To Serve & Learn
To Serve and Learn

HKU students are building a better world in their own unique ways

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HKU students are fighting to eradicate poverty, promote equality, ensure sustainability...

They are building a better world in their own unique ways.
Volunteer work is not a one way act of charity. It is an act about learning and love. It is also the driving force behind the service work of six students: Janice Cheung, Kenny Choi, Benjamin Ho, Lee Sau-mei, Christie Tsang and Yeung Sui-hung who were involved in Steps To Embrace People (STEPS II) in Sri Lanka. They began by researching the history and impact of the civil war on Sri Lanka and focused on relief work for the war-affected population. Their trip coincided with a serious flood that affected the Eastern province of Sri Lanka. They joined the local branch of the Red Cross to provide immediate relief and support to the local people in Batticaloa. They helped with cleaning and sanitising work for a hospital and at a camp for the homeless. They extended the project to include relief work, which is aimed at fighting against flood problems, and how they could offer financial support for the activities of the NGOs.

A group of HKU students went to Ghana to teach English, computer, personal hygiene and life skills in an orphanage. At first, they were discouraged by the lack of electricity and water supplies, not to mention the bugs, mosquitoes and the blazing sun. When they started teaching, they found that the children did not have textbooks or stationery. “In Hong Kong, everything is within our reach and it is easy to take everything for granted. In Ghana, the lack of resources was the biggest problem,” said Catti Lee, a third year arts student. “During the computer lessons, we described the different parts of a computer on a drawing board; the children read the names of the parts out and memorised the terms. However, many of them had never seen a computer.”

“My friends asked me why not just donate to local NGOs. My belief is: if I never reach out and be with them, I will never take a step forward to contribute more.”

Ghana

Do small things with GREAT Love

Sri Lanka

Give, Take and Love - STEPS II
The “Better Health, Better Lives, Better Future” Project (BBB) was launched in January 2012. It aims to improve water quality and hygiene awareness in orphanages in Siem Reap, Cambodia. The initiator, Cherry Zhang, a PhD student in Medicine, visited the orphanages in Siem Reap last year. After returning to Hong Kong, she invited her classmates and friends at HKU to form the BBB committee, in order to make a change in the poor living conditions of the children.

At the orphanages the BBB team built a long-lasting water purification and storage system, performed health checks on the children to assess their nutritional and physical wellness, and taught the children about basic personal hygiene and first aid techniques. They also provided the children with first aid kits and daily necessities, including second-hand clothes, recycled soap, toothpaste and toothbrushes.

The BBB team is recruiting more students from various disciplines. With their collective efforts and combined skills, they hope the children will soon have better health, better lives and a better future.

“In Hong Kong, we worry about grades and smartphones, but in Cambodia they worry about food and other basic necessities.”

Cherry Zhang 張瑩瑩 (PhD student in Medicine)

“Even though we have group mates studying architecture and civil engineering, we still needed a mason to teach us how to build with bricks! We realised that several years of learning from textbooks becomes zero when we needed to build a tank by hand.”

Katherine Lee 李君儀 (BNurs, Year 2)

“We always complain about the little problems in life. But, when we step into others’ shoes, we will find that the grudges we were holding onto are not significant at all. There are a lot of people and issues in the world that are more worthy of our attention.”

Queenie Wong 黃君兒 (BA(ArchStud), Year 2)
Busy university life has become my excuse not to serve. This trip has reminded me to serve with my heart and ACTION.

Carmen Chang 鄭雅文 (BBA(Law), Year 2)

In June, a group of 25 students from the Rotaract Club participated in a wide range of services, including tree planting, teaching, and a visit to children with Down Syndrome and orphans.

Jenny Lau, a third year education student, said, “Although some of the children may be seen as underprivileged, they appreciate what they enjoy in their lives. And they are happy. A boy was chosen by AC Milan for football training. Unfortunately, he suffered from kidney cancer and the orphanage was not able to raise enough funds to support his medical needs. He remained positive and kept showing us his love for football by demonstrating his football skills. There are many similar stories in Mongolia; although we may not be able to help much, we learnt to appreciate what we have.”

“Through the service trip, I made many good friends in Mongolia, and all of the team members were very thankful to the Rotaractors in Mongolia, who took care of every trivial arrangement in the 11-day trip. Being curious about Mongolian cultures, I often asked questions, which provided me a chance to interact with local people.”

Carmen Chang, a second year BBA(Law) student, recalled that “Mongolia children do not understand or speak English, so we relied on local university students to translate for us. We communicated with body language, eye contact and expressions. I had to pay a lot of attention to the children, to observe their every single body movement, and try to understand their feelings and what they wanted to share with me.”

“I met a boy in the State Orphanage who loved drawing and playing brass instruments. I love drawing and playing trumpet. We drew and played together.”

“Before I left the orphanage, we took pictures and gave each other a big hug. I tried my very best to show him my support, encouraging him to continue to do what he likes. When I left, I could see tears in his eyes, and I was sure he could also feel my love and support. I also experienced the power of silent communication.”

Give the world the best you have and it may
We could live our lives in a much simpler way and be more environmentally friendly. We are all able to live with significantly fewer resources and in a sustainable manner.

Bryan Ho 何兆賢 (PhD student in Biochemistry)

This summer, a group of 14 students participated in Project PAEAN, which aims to raise awareness among students of the difficulties and challenges faced by the underprivileged in rural villages in Xiushui, and cultivate a sense of social responsibility for the betterment of the deprived groups. In June, they carried out field studies and provided services to the villagers. After the trip, they reported on their observations and shared their experiences. This will be a continuous effort. Students are developing projects to continue changing the poverty situation in Xiushui.

“There is indeed still much to be done and it seems that a lot of problems have to do with policies, existing structures and the lack of resources. If we can move ahead in this direction, I am confident that we can create a positive and lasting impact on the community,” said Alexander Chan, a third year engineering student.

With support from local NGOs in Nepal, they were able to go to Nepal with eight other HKU students. There the team built small fan-assisted stoves, which are very efficient, using just one third of the fuel that the old ones did. They also made sure the stoves had proper ventilation, as the burning wood from the old stoves gave the women many health problems.

“As there was no equipment, we had to become manual labourers, not only making the ovens by hands but also mixing the cement by foot. To make sure the chimneys were straight, we improvised a plumb line with a piece of string with a stone tied to the end,” said Pankaj Parajuli.

The team had manually built 15 stoves and improved the lives of 15 families. Pankaj felt they really achieved a lasting impact in just 10 days and they are planning the next project.

More services stories: http://100.hku.hk/service100

never be enough. Give your best anyway.”

Mother Teresa (Hon DSc 1993)
Faculty of Education
Serving the Community

1916
Department of Education within the Faculty of Arts was opened, specifically for teacher training purposes.

1920s
Degree courses designed for teacher training were popular. By 1925, 56 out of 126 undergraduates in the Faculty involved in teacher training.

1931
Members of the Department of Education, through the HKU Education Society, established the “Free Night School” for disadvantaged children.

1951
Department of Education reopened after the war.

1955
Bursary scheme to train teachers started.

1956
First part-time (in-service) Certificate in Education programme launched.

1958
First Master of Arts in Education (MA(Ed)) awarded.

1975
First Master of Philosophy in Education (MPhil) awarded.

1976
Conversion of the Department of Education into the School of Education.

1978
Master of Education (MEd) programme launched.
Understanding our past is an essential part of planning for our future, because it helps us to understand who we are, and how we are perceived, not only by colleagues and students past and present but also by the community at large.”

Professor Stephen Andrews
Dean, Faculty of Education

1984
Faculty of Education established:
Department of Education
Department of Professional Studies

1985
First Doctor of Philosophy awarded

1987
Certificate in Education renamed
Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PCEd)

1990
Bachelor of Education started

2012 June 9
A Reunion Dinner held to acknowledge all staff, alumni, students and friends who have contributed to the success of the Faculty

Deans’ Talk at the Faculty Reunion Dinner:
(From 2nd left) Professor Mark Bray (2002 – 06) (CertChinLang 1987),
Professor Nirmala Rao (Acting 2006 – 07), Professor Frederick Leung (BSc 1977; CertEd 1980; AdvDipEd 1983; MEd 1984)
and moderator Principal Eric Yuon (MSW 1993; PCEd 2004)(1st left)

The book features the historical timeline, memorable moments from faculty members and precious photos of the past 90 years.

http://web.edu.hku.hk
The University Grants Committee (UGC) launched the UGC Teaching Awards in 2011 to honour academics for their outstanding teaching performance and achievements, and their ability to engage, inspire and impact students. HKU academics have won this 2 years running.

Dr David M Pomfret, Department of History
winner in 2012

In the Award Citation, Dr Pomfret was singled out for demonstrating “a powerfully compelling use of new technologies in education that integrate students and teachers into a real partnership of teachers and learners.”

“This new generation, accustomed since childhood to engaging with interactive media and visual agoraes, is bringing new skills, competencies, and expectations to learning. Through the development of learner-centred approaches, teachers can rethink the classroom to facilitate the kind of revelatory learning that will equip these students for social empowerment and personal emancipation.”

www.history.hku.hk/people/staff-david-pomfret.html

Professor Rick A Glofcheski, Department of Law
winner in 2011

In the Award Citation, Professor Glofcheski was described as “an exceptional educator whose work will bring about positive and long-term impact on the culture of assessment and hence learning and teaching in the entire UGC sector.”

“We can only learn to be better teachers through our students. It is only by engaging students and their learning and by reflecting on that learning that we can learn to become better teachers. My students have inspired and motivated me to new ways of thinking about learning.”

www.law.hku.hk/faculty/staff/glofcheski_rick.html
The Rt Hon Tony Blair, Founder and Patron of the Tony Blair Faith Foundation, delivered a keynote speech on the impact of faith and globalisation at HKU in June.

This was the inaugural lecture of the partnership between the Faith and Globalisation Initiative (FGI) of the Tony Blair Faith Foundation and the HKU’s Faith and Global Engagement Initiative (FGE). FGI is a global network of leading universities of the Foundation while FGE is a multi-disciplinary platform for experts to discuss the role of faith in the public, professional and cultural life.

Religion has much to say from many perspectives on many issues. What is required is proper, in depth and rigorous research into these issues. This is where these programmes and the work of HKU can help,” Mr Blair said.

Professor Daniel Chua, Director of the FGE, noted that “leaders should be intelligently engaged with the questions of faith and the global impact. We formed the Faith and Global Engagement programme to initiate a conversation in the spirit of hospitality. Whoever you are and whatever you believe in we want to engage with you about religion.”

HKU should be a place where faith is freely discussed and understood. This is now an urgent issue given the re-emergence of religion as a potent social and political force in recent years across the world.

“This part of the world is one of the fastest areas of growing Christianity as well as many other faiths. HKU has a steadfast commitment to scholarship and freedom. The basis for the Tony Blair Faith Foundation’s Faith and Globalisation Initiative is similar. The face of religion in this environment is two-fold: conflict and compassion. Much of the news about religion is about conflict. However, religion is also capable of great compassion.”

HKU is the ninth university in the world and the second in China (following Peking University) to join the FGI. In collaboration with other FGI partner institutions, HKU’s FGE explores topics including religion and conflict, religion in public life, and human rights bringing critical analysis to the forefront of global debate, providing current and future leaders with a theologically informed and responsible understanding of religion and how its engagement with the world can transform the social and political landscape.

HKU’s Faith and Global Engagement Initiative: www.faith.hku.hk
At the Ordinary General Meeting, eight members* were elected to the Standing Committee of Convocation and will hold office with immediate effect until the Ordinary General Meeting in 2015.

Standing Committee members: as at July 17, 2012

Chairman:
* Choi Sau-yuk 蔡秀煜  
(BSocSc 1972)

Deputy Chairman:
Andrew Fung Ho-keung 馮可強  
(BA 1969; DipEd 1972)

Clerk:
John Wan Chung-on 溫頌安  
(BSc 1970; MBuddhStud 2007)

Members:
Chan Ka-chin 陳嘉展  
(BEng(Mech) 1992)

Ian Chu Wai-nung 朱位能  
(BSc 1976)

* Dr Wilt on Fok Wai-tung 霍偉棟  
(BEng-EEE 1993; MSc(Eng) 1996; MSc(EnvMan) 1999)

Gary Ko Man-hon 高文翰  
(LLB 2004)

Andrew Kuet Shun-cheong 閱順昌  
(BSocSc 1987)

Peter Kwan Pak-ming 翟伯明  
(FDipM 1994; MBA 1997)

* Dr Vincent Kwan Pun-fong 關品方  
(BSocSc 1973)

* Alex Lai Chun-hung 賴振鴻  
(BScEng 1985)

* Dr Lee Kin-hung 李健鴻  
(MMBs 1968; MD 1971)

* Mabel Lee Wong May-bo 李黃眉波  
(LLB 1974)

Jimmy Lo Chi-ming 盧志明  
(BSc 1969; CertEd 1978)

Dr Francis Lung Ka-kui 龍家勳  
(BScEng 1982)

Man Cheuk-fei 文灼非  
(BA 1987)

Dr Evelyn Man Yee-fun 文綺芬  
(BA 1987)

* Dr Victor Ng Hon 吳瀚  
(BEngEEE 1999)

* Vivien Pau Wai-yee 鮑慧兒  
(BSocSc 1977)

Mona Tam Cheung Chui-fan 譚張翠芬  
(MBA 2004)

Jeffrey Tse Hoi-shing 謝海成  
(BBA(Acc&Fin) 2003; M Econ 2004)

Dr Kenneth Tse Kam-tim 謝錦添  
(BSocSc 1973; DipManStud 2002; MBA 1966)

Wong Ka-ho 王家豪  
(BSc 2003; MPhil 2006)

George Yuen Kam-ho 袁金浩  
(BA 1966)

Professor Cheung started by explaining the changing context of policy making:

- the policy actors changing from single (bureaucrats, Administrative Officers) to multi-actors because of the rise of partisan politics;

- the policy habitat changing from a relatively orderly, submissive, acquiescent society to a more mobilised, unstable (uncertain) and crowding environment; there is the rise of street protests, judicial review, media politics and social media;

- the policy process changing from policy consultation to political negotiation and bargaining; and

- the political philosophy changing from positive non-interventionism (“if it’s not broken, why fix it?”) to interventions and values contentions.

Convocation of The University of Hong Kong (香港大學畢業生議會) is a statutory body comprising all graduates and teaching staff of the University. The Standing Committee consists of 24 members who are all elected from and by members of Convocation.
“The modus operandi of government has to change. The outlook of the government also needs to change.”

Professor the Hon Anthony Cheung 張炳良 (BSocSc 1974): Challenges and Opportunities facing the Next Government

According to Professor Cheung, the growing tensions are: the widening wealth gap; the failing market; fast-spreading anti-rich and anti-business sentiments; perceived disparities of the political system; and an overspill of Mainland issues. As a result, there is overall a growing sense of a lack of security, and Hong Kong has become a city of unhappiness.

**The Way Out**

Quoting the comparison figures of the World Bank Governance Indicators 2010, Professor Cheung expressed his belief that Hong Kong still has an effective government (“one of the best in Asia”). While admitting there are current political constraints, he suggested that the new government should be committed to bringing about some concrete impact on people’s livelihood, as well as seeking responsiveness-type accountability, and that the government should reconnect to society.

Professor Cheung concluded by saying that the new government should be a “Can Do” government working for change: “Politics and policies should both be at the core of C Y Leung’s Agenda for Change.”

**Rethinking the Hong Kong Model**

Professor Cheung asserted that there is the need for a paradigm shift. The Executive-led Government should become an Executive-led one within the context of executive-legislative co-responsibility, as well as a socially embedded government. The former concept of positive non-interventionism should be changed to that of a proactive government or an ‘enabling’ government. There should be an effective government instead of a small one. And policy changes should become knowledge-based and values-driven, rather than administration-based and fiscally-driven.

Content of this section is contributed by the Standing Committee of Convocation.
Global Exchange on Traditional Chinese Medicine

To broaden the international knowledge on the development of Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) among the members, The University of Hong Kong Bachelor of Chinese Medicine (Full-time) Alumni Association (HKUBCMAA) organised the first study trip to explore various professional fields related to TCM in Europe in June 2012.

“It was a fruitful and rewarding trip. We visited a number of Chinese Medicine institutions, hospitals and clinics in London, Paris, Berlin and Munich. It was an honour to meet prominent professors, organisation founders, physicians and staff members, and exchange ideas on TCM. Some of the institutes, including the Asante Academy of Chinese Medicine at Middlesex University and the Confucius Institute for Traditional Chinese Medicine at London South Bank University, organise various TCM courses at degree level, which have marked a great leap to formalise TCM education into the European education system.

The professionals we met unreservedly shared their ideas and strategies on TCM business in Europe. The promotion of TCM in Western countries faces many more difficulties and challenges than in Asia, such as the European Union (EU)’s strict regulations on importing herbal medicine. Despite the obstacles, they are confident that TCM in Europe will develop progressively. We were deeply impressed by their passion.

We also visited the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew, London. This beautiful and tranquil garden accommodates extraordinary and massive collections of living herbal plants. There is also a unique and large-scale library of herbs.

Besides the academic exchange, it was also great fun to be able to catch some musicals in London, visit the British Museum, the Palace of Versailles and the Eiffel Tower in France, and Neuschwanstein Castle in Germany, and try the yummy pork knuckles and sausages in Germany. All in all, we really enjoyed Europe’s culture and scenery.”
Hong Kong University Education Alumni Association

Founded in 2004, the Association aims to provide a platform for all graduates of the Faculty of Education. They are teachers, administrators, government officials and education stakeholders.

Through organising different educational, recreational, social, cultural and community service activities, the Association serves to maintain friendships and to further the interests of and professionalism amongst its members.

http://web.edu.hku.hk/alumni

HKU Education Faculty Research Degrees Alumni Association

Established in 2010 at the "Education Research Degrees Alumni Reunion", the HKUEdRDAA aims to promote networking and advance professionalism amongst members who are graduates from the Research Degrees of Education.

Last year, with the support of Dr Jin Leili 金蕾 (PhD 2009) of Tsinghua University, a reunion dinner was held in Beijing. It was attended by 22 research degree graduates and current students, including Professor Winnie Cheng 鄭梁慧蓮 (BA 1981; CertEd 1983; AdvDipEd 1988; MEd 1989; PhD 2002) and Dr Icy Lee 李潔冰 (BA 1983; PhD 1999).

http://web.edu.hku.hk/alumni_rdaa

Hong Kong University Alumni Association in Beijing

Since March 2011, HKUAA has organised regular gatherings, such as the Monthly Professional Alumni Get-together, for alumni residing or working in Beijing.

Alumni who are working or studying in Beijing are welcome to contact Dr Lin Mengmeng 林萌萌 (BSc 2004) at mmlin0823@sina.com to join upcoming gatherings.

HKUAA also holds monthly professional alumni gatherings in Hong Kong. Please contact Joseph Chong 莊學正 (BSc(Surv) 2001; MSc(IDM) 2007) at josephhku@gmail.com for details.

www.hkuaa.org.hk
Mentoring Migrant Children

Wang Xuemeng, a secondary school student from a migrant worker home in Shanghai, won a scholarship to attend a young adult conference in Hong Kong to exchange views with a dozen teenagers.

This is good news for Anthony Lau 劉育健 (BSocSc 1983) who is a mentor to Xuemeng, a young and promising student who is working hard to paint her own bright future. Coming from a migrant family without the Shanghai hukou (Chinese household registration system 戶口), she does not have the right to study at senior secondary schools or take the university entrance examination there.

Anthony is among 40 alumni and friends in Shanghai taking part in the mentorship programme for migrant children organised by the HKU Shanghai Alumni Network (HKUSAN) and the Jiuqian Volunteer Centre (久牽志願者中心), a non-government organisation serving migrant children in Shanghai. Modelled on HKU’s Mentorship Programme, this initiative aims to help nurture the underprivileged in this fast-growing cosmopolitan city.

“These migrant children are no different from their peers who are born into a Shanghainese family. Yet after graduating from junior secondary schools, they can only further their studies at vocational schools in Shanghai under the current government policies,” said Wesley Chiu 赵宾 (PCLL 2000), who is the mastermind behind this pioneering move on the Mainland. “What we are trying to do is to become their friends and support them,” said Victor Liu 劉廷中 (IMBA 2006), another supporter.

Launched in January this year, the programme has been well received by fellow alumni and their friends in Shanghai. “Nearly 10% of the people on the mailing list rushed to sign up for this programme within two days,” said Doreen Cheung 張玉貞 (BSocSc 1985), president of HKUSAN. “This is extremely encouraging and fully demonstrates our commitment to offer a helping hand whenever necessary.”

1. China’s household registration system, set up in 1958, divides the population into rural households and non-rural households. Under the system, rural citizens have no access to social welfare in cities, even though they may live and work there. (China Daily, March 4, 2008)
2. Migrant children in Shanghai are those coming to Shanghai with their parents from other provinces.
Serving the Community

HKUSAN offers support to summer interns and exchange students from HKU. From June to July this year, ten alumni shared their experiences with 32 HKU students who were preparing to have a taste of life in Shanghai under the Shanghai-Hong Kong Future Leaders Internship Programme.

“We are more than happy to share our experiences and knowledge about Shanghai with our HKU juniors whether they will pursue their careers on the Mainland or not. At least, we can help them to understand today’s China more,” said Walter Wai 衛裕峯 (BEng(ME) 2001).

Supporting Hong Kong People in Shanghai

HKUSAN embarked on a new attempt to reflect opinions to the office of the HKSAR government in Shanghai to support Hong Kong people who moved there. “We want to help make Shanghai a better living place for people from different walks of life. This is just the beginning. We will organise more focused discussions in the future with a view to working out feasible solutions,” said Doreen, the key driver behind this move.

This idea is welcomed by alumni. Many of them aired their opinions on issues spanning across health, education and the business environment during a gathering with Joyce Tam, Director of Hong Kong Economic and Trade Affairs Office, Shanghai of HKSAR government, in July.

Executive committee of HKUSAN at the inauguration on June 30:
(from left) Victor Liu 劉廷中 (IMBA 2006)
S K Wong 黃首健 (MSc(UrbanPlanning) 2003)
Doreen Cheung 張玉貞 (BSocSc 1985)
Wesley Chiu 趙賓 (PCLL 2000)
Linda Wong 黃桂新 (BA 1985)
Beatrice Chan 陳寶金 (BSc 1988)

Members not in the photo include Joe Chan 陳祖蔭 (BSocSc 1978),
Walter Wai 衛裕峯 (BEng(ME) 2001), Peggy Shen (MJ 2011)
and Anson Chan 陳焯賓 (BA(ArchStud) 1994; MArch 1997).

If you want to learn more about HKUSAN, please:

Visit their blog http://blog.sina.com.cn/hkusan
Follow their weibo http://weibo.com/hkuaash, or
Send your contact email address to Doreen Cheung cheung.doreen@hotmail.com for future event notices

www.alumni.hku.hk/home/shanghai/event/
HKUAA United Kingdom Chapter

Joint universities team at the Dragon Boat Festival
The HKU Alumni Association UK Chapter participated at the London Dragon Boat Festival held on July 1, 2012 at the London Regatta Centre located at the Royal Albert Docks on the River Thames. On this occasion, the Joint Hong Kong Universities Team was formed with The Chinese University of Hong Kong Alumni Association members. Alumni from the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, the Hong Kong Polytechnic University, and City University of Hong Kong were also invited to join the team.

HKUAA of Victoria, Australia

Visit to Parliament House
July 12, 2012 was a cold and wet winter day in Melbourne. But the gloomy weather could not dampen the high spirits of HKUAA of Victoria alumni and their families as they visited Parliament House of Victoria.

This majestic building was where the Parliament of Victoria first met in November 1856. Our group was very honoured to have Ms Gladys Liu, Special Adviser to the Premier, as our guide. We visited the Chambers for the Legislative Assembly (Lower House) and Legislative Council (Upper House) where policies affecting our everyday life are formed.

The highlight of the day was the high tea at the Strangers Corridor. As we had a big group, the restaurant was kind enough to let us use the room that is usually open to Parliament members only. Since it was a non-sitting day, we were the only group in the room. We all left Parliament House with full stomachs. This might have been a succinct lesson on Victorian politics in a most comfortable way!
HKUAA New South Wales Chapter

Over 80 alumni, their families and friends attended the Annual General Meeting and Dinner. The guest speaker, Dr Ernest Tam 譚顯祥 (MBBS 1978) spoke on "Mind Your Health Mines", and received an overwhelming positive response from the audience.

Executive Committee:
Chairman:
Benny Mok 莫格明 (DipEd 1971; AdvDipEd 1980; MEd 1981)
Vice-Chairman:
Louisa Chin 錢張秋霞 (BSocSc 1980)
Hon Secretary:
C S Cheng 鄭重時 (BA(ArchStud) 1973)
Hon Treasurer:
C C Cheung 張宗泉 (BSc 1974)
Social Convenor:
Dr Chung Chak-man 鍾澤民 (MBBS 1969)
Sports Convenor:
Wu Dick-kin 胡迪乾 (BSc 1971)
Members:
Li Kwing-shun 李炯信 (BSc(Eng) 1959)
Linda Tang 鄧紫瑩 (BA 1985)

HKUAA of New Zealand

The new committee:
President: Margaret Chan 陳伍潔芳 (BA 1973; MSocSc 1975)
Vice President: Anthony Ma 馬適基 (BA 1974)
Hon Secretary: Terry Mak 麥陳惠明 (BSocSc 1980; CertEd 1982)
Hon Treasurer: Albert Lo 羅國光 (BA 1964)
Members: Dr Wilson Young 楊惠生 (MBBS 1971)
Ivy Ho 何雅婷 (BSocSc 1983)
Immediate Past President: Dr Lora Young 楊何笑敏 (MBBS 1971)
Kwok Shuk, our Guardian

Kwok Wai-sum 郭惠深 (Uncle Kwok or Kwok Shuk 郭叔) served at Wei Lun Hall since its opening in 1994 until his retirement in May this year. For 18 years, he has taken care of over 2,500 students and his contributions are far beyond his main duty of guarding the Hall during night time.

Kwok Shuk is a man with a lot of talent especially in Chinese literature and calligraphy. His calligraphy is also featured on the Hall’s website. During the old days when mobile phones were not common, phone calls to the Hall were handled by Kwok Shuk. His strong voice and his signature tone of saying “偉倫堂” with a Chiu Chow accent was often imitated by the students.

“I am still amazed at how he was able to remember all the names of over one hundred and fifty residents and their room numbers.”

“I recently had the great pleasure of attending the retirement party of Kwok Shuk, the night watchman at Wei Lun Hall since its opening in 1994. That was also the year I entered HKU and Wei Lun Hall. For those of us who returned late at night (or very early in the morning) 郭叔 always had a stern face but kind words.

Occasionally, when he was in the mood, he would write a personalised poem for a lucky individual, which showed an uncanny understanding and insight of the subject. What is even more impressive is that now, after eighteen years of service, 郭叔 still remembers each of us by name. It is no wonder that he has so many admirers, Wei Lun Dragons, who love and respect him. This was best demonstrated at the retirement party, be it graduates of the last century (such as myself) or recent graduates who have known him for a short time.

I believe that whether one has known 郭叔 for years or just a few months, he will always be remembered and missed for his dedication, integrity and caring for students. I wish 郭叔 a very happy retirement.”

Katy Lau Suen 孫家璞 (LLB 1997; PCLL 1999)  
First Chairlady of Wei Lun Hall Student Association
In May 2012, former and current Hallmates organised a gathering to bid farewell to Kwok Shuk 郭叔 and Auntie Kwok 郭嬸.

Uncle Kwok likes writing Chinese Poetry for hallmates, Hall Student Executive Committees and Sports Teams. He likes sharing his experiences, whether it be on religion, lifestyle, Chinese culture or love affairs. He loves the Hall just like our senior hallmates. He knows our students’ activities well even though he has never participated in them.

Uncle Kwok is our honourable hall member.

Joe Chan 陈文辉 (BEng-ME 1998) (1994-98 resident)

Dr Cheung Kie-chung 張祺忠 Warden of Wei Lun Hall (since 2007)

「郭叔對工作非常盡責。有一天清晨，我走過門口接待處，見郭叔不在，正納悶間，見他氣沖沖的從一樓走下來。原來有個女交換生，帶了個朋友，沒有登記就跑了上樓。郭叔認出那個交換生，知悉她在那個房間。於是，他走上樓，要那名闖關的朋友即時離開偉倫堂。」

Tang Ming-chung 鄧銘聰 (LLB 2011; PCLL 2012) (2007-12 resident)

“I remember that when my hallmates and I were preparing for a mock campaign, Uncle Kwok brought us a lot of snacks! This was really a warm and most touching moment!

Sometimes, when we fell asleep at the Multi-Purpose Rooms during the orientation period, Uncle Kwok would bring us blankets. Every hallmate has treated Uncle Kwok as a family member!”
“The most important thing in the Olympic Games is not to win but in life is not the triumph but the struggle. The essential thing is not

At the London 2012 Olympics...

Erica Fong 方綺蓓 (BA, Year 2)
Women’s 100m

“I love and enjoy sprinting!

80,000 roars of cheers and a full stadium may be a once-in-a-lifetime experience. It was an unforgettable memory, combined with the amazing feeling I had when I stood behind the starting blocks. I was excited to stand between the top athletes. Though I didn’t break the Hong Kong record in London, I clearly realised my weaknesses compared with the other athletes. Their amazing sprinting forms and warm-up procedures inspired me a lot and will help me to improve.

I would like to thank HKU and the Faculty of Arts for supporting me in my decision to defer my studies, which has allowed me to concentrate on my training. I will do my best to rock the track and beat the clock in future. Last but not least, I gain more than I lose on the track!”

Polly Fung 馮樸琳 (BDS 2009)
Games Makers (Olympic volunteer)

“The experience has been extraordinary; I could never imagine myself performing at the Olympics,” said Polly, a former Green Gown Guide (HKU Campus Tour’s docent) who is now doing a PhD in Dentistry (Oral Medicine) at the University College London (UCL). She received the UCL Volunteer Award 2011-12 in recognition of her commitment to volunteering.

Polly won a place to perform at the Opening Ceremony of the London 2012 Olympic Games after two auditions. She was one of the drummers in the ‘Industrial Revolution’ section and a marshal to lead the athletes’ entry.

Polly met Dr Stephen Ng 吳呂南 (BA 1976) who served as a volunteer constable with the Metropolitan Police at the Olympics. Both are the committee members of the HKU Alumni Association UK Chapter. They are also mentors to HKU students in the UK.
“The most important thing in the Olympic Games is not to win but to take part, just as the most important thing in life is not the triumph but the struggle. The essential thing is not to have conquered but to have fought well.”

by Pierre de Frédy, Baron de Coubertin
founder of the modern Olympic Games

Hayley Chan 陳晞文 (BA, Year 1)
Windsurfing

“There are always more hurdles to jump over. That is what makes life interesting.”

My 2012 Games

March 29 — It was too good to be true. I shook hands with Rene, head coach of the windsurfing team, as he congratulated me on winning an Olympic selection. I had chosen to take a break from university and see how far I could go as an athlete. My parents and HKU were supportive of my decision. They gave me the trust, space and time to catch up with the top windsurfers in the world.

June 2 — Why was this happening? I was in utter shock and confusion as I lay in bed in Dorset County Hospital ICU. Two days earlier I collided with a 49er Olympic sailing class boat whilst training – five broken ribs and a midline incision from a splenectomy. I was very lucky. We had some very good staff on the team who set up a rehabilitation programme for me. If I could survive having one-third of my blood inside my abdomen cavity, I felt I ought to do everything for my life’s dream. I had been at death’s door for the first time and I didn’t want any regrets when the next time came.

July 5 — First day back training on the water! Rene and Michael, who were in charge of my rehabilitation programme, did everything to get me safely and rapidly, but steadily, back into top shape.

July 16 — Moving into the Olympic Sailing Village, I felt tears surging inside me. I couldn’t wait to get on my board, hold my sail, and see how fast I was compared to the other girls. I felt I had nothing to lose, only better yet to come.

July 31 — First day of racing. We had a practice race the day before but today was the real thing. I had two good races and everybody was surprised how well I did. Again, Rene shook hands with me as we had achieved a target. This time, I could see he was really happy.

August 5 — I finished 12th at my first Olympic Games! I was extremely grateful that I was able to compete. Many people — the doctors, the physiotherapists, my parents, friends, coaches — had told me after my accident that participation in the Olympics itself would be an amazing achievement.

The happiest and most reassuring moment was that immediately after the last race I cried, and Rene told me he was proud of me.
A group of Class of 1984 alumni, their mentees and friends paid homage to Dr Sun Yat-Sen during a visit at Cui Heng Village 翠亨村 in Zhongshan. The group has met regularly since their silver jubilee reunion.

From left: Annie Ting 丁茵茵 (BSocSc 2010) and Jacqueline Law 羅苑之 (BA 2007), Josephine Chan 陳慧敏 (BSc(Eng) 1984), Neville Lai 黎啟枝 (BSc(Eng) 1984; MBA 1991), Vincent Yan, Cherry Tse 謝凌潔貞 (BA 1984), mentee Andrew Cheng 程希揚, Joyce Shih 施熙慶 (BA 1984), Mimi Yeung 楊玉珍 (BA 1984; MPA 1992), Maria Goretti Tai 戴卓琦 (BA 2008) and Sanny Yeung.

“Mak Sai-chak 麥世澤 (BSc(Eng) 1981) and Matthias Bach (Incoming Exchange Mentee 2011-12)

“My mentor has been very helpful in providing me with advice regarding how to plan my future career, pointing me to many things that are often overlooked from a student’s perspective but are very important in one’s working life.

We have always enjoyed great discussions about current topics of the international news. My mentor is very approachable and uncomplicated in interacting with other people. I find him to be an extremely friendly person who also impresses with his intelligence.”

A gathering in Auckland, New Zealand

(Front row, from left) Terry Mak 麥陳惠明 (BSocSc 1980; CertEd 1982), Professor Ken Shortridge, Honorary Professor, HKU Department of Microbiology, Dr Wilson Young 楊惠生 (MBBS 1971)

(Back row, from left) Eddie Mak 麥榮安 (BSc 1979; CertEd 1986), mentees Stephanie Chan 陳善文 and Sheren Lee 李思慧, Joyce Shortridge, mentee Winnie Choi 禧詠而 and Dr Lora Young 楊何笑敏 (MBBS 1971).

Class of 1984 with their mentees

A group of Class of 1984 alumni, their mentees and friends paid homage to Dr Sun Yat-Sen during a visit at Cui Heng Village 翠亨村 in Zhongshan. The group has met regularly since their silver jubilee reunion.

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Jack Leung 梁冠強 (BSc 1977)
Athena Hui 許倩華 (BBA(Law), Year 3)

“Jack is a very knowledgeable mentor. He is always actively seeking opportunities to acquire new knowledge and skills even after retirement. He is active in joining the events co-organised by his mentees and took the initiative to invite us to participate in meaningful events as well. Having Jack as my mentor really gives me an opportunity to learn from his good traits and further improve on myself.”

Mak Sai-chak 麥世澤 (BSc(Eng) 1981)
Matthias Bach (Incoming Exchange Mentee 2011-12)

“My mentor has been very helpful in providing me with advice regarding how to plan my future career, pointing me to many things that are often overlooked from a student’s perspective but are very important in one’s working life.

We have always enjoyed great discussions about current topics of the international news. My mentor is very approachable and uncomplicated in interacting with other people. I find him to be an extremely friendly person who also impresses with his intelligence.”

Jack Leung (1st left) and his family cheered for his mentees including Athena (4th left) to Bare Foot Charity Walk in support of children who are suffering from hunger in Africa.
Kar-wai studied animal and plant biotechnology. After graduation, he actively participated in illustration, design and publications works, which brought him several awards. His recent collection of "Unreal Record" tries to recall school lives in the 80s and 90s.

“HKU produces leaders, not just top-notch scientists, professionals, policy makers, entrepreneurs, and successful executives. Leaders envision the future and inspire the community to achieve that future.”

This is the message that Professor Chin gave the Class of 1977 Alumni Core Group at their 35th anniversary gathering on July 29, 2012. The young ones in the front row are some of the mentees of the core group. Professor Chin's advice to the young ones is, as the lyrics of the song goes: Don’t be afraid. Don’t be afraid to think differently and make the world better.

Leung Kar-wai 梁家威 (BSc 2000)

Kar-wai studied animal and plant biotechnology. After graduation, he actively participated in illustration, design and publications works, which brought him several awards. His recent collection of "Unreal Record" tries to recall school lives in the 80s and 90s.

「面對不能參透的世事與命運，我認為最好的方法就是：
通過不斷的努力，盡量做到不負人生。」
Dr Ma moved to Canada after graduating from HKU. She then obtained a doctoral degree in Chemistry in 1971 from Simon Fraser University as a National Research Scholar. She is active in the Chinese community and was elected National President of the Chinese Canadian National Council, as well as being a Director on the Board of the Canadian Ethnocultural Council. She was the first Chinese Canadian to be appointed to the Ontario Human Rights Commission as a Commissioner.

In 1988, Dr Ma became the Chief of Public Education in the Race Relations Directorate of Multiculturalism Canada and, in 2005, she was appointed Chair of the Ontario Rental Housing Tribunal. She is active in the administrative tribunal community, being currently on the Board of Directors of the Council of Canadian Administrative Tribunals and that of the Society of Ontario Adjudicators and Regulators.

Lilian Ma 馬欣欣 (BSc 1967)

Dr Ma moved to Canada after graduating from HKU. She then obtained a doctoral degree in Chemistry in 1971 from Simon Fraser University as a National Research Scholar. She is active in the Chinese community and was elected National President of the Chinese Canadian National Council, as well as being a Director on the Board of the Canadian Ethnocultural Council. She was the first Chinese Canadian to be appointed to the Ontario Human Rights Commission as a Commissioner.

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Celestine Chan Liu 陳廖愛嫻 (BA 1958)

Celestine received the 25 Years Ontario Volunteer Service Award from the Ontario Minister of Citizenship and Immigration. She was one of the Founders of The Chinese Family Services of Ontario and is still active with the Agency as member of the Board and its Committees.

George Yuen 袁金浩 (BA 1966)

Former Government Information Services Director and presently Independent Director, Industrial & Commercial Bank of China (Asia), George paid a courtesy call on the United Nations Secretary-General the Honourable Ban Ki Moon 潘基文 in June this year.

George also visited the United Nations Headquarters, as a guest at the 2012 United Nations Public Service Day Awards Ceremony, and hosted a luncheon showcasing the Chinese culinary delights for the UN awardees. Co-hosting the event was Thomas Woo Chu, President of the Food and Beverage International Association.

George was deeply impressed by Secretary-General Ban’s broad knowledge and openness, as well as his leadership and commitment to making the world a safe, environmentally friendly and peaceful place for all humankind to live, work and enjoy.
Vicki Li 李惠萍 (BA 2011)
Vicki (1st right), a former Green Gown Guide (HKU Campus Tour’s docent), is now an Assistant Visitor Services Officer at the Legislative Council. During the guided tours, she shares the works of LegCo members, the facilities at the new LegCo Complex at Tamar, and the history of the legislature in Hong Kong with visitors from Hong Kong, the Chinese Mainland and other countries.
Dorothy Chen Kwook Lai-chue 陈郭丽珠 1929 – 2012

Dr Chen was appointed as an Assistant Lecturer in the Department of Mathematics of HKU in 1953 and was promoted to a Lectureship in 1960. She served the Department with all her heart until she took retirement in 1985 at the age of 55.

Forty-six years later one colleague reminisced about his first meeting with Dr Chen and wrote in the 70th anniversary book of the HKU Faculty of Science, “a lady dressed in an elegant Chinese ‘cheung-sam’ entered the lecture theatre. She marched down the aisle to the front, flanked by two young teaching assistants… She looked around with a smile and began lecturing and writing on the blackboard. She was Dr Doris Chen.”

Excerpt from the obituary by the Department of Mathematics

Simon Li 李慶生 1954 – 2012 (BA 1978)

Simon dedicated his career to the education and publishing sectors. He was Deputy Chairman of Hong Kong Publishing Federation, The Anglo-chinese Textbook Publishers Organisation and the Regional Director of Oxford University Press (China) Ltd. He was also one of the organizing committee members of Class of 1978 Silver Jubilee Reunion.

Sir John Swaine 施偉賢 1932 – 2012 (BA 1952)

Sir John made tremendous contributions to public service in Hong Kong. He was a member of the Legislative Council since 1980 and was President from 1993 to 1995. He was also a member of Executive Council (1988 – 1991), Chairman of The University and Polytechnic Grants Committee (1985 – 1988) and The Hong Kong Jockey Club (1993 – 1996).

“施偉賢在上海出生，1952年在港大文學院畢業，繼而往劍橋進修，60年成為大律師，75年成為御用大律師，當年與現今仍為終審法院非常任法官譚順和已離世的前終審法院曾任法官沈澄齊名，並長時間名列大律師名冊的榜首，比李柱銘、張健利等更資深一輩。施偉賢為人謙謙君子，不慍不躁，處事冷靜，待人親切，他最為人樂道的莫過於他熱愛馬匹。他對教育事業尤為熱心，在85至88年出任大學及理工撥款委員會主席，任內促進各理工學院升格為大學。在他離去之際，腦海中浮現的是他永遠衣履整齊的紳士裝扮和那貴族的氣度。”

Extracted from the citation by Professor Leonard K Young at the 84th Congregation, 1973
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A $1 donation can now turn to benefit our students 5 times over, as a result of matching from different sources!

Donate NOW to guarantee matching!

www.hku.hk/turn1to5
Since 2010, 2,500+ HKU volunteers have celebrated the Moon Festival with 6,000+ elderly citizens and low-income families.

The HKU 100 Mooncakes project is made possible with the support of alumni, students and friends.
Impact 100
Autumn 2012

Old Anatomy and Physiology Building

THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
**Impact 100**

A study initiated by alumni and published in two phases celebrates HKU’s achievements of over a hundred years and examines the University’s role as she moves into the next century.

The first phase, featuring booklets in three tranches, will reach the university family through the channel of the Convocation Newsletter as well as the internet.

The first tranche here in Autumn 2012 starts with History and Medicine. The second and third tranches covering Infrastructure, Government, Law, and Business, Education and Arts & Culture will be released in 2013. A final chapter will incorporate an Overview, and an attempt to interpret Hong Kong and thereby HKU’s rapport with China, as well as explore the University’s future positioning and contribution in the international arena.

The second phase will be the production of a traditional volume or a case incorporating all the booklets.

This format and pace is designed to create an environment, through electronic response and a series of forums, to engage and interact with readers, allowing the findings and discussions to be incorporated in the final product.

*Sapientia et Virtus* has been the guiding light for HKU to make an impact on our city, which in return has nourished and inspired generations of alumni for the last one hundred years. The Editorial Board hopes that, in telling the HKU story, it will serve to register as an imprint of our past and prompt us to contemplate a measure of our future.

www.impact100.hku.hk

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*This study does not represent the official views of the University or relevant Faculties.*
Revisiting the Past: History

It is convenient to attribute the setting up of The University of Hong Kong to British colonial strategy. Historians reveal that the reality was more dramatic.

Frederick Lugard (Hon LLD 1916), the British Governor of Hong Kong between 1907 and 1912, first expressed the idea of a university of Hong Kong in 1908 in a speech at St Stephen’s College: “… I believe myself in the awakening of China and in the opportunities for reciprocal benefits which that awakening will give to us and I believe that we must either now take those opportunities or leave them to others to take,” he said. The idea, however, was received with scepticism by the British Government in London. There was a general belief that the proposed university would only generate anti-Western sentiment and, in the end, that educated Chinese would challenge British rule.

The British Government did, with reluctance, approve the grant of land, but was unwilling to provide funds. It endowed a lone scholarship as a token. It is therefore understandable that donations from local British firms, if any, were trivial. The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation and Jardine Matheson donated nominal sums. The colonial British firms even showed their disapproval by way of absence from the Foundation Stone Laying Ceremony, as is evident from photos of the event. Only Butterfield & Swire went against the trend, by donating £40,000 to the endowment of the University.

Nevertheless, Governor Lugard and the Qing government seemed to share the same vision: that the new university would train technical personnel for practical purposes, and for the much-wanted modernisation of China. They also seemed to agree that the new university would not produce people with revolutionary ideas. And studying in Hong Kong was seen by the Qing government as a less expensive and safer alternative to sending students overseas. Lugard suggested that the English language be the medium of instruction. He thought the university would contribute to Britain’s long-term influence in China. “It is my belief that the graduates of this University... will exert an influence which will be unmeasurable in the future, among the 400 millions of China’s population,” Lugard remarked in the Foundation Stone Laying Ceremony on March 16, 1910.
In the Governor’s Appeal for Endowment Manual, Chang Jen-chun, former Viceroy of Guangdong and Guangxi, then governor-general of Jiangnan and Jiangxi, was listed as the Honorary Patron. Three other Qing officials were also listed as donors. Such acknowledgement was aimed at soliciting more donations from the local, wealthy Chinese.

Hormusjee Naorojee Mody, a prominent Parsi merchant and long time resident of Hong Kong, was the main patron of the University. He attended the Foundation Stone Laying Ceremony on March 16, 1910 and delivered a speech. Sadly, he missed the official opening in 1912 as he passed away in 1911.

A receipt issued to Kye Tai Loong, a leading Nam Pak Hong firm in Hong Kong for the donation of $600 to the Hong Kong University endowment in 1909. Note that there is a clause stating that in the event the university failed to materialise, money donated would be refunded by producing this receipt.

The Statement of the Endowment Fund in 1910 shows that the Chinese, including Qing officials, local Chinese as well as Chinese overseas, were keen to patronise the University project, while foreign firms, British ones in particular, with the exception of Butterfield & Swire, were far from enthusiastic. It is interesting to note that Chang Jen-chun helped to donate a handsome sum to the fund and was one of the major patrons of the project.
In the end, then, the founding of HKU was largely made possible by donations from Hong Kong and China. Lugard was able to secure donations from local Chinese merchants. Among the donors were two Jewish and seven Parsi firms, represented by Hormusjee Naorojee Mody. Chang Jen-chun, the Viceroy of Guangdong and Guangxi, collected sizable donations from China. The Chinese community in Southeast Asia was also enthusiastic in supporting the idea of a university in Hong Kong.

The University of Hong Kong was formally established by ordinance on March 30, 1911, and opened on March 11, 1912. In 1912, the University admitted 77 students to the Faculty of Medicine, Engineering and Arts. This was in line with the basic idea of training technical personnel.

By 1912, China had undergone its own revolution, from the Manchurian Dynasty to a Republic. In its first 30 years, HKU faced major difficulties in terms of funding, student admissions and staff recruitment, even as there was substantial development of tertiary education in China during this period: by 1937, there were 47 universities and 35 efficiently run and well-equipped colleges on the Mainland. But in 1941, the Japanese occupation of Hong Kong put everything on hold, and some academics and students fled to Free China to participate in the anti-Japanese resistance. Nonetheless, archives reveal that HKU Senate meetings continued in the internment camps in Hong Kong, and examinations were conducted.

The War ended in 1945 and HKU resumed its activities on October 21, 1946. However, formal approval from Britain for the restoration was obtained only in 1948, and the following year, the Communist Party took over the government of China. During the following 30 years, amid the Cold War and the virtual segregation of Hong Kong from the Mainland, the initial purpose of establishing HKU “for China” appeared to be an unrealistic objective.

In 1952, the Committee on Higher Education in Hong Kong, chaired by John Keswick, took the major step of re-orienting HKU’s primary responsibility to the training of officers for the Hong Kong Government. This could be seen as a major milestone, representing a fundamental deviation from the original goal of producing personnel for China.

This was followed by the Jennings and Logan Report in 1953 that, among other things, recommended the enactment of a new University of Hong Kong Ordinance with the deletion of the clause “for China”. Thereafter, there was a substantial increase in the government’s annual appropriation for HKU, and at long last the University started to enjoy a healthy financial balance sheet.

Another milestone was the introduction of government grants and loans to university students in 1969. This significantly facilitated social mobility and played a major role in Hong Kong’s development in the decades that followed. The University had repositioned itself again, as an institution serving the general population.

In 1972, Rayson Huang Li-sung (BSc 1942; Hon DSc 1968), an HKU graduate and former Vice-Chancellor of Nanyang University, assumed the vice-chancellorship at HKU. He was the first Vice-Chancellor of Chinese ethnicity and remained at the helm for 14 years. This was the era when major development campaigns were launched by Murray MacLehose, then British Governor of Hong Kong, and education was included. It was also the time when major social unrest surfaced, which was echoed by student movements in which HKU took the lead.

The 1980s was an era of expansion of higher education in Hong Kong, from an enrolment ratio of only 2% of young people completing secondary school before 1980 to 18% in 1989. The number of public higher education institutions also increased from one to eight.

Wang Gungwu 王賡武 (Hon DLitt 2002), the HKU Vice-Chancellor during 1986-1995, came in at a time of both quantitative expansion and qualitative transformation. It was in those years that the Research Grants Council was established, together with related policies that imposed a research culture on local institutions. It was also the starting point for HKU’s transformation into one of Asia’s leading research institutions.

Wang Gungwu was instrumental in setting up The University of Hong Kong Foundation for Educational Development and Research, as a vehicle to establish an endowment for institutional advancement.
A photo taken in May 1912 at Government House with Sun Yat-sen 孫中山 (LMSCC 1892) (1st right, seated), being the guest of honour, sitting beside Claude Severn (Hon LLD 1920), the acting governor. Standing on the far left is Ho Kai, founder of the School of Medicine for the Chinese and a supporter of the Revolution. Also shown in the picture are Henry May (Hon LLD 1920) and Cecil Clementi (Hon LLD 1926) (both standing behind Sun), who both later became governors.
Minutes of a meeting of the University Senate held on February 23, 1942 at Stonehenge, Stanley Internment Camp. Hong Kong fell to the Japanese on Christmas day of 1941. Civilians of allied nationality were sent to Internment Camp at Stanley where they stayed throughout the Japanese occupation period. Members of the Senate at Internment Camp in Stanley convened a meeting on February 23 at Stonehenge to report on the then situation regarding the University campus, some of its staff members as well as approval of granting of war-time degrees.

Lindsay Ride (Hon LLD 1965), Dean of Medicine (1930-32; 1935-39) at the University was also serving as Commanding Officer of the Hong Kong Field Ambulance when the war broke out. He was taken prisoner shortly after the battle started and sent to Sham Shui Po Prisoner-of-war camp. However, in January 1942, he managed to escape from the camp and fled into Free China where he established the British Army Aid Group, assisting in escapes from Hong Kong, collecting intelligence, providing medical and humanitarian aid to refugees, etc. Lindsay Ride returned to Hong Kong after the war and was appointed Vice-Chancellor of the University where he served from 1949 to 1964.

The committee has recommended that 1,650 university students should receive interest-free loans on a scale ranging from $500 up to $4,000. Many of these students have also been recommended for the award of a Government grant. The maximum will be $2,000.

The Joint Universities’ Committee has recommended that 1,650 undergraduates should receive interest-free loans on a scale ranging from $500 up to $4,000. Many of these students have also been recommended for the award of a Government grant. The maximum will be $2,000.

Left: Clipping on the launch of the government grants and loans scheme from The Standard in 1965.

Below: A total number of 3,400 applications for financial assistance were received in 1969, which was the first year the government launched its student finance scheme. 1,650 applicants obtained financial assistance in the form of interest-free government loans and many of them had also been recommended for the award of a government grant.
Article on Chinese Language Movement in Undergrad Session 1971 No. 5 on September 16, 1971.
Lily Pond then (1950) and now (2012)
In 2012, of the 26,000 students on campus, around 5,000 were non-local students from 75 countries.

In this period, the composition of the academic faculty also began to change, from one of purely British origin to a mix of nationalities. In 2012, 56% of the academic staff was from outside Hong Kong, representing 34 countries.

A number of major reforms took place in the last years of the 20th century, under the vice-chancellorship of Cheng Yiu-chung 鄭耀宗 (BSc 1963). These included broadening the curriculum, developing campus technology, and decentralising university administration. He set up the mechanism for systematically organising fundraising efforts on the western model.

In 2000, a controversial incident concerning academic freedom led to Cheng’s resignation. Following those difficult days, Ian Davies (Hon DSc 2006) was appointed Vice- Chancellor for two years, during which several substantial activities were launched in celebration of HKU’s 90th Anniversary, and which had the effect of reigniting optimism.

Lap-Chee Tsui 徐立之, a leading geneticist, assumed the vice-chancellorship in 2002 and HKU started to move to a new level, joining the ranks of the world’s leading universities. One major breakthrough in the first decade of the 21st century has been the internationalisation of the student body at both the undergraduate and postgraduate levels. In 2012, of the 26,000 students on campus, around 5,000 were non-local students from 75 countries; they included undergraduate and postgraduate students. In addition, about 1,000 exchange students come to HKU every year.

In 2002, Victor Fung Kwok-king 馮國經 (Hon LLD 1997), the University Council Chairman, announced a new target for HKU: to be ranked among the top 25 universities in the world, a milestone that was reached in the next several years. Capacities in research and fundraising experienced quantum leaps, and HKU’s reputation soared worldwide.

This period has also seen another major change, which may have underpinned some of the controversies that followed, and that was the publication and implementation of the Niland Report1 in 2003, recommending an overhauling of university governance.

In 2010, HKU laid the foundation stone for its Centennial Campus, exactly 100 years after the first stone was laid for the Main Building in 1910.

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1 Consultancy report compiled by John Niland, former Vice-Chairman of University of New South Wales, at the invitation of the Council.
Generations of students remember Loke Yew Hall (formerly called Great Hall) as an examination hall.
Celebrating Human Life: Medical Care and Services

Beyond the Colonial Legacy

Hong Kong enjoys one of the most outstanding medical systems in Asia and around the world. The quality of life in the vibrant city is blessed by its medical system, whose statistics are the envy of many countries: among the lowest maternity or infant mortality rates; among the highest life expectancies for both men and women. Yet Hong Kong spends only 4% of her GDP on health care.

Many people take for granted the humanistic culture that accompanies this technical expertise. They know very little about the remarkable research that underlies the advancements in clinical services. This chapter attempts to delineate the path that has brought Hong Kong’s medicine to its current enviable state, and to explore the factors – in which HKU and her alumni have played a major role – in this evolution.

It was only after World War II that there was a shift to local graduates. The medical profession was the first to realise “localization”. Now many of Hong Kong’s medical professionals enjoy an international reputation, a demonstration of how firmly these western practices have taken root in the local profession.

Hong Kong enjoys one of the most outstanding medical systems in the world.

HKU’s medical graduates exemplify professionalism in the true sense of the term. Serving patients whole-heartedly has always been a core value. This concern for patients’ well being has prompted research, advancement and innovation. The profession often faces ethical and moral challenges, but resolute self-renewal has continuously reinforced its self-confidence and allowed obstacles to be overcome.

Hong Kong enjoys one of the most outstanding medical systems in the world.
Better Human Beings Become Better Healers

The first thing on my mind is the education of the young. We need to invest our heart and soul into enriching what we teach and how we teach. For many years, education in Medicine has been limited by accessibility to information. The 3-3-4 change of an additional year in university education affords the rare possibility of offering a broadened education on a rich array of subjects in the Humanities. I have always believed that it is difficult for a young mind to understand and relieve human suffering in the healers’ own mind. An inter- and trans-disciplinary approach to teaching and scholarship will greatly broaden and enrich the moulding of characters, an understanding of suffering and empathy, as well as moral and legal responsibility to individuals and the community. Teaching has never been so exciting. The hope is that students will understand themselves, patients, and the community better, and become better human beings. Better human beings become better healers.

I feel we are put in real time, on the spot, in the evolution of the Chinese people and their health care. Not only are we connected to the West and the East, we can embrace both the historical and what is yet to come. The Faculty of Medicine is unique in housing both the western medicine medical school and the School of Chinese Medicine. The goal of Integrated Medicine is very appealing. This is a long and not an easy process. But there should not be Western Medicine, or Eastern (Chinese) Medicine. There should just be one Medicine – good Medicine. And a journey of a thousand miles starts with the first step. So here we go.”

Lee Sum-ping 李心平 (MBBS 1970, MD 1982; current Dean of Medicine)
Building on a tradition of excellence and service, the Faculty of Medicine continues to produce leaders and role models for the medical profession who deliver patient care with tact, sympathy and understanding, and also strive to advance the frontiers of medical knowledge through their cutting-edge research.”

Rosie Young Tse-tse 楊紫芝
(MBBS 1953, MD 1959, Hon DSc 1995; Dean of Medicine 1983-1984)

Serving an Affluent Population

At the time of the University’s founding in 1911, Hong Kong had a population of around 450,000, of which nearly 250,000 resided in the city of Victoria. The main threats to the health of the population were communicable diseases such as tuberculosis, smallpox and malaria, and nutritional deficiencies such as beri-beri. The focus of the government’s efforts at that time was to decrease the scourge of infectious diseases.

The Hong Kong College of Medicine had been established in 1887, marking the first time western medicine landed in Hong Kong. In 1897, Tung Wah Hospital appointed the first Chinese resident with western training in medicine. The establishment of HKU and its Medical Faculty added to the influence of western medicine here. Soon, local graduates were being appointed as medical officers in the government – among the first local residents recruited to the civil service. In 1928, there were six Chinese medical officers in the government’s Medical Department.

By 1941, there were 330 practitioners on the Medical Register who were authorized to grant death certificates. Of these, 219 were local graduates of HKU. They worked in both the public and private sectors.

Medical advancement was interrupted for more than three years by the Japanese occupation that began in 1941. However, during the war, HKU academics and students continued with their contributions in Free China, under very difficult conditions.

After the war, the population grew rapidly. The influx of returning residents and refugees created severe challenges for the medical system. In 1952, Yeo Kok-cheang 楊國章 (MBBS 1926; MD 1931) became the first local graduate to be appointed Director of Medical and Health Services. In the 1960s, concerted and focused efforts, improved nutrition and living conditions, and advancement in treatment all contributed to the significant decline in tuberculosis notifications. These efforts started the transformation of Hong Kong’s health-care system from that of an underdeveloped sub-tropical byway to one that befits a modern urban centre.

During the two decades after the war, local graduates became the backbone of the medical and health services, with local graduates assuming several leadership positions. However, the limited number of local graduates faced serious challenges vis-à-vis the rapid growth in population and people’s elevated aspirations.

In the 1970s, Hong Kong’s economy took off and society became more affluent. This coincided with the growth of manufacturing industries, which led to a dramatic increase in traumatic injuries. At the same time, the population was already beginning to age, and while communicable diseases had largely been brought under control, there was an increase in degenerative diseases. Cancer and cardiovascular disease became the leading causes of death. There was a new demand for personal curative medical care. All these were met with quantum progress in medical services, which was part of Governor Murray MacLehose’s (served 1971 to 1982) grand plans to expand government services.

The escalating demand for modern medical
services led to the establishment of the British colony’s second medical school, at the Chinese University of Hong Kong in 1981. Gerald Hugh Choa Wing-ip 蔡永業 (MBBS 1946; MD 1960) was the founding dean, and many HKU graduates participated in the founding of the new school.

Another dimension of HKU graduates’ contribution to the medical service has been in the realm of hospitals. Many HKU graduates serve and lead both public and private hospitals. Even in the early years when medical services were limited, Li Shu-fan 李樹芬 (LMSCC 1908; Hon LLD 1961) and Li Shu-pui 李樹培 (MBBS 1928), with great foresight, established the Hong Kong Sanatorium Hospital (1922), which has developed into one of Hong Kong’s leading private hospitals.

Another major milestone in the development of medical services in Hong Kong was the establishment of the Hospital Authority (HA). In 1991, the newly established HA took over the administration of 38 public hospitals from the civil service with Yeoh Eng-kiong 楊永強 (MBBS 1971) serving as its first chief executive. The new HA was designed to modernize hospital management and bring in a new corporate culture of efficiency and accountability, and the public hospitals almost immediately commanded respect from the community. HKU graduates played a leadership role in this metamorphosis of the hospital system, both as clinicians and administrators.

The remarkable enhancement of the services in the public hospitals, however, raised new issues such as the public-private interplay in medical services, and the overall financial strategies for the system. Those became the primary concern of York Chow Yat-ngok 周一嶽 (MBBS 1971) when he later succeeded Yeoh to be the Secretary of Health, Welfare and Food.
The most significant episode in Hong Kong’s medical history in the past century was the battle against the SARS (Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome) epidemic. Starting in early March 2003, and over a period of three months, 1,755 people in Hong Kong were infected, leading to 299 deaths. HKU academics and graduates fought at the forefront of the battle. When SARS spread across continents, the discovery by the research team at HKU of the coronavirus as the cause of the disease proved a breakthrough in the worldwide campaign against the epidemic. This research achievement illustrated the yield of HKU’s visionary investment in basic science and technology, including molecular biology, and the enormous capacity of Lap-Chee Tsui, then newly appointed Vice-Chancellor of HKU, in engaging international partners. The high level of professionalism and the rigorous sanitary controls gained HKU academics and their counterparts at Queen Mary Hospital a global reputation. The SARS disaster also led to the development of a holistic system of infection control in Hong Kong.

HKU has also developed a reputation in other medical and paramedical services such as dentistry, nursing and pharmacology. It is championing the integration of western medicine with the essence of Chinese traditional medicine. HKU is also bringing new dimensions to developments in medical services and research in China. Nurtured by both western and Chinese cultures, it is on the way to breaking new ground for the benefit of humankind.
The relationship between overcrowding and plague was studied and discussed. The Sanitary Department continued its efforts to keep down the number of rats and to exclude them as far as possible from dwellings, while the scavenging service was strengthened with a view to reducing the available food supply for the rat population.

The last notification of plague was on September 27, 1923. A survey of the fleas infesting house rats from Hong Kong Island and Kowloon was carried out by the Rodent Control Section in the 1940s, to examine how the flea transmitted plague to man.

Severe outbreak of cholera in the late 1930s. The Medical Faculty of HKU rendered useful help on the vaccination campaign during the height of the epidemic.

Outbreak of smallpox due to the influx of refugees from Canton. Vigorous measures were carried out such as the introduction of compulsory vaccination for all immigrants, the placing of Canton in quarantine for the first time in history, anti-smallpox and vaccination campaigns, and opening up of free vaccination centres.

Tuberculosis became a serious menace to the health of Hong Kong people. The Hong Kong Anti-Tuberculosis Association was formed in 1948 to fight tuberculosis and the former naval hospital in Wanchai was converted to the Ruttonjee Sanatorium in February 1949, mainly for the treatment of tuberculosis. Yeo Kok-cheang represented Hong Kong at an anti-tuberculosis conference in England and suggested five measures to prevent tuberculosis, such as the production of the B.C.G. vaccine.

Study of the therapeutic use of radioactive cobalt. This study was made in connection with a telecurie apparatus installed in the Queen Mary Hospital for the telecurie treatment of cancer. Considerable progress was made on research on the treatment of nasopharyngeal carcinoma, one of the commonest forms of cancer in Hong Kong.

Surgical treatment of spinal tuberculosis | Orthopaedic Surgery. The anterior approach for surgical treatment of spinal tuberculosis, known as the “Hong Kong Operation”, was first performed in 1955.

Study was made of the haematological findings in tropical splenomegaly and of the mechanism involved | Medicine

Desophageal cancer research | Surgery. The pharyngo-gastric anastomosis after oesophago-pharyngectomy technique for carcinoma of the hypopharynx and cervical oesophagus pioneered in the department. Subsequent refinement of this technique and the employment of laparoscopic surgery have greatly reduced the complications of oesophageal cancer surgery with a near zero post-operative mortality rate in recent years.

Oesophageal cancer research | Surgery. The pharyngo-gastric anastomosis after oesophago-pharyngectomy technique for carcinoma of the hypopharynx and cervical oesophagus pioneered in the department. Subsequent refinement of this technique and the employment of laparoscopic surgery have greatly reduced the complications of oesophageal cancer surgery with a near zero post-operative mortality rate in recent years.

Primary students at the Rayson Huang Theatre, HKU, during SARS.

The discovery of the coronavirus by the research team at HKU proved a breakthrough in the worldwide campaign against the epidemic.
The Faculty had only 21 students and a staff of 14 when it opened in 1911. Despite its limited resources, the Faculty produced around 16 graduates per year in the inter-war years, with many students from outside Hong Kong, especially South East Asia. Even in those early days, the Faculty and its graduates were “universally agreed” to be of a high standard, according to the Report of the University (1937) Committee.

During the 1960s, many new preclinical (biochemistry, microbiology, pharmacology) and clinical departments (orthopaedics, paediatrics) were established. In the 1970s, the teaching of psychiatry and general practice were introduced. As the Faculty developed further to meet new challenges, more departments were established in the 1980s and 1990s; e.g., anaesthesiology (1988), diagnostic radiology (1988), and clinical oncology (1991).

HKU medical graduates remember their education not only as technical training to be medical practitioners, but also as an immersion in the tradition of being good doctors in the true sense of the profession. Over the years, many promising graduates have given up high-income opportunities in the private sector to spend a good part of their career undertaking work and research in public hospitals. Many have become renowned academics, whose example has influenced their successors and students. Many graduates in private practice have brought professionalism to the larger part of the medical services. Since the turn of the century, there has been a rapid growth in the number of prominent researchers of high reputation, their names too numerous to be included in one small chapter.

However, societal development has also posed challenges to traditional medical teaching methods. In 1998, under the deanship of Chow Shew-ping 周肇平 (MBBS 1968; MS 1988), the Faculty of Medicine at HKU became the first Asian institution to introduce problem-based learning for its entire curriculum. The new method is aimed at turning students into active learners, problem-solvers and critical thinkers. Most importantly, the new approach places students in the real-life role of a medical doctor at the very beginning of the curriculum, with emphasis on early development of clinical skills and interpersonal skills, as well as the importance of life-long learning.

With similar aims, the Institute of Medical and Health Sciences Education was established at HKU in 2000. The introduction of a structured component of medical ethics and the establishment of the Medical Ethics and Humanities Unit proved pioneering in strengthening education and research in the affective domain and human dimensions. The unfortunate but few cases of ethical misconduct have proved the importance and timeliness of this orientation.

Meanwhile, postgraduate studies have dramatically expanded since the mid-1990s and HKU has become one of the leading hubs of medical science research in Asia. The postgraduate programmes have attracted students from around the world, who go on to utilize their skills back home and in other parts of the world after graduation. Many such graduates have become prominent leaders in medicine. Parallel to the growth in postgraduate education is the advancement in professional standards, by way of continuing medical education. The Hong Kong Academy of Medicine was established in 1993, and HKU graduates have been instrumental in the establishment and development of the Academy and its different specialist colleges. Even before the establishment of the Academy, HKU’s Faculty
The Medical Faculty ably fulfills its mission of teaching, research and patient care of the highest standard, under sound leadership, with innovative and talented staff. The formal incorporation of humanities and professionalism into the curriculum is timely. Graduates significantly contribute to improvements in postgraduate training, professional development and community health care. Some of their skills and research are internationally recognized. Despite suboptimal public support for research and health care, staff and graduates continue to make vital contributions to medical progress, medical and health services, and community welfare.

David Todd 達安輝 (MBBS 1952, MD 1958, Hon DSc 1992)
of Medicine organised relevant courses and professional examinations for the specialist qualification of the Royal Colleges of the UK.

The Medical Council, which is guided by Hong Kong law, plays an instrumental role in the upkeep of professional conduct, which is crucial in maintaining the welfare and trust of patients. The consecutive chairs of the Medical Council, many of whom were HKU graduates, have been highly respected medical professionals.

Since the 1990s, the Medical Faculty has been enriched by the creation of disciplines in Nursing (1995), Chinese Medicine (2002) and Pharmacy (2009). The Faculty of Dentistry (1982), and the Division of Speech and Hearing Sciences (established in 1988 in the Faculty of Education), are further milestones related to medicine.

The Faculty of Dentistry was established on the latest UK model, and emerged as a leading institution in Asia right from the beginning. Local and foreign candidates came to be trained for advanced dental expertise and professional leadership. Postgraduate students in Dentistry have come from many parts of China, South East Asia, South Asia and the Middle East, and many have become prominent leaders in dentistry in their respective systems. The Faculty is also conscientious about renewing and upgrading its expertise, which has allowed it to become the leading place for tooth implants and bone regeneration in the region, for example.

The division of Speech and Hearing Sciences quickly assumed leadership in research and practice in communications disorders, particularly in the Chinese languages. It is the exclusive centre for research in Cantonese.
Medical Breakthroughs

1960s
Many groundbreaking clinical treatments and surgeries were born at the Faculty during the 1960s. The first open-heart surgery in Hong Kong was performed in 1964, and the first kidney transplant was undertaken in 1969.

1970s | Gastrointestinal research | Pharmacology
The Department of Pharmacy was recognised to be the key laboratory in the world studying the pathogenic mechanism of cigarette smoking in association with gastrointestinal ulcers and cancers.

1970s | Orthopaedic Surgery
The first microsurgical thumb replant in Hong Kong was carried out.

1980s | Leaders in liver cancer surgery and liver transplantation | Surgery
Refinement in surgical techniques for liver cancer resection reduced the hospital mortality rate from 28% in 1989 to 0% in 1996. Additionally, the five-year survival rate was improved from 15% to 49%. In 1996, the department pioneered the liver donor right lobe liver transplantation technique which has helped to overcome the problems of organ shortage and graft size limitation, benefiting more patients with terminal liver diseases. In 2005, the Liver Transplant Team was conferred a first-class award at the State Scientific and Technology Progress Awards.

1980s | Preventing severe thalassaemias | Medicine and Obstetrics & Gynaecology
In 1982, the departments were the first in Hong Kong to perform pre-natal diagnosis for thalassaemia and inherited blood disorders using DNA technology. It is now possible to carry out pre-natal screen using a non-invasive approach.

1980s | Cutting-edge technology in cervical screening and diagnosis (The HKU Cervical Cytology Screening Laboratory was established in 1992) | Pathology
The department engaged in intensive research on cutting-edge technology in cervical cancer screening, including the latest model of the automated cervical cytology screening imager and human papilloma virus molecular testing.

1980s | Promoting clean air for better health | Community Medicine
The department was the first in Asia to publish time series studies of air pollution and mortality and is now the leading centre for a multi-city study in Asia. Locally, the department was the first to report the health benefits of an air pollution legislative intervention and restricting sulphur content in fuel to 0.5% in improving respiratory health in children and reducing mortality due to cardiopulmonary diseases.

1980s | Research on the epididymis | Physiology
Studies demonstrated that epididymis is an active epithelium that absorbs sodium and water and secretes potassium and hydrogen ions. Later studies showing that it was possible to pharmacologically manipulate sperm maturation and storage prompted the World Health Organization to adopt this approach as a potential method for male contraception.

1990s | Human and avian influenza research (research on H5N1 started in 1997 when the “bird flu” incident happened) | Paediatrics and Adolescent Medicine
The department has delineated the influenza disease burden in children in Hong Kong, and showed influenza to be an important cause of febrile convulsion.
In 1894, when a plague epidemic ravaged the colony, the responsible microbe was identified with the help of outside experts. In the 2003 SARS epidemic, scientists from HKU were the first to identify the culprit virus, and within a very short period of time. This is testimony of the significant progress that Hong Kong has made in terms of medical research over the past century.

In the early years, the Faculty was basically a teaching institution. Research was not totally neglected, but was minimal. In the post-war years, and especially since the late 1960s, the development of specialties became the impetus for more research work. Initially, research was concentrated in the clinical domain with the aim of solving or improving the treatment of common diseases. More substantial basic research started in the late 1980s. Since the turn of the century, the Medical Faculty has joined the top ranks in such fields as genome and stem cell research.

Advancing Medical and Health Sciences Research

An outstanding example is the clinical research on liver transplants as a cure for the various liver diseases that are prevalent in southern China and South East Asia. The Faculty has achieved many important innovations and breakthroughs in this area. The research on emerging infectious diseases (including SARS, avian flu and swine flu) also demonstrates how an integration of clinical practice, clinical research and basic research can achieve significant results.

Integration is another aspect where HKU academics have taken the lead. They understand the importance of taking an integrative approach in medical and health sciences research and in fostering cross-specialization collaboration. Many who were trained in western medical science, for example, have begun to appreciate traditional Chinese medical theories and practices. Collaboration has brought results well beyond the Faculty’s boundaries. For example, medical
academics collaborate with engineering colleagues in areas such as orthopaedic support, vascular hydrodynamics and tissue mechanics.

The establishment of the School of Chinese Medicine was one notable achievement. As an essential auxiliary development, the establishment of the Centre on Behavioural Health, led by Cecilia Chan Lai-wan (BSocSc 1978; MS 1984; PhD 1991), has provided an unusual platform for holistic treatment based on human behaviour, with the integration of clinical medicine, psychological counselling, various therapies and Buddhist practices.

The integrated approach is also significant in other medicine-related disciplines, such as Speech and Hearing Sciences, which treats speech and hearing disorders using combined approaches from western and Chinese medical and psychological philosophies.

There have also been collaborations across geographical borders, with institutions, research laboratories and individuals in Mainland China and other parts of the world.

Research in the Medical Faculty has received enormous community support, which is reflected in the substantial donations from the private sector. At the time of writing, the Medical Faculty has established 35 Endowed Professorships through the generosity of donors in the short period of eight years. The Li Ka Shing Foundation in 2005 gave HK$1 billion as a single donation to the University, mainly for the support of medical education and research, the largest donation ever in Hong Kong. This historic gift was followed by the naming of the Faculty after Li Ka Shing, which aroused wide debate among the alumni. The debate marked a new era in HKU’s fundraising endeavours, forcing the university to deal with the same controversies shared by other leading institutions around the world.

As of 2011, the University was hosting four State Key Laboratories (SKLs) at HKU, namely the SKLs for Brain and Cognitive Sciences, Emerging Infectious Diseases, Liver Research and Synthetic Chemistry. SKLs are regarded as key components of China's science and technology research system. They serve as the base for top-level basic research and applied basic research development, assembling and nurturing outstanding researchers, as well as scholarly exchanges for the country.

5 First live births following Preimplantation Genetic Diagnosis (PGD) for alpha thalassaemia in Hong Kong.

1 The Surgical Skills Centre of the Department of Surgery was opened on May 6, 2011. The centre was dedicated to surgical skills training in new surgical techniques such as laparoscopic operations and other minimally invasive procedures. Occupying a total area of 5,100m² with 10 training stations for laparoscopic and endoscopic skills training, the Centre aims to provide better training for doctors, medical students and other medical personnel, as well as facilitating advanced research in sub-specialties of surgery.

2 The project entitled "Adult-to-adult Right Lobe Live Donor Liver Transplantation” carried out by the HKU liver transplant team won the first-class award in the 2005 State Scientific and Technological Progress Awards. The project was led by Fan Sheung-tat (MBBS 1976; MS 1992; MD 1998; PhD 2002; DSc 2005). His team members were Lo Chung-mau (MBBS 1985; MS 1998), Liu Chi-leung (MBBS 1988; MS 1999; MD 2004) and Chan See-ching (BDS 1985; MBBS 1995; MS 2005; PhD 2011) of the Department of Surgery. The team began to adopt the first right-lobe live-donor liver transplantation (LDLT) in 1996 and it was considered a world breakthrough.

3 Challenging clinical problems inspire the Medical Faculty in its research directions and make new discoveries. The medical team at the Faculty was among the first in the world to develop minimally invasive esophagectomy and initiate multimodality treatment strategies for esophageal cancer. The Faculty is also globally renowned for its innovative research on liver cancer, Hepatitis B and nasopharyngeal cancer.

4 There are currently four State Key Laboratories (SKLs) at HKU, namely the SKLs for Brain and Cognitive Sciences, Emerging Infectious Diseases, Liver Research and Synthetic Chemistry. SKLs are regarded as key components of China’s science and technology research system. They serve as the base for top-level basic research and applied basic research development, assembling and nurturing outstanding researchers, as well as scholarly exchanges for the country.

5 First live births following Preimplantation Genetic Diagnosis (PGD) for alpha thalassaemia in Hong Kong.
Improving Public Health

HKU and its graduates have made significant contributions to the promotion of public health in Hong Kong.

The Family Planning Association of Hong Kong (FPAHK) was established in 1950 with Gordon King (Hon LLD 1973) as president and Daphne Chun Wai-chan (MBBS 1940; Hon DSocSc 1972) as a founding member. The FPAHK has been instrumental in educating the public in birth control, sex education and planned parenthood\(^2\). The association’s slogan “Two is Enough” (一 個 嬌, 兩 個 妙,三 個 吃 不 消,四 個 斷 擔 挑) gained popularity in the 1970s. The FPAHK introduced to Hong Kong state-of-the-art concepts, approaches and birth control technologies when they were still rather foreign to other parts of Asia. Its activities marked a milestone for medical academics playing advocates in community health.

HKU has been playing a significant role in the city’s anti-smoking campaign. Anthony Johnson Hedley, former Chair and Head of Community Medicine, has been an unailing champion on that front, and Lam Tai-hing 林大慶 (MBBS 1975; MD1988) has succeeded him in carrying on the battle. Hedley also created an air pollution index (the Hedley Index), which has turned a new page in public health. The School of Public Health was established in 2004 and quickly became a leading institute with international significance.

The Hong Kong Anti-Tuberculosis Association was established in 1948 with many HKU graduates, such as Chau Sek-nin 周錫年 (MBBS 1924; Hon LLD 1961), Tseung Fat-im 蔣法賢 (MBBS 1926; Hon LLD 1969) and Li Shu-fan among the core members. The Hong Kong Anti-Cancer Society was established in 1963 to provide better hospice care and raise public awareness about cancer prevention. Today, there are many specific health-related foundations that are playing the dual roles of advocacy and education.

The Hong Kong Medical Association, which includes members from both the private and public sectors, has for many years been led by HKU alumni. It has a long tradition of communicating medical knowledge to the populace through the

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2 FPAHK started as the Hong Kong Eugenics League in 1938. Successive professors of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology have been taking a leadership position at FPAHK after Daphne Chun Wai-chan, e.g. Ma Chung Ho-kei 馬鍾可 環 (MBBS 1958), Grace Tang Wai-king 鄧惠瓊 (MBBS 1971; MD 2006), Ho Pak-chung 何柏松 (MBBS 1974; MD 1990).
media. Among the association’s vehicles are the “Letter Box for Common Knowledge in Medicine” (香港醫學會醫學常識解答信箱) (1972-77) for newspapers, and “Doctor and You” (醫生與你) (1979-2004) for TV, on which many HKU alumni have played moderator. The professional and benevolent image of Lee Kin-hung 李健鴻 (MBBS 1958; MD 1971) became the trademark of the show.

Currently, the Faculty of Medicine has moved into more elaborate modes of public communication. It runs continuous columns in the newspapers and other media, and organises public lecture series for medical literacy among the public.

HKU graduates have volunteered their services in the education of the lay public in cardiopulmonary resuscitation, first aid and other health-care topics via organizations such as the St. John Ambulance Association and Brigade, the Auxiliary Medical Service and the Hong Kong Red Cross.

Still others started charity clinics in the 1950s. One example was the Workers’ Medical Clinics of the Hong Kong Federation of Trade Unions, which Li Sung 李崧 (MBBS 1922) helped start in 1950. The clinics are still serving the working class today.

Services for the disabled were largely neglected until Harry Fang Sin-yang 方心讓 (MBBS 1949; Hon LLD 1977) started the Hong Kong Society for Rehabilitation in 1959, and Fang has since developed many services for the disabled, including the renowned MacLehose Medical Rehabilitation Centre. Fang was also the architect of the system of special education in Hong Kong.

Many HKU graduates think beyond Hong Kong’s borders and render medical services to deprived communities in Mainland China and other parts of the world. A group of orthopaedic surgeons started Operation Concern in 1993 to help poor villagers with orthopaedic problems. Helping poor people with eyesight problems attracted the attention of ophthalmologists and several projects were organized, for example, by the Action for Vision Eye Foundation, Sight First China Action (1997) and Project Vision (2005).

In recent years, many graduates have made significant contributions to international humanitarian organizations such as Médecins Sans Frontières and the International Society of the Red Cross. They have provided emergency medical care in rescue and relief to victims of natural and manmade disasters around the world.

1 The Medical Faculty has been a strong advocate of tobacco control. It partnered with the Hong Kong Council on Smoking and Health for the establishment of the first public sector smoking cessation clinic in 2002. It also currently runs two hotlines targeting youth and women smokers to provide one-on-one counselling to help them quit smoking. Its three decades of research on tobacco control has provided strong evidence for the government to formulate stringent tobacco control policy such as an increase in tobacco tax in 2009, resulting in more people quitting and many lives saved.

2 The Hedley Environmental Index (HEI) was originally established by the School of Public Health, HKU in 2008 with funding from the Fu Tak lam Foundation and ADM Capital Foundation and project management from Civic Exchange. The new version of the HEI is launched with the aim to enhance health risk communication and to inform and assist the public in the interpretation of pollution levels which exceed the WHO AQG, particularly in relation to bad health outcomes and economic costs.

3 The adverse effects of air pollution on health have been well established in different studies, yet the Hong Kong government has appeared to turn its back on this pressing problem by failing to update the Air Quality Objectives (AQO) for more than 25 years. To enhance public awareness, a group of medical students collected over 1,500 signatures from HKU and petitioned the Legislative Council in December 2011. They also lobbied for an update of the current AQO.

4 Medical students have been organising the annual Health Exhibition for 25 years. This Faculty-wide student initiative aims to raise public awareness and understanding of health and disease. Health talks and health checks are held in conjunction with the exhibition.
Aspirations and Challenges

The Faculty of Medicine has played a pivotal role in the development of medical services, medical research and public health in Hong Kong.

It started with the eradication of plagues with the help of western medicine, and a century’s effort has brought the Faculty to the forefront of western medicine, along with a prestigious position among its counterparts, particularly in Asia. Hong Kong’s achievements are all the more remarkable because both physical and human resources in the medical area are so much smaller than those of countries and regions with a comparable reputation. If it were not for Hong Kong’s academics and their sustained drive for excellence, such achievements would not have been possible.

Hong Kong owes much of its admirable level of health and quality of life to the medical profession, but these now face the challenges of the modern era. Given an ageing population, medical professionals have to face not only degenerative diseases but also ethical and philosophical dilemmas previously unknown. Within the medical profession itself, there are the increasing pressures of integration between the East and the West, between body and mind, and between research and practice.

Within HKU’s Medical Faculty, there are temptations for academics to turn to private practice, and there are marked crises of a brain drain in medical research. At the same time, the worldwide trend of emphasis on research threatens to deprive clinicians of deserved respect, and the emphasis on medical breakthroughs may draw researchers away from genuine concern for patients. Despite all this, medical professionals look to HKU’s Medical Faculty for new levels of professionalism, to transcend fashionable trends and advance the human dimension. Unfortunate incidents of misconduct have raised serious alarms about the soundness of the profession, but the establishment of the Centre of Humanities and Medicine (with the Faculty of Arts) and the Centre of Medical Ethics and Law (with the Faculty of Law), have allowed the Faculty to continue to advance on the humanistic front.

As a leading institution in Hong Kong, people expect HKU to extend its influence in order to benefit a larger part of the community. As a leading institution in a metropolitan urban centre, people expect HKU’s influence to radiate across geographic boundaries. As the University begins its second century of teaching and service to the community, people are keen to watch the new HKU-Shenzhen Hospital and ask: Will HKU be able to excel on the Chinese Mainland as it has in Hong Kong?
Medical Breakthroughs

1990s | Established the world's first Chinese bone marrow donor registry | Medicine
Bone marrow transplants can cure leukaemia and other blood diseases, but finding a match can be difficult. In previous decades, overseas donor banks often could not offer genetic matches for Hong Kong's Chinese population, so in 1991, the Hong Kong Marrow Match Foundation was established and a registry was set up for primarily Chinese donors. The registry linked up with other registries around the world, including China and Taiwan, offering patients a greater hope of finding a match.

2000s | Work on SARS | Microbiology
The department was the first to discover that SARS was due to a coronavirus carried in animal reservoirs. In addition, the department has been a pioneer in the research of the pathogenesis, clinical features, diagnostic tests, and treatment of SARS.

2000s | First discovery of H5N1 virus outbreak in migratory waterfowl by researchers at the Joint Influenza Research Centre of Shantou University and Hong Kong University (2005) | Microbiology

2000s | Eradication of helicobacter pylori decreases the chance of development of gastric cancer in subjects without precancerous lesions | Medicine

2000s | Defining the viral kinetics and molecular changes of the hepatitis B virus in chronic hepatitis B disease, including occult infection | Medicine
The Hepatology Team investigated the changes in the viral load, viral mutations, the closed covalently circular DNA and the hepatitis B surface antigen levels during the various stages of chronic hepatitis B infection, including the stage at which the virus becomes "occult".

2000s | World's first intervertebral disc transplantation | Orthopaedics and Traumatology
The conventional treatment for low back pain caused by degeneration of the intervertebral disc is excision of the disc and fusion of the spinal segment. After 10 years of laboratory and animal research by researchers from HKU and Beijing, the world's first transplantation of the intervertebral disc in a human was performed in 2000 and published in The Lancet in 2007. This innovative and groundbreaking approach has opened a new horizon for treatment of many spinal disorders without sacrificing spinal mobility.

2000s | A quadrivalent human papillomavirus vaccine against anogenital, vaginal and cervical disease | Obstetrics and Gynaecology
The study has shown vaccination against papillomavirus is highly effective in preventing precancerous cervical, vaginal and vulval lesions, and genital warts caused by this infection.

Genome instability and DNA repair defects have been discovered in the premature aging disease Hutchinson-Gilford progeria syndrome. These findings provide the first hint of a molecular mechanism for a group of human conditions caused by defects in the nuclear structural protein lamin A.

2000s | Autologous bone marrow stem cell transplantation for the treatment of chronic myocardial ischemia and heart failure | Medicine
In 2001, the Cardiology Division in the Department of Medicine initiated the world's first-in-human clinical study on the use of novel catheter-based intramyocardial transplantation of bone marrow stem cells for treatment of chronic myocardial ischemia in patients with severe coronary artery disease not amenable to conventional medical or surgical therapies. In 2006, our team also performed the first Prospective RandOmized controlled Trial on the use of direct Endomyocardial implantation of bone marrow Cells for Treatment of severe Coronary Artery Diseases (PROTECT-CAD trial), and demonstrated that bone marrow cell injections were associated with improvement in functional status and cardiac function in patients with severe coronary artery diseases.

The department designed a self-assembling peptide nanofibre scaffold with permissive environment that not only allows axons to regenerate through the site of an acute injury, but also to knit the brain tissue together.

2000s | Tobacco control | Community Medicine
Research output in this area, publicity and evidence-based public health advocacy have provided important information and momentum for the public and the government and are instrumental in legislative changes to strengthen tobacco control measures.

2000s | Discoveries of the mechanisms of H1N1 pandemic emergence and the transmission of swine influenza virus through the airborne route | Microbiology
The altruistic contributions of individuals in each generation continue to uphold the torch of the humanistic nature of medicine, and upkeep professionalism at an admirable standard.”

Chow Shew-ping 周肇平
(MBBS 1968, MS 1988; Dean of Medicine 1995-1998)

<table>
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<th>Medical Breakthroughs</th>
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<td>**2000s</td>
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<td>Since the 2001 SARS epidemic, the department has developed a focused research programme in infectious disease epidemiology and mathematical modeling with particular reference to SARS and influenza. The programme translates its findings into public health policy through active participation in the scientific advisory structure of the Centre for Health Protection.</td>
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<td>The University of Hong Kong and Central South University have jointly established the world’s first China Brain Bank with comprehensive medical record and psychological profile of humankind.</td>
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<td>Volumetric analysis of tumour extent, as well as the delineation of the dose-volume-tumour response relationship, have had a significant impact on therapeutic drug dose escalation studies of this condition. The department has also pioneered chemoradiotherapy regimes in the treatment of nasopharyngeal carcinoma.</td>
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<td>**2000s</td>
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<td>The department established myophenolate mofetil as a new treatment paradigm for severe lupus nephritis, replacing the use of cyclophosphamide, which was fraught with many adverse effects.</td>
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<td>The oral formulation of arsenic trioxide was pioneered by the Department of Medicine for the treatment of acute promyelocytic leukaemia. Through a series of well-conducted studies, oral arsenic trioxide has been shown to have excellent bioavailability and minimal cardiotoxicity, making it safe for patients to take the medication at home. It has shown spectacular activity in patients with newly diagnosed and relapsed acute promyelocytic leukaemia, and is effective in preventing relapses when used as maintenance therapy. As a result, oral arsenic trioxide has secured patents from United States of America and Japan, and is poised to become the standard formulation globally.</td>
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<td>Through the concerted efforts of heart and liver experts, the team successfully performed Asia’s first combined heart-liver and sequential liver transplantation for two recipients, thus extending the frontier in organ transplantation and providing hope for patients with failure of more than one organ.</td>
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<td>It has shown that pamidronate can effectively control seasonal, zoonotic and pandemic influenza virus infections by boosting human gammadelta T-cell immunity which provides a novel strategy by targeting the host rather than the virus, thereby reducing the opportunity for the emergence of drug resistant viruses.</td>
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<td>The Hepatology Team pioneered the first oral antiviral nucleoside analogue for the treatment of chronic hepatitis B, following by several other similar agents, revolutionizing the treatment paradigm which is now effective in potent viral suppression, reversing liver fibrosis and reducing the development of liver cancer.</td>
</tr>
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</table>
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