

## CU Researchers Win Recognition and Funding Support

### Medical Student and Scientist Receive AACR Young Investigators Award

Two members of the Nasopharyngeal Carcinoma Research Group of the University's Department of Anatomical and Cellular Pathology, Mr. Andrew S.C. Chan and Dr. Wang Guoli, were recently awarded the Young Investigators Award by the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR).

AACR selects outstanding scientists in cancer research during its annual meetings. These awards enable them to present their papers at the AACR annual meeting and give them the opportunity to forge relationships with scientists around the world.

This year 26 presenters of meritorious abstracts from Asia have been selected by the AACR Programme Committee to receive the 1999 Young Investigators Awards at the annual meeting held in Philadelphia. Three of them were from Hong Kong and two are members of The Chinese University.

Mr. Andrew S.C. Chan is a graduate student researching on 'Genetically Abnormal Clones in Normal Nasopharyngeal Epithelium from Southern Chinese' under the supervision of Prof. Joseph C.K. Lee. Dr. Wang Guoli is working on 'Inhibiting Tumourigenic Potential by Restoring Functional *p16* in NPC Cells'.

### Four Projects Receive Grants from the Croucher Foundation

Four faculty members of CUHK have applied successfully to the Croucher Foundation for funding support of their projects. They are:

- Advanced Study Institute: Neural and Evolutionary Computations for Spatial Data Analysis (HK\$600,300)  
*Principal investigator:* Prof. Leung Yee
- The Eighth International Symposium of the Society of Chinese Bioscientists in America (HK\$100,000)  
*Organizer:* Prof. K.P. Fung for the Department of Biochemistry
- Recent Advances in the Diagnosis and Management of Cancer — A Joint Symposium of the Hong Kong Cancer Institute and the International Academy of Tumour Marker Oncology (HK\$100,000)  
*Organizer:* Prof. Philip Johnson for the Department of Clinical Oncology
- The 20th Asian Conference of Remote Sensing (HK\$100,000)  
*Organizer:* Prof. Lin Hui for the Joint Laboratory for Geoinformation Science

### Physiology Project Receives Support from Population Council, USA

An investigation of the chloride channel blocking effects of Lonidamine and its derivatives in the rat epididymis by Prof. Patrick Wong, professor of physiology, has been awarded a grant of US\$2,000 by the Population Council of the United States.

## Teleconference Between Faculty of Medicine and Shantou University

The Faculty of Medicine and Shantou University Medical College were linked on 6th May for the first ever telemedicine conference between the two universities.

The conference was held to commemorate the opening of the Orthopaedic Learning Centre of the faculty which was made possible by generous donations from Dr. Li Ka Shing and other donors.

At the Shantou end, distinguished participants included Dr. Li Ka Shing himself, Mr. Lin Xingsheng and Mr. Zhuang Lixiang, both vice-chairmen of Shantou University Council, Mr. Zhou Rifang, mayor of Shantou City and chancellor of the Shantou University Council, Prof. P.C. Leung, professor of orthopaedics and traumatology at CUHK, as well as Prof. Bruce Ponder from Cambridge University, who was attending Shantou University's first Visiting Scholar Programme.

At the Prince of Wales Hospital, representing the Faculty of Medicine were Profs. Joseph C.K. Lee, Sydney Chung, Jack Cheng, and Magnus Hjelm.



During the conference, faculty members of the Department of Orthopaedics and Traumatology introduced with case illustration the limb lengthening technique in the treatment of severe limb length inequality in children. The role of the rehabilitation team, consisting of the physiotherapist, occupational therapist, and prosthetist-orthotist, in the management of such cases was explained. The use of CAD/CAM technology in the manufacturing of brace for the treatment of adolescent idiopathic scoliosis was also demonstrated.

## Children Transcend Language and Distance in Virtual Classroom

The University and AT&T are introducing 'Virtual Classroom 1999-2000'. The theme of this year's programme is 'Empowering the Next Generation' and it will aim at heightening the awareness of integrating technology into the Hong Kong education system.

Now in its third year, the AT&T-funded programme is a contest aimed at promoting communication and collaboration among school children across the globe. Students in Hong Kong and countries around the world communicate via the Internet and work on a common project. Last

year the contest drew together 8,000 students worldwide from 300 schools, who worked in teams of three schools each for five months and created some 100 virtual classroom websites based on themes of their own choice. For this reason the programme is also known as 'A Classroom Without Walls'.

This year AT&T is partnering with the University to expand the programme by introducing a new element aimed at raising the awareness of environmental protection among students worldwide.

## WHO Meeting Addresses Exercise for the Elderly

Delegates from 17 countries representing the World Health Organization, international associations, and non-governmental organizations gathered in Hong Kong to identify strategies in promoting



physical activity among the elderly population at the international meeting of WHO partners on active ageing. The meeting was hosted by the CUHK World Health Organization Collaborating Centre for Sports Medicine and Health Promotion from 30th April to 1st May.

At the meeting attention was drawn to the high level of physical inactivity among the elderly in Hong Kong despite notable evidence of the health benefits of physical activity. It was concluded that older persons have a right to be provided with opportunities to be physically active, and society has an obligation to provide the means for older persons to exercise these rights.

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## Biotechnology Research for Better Food and Health



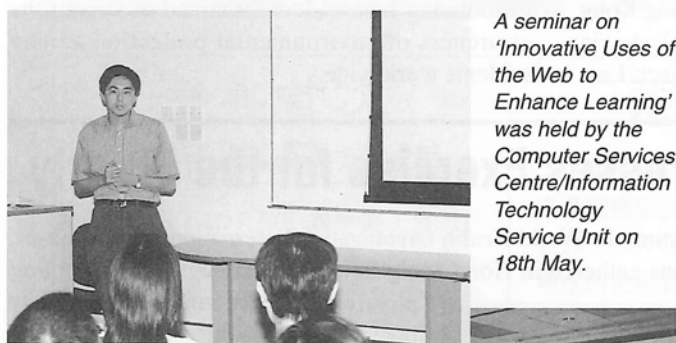
Prof. Samuel Sun introduces the University's research on plant and fungal biotechnology

Plant and fungal biotechnology has been identified as an area of excellence in the Faculty of Science and the University's Department of Biology has founded a research and teaching centre in state-of-the-art plant and fungal biotechnology with representatives from the University of Hong Kong, the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, and Baptist University as associate members.

The new centre will aim at generating crops with improved yield and quantity; producing high-value pharmaceutical, health, and food products; developing novel technologies that can be transferred to the industrial sector, and training innovative and skilled technologists. By the end of the 1998-2001 triennium the centre expects to deliver new species of plants and new strains of fungi with economic potential; gene libraries for selected plant and fungi; clones of novel genes of agricultural, nutritional, or medicinal importance; plants with increased nutritional value and improved metabolic efficiency; high-value genetically-engineered products generated from plant and fungal bioreactors; high-value natural products; and postdoctoral associates and M.Phil. and Ph.D. students knowledgeable and skilful in biotechnology.

The Department of Biology has also founded a Joint Lab on Plant Genetic Engineering in collaboration with Peking University, and established extensive collaborations with mainland Chinese agricultural research units such as the National Hybrid Rice Research and Development centre, the Chinese Academy of Sciences, China Agricultural Society, and the National Engineering Research Centre for Vegetables.

## Web-enhanced Learning



A seminar on 'Innovative Uses of the Web to Enhance Learning' was held by the Computer Services Centre/Information Technology Service Unit on 18th May.

Prof. Michael Chang of the Department of Information Engineering (above) and Prof. Pingping Fu of the Department of Marketing (right) shared their

experience on how to achieve excellence in teaching and learning through the Web. Prof. Fu used WebCT which was launched as a pilot project by CSC/ITSU in March and Prof. Chang demonstrated some Web courseware which he had developed to allow students to learn at their own pace.

## Tackle the Y2K Problem Now

From the Computer Services Centre:

It is only 210 days from Year 2000. At the turn of the millennium, all computer users in the world will face the same danger — their computer systems may not work properly.

In order to save expensive disk storage and speed up program execution, most computer programs, especially those that have been used for a long time, have been using only two digits to represent the year (e.g., '97' for '1997') when dealing with calendar dates. The two-digit year field can be found in operating systems, microcodes, compilers, middlewares, application packages, in-house developed applications, screen formats, and databases. At the turn of the millennium, problem programs will be unable to interpret the digits '00' as the Year 2000, but as Year 1900 instead. If the two-digit year field is handled incorrectly, these programs will fail, or, at the very least, fail to operate properly. In other words these types of programs are not Y2K compliant.

The problem is not confined to software. Hardware devices, which depend on internal electronic logic to handle dates, may encounter the same problem. Therefore you should check if your computer software and hardware are Y2K compliant to avoid any loss of precious data and document files, and to ensure that your future work will not be hindered by the breakdown of software and hardware.

### Check Your Hardware and Software

Academic and administration units should check whether all computer hardware and accompanying systems have been examined either by the staff of the Computer Services Centre or by your LAN administrator for Y2K compliance status. CSC/ITSU began to test all the PCs in early 1998 and has informed all departments to perform the same test for departmental machines. PCs that pass the test have been marked with a colour label reflecting its Y2K compliance status. Checked hardware should bear a green, yellow, or red label. A green label confirms that the hardware is Y2K compliant. A yellow label indicates that some manual adjustment of the system clock is needed at the turn of the century to make the hardware Y2K compliant. A red label means that the hardware is not Y2K compliant and cannot be fixed; it should be replaced. If the Y2K compliance status of the unit's computer hardware and software (both the operating system and the applications) has not been verified, the unit can consult the appropriate staff of the Computer Services Centre/Information Technology Service Unit (see below) or the hardware and software vendors.

#### Microcomputer Systems and Network

Roger So 2609 8836 roger-so@cuhk.edu.hk

#### Microcomputer Applications

Judy Cheung 2609 8920 judy-cheung@cuhk.edu.hk

#### Unix-based Systems

Carol Chiu 2609 8823 carol-chiu@cuhk.edu.hk

Suet Yi Fung 2609 8832 fungsuetyi@cuhk.edu.hk

#### Academic Computing System (ACS) Applications (e.g., SAS, IMSL, MATLAB)

Thomas Tsui 2609 8844 tomtsui@cuhk.edu.hk

#### Registry Applications

Wing Kong Chong 2609 8915 wk-chong@cuhk.edu.hk

Lawrence Leung 2609 8990 lawrencel@cuhk.edu.hk

#### SAP Accounting Applications

Anita Kwong 2609 8872 anitakwong@cuhk.edu.hk

Edmund To 2609 8843 edmund-to@cuhk.edu.hk

#### New Funding Model System, Admission System

Mei Yin Leung 2609 8840 my-leung@cuhk.edu.hk

Sally Wong 2609 8871 sally-wong@cuhk.edu.hk

#### Personnel and Payroll Systems

Michael Chan 2609 8809 michael-chan@cuhk.edu.hk

Edmund To 2609 8843 edmund-to@cuhk.edu.hk

If you have any critical non-Y2K compliant hardware or software that cannot be fixed, you should replace it with Y2K compliant substitutes using your department or unit budget. You should act as soon as possible, as the University's fiscal year ends on 30th June. Beware that you are already running out of time!

### Work Out Your Contingency Plan

No one really knows what will happen when the clock ticks into the new millennium. However, one thing is certain — if you have made a contingency plan for your business applications, the damage will be minimized should these applications fail to work. The essence of a contingency plan is to prepare for possible failures of business applications. You should work out a contingency plan for all your critical business functions, regardless whether or not they have been made Y2K compliant. If you are really running out of time, you must at least have a contingency plan for all critical business applications that have not been made Y2K compliant because of the high possibility of failure.

Furthermore, the single most important thing you must do as part of any contingency plan is to make a full backup copy of all your data by 31st December 1999. This is because non-compliant applications may damage your data, and this backup will be a last defence for your data should that happen.

Lastly, we would like to suggest that all departments should not perform important work on our servers and the e-mail systems between 31st December 1999 and 2nd January 2000. We may need to shut down our systems when carrying out comprehensive checking. Further details about the down time will be announced in late November and you can contact your LAN administrators with any inquiry before or during this period.

In the next issue of the *CUHK Newsletter*, we will let you know about the contingency plan of the centre. You may also take it as a reference in planning for your department. Please refer to the Y2K homepage (<http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/y2k>) or *CSC/ITSU Digest* (<http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/csc/digest>) for the latest information.

## 學院院長選舉結果

## Election of Faculty Deans

醫學院、工商管理學院和社會科學院的院長選舉結果如下：

- 外科講座教授鍾尚志教授獲選為醫學院院長，任期三年，由一九九九年七月一日起生效。
- 決策科學與企業經濟學系羅文鈺教授獲選為工商管理學院院長，任期三年，由一九九九年八月一日起生效。
- 社會工作學講座教授周健林教授獲選連任社會科學院院長，任期三年，由一九九九年八月一日起生效。

- **Faculty of Medicine**

Prof. Sydney Chung, professor of surgery, has been elected Dean of Medicine for a term of three years from 1st July 1999.

- **Faculty of Business Administration**

Prof. Japhet Law, professor in the Department of Decision Sciences and Managerial Economics, has been elected Dean of Business Administration for a term of three years from 1st August 1999.

- **Faculty of Social Science**

Prof. Kenneth K.L. Chau, professor of social work, has been re-elected Dean of Social Science for a term of three years from 1st August 1999.

## 公積金計劃投資成績

## Investment Returns of Staff Superannuation Schemes

財務處公布公積金計劃內各項投資基金於一九九九年四月及截至該月的累積回報如下：

From the Bursary:

The monthly and cumulative returns for April 1999 in the Designated Investment Funds of the 1995 Scheme and 1983 Scheme are as follows:

一九九九年四月 April 1999

基金 Fund	計劃 Scheme		指標回報 Benchmark Return
	1995	1983	
	(未經審核數據 unaudited)		
增長 Growth	9.83%	10.95%	12.34%
平衡 Balanced	7.18%	7.51%	8.79%
穩定 Stable	3.03%	3.38%	3.38%
港元銀行存款	0.54%	0.52%	0.37%
HKD Bank Deposit	(年息 Annualized 6.56%)	(年息 Annualized 6.30%)	(年息 Annualized 4.55%)
美元銀行存款	0.41%	0.42%	0.37%
USD Bank Deposit*	(年息 Annualized 4.78%)	(年息 Annualized 4.83%)	(年息 Annualized 4.49%)

一九九八年七月一日至一九九九年四月三十日 1st July 1998 to 30th April 1999

基金 Fund	計劃 Scheme		指標回報 Benchmark Return
	1995	1983	
	(未經審核數據 unaudited)		
增長 Growth	22.16%	21.34%	35.74%
平衡 Balanced	16.68%	18.35%	27.62%
穩定 Stable	6.48%	8.65%	15.43%
港元銀行存款	7.15%	7.10%	5.23%
HKD Bank Deposit	(年息 Annualized 8.58%)	(年息 Annualized 8.52%)	(年息 Annualized 6.28%)
美元銀行存款	3.51%	3.58%	3.28%
USD Bank Deposit*	(年息 Annualized 5.25%)	(年息 Annualized 5.36%)	(年息 Annualized 4.92%)

\* 一九九八年九月一日開始投資 Launched from 1st September 1998

## 中大評議會召開周年會員大會

香港中文大學評議會常務委員會宣布，本屆周年會員大會訂於一九九九年六月二十六日(星期六)下午三時假中環德輔道中七十七號恒生大廈二十一樓大禮堂舉行。大會議程將包括一般周年會員大會事項，並選舉評議會主席一名，及常務委員會選任委員兩名。當選之評議會常務委員任期三年，由一九九九年九月一日起生效。會後設校友茶會。

凡列名中大評議會名冊之中大校友，即中大學位畢業生及已登記加入評議會之原成員書院文憑或研究院文憑畢業生，均有權出席評議會會員大會，並有投票權。

有意出席上述會議之中大校友，須填覆登記出席表格，截止登記日期為六月二十五日下午六時。有關表格將刊於六月十五日出版之《中大校友》六月號季刊；校友亦可以直接向評議會秘書處索取表格。

已登記出席會議而屆時不克出席之成員，可以書面形式委任其他評議會成員代表出席會議，並就議程中列明之選舉事項投票。委任書表格可向評議會秘書處索取。填妥之委任書必須在會議舉行前四十八小時，以郵寄或傳真送達評議會秘書。

凡中大評議會成員，均可提名或接受提名參選評議會主席及常務委員議席。有意參選或提名參選人者，請即聯絡大學評議會秘書，索取提名表格及《選舉章程》。填妥之提名表格必須於一九九九年六月五日正午十二時前交回評議會秘書處。

成員如欲在周年大會提出討論事項者，須於一九九九年六月十一日下午五時前，以書面通知評議會秘書。

# 宣布事項

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

會議議程連同所有附件，將於會議舉行前一星期郵寄予已登記出席之成員。倘開會前仍未收到議程者，可於會場索取。

大會極歡迎身兼校友的中大教職員出席，參與討論事項，與其他校友溝通、交誼。

查詢請聯絡評議會秘書處：地址「新界沙田香港中文大學」，電話二六零九七八七二，傳真二六零三六二二六或二六零三六九七九。

## Job Titles of Personnel Officers

With effect from 1st June 1999, officers of the Personnel Office will adopt the following job titles:

Grade	Job Title
Senior Assistant Secretary	Assistant Director of Personnel (人事處助理處長)
Assistant Secretary	Personnel Manager (人事主任)
Administrative Assistant	Personnel Manager (人事主任)
Executive Officer	Personnel Officer (助理人事主任)

## Acting Appointment

Prof. K.S. Lau, chairman of the Department of Mathematics, is on leave from 4th June to 1st August 1999. During his leave of absence Prof. Au Kwok-keung (4th-27th June) and Prof. Tam Luen-fai (28th June-1st August) have been appointed as acting chairmen.

## Hong Kong and Guangdong Perspectives of College English Teaching

The English Language Teaching Unit will hold the First Regional Conference on College English Teaching jointly with the College English Teaching and Research Association of Guangdong from 15th to 17th June 1999. The theme of the conference is 'Effective College English Teaching in the Chinese Context'. For more information visit the Website: <http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/eltu/conference/> or contact Ms. Esther Yau at 2609 7559, fax 2603 5157, or e-mail [estheryau@cuhk.edu.hk](mailto:estheryau@cuhk.edu.hk).

## Technology for Teaching and Learning Series: 'Web-based Teaching on Campus'

In order to promote the effective and appropriate use of learning technology in teaching, the Computer Services Centre / Information Technology Service Unit (CSC/ITSU) and the Teaching Development Unit (TDU) will hold a seminar on 'Web-based Teaching on Campus' on 11th June. A series of learning technology seminars and workshops and other related technology available on campus will be introduced.

Details of the seminar are as follows:

Date:	11th June 1999 (Friday)
Time:	2.30 p.m. - 4.30 p.m.
Venue:	LT1, Mong Man Wai Building
Schedule:	2.15 p.m. registration
	2.30 p.m. opening address by Prof. Kenneth Young
	3.00 p.m. 'My Experience of Using the WebCT' by Prof. Pingping Fu, Department of Management
	3.30 p.m. 'Learning Technology Support on Campus' by Mr. Augustine Lo, CSC/ITSU
	4.00 p.m. 'Web-based Teaching - Implementation in September 1999 and Future Plans' by Prof. Kenneth Young

Visit <http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/csc/learning/workshop> or <http://www.fed.cuhk.edu.hk/~tdu> for further information and registration. For enquiries please contact:

Registration:	Ms. Grace Ng	2609 6201	<a href="mailto:graceng@cuhk.edu.hk">graceng@cuhk.edu.hk</a>
Seminar:	Ms. Iris Chan	2609 6998	<a href="mailto:irischan@cuhk.edu.hk">irischan@cuhk.edu.hk</a>
	Ms. Wendy Chan	2609 8881	<a href="mailto:wendychan@cuhk.edu.hk">wendychan@cuhk.edu.hk</a>
Learning technology:	Mr. Augustine Lo	2609 8837	<a href="mailto:augustine@cuhk.edu.hk">augustine@cuhk.edu.hk</a>
	Mr. Stanley Yuen	2609 8905	<a href="mailto:stanley-yuen@cuhk.edu.hk">stanley-yuen@cuhk.edu.hk</a>

## 校外進修學院課程手冊派發途徑

## Obtaining SCS Prospectus

校外進修學院每年於一月初、六月初及八月初分別出版春、夏及秋季的課程手冊，免費派發予公眾人士。九九年夏季課程手冊現已出版。

學院特別情商大學書店及邵逸夫堂協助派發課程手冊，員生可到上述地點索取。同人也可將所屬部門或辦事處名稱、索取數量及收件人等資料，傳真(二三六七二五九三或二七三九二七九七)或電郵([scs@cuhk.edu.hk](mailto:scs@cuhk.edu.hk))至學院的公關部，便可透過校內傳遞，定期收到課程手冊。

The School of Continuing Studies publishes its prospectus three times a year in spring, summer and autumn for free distribution to the public. The prospectus is usually obtainable in early January for the spring term, early June for the summer term and early August for the autumn term. To better serve CUHK staff and students, the school has gained permission from the CUHK branch of Swindon Book Co. Ltd. and Sir Run Run Shaw Hall to assist in the distribution of the prospectus on campus starting from early June 1999. Colleagues may take one copy of the summer prospectus at the University Bookshop and Sir Run Run Shaw Hall. Staff can also request a copy of the prospectus by sending information of recipient, department, and location to the PR section of the school via fax or e-mail. The prospectus will be delivered through internal mail. Please contact Ms. Talon Cheng for further information at 2366 8459 or e-mail [taloncheng@cuhk.edu.hk](mailto:taloncheng@cuhk.edu.hk).

## 大學游泳池消息 University Swimming Pool Notice

大學游泳池於六月十四日至九月五日延長開放時間如下：

第一節：上午八時至下午一時四十分

第二節：下午二時三十分至晚上九時

另，游泳池淺水區於七月五至十六日逢一、二、四、五上午九時三十分至十一時三十分，專供體育部「學生夏季游泳班」之用。

From 14th June to 5th September, the opening hours of the University swimming pool will be as follows:

1st session: 8.00 a.m. – 1.40 p.m.

2nd session: 2.30 p.m. – 9.00 p.m.

The pool is open seven days a week including public holidays.

The shallow end of the pool will be reserved for the summer swimming class for students organized by the Physical Education Unit from 9.30 a.m. to 11.30 a.m. on 5th, 6th, 8th, 9th, 12th, 13th, 15th, and 16th July.

## 膳堂暑期維修工程

### Canteen Overhaul and Renovation Schedule

大學各膳堂將於暑期開展維修工程，暫停開放，敬請留意。

The campus canteens will be closed on the following days inclusive for overhaul and renovation:

## 宣布事項 ANNOUNCEMENTS

范克廉樓	BFC	
咖啡閣	Coffee Shop	12-21.6.1999
地庫快餐店	Fast Food Shop	18.6.1999-1.7.1999
學生及教職員膳堂	Staff and Student Canteens	1.7.1999-1.8.1999
基本醫學大樓小吃店	BMSB Canteen	*
大學賓館	University Guest House	26-31.7.1999
研究院宿舍飯堂	Postgraduate Hall Complex Canteen	*
崇基眾志堂	Chung Chi Tang	1-31.7.1999
崇基教職員聯誼會	CCC Staff Club	1-18.6.1999
新亞學生及教職員膳堂	New Asia College (Staff and Student Canteens)	23.5.1999-13.6.1999
新亞雲起軒	New Asia Yun Chi Hsien	5.7.1999-1.8.1999
聯合學生及教職員膳堂	United College Canteen	1-26.6.1999**
逸夫學生及教職員膳堂	Shaw College Canteen	28.6.1999-6.7.1999

\* 有待公布 To be announced

\*\* 重開日期有待公布 The re-opening date to be announced

## Service to the Community and International Organizations

- Prof. Yeung Yue Man, professor of geography, has been re-appointed as chairman of the Land and Building Advisory Committee for two years from 1st April 1999.
- Mrs. Clara Lee, Director of Student Affairs, has been appointed by the Secretary for Education and Manpower as the institutional representative of CUHK in the Joint Committee on Student Finance for two years from 1st May 1999.
- Prof. Albert Lee, associate professor in the Department of Community and Family Medicine, has been appointed as honorary consultant of family medicine to Kwong Wah Hospital from 1st January 1999 to 31st March 2000. He was also admitted as fellow to The Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene and the Society of Public Health on 25th January 1999.
- Prof. Rance P.L. Lee, professor of sociology, has been invited to continue his membership of the Advisory Board for the Bachelor of Social Sciences (Hons) of Lingnan College for the period 1999-2002.
- Prof. Arthur K.C. Li, Vice-Chancellor, has been invited to continue his membership of the Selection Board of the Ho Leung Ho Lee Foundation until 2002.
- Prof. Joseph Lau, professor of surgery, has been appointed honorary professor by the Second Military Medical University in Shanghai from March 1999.
- Prof. Stephen Chung, professor in the Department of Educational Administration and Policy, has been appointed as guest professor to Suzhou University, China, from March 1999.
- Prof. Dennis Lo, associate professor in the Department of Chemical Pathology, has been admitted as a member of the Royal College of Pathologists from 27th May 1999.
- Prof. Joyce Ma, associate professor in the Department of Social Work, has been appointed as a clinical member of the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy (AAMFT) from 4th September 1999.
- Prof. Lawrence Wong, associate professor in the Department of Medicine and Therapeutics, has been appointed by the Chinese Medical Association as a board committee member of the editorial board of the *Chinese Journal of Neurology* from 8th February 1999.

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## 中大通訊 CUHK NEWSLETTER

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## 樂在中大廿五年

大學圖書館系統羅劉翠紅

當年的少女——我，剛踏出校門便加入中大圖書館服務，在這崗位上默默工作，從建立家庭，到子女成人，這一切都與中大的發展同步並進，可以這樣說：「中大是我的家！」

屈指一算，二十五年了！這畢竟不是一段短的日子！是甚麼原因令我對中大如此留戀呢？主要是所學知識與工作息息相關。我很慶幸能加入這所高等學府工作，而且可以學以致用，體驗這資訊爆炸，知識紛陳之年代的急劇發展。我每天的工作是整理資料及協助中大師生尋找資料，間中也會接待內地來館參觀的學者；而我在工作上取得莫大的滿足感，是來自別人的讚許。



我(後排中)與圖書館館長(後排右一)及部分同事合照

學以致用及優美的校園環境，對我是極有吸引力的工作條件。我就樂在其中，不知你是否也有同感呢？

雖然我已步入中年，但仍覺得心境青春，在工作中真正感到快樂與滿足。我衷心多謝我的良師益友——圖書館參考室的同事們，並希望大家本著敬業樂業的精神，攜手邁向廿一世紀！

## 愛恨交纏

聯合圖書館陳易娟儀

二十五年確是一段漫長的時間。胡忠圖書館是我這二十五年來不斷團團轉的地方，她陪著我成長，也不斷地在改變我。她由一個以人手運作的傳統圖書館轉化為一個先進的電子資訊圖書館，期間我要不停地學習。對比二十五年前和現在的工作方式，是完全改變了。還好，今天的我，沒有被難倒，仍可在資訊世界的工作中應付自如。回想二十五年來的轉變歷程，卻又恍如昨天的事，是又愛又恨的經歷。



前排右一是初加入中大的我，小圖是現在的我。

## 工作愉快

化學系邱李彩珠

我在大學工作不經不覺已廿五年有多。我一直在化學系工作，同事對我都非常之好，我很開心。



## 珍惜

電算機服務中心梁鄧美霞

回顧初加入中大時，我很喜歡這兒鳥語花香，遠離塵囂的環境。當時的電腦部門設於范克廉樓，只有十多名職員，還未能稱得上是一個電腦中心。那裡只有幾部電腦打孔機，一部讀卡機，和一部列印機，而主機是設於尖沙咀東英大廈供港大、理工和中大合用的電腦中心。中大的電腦部門經過廿多年的發展，現已甚有規模，致力協助其他部門電腦化，我更親睹中大電腦網絡及超級電腦的發展過程。而我最感幸運的，是能與一班很好的同事一起工作，非常愉快。我也在不知不覺間在中大渡過了二十多年，我非常珍惜這段歲月。



## 育苗樹人

商務組雷少澤

歲月飛逝，轉眼間我已在中大這個大家庭渡過了二十五個寒暑。我有幸能與一群好同事一起工作，同時經歷了不少人事的變遷。當年新亞書院從九龍搬入馬料水校園之初，曾以鑽土機挖洞而種植的樹苗，如今已長成參天的大樹。至於中大培養的學生，更是數以千、萬計算。今天中大能夠在亞洲著名學府中穩佔一席位，本人與有榮焉。



上圖攝於一九七三年，我初加入中大的第一年。右邊的是林永先生，現任會計組會計主任。下圖是相隔二十五年後的我。



## 兒女經

大學圖書館系統熊堅榮

有時聽同事分享「兒女經」。他們都有同樣的感慨：兒女日漸成長，身體健壯，而自己就日漸衰殘。話是這麼說，他們仍是開心的。

這好比員工與中大的關係。中大早期的電話遇上大雨天就失靈；在圖書館借書要填表，借三十本要填三十份表；崇基的舊建築群處處皆是……這些已成為歷史。現在的電話系統多麼先進，不虞失靈；借書只須經電子掃描，簡單便捷；新的教學樓群矗立崇基校園——中大的確成長了。期盼中大人輩出，邁向新紀元。



這是九六年中在馬會中菜廳餞別同事時攝。我站在後排左三，前排右二是吳余佩嫻女士，她今年也獲長期服務獎。



物理講座教授楊綱凱



文物館林業強(右二)一九八零年杪在館內與利榮森博士(左一)、鄭德坤教授(左二)和屈志仁教授(右一)合照。右圖攝於去年。



科學館及工程學大樓管理委員會陳文梓庄

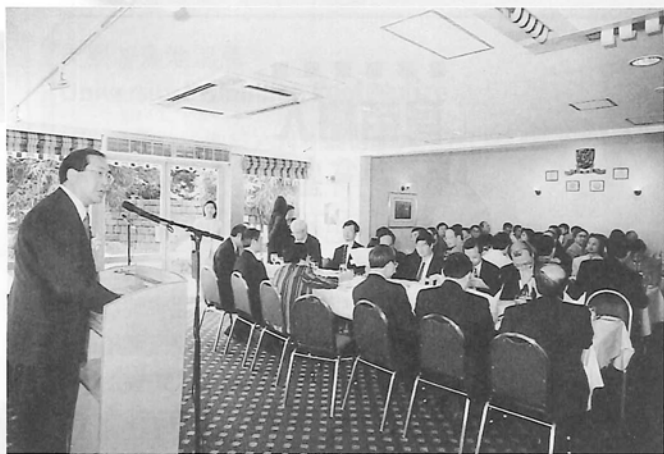


# 六十位同事榮獲長期服務獎

一九九八至九九年度共有六十位同事獲得長期服務獎，打破歷年紀錄。頒獎禮兼聚餐於上月十四日在大學賓館舉行，由李國章校長主持。出席典禮者近百人，包括得獎者暨家屬，以及部門主管，氣氛熱鬧。

李校長致辭時代表校方感謝得獎者把近三分之一的人生貢獻給大學，並與中大一起經歷陽光和風雨，一起成長。他希望同人繼續努力，協助建設中大成為國際一流的大學。李校長隨後逐一頒獎予四十名親領獎項的得獎者，並合照留念。

本屆得獎名單已載於《中大通訊》第一四五期。部分得獎者更應本刊之邀，或撰寫文稿或寄來照片，讓大學同人分享他們廿五年來的工作點滴和得獎心情，本刊謹此致謝。由於篇幅所限，本期只能刊登部分照片和心聲，其餘的於下期刊登。



## 二十五年長期服務有感

日本研究學系余均灼

二十五年來，香港的大專教育和社會都發生了很大的變化。這些變化大部分都是屬於進步的變化，特別是有形的變化如校舍設備和學生人數，確實增加了不少；但無形的質素和風氣又如何呢？浮誇之風，現今瀰漫著整個大專界，甚至整個香港社會。任何事物，倘若我們認為是完美無缺的話，那就沒有進步的空間，也失去生命力。因此，我們不要滿足於現狀，要正視現實，謙卑反省，敢於維護實事求是的踏實風氣，以迎接二十一世紀的挑戰，肩負更大的承擔。願與全校員生共勉。



## 為師不易

政治與行政學講座教授關信基



「政治分析」是一門出了名難唸而且不好拿分數的選修科目。我十幾年前教過幾次，最近三年又重新執教。當年的學生真可愛，求知慾強，好問，指定的參考讀物看完了，還會讀推薦讀物。我很開心。

現在的經驗大不相同。學生的入學考試成績高了，求知慾卻下降了。無論老師如何鼓勵，還是沒幾個學生會發問。指定的參考讀物一年比一年少，但抱怨東西太多太難的學生從來沒少過。

當然，真的用功閱讀指定參考書的學生不會多。今年為了保證學生讀書，我決定於學期開始後的七週，每週授課前先就指定讀物做測驗。結果大多數都讀書，因此對課堂上講的東西也比較容易明白，導修課的討論也比較言之有物了。問題是好景不長，學期下半部因為沒有了測驗，絕大多數的學生又不再看書了。我非常不開心，但是也沒有辦法。

猶記得上課第一天宣布會有測驗之後，原來有七十四人選修的課，一星期後變成只有五十七人。要是我要求「太高」，明年這門課就可能只剩下二、三十人，那我不是跟系方過不去嗎？因為系的預算經費有相當部分是按照修課學生人數來決定的。我總不能為了要學生讀書而嚇跑學系的「顧客」呀！寫到此處，心頭很不是味道。就此擲筆算了。

(近照)



## 懷舊

崇基圖書館  
黃偉深

這張黑白相片是否很有懷舊味道呢？這是二十五年前拍攝的。我和大學圖書館的同事當年出席一個晚宴之後，突然有人提議到影樓拍一張團體照，以作紀念。照片中各人，除了本人(後排右四)及後排右三的女士之外，現在都已離開了中大。此情此景當不可復見，而我也於一九七八年調職至崇基圖書館迄今。



## 滿足

中國語言及文學系楊鍾基

身兼校友和教師，我與中大結緣始於三十六年前大學創立的日子。母校四年的教澤，惠我以賢師的啟迪、良友的



砥礪、學運的衝擊，使我在其後勉為人師的時候，踐履有跡，薪傳有緒。二十五年來，我從這份職業中得到了實現理想、成就事業的滿足。

「誰言寸草心，報得三春暉？」

這分別是與我執教的第一批學生(上)和將於今年畢業的學生(下)的畢業合照

## 工作環境與自信

物業管理處吳家輝

已成立三十多年的中大建築處終於在九八年解體，重組為校園發展處和物業管理處，各有獨立的行政系統。我歸屬物業管理處至今已一年多，日常工作仍是冷氣維修保養——廿多年至今不變。

我極懷念過往在建築處工作的日子，極為欣賞其擁有完整的結構、管理體系和各方面的人才，工作成本效益亦高。再者，在高層嚴謹而親切的領導下，同事之間是相助解決工作上遇到的問題；工作上承擔的心理壓力相對減少，信心增強。在流暢的工作環境下，我持著認真工作的意識及自信，愉快地工作了廿多年！



這是我入職中大時的樣子

(接下頁)

## 宗教系表揚優質教案教師

宗教系上月十五日假李冠春堂舉辦「倫理科、公民科及宗教科優質教案獎勵計劃」頒獎典禮，表揚在有關科目教案製作上有傑出表現的教師。得獎者來自新生命教育協會呂郭碧鳳中學、聖公會李炳中學、新亞中學、瑪利曼中學及天主教培聖中學。他們的教案將經整理後出版，並會存放於「倫理科、公民科及宗教科網站」(<http://www.school.net.hk/~ecre>)，供教師瀏覽及使用。

典禮完畢，宗教系在信和樓地下停車場舉行展覽，展出得獎作品、相關教科書與教學資源，是香港首個以倫理科、公民科及宗教科為專題的大規模展覽，參展機構有二十多個，包括政府部門、民間團體及出版社等。

宗教系今年獲大學教育資助委員會撥款，推行「學校倫理、公民及宗教教育促進計劃」，透過直接支援該科目的中學教師，進一步加強大學與中學的關係，及推動倫理科、公民科及宗教科的發展，提高教學素質。為貫徹該宗旨，宗教系邀請了七所中學的師生組織ECRE服務團，並參與是次頒獎典禮和展覽的籌辦工作。

## 首批中國法律高級文憑畢業生



校外進修學院與中國政法大學成人教育學院合辦之「中國法律高級研究文憑課程」，上月誕生首批畢業生共廿七人，其中十一人出席在北京中國政法大學校園舉行的結業典禮，從中國政法大學副校長趙柏林教授手上親領文憑。該課程按中國律師資格考試之要求而設計，與內地法律專業碩士學位水平相若，為學員投考中國律師資格作好準備。

## 對付千年蟲 立即行動

### 引言

在下一個世紀來臨之際，我們面對一個前所未有的危機：千年蟲將令電腦系統不能正常運作。本中心早於九八年初，便從各種渠道為大家提供有關千年蟲的資料及其解決途徑。二千年將至，同人若仍未解決千年蟲，後患可以無窮。

為節省昂貴的儲存記憶體，及提高程式工作效率，過往的電腦程式都只會用兩個數目字代表年份，例如將「1997」寫成「97」。這種做法廣泛應用於電腦作業系統、應用軟件、編譯器及資料庫等。可是，這種處理法則會令電腦程式將二千年的縮寫「00」誤認為「1900」年，而使到電腦系統不能正常運作。

事實上，這不單會出現於電腦軟件上，其他內置電子日期顯示的硬件，同樣會有問題。所以，同人應該徹底檢查各種電腦軟硬件是否可以過渡二千年，以免因年份出錯而損失電腦檔案資料、數據和文件，或令工作進度受阻。

### 檢查電腦軟硬件

各學系及行政部門負責人必須確保單位內所有電腦軟硬件，已給電算機服務中心/資訊科技服務處的職員或部門局域網主管檢查過，並在硬件貼上紅、黃或綠色的標貼：綠色標貼表示該硬件合乎過渡標準，黃色表示該硬件的系統時鐘仍須修改，而紅色則表示硬件不合規格。不合規格的硬件如未能及時更換，二千年時，必定會受千年蟲影響，請立即聯絡電腦銷售商或電算機服務中心的工作人員：

微機系統及網絡	蘇伯祥先生	內線八八三六
微機應用軟件	張惠萍女士	內線八九二零
UNIX 系統	丘智華女士	內線八八二三
	馮雪儀女士	內線八八三二
研究及教學運算系統的應用軟件 (如SAS, IMSL, MATLAB等)	徐耀明先生	內線八八四四
教務處應用軟件	莊永港先生	內線八九一五
	梁志倫先生	內線八九一五
SAP會計應用軟件	鄭惠芳女士	內線八八七二
	杜國豪先生	內線八八四三
新撥款模式系統及入學組系統	梁美燕女士	內線八八四零
	黃婉芬女士	內線八八七一
人事處系統及薪酬系統	陳承志先生	內線八八零九
	杜國豪先生	內線八八四三

### 財政年度完結前更換

部門若擁有未能過渡但對工作非常重要的電腦軟硬件，應即更換。本財政年度將於六月三十日完結，請把握時機，善用部門本年度的經費。

### 制定應急措施

無人能夠預料二千年來臨時，電腦會出現些甚麼毛病，但可以肯定的是，如能有周詳的應急措施，萬一電腦出現問題，便可把損害減至最少。如果時間不允許制定全面的方案，也應起碼為未合乎過渡標準，但很重要的軟硬件制定應急計劃。

另外，同人應於十二月三十一日前將所有電腦資料、數據及文件備份，以防萬一。

各學系必須注意：由於本中心將會間歇關閉一些電腦系統，進行全面檢查，請不要於一九九九年十二月三十一日至二零零零年一月一日在伺服器或電子郵件系統內進行重要的工作。詳細資料將會於十一月發放，同人也可向所屬部門局域網主管查詢。

有關千年蟲的詳細資料及最新消息，請不時參閱千年蟲網頁(<http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/y2k>)及本中心的電子期刊CSC/ITSU Digest (<http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/csc/digest>)。

電算機服務中心

## 逸夫校友聚會

逾百名逸夫書院校友上月八日出席在中環富麗華酒店舉行的聚舊茶會，交流近況，並向逸夫書院教職員包括院長楊汝萬教授了解母校的發展，以及中大校友網絡。

茶會由校友事務處主辦，特設「校友論壇」，由四名傑出校友任嘉賓，跟與會者分享他們的事業發展和人生體

驗。他們是宏曦投資顧問(香港)有限公司執行董事黃偉豪先生、權智(國際)有限公司主席譚偉豪先生、文化工作者李敏小姐和港大動物系林文量教授。論壇由天主教教育事務處教育事務主教代表助理殷巧兒女士主持。



左起：校友事務主任俞露敏女士、楊汝萬教授、李敏小姐、譚偉豪先生、黃偉豪先生、林文量教授、殷巧兒女士。

## 沒有牆的課室

本校與美國電話及電訊(AT&T)將於九月合作推出「AT&T虛擬教室全球水質研究計劃」，以提高全球中學生對環境的關注。

化學系系主任歐陽植勳教授表示，該活動將連繫各地化學及生物科中學生，從工業區、商業區和住宅區收集河泊、雨水、食水和海水的樣本，並測試各樣本的化學特性。中大負責技術分析，美國電話及電訊則提供網絡，讓學生透過電腦討論交流。

活動為期一年，參與計劃的各地中學有三十五所。這個在互聯網上建立的課室，可讓學生接觸全面性的樣本資料，打破時間和空間的障礙，學習如何有效進行科學研究。

## 新書

### 中文大學出版社

#### 《中醫臟腑概說》

中醫是經過千百年的細心觀察和研究，探索人體與自然的關係，了解人體各種生理活動的平衡運作，從豐富的實際經驗中，得出的一套保健治病理念和方法。在還沒有西醫以前，中醫已經建立了一套完整和成熟的醫學理論體系。



《中醫臟腑概說》是中文大學出版社「中國醫藥文化叢書」之三，之前出版的為《中醫文選》及《中醫學發凡》。這套叢書由香港中文大學中醫學院院長江潤祥教授主編，供中醫藥研究員、中醫師及中醫課程的學生使用。

中醫認為，臟乃人體實質之器官；五臟為心、肝、脾、肺、腎。腑則指人體中帶有空腔之器官；六腑為胃、小腸、大腸、膽、膀胱及三焦。臟腑學說之高深奧妙，就是在於臟與腑之間的活動與連繫(如腎與膀胱)，而臟腑盛衰，更可見於其呈露在身體外面之表現。

此書由梁頌名、榮向路和江潤祥合著，共有六章，分別探討今人及古人對臟腑之觀念、臟腑之間的關係、臟腑辨證與五臟用藥，以及臟腑用方。對於「三焦」的理解，作者提出了科學而嶄新的看法。

梁頌名現任廣州中醫藥大學方劑學首席教授；榮向路現職廣州中醫藥大學。

國際統一書號962-201-821-1，二百廿四頁，平裝本，八十八港元。

### 中國考古藝術研究中心

#### 《東亞玉器》

《東亞玉器》由香港中文大學中國文化研究所中國考古藝術研究中心出版，該中心主任鄧聰主編，共收論文七十七篇，由九十三位來自亞洲、美洲及歐洲研究玉器的學者撰寫。

東亞的玉器文化源遠流長，是東方文化的精粹。歷史上，歐洲、尼羅河谷地、西南亞以至印度，一直奉黃金為尊；東亞大陸以至美洲的蒙古人種則以玉為極品。迄二十世紀，玉和金分別為東西方人類物質文化的最高代表。

東西方文化分庭抗禮，有著悠久的歷史。考古學家指出，從史前時期開始，舊大陸東西兩側已存著多種不同的文化。東西文化的差異始於數百萬年前的早期舊石器時代，當時盛行於非洲、歐洲、西亞和印度的阿舍利文化，在東亞地區始終未顯現。從新石器到金屬時代，東亞玉器文化空前繁榮，而歐洲玉器文化則曇花一現。其後西方世界轉向黃金的文明，東西方文化由是分道揚鑣。

此書運用考古方法分析玉器，強調第一線田野考古資料，並配合玉器礦物學、文獻歷史學、古文字學、美術史學及鑒證學等學科的綜合研究，首次反映東亞古代玉器文化的全貌，並顯示了一萬多年來東亞地區古文化在人類史上的重要性。

國際統一書號962-85303-2-1，一千二百九十五頁(分三冊，兩冊文字，一冊彩版)，硬盒裝，二千港元。查詢請電中文大學出版社(二六零九六五零八)。





## 居港權研究結果

特區政府四月廿八日在立法會公布，有居港權的內地人數超過一百六十七萬；另於五月六日宣稱，若所有合資格的內地人士來港，將會使政府未來十年增加公共開支達七千一百億元。這連串數字使終審法院裁決衍生的法治、民生問題，再次成為社會關注的焦點。

社會科學院的跨學系研究小組自三月開始，一直就「居港權」作多方面的探討，於三月十一日率先公布「市民對終審庭裁決看法」的調查結果(見《中大通訊》第一四三期)；五月初更多次公布三項研究成果，重點內容如下：

### 「市民對居港權爭論及政府表現看法」電話調查

與三月十一日公布的調查相比，這項跟進研究顯示政府公布內地居港權人數後，市民的取態受到影響，認

為「社會整體利益」較「人權法治」重要的比率大幅攀升，由上次約五成增加至五月初的七成二。調查主持黃偉豪教授(政政系)表示，市民明顯被政府公布的數字嚇怕了，對問題的擔憂程度加深。該系參與調查的黃錦就教授認為，調查結果反映了市民對法治的概念是務實的，但他強調：「法律並不是討價還價的。」



左起：社會科學院院長周健林教授、黃錦就教授和黃偉豪教授

### 「內地新來港青少年的學業、心理及家庭狀況之研究」

這項研究由社工系蔡冠華教授，心理學系的梁永亮、何淑嫻和Catherine McBride等教授合作，於五月十一日公布結果：內地新來港青少年(中二或中三學生)的中文及數學水平普遍較本地學生為佳，英文科成績則相若，這打破了

一般人認為前者的學業水平較差的看法。此外，新來港青少年的品行亦較良好，違規行為較少，但值得關注的是，他們有較多情緒問題，例如容易感到緊張和不安。研究人員建議政府加強這方面的支援服務。至於家庭內

的溝通、決策和解決問題等方面，新來港人士家庭不見得比本地家庭有更多的困難和問題。

### 「居港權問題對本港失業、工資及人口的影響」(註)

經濟學系廖柏偉、張俊森、莊太量及梁嘉銳等教授從理論分析了「新移民」對失業和工資的影響，並佐以以色列移民潮、古巴難民赴美國邁亞密，以及香港八十年代初的越南難民經驗。港府估計第一代港人內地子女來港，失業率將上升十個百分點。研究人員均認為這是過於簡單的計算，若首批七十萬人未來三年全數來港，只會令失業率上升四至五個百分點。但新移民卻可增加內部需求，刺激投資，帶動工資和就業職位上升。他們也指出，新移民會對基本設施帶來財政負擔。除法理層面的討論外，他們在五月十一日的記者會上，亦提出多項建議供政府參考，包括修改現行綜援規定、請求內地保留來港移民的戶籍等。他們又指出，在考慮如何處理這個問題時，人道主義(家庭團聚)與經濟發展之間應作出平衡。

「居港權」的爭論牽涉的課題甚廣，透過上述的探討，社會科學院希望收到拋磚引玉之效，引發各界人士就此繼續發表意見。

註：廖柏偉教授在五月十一日立法會內務委員會會議上，提出了這項研究的部分觀點，供政府參考。政府於五月十八日公布由人大解釋《基本法》，作為解決居港權問題的方法。

## 內地傑出科研報告會



何梁何利基金第二屆學術報告會上月六及七日在祖堯堂舉行，由十二名內地傑出科學家匯報各自的科研成果。會議主禮嘉賓包括國務院參事室主任徐志堅先生(右二)、國家科學技術部副部長惠永正教授(左二)、國家自然科學基金委員會主任張存浩教授(右一)和香港中文大學李國章校長(左一)。

今次學術報告會涵蓋的範疇有材料科學，電子訊息與空間技術，物理、地球與氣象科學，以及醫學與生命科學。

何梁何利基金是由何善衡慈善基金會有限公司、梁鈺琚博士、何添博士，以及利國偉博士的偉倫基金有限公司成立；他們本著崇尚科學、振興中華的熱忱，各捐資一億港元，設立這個科技獎勵基金，以獎勵取得傑出成就的中國科技工作者，加速國家現代化。

## 港粵首次遠程醫學會議

本校及汕頭大學的醫學院上月六日首次召開港粵遠程醫學會議，並為兩名骨科病人會診，以誌慶本校矯形外科及創傷學進修培訓中心的啟用，該中心獲汕大校董會名譽主席李嘉誠博士等慷慨捐助成立。

中大矯形外科及創傷學系以雙腿嚴重長短不一的病例，闡述肢體延長術的療效，又介紹由物理治療師、職業治療師和義肢矯形師組成的康復隊伍，在治療過程中所起的作用，另解述如何以電腦輔助設計及生產技術製造支架，治療青少年突發性脊柱側彎。汕大的專家亦以一個骨科病人康復的案例，與本校的醫生交流。

## 兩名年青腫瘤科學家獲獎

病理解剖及細胞學系鼻咽癌研究小組兩名成員，本年四月獲美國癌症研究協會的伊藤園株式會社青年學者獎，並出席該會在美國費城舉行的年會。

美國癌症研究協會每年都會表揚各地從事腫瘤研究的傑出科學家。於一九九八年設立的「美國癌症研究協會—伊藤園株式會社青年學者獎」，專用以獎勵來自亞洲的優秀論文作者，資助他們參加該會的年會，發表論文並與其他學者交流。

一九九九年共有廿六名亞洲青年科學家獲得該獎項，其中三人來自香港，中大佔了兩名：陳肇聰先生(左)和王國麗博士(右)。陳先生是本校研究生，師承李川軍教授，他獲獎的論文題為「華南地區鼻咽上皮細胞異常基因的發現」；王博士則以「p16基因在鼻咽癌細胞中的抑制功能研究」一文獲獎。



## 植物與真菌生物技術發展

生物系上月十七日召開記者招待會，介紹中大其中一個卓越學科領域——植物與真菌生物技術——的發展。

生物系系主任辛世文教授表示，發展基因技術食品，可解決全球即將面對糧食不足的問題，更可生產一些具醫療保健效用的食品。中國的耕地佔世界耕地總面積的百分之七，卻養活世界超過兩成人口，但中國人口仍不斷膨脹，耕地卻逐漸減少，糧食壓力很大。

植物與真菌生物技術主要用以促進植物基因工程的研究及其在農業、醫藥和環境方面的應用。生物系已與北大生命學院合設植物基因工程聯合實驗室，又與國家雜交水稻工程技術研究中心，中國農業科學院作物品種資源、育種栽培及水稻研究所，中國農業大學，以及國家蔬菜系統工程研究中心等內地重要科研單位，建立了密切合作關係，利用先進的生物技術和設備，以及內地豐富的生物資源和經長期篩選的優良品種作試材，培養能適應本土氣候、土壤、育種環境與條件的食品，如水稻、大豆和蔬菜等。

辛教授說，經基因改良的食品甚或可配合部分人士的健康需要，例如可供糖尿病患者享用的低糖西瓜，加重蛋白質含量的稻米等。

大學教育資助委員會致力在香港建立國際級的卓越學科，以促進香港社會及經濟的發展。該會最近從八所本地大專院校提交的四十一項卓越學科資助申請中，選出八項進入最後遴選階段，最終選出不多於五項予以資助。本校的「植物與真菌生物技術」為八個入選項目之一。