



理學院通訊

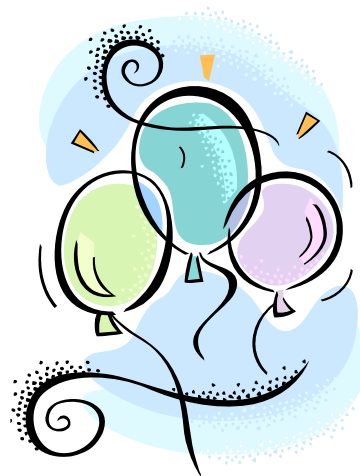
Newsletter



二〇〇九年九月第廿九期

ISSUE 29, SEPTEMBER 2009

The Faculty has a New Dean!



Professor NG Cheuk-yiu has been appointed as Dean of Science for a term of five years from 1 September 2009 on a full-time basis.

Before joining CUHK, Professor Ng Cheuk-yiu was a Distinguished Professor of the Department of Chemistry, University of California (UC), Davis. After obtaining his BSc degree from CUHK in 1971, Prof. Ng pursued further studies in physical chemistry at the University of Chicago under the guidance of Prof. Lee Yuan-tseh (a co-winner of the 1986 Nobel Prize in Chemistry). In 1973, Prof. Ng followed the relocation of Prof. Lee to UC Berkeley where he received his PhD degree in physical chemistry in 1976.

Professor Ng is known for his pioneering experimental research in high-resolution vacuum ultraviolet photoionization mass spectrometry, photoelectron spectroscopy, photodissociation dynamics, laser chemistry, and ion-molecule reaction dynamics. Other than the fundamental value, his research has significant relevance to the fields of mass spectrometry, combustion chemistry, atmospheric chemistry, and astrochemistry. As recognitions of his academic achievements, he was named Alfred P. Sloan Foundation Fellow and Camille and Henry Dreyfus Teacher-Scholar, and was conferred the Alexander von Humboldt Senior Scientist Award.

Professor Ng has always been enthusiastic about contributing to scientific developments in Hong Kong, mainland China and Taiwan. He served as the visiting examiner of the Chemistry Department of CUHK





from 1994 to 1997 and a member of the external visiting review committees of the Chemistry Department of National Taiwan University in 1998 and 2004. He has been honorary Professor of Zhengzhou University, China since 1985 and has served as the Director (Honorary) of the National Synchrotron Radiation Laboratory of the University of Science and Technology of China from 2005 to 2009. He also visited CUHK as the Siu Lien Ling Wong Visiting Fellow 2008-09 of Chung Chi College earlier this year.

Here's a message from your Dean:

“Science education is the key to technological innovations, which fuel the economic growth in a modern society. The Science Faculty is traditionally among the strongest faculties at CUHK and has established an excellent reputation in science education. The main goal of the teaching programs is to offer a liberal arts education for our students. In addition to providing our students with a rigorous training in the natural science subjects, we also emphasize the preparation of our students with the abilities to think independently, to make sound judgments, and to come up with novel ideas in order to solve complex problems encountered in a modern society.

As an alumnus of CUHK, I am very excited to have the opportunity to return and serve as Dean of Science. Many departments in the Faculty of Science, among the strongest at CUHK, are of world-class status. I look forward to working closely with the science faculty, staff, and students to make CUHK a fun and exciting place for higher learning and creative research.”

Groundbreaking Discovery in Semiconducting Nanowires Advances Nanotechnology



Professor LI Quan (second from right, front row) and her research team, among which Professor ZHANG Zhihua (first from left, back row) is the first author of the research paper.

Professor LI Quan of the Physics Department and her research team have discovered that cobalt-doped nanowires made of zinc oxide have intrinsic ferromagnetic characteristics, and therefore, in principle, work like tiny bar magnets. The production of magnetic semiconducting nanowires may open the door to spintronics in the medium term. Spintronic semiconductors can switch much faster than common electronic components and they need only a fraction of the energy.

Spintronics is a new field in semiconductor physics. The importance of spintronics is illustrated by the fact that the 2007 Nobel Prize in Physics was awarded to Professors Albert Fert and Peter Grünberg for their discovery of Giant Magnetoresistance (GMR). GMR, a spintronic effect, is now widely used for increasing the capacity of hard disks in desktop and laptop computers up to 1000GB and beyond.



Staff List 2009-10

| Department/Programme/School | Contact Staff |
|---|----------------------------------|
| Biochemistry | Professor SHAW Pang Chui |
| Biology | Professor WOO Ying Shiu Norman |
| Cell and Molecular Biology | Professor GE Wei |
| Chemistry | Professor WU Chi |
| Chinese Medicine | Professor CHE Chun Tao |
| Environmental Science | Professor YU Chai Mei Jimmy |
| Food and Nutritional Sciences | Professor CHEUNG Peter Chi Keung |
| Mathematics/Mathematics – Information Engineering | Professor LAU Ka Sing |
| Molecular Biotechnology | Professor WONG Kam Bo |
| Physics | Professor LIN Hai Qing |
| Quantitative Finance and Risk Management Science | Professor WONG Hoi Ying |
| Risk Management Science | Professor LEUNG Pui Lam |
| Statistics | Professor CHAN Ngai Hang |

Undergraduate Academic Advice Coordinators

| Department/Programme/School | Contact Staff |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Biochemistry | Professor FONG Wing Ping |
| Biology | Professor GE Wei |
| Cell and Molecular Biology | Professor GE Wei |
| Chemistry | Professor LEUNG Wing Por |
| Chinese Medicine | Professor LEUNG Wing Nang Albert |
| Environmental Science | Professor CHIU Siu Wai |
| Food and Nutritional Sciences | Professor LEUNG Lai Kwok |
| Mathematics | Professor LEUNG Chi Wai |
| Mathematics – Information Engineering | Professor ZOU Jun |
| Molecular Biotechnology | Professor LAM Hon Ming |
| Physics | Professor HARK Sui Kong |
| Risk Management Science | Professor CHAN Ping Shing Ben |
| Statistics | Professor CHAN Ping Shing Ben |



Staff News

Professor Henry N. C. WONG of the Chemistry Department has been appointed as Pro-Vice Chancellor (Research) from 1 February 2009 to 31 January 2011.

Professor Thomas C. M. LEE of the Statistics Department has been elected Fellow of the American Statistical Association in 2009 for his outstanding professional contribution to and leadership in the field of statistics.

Professor WEI Juncheng of the Mathematics Department has been promoted to Professor of Mathematics with effect from 1 August 2009.

Professor Dennis K. P. NG of the Chemistry Department has been appointed University Dean of Students with effect from 1 February 2009 to 31 January 2011. Prof. Ng served as our Associate Dean (Student Affairs) from November 2004 to July 2008.

Professor WONG Wing Hung, former Chairman of the Statistics Department, has been elected as Member of the National Academy of Sciences of U.S.A. in 2009. Prof. Wong now serves as Adjunct Professor of the Department of Statistics.



Hearty congratulations to all!

Broad-based Admissions Scheme for Life Sciences Disciplines

A flexible Broad-based Admissions Scheme has been launched for Life Sciences programmes beginning the 2009/10 academic year. The six Life Sciences programmes are Biochemistry, Biology, Cell and Molecular Biology, Environmental Science, Food and Nutritional Sciences, and Molecular Biotechnology. The JUPAS code for Life Sciences is 4757. Under this scheme, students need not choose any particular programme of study at the time of admission. Students will take a set of common core courses in the first year of study and then choose their major programme after their first year. There is no specific quota for each Life Science discipline.



Upcoming Events

Orientation Day for Undergraduate Admissions, 2009

The 2009 event will be held on Saturday 10 October 2009 from 9:00a.m. – 5:30p.m. In case of inclement weather, the event will be postponed to the following Saturday 17 October 2009. Details can be found at <http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/oday>.



Speakers and former Dean of Science, Professor Kwan H S, at The 4th Lau Oi Wah Memorial Science Lecture Series held on 8 November, 2008.

5th Lau Oi Wah Memorial Science Lecture Series

The event will be held on Saturday 7 November 2009 from 9:30a.m. – 1:00p.m. Details will be forthcoming, please stay tuned to our event website at <http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/sci/memorialtalk>.

British Council FameLab Hong Kong

The British Council is hosting a competition called FameLab on Saturday 21 November 2009 at the Hong Kong Science Museum. FameLab, a part of the Sciences Alive programme, aims to encourage young scientists to present a scientific topic in either English or Cantonese to a panel of expert judges and an audience. The Hong Kong winner will be given an all-expenses paid trip to the U.K. to compete in the FameLab International Finals in June 2010. Details can be found at <http://www.britishcouncil.org.hk/Famelab>.



理學院通訊 Faculty of Science Newsletter

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