



CHINESE UNIVERSITY BULLETIN

No. 2, 2015

Knowledge Delivered
to the Doorstep—
Knowledge Transfer Pro-
ject Fund



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Knowledge Delivered to the Doorstep— Knowledge Transfer Project Fund

Once upon a time, when access to education was largely the privilege of the social élite, it was believed that knowledge should be pursued for its own sake. While there is beauty in that idea still, times have changed. Knowledge is seen as much a means as an end, if not more. The United Nations considers education a fundamental human right, a tool by which the marginalized can lift themselves out of undesirable existences and the privileged can help them do so. Latin and Classical Chinese still have their place in our world, but modern societies also need to create the kind of knowledge that solves real-world problems and brings about practical changes.

Knowledge transfer is often described as a university's 'third mission', after teaching and research. There are many ways to transfer knowledge to society. Traditionally, professors can contribute to the total volume of global knowledge by publishing; they can also patent technology-centred discoveries and inventions, and create start-ups to commercialize them. More recently, they can bring their knowledge directly to the community through the rendering of consultancy services, contract research, or, occasionally, community projects. At The Chinese University of Hong Kong, endeavours related to the last, amongst other knowledge transfer efforts, are taken care of by the Office of Research and Knowledge Transfer Services (ORKTS).





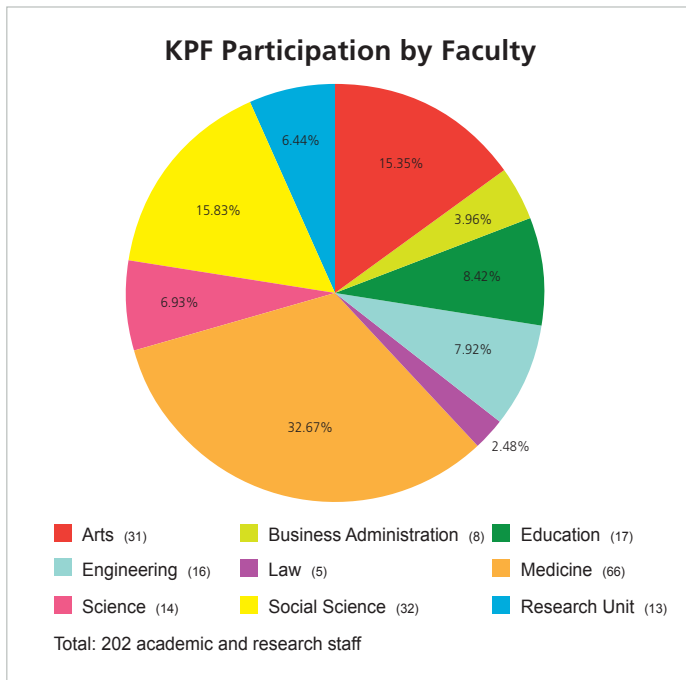
A More Hands-on Type of Knowledge Transfer

The Knowledge Transfer Project Fund (KPF), one of five funds administered by the ORKTS, encourages CUHK researchers to be personally involved in applying knowledge through projects and bringing visible benefits to the community. As opposed to funding for conventional technology transfer activities, it targets community-based projects of any discipline or any combination of disciplines.

According to Dr. **Tony Tsoi**, associate director of the ORKTS, the KPF has supported 130 projects with a total funding of over HK\$32 million since its inception in 2009. Thanks to the fund, over 200 CUHK researchers of all academic areas have transferred their expertise to the local community with promising results.



Dr. Tony Tsoi



Types of KPF Projects

ICON (Inter-disciplinary Collaboration) projects are funded up to \$400,000 each and emphasize interdisciplinary partnership. INSEED (Individual New Initiative) projects are funded up to HK\$150,000 each and are not required to involve more than one academic department. Projects applying for the KPF should fall into one of four key knowledge areas—Culture and Heritage, Environment and Communal Harmony, Healthy Living, and Sustainability and Productivity.



‘Knowledge transfer bridges the gap between town and gown, benefiting both. Our academic research is intended to address global challenges and societal needs. At its best, knowledge transfer leads to the development of new strategic partnerships, the identification of socially relevant research themes, and delivery of our research outputs to benefit our community.’

Prof. Fanny M. Cheung, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research)

Funded projects are chosen by the Knowledge Transfer Committee, headed by Prof. **Fanny M. Cheung**, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research). Criteria include relevance to social needs, level of community engagement, project’s visibility to members of society, likeliness to raise professional standards of the industry involved or awareness and quality of life of the community.

Raising Relevance of Social Impact

The projects’ outcomes, like number of visits made and people reached, are measured, but Dr. Tsoi admits that qualitative impact like behavioural and social change is hard to gauge. He also points out that while the University encourages faculty members to engage in community projects, many of them may consider publishing and securing research grants more relevant to their performance evaluation as academics. That said, more weight may be given to community engagement in the not too distant future. The University Grants Commission’s British model of funding allocation depends on RAE (Research Assessment Exercise) results, but in the UK, the RAE has been replaced by the REF (Research Excellence Framework) which gives more weight to social impact. ‘In Hong Kong, the issue has been raised for discussion. I foresee that the emphasis on social impact will be reflected in the performance evaluation of universities in Hong Kong within 10 years’ time,’ Dr. Tsoi observes.

■ RAE and REF in the UK

In the UK, the Research Assessment Exercise (RAE) was conducted every five years beginning in the mid-1980s to assess the quality of research undertaken by higher education institutions. Each subject area within an institution would make RAE submissions which were subsequently given a rank by an expert panel. These rankings then informed the allocation of QR or quality weighted research funding that the institution would receive from the government. In the 2013–14 academic year, the RAE was replaced by the Research Excellence Framework (REF), which judges research quality not only by number and quality of publications and research grants, but also on the impact of the research project outside academic circles. The new exercise requires university departments to provide case studies proving the social impact of their work. Impact could take the form of public outreach or contribution to the wider community through medical science. In the new framework, the three main elements on which research quality is evaluated carry different weight—output (65%), research environment (15%) and, now, impact (20%).

Way Forward

Dr. Tsoi has hired the Hong Kong Productivity Council to assess the KPF and identify areas for improvement. One area is sustainability. 'For the majority of projects, the impact dwindles and dies once funding is stopped,' he observes. 'The selection committee is faced with a constant dilemma—whether to continue support for successful projects at the expense of new projects or fund new projects at the expense of old ones that have made an impact. I believe that a possible solution may be found in the lessons offered by the overwhelming success of the Technology Start-up Support Scheme for Universities (TSSSU). I think we can consider giving professors and students a seed fund to start social enterprises that will sustain the impact of the projects long after the money has run out.' TSSSU is a new initiative by the Innovation and Technology Commission (ITC) that encourages the funded institutions' professors and students to start technology businesses and commercialize research products. Dr. Tsoi plans to recruit a consultant to help identify impact investors that may be interested in investing in the projects.*

■ What Is Impact Investing?

Impact investing is a sub-category of socially responsible investment that aims at bringing about (measurable) positive social or environmental impact in addition to (measurable) financial gain. While socially responsible investing, as it is commonly understood, focuses on avoiding harm to society and the environment as a result of investment, impact investing actively seeks to make a positive contribution, such as investing in not-for-profit services to the poor, the elderly or minorities, or in clean energy enterprises.



* At the time of going to print, the ORKTS has set up a Sustainable Knowledge Transfer Project Fund (S-KPF) to support proven KPF practitioners to establish sustainable companies or social enterprises that will enable the projects to continue without KPF funding in subsequent years.

Five Successful Practitioners



Past projects funded by the KPF have benefitted students with learning and social difficulties, enhanced public access to information on traditional Chinese medicine, heightened awareness of ageing-related illnesses, and everything in between. In distilling the best practices of knowledge transfer projects, Dr. Tsoi has identified five professors whose projects he believes are exemplary.

Transfer of Humanity Via Music and Psychology



Prof. Agnes Chan



So it's not a myth after all—some autism sufferers may be more musical than the average person. Scientific evidence suggests that despite significant language impairment in autistic people, their ability to process music remains preserved, even enhanced. Music has also been shown to have positive effects on cognition. These are some of the scientific observations that spurred Prof. **Agnes Chan** of the Department of Psychology to launch 'Interactive Concert for Autism', an ICON project that brings together clinical psychology and music to help autistic children express themselves.

Together with another psychologist and a music professor who helped to select musical pieces and musical instruments, Professor Chan organized four two-hour interactive concerts free-of-charge in 2013 and 2014, for close to 2,000 people including autistic or special needs individuals and their families. During the concerts, participants were played music of various genres including classical, pop and Chinese while being encouraged to express themselves by singing, dancing, drawing and jumping. Then tracks composed for the occasion were played and the audience invited to do mind-body exercises.

Finally the audience was encouraged to sit quietly and appreciate music.

The project aimed at providing an innovative, cost-effective and replicable way to encourage autism sufferers to express themselves through the appreciation and playing of music. It was hoped that this would reduce emotional and behavioural problems and enhance competence and psychological well-being. Another aim of the project was to change misconceptions in the community about sufferers and to foster appreciation, respect and empathy for them. The project also produced a book and a website (www.musicautistic.com).

One special needs child remarked after the concert, 'It seems that I have entered into a dream-like musical world.' An autistic child drew his first picture after attending the concert. A mentally retarded participant known for throwing temper tantrums was able to stay calm and relaxed throughout the concert. Professor Chan, a Buddhist, said her motivation for the project came from within herself and she preferred to think of it as 'humanity transfer' rather than 'knowledge transfer'.

Reinforcing Neighbourhood Bonds



'Magic Carpet' in Sai Ying Pun



Prof. Hendrik Tieben



Student interviewing a small grocery shop owner on video in Tin Shui Wai 'Magic Carpet' in Tin Shui Wai

Sai Ying Pun has not been so abuzz with action since the late 19th century when it was a hotbed of brothels and opium dens, thanks to infrastructural changes that include the opening of the Centre Street escalator and the MTR's West Island Line. These have triggered a spate of development in the previously quiet residential neighbourhood. Over in the New Territories, displacement has long been associated with Tin Shui Wai, a stigmatized new town sometimes dubbed Hong Kong's 'city of sadness' for its many social problems stemming from its far-flung location, poor urban planning, and a large lower-class migrant population.

To nurture a sense of belonging in both communities, Prof. **Hendrik Tieben** of the School of Architecture and his collaborators from the School of Journalism and Communication launched the 'Magic Carpet' ICON project in Sai Ying Pun in 2013, and then in Tin Sui Wai in 2014. About 40 student ambassadors from the areas' local secondary schools were recruited to study public spaces and conduct interviews with community members. They then created videos about life in the neighbourhoods, using public screenings of those 50-plus videos, exhibitions of the work process, and social media to encourage

community engagement in urban planning. A series of workshops were also delivered for student participants to learn about the districts' history and present, as well as common journalistic practices like interviewing and video-making.

The project's highlights are two street festivals, one for each neighbourhood, thrown for the enjoyment of the entire community around the time of the Mid-autumn Festival. They comprised an outdoor screening of the videos, as well as exhibitions. Community members watched the videos seated on a makeshift carpet on which colourful cushions were strewn. Professor Tieben nicknamed this outdoor cinema 'Magic Carpet' because it is an open and attractive setting that can be easily transposed to another neighbourhood.

The event was extremely well received in both districts, but Professor Tieben noticed that it caused even more of a stir in Tin Shui Wai as community members were not used to this kind of attention and hence were more curious. In Tin Shui Wai, the screening took place at Tin Sau Bazaar where vendors took the opportunity to cook and share food with visitors and the project team.

An All-encompassing Approach to Fragility Fractures



Talk on fall and fracture prevention



Prof. Leung Kwok-shui



Train-the-trainer workshop

Hong Kong's elderly population is estimated to soar from 13% to 30% in the next 30 years, which will put tremendous pressure on elderly healthcare services in the coming years. A common problem plaguing old people is falls due to loss of muscle mass and strength, and other old age-related degeneration.

Prof. **Leung Kwok-sui** of the Department of Orthopaedics and Traumatology has been treating fragility fractures since 2000. Overwhelmed by the number of patients needing such attention, he launched an INSEED project that devised a one-stop, fall-prevention approach to treating fragility fractures. The comprehensive treatment includes medical consultations on osteoporosis and polypharmacy by general practitioners; tailored fall prevention exercise programmes monitored by a physiotherapist; vibration therapy to accelerate bone healing, enhance muscle strength, improve balance ability, and maintain bone mineral density; and educational talks on fall and fracture prevention.

Professor Leung and his team conducted a study on the efficacy of this approach. Patients of



Exercise class for the elderly

both genders aged between 65 and 80 with fragility fractures at the hip were recruited from two hospitals—one with a multi-disciplinary fracture management setting and one offering conventional care. Patients exhibited significant improvement compared to the control group in terms of mobility and balance ability after one year. Risk of fall was also significantly lower, as was post-fracture risk of fall after one year.

Professor Leung said that though involvement in community projects often required him to work over-time on the weekends and public holidays, passion and persistence saw him through. When asked for ways to improve professors' participation in community projects, he thought perhaps more recognition from the University might do the trick.

Multiculturalism in Action



Celebrating the Nepali new year at New Asia College



Prof. Maria Tam



Members of the Indian community, Mr. and Mrs. Rao (centre, second row), giving a talk on 'Who are the Indians?: Truths and Myths'

Hong Kong's historical ties to the British Commonwealth meant that many Indians and Nepalese have made the city their home since the 19th century and the mid-20th century respectively. Both groups have defended Hong Kong in wars and enriched a predominantly Chinese local life with their food, festivals, customs and art forms. Yet their contribution to local culture has been largely overlooked, and stereotypes and discrimination are all too prevalent.

Prof. **Maria Tam** of the Department of Anthropology took a step towards setting this right with two INSEED projects that strive to enhance understanding of Indian and Nepalese cultures and promoting them as local heritage. This was done by educating young local Chinese. The projects involved the organization of seminars and train-the-trainer seminars, and the creation of information kits. Professor Tam and her team trained 35 CUHK students in knowledge about the meaning and significance of Indian and Nepalese traditions, then these 'student



Field visit to International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON): an experience in Hinduism, Indian food and dress

cultural trainers' gave presentations to 800 local students at four secondary schools. The CUHK students also developed learning kits based on these activities, which were subsequently made available to schools and other groups as tools for cross-cultural learning and liberal studies. In doing so, the researchers hope that efforts at promoting multiculturalism will become self-sustainable.

Professor Tam observes that the quality of ethnic relations in a society is an indicator of social harmony, yet in the process of developing into a cosmopolitan city, Hong Kong has paid little attention to cultural diversity. She believes that cross-cultural knowledge and interaction are foundations for appreciation for cultural differences and ending discrimination against minorities.

Towards Early Detection of Atrial Fibrillation



Prof. Vivian Lee



Students interviewing seniors at an elderly community centre

Atrial fibrillation (AF), an abnormal heartbeat characterized by rapid and irregular beating, ups the risk of stroke and heart disease, and is particularly dangerous for the elderly. Prof. **Vivian Lee** of the School of Pharmacy conducted an ICON project in 2013–14 that created a multidisciplinary platform for reaching out to the community to promote awareness and early detection of AF in Hong Kong’s elderly community. In a previous KPF-funded project, Professor Lee found that 2% of old people may suffer from AF and symptoms such as dizziness and fatigue, but are unaware of the underlying disease.

Professor Lee and her team that included cardiologists disseminated knowledge of AF to 500 elderly subjects, as well as social workers, caretakers for the elderly, and the general public. Public lectures were delivered by physicians and pharmacists on AF and drug management. A summer outreach programme conducted electrocardiographic assessments on users

of elderly community centres throughout the territory, and gauged their drug knowledge and medication adherence. Pharmacists then provided recommendations and patient education accordingly. Workshops were hosted to train social workers, family members and caretakers on how to detect early symptoms of AF and identify those at risk. Publications on AF were developed and uploaded to AMPOULE (www.ampoule.org.hk), an online drug information and enquiry platform built by Professor Lee and operated by the School of Pharmacy, for the benefit of the general public.

Professor Lee advocates an RCT (Research, Clinical Service, Teaching) model for balancing the three main aspects of her job. She believes they can reinforce each other. Data acquired from KPF-funded projects can be used in teaching and application for research grants. The outreach programme she designed for her students can also become a part of the course she is teaching.






By the People, For the People

All projects, whether ICON or INSEED, emphasize partnership with the community. After all, while academics may hold the knowledge, it is community service providers and interest groups who know best what their members need. Most KPF-funded projects engage charities and NGOs, in addition to schools, hospitals and community centres, to help identify project focus and gain access to participants. The five projects quoted, for example, enlisted the assistance of the Hong Kong Bengali Association, the Hong Kong Integrated Nepalese Society, The Conservancy Association Centre for Heritage (CACHE), the Hong Kong Society for the Aged, the Hong Kong Caritas Parents Resource Centre, and St. James' Settlement, among many other groups.

In the transfer of knowledge, those being served are given a say in how they'd like the knowledge to be used for their benefit. In other words, the approach is 'bottom up' and not 'top down'. There's beauty in that idea as well. 📍

Fourteenth Honorary Fellowship Conferment Ceremony



CUHK held its Fourteenth Honorary Fellowship Conferment Ceremony on 11 May 2015. At the ceremony, Dr. Vincent H.C. Cheng, Chairman of the Council, conferred honorary fellowships on five distinguished persons in recognition of their remarkable contributions to the University and the community. 

Mr. Choi Park-lai



Mr. Choi is well-known in both local and overseas Chinese communities for his invaluable contributions to the preservation and development of traditional Chinese folk culture, especially geomancy. His almanac has been widely adopted by Chinese people around the world. Mr. Choi has established the Hong Kong Shun

Lung Yan Chak Foundation, which supported the construction of two hospitals in rural areas of Guangdong, as well as a number of nonprofit schools in Hong Kong, Yunnan and Cambodia. Mr. Choi has made generous donations to the University and Wu Yee Sun College to provide scholarships and bursaries, support for student internship programmes, the I-CARE Programme and professorship schemes, and for the purchase of equipment.

Mr. Lau Chor-tak



Mr. Lau, a prominent entrepreneur and philanthropist, is chairman of the Lau Chor Tak Foundation Limited, managing director of Tak Kee Cotton Yarn Company Limited, and managing director of Fung Shing Land Investment Company Limited. He has supported educational endeavours in Hong Kong and mainland China for over

half a century by establishing many schools in Jiangxi and Ningxia, as well as making munificent donations to local universities. Mr. Lau has made generous donations to support the development of the Institute of Global Economics and Finance of CUHK, including the establishment of the 'Lau Chor Tak Distinguished Lecture on Global Economics and Finance'.

Dr. Li Wai-tat Walton



Dr. Li is the chairman of the Board of Directors and the Medical Superintendent, Hong Kong Sanatorium & Hospital (HKSH), and clinical associate professor (honorary), Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences of CUHK. He obtained his medical qualification in the US and returned to Hong Kong in 1980 to join

the HKSH where he established and headed the Department of Ophthalmology. Under his leadership, HKSH has been affiliated with local tertiary institutions since 1998 to provide clinical attachment opportunities for medical students and launch a full-time nursing programme. In 2013, The Li Shu Fan Medical Foundation, chaired by Dr. Li, established the Li Shu Fan Medical Foundation Professorship in Clinical Oncology at the CUHK Faculty of Medicine in support of research in clinical oncology.

Mr. Yau Ying-sum William



Mr. Yau is the founder and managing director of Ongood Industrial Limited. He has made significant contributions in promoting the garment industry and

actively represents the industry in public service. He is a member of the Executive Committee of the Hong Kong Garment Manufacturers Association and was a member of the Textile and Clothing Training Board of the Vocational Training Council. Mr. Yau has generously donated to CUHK, United College and the CUHK Federation of Alumni Associations to set up a number of scholarships and to support various kinds of student development programmes. He is currently a member of the Board of Trustees of United College and an honorary adviser to the Alumni Association.

Dr. Yu Yui-chiu



An experienced legal professional, Dr. Yu is currently the senior partner of Messrs Yu Tsang & Loong, Solicitors and Notaries Public. He has been a solicitor

of the Supreme Court of England and the Supreme Court of Hong Kong since 1966, a notary public of Hong Kong since 1974, and has been admitted to the Supreme Court of Singapore as well as Victoria, Australia. Dr. Yu has contributed significantly to the legal profession in Hong Kong by taking up various public and community services, including membership of the Disciplinary Committee of the Law Society of Hong Kong and of the Board of Review (Inland Revenue Ordinance) Hong Kong. He has made generous donations to support the development of Shaw College at CUHK in terms of scholarships, bursaries, amenities and facilities renovation, art and culture. He has also served as a member of the Board of Trustees of Shaw College since 2005.

International Recognition for GE Foundation Programme



From left: Dr. Wong Wing-hung, Prof. Leung Mei-yee and Dr. Julie Chiu

This year, The Chinese University of Hong Kong became the first institution outside the US to receive the Exemplary Programme Award for Improving General Education from the Association for General and Liberal Studies (AGLS), in recognition of its commitment to continuously improve teaching and learning approaches in general education based on students' needs and learning outcomes.

Prof. **Leung Mei-yee**, Director of University General Education, and Dr. **Julie Chiu**, Deputy Programme Director, General Education Foundation Programme, CUHK, were presented the award in September in Wisconsin during the AGLS annual meeting (photo), where they spoke of their experiences in developing the general education programme at CUHK.

Talking about what made the Office of University General Education (OUGE) decide to compete for the award, Professor Leung said general education is not a discipline in its own right and different universities have their own ways of developing and teaching it. There's no universal yardstick for measuring their performances. 'We have been paying attention to the education models and assessment methods around the globe. In 2012, the University introduced the General Education Foundation (GEF) Programme. Although it has been well received by students, we are not complacent. Last year we invited



Jerry Gaff, a world renowned general education expert, to review our programme. He was very impressed by the GEF and encouraged us to compete for this award. So we gave it a shot.'

The assessment panel was impressed by CUHK's well-paced implementation of the GEF, its collection of empirical data on learning outcomes, and making step-by-step improvements. They were surprised that a comprehensive research university can develop a foundation programme with relatively low credit requirements that has an extensive and deep impact on all students. One of the panel members even said that it was necessary to review the method of general education reform—conventional sweeping reforms may no longer be desirable, and that perhaps it would be better to learn from CUHK's practice of focusing on small areas as a foundation for learning partnerships hence creating common learning experiences for students.

AGLS's Assessment Criteria

The assessment covers the complete cycle of a programme from its development, implementation, results, to measures for ensuring continuous improvement. An institution competing for the award has to explain:

- how the need for improvement was defined;
- how the improvement scheme dovetailed with missions of the university and met the needs of students;
- whether the curriculum was based on research or empirical data; whether there was participation by different stakeholders;
- whether the implementation was carefully designed; and
- whether there was evidence of improvement in student learning which could facilitate continuous improvement.

Evolution of CUHK's Unique GE Foundation Course

General education at CUHK is composed of University General Education (UGE) Programme and College General Education Programme, and has played an important role in the undergraduate curriculum since the University's founding. Before 2012, the UGE programme was supported by more than 200 courses offered by some 40 academic departments. Students were required to choose courses from each of the four areas—'Chinese Cultural Heritage', 'Nature, Science and Technology', 'Society and Culture', and 'Self and Humanity'.

Seeing that the reversion to the four-year undergraduate curriculum in 2012 would allow more time for in-depth studies, CUHK grasped the opportunity to enhance the continuity of the UGE programme and the common learning experience of its students by raising the credit requirement from 15 to 21 points, and by introducing a six-credit General Education Foundation Programme (GEF). The GEF, unique among local institutions, is a common core programme that was added to the existing design of the UGE and College General Education.

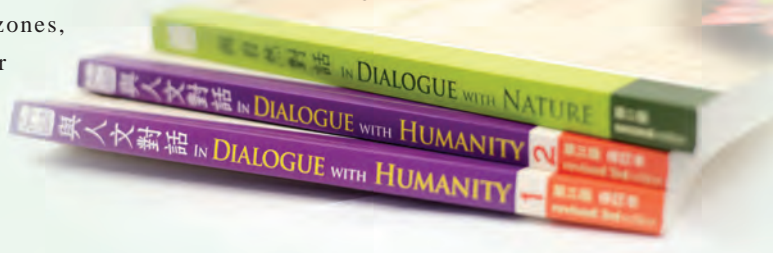
The GEF teaching team was responsible for developing the content, teaching materials and even writing textbooks for the programme. Dr. Lily Chiu said, 'The GEF was first conceived of in 2006, and formally launched in 2012.

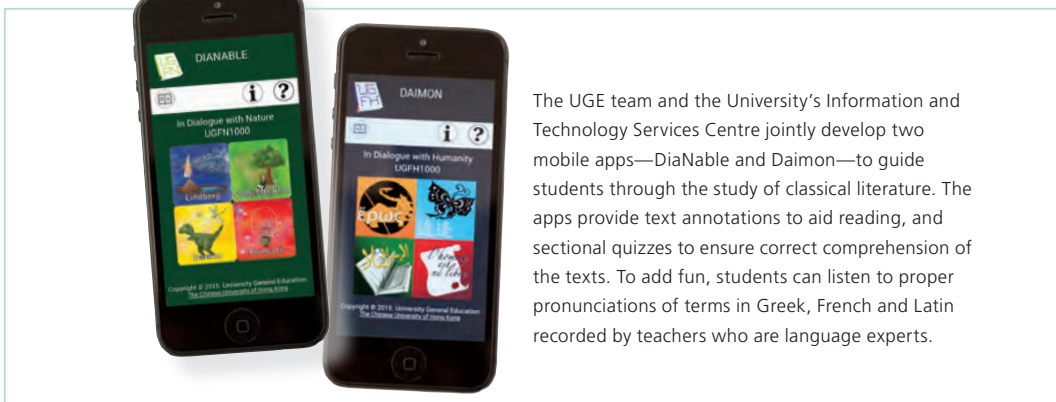
At the beginning, teachers had to leave their comfort zones, divert energy from their

respective specialisms and commit themselves to cross-disciplinary reading. They had to open their ears to new ideas, and to put what they developed into practice. We made several overseas trips to learn from others' experiences and examples. From 2009 to 2011, we offered pilot courses to collect student feedback for further enhancement. The GEF we have today is the result of continuous fine-tuning. Of course we did learn a lot from exemplary models worldwide, but I can say with pride that the unique GEF programme we have here is something only CUHK can offer.'

The GEF programme adopts a cross-disciplinary approach and comprises two compulsory courses, namely 'In Dialogue with Humanity' and 'In Dialogue with Nature'. Its content, firmly rooted in classics of different cultures and periods, encompasses both the sciences and the humanities, connects the present with the past, and brings together the East and the West.

GEF is reading- and writing-intensive and taught in a seminar style, supplemented by mass lectures and online learning. Students are required to take an active role in pre-class reading, in-class discussion and after-class assignment writing. By engaging themselves in interactive dialogues with peers and teachers and critical analyses, students come to understand what wisdom the classics can reveal to the modern age.





The UGE team and the University's Information and Technology Services Centre jointly develop two mobile apps—DiaNable and Daimon—to guide students through the study of classical literature. The apps provide text annotations to aid reading, and sectional quizzes to ensure correct comprehension of the texts. To add fun, students can listen to proper pronunciations of terms in Greek, French and Latin recorded by teachers who are language experts.


In the digital age when people can cut and paste from the Internet whenever they like, GEF requires students to give up second- or third-hand information and to read the classics. On the reading list are excerpts from *Zhuangzi*, the *Koran*, Plato's *Symposium*, Darwin's *The Origin of Species*, and Joseph Needham's *Science and Civilization of China*. The rigorously articulated and intensively paced curriculum poses great challenges to both teaching and learning.

Dr. **Wong Wing-hung**, Associate Director of University General Education, said, 'We had hoped to offer in this compulsory programme something different from secondary school Liberal Studies, and with a breadth and depth that would inspire students from different disciplines who have varying interests and abilities. We were aware that students might find it too difficult and demanding, but the response turned out to be gratifying.'

Since its full implementation in 2012, the GEF has received favourable comments in freshmen evaluations. According to a survey conducted by the University's Centre for Learning Enhancement and Research, freshmen feedback is generally positive. Comments like 'too many readings', 'too difficult' constantly show up. But the students are 'happy to be pushed', to be pressed to think

about serious topics and acquire necessary knowledge they wouldn't otherwise learn due to passiveness. Students might have been reluctant to learn knowledge outside their main subjects initially, but according to comparisons of before- and after-course surveys, both arts students' interest in science and science students' interest in the arts have grown. They value the chance to study classics and consider it mind-opening.

So far, over 20,000 students have enrolled in the programme. The full-time teaching team has been expanded from an initial few to 27. The recent Quality Audit Report of CUHK released by the Quality Assurance Council of the University Grants Committee also commended the quality of the programme.

The GEF Programme offers an important first step to university education. It aims to prepare students to become intellectuals with insight by encouraging them to establish a reading routine, conduct in-depth investigations and debate on serious topics. It can be considered a manifestation of both the mission of CUHK and the ultimate goal of general education—as the primary objective of general education is to broaden students' horizons, while the mission of CUHK is to combine tradition with modernity, and bring together China and the West. 

Exiling Poverty to the Museum



Speaker and moderator of the University Lecture on Civility 2015—Prof. Muhammad Yunus (right), Nobel laureate in peace and founder of Grameen Bank; Prof. James Mirrlees (left), Nobel laureate in economic science and Master of Morningside College, CUHK

On 14 October, Prof. **Muhammad Yunus**, Bengali economist, also known as ‘Banker to the Poor’, was invited to CUHK by the University Lecture on Civility to share his ideas on tackling poverty on the topic ‘Small Loans for a Big Future’.



He is the founder of Grameen Bank that provides microcredit to the poor without requiring guarantees. It is now one of the biggest commercial banks in Bangladesh. Grameen’s model has been adopted in close to 180 projects in over 100 countries. In 2006, Professor Yunus and Grameen Bank were jointly awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.

Professor Yunus (centre) visits the exhibition on global and local poverty hosted by the University Lecture on Civility

‘There is no sophisticated rule, principal, guideline to run my programme. I just look at what the conventional banks are doing, and then I just do the opposite,’ Professor Yunus said. ‘They go to the rich, I go to the poor; they go to the men, I go to the women; they need guarantee, I trust everyone; they open in city centres, I go to the villages.’

Professor Yunus noted that offering charity to the poor fails to tackle problems in the long term. It leads to people distancing themselves from the issue by saying that if the poor worked harder, they wouldn’t be poor. What he does is change the system and help the poor to unlock their potential and fight for their lives.

He is convinced that financial systems could benefit the poor, but we have to change the rules of the game. Grameen Bank is not just a lending institution; it has its own unique

operating model. For instance, it offers loans to women living below the poverty line—over 97% of borrowers are women; there is a list of agreements that borrowers have to agree to follow, such as sending children to school, and keeping the environment clean.

Professor Yunus also hopes to change society through the development of social enterprises. He formed a venture with a food company to produce yogurt that provides rural children many key nutrients; built solar home systems in Bangladesh; promoted mobile communications in Bangladesh to improve the economy. Professor Yunus doesn’t own any shares in these social enterprises. To him, ‘making other people happy is super-happiness’.

He was quite frank about his idea that working for others is very much like slavery. Young people should be job creators not job seekers. ‘People are born to be entrepreneurs. It is a shame if education makes us forget who we were.’ Professor Yunus hopes we will achieve zero poverty, zero unemployment, and zero carbon emission soon. One day our children may have to go to museums to see how we once allowed so many fellow human beings to live in poverty. 📖

Pushing the Frontiers of Minimally Invasive Surgery





Prof. Philip Chiu demonstrates the use of the endoscopic surgical robot to perform ESD



da Vinci® S Surgical System

Twenty-five years ago, Prof. **Chung Sheung-chee Sydney**, former Dean of Medicine at CUHK, performed the first laparoscopic gallbladder removal surgery in Hong Kong at the Prince of Wales Hospital. In 2005, the CUHK Jockey Club Minimally Invasive Surgical Skills Centre (MISSC) was established as a platform to provide training and practising opportunities to surgeons. Today, most operations can be carried out in the form of MIS.

Prof. **Philip Chiu** is the director of MISSC. He said MIS—minimally-invasive surgery, which is performed through the body's orifices such as mouth, nose or anus—has reached a new height. He took the endoscopic submucosal dissection (ESD) he introduced to Hong Kong in 2004 as an example. 'Treating early bowel cancer used to involve removing the entire organ. In endoscopic surgery, doctors remove a tumour and infected tissues nearby through an endoscope which enters through the mouth. The organ remains intact and no incision is made. Patients can eat the day after the operation.'

By traditional apprenticeship training, surgeons were taught to operate directly with their eyes and hands. To perform MIS is to look at a 2D screen to perform a 3D surgery. Surgeons go to classes to observe how operations are done, and to practise using computer simulation. They also have to practise basic surgical steps on animal models. When they are fully acquainted with the procedures and techniques, they are allowed

to assist the chief surgeon to perform simple procedures in a surgery. Eventually they would take charge of the whole surgery under the surveillance of their trainers.

Nowadays, the MIS technique can be applied to stent graft implantation, gallstone removal, bowel cancer, gastric cancer, adrenal gland, liver, lung, and kidney. In 2005 the Department of Surgery introduced the first da Vinci® S Surgical System in Hong Kong, followed by an updated version in 2008. The surgeon at his/her control console now sees a superior 3D high-definition image of the operating field. Last year, the Faculty of Medicine completed Asia's first Gastric Pacemaker implant surgery for a patient suffering from gastroparesis.

'Over the last 10 years, MISSC has trained over 15,000 health care professionals. About 70% are from Hong Kong, and the remaining 30% are from the mainland, South Korea, Japan, Taiwan, Singapore, Australia, etc. The most iconic training programme is on robot-assisted surgical operation. In Asia, only Hong Kong, South Korea, and Japan offer such courses. In 2008, MISSC became Asia's first accredited robotic surgery training centre,' said Professor Chiu.

Earlier this year, the University established the Chow Yuk Ho Technology Centre for Innovative Medicine. The cutting-edge engineering and medical research centre focuses on robotics, imaging and biosensing. It is the latest testimony to the University's commitment to medical innovations. 📺

The Best and the Brightest

CUHK Genetic Engineering Team Wins Gold Again in iGEM

CUHK students won the fourth gold medal at the International Genetic Engineered Machine (iGEM) 2015 Giant Jamboree. This year, the winning project of the CUHK team comprising 13 undergraduate students of science and engineering was named 'Magnetosome Forming *Azotobacter vinelandii*'.

The students devised a synthetic biology system to generate magnetosome, a kind of biological magnetic particles with hundred times surface-to-volume ratio than the current nanoparticles, inside a soil bacterium called *Azotobacter vinelandii* under an intracellular anaerobic condition. This system can absorb metals in contaminated waters and soils, thus making it useful to tackle marine pollution and lead-contaminated water problems. Potentially, it can also be used to extract any protein or enzyme, and therefore may find its applications in food and pharmaceutical industries.



CUHK Wins Top Prizes at Challenge Cup

A team of three students from the School of Life Sciences won the Top Prize and first-class award in life science in July at the 2015 Challenge Cup, Hong Kong University Students Extra-curriculum Technology Contest with their winning project



'Solution for One-step Sewage Treatment'. They were among the 14 teams of CUHK contestants who received the highest share of awards in the contest participated by all local tertiary institutions. Later in November, the CUHK teams received the second top prize, Winners' Cup, in the 14th Challenge Cup held at Guangdong. Among more than 300 universities from mainland China, Hong Kong and Macau, CUHK became the first and only institution in Hong Kong to receive this highest award.

Medical Student Wins Grand Prize in FameLab Contest

Law Wing-sze Nancy (centre), a Year 3 medical student, captured the grand prize at the FameLab competition Hong Kong 2015 on 14 March. The science communication competition was organized by



Courtesy of British Council Hong Kong

the British Council. Nancy was also voted by all audience as the winner of the Audience Choice Award. Themed 'Our Internal Biological Clock'. Her winning performance was about the relationship between the shortening of telomere and ageing.

Research of Crowdsourced Networks Wins NCEL Student Paper Award

The Network Communications and Economics Lab led by Prof. Huang Jianwei (left), Department of Information Engineering, has recently made a comprehensive analysis of users' behaviours in crowdsourced Wi-Fi community networks. Its research team demonstrated that such a novel Wi-Fi network scenario can help to expand the WiFi coverage with a low cost, by incentivizing individual users to share their private home Wi-Fi Access Points with each other. This work won the Best Student Paper Award in IEEE WiOpt 2015, a leading wireless conference focusing on modelling and optimization of wireless networks. The co-authors of this work include Ms. Ma Qian (middle), Dr. Lin Gao (right) from the NCEL, and Prof. Liu Yafeng from the Chinese Academy of Sciences.



Volleyball Champion in University Friendship Games

About 100 students from CUHK, Peking University and the University of Taiwan met in the seventh University Friendship Games hosted by CUHK in October. The CUHK teams clinched gold in men's volleyball and silver in women's basketball.



Eight CUHK Students Awarded Innovation and Technology Scholarship

CUHK students have won a third of the 25 awards under the Innovation and Technology Scholarship Award Scheme organized by the Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups with sponsorship from HSBC and support from the Innovation and



Technology Commission of the Hong Kong SAR Government. The eight awardees were each awarded up to HK\$150,000. The scheme aims to give recognition to outstanding undergraduates in science and engineering fields, and broaden their horizons through overseas attachment, mentorship, local internship and service project programmes.

Fourteen Students Awarded HK Scholarship for Excellence

Fourteen CUHK students (see table) have been selected as the first cohort of awardees of the Hong Kong Scholarship for Excellence Scheme (HKSES) to pursue studies abroad. Offered by the HKSAR Government for three years from 2015–16, HKSES will provide financial support to up to 100 outstanding local students per year to study undergraduate or postgraduate programmes at top-notch universities outside Hong Kong. Each awardee will be awarded up to HK\$250,000 per annum. Apart from academic achievements, selection of HKSES put a special emphasis on the leadership qualities and potential of the candidates as well as their commitment and contribution to Hong Kong. Awardees need to undertake to return to Hong Kong upon graduation to work for at least two years.

Name	Programme	Overseas Institution	Programme Studied at Overseas Institution
Chan Po-ling Catherine	Medicine	Imperial College London	Master of Research on Medical Robotics and Image Guided Intervention
Chan Wing-hei	English	University of St. Andrews	Master of Letters in Modern and Contemporary Literature and Culture
Chor Kai-hei	Music	Guildhall School of Music and Drama	Guildhall Artist Masters – Performance
Chung Hiu-yui	English Studies and English Language Education	University of Cambridge	PhD in Education
Fong Ho-ching	Medicine	Yale University	Bachelor of Arts or Science
Fok Yeung-yeung	BSSc in Sociology MPhil in History	University of Leicester	PhD in Museum Studies
Leung Lok-hang	Government and Public Administration	King's College London	Master of Arts in Geopolitics, Territory and Security
Ng Felicity Wing-ye	LLB and Postgraduate Certificate in Laws	University of Cambridge	Master of Law
Ng Ka-yuet	LLB and Postgraduate Certificate in Laws	University of Oxford	Bachelor of Civil Law
Ng Mo-yin	Translation	University of Manchester	Master of Arts in Translation and Interpreting Studies
Ng Wing-tung Vivienne	BSSc in Psychology	University College London	Master of Science in Development Psychology and Clinical Practice
Tsui Mei-ling Meilina	Music	King's College London	Master of Music (Composition)
Wong Hoi-wan Hugo	Music	Anglia Ruskin University	Master of Music Therapy
Wong Kai-ting	Juris Doctor and Postgraduate Certificate in Laws	London School of Economics and Political Science	Master of Laws

News in Brief

APPOINTMENTS

New/Reappointed Council Members



- Dr. Norman N.P. Leung (1st left) has been nominated by the Chancellor as a member of the Council for a period of three years with effect from 26 June 2015.
- Mr. Enders W.H. Lam (2nd left) and Mr. Anthony T.T. Yuen (middle) have been elected by the Convocation as members of the Council each for a period of three years with effect from 12 July 2015.
- Mr. Alfred W.F. Hau (2nd right) has been elected by the Board of Trustees of Chung Chi College as a member of the Council for the period from 1 August 2015 to 17 October 2017.
- Prof. Huang Yu (1st right) has been elected by the Assembly of Fellows of United College to serve as a member of the Council, succeeding Prof. Stephen H.S. Wong, for a period of three years with effect from 5 September 2015.
- Prof. Dennis K.P. Ng has been re-elected by the Senate as a member of the Council for a further period from 27 August 2015 to 31 July 2018.

Emeritus Professors



- Prof. Chen Hsuan-chih (left) in the Department of Psychology has been awarded the title of Emeritus Professor, with effect from 1 August 2015.
- Prof. Chan Joseph Man (right) in the School of Journalism and Communication has been awarded the title of Emeritus Professor, with effect from 1 August 2015.

CUHK Commended by UGC's Quality Audit



CUHK was commended for its establishment of quality assurance frameworks underpinned by effective use of national and international benchmarking, as well as quality enhancement processes that are relevant to its aspirations

to meet standards of excellence in the second Report of Quality Audit of CUHK. The Report was released by The Quality Assurance Council (QAC) of the University Grants Committee on 18 September.

Eight MoE Higher Education Outstanding Scientific Research Output Awards



CUHK received eight Higher Education Outstanding Scientific Research Output Awards (Science and Technology) for the year 2014 from the Ministry of Education, including two first-class awards and five second-class awards in

natural sciences, as well as one first-class award in scientific and technological progress, making CUHK the university with the highest number of awards received among all local tertiary institutions.

Thirteen Buildings Receive Green Labels from Hong Kong Green Building Council



In the latest GreenMAP published by the Hong Kong Green Building Council, newly constructed buildings in CUHK received 13 Green Building Certificate Labels certified by the Hong Kong Green Building Council, including 5 Platinum,

6 Gold and 2 Bronze. CUHK is top of the list among local tertiary institutions for its distinctive achievements in green buildings certified by the BEAM Society.

CUHK Named World's Most Impactful Research Institution in Telecommunications



CUHK was named one of the ten research institutions in the world with the most impact on telecommunications by Thomson Reuters in 2015. CUHK is also the only Asian institution on the list. The recognition was given to 10 institutions with the highest citation rate of research papers on telecommunications from 2004 to 2014.

Prof. Dennis Lo Honoured with AACC Wallace H. Coulter Lectureship Award

Prof. Dennis Y.M. Lo, Director of the Li Ka Shing Institute of Health Sciences, Li Ka Shing Professor of Medicine and Professor of Chemical Pathology was honoured with the 2015 Wallace H. Coulter Lectureship Award for his pioneering and revolutionary work in the use of plasma DNA to develop a new generation of molecular diagnostics. Prof. Lo is the first Asian to receive this prestigious award presented by the American Association for Clinical Chemistry.



Prof. Malcolm John Underwood Receives International Gold Medal



Prof. Malcolm John Underwood (left), Head of the Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery, Department of Surgery, was awarded the International Gold Medal in 2014 by the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh. He attended the college's diploma ceremony on 24 April to receive the award from its President. The International Gold Medal is one of the most prestigious awards that the college bestows on surgeons of any specialty as a reflection of their contribution to surgery and the college whilst working outside the UK.

Prof. Amos P.K. Tai Receives the WMO Research Award for Young Scientists

Prof. Amos P.K. Tai (right) of the Earth System Science Programme received the United Nations' World Meteorological Organization (WMO) Research Award for Young Scientists 2015. Professor Tai is the first Hong Kong scientist receiving the Award. This prestigious award was conferred on him in recognition of a scientific paper entitled 'Threat to future global food security from climate change and ozone air pollution' published in *Nature Climate Change*.

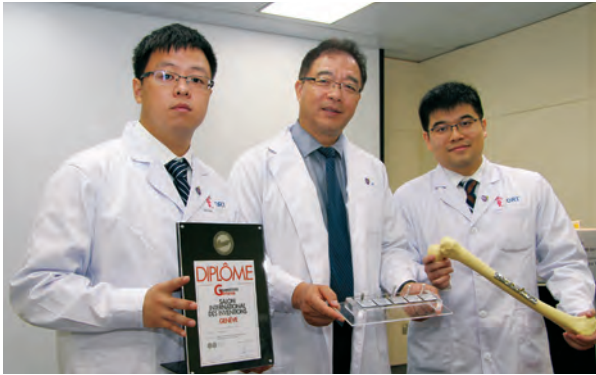


Prof. Diana Lee Inducted as Fellow of American Academy of Nursing



Prof. Diana T.F. Lee, Professor of Nursing, the Nethersole School of Nursing was inducted as a fellow of the American Academy of Nursing at its annual policy conference in Washington, D.C. in October, along with nurse leaders from all over the world.

New Material for Osteoporosis-related Bone Fracture



The Faculty of Medicine developed an innovative bone implant by combining biodegradable magnesium (Mg) and conventional metals, which can be used for bone fixation in patients with osteoporotic fractures. The new material will reduce the healing time and enhance the strength of the fractured bone, both by 30%, and also possibly prevent a second fracture.

The principal investigator Prof. Qin Ling (middle) of the Department of Orthopaedics and Traumatology pointed out that magnesium ions degraded from the Mg-based orthopedic implant stimulate the release of calcitonin gene-related peptide (CGRP), which promotes the osteogenic differentiation of the pluripotent periosteum-derived stem cells (PDSCs) to form new bone and replace the hole left by degraded Mg-based implants. Besides, the use of Mg-based implants is estimated to decrease material costs by 50%.

Interactive Exoskeleton Ankle Robot for Stroke Rehabilitation

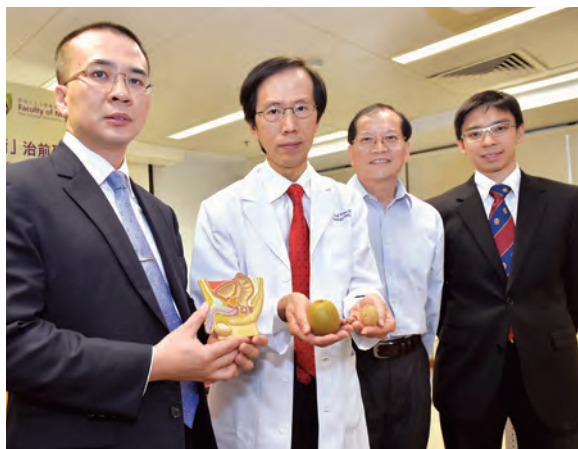
Prof. Raymond Tong (3rd left) of the Department of Electronic Engineering of CUHK and Dr. Wai Hon-wah (3rd right) of the Hong Kong Polytechnic University jointly devised an Interactive Exoskeleton Ankle Robot for rehabilitation of stroke patients with foot drop problem, or people with muscle weakness or joint



problem in the ankle. This active robotic system is light in weight and easy to use. It can be fit on a patient's shank to serve as an exoskeleton to help the patient control his/her leg. The robot can sense a user's gait pattern, and analyse the kinetic and kinematic gait parameters to predict the user's next motion. The robot will then provide power assistance to support ankle joint movement, with proper feedback to enhance the quality and speed.

Artery Embolization to Relieve Symptoms of Benign Prostatic Hyperplasia

Led by Prof. Simon Chun-ho Yu (2nd left), chairman of the Department of Imaging and Interventional Radiology, a research team initiated in 2014 a clinical study on prostatic artery embolization (PAE) which involves the embolization of the prostatic arteries using microspheres of 100 to 300 micron

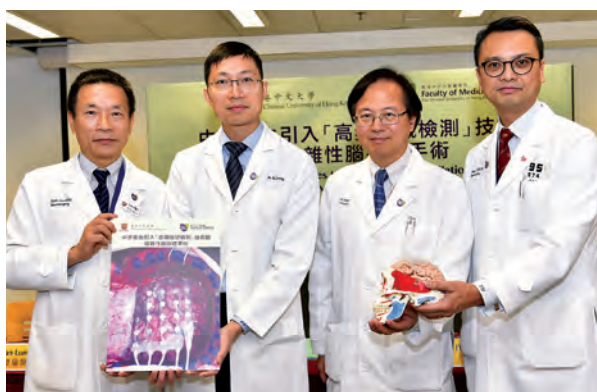


in diameter through superselective catheterization of the arteries under X-ray control. Embolization leads to ischemic necrosis and volume reduction of the prostate. As a result, obstruction to urine outflow from the urinary bladder is relieved. The new treatment was put into clinical trial on benign prostatic hyperplasia (BPH) beginning in June 2015. The preliminary result is encouraging. 90% of the patients could pass urine in two weeks after the treatment.

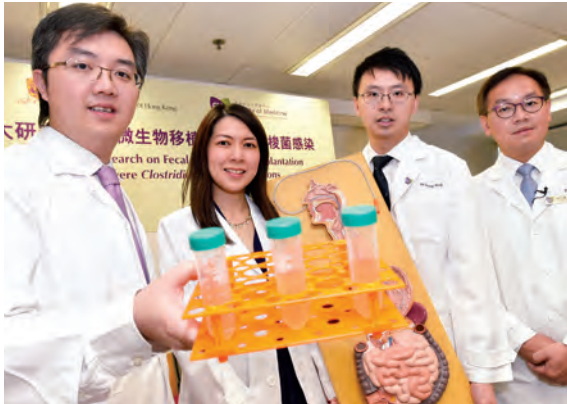
High Frequency Oscillations Technology Increases Effectiveness of Complex Epilepsy Surgery

A study conducted by the Faculty of Medicine reveals that in complex epilepsy surgery, combining intracranial electroencephalography (EEG) and high frequency oscillations (HFOs) technology can accurately determine the focal seizure origin and resection area, thereby increasing the surgical effectiveness.

The Faculty pioneered the use of combined intracranial EEG monitoring and the newly developed HFOs technology in 2012. The sophisticated method collects and analyses electrical signals between 80 and 500Hz at the beginning of a seizure. Findings indicated that it greatly increases the accuracy and effectiveness of complex epilepsy surgery. Up till now, the method has been applied to seven patients suffering from epilepsy with high complexity. Operations have been carried out based on the investigation results, among which 71.4% resulted in a good surgical outcome, achieving an increase of 30% compared with 45.5% when the technology was not used.



FMT Effectiveness Triples that of Conventional Treatment



The gastroenterology team of the Faculty of Medicine has been using Fecal Microbiota Transplantation (FMT) to treat patients with severe *Clostridium difficile* (*C. difficile*) infection. The result reveals a cure rate of over 85% when using FMT, which is significantly higher than that of conventional antibiotic treatment. The procedure involves collection of about 50 to 100g of stool from a healthy donor, followed by dilution with sterile saline and filtration. The

supernatant is then infused to patients through different approaches involving nasoduodenal tube, esophagogastroduodenoscopy or colonoscopy.

Dr. Ng Siew-chien (2nd left) of the Department of Medicine and Therapeutics said the aim of FMT is to introduce healthy microbiota to restore the microbial ecology in the digestive tract. FMT has therapeutic potentials in other diseases including inflammatory bowel disease, irritable bowel syndrome, metabolic diseases and autoimmune diseases.

Simulations and Estimations of Interactions between Human Activities and Global Changes



The Shenzhen Research Institute of CUHK initiated the National Key Basic Research Programme 'Simulations and Estimations of Interactions between Human Activities and Global Changes' in August 2015, with Prof. Lin Hui, director of the Institute of Space and Earth Information Science, as the project's principal scientist. Collaborators of the programme include the Institute of Atmospheric Physics, the Institute of Geographic Sciences and Natural Resources Research of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, and Nanjing Normal University.

The research will focus on international issues that are hard to generate accurate simulation of human activities, and construct an Earth system model that integrates the activities' impacts, so as to simulate and assess the interactions between human activities and global changes.

Dr. Li Dak-sum Donates HK\$100 Million for Chinese Medicine Research

Dr. Li Dak-sum (2nd left) has generously donated HK\$100 million to CUHK to set up an endowment fund named the Li Dak Sum Yip Yio Chin Education Development Fund in support of the University's advancement in Chinese medicine research. In appreciation of Dr. Li's contributions, the University established the Li Dak Sum Yip Yio Chin R&D Centre for Chinese Medicine and named the new wing of the University Library as Li Dak Sum Yip Yio Chin Building. The donation ceremony was held on 18 June with Dr. Li, his wife Mrs. Li Yip Yio-chin (1st left), Dr. Vincent H.C. Cheng (2nd right), Chairman of the Council, and Prof. Joseph J.Y. Sung, Vice-Chancellor.



The Li Dak Sum Yip Yio Chin Scholarships will also be set up with the donation to facilitate academic exchange between CUHK and Fudan University in Shanghai as well as the tertiary institutions in Ningbo, and make awards to outstanding students from families with financial difficulties.

'Best of the Best' Raises HK\$1.6 m for CUHK

Lee Woo Sing College organized 'An Evening with the Best of the Best' at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre on 5 September, with the aim of raising fund for CUHK. The event, featuring singing and dancing performances by over 20 renowned celebrities of Hong Kong, was attended by more than 1,500 guests and attracted HK\$1.6 million in donations.

Performers included College patron Dr. Lee Woo-sing, Dr. Anita Leung, chairman of the College's Committee of Overseers, Dr. Philip Wong, former member of the College's Committee of Overseers, Prof. Joseph J.Y. Sung, Vice-Chancellor of CUHK, the Woo Sing Choir and alumni.



Building Bridge in Chongqing

This summer, the University's I•CARE Wu Zhi Qiao Team, comprising seven students, co-operated with Tsinghua University and Chongqing University to complete a bridge building project in Xingguang Village in Chongqing, an underprivileged rural village in mainland China.

During the nine-day trip, the team also built two water tanks to supply clean water for close to 400 villagers, and carried out facilities renovation and health education promotion in the village to improve their living conditions.



Promoting Women's Health in Qinghai



Women and girls' health in remote rural areas of Yushu Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, Qinghai Province of China is inadequately addressed primarily due to a lack of knowledge and expertise. From 16 to 21 August, the Collaborating Centre for Oxford University and CUHK for Disaster and Medical Humanitarian Response (CCOUC) delivered menstrual health education talks and women hygiene kits to 120 Tibetan girls aged 10 to 13 years. They are students at two boarding schools located in the remote Yege and Qumahe Townships in the autonomous prefecture.

Vision Screening for Hong Kong Children

The Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences of the Faculty of Medicine has been conducting a two-year Hong Kong Children Eye Study since March 2015 to provide free comprehensive vision screening for 3,000 children aged six to eight. Most of the ocular diseases can be detected through the screening programme, such as refractive errors (myopia, hyperopia and astigmatism), strabismus, amblyopia, allergic eye diseases, and colour deficiency as well as pediatric corneal diseases and hereditary retina diseases, which are usually hard to discover. Environmental, lifestyle, and nutritional data of the children are also collected for research proposes. The Department has already examined more than 1,000 children in Wan Chai, Yuen Long and Tin Shui Wai.



Delivering over 1,000 CUHK Mooncakes to the Elderly



CUHK Mooncakes, introduced by the University for the first time this year with 'CUHK' printed on them, have received an overwhelming response from staff, alumni and students. Baked by a local social enterprise, more than 600 boxes were finally sold. For each box sold, a free mooncake was delivered by the CUHK-Care service team to the elderly in Sha Tin and Tai Po. Many of the mooncakes were purchased for donation. As a result, more than 1,000 pieces of CUHK Mooncake were delivered to the elderly. Profit gained from the sales, which amounted to over HK\$50,000, was all donated to support the I•CARE Programme of CUHK.

CUHK Hosts Worldwide Universities Network Conference and AGM

CUHK hosted the Worldwide Universities Network (WUN) Conference and Annual General Meeting from 25 to 30 April. Around 400 delegates joined the conference to assess progress of the network, review and plan its research programmes. The event ended with a presidents forum held at The Chinese University of Hong Kong (Shenzhen), where over 30 WUN presidents and delegates from China considered the reform agendas for higher education in China and the world.



First Conference on Youth Studies

Jointly organized by the Department of Government and Public Administration and the Hong Kong Institute of Asia-Pacific Studies, the first international conference on youth studies in the history of CUHK took place on 30 May. The conference consisted of three panels: 'Youth as Agency in Public Policy Change', 'Youth and Media', and 'Youth and Citizenship'. Four distinguished scholars, Prof.



Howard Williamson, Prof. David Buckingham, Prof. Dr. Tom ter Bogt and Prof. Maurice Devlin were invited to present academic papers and interact with scholars and participants from CUHK and other local tertiary institutions.

International Conference on Labour, Mobility and Development

The Pearl River Delta Social Research Centre of the Department of Sociology co-organized the international conference 'Labour, Mobility and Development in PRD and Beyond' with the Department of Sociology and Social Work of Sun Yat-sen University and the Universities Service Centre for China Studies, CUHK from 5 to 7 June. A number of distinguished scholars from the University of California, Berkeley, the University of Toronto, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Hong Kong Baptist University, Sun Yat-sen University and CUHK delivered keynote speeches. The conference attracted over 100 participants. A total of 40 papers were presented.



Green Economy and Technology Forum

CUHK Jockey Club Initiative Gaia held a forum entitled 'Green Economy and Technology' at Yasumoto International Academic Park on 24 July. The forum, as a part of the Environment and Climate Change Forum Series, gathered experts from different sectors to share knowledge on and insights into green economy and technology. More than 170 participants from the public and private sectors, local schools and tertiary institutions attended the event.



Roundtable Discussion on Promoting Women Leadership in Higher Education

Co-organized by the Gender Research Centre and the Task Force on Women and Family-Friendly Policies at CUHK, the Roundtable Discussion on Promoting Women Leadership in Higher Education was held on 4 August at Cho Yiu Conference Hall. Prof. Janet Beer (4th right, front row), the first female Vice-Chancellor of University of Liverpool, delivered a keynote speech 'Women in Universities: Career Progression, Leadership and Governance' at the roundtable.



CUHK Jockey Club Institute of Ageing Launches Conference

The Jockey Club Institute of Ageing of CUHK held its Launch Conference on 8 October entitled 'Creating Age-Friendly Communities' to enable experience sharing and discussions. The conference was attended by over 300 renowned academics in gerontology from the US, Singapore, Japan, mainland China and Hong Kong, as well as representatives from organizations dedicated to improving the well-being and welfare of the elderly.



Kepler's Originator Hunts for Planets Like Our Own



Principal investigator of NASA's Kepler mission and Shaw Laureate in Astronomy 2015, Mr. William J. Borucki came to Shaw College at CUHK on 25 September to deliver a lecture entitled 'Kepler Space Mission: A Step in the Search for Life in our Galaxy'. Kepler was the brainchild of Borucki that 'was designed to find out whether Earth-size planets are rare or common in our galaxy.' Kepler has discovered more than 4,000 exoplanets since 2009. To detect alien worlds, Borucki thought the best hope lies in finding a planet of similar size to the Earth that orbits a sun like our own.

Lam Woon-kwong on the Bounty



The Honourable Lam Woon-kwong, Convenor of the Non-official Members of the Executive Council of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, delivered a lecture entitled 'The Mutiny on HMS Bounty in 1789: A Justifiable Rebellion?' at the Shaw College Assembly on 23 October. Mr. Lam shared his views on this historical event from various perspectives with more than 1,000 students.

Afforestation Only a Short-term Solution to Global Warming

Inez Fung, Professor of Atmospheric Science at UC Berkeley, visited CUHK as distinguished visiting scholar of United College on 20 October and delivered a talk entitled 'Plants, Water and Climate'. Professor Fung stated that afforestation could only serve as a short-term solution to global warming. It can also cause different outcomes if trees are planted at different areas of the planet and is only effective where there is abundant water. However, according to her research findings, one-third of the planet's large groundwater basins are currently 'in distress'.



Children's Issues Forum

The Third Children's Issues Forum was held on 13 and 14 November. Organized collaboratively between the Faculties of Law of both CUHK and HKU, the Law Society of Hong Kong, the Family Law Association, and with the support of the Hong Kong Bar Association, the forum brought together members of the local and overseas judiciary and legal profession, government officials from Hong



Kong and overseas, health care and child protection professionals, and community and non-profit organizations to consider important issues relating to the welfare, well-being and safety of Hong Kong children. The Hon. Chief Justice Geoffrey Ma Tao-Li (3rd right), GBM, Hong Kong Court of Final Appeal, was invited to deliver a keynote speech.



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