

香港大學社會科學學院 FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES · THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

PROMOTING KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE

In Molière's play *Le Bourgeois gentilhomme*, one of the biggest laughs comes when Monsieur Jourdain exclaims to his philosophy tutor, "Well, what do you know about that! These forty years now, I've been speaking in prose without knowing it! How grateful am I to you for teaching me that!" So it is with knowledge exchange—something the Faculty of Social Sciences has been doing these past 40 years without knowing it. Now that KE has been acknowledged and classified by UGC, however, the Faculty is delighted to move forward with yet more vigour. This feature story profiles some of our major KE activities, spanning both research and teaching. As ever, we welcome additional opportunities to link with community partners and launch new projects for the benefit of Hong Kong and the wider region.

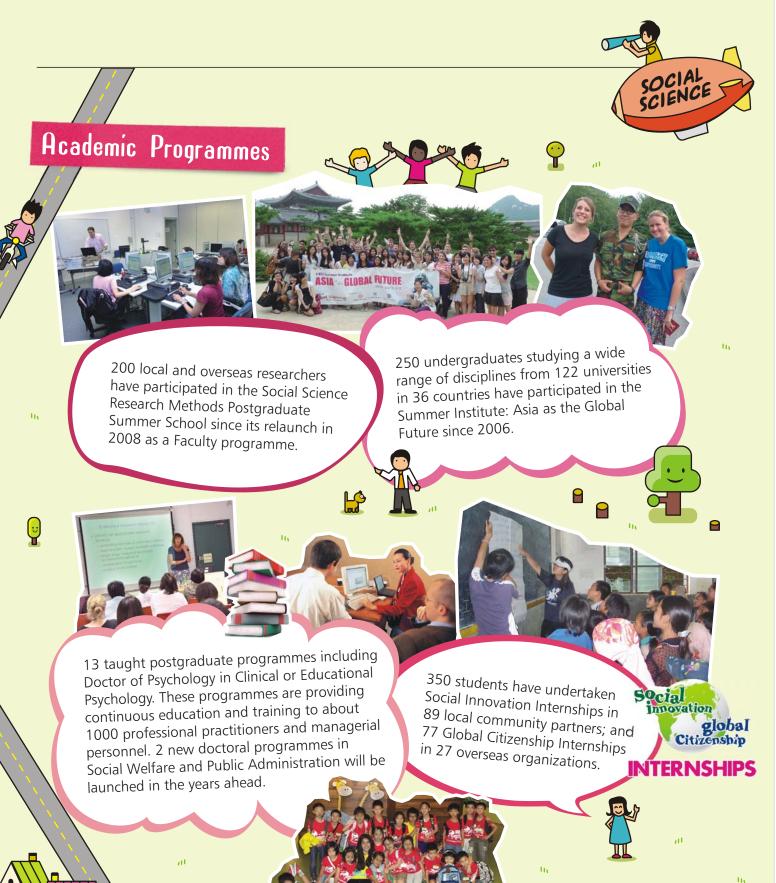


Intensive customized train-the-trainer programmes, such as Youth Substance Abuse for the Hong Kong College of Paediatricians; Geographic Information System and Global Positioning System for geography teachers; public policy making and













Public Education



Free access to Faculty and departmental websites and published materials for self learning, databank, videos and online readings, such as The Depressed Little Prince; Empowerment Network for Adjustment to Bereavement and Loss in End-of-life (ENABLE); online resources for NGO and policy think tanks; training manuals on specialised topics such as dementia, care for elders and parenting.



Each year, over 100 public lectures are delivered under the Faculty's twin themes: Social Innovation and Global Citizenship. We also have named lecture series in disciplinary fields, such as S C Fan and Serena Yang. Departmental seminars by distinguished speakers have attracted over 10,000 participants.





Significant and regular media exposure by means of press conferences; newspaper articles; radio and TV programmes locally, in China and internationally.

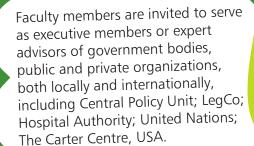


Training workshops for the general public, such as Basic and Advanced Training on Energy Diagnostic and Treatment Methods; Psychodrama Training; Life and Death Education; and Focusing-Oriented Arts Therapy.





Professional Services and Pro Bono Research



The Social Sciences Research Centre, established in 1987, provides bilingual telephone, online and paper surveys to support multidisciplinary projects. It also works with organizations outside the University in promoting contract research and consultancy services.

Community Projects







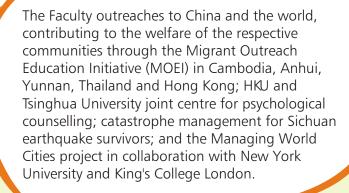




Improving both the physical and living environment through direct social impacts, such as green roof projects; geographical improvement to prevent elderly falls; barrier-free environment in fast food restaurants; and adaptive design of ATM for elders.



Evidence-based interventions to address psychosocial and mental conditions, including READ & WRITE; CADENZA; ENABLE; Art Theory Active Ageing; Schoolbased Mental Health Enhancement Programme; Psychotherapy and Counselling Services; Study on Dyscalculia.





















The Psychological Services Unit provides training to practising psychologists, and professional service for consultation, assessment and interventions.

Other psychosocial research centres in the Faculty form self-help therapeutic networks for health enhancement; stress management; multiple intelligence training for children; family consultation; and also assist in clinical treatment referrals.





The Hong Kong Jockey Club Centre for Suicide Research and Prevention





In 2002, The Hong Kong Jockey Club Centre for Suicide Research and Prevention (CSRP) was established as a knowledge hub on suicide. It has since served as a focal point for intellectual and academic endeavors for suicide prevention in Hong Kong and internationally. Our mission is to engage in innovative, high-impact and leading-edge research within and across many disciplines. CSRP has been working conscientiously to produce top-quality research materials and to train young researchers. More than 70 academic papers have been published in international peer-reviewed journals, including: Lancet, British Medical Journal, British Journal of Psychiatry, Archives of Psychiatry, and Psychological Medicine. Based on the risk and protective factors we have found in relation to suicide, we set up priorities of strategic and evidence-based prevention measures using a public health approach. These measures aim to enhance existing practices.



▲ Volunteer Mentorship Training Programme in December 2009

Our team has been working closely with frontline medical and social service workers, teachers, police, parents, volunteers, suicide survivors, and the community at large in various levels of suicide prevention work. We have hosted training courses, seminars, and international conferences sponsored by the International Association for Suicide Prevention and WHO; organized school-based mental health education

programmes for students; and launched multi-media and web-based learning portals in order to raise suicide awareness.

In addition, CSRP has been advocating a variety of preventive measures, such as restricting access to suicide means, promoting responsible reporting on suicide news by the media, as well as mental health literacy via web 2.0. We have shown that the installations of platform screen doors along subway stations were effective in reducing suicides among psychotic patients without any significant sign of substitution. A pilot study on removing charcoal packs from open shelves of supermarkets also provided strong evidence on its positive effect of suicide reduction. To encourage community-based suicide prevention, CSRP also involves the district boards, hospitals, housing management and social services of a selected geographic community in developing strategic and concerted preventive activities.

The suicide rate in Hong Kong has reduced by 30% from a historical high in 2003 — from 18.6 per 100,000 to 13.1 in 2008. The significant drop was phenomenal, and it was no luck but dedicated commitment and hard work from stakeholders of all fronts in the community. All these initiatives are geared towards the centre's mission in reducing suicide rates locally and globally. Our challenge is big and the resource is limited. But we strongly believe that, by joining hands we can make a difference to those vulnerable groups in our community and make a better world.

Professor Paul Yip Siu-fai (葉兆輝教授) Director

The Hong Kong Jockey Club Centre for Suicide Research and Prevention

ALUMNI

A Sobering Tale of Two Alumni

Ellen So and I were best of friends in class in our happy undergraduate days. Little did we know what life had in store for us.

Towards the turn of the millennium, we were both struck by breast cancer. Ellen died and I survived.

When Ellen discovered the disease, cancer cells had already spread to many parts of her body. Despite the hard efforts of her medical team, she passed away a few months later, just when I was also diagnosed of breast cancer. I was lucky. My cancer was in its early stage.

Prior to having breast cancer, I was working as the Assistant Postmaster General, always busy at work but inattentive to health. Shocked, anxious and feeling helpless, I found it hard to accept the infliction. The sad loss of Ellen to the same disease exacerbated the pain. Thanks to the support of my family, doctors and friends, I managed to get through the arduous journey of treatment and rehabilitation: from surgery, chemotherapy to radiotherapy.



My experience really brought home the importance of "early detection saves lives". Since recovery, I started volunteering to advocate regular breast examinations, and to help women with breast cancer overcome the hardship. Eventually, I decided to actively spread the message. I left my job in late 2006 to become the Chairman of the Hong Kong Breast Cancer Foundation (HKBCF).

The HKBCF is a non-profit organization dedicated to breast health education, support to breast cancer patients and their families and advocacy for better care. Empathy is the value underlying our work. We run professional-led and peer-based support groups for patients. We provide financial assistance to those who cannot afford mammography screening or medication expense. Our breast cancer registry collects and researches local breast cancer facts to uncover better solutions for prevention, detection, cure and rehabilitation. Learn more: www.hkbcf.org.

Mrs Joanna Choi Leung Yuen-mei, BBS (蔡梁婉薇女士) BSocSc (1973)



▲ Breast Cancer Awareness Walkathon



▲ Press Conference on Free Mammogram Service

Social Sciences Class of 1974



The year 1974 was in hindsight a rather exceptional year for Hong Kong. It saw the establishment of both the Independent Commission Against Corruption and the Consumer Council. Both have greatly transformed our city in their respective ways. It was also the year when some 150 young men and women stepped out of the HKU Social Sciences Faculty, to embrace the new real world, full of dreams and aspirations.

Thirty five years later, this graduating Social Sciences Class of '74 celebrated their anniversary at a reunion dinner on December 4, 2009. A total of 103 graduates were reconnected, through global search (courtesy of some enthusiastic classmates) and a special Class Book.

Exactly 74 classmates made it for the dinner, including some returning from overseas specially for the occasion. The number of 74 would not have been achieved



without the final efforts of Jackson Pau, who persuaded Ng Hon Wah to come despite him already having booked his holiday tour. Many classmates only met for the first time since graduation more than three decades ago. However, in the face-recognition game during the dinner, people were able to match faces of now and then despite the passage of time.

The dinner was honoured by the presence of Professor Ian Holliday, Dean of Social Sciences, as well as Professor Edward Chen, former President of Lingnan University and Mr Lau Nai Keung, member of the Basic Law Committee of the National People's Congress Standing Committee, who taught the class in Economics and Statistics respectively, as well as their spouses.

As Professor Chen said at the dinner, the Class of '74 is a vintage class, and if I may add, a Class of its own. It has produced graduates who have made flying colours in their respective professional and social achievements, and left their footprints on the contemporary history of Hong Kong. It counts among its ranks leading figures in the professions and business, government and opposition, and civil society. It is a meeting point of great minds, compassion for life, and unending friendship.

Professor the Hon Anthony Cheung Bing-leung (张炳良教授)



"Thirty-fifth reunion for the 1974 Social Sciences alumni!" Elizabete Fong's (more affectionately known as E-Fung or just Fung) late October email said. My heart almost jumped out of my chest for I had been trying to track down my HKU friends for a year without success. I could hardly believe my eyes. Here is my opportunity to see the Pearl of the Orient and to reconnect with my friends I had not seen for 35 years.

On Friday December 4, we anticipated the official celebration with wide eyes. The reunion celebration focused on two events on Friday December 4: meeting the Vice-Chancellor Professor Lap-Chee Tsui at his residence on the university campus, and the reunion dinner at the exclusive Dynasty Club.

At the dinner, the Master of Ceremony Benjamin Tang, now Director of the Audit Commission, as well as Professor Edward Chen recognized how the class of '74 had provided crucial leadership for Hong Kong during a time of phenomenal economic and sociopolitical change.

Now writing from the other side of the Pacific Ocean in my Seattle home, I pondered on this Reunion. The event is not in and of itself the end. The event is the means to an end: our relationships. As I begin to read the pages in the classbook, I find myself longing to know each one of you in a deeper way.

Ms Theresa Ip Froehlich Luk-shuen (葉綠璇女士)

In a world that seems like a madhouse at times, it makes me feel warm and comfortable to be among old familiar faces. It is better late than never for me to get to know the experiences and thoughts of those classmates with whom I was not well acquainted originally. Even for those classmates who are already quite familiar to me, it is such a joy to read their stories as told in their own words or fondly relayed by their relatives/friends.

The Class Book reminds us that whether we choose to keep going in the hard way or enjoy leisure on the slow lane, fellow classmates are always there to give a cheer or share the fun.

Ms Josephine Lau Ching-mui (劉靜梅女士)



I have sadly reached the age that lately, I found myself regularly attending alumni-type get-togethers, for instance, those organized by my former companies and secondary school, but one thing I must admit: THIS ONE TOPS IT ALL. As my wife accurately observed — I was unable to hide my excitement when I returned home after the reunion dinner on December 4. In the wee hours of the morning, she was completely baffled and watched me zealously explain what I had just gone through to my weary-eyed kids.

I was ecstatic because it was like I had made a bunch of new friends — ironically people I seemed to know well but had lost touch with for 35 years. In particular, the Class Book — a real masterpiece by the way — enables me to discover brand new dimensions about these people.

Mr Samuel Wan Siu-kau (温兆裘先生)

Social Enterprise Development in Hong Kong — The Tertiary Education Involvement







What enterprise is a social enterprise? To students, this is probably a question more readily answered by involving themselves in the daily operation of such an enterprise than reading classroom definitions alone. To this matter, I have long advocated "Four Sectors Collaboration" in which commerce, NGOs, government and academics should link up to promote social enterprise development in Hong Kong. The role of academics, I strongly emphasized, should include the training of future social entrepreneurs as well as researching social enterprise related matters both locally and globally.

There is an observable trend that universities in Hong Kong are beginning to provide experiential learning/general education/service learning courses with social enterprise attachment opportunities to students from various disciplines. I happen to be the supervisor of such a service learning course in the coming summer and wish to share my vision here:



'The virtue of service in service-learning is in perfect harmony with the social objective of most social enterprises. Therefore students from virtually any discipline, be it finance/business sector, or social/art sector, will find themselves ready to contribute

to the development of social enterprises during their fieldwork attachment. The contribution can be in the form of knowledge sharing or generating innovative business ideas, or assisting in the search of a market niche for the respective social enterprises. In

most cases, students will learn to find a balance point for the competing goal of social mission and profit-making. This will surely enhance their ethics and morals, especially in work environment, that will persist after graduating from the university.'

Such an integrative community-based serving and training exercise is essential in preparing students to be future social entrepreneurs. Hong Kong Social Enterprise Incubation Centre (HKSEIC), where I am the founding director, strongly advocates the service learning model for undergraduate training. I am preparing to take up an advisory role for The University of Hong Kong in this respect. The tertiary education sector can also work closely with the secondary sector in promoting social entrepreneurism. HKSEIC is undertaking a "Social Innovation" education project involving university students as secondary students' mentors. The intended outcomes are to provide other learning experiences to secondary students, as well as character building general education, with a special focus on how secondary students can apply their "innovative ideas" on understanding and helping to solve community issues.

Readers can refer to the following link for more information about HKSEIC and the development of social enterprises in Hong Kong: www.seic.hk.

Mr Raymond Yim Chun-man (嚴俊民先生) BCJ (2007)

Giving Hearts to the Young Hearts in Need

Since joining the Children's Heart Foundation (CHF) when I had a heart surgery more than 10 years ago, I failed to offer help with all different excuses — participating in hall activities, preparing for professional exams, working in the office during weekends...

Last year, I finally made a move to attend a CHF workshop. The welcoming and supportive friends there made me feel lucky for having shown up for a change. Since then, I took part in organizing its Charity Walk and Xmas party. I felt contented when I saw the happy faces of the little kids who were born with congenital heart diseases. They also reminded me of myself who worried my family with my heart problem since coming to this world.

Later I was invited to join the Finance Committee of the CHF. I was excited for I can contribute what I had learned from my profession. With the kind help of Ms Timsik Man, an experienced social worker in the CHF, who is also a HKU alumnus, I am hoping to contribute more this year which happens to be the 15th anniversary of the CHF. Hopefully my sharing would encourage more of you to contribute your time and knowledge to people in need.

Mr Jack Lo Yu-hin (盧宇軒先生) BSocSc (2000)





Stay in touch

Year of Graduation:

Degree Awarded: __

We would like to hear from all alumni, especially those who have not been in contact for some time. We wish to take this opportunity to invite you to share with the Faculty the contact details of local or overseas alumni with whom you are in touch. Please complete and return the following form to the Faculty so that we can keep them informed of the most up-to-date developments and activities of the Faculty and the University.

Fax: 2549 3341/ E-mail: socsc@hku.hk

Part I : Your Information	Part II: Other Alumni's Information	
Name :	Name :	
(Surname) (Given Name)	(Surname) (Given N	
Chinese Name :	Chinese Name :	
Sex : M/F	Sex : M/F	
Contact Phone No. :	Contact Phone No. :	

Name :				
(Surname)	(Given Name)			
Chinese Name :				
Sex: M/F				
Contact Phone No. :				
E-mail:				
Correspondence Address:				
Year of Graduation:				
Degree Awarded:				

Social Sciences Society



With the advent of year 2010, the executive committee of Social Sciences Society, HKUSU is now in the 42nd session. We named ourselves "Ming" (which means "to sound" in Chinese) this session. We wish to represent our members by voicing their thoughts and speaking up for justice. Because of this faith, our first aim is to encourage students' engagement towards social issues. We hope that HKU students will understand more, concern more and act more on issues in society. Our second aim is to enhance the friendship and mutual understanding within the society. Through various social and sports functions, we hope to enhance the comradeship between about 1000 of our members. Also, we have made "Local Roots, Global Routes" our theme. By every single action we take, we hope to present global visions and raise others' passions towards Hong Kong.



We have paid efforts on various aspects to practice our aims. An Inauguration Party, Modern Management Exhibition, Five

Constituencies Resignation Forum, Second-hand Book Sale and Dean's Chinese New Year Tea Gathering were successfully held. In the future, we shall continue striving for our goals. In March, we had our annual highlight — Social Sciences Festival, which discussed the role of Hong Kong in China under "One Country, Two

Systems". The SuperPass Festival and Major/Minor Talk were held afterwards. In June, Social Sciences Torch Camp was designed for Form Six students to promote the subject. After the orientation series, there were, at last, our annual dinner and welfare week. In addition to all the above activities, we were participated in interfaculty sports matches and published the newsletter VOICE throughout this session. Our year has been fruitful.

It is just the beginning of our journey. We believe all tomorrow's flowers are nurtured from today's seeds. We assure that we will leave no stones unturned to achieve our goals. We look forward to seeing all of you in our Society Room: LG111, K K Leung Building. We are always waiting there for you.

Mr Ronald Chan Tsz-chung (陳子聰先生)

Social Sciences Society, HKUSU Session 2010



Course-related Field Trips in Geography



Teaching geography courses is not confined to lectures and laboratory practices for undergraduate students. On the contrary, many undergraduate courses offered by the Department of Geography engage the students in going out to conduct local field trips and coursespecific trips to different parts of China for the purpose of providing students the opportunity to link their academic knowledge to the real life situation. The local trips are quite diversified, such as urban surveys, tree surveys, water sampling, visits to the country and marine parks, Wetland Park, Mai Po Marsh, and the outlying islands.

In addition, the course-related field trips to China allow students to look at the physical landscapes of selected provinces, and the development in the rural areas, of China. As an example, in this academic year 2009-10, staff members have organized one 6-day trip to Guilin focusing on the rural

Guilin Field Trip

development

, and another 5-day trip to Guizhou focusing on its physical environment.

Overseas Field Trip in Geography



Overseas fieldwork is an integral part of a geographer's training. All students majoring in geography are provided with the opportunity to participate in two weeks of fieldwork outside Hong Kong. The overseas field trip broadens the range of geographical experience of students. Attendance on an overseas field trip also provides students with first-hand experience of the real world in a different setting, and this is an aspect valued by

students. In 2009, the Department of Geography offered two destinations, one of which was to the UK and based in Manchester, NW England. Urban areas that were visited include Blackpool, Liverpool, York, Bradford, Hebden Bridge and Halifax, in addition to Manchester. Visits to the Snowdonia, Peak District and Yorkshire Dales National Parks, and the Fylde coast provided exposure to a variety of rural areas and natural landscapes. There was also an opportunity to go underground in a coal mine. The accompanying pictures illustrate the range of experience provided.

EVENTS SPOTLIGHT



ofessor G. John Ikenberry
September 5, 2009

Department of Politics

Departmen



- Workshop on China, US and the Regional Governance in Asia
- Public Lecture on US China Relations under the Obama Administration

September 4 and 5, 2009 Speaker: Professor John G Ikenberry Albert G Milbank Professor of Politics and International Affairs Princeton University, USA

Research Seminar on Victims of Terrorism — Who Cares?

September 11, 2009 Speaker: Professor Uri Yanay School of Social Work and Social Welfare The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel









Seminar on 602 and One Dead: Global Poverty and the Implication Dilemma of the Principle of Contribution

September 25, 2009 Speaker: Dr Gerhard Øverland Centre for Applied Philosophy and Public Ethics The University of Melbourne, Australia

CADENZA Symposium 2009:
Primary Care & Older Persons —
Key to Medical and Social Integration
October 9–10, 2009









Expressive Arts Supervision October 20, 2009





Educational Series for Domestic Violence II: Social and Legal Controversies on Family Violence

November 12, 2009

The Impact of the Global Economic Crisis on Social Development: Social Policy Responses in Greater China

November 12–13, 2009 Keynote Speaker: Mr Stephen Lam Sui-lung, GBS, JP Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs The Government of the HKSAR









Managing World Cities Conference Series: Managing Human Capital in World Cities

December 4, 2009 Keynote Speaker: Mr John Tsang Chun-wah, JP Financial Secretary The Government of the HKSAR

The 11th Annual Conference of the Hong Kong Sociological Association: Envisioning the World City

December 5, 2009 Speaker: Professor Henry N Pontell University of California, Irvine, USA









Sau Po Centre on Ageing 10th
Anniversary Seminar: Successful
Ageing in Chinese Community —
The Asian Perspective
December 11, 2009



Symposium on Reform and Transition in Public Administration Theory and Practice in Greater China

February 5-6, 2010

RTHK-POP Deliberative Forum February 6, 2010





Dialogue with John Tsang Financial Sceretury March 1 Ad 30 Ad



Dialogue with John Tsang, Financial Secretary: Budget 2010 March 1, 2010

ENABLE Symposium — Living a Legacy March 2, 2010





Global Citizenship Public Lectures

Knowledge Exchange in the Pacific Rim: The Case of the Pacific Rim Council on Urban Development

October 20, 2009
Speaker: Professor Eric J Heikkila
Professor and Director of International Initiatives
School of Policy, Planning, and Development
University of Southern California, USA



The Obama Administration and US Foreign Policy: The View from Washington

November 12, 2009 Speaker: Dr Michael E Brown Dean of the Elliott School of International Affairs Professor of International Affairs and Political Science The George Washington University, USA



Britain and the EU after the Crisis

November 18, 2009 Speaker: Professor Roger Vickerman Dean, Brussels School of International Studies University of Kent, UK



Security First

March 12, 2010 Speaker: Professor Amitai Etzioni University Professor Professor of International Relations The George Washington University, USA



The Chinese Model and the Global Crisis

April 12, 2010 Speaker: Professor Shaun Breslin Professor of Politics and International Studies University of Warwick



A New Era of the US-China-Japan Triangle

May 11, 2010 Speaker: Professor Zhao Quansheng Professor of International Relations Director, Center for Asian Studies American University, Washington, DC



Aung San Suu Kyi and US Policy towards Burma/Myanmar

June 23, 2010 Speaker: Professor David I Steinberg Distinguished Professor of Asian Studies School of Foreign Service Georgetown University



Social Innovation Public Lectures

• Systemic Approaches to Depression December 9, 2009

Speaker: Dr Eia Asen Clinic Director Marborough Family Service, London, UK

 Mindsets: Understanding Motivation and Achievement

March 15, 2010 Speaker: Professor Carol S Dweck Lewis and Virginia Eaton Professor of Psychology Stanford University, USA



DONATIONS (From September 2009 to May 2010)

Donor	Recipient	Nature /	Amount (HK\$)
Ms Alissa Leung Wai-yun	Centre on Behavioral Health	Activities of the Centre	100,000
劉黃碧珠女士		Activities of the Centre	50,000
The Robert H N Ho Family Foundation		Providing Training to School Teachers in Sichuan for Post-disaster Mental Health Rehabilitation	150,000
Professor Cecilia Chan Lai-wan		Sichuan Earthquake Project	200,000
Anonymous	Department of Geography	International Center for China Development Studies	150,000
Dr the Hon Tsang Hin Chi		Sponsorship for Visiting Scholars from Jiaying University	30,000
Bank of China (Hong Kong) Limited	Department of Psychology	Organizational Psychology	80,000
Dr Serena Yang Hsueh-chi		Oxford—HKU Scheme 2010-2011	150,000
Dr Wong Oi Ling	Department of Social Work and Social Administration	Activities of the Department	29,000
Professor Jonathan Sham Shun-tong		Innovative Research Fund	2,000,000
Ms Tsang Man Ki	Faculty of Social Sciences	Activities of the Faculty	20,000
Chiang Ching-Kuo Foundation for International Scholarly Exchange		"Reform and Transition in Public Administration Theory and Practice in Greater China" Project	108,400
Max Creation Group	HKJC Centre for Suicide Research and Prevention	Research and Development Activities of the Centre	200,000
Wisdom King Co Ltd	HKU Family Institute	Activities of the Institute	200,000
Anonymous	International Center for China Development Studies	Research in Connection with the Economi Development of the Pearl River Delta	c 150,000

RECENT PUBLICATIONS (From September 2009 to January 2010)

Characterizing the Overlap between SLI and Dyslexia in Chinese: The Role of Phonology and Beyond

Authors: Wong, A MY, Kidd, JC, Ho, CS & Au, TKF Journal: Scientific Studies of Reading

'Deficits in oral language (SLI: specific language impairment) and in reading abilities (dyslexia) are typically diagnosed by different professionals — speech therapists and educational psychologists respectively. Our study highlights the multiple and overlapping cognitive deficits underlying SLI and dyslexia, highlighting also the benefits of a multidisciplinary team for diagnosis and intervention of these two common learning



Professor Terry Au Kit-fong (區潔芳教授) Department of Psychology



Integrative Body-mind-spirit Social Work: An Empirically Based Approach to Assessment and Treatment Author: Lee, MY, Ng, SM, Leung, PPY, Chan, CLW & Leung P

Publisher: Oxford University Press

'This is the first book connecting Western therapy with Eastern philosophy and practices for social work and mental health professionals. The authors provide a comprehensive practice agenda based on the Integrative Body-mind-spirit Intervention Model which focuses on the body-mind-spirit relationship, recognizes the importance of spirituality to human existence, acknowledges and utilizes the power of both mind and body, and reaches beyond selfactualization or symptom reduction to connect individuals to a larger sense of themselves and their communities."

Professor Cecilia Chan Lai-wan (陳麗雲教授) Department of Social Work and Social Administration

Invigorating the Content in Social Embeddedness: An Ethnography of Life Insurance Transactions in China

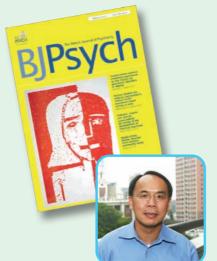
Author: Chan, CSC

Journal: American Journal of Sociology

When the topic of death is a cultural taboo among the Chinese, how do transnational life insurance corporations create a life insurance market in China? Based on 14 month field research in Shanghai, this article examines how insurance sales agents mobilize their guanxi to facilitate transactions, and how potential buyers draw boundaries between personal relationships and economic exchanges.'



Dr Cheris Chan Shun-ching (陳純菁博士) Department of Sociology



Restricting the Means of Suicide by Charcoal Burning

Authors: Yip P S F, Law C K, Fu K W, Law Y W, Wong P W C and Ying X Journal: The British Journal of Psychiatry

'Restricting of ready access to the means for suicide is an effective method to reduce the number of suicides, particularly impulsive suicides. Removing charcoal from supermarket shelves-like using blister packs for paracetamol, storing pesticides in lockboxes, and building barriers on bridges-places an obstacle between suicidal thoughts an suicidal acts, allowing the individual to reconsider and, potentially receive psychosocial support. With the support of the supermarkets, the one year pilot study in Tuenmun has shown very encouraging results by observing a significant reduction of the number of charcoal burning suicides. However, like all means restricting strategies, restricting access of charcoal requires the active participation of the community. We look forward to the continuing support and understanding of supermarkets and the community members in implementing this life-saving policy.'

Professor Paul Yip Siu-fai (葉兆輝教授) Department of Social Work and Social Administration

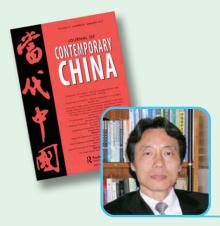
Sociological Theory in China

Authors: Chan, C S C, co-authored with PhD candidate Yao, Z Newsletter: The Newsletter of the Research Committee on Sociological Theory, International Sociological Association

 igwparpoonup 'This article gives a chronological account of the development and application of sociological theory in mainland China from the last decade of the 19th century to the present.'



Dr Cheris Chan Shun-ching (陳純菁博士) Department of Sociology



Strategy Misguided: The Weak Link Between Urban Emission Control Measures, Vehicular Emissions, and Public Health in Guangzhou Authors: Lee, Y S F, Lo, C W H & Lee, A K Y Journal: Journal of Contemporary China

'The surge in automobile use in the Pearl River Delta region had led to a substantial hoelevation of ambient concentrations of vehicle-based air pollutants. However, evidence gathered from Guangzhou suggests that the city's strategy for controlling urban air pollution has not been effective in tackling the newly emerging, combustion engine-generated class of pollutants because it is misguided by a highly selective and outdated urban air quality monitoring system.1

Dr Frederick Lee Yok-shiu (李煜紹博士) Department of Geography

The Philosophy of Jürgen Habermas: A Critical Introduction

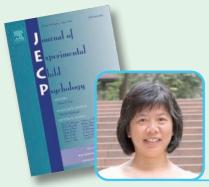
Author: Steinhoff, UB

Publisher: Oxford University Press

'This study is a comprehensive and detailed analysis and sustained critique of Habermas's philosophical system since his pragmatist turn in the seventies. It clearly depicts the long chain of arguments leading from an analysis of speech acts to a discourse theory of law and the democratic constitutional state.







Young Children's Analogical Reasoning across Cultures: **Similarities and Differences**

Authors: Richland, L E, Chan, T K, Morrison, R G & Au, T K F Journal: Journal of Experimental Child, Psychology

Young children understand rather complex relationships among people or things (e.g., a big γ fish eating a medium-size fish that is turn eating a small fish) better in Hong Kong than in the US. This precocious ability among Chinese children may have to do with cultural emphasis on relationships.'

Professor Terry Au Kit-fong (區潔芳教授) Department of Psychology

CONGRATULATIONS

Alumni

Honours



The Honourable Mrs Carrie Lam Cheng Yuet-ngor, JP (林鄭月娥局長) BSocSc (1980) Gold Bauhinia Star



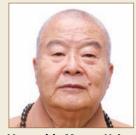
The Honourable Mr Tsang Tak Sing, JP (曾德成局長) MIPA (2002) Gold Bauhinia Star



Mrs Carrie Yau Tsang Ka-lai, JP (尤曾家麗女士) BSocSc (1977) Gold Bauhinia Star



(馮紹波博士) **Doctor of Social Sciences** honoris causa, HKU



Mr Lawrence Fung Siu-por, GBS The Venerable Master Hsing Yun (星雲大師) **Doctor of Social Sciences** honoris causa, HKU



Dr Serena Yang Hsueh-chi (楊雪姫博士) **Doctor of Social Sciences** honoris causa, HKU



Professor Richard Yu Yue-hong (余宇康教授) **Doctor of Social Sciences** honoris causa, HKU

Public Appointments



Mrs Betty Fung Ching Suk-yee, JP (馮程淑儀女士) BSocSc (1986) Director Leisure and Cultural Services



Ms Maria Kwan Sik-ning, JP (關錫寧女士) BSocSc (1974) Director-General Trade and Industry



Mr Patrick Nip Tak-kuen, JP (聶德權先生) BSocSc (1986) Director, Social Welfare



Mr Alan Wong Chi-kong, JP (黃志光先生) BSocSc (1985)



Miss Adeline Wong Ching-man, JP Mr Michael Wong Wai-lun, JP Miss Janet Wong Wing-chen, JP (黃靜文小姐) BSocSc (1986) **Under Secretary** Agriculture, Fisheries and Conversation Constitutional and Mainland Affairs



(黃偉綸先生) BSocSc (1985) **Director, Information Services**



(王榮珍小姐) BSocSc (1980) Commissioner Innovation and Technology

Academic Staff

Honours



Professor Terry Au Kit-fong (區潔芳教授) Department of Psychology Elected Fellow, The Association of Psychological Science

Awards



Dr Vivian Lou Wei-qun (樓瑋群博士) Department of Social Work and Social Administration Outstanding Paper Presentation Award The Seventeenth Annual Congress of Gerontology Hong Kong Association of Gerontology

Professor Paul Yip Siu-fai (葉兆輝教授) Department of Social Work and Social Administration Outstanding Researcher Award, HKU

New Appointments



Dr Michael Charles AdorjanAssistant Professor
Department of Sociology



Dr Karen Cheung Siu-lan (張筱蘭博士) Research Assistant Professor Department of Social Work and Social Administration



Miss Sara Fung Shuk-ling (馮淑玲小姐) Research Associate Department of Psychology



Dr Helen Liu Kang-huey (劉康慧博士) Assistant Professor Department of Politics and Public Administration



Ms Pandora Ng Oi-kwan (吳愛群女士) Teaching Consultant Centre on Behavioral Health

NEW LEADER IN THE FACULTY



PROFESSOR LUI TAI LOK

呂大樂教授

MPhil (HKU), MPhil, DPhil (Oxford)
Associate Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences
Professor, Department of Sociology

I left the University of Hong Kong in 1983 before completing all the requirements of my MPhil studies on urban sociology. On the eve of my departure, I was asked to apply for the permission of double registration as I would start my graduate studies at Oxford before formally submitting my thesis for examination. At that time, this was one of the very rare occasions that you were asked to fill in an application form and to ask for permission from the above to do something that most people would not be aware of. I did submit my application and was told that I would receive the approval by the time I arrived at Oxford. Of course, the approval letter only arrived in the seventh week of the Michaelmas term and no one, including the concerned parties at my college, seemed to bother. As you can see, it was a very different campus back in the 1980s.



But the more significant difference is the role of students in the campus. It was the period of time when most of the student leaders were busy with the discussion of the reasons why the student movement was going downhill. The heat of student politics might have gone by then, but it was still a campus with a strong spirit of students' self-governance. Most of the activities in the campus, ranging from freshmen's orientation to social gathering and seminars to summer programmes, were organized by student organizations. Should there be problems arising from student activities (and there were plenty), they would be dealt with by the students themselves through their own organizations according to the rules and regulations governing the operation of such bodies. Indeed, HKU students were rather proud of their tradition of having check-and-balance among student organizations. They were also very proud of the fact they were capable of organizing all kinds of innovative student activities as well as

monitoring the performance of the Student Union through the established channels of students' self-governance.

Those were the days. And I know very well that we cannot, and probably should not, try to turn the clock back. I do believe that some of the oldies were gone for good reasons (for instance, double registration is a serious matter). Yet,

some of them should be well potted. And student activism is one of those



valuable assets in our campus that should be preserved.

Nowadays, we like to highlight the importance of pubic engagement during the process of launching new initiatives within the campus, sounding as if the students are out there to be served and they are not part of the University. We try very hard and work extremely diligently to

design initiatives and programmes that may fit in with their needs and interests. However, we also understand that, without more active participation from the students, all such good efforts would not deliver

even half of their expected outcomes.

Quite true, "bringing the students back in" is something easily said than done. But I don't mind saying and trying to bring it back to our agenda.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

August

Workshop on Defence Mechanism, Transference & Counter-transference

Speaker: Professor Ng Man Lun Date: Aug 21 & 28, 2010 Venue: HKU Family Institute Contact: Miss Rachel Lam

(Tel: 2859 5300; Email: hkufi@hku.hk;

Website: http://hkufi.hku.hk/workshops.html)

HKU-Internal Workshop on Perception and Action

Date: Aug 23, 2010

Venue: Council Chamber, 8/F, Meng Wah Complex, HKU Contact: Mr Diederick Niehorster

(Tel: 2241 5557; Email: dciehorster@hku.hk)

Living Consciously: Building Personal Resiliency

Speaker: Dr Anne Hilty

Private Practice Integrative Psychologist

Date: Aug 25, 2010

Venue: Centre on Behavioral Health, HKU

Contact: Ms Amy Choi

(Tel: 2589 0512; Email: amychoi@hku.hk)

September

Public Lecture for the 10th Anniversary of Master of International Public Affairs

Speaker: Professor John Ikenberry The Albert G Milbank Professor of Politics and International Affairs, Princeton University

Date: Sep 11, 2010

Venue: T7, 1/F, Meng Wah Complex, HKU

Contact: Ms May Yim

(Tel: 2219 4926; Email: mayyim@hku.hk)

October

CADENZA Symposium 2010 — Age-Friendly World Cities & Environment

Date: Oct 8, 2010

Venue: Loke Yew Hall, Main Building, HKU

Contact: Miss Canace Lee

(Tel: 2219 4271; Email: info@cadenza.hk;

Website: www.cadenza.hk)

Certificate Course in Family Therapy

Trainer: Dr Lee Wai Yung and other Institute members

Date: Oct 22 – Dec 10, 2010 (10 sessions) Venue: HKU Family Institute

Contact: Miss Rachel Lam

(Tel: 2859 5300; Email: hkufi@hku.hk; Website: http://hkufi.hku.hk/training.html)

November



Date: Nov 13, 2010

Venue: Loke Yew Hall, Main Building, HKU

Contact: Miss Nikki Wong

(Tel: 2241 5540; Email: nhywong@hku.hk)



Date: Nov 19 - 20, 2010

Venue: Wang Gungwu Theatre, Graduate House, HKU

Contact: Miss Silvia Ng

(Tel: 2241 5524; Email: ageing@hku.hk; Website: www.hku.hk/socsc/afccp)



Date: Nov 27, 2010

Venue: Loke Yew Hall, Main Building, HKU

Contact: Miss Myra Wong

(Tel: 2859 2980; Email: myracb@hku.hk)

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The Faculty welcomes any form of contribution to *Socientist*.

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