Faculty of Science

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Issue 10, Summer 2006

THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

Message from New Dean - Professor Kwan Hol Shan

The Faculty of Science came into existence in 1963 with the establishment of the Chinese University of Hong Kong. The Faculty is proud to grow with the University and to contribute to her academic strength. We now have 6 departments covering all the major science areas, and a basket of multidisciplinary programmes addressing the current trends in science and the demands of society. There are over 100 faculty members conscientiously engaging themselves in teaching and research. Together with dedicated supporting staff, we guide over 2,100 students in active learning. About 30% of these students are research postgraduate students, with one third at the Ph.D. level.

The Faculty has recruited and retained top-notched professionals who work together to make it reputable in the scientific community. Members of the Faculty enjoy the privilege to interact with Nobel Laureate Professor Yang Chen Ning who is associated with the Faculty as Honorary Professor in the Department of Physics and Distinguished Professor-at-Large of the University, and with Fields Medalist and National Medalist of Science (USA) Professor Yau Shing Tung who is Distinguished Professor-at-Large of the University and Director of The Institute of Mathematical Sciences, and Professor Fan Jianging (recipient of Presidents' Award of the Committee of Presidents of Statistical Societies). Other distinguished scientists in



Professor H.S. Kwan Dean, Faculty of Science

our Faculty include Professor Thomas C. W. Mak (Academician, Chinese Academy of Science (CAS)), Professor Samuel S. M. Sun (Academician, Chinese Academy of Engineering), Professor Henry N. C. Wong (Academician, CAS), and Professor Wu Chi (Academician, CAS). In addition, many colleagues in the Faculty are fellows of learned societies, members of editorial board, members of reputable journals, and recipients of various awards.

In research, the Faculty has both breadth and depth. Over the past three years, it has secured external competitive grants of about \$130 million and output over 2,400 research articles in well-known international journals. In addition, our members have led the University Grants Committee (UGC) Area of Excellence in Plant and Fungal Biotechnology, participated in three other UGC Areas of Excellence (Chinese Medicine; Drug Discovery and Synthesis; and Marine Environmental Research and Innovation Technology), and led two RGC/NSF-China projects (one in photocatalytic chemistry and the other in optoelectronic materials research). As well as maintaining itself active in curiosity-driven research, the Faculty has generated patents and licensing contracts. Further, our members have run many teaching and learning development projects to



enhance student training on campus and support education reform in secondary education, with external grants/contracts from the UGC, Education and Manpower Bureau, and Quality Education Fund. Members of the Faculty collaborate extensively with top researchers around the world and play an active role in the international science community. Many national and international collaborative research ties have been established. The Faculty regularly hosts national and international scientific meetings and workshops, and distinguished visitors including many Nobel Laureates. A good number of renowned scientists are associated with the Faculty as Honorary Professors. Dr Richard J Roberts, a biochemist and molecular biologist and recipient of the 1993 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for his research in split genes, has become our Honorary Professor of Science in March 2006.

The Faculty is justifiable proud of its graduates who have assumed positions of responsibility both locally and internationally. Of special note are Professor Yau Shing Tung, graduate of the Department of Mathematics in 1969, who was awarded the Fields Medal in 1982 and National Medal of Science (USA) in 1997; and Professor Tsui Lap Chee, graduate of the Department of Biology in 1972, who is now Vice-Chancellor of the University of Hong Kong and recipient of the Paul di Sant' Agnese Distinguished Scientific Achievement Award of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation (USA) in 1989. Another successful alumnus is Professor Lau Ngar Cheung, graduate of the Department of Physics in 1974, who was the recipient of the 1990 American Meteorological Society's Meisinger Award. Dr Yeung Ying Yeung, our PhD chemistry graduate, recently became sensational news in the media for his discovery of a new organic synthesis that would substantially reduce the cost of production and improve the supply of Tamiflu. The discovery was made under the guidance of Professor Elias James Corey, 1990 Nobel Laureate in Chemistry. Dr Yeung is now a post-doctoral fellow in Professor Corey's laboratory at Harvard University. There is an almost endless list of graduates who are now conscientious scientists, educators, managers and workers in all sectors all over the world. As the University marches forward, the Faculty will build up for itself sustainable growth and the capacity to change.

World Authority on Plant Molecular Biology to head S. H. Ho College

Professor Samuel Sun Sai-ming has been appointed by the Council of The Chinese University of Hong Kong as head of new College - S.H.Ho College.

Prof. Sun, Professor of Biology, obtained his B.Sc. from CUHK in 1966 and his Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1974. He became the first scientist in the world to clone a plant gene in 1980, which he did with phaseolin. He had been allocated HK\$38 million by the University Grants Committee to conduct an Area of Excellence research project on 'Plant and Fungal Biotechnology' to solve the world's food shortage problem in 1999. In 2001, he was elected academician of the Chinese Academy of Engineering. This year, he was selected 'Leader of the Year' Award 2005 in the category of education/ research in recognition of his outstanding contribution.



Prof. Samuel Sun

S. H. Ho College will be established with a donation of \$170 million from the S. H. Ho Foundation. It will accommodate 600 students and is expected to admit students before 2012. Prof. Sun hopes the students in new college will enjoy their campus life and he will continue to strengthen communication with students and teach by example.

~ Issue 10

理學院院會活動:理學院時間



一年一度由理學院院會主辦之理學院時間已於2006年8月8日舉行。此活動旨在 讓各理學院新生於新生輔導營期間能夠對中文大學理學院有一定之認識,並認 同自己已成為中文大學理學院之一分子,從而建立對理學院之歸屬感。透過理學 院時間所舉行之活動,希望能令理學院各院系新生能消除彼此間的隔閡,更容易 融入往後的大學生活。今年理學院時間的主題為"舞林",活動包括:千人宴、 營舞熱鬥比試、院花院草選舉、新人王一泳兒及一叮聯盟之表演等等。其中以營 舞比賽最為激烈,最後由生物系勝出、而中醫學院及數學系奪得亞軍及季軍。



港中文大學

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科學領袖營之營得有「理」2006 - 7月18日至7月21日

由理學院主辦四日三夜的科學領袖營之《營得有「理」》2006在200位12-15歲 「營仔營女」的歡 笑聲下告一段落。大會精挑細選學業及品行上均有卓越表現的「營仔營女」,透過不同的學習情境 及教學活動,由大學的導師透過一系列的工作坊與實驗,帶領他們探索健康與科學領域中不同範 疇的知識,提升他們的創造力、觀察力、批判性思考力和溝通協作力,同時建構他們對科學的新態 度、新思維,訓練他們成為明日社會出色的領袖!



第十期

第八屆科學鐵人盃 - 7月28日至7月29日



一百名中六理科生已於七月廿八及廿九日於香港中文大學校園競逐「第八屆科學鐵人盃」。 「科學鐵人盃」是由香港中文大學理學院主辦的一個「寓學習於遊戲」的比賽。各項比賽由 香港中文大學理學院各學系及課程精心設計,包括生物化學、生物、化學、中醫學、環境科 學、食品及營養科學、數學、分子生物技術、物理、風險管理科學及統計學等。此活動今年 已是第八年舉行,各位準科學鐵人必須於兩天內完成共九個回合的比賽,以訓練參賽者之邏 輯思考,培養團隊精神,磨練堅強鬥志,考驗持久耐力,學習科技新知,使參賽者認識到科 學的趣味。每個回合的勝出者將獲得「迷你鐵人」獎,最後依得分高低,選拔「第八屆科學 鐵人」之冠、亞及季軍三個大獎。結果由華仁書院(九龍)的麥海文同學贏得冠軍、何明華會 督銀禧中學的梁家豪同學及李其倡同學分別奪得亞軍及季軍。







1st Asia Pacific Coral Reef Symposium



Date: June 18-24, 2006 Venue: The Chinese University of Hong Kong Theme: Coral Reefs: Cooperation and Collaboration for Better Conservation

Host: Department of Biology, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong, SAR, China.

Co-hosts:

The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department of the Hong Kong SAR Government The Chinese University of Hong Kong - Environmental Science Programme The City University of Hong Kong - Department of Biology and Chemistry The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology - Department of Biology The University of Hong Kong - Department of Ecology and Biodiversity

Principal Sponsors: The Croucher Foundation The KC Wong Education Foundation The United College, Chinese University of Hong Kong



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Academic Counselling for Mainland Student - Science Stream 2006/2007



Group photo of 2006/2007 Science Stream Year 1 students

Academic counselling for 39 Science Stream Mainland students admitted in 2006-07 was held on 22 August 2006 in Lady Shaw Building. There was a Faculty Orientation briefing by Professor Dennis Ng, Associate Dean (Student Affairs) and Professor Poon Wai Yin, Associate Dean (Education), followed by academic counselling of individual programmes.

The 2006/2007 Academic Advisor of Mainland students for each department, programme or school as follows:

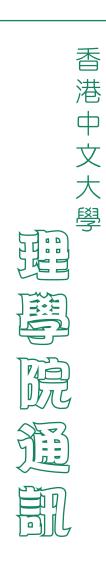
Biochemistry Department, Food & Nutritional Sciences Programme - Professor Chen Zhen Yu Biology Department - Professor Ge Wei Chemistry Department - Professor Liu Zhifeng Mathematics Department, Double Degree in Maths & IE - Professor Zou Jun Physics Department - Professor Hark Sui Kong Statistics Department - Professor Gu Ming Gao School of Chinese Medicine - Professor Lin Zhi Xiu Environmental Science Programme - Professor Chiu Siu Wai Molecular Biotechnology Programme - Professor Edwin Chan Ho Yin Risk Management Science Programme - Professor Wong Hoi Ying



Faculty Orientation by Professor WY Poon



Tea Reception



Calendar

Events Planned in the Months of September - October 2006

Department	Date, Time and Place	Events
Biology	11 September 2006 MMW LT2	Seminar Hot Science in a Cold Place: The Changing World of the Ross Sea, Antarctica by Prof. Walker O Smith, Jr. Virginia Institute of Marine Science College of William & Mary USA
	3 October 2006 SC L5	Seminar Pseudo-Reverse Approach in Genetic Evolution: An Emperical Study with Enzymes by Prof. Cheng-Yuan Liou, Department of Computer Science & Information Engineering National Taiwan University, Taiwan
	10 October 2006 SC L5	Seminar The Plant Endocytic Pathway by Prof. David G Robinson, Department of Cell Biology Heidelberg Institute for Plant Sciences, University of Heidelberg Germany
	26 October 2006 SC L5	Seminar Inherent and Induced Thermal-Tolerance in the Protection of Oyster Populations from Summer Mortality Caused by Perkinsus marinus Infection and Thermal Stress by Prof. Fu-Lin Chu, Virginia Institute of Marine Science College of William & Mary USA
Statistics	1 September 2006 4:00pm - 5:00pm LSB LT3	Joint Seminar by Department of Statistics and Department of Systems Engineering and Engineering Managment The Brain, the Universe, and Random Processes on Manifolds by Prof. Robert J. Adler, Technion, Israel
Chinese Medicine	6 September 2006 4:30pm - 6:30pm ELB LT2	Seminar 慢性功能消化不良臨床體會 深圳市中醫院內科教授陳福如教授
	13 September 2006 4:30pm - 6:30pm ELB LT2	Seminar 視疲勞的中醫治療與調養 廣州中醫藥大學眼科教授李志英教授
	20 September 2006 4:30pm - 6:30pm ELB LT2	Seminar 針刺對神經系統疾病臨床治驗 深圳市中醫院針灸科主任醫師吳永剛教授
	24 September 2006 10:00am - 11:30am Herbal Garden	Visit Visit the herbal garden, get to know the common herbs in HK Hong Kong Association for Parents of Gifted Children Ltd
	27 September 2006 4:30pm - 6:30pm ELB LT2	Seminar 常見眼底病徵的中醫治療 廣州中醫藥大學眼科教授李志英教授

理學院通訊 Faculty of Science Newsletter

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網址/website: http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/sci/



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