.

Besides the Book Club taking place in Central, the OUGE organizes book club gatherings on campus, which cater for CUHK students and secondary school students. It also holds book club meetings dedicated to the reading of classical texts for students of its General Education Foundation Programme.

There are now 16 or 17 Book Club gatherings held in Central per year. For the Second Bookstore, the SCS and the OUGE, their preparation and organization are purely voluntary. Professor Leung says, 'We see the Book Club as a community service. We don't receive any funding for it. All participants do it of their own accord and for free. Our biggest reward is seeing people form a line to attend the Book Club.'



as good as before. But the advantage is that the space is big. It can accommodate nearly 200 people. When a speaker spends several months to prepare for a talk, it is better to have 200 people than 30. The impact is different.'

Speakers of the Book Club are from highly diverse fields. Professor Leung invites potential speakers from the scholarly community, while Mr. Leung looks for book lovers in different sectors of society. He says, 'We adhere to one principle: reading is for everyone. The serious and critical reading of books is not something exclusive to professors. When inviting speakers, we have one criterion in mind: that he or she has an insightful understanding of a book and is willing to share it with others. So, we've invited an engineer to talk about Su Shi, the Song dynasty poet. And as a lawyer, I once talked about a book by Edward Gibbon. These are reading interests unrelated to our work. We emphasize that a person should read widely beyond professional realms. That's the idea of general education.'

Chalk Poetry on Campus: The Power of Words



Blackboard poems first appeared at the Wu Chung Multimedia Library of United College and Ch'ien Mu Library of New Asia College in September 2012. As its name suggests, a blackboard poem is a poem written on a blackboard. People were puzzled as nothing like that had been seen on campus before.

A stanza of a poem, a blackboard and several pieces of chalk—these were all the organizers of ‘The Power of Words’ project had when they started the project. By handwriting poems all over the campus, they ignited passion for art and literature.

‘The Power of Words’ is a reading and writing project co-organized by the Independent Learning Centre (ILC), the Hong Kong Literature Research Centre, the Office of the Arts Administrator, and Topoem. Other supporting units include the Department of Chinese Language and Literature, the Department of English, the School of Journalism and Communication, the CUHK Library, and the *CU Student Press*.

Then poems started appearing on blackboards, whiteboards and glass walls. The ILC, the

Learning Garden of the University Library, the Elisabeth Luce Moore Library of Chung Chi College, the Architecture Library, the Learning Commons of the Wu Ho Man Yuen Building, the United College Student Canteen, and Sir Run Run Shaw Hall, the Faculty of Science building, among other locations, are designated poem-copying zones.

‘This was an incidental project. The idea came from casual chats between colleagues,’ says one of the organizers Dr. **Vivian Chan**, senior lecturer at the ILC.

She said the Chinese University used to be a cradle for writers, but serious readers and writers are rare now. That’s why she decided to revive the tradition by launching a series of literary activities using a primitive method—by copying poems on blackboards. ‘In Minnesota’s capital city Saint Paul, there is an “Everyday Poems for City Sidewalk” project. Each year the government holds a contest to invite poets to contribute works to their collection. Selected works are engraved on the sidewalk. When I heard this, I began to imagine what something like this would look like on the University Mall,’ says Dr. Chan.



Photo by Andrew Wong



Photo by Hui Lok-in



Ms. Wong Bik-wan

Photo by Jenny Lau



Photo by Wong Shing-kit

Why poetry? Dr. Chan says, 'People think poetry is impractical and has a niche market. But in fact, poetry represents what's most refined and beautiful, and embodies the purest and the most sublime. If one wants to enter the humanistic world via words, poetry could be the most effective means.'

Despite being in existence for only a few years, 'The Power of Words' has organized a wide range of poetic and artistic activities, including the 'A Day in CUHK in the 21st Century' writing event, the colloquium 'Conversing about Xiao Hong', as well as a number of reading and writing workshops. It also invites

artists of different fields to its 'Dialogues in the Arts' series to share their views with CUHK members. In early 2015, famous writer Ms. **Wong Bik-wan** came to the CUHK campus to do a recitation in an event called 'Reading in NA Concourse'. She also taught CUHK students to write in the 'Literary Sketching at Wan Chai' activity.

Blackboard poems and glass wall poems are now intellectual delights on the CUHK campus. Various activities organized by 'The Power of Words' are also much anticipated by CUHK readers and writers.

The Pleasure of Leisure Reading: Good Reads Corner



Go straight after walking through the turnstiles at the University Library entrance, and you'll find an area with free-form bookshelves and some colourful stools. About 200 books are available on the shelves. Some are vertically stacked with their spines facing out, some are displayed in a face-out style, tempting you with their covers.

This is the Good Reads Corner. If you need a break from course readings, an interlude in your hectic life of research, or if you are simply looking for a good book to read, this is the place. As Ms. **Louise Jones**, University Librarian, says, 'Besides reading for academic purposes, you can read just for sheer pleasure and enjoyment as well. We know that the more you read for your course, the better your academic scores are likely to be. But actually university life is not just about your academic development, it's about your whole person development. As a person, you're going to develop greater insight into what you want to

achieve in life with reading for pleasure. That's what we're trying to achieve with the Good Reads Corner.'

First set up in 2005, the Good Reads Corner is intended to promote a wider reading culture and encourage more leisure reading among CUHK staff and students. This rotating selection of popular reading materials is updated every six months.

Ms. Jones explains, 'The selection is made by colleagues of the library's Learning Support Team. We also use international and local book awards, bestseller lists as our criteria. There are fiction and nonfiction titles of the Chinese and English languages. We try to appeal across the board. So you'll find the most popular science books there, as well as classical literature.'

Mr. **Chan Chin-bong Dominic**, assistant librarian of the Learning Support Team, adds, 'We also pay attention to hot topics. For example, when **Nelson Mandela** died, we put



his biographies on the Good Reads shelves.' *I am Malala* was also put on the Good Reads shelves when **Malala Yousafzai** won the Nobel Peace Prize.

The library compiles check-out statistics every six months to gauge the tastes and needs of its patrons. As revealed in its latest statistics, *The Hunger Games* trilogy tops the list of the most borrowed Good Reads Books.

In addition to print books, those who are more willing to embrace new technology can check out Kindles loaded with Good Reads titles in e-book format. 'We started the Kindle development with the general education collection books and that proved very popular. So we decided to extend and include Good Reads titles,' says Ms. Jones.

But the e-book collection is not the same as the print collection. Mr. Chan explains, 'When we receive the recommended titles from our colleagues for the Good Reads Corner, we'll

look for both print copies and Kindle e-books. But not all titles are available from Amazon.'

Now 20 sets of Kindle are available for borrowing. They are also available at the Elisabeth Luce Moore Library at Chung Chi College.

The books at the Good Reads Corner are an evolving collection. The library is interested in learning what its patrons are eager to read and wants to ensure that relevant titles are not inadvertently omitted from the collection. So it welcomes its patrons to suggest additional titles by using paper forms available at the Good Reads Corners bookshelves or the e-form on its website. 'We need to keep in touch with what is popular with our students in terms of popular culture,' says Ms. Jones.

Though she considers the Good Reads Corner a success, she believes that there is always more they can do to promote reading. 'One idea we have is asking our academic leaders to recommend and talk about the books that have inspired them. I think that would be appealing.'

College in a Living Room: Lidian Reading Group



Many people have heard of the Lidian Reading Group organized by Prof. **Chow Po-chung** of the Department of Government and Public Administration. But not many people know the origin of the name. 'I returned to CUHK to teach in 2002 and started the reading group in the summer of 2003 to read with my students. At first the reading group took place at the Multi-purpose Room at the New Asia College Ch'ien Mu Library. The Chinese name of the room is the "Lidian Room", which literally means the Room of Beautiful Classics. We borrowed the word *lidian* as the name of our reading group but changed the character "li" for beautiful to a homophone for ploughing. So, it means ploughing through classics,' says Professor Chow.

The Lidian Reading Group has been in existence for more than a dozen years. Professor Chow moved to a residence on campus in 2006. Since then the reading group has taken place at his home, meeting once every three weeks. Its members choose a piece of essay to read together each time. And one of them would give a presentation on that essay, which is followed by open and intense discussions. The reading group consists of teachers, postgraduate and undergraduate students of CUHK, friends outside the University community, and Professor Chow's former students. About 15 to 20 members gather to read in each session.

Professor Chow organized reading groups when



Prof. Chow
Po-chung

he was a student at the University. 'When I was a member of the *Chinese University Student Press*, I used to read with other members during the summer break. For example, we once chose Hong Kong literature as a theme and read a lot of books related to that theme. I remember that we asked Prof. **Lo Wai-luen** and Prof. **Wong Kai-chee** to recommend a booklist to us. We read the works of **Liu Yi-chang**, **Wong Bik-wan** and **Xi Xi**. My knowledge of Hong Kong literature was greatly expanded after that summer.'

The learning mode of Professor Chow's reading group is different from that of how university education is taught now. He says, 'The current university system seems to define what learning is: getting credits, going to class, learning from

PowerPoint slides, taking exams. People think that learning means satisfying these steps. It's passive learning. Our reading group is not like that. We discuss what essays we should read, we read them together, give presentations on our own initiative. The teacher-student relationship is different. It's a different intellectual journey.'

In his opinion, an ideal university education should encourage the pursuit of knowledge without specific goals and facilitate spontaneous discussions. Such a learning model is similar to that of small colleges at Oxford and Cambridge or that of ancient Chinese colleges. Professor Chow says, 'I'm not a teacher in the reading group. I don't give lectures there. I'm on an equal footing with other members.'



In addition to the reading group, Professor Chow organizes 'salons' irregularly, inviting speakers from outside the University to give talks to and exchange views with members of Lidian. Besides reading activities, the members watch movies, play football, go hiking, and travel together. Professor Chow says, 'The reading group is not for reading only, it's also an intellectual community whose members constantly support each other.'

According to Professor Chow, a successful reading group must fulfil three criteria: first, you must find good books to read. Second, discussions must be full and in-depth. Third, it must last for an extended period. Members of our reading group don't come to read for some practical purposes, such as writing dissertations. They join it because they enjoy this reading life.'

Chris Li, a PhD candidate at the Central European University, regards Lidian as an academically enlightening experience, 'Not only because all the essays we read are very important pieces, but also because the reading group emphasizes free but serious discussion. There is no correct view or stance. Participants can express their views freely. If you disagree with someone's opinion, you can criticize and discuss it. In fact Professor Chow is a regular target of criticism from other members (I was one of the major critics of him, ha ha). I joined the reading group when I was a freshman. I thought that such frank, friendly and serious discussion was a normal feature of the academic community. Later I learned that this is not the case


and began to realize how lucky we are to have this reading group.'

Leo Kwok, a PhD student in political philosophy at the University of Toronto, had his first serious encounter with political theories at Lidian. 'I benefited much from it during my undergraduate years and it paved the path for me to pursue postgraduate studies. My first presentation in the reading group was about Frank Knight's 'The Ethics of Competition'. Before I went to Canada to work on my master's degree, I gave a presentation on Bernard Williams's 'From Freedom to Liberty'. Before I started my PhD, I made a presentation on Carl Schmitt's *The Concept of the Political*. To prepare for each presentation, I had to read an academic essay up to a hundred pages in great detail. And during every discussion session, I was surprised by the insights provided by other members, which I failed to get when I read that essay.'

In addition to the Lidian Reading Group, Professor Chow organizes an evening reading session called 'Reading Original Texts' for every course taught by him. 'Reading Original Texts' is an optional activity, but usually more than half of his students would join it. Chow says, 'It's because they benefit a lot from it. Reading is not something that you automatically know how to do well by simply picking up a book. You need immersion in the subject and a lot of explanation and textual analysis before you can grasp the essence.'



UNESCO selected 23 April as World Book and Copyright Day to pay tribute to books and authors, encouraging everyone to discover the pleasure of reading. In her message for 2015 World Book and Copyright Day, **Irina Bokova**, UNESCO's Director-General, said, 'Literacy is the door to knowledge, essential to individual self-esteem and empowerment. Books, in all forms, play an essential role here.'

CUHK has devoted itself to do its bit in this regard. Besides the units and individuals mentioned above, there are many activities on campus to promote reading. The book festivals organized by the I•CARE Programme in 2012 and 2013 were two examples. Perhaps we still prefer that quiet rustle of the pages despite the advent of new media in the age of the Internet. And as a writer says, 'How do you press a wildflower into the pages of an e-book?' 



The 76th and 77th Congregations



The 76th and 77th Congregations for the Conferment of Degrees were held on 20 November and 4 December 2014, respectively. Dr. **Vincent H.C. Cheng**, Chairman of the Council, presided over the congregations and conferred 10,178 honorary, higher and first degrees.

CUHK conferred honorary doctorates on seven distinguished persons in recognition of their outstanding contributions to academic and cultural progress, the promotion of community welfare, and the development of CUHK.

Number of Degrees Conferred in 76th and 77th Congregations

Honorary Doctorate
7

Doctoral
372

Master's
6,414

Bachelor's
3,385







Ms. **Chen Wai-wai Vivien** is the chairman and managing director of Nan Fung Group as well as the founder and president of her own foundation, The Chen Wai Wai Vivien Foundation Limited. Ms. Chen is a staunch supporter of CUHK. Through her own foundation and The D. H. Chen Foundation, she has made substantial donations to support the development of Shaw College and Lee Woo Sing College, as well as numerous research projects and educational activities in Chinese medicine, mood disorders, eating disorders and therapeutic physical mental exercise. The University conferred upon Ms. Chen the degree of Doctor of Social Science, *honoris causa*, for her remarkable contributions to the economic development of Hong Kong and the community.



Dr. **Joseph Koo** is a respected composer and music director of Cantopop. Over the past few decades, Dr. Koo has composed over 1,200 songs, many of which became Cantopop classics. His works changed the Hong Kong music scene in the 1970s, when popular music was dominated by adaptations of foreign songs. Dr. Koo was made a Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire and was also awarded the Bronze Bauhinia Star by the HKSAR Government. The University conferred upon Dr. Koo the degree of Doctor of Social Science, *honoris causa*, for his influence on Cantopop and his contributions to the Hong Kong music industry.



Renowned economist Prof. **Lawrence Juen-ye Lau** is Ralph and Claire Landau Professor of Economics of the Institute of Global Economics and Finance at CUHK. Professor Lau developed one of the first econometric models of China in 1966. Serving as Vice-Chancellor of CUHK from 2004 to 2010, he made notable contributions to the University, including the establishment of five new Colleges to accommodate an additional 3,000 undergraduate students as the University reverted to a four-year curriculum. He also led the University in formulating a 10-year Strategic Plan and identified five academic areas for focused research investment. In recognition of his academic achievements in economics and important contributions to CUHK, the University conferred upon Professor Lau the degree of Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*.



Prof. **Robert C. Merton** is currently the School of Management Distinguished Professor of Finance at the MIT Sloan School of Management, University Professor Emeritus at Harvard University and Resident Scientist at Dimensional Holdings, Inc. Professor Merton received the Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences in 1997 for a new method to determine the value of derivatives. His research focuses on finance theory including lifecycle finance, optimal intertemporal portfolio selection, capital asset pricing, pricing of options, risky corporate debt, and loan guarantees. The University conferred upon Professor Merton the degree of Doctor of Science, *honoris causa*, in recognition of his significant contributions in the field of economic sciences and finance.

Renowned writer Mr. **Mo Yan** is dean of the College of Literature of the Chinese National Academy of Arts, director of the Beijing Normal University International Writing Centre, and vice-president of the China Writers Association. He received the Nobel Prize in Literature in 2012. Mr. Mo Yan started his literary career in the 1980s and his international breakthrough came in 1986 when he published the epic novel *Red Sorghum*. After this success, Mr. Mo Yan went on to publish numerous works, including *Big Breasts and Wide Hips*, *Sandalwood Death* as well as *Life and Death are Wearing Me Out*, which were translated into many languages. In recognition of his phenomenal achievements in literature, the University conferred upon Mr. Mo Yan the degree of Doctor of Literature, *honoris causa*.



Prof. **Wang Shu**, a world-class architect, is the dean and professor of the School of Architecture of the China Academy of Art. In 2012, he became the first Chinese citizen to win the Pritzker Architecture Prize, often referred to as the Nobel Prize of architecture. His buildings have a very rare attribute—a commanding and even, at times, monumental presence, while functioning splendidly. The Ningbo Museum is one of his masterpieces. The University conferred upon Professor Wang the degree of Doctor of Social Science, *honoris causa*, for his exceptional achievements and contributions to the field of architecture.



A specialist in mechanical engineering, Prof. **Zhou Ji** is the president of the Chinese Academy of Engineering. His research interests include the engineering application of optimization design, computer-aided design (CAD), numerical control and computer integrated manufacturing system (CIMS) technologies. During his service as the director-general of the Hubei Provincial Department of Science and Technology, Professor Zhou successfully turned Wuhan into a leading optical science research and manufacturing base, helping the municipality to win the nickname 'China Optical Valley'. The University conferred upon Professor Zhou the degree of Doctor of Science, *honoris causa*, for his remarkable contributions in the field of mechanical engineering and the development of science and technology in China. (Professor Zhou received the honorary degree *in absentia*.)



Citations in full at
www.cpr.cuhk.edu.hk/resources/press/pdf/547ffa1c9902b.pdf





A Date with Warren Buffett

Seventeen MBA students saw their dreams come true when they were chosen to represent the CUHK Business School in a trip to meet investment guru, **Warren Buffett**, in his hometown Omaha in November 2014. They were joined by about 160 students from seven other business schools in the US, and felt honoured to be the only ones from an Asian university.

Led by adjunct finance professor **Thomas R.M. Bain**, the group of CUHK students spent three days in Omaha, meeting and interviewing Buffett, having lunch with him, as well as visiting three companies in the Berkshire Hathaway portfolio: the Nebraska Furniture Mart, Borsheims, and Oriental Trading Company. CUHK's students share a unanimous impression of the wily 84-year-old man as being extremely humble, easily approachable, down-to-earth and humorous.

Investment and Leadership Tips

Burning Questions

The highlight of the meeting was the much anticipated question-and-answer session, during which the CUHK group asked Buffett what he thought of the Alibaba Group and tech-oriented companies as a whole, and what he learned from the worst business decision he has ever made.

To the first question, Buffett's reply indicated the little interest he has in the e-commerce giant—in line with his stance toward social media giants and the difficulty he sees in estimating their future value.

To the second question, Buffett mentioned two bad deals he made while at Berkshire. One was not buying Microsoft early on. The other was when he bought a company called Dexter Shoe Inc. for US\$433 million in the mid-1990s using Berkshire stocks rather than cash.

Despite these mistakes, Buffett was quick to point out the futility of reflecting on 'what might have been'. 'For the mistakes I have made in past I don't spend any time looking back. It is part of the game,' he told the students.



Buffett shared his investment philosophy with the students: Treat investment as a long-term objective. **Marie Li**, a full-time MBA student and a former investment analyst at a leading private equity firm in mainland China, recalled from his speech: 'From Mr. Buffett's perspective, investment and learning are long-term objectives. He focuses on the future earning power of portfolios and never changes his opinion about a stock because of the economic environment.'

As a successful business leader, Buffett also shared many useful tips with the future business leaders in the audience. Some of the take-home advice includes: Be confident, love what you do and do what you love, work hard on communication skills, trust people, be gracious, and give credits where credits are due.



Gaurav Bhatnagar, a full-time MBA student and a former business system analyst, remembered how Buffett's advice on communication came in the form of an interesting anecdote: 'While discussing the importance of good communication skills, he said, "I went through a terrible period myself. I was totally unable to speak when I was in public. When I was in high school I would do whatever to avoid reading. I went down one evening to enrol in Dale Carnegie's course. I gave them a check. I came back, totally lost my nerves and cancelled the check. When I came back to Omaha I was 20 years old. Somewhere I knew I have to go in front of people and talk. I went again to enrol in the course, handed \$100 in cash to them this time and took the course. It changed my life in a very big way.... One week during that course I proposed to a woman who would become my wife. She accepted. In my office it is the only diploma hanging on the wall.'"

Sharing Life's Experience



What surprised the students most was that Buffett had a great deal to share when it came to personal life. **Wendy Wu**, a part-time MBA student and financial head for the China market of a US-listed company, recalled, 'He considers picking the right spouse and raising children to be investments that we should attach great importance to. These two are what we cannot afford to lose, when compared with wrong decisions that lead to investment losses for your company.'



Desmond Tse, a part-time student and a correctional services officer, savoured Buffett's view on the topic of time: 'He believes time is our friend rather than enemy. Perhaps many people expect him to teach us how to draw a perfectly planned schedule and strictly stick to the planned timeline for a successful business. However, his own experience is the opposite. He enjoys a free style in his daily life, reading, thinking, drinking at any time he likes. He proposed to us, "Students, remember to do what you exactly like!"'



After spending three days with Buffett, the CUHK representatives saw how he related to people, and were much humbled by their experience. Professor Bain recalled, 'I was struck at the complete absence of minders or security, and the great personal warmth that Mr. Buffett projected. He remained polite and self-deprecating throughout, providing detailed answers to each and every question.' Bhatnagar added, 'Buffett has lived in the same house since 1958. I got a chance to travel with him in his car, a Cadillac. He doesn't have a driver, or security guards following him. He drives his own car. Isn't it cool?' 📷

Adapted from Vol. 12, *Connect*, published by the CUHK Business School

Gardens of Delight at CUHK

Almost everyone who has been to the Chinese University knows there are organic gardens on the campus. The long-standing scarecrow-guarded ones behind Adam Schall Residence at United College, and outside Chih Hsing Hall at New Asia College are no stranger to many. But these are far from being the only vegetable gardens at CUHK.

An Integrated Teaching Building

In October 2014, a Rooftop Cultivation Project was launched in the rooftop garden at An Integrated Teaching Building of the School of Architecture to promote the growing of edible plants. Participants bring their own pots or potted edible plants to plots designated for their use. They are provided, as necessary, with seedlings, soil, basic instructions and weekly monitoring. Fruits and vegetables grown include lettuce, tomato, Swiss chard, choy sum, eggplant, cabbage, beetroot, broccoli, zucchini, strawberry, fennel and carrot. On 6 February 2015, action star **Donnie Yen** and his spouse **Cissy Wang** were there as the founders of a charity Go.Asia that partnered with the School to launch a luminous harvest-cooking-seed sowing event that aimed at drawing attention to the importance of a low-carbon lifestyle and expressing support for local farming practices.

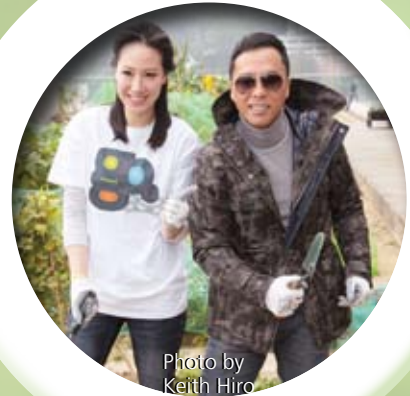


Photo by
Keith Hiro



Photo by
Keith Hiro



University Library

The organic vegetable garden with killer views atop the University Library Extension grows an impressive range of herbs as well as vegetables such as gourd, bush bean, cucumber, radish, corn, lettuce and tomato. The library works closely with two organizations, O-Farm and the Permaculture Institute, to offer training and support to a team of 20 library staff who take care of the garden. Training sessions are run every few months to nurture more gardeners among the staff.

Shaw College

Shaw College is carrying out an aquaponics project called Shawquaponics on the roof of Kuo Mou Hall. Aquaponics is a food production system that combines aquaculture with hydroponics. Aquaculture is the farming of fish, shrimp, and aquatic plants; hydroponics is the growing of plants in water, using nutrient-rich solutions, without soil. In an aquaponics system, water rich in excretion from the aquatic organisms being raised is circulated to the hydroponics section, where it is broken down by nitrification bacteria into nitrates and nitrites. These are subsequently absorbed by the plants as fertilizer. Clean water is then circulated back to the fish tank.



Wu Yee Sun College

There are two rooftop gardens at Wu Yee Sun College, one on top of each block. They are attended to by student volunteers who not only engage in cultivation but also in laying the groundwork. With advice from Prof. **Kwai-cheong Chau**, chairman of the College Campus Environment Committee, the team spent two months growing sun hemp for green manure, then burying it to enrich the soil. The team distributed cherry tomatoes, strawberries and other crops in the lobby. Lettuce from the garden has also been served in salads at the College canteen.



Lee Woo Sing College

Lee Woo Sing College has two attractive rooftop planting areas and a nursery that grow flowers, vegetables and herbs cared for by students. The College recruits an expert from the Agriculture and Fisheries Department who experiments with different species to see which ones are most suitable for the venues. Twice a year, the College hires an instructor from the Produce Green Foundation to teach a class of 20 students the basics of urban farming. Food harvested is sold in the courtyard on Green Woo Sing Day, a green fair that's open to all staff and students of the University.





Other Locations and Events



Atop the Hui Yeung Shing Building on Chung Chi campus, staff of the University General Education Programme grow herbs, ginger, tomatoes and aloe in pots, alongside plots where Prof. **Derek Lai** of the Department of Geography and Resource Management carries out turf experiments. The School of Chinese Medicine operates several herbal gardens, the largest of which lies along the scenic Alumni Trail. The 2,000 sq. m. garden is home to over 500 species of over 2,000 herbs. It is the largest herb garden in Hong Kong that serves to educate and for academic research.

Besides these, the student organization, the CUHK Agricultural Development Group, organizes farm- and farming-related events. A highlight is 'Agricultural Week' which features film screening and talks by farmers of the local green movement, and a tour of farms on campus. 🌱



Students were invited to contribute poems to the I-Care Floral Festival. Some of their works were printed on a revolving lantern

Interweaving Flowers with Poetry, Film and Music



The Chung Brothers, a local band, performing the festival theme song *Those Unplanted Flowers*



With the theme of 'Those Unplanted Flowers', the one-month long I-CARE Floral Festival was held again in March 2015. Activities held included lectures, outings, a reading club, and film screening and sharing, to encourage students and staff to express themselves through music, poetry, words and images.

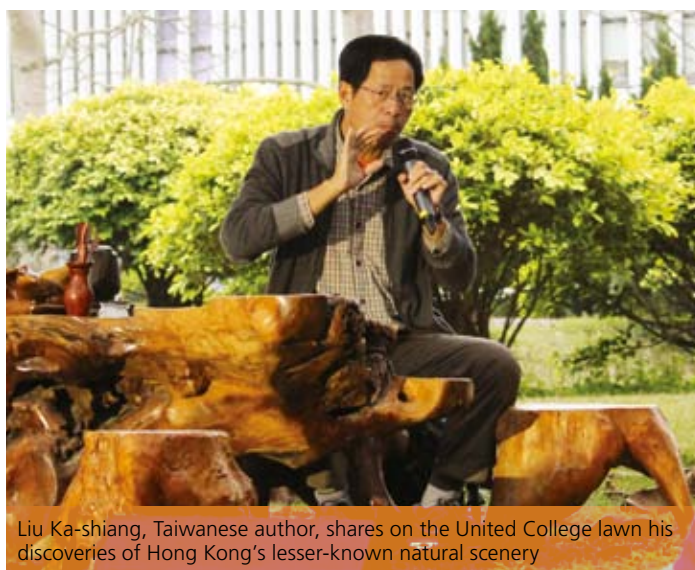
On 2 April, the festival held its finale party beside Lake *Ad Excellentiam*, which was decorated with sculptures and special lighting effects. Chessboards, Chinese tea and traditional Hakka snacks were prepared for participants' enjoyment. On the lawn, students, alumni and teachers shared music and poetry. 🌸



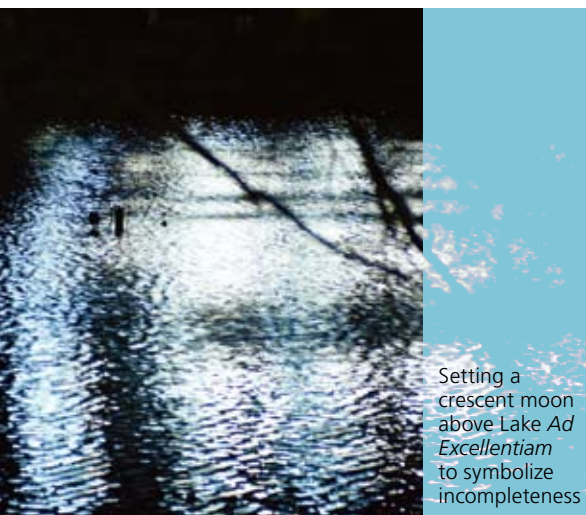
Prof. Joseph J.Y. Sung, Vice-Chancellor, reading a poem by Buddhist monk Hong Yi



After the screening of the film, *Murmur of the Hearts*, Ms. Sylvia Chang (right), director, and Ms. Angelica Lee, actress, share their journey of creation and realization through performance



Liu Ka-shiang, Taiwanese author, shares on the United College lawn his discoveries of Hong Kong's lesser-known natural scenery



Setting a crescent moon above Lake *Ad Excellentiam* to symbolize incompleteness



Night Reading was well attended by CUHK book lovers until its closing at midnight

The Best and the Brightest

On 8 January 2015, the Living Room Museum, located at the open plaza of Times Square in Causeway Bay, celebrated its official opening. The museum is a temporary gallery space designed by Wong Sau-yin Samuel (right) and Wong Chun-kit Marco (left), final year students of the Master of Architecture programme at CUHK. Both won the Times Square Living Room Design Competition organized last year. One of the prizes is the opportunity to launch the two young architects' careers by designing and building their first architectural project in the heart of Hong Kong even prior to their graduation, and to contribute to the city by creating a freely accessible space for the sharing of art, cultural events and exhibitions.



Victories for CUHK Athletes



CUHK athletes achieved excellent results in the Inter-universities Competitions organized by the University Sports Federation of Hong Kong in March 2015. CUHK teams were champions in men's volleyball, women's woodball, women's basketball, women's rugby, and women's badminton.



Eight students from the Department of Mechanical and Automation Engineering designed a prototype vehicle to pick up rocks, surmount obstacles, and bring rocks to designated deposit areas. This won them the championship at the Forth Greater China Design Competition hosted by the Institution of Mechanical Engineers (IMechE) Hong Kong Branch on 21 and 22 March 2015.



Medical Student Wins Grand Prize in FameLab Contest



Year 3 medical student Law Wing-sze Nancy (centre) captured the grand prize with her presentation themed 'Our Internal Biological Clock' at the FameLab competition organized by the British Council, and was voted by all audience as the winner of the Audience Choice Award. She will represent Hong Kong in the FameLab International competition at the Cheltenham Science Festival in the UK in June 2015. Final year physics student Law Yuk-ting Albert (3rd left) was the second runner-up in the competition. 🏆

Photo courtesy of British Council Hong Kong

NEWS *in Brief*

APPOINTMENTS

New/Reappointed Council Members

- Mr. Dickson D.S. Lo, for a period of three years from 27 November 2014, succeeding Mr. Willy S.M. Lin.
- Ms. Cecilia S.W. Lee, for a further period of three years from 27 November 2014.
- Mr. Thomas C.B. Liang, for a period of three years from 15 April 2015, succeeding Mr. Johnson M.D. Cha.



New/Reappointed Pro-Vice-Chancellors

- Prof. Fok Tai-fai has been reappointed as Pro-Vice-Chancellor of the University for a further period from 1 January 2015 to 31 July 2016.
- Prof. Fanny M.C. Cheung has been reappointed as Pro-Vice-Chancellor of the University for a further period from 1 February 2015 to 31 July 2016.
- Prof. Poon Wai-yin, Professor in the Department of Statistics and concurrently Associate Vice-President, has been appointed as Pro-Vice-Chancellor of the University for a period of two years from 1 May 2015.



Reappointment of College Master

Prof. Sir James Mirrlees, (Founding) Master of Morningside College, has been reappointed for a further period of two years from 1 January 2016.

Reappointment of Faculty Dean

Prof. Wong Ching-ping has been reappointed as Dean of the Faculty of Engineering for a further term of three years from 1 February 2015.

Emeritus Professors

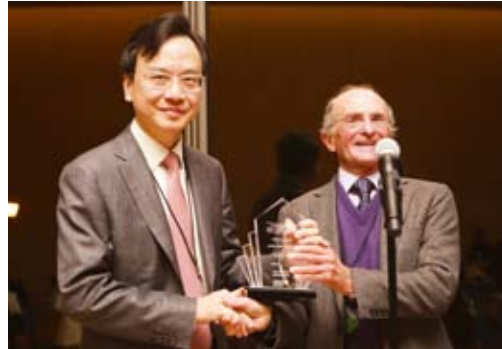
- Prof. Chung Yue-ping, adjunct professor in the Department of Educational Administration and Policy and formerly professor in the department, has been awarded the title of Emeritus Professor, with effect from 24 October 2014.
- Prof. Joseph W.Y. Lau of Faculty of Medicine has been awarded the title of Emeritus Professor with effect from 1 January 2015.



HONOURS AND RECOGNITIONS

Dennis Lo Receives Pioneer Award at Personalized Medicine World Conference

Prof. Lo Yuk-ming Dennis, Li Ka Shing Professor of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Chemical Pathology, was presented the Pioneer Award at the Personalized Medicine World Conference 2015 held in Silicon Valley for his discovery of the presence of cell-free fetal DNA in the plasma of pregnant women and pioneering researches on non-invasive prenatal testing.



CUHK Bags Five Golds at Web Accessibility Recognition Scheme



CUHK received five gold awards in the Web Accessibility Recognition Scheme 2015 in the Website Stream and the Mobile Application Stream, and was voted one of 'My Favourite Websites'. The award presentation ceremony took place at the Central Government Offices on 13 April 2015.

| | |
|--|---|
| Gold Award, Website Stream | The Chinese University of Hong Kong www.cuhk.edu.hk University Gallery www.cuhk.edu.hk/ugallery Communications and Public Relations Office www.cpr.cuhk.edu.hk CUTV www.cpr.cuhk.edu.hk/CUTV |
| Gold Award, Mobile Application Stream | CUHK Mobile |
| Most Favourite Websites | The Chinese University of Hong Kong www.cuhk.edu.hk |

HONOURS AND RECOGNITIONS

Bei Dao Garners Poetry Awards



Prof. Zhao Zhenkai (Bei Dao), honorary professor of the Faculty of Arts, was awarded the Golden Wreath Award, the Struga International Poetry Festival's highest honour, on 20 March 2015. He is the second Chinese poet to receive the award. On 13 May, he was awarded the Cikada Prize which was founded in honour of the Nobel Laureate and Swedish poet Harry Martinson.

Jiang Liwen Twice Named Croucher Senior Research Fellow



Prof. Jiang Liwen, Choh-Ming Li Professor of Life Sciences, has been presented the prestigious Senior Research Fellowship of the Croucher Foundation, in recognition of his outstanding achievements in the international scientific community. Professor Jiang is a plant cell biologist. He and his research team have identified a magic protein that regulates vacuole biogenesis and vacuole-autophagosome-mediated degradation in plant cells. He was awarded the same fellowship in 2009–10.

Unveiling Genome of Dust Mite

The Faculty of Medicine of CUHK, together with the Shenzhen University School of Medicine and the State Key Laboratory of Respiratory Disease in Guangzhou, has made a ground-breaking discovery about the draft genome of *Dermatophagoides (D.) farinae* (one of several dust mite species)



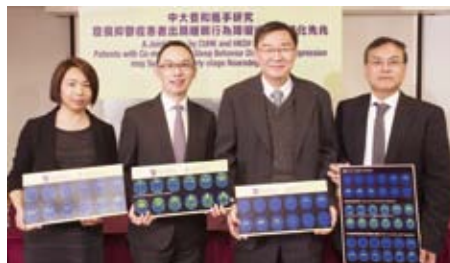
and the microbiota components inside their gut, casting new light on the diagnosis of and interventions in inhalant allergies.

The joint research team, led by Prof. Tsui Kwok-wing Stephen (1st right), School of Biomedical Sciences, discovered eight novel allergens from the *D. farinae* genome. Besides, varieties of bacteria which have not been reported as dust mite-related were detected in the body and gut of *D. farinae*, in particular, the Enterobacter. These residential bacteria inside *D. farinae* are potential allergens that induce inhalant allergy after they are excreted. It is very probable that this discovery will become a new trend in allergy study.

Dream-enacting Behaviour, Depression, and Neurodegeneration

A study jointly conducted by CUHK and Hong Kong Sanatorium & Hospital on the relationship between rapid eye movement sleep behaviour disorder (RBD), depression and neurodegeneration revealed that patients with comorbid RBD and depression may suffer from early phase of neurodegeneration. Early diagnosis is essential for monitoring and treatment of neurodegeneration.

Twenty-nine subjects including cases of comorbid RBD and depression, subjects with depression only and healthy subjects, with a mean age of 47, were recruited for clinical,



polysomnographic assessment and neuroimaging studies. None of them suffered from any clinical sign of Parkinson's disease. However, patients with comorbid RBD and depression had a significantly lower 10–30% dopamine neural transmission than the control group. They also had impaired olfactory function. The findings indicated a distinct possibility that the development of the RBD problems among depressive patients may represent an early phase of neurodegeneration instead of a merely antidepressant-induced condition.

RESEARCH

Physicist Unravels Mystery of Massive Star Formation



Prof. Hua-bai Li of the Department of Physics and his collaborators have revealed a surprising picture showing that magnetic fields is a crucial force in regulating the conversion of clouds to stars. The ground-breaking discovery was based on data collected from a massive star forming site for almost a decade.

At a distance of about 5,500 light years from us in the constellation Scorpius, NGC 6334 (also known as the Cat's Paw Nebula) is the nearest massive star forming site. Prof. Hua-bai Li and his team focused on mapping B-field morphologies in the NGC 6334 region. They found that the B-field direction of NGC 6334 is quite well preserved from large to small scales, implying that self-gravity

and cloud turbulence are not able to significantly alter the field direction. As a result, the cloud and fragmentations at various levels are all flattened along the B-field, and field lines are slightly pinched by the fragmentations at various scales. In other words, the B-field is dynamically important in determining the processes of cloud formation, cloud fragmentation and cloud core formation.



(Photo credit: Sarah Willis, Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics)

Wu Yee Sun College Formally Opens



Wu Yee Sun College (WYS) celebrated its grand opening on 21 November 2014. Officiating at the ceremony were Prof. Joseph J.Y. Sung, CUHK Vice-Chancellor; Dr. Joseph Y.W. Pang, chairman of the College Committee of Overseers; Mr. Arthur Wu, representative from Wu Yee Sun Charitable Foundation Limited; Prof. Rance P.L. Lee, Master of WYS; and Mr. Frankie K.F. Fung, president of the WYS Student Union. Over 350 guests including staff members of the University, benefactors, students and friends witnessed the historical moment of the College.

Chow Tai Fook Charity Foundation Supports Public Health Trainer Project



Chow Tai Fook Charity Foundation has recently donated HK\$1 million in support of the 'Public Health Train-the-Trainer Project in China's Rural Communities' initiated by the Collaborating Centre for Oxford University and CUHK for Disaster and Medical Humanitarian Response (CCOUC).

With the donation from the foundation, CCOUC will provide professional and systematic training programmes to participants of the Wu Zhi Qiao (Bridge to China) project. The two-year project aims to promote public health and effective disaster prevention measures in remote villages and communities in mainland China.

ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

Art Museum Collaborates with Bank of America Merrill Lynch on Paintings Preservation



Bank of America Merrill Lynch funds the Art Museum of CUHK to restore 30 works by Lui Shou-kwan, one of the most innovative and influential painters in Hong Kong in the 20th century, as part of the bank's global Art Conservation Project. The restoration focuses on some of Lui's most important works including his interpretation of classical masterpieces from the 10th to 20th century. Lui's paintings are known to contain important annotations on the meaning and purpose of art, a valuable resource for academics and researchers to better understand his contribution to Hong Kong's artistic traditions. The project is scheduled for completion in 2016.

Naming Ceremony of Li Wei Bo Building, CUHK Shenzhen Research Institute



In appreciation of the long-term support and generous donation of HK\$30 million made by Dr. Li Weibo, chairman and CEO of Glory Harvest Group and honorary chairman of Li Weibo Charitable Foundation, CUHK named its Shenzhen Research Institute main building Li Wei Bo Building.

Opened in 2011, the Li Wei Bo Building, CUHK Shenzhen Research Institute is located in Virtual University Park in the Nanshan District of Shenzhen. The nine-storey building, with a gross floor area of 25,000 sq. m., is equipped with comprehensive facilities for training, research and technology transfer.

Chow Yuk Ho Technology Centre for Innovative Medicine Established



To further sustain innovative research in biomedical engineering focusing on clinical application, CUHK has established the Chow Yuk Ho Technology Centre for Innovative Medicine. It serves as a platform for engineers and clinicians from the Faculty of Engineering and the Faculty of Medicine to encourage academic exchange and collaboration. The opening ceremony was held on 30 January 2015. Officiating guests included Ms. Therese Chow, solicitor, notary public and China appointed attesting officer; Miss Janet Wong, Commissioner for Innovation and Technology; Prof. Joseph J.Y. Sung, CUHK Vice-Chancellor; Prof. Francis Chan, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine; Prof. Irwin King, Associate Dean of the Faculty of Engineering; and Prof. Philip Chiu, director of the Chow Yuk Ho Technology Centre for Innovative Medicine.

Centre for Chinese Classical Learning Opens



With a generous donation of HK\$10 million from the Fung Sun Kwan Chinese Arts Foundation, CUHK has established the new Centre for Chinese Classical Learning under the Faculty of Arts. The donation will be used to support the operation of the centre in the first five years and for the promotion of Chinese classical learning and traditional Chinese values and virtues. With over 100 distinguished guests from the academic, religious, education and commercial sectors in attendance, the inauguration ceremony of the centre was held on 3 March 2015 at Cho Yiu Hall of CUHK.

ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

Prof. Jao Tsung-I's 100th Birthday Celebration



The Chinese University hosted a banquet on 17 March 2015 to celebrate the 100th birthday of Prof. Jao Tsung-I, a world-renowned sinologist. Some 120 guests were in attendance.

On behalf of the University, Prof. Joseph J.Y. Sung, CUHK Vice-Chancellor, presented a scarf embroidered with the CUHK emblem and a piece of calligraphy of a couplet composed by Prof. Yau Shing-tung, Distinguished Professor-at-Large, and calligraphy written by Professor Sung himself to Professor Jao as birthday presents. The Institute of Chinese Studies held an open lecture on 'Memories of My Relations with My *Laoshi* Jao Tsung-I' by Prof. Léon Vandermeersch, distinguished French sinologist, on the afternoon of the same day.

Stanley Ho Big Data Decision Analytics Research Centre

CUHK established the Stanley Ho Big Data Decision Analytics Research Centre, the first among tertiary institutions in Hong Kong, to bring together faculty members and researchers from different disciplines to address challenges posed by the unprecedented volumes of data. Prof. Helen Meng has been appointed as founding director of the centre.



The centre's research aims to address important issues spanning six major areas, namely health care, environment, social networks, finance, logistics and learning. The centre also collaborates with industry partners including IBM and Microsoft.

Territory's First Cloud-based eLearning Platform

The University has launched KEEP (Knowledge & Education Exchange Platform), a cloud-based eLearning platform developed and initiated by CUHK with its partner institutions and funded by the University Grant Committee. KEEP, now open for subscription, aims at offering a personalized educational portal for users to easily search, subscribe and access content related to education from the KEEP Cloud Ecosystem.



CUHK Extends Partnership with Foguang Shan Foundation



Photo courtesy of Foguang Shan

The Venerable Master Hsing Yun of the Foguang Shan and Prof. Joseph J.Y. Sung, CUHK Vice-Chancellor, signed the third agreement of co-operation on 1 April 2015 at Foguang Shan in Taiwan to extend the partnership between the two parties for another five years.

With the generous support from the foundation in 2005, the Centre for the Study of Humanistic Buddhism has been established under the Department of Cultural and Religious Studies, with the aims of engaging in academic research and promoting the beauty of Humanistic Buddhism through a wide range of activities. In 2014, the centre was upgraded and now operates under the auspices of the Faculty of Arts. After the signing of the agreement, the centre will continue to facilitate academic and cultural exchange and development of Humanistic Buddhist studies in Hong Kong and overseas.

Predicting Children's Math Achievement



Prof. David C. Geary, Curators' Professor and Thomas Jefferson Professor of Psychology and Interdisciplinary Neuroscience, University of Missouri, US, was invited to visit United College from 22 to 28 October 2014, as the College's Distinguished Visiting Scholar in 2014–15.

Professor Geary is a notable cognitive developmental and evolutionary psychologist with interests in mathematical learning and sex differences. In the lecture 'Early Predictors of Mathematics Achievement and Achievement Growth', he talked about studies which feature kindergarten to ninth grade and preschool to first grade longitudinal investigations of the cognitive underpinnings of children's mathematical learning and the risk of learning disability. He also covered the study to determine the preschool quantitative knowledge that predicts first-grade numeral knowledge.

Professor Geary is a notable cognitive developmental and evolutionary psychologist with

The Art of Architecture

Mr. Kris Yao, a renowned Taiwanese architect, delivered a lecture on 7 November 2014 as the speaker of the University Lecture on Civility.

Mr. Yao began his lecture by introducing the audience to his ideas of architecture. He used two Chinese words to encapsulate his ideas of architecture. One is 'tang' (hall) and the other is 'ao' (obscurity). According to him, what you see when you open a door of a building is 'tang'; what you don't see in obscurity is 'ao'. 'Tang' is something direct, visible and formal, while 'ao'



is something obscure, imaginary. But he said that they are not opposing ideas. Rather, they are complementary like Yin and Yang. When put together, they represent a whole. Then he quoted some of his projects to illustrate how these two ideas inform and inspire his creation.

Nobel Laureate on New Era of Medicine with iPS Cells

Prof. Shinya Yamanaka, Nobel Laureate in Physiology or Medicine 2012, Shaw Laureate in Life Science and Medicine 2008 and currently director of the Centre for iPS Cell Research and Application in Kyoto University, was invited by the Lui Che Woo Institute of Innovative Medicine at Faculty of Medicine as Dr. Lui Che Woo Distinguished Professor. He delivered a public lecture on 'New Era of Medicine with iPS Cells' on 17 November 2014.



Induced pluripotent stem cells (iPSCs) were originally generated from mouse and human skin fibroblasts by introducing four specific transcription factor genes. Since iPSCs have the ability to proliferate almost indefinitely and differentiate into multiple lineages, they could provide unprecedented opportunities in regenerative medicine, disease modelling, drug screening, and personalized medicine.

Professor Yamanaka and his research team announced the successful generation of mouse iPS cells in 2006 and of human iPS cells in 2007, surmounting the ethical use of human embryos and problems with tissue rejection after implantation.

Global Leader Series



The Global Leader Series, organized by the Business School's Alumni and Corporate Affairs Office, was held on 18 November 2014 at the New World Millennium Hong Kong Hotel. Mr. Charles Li, chief executive of Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Limited, shared his insight and analysis of the 'Shanghai-Hong Kong Stock Connect'. Mr. Li addressed the growing relationship between Hong Kong and China and how the respective markets can be further integrated and mutually beneficial.

Kinoshita Lecture in Architecture



Prof. Jacques Herzog (2nd right), world-famous architect and recipient of the Pritzker Architecture Prize 2001, visited the School of Architecture as guest speaker for the 2015 Kinoshita Lecture in Architecture on 28 January 2015.

The title of the lecture was 'Being with Art', an inspiring talk about Professor Herzog's approach and philosophy when designing spaces for contemporary art. Showing more than a dozen projects spanning 25 years, including museums and institutions located around the world, Professor Herzog transmitted his powerful thoughts to a captivated audience. The last part of the lecture focused on an in-depth explanation of the new M+ Museum Project, part of the West Kowloon Cultural District.

A World of Poetry by Yu Kwang-chung



Prof. Yu Kwang-chung, a well-known Chinese poet and former professor of the Department of Chinese Language and Literature, came back to CUHK to deliver three public lectures under the 28th Ch'ien Mu Lecture in History and Culture series and to celebrate the 65th anniversary of New Asia College. Through the three lectures, which were titled 'Gong Zi-zhen and Shelley', 'A Comparative Study of Chinese and Western Pastoral Poetry', and 'Poetry Recital, with a Brief Introduction to the Art of Poetry Reading', Professor Yu unveiled a fascinating world of Chinese and Western poetry before the audience. 📖



香港中文大學
The Chinese University of Hong Kong



We all like the feel of paper. But this bulletin will increase your carbon footprint. So share a copy with friends or read it online at your own leisure (www.iso.cuhk.edu.hk/english/publications/bulletin/). Thank you for supporting the environment.