



www.hku.hk/socsc

Socien**t**ist 社

FALL
2004
ISSUE

科 人



You may discover a different Hong Kong through their eyes

"From the magnificent panorama of the Peak during night time to the modern landmark of spectacular skyscrapers on the Hong Kong Island, from the huge architectures to the flat residential areas in Kowloon, from the urban town to the scenic landscapes in the New Territories, from the pristine countryside to the modernity in the city centre, every visitor has his/her own exciting journey". This statement has been used hundreds of times in promoting Hong Kong as a tourist paradise. Indeed, we can easily recognize this as the punch line in the Hong Kong Tourism Board's advertisement. But perhaps we are less ready to accept the above quote for what it really is — what our exchange students, visitors to our University, told us about their impressions of Hong Kong. In this issue, we have invited several overseas exchange students of our Faculty to share with us their impressions of Hong Kong. You may see a new Hong Kong through their eyes.

他們眼中的香港

「從山頂俯瞰醉人夜景到穿梭矗立城中的高樓大廈；從香港的摩天大廈到閒逛充滿地道特色的九龍；從市區到暢遊新界廣闊的美麗景緻；繼而從郊外踏進中國門檻感受另一種現代化的景象。」以上對香港的介紹相信從推廣旅遊業的廣告中已司空見慣。對香港人而言，這些描述可能是老生常談，甚至認為只是推銷香港的典型答案。事實上，那些印象不單只是旅遊發展局的宣傳語句，也是來自外地交換生對香港的親身體會。今期我們邀請幾位就讀本學院的外地交換生，發掘這些異鄉客如何看自己身處的香港。



HONG KONG: in the Eyes of HKU Visitors



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

Dean's Message

"Isn't it a big joy to have friends coming from afar?", Confucius asks in his Analects. It is very much in this spirit that the Faculty of Social Sciences welcomes a new group of international and visiting students who have travelled a long way to come to Hong Kong and are studying in the Faculty this semester/academic year. American travel writer Paul Theroux, however, also noted that, "travel is only glamorous in retrospect". In this issue, *Socienlist* has invited several exchange students to share their views about Hong Kong with us. I am pleased to see that they are enjoying their time here and have found Hong Kong an exciting place to study and play. I am impressed by their insights and observations. We can certainly learn more about ourselves through their eyes.



In fact our exchange students are perhaps more confident about our future than some of us here. They pointed out that Hong Kong's international environment, diversity, and freedom are important characteristics that have made us special in the context of China and Asia. Contrary to the assumption that we are too busy to be helpful to strangers and visitors, they found Hong Kong people amiable and helpful. The students are also very perceptive in their appreciation that identity is in flux in Hong Kong. Their presence demonstrated clearly that the university community is benefiting from the University's drive for internationalization.

Through our participation in the University-wide exchange programmes as well as our own initiatives, the Faculty of Social Sciences is at the forefront of the effort in connecting our students with the rest of the world. After spending time with us, our exchange students will in fact become HKU "socienlists" and part of the family too.

Talking about families, we have members of the Kwok and Cheung families sharing their thoughts on social science education and training at HKU across generations. It is very gratifying to learn that the importance of gaining a better understanding of social issues and current affairs, being intellectually critical, and at the same time relating to people, and being open to ideas from others have remained strong in our alumni families. I look forward to learning more from our alumni through the pages of *Socienlist*.

I am pleased to report that the Social Exposure Programme (SEP) has been successfully launched. The SEP is the Faculty's new initiative to provide students opportunities to apply their knowledge in a practical setting through internship arrangements at public and social service organizations or to conduct policy research work. Over 60 organizations have become our community partners in support of the programme. Our own students have responded positively with over eighty taking part during the summer. The Faculty would like to expand the programme by finding more overseas placements for our students and working closer with the business corporations which have developed corporate responsibility programmes. Here I would like to appeal to alumni and friends of the Faculty for ideas and support. Please do let us know if you can assist in this very meaningful endeavour.

The Faculty continues to work with other Faculties in our curriculum reform and in reaching out to the community. In addition to our collaboration with the Faculties of Arts and Science to provide more choices for our students, we are developing a joint programme on International Business and Global Management with the Faculty of Business and Economics.

Our joint conference series with the Law Faculty on "Constitutional Review and Democratic Development" has attracted much public attention. I look forward to seeing more *Socienlist* readers in other events organized by the Faculty, our Departments and Centres.

James Tang
Dean

Mr Manuel-angel JUSINO, Gordon College, USA

Mr Tommi-tapani RYYPPO, Helsinki University of Technology, Finland

Ms DONG Yige, Ingrid, Peking University, China

Mr CHEUNG Yu-hin, Ray, BSocSc

Ms WONG Wan-chi, Valentina, BSocSc (Govt&Laws)

Shopping, Shopping, but More than just Shopping

Hong Kong is a city with a mixture of different lifestyles. To the overseas students, "shopping" is probably the most symbolic and attractive one. Living now in such a famous shopping paradise, our "visitors" are all surprised by the shopping culture here. "There are hundreds of shops in Hong Kong. Even in the MTR stations, people are always shopping," Manuel popped up from his mind. The shopping culture also shocked Tommi because "everywhere is shopping, shopping Central, shopping Causeway Bay, shopping here and shopping there. It's so funny because I know some people say that we are walking dollars and sometimes I do feel like that".

By the term "walking dollars", Tommi might have in mind a number of different connotations. One of these could refer to Hong Kong's consumption culture. Another could refer to Hong Kong's convenience in respect of consumption — shops and restaurants everywhere, and you just "walk" in and consume with your 'dollars'. And of course Tommi might also have in mind Hong Kong's money-oriented culture — we are perceived and valued as 'walking dollars'. What is obvious is that Tommi saw this (or these) as very different from his own culture. This cultural difference is conducive to culture shock, and in this respect, Tommi's view of culture shock probably tells us as much about Hong Kong as about his own country. "I'm very afraid to go back because here when I want to eat, I can go out to restaurants. It costs me as much as a subsidized lunch; but in Finland, when I'm in the university, I can't go to restaurants everyday because the price is too high. So when I go back to Finland, I have to cook everything myself. I am not looking forward to that. So maybe that's the bad memory when I go back, and that's why some people say 'not culture shock going abroad but culture shock coming back home'".

The shopping (or if you like, consumption) culture definitely means a lot but not all. The experiences of our exchange students have proved that our city has many different faces. Ingrid experienced another side of this city through joining the event of cycling around Hong Kong organized by the Hong Kong Backpackers' Association. She saw the mysterious view of Hong Kong Island while cycling in mid-night. Tommi also discovered fantastic scenic landscapes when staying in a YMCA camp site at Ma On Shan for a week. In their eyes, Hong Kong owes its charm to its diversity and in this connection Ingrid thus described the enigma of such diversity, "If you love him or her, just send him or her to Hong Kong. Hong Kong is a city where he can find himself and then find more opportunities; if you hate him, just send him to Hong Kong. He can get lost in Hong Kong easily". There certainly is some philosophical insight in this view of the city and its diversity.

HONG KONG: in the Eyes of HKU Visitors 他們眼中的香港

A City always on the Move

In response to the question of their impressions about Hong Kong, our overseas students described Hong Kong as 'busy', 'dynamic', 'energetic' and 'effective'. These adjectives suggest action and motion and are commonly seen to be apt descriptions of Hong Kong's life-style. What fascinate us here are not the above descriptions but our exchange students' explanations for them. In Ingrid's eyes, the busy lifestyle is related to the city's economy. "Most people who came to Hong Kong are business men. Hong Kong is a city of business that seeks effectiveness, contract and commitment, something like that," Ingrid explained.

Manuel further elaborated on the basis of his observations. He sensed that Hong Kong people like searching but they don't know what they are searching for. "In Boston, some people are searching for medical benefits; some people are searching for love. In Hong Kong, I don't know what Hong Kong people are searching for. I just feel a sense of great need or a great sense of searching". It seems that to Manuel, this constant searching or this sense of need is a source of the city's momentum, generating the city's 'dynamics' and 'energy'. Here we may digress and note that even our local students, Ray and Valentina, thought that Hong Kong people live in a 24-hour working city. Yet most people here do not seem to know what they are busy for. In a way, this corresponds to what Manuel saw as aimless searching.

From his personal experience, Tommi came up with another interesting explanation for the "busy" phenomenon: climate. "We have a long winter in Finland but Hong Kong is always warm although it has four seasons. In Hong Kong you can always go out to take a walk or have tea with your friends. It is much easier to get across to other people physically. But in Finland's winter, it's cold, it's wet, it's dark..... so you don't want to go out to socialize". He believed the warm climate also explains the amiability of Hong Kong people, who are always nice and helpful to overseas visitors.

A Treasure Island losing Its Valuables?

There is a growing fear that Hong Kong has been losing the status of an international metropolis and will be overtaken by Shanghai with the rising economy in China. However, it never occurred to these visitors that Hong Kong is losing its uniqueness or competitive power. Manuel believed the future is here. He observed, "Hong Kong still hasn't been overshadowed by Shanghai because it has a strong economy and is a way to China". He then digressed to pinpoint another aspect of Hong Kong. Safety in this city, he mentioned, is already worthy enough for us to be proud of it. "If you go into the subway system in New York, you can't stand up straight with your belongings. But in MTR, you can stand up straight with your belongings". Ingrid returned to the subject of Hong Kong's future, saying, "Shanghai may have many tall buildings as Hong Kong but the culture there cannot change so rapidly". She elaborated, "We should not judge from superficial appearance. You can see Mexican restaurants to American Disneyland in the city and, then, can we call that an international metropolis? I don't think that's the case. I think 'the east-meets-west' means that the people here have been learning the foreign culture from very young in their lives." In a similar vein, Tommi put it well, "We have people here. We are growing up in an international environment". He believed that "people" is one of the competitive edges which Hong Kong should hold onto, and that Hong Kong people ought to concentrate on shifting towards a knowledge-based economy. It is because Hong Kong cannot produce goods with a lower price anymore than China can do. Compared

with the pessimistic outlooks of the local people, our visitors' views of Hong Kong's future are much more hopeful.

Meanwhile, Ingrid reminded us of our privileges in having the freedom of speech and art which she thought we should concentrate on. She quoted the examples of overseas artists staying in Hong Kong, such as singer Mr LO Ta-yu (羅大佑先生) and well-known scholar and poet, Professor YU Kwang-chung (余光中教授), to demonstrate the greater freedom here compared with Taiwan and The Mainland. She even suggested that Hong Kong should act as the bridge between China and Taiwan because of our special geographic and

political position. Equality of opportunity and greater social mobility should be other vital factors for Hong Kong getting ahead of Shanghai or Beijing in the competition.

Through our visitors' eyes, freedom and equality of opportunity are Hong Kong's important assets, and Hong Kong's competitiveness is still sustainable. One of our visiting students concluded with an apt observation: having China as the hinterland and a staunch support, Hong Kong may not be "Manhattan Plus", but certainly it is not becoming "Shanghai Minor".

Thoughts & Comments from Two Faculty Members

One of the aspects I enjoy most about teaching at The University of Hong Kong is the opportunity it provides me to observe the interaction between local and exchange students. We who reside here are often times so worried about the future of our city that we tend to take for granted how fortunate we are to live in this dynamic and resilient city. At HKU, exchange students, in both their praise and criticisms of Hong Kong, help us to focus on what is important to celebrate and preserve about this vital city.

While it is of course natural to cringe when outsiders are critical, by and large, I have always been impressed with Hong Kong's ability to constructively incorporate international criticism. Hong Kong has a proud history of successfully reinventing itself. It is an accomplishment that stems from its openness to the international arena and one that many communities around our rapidly changing world will likely seek to emulate.

Dr Lucy M CUMMINGS
Coordinator in
Global Studies Programme

One may think culture is an important marker of differentiation, helping people to identify "us" from "them". However, after reading the comments of overseas exchange students, I was surprised that these students shared similar views as the local residents: it is a shopping paradise; it is a free and safe society with equality of opportunity; it has abundant opportunities; it is a city where East meets West; yet it is also a place where its people feel lost about their identities, and insecure about their economic future.

Are these not the images and concerns that our government and the media promote and emphasize? We certainly can learn more about ourselves when interacting with people from a different culture.

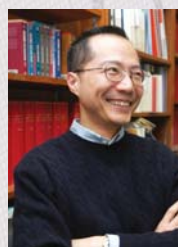
However, it is through the similar images that we share that one learns about how the media shape our perceptions.

Dr Anita KW CHAN (陳潔華博士)
Coordinator in Media and
Cultural Studies Programme



Departments and Centres

Sociology



Over the years, the Department of Sociology has strived to endow students with two broad sets of abilities. First is a set of analytical, writing and communication skills that enable students to make sense of their immediate world of studies, work and interpersonal relationships. Second is a larger intellectual and critical awareness of the social web one is in. In our globalized and fast changing world, these qualities would serve students longer and stronger.

In response to the rapidly changing social and intellectual environment, the Department of Sociology has continually advanced its teaching and research activities. The Department currently offers a Major Programme leading to a BSocSc degree. Under the programme, we have grouped the courses we offer into three specialist streams. They are Culture and Media Studies, Globalisation and Regional Studies, and Criminal Justice.

The Culture and Media Stream contains courses that confront the increasing importance of media, culture and identity in modern life. They deal with issues such as the impact of the modern media, beauty and the body, cultures of consumption, the place of religion in a post-modern world, tourism and social heritage, gender and sexuality, popular culture and the creative industries.

The courses in the Globalisation and Regional Studies stream introduce students to debates relating to globalisation and its manifold manifestations in regional and local settings. They discuss issues like the rise of an information society, the multiple paths of economic development and social change, the dismantling and rebuilding of Chinese identities and networks in a globalised world, and how cities and countries in the Asian region including China and Hong Kong sustain and transform themselves in the face of global economic and environmental challenge.

Finally the Criminal Justice stream groups together courses that explore in depth different aspects of criminal justice from a sociological and criminological standpoint. They introduce students to the major theoretical perspectives as well as

detailed studies of issues like fraud, corruption and computer crime, criminal behaviour, triads and organized crime, gender and crime as well as crime and the media.

Every year, the Department offers close to 25 courses under these three streams. Students can choose to specialize in one of the streams for in-depth knowledge in the relevant areas. They are also free to choose across streams to obtain a broader exposure. Our students, according to our External Examiner, compare very favourably with students in top-notch American universities such as Harvard and Columbia.

The Department currently also offers a part-time Bachelor of Criminal Justice (BCJ) programme. At the postgraduate level, we offer an MSocSc programme (part-time) in Criminology since 1986. This programme has established a high reputation, and admissions are very competitive. With both the BCJ and the MSocSc, our Department is providing a coherent and progressive training that serves the wide community of criminal justice practitioners who are interested in life learning. We also offer full-time and part-time MPhil and PhD programmes for those interested to do further studies and research. As of September, 2004, there are 45 postgraduate research students in our Department.

The Department has a strong research culture. The large number of current research projects cover areas like family change in Hong Kong society, international study of crime and homicide, illicit drugs and youth crime, migration and Chinese Diaspora, social indicators studies, democracy and East Asian development, anthropology of South-East Asia, sexuality, intimacy and gender relations, police and organized crime.

We look forward to meeting you in and beyond the classroom of Sociology.

Dr Thomas WP WONG (黃偉邦博士)
Head, Department of Sociology, HKU

Students

Internships — Bridging town and gown

Over 100 students in the Faculty participated in different internship programmes in summer 2004, of whom over 80 joined the newly developed multi-disciplinary Social Exposure Programme. Let's see how the students develop global perspectives via the internships.

China

I tried to squeeze into the crowd of reporters in a conference room to get a glimpse of the celebrity on stage. Raising my hand as high as possible, I hoped the host would notice me and let me ask my question. That was my life as a reporter trainee.

I joined China VacTrain organized by the HKU China Affairs Office and I worked in Beijing from June to August. I was assigned to work as an internship at China Movie Report, a TV programme about movies in the Mainland broadcast on CCTV Channel 6.

I have always been curious about TV production; therefore I was excited to actually have a hands-on experience about it. I assisted the reporters at press conferences, premieres as well as movie shoots to get some first-hand news about the industry. I was also privileged to interview talented directors and I wrote movie

reviews afterwards. Moreover, I was given the chance to use state-of-the-art equipment and to help in the production of the programme.

The two months spent in Beijing were fruitful and enjoyable ones. I not only had a better understanding of the career I would like to pursue upon graduation, I also made a number of good friends both from Beijing and HKU. It was an internship that helped me become a more mature and independent person.

LAM Mong, Mona (林夢小姐), BSocSc II
China Movie Report, CCTV Channel 6



Hong Kong

The SEP internship experience is indeed one of a kind – it is personally relevant and eye-opening. For two months, I was brought into the actual workplace to exercise whatever skills that I had and had not had. In multiple ordeals with superiors, colleagues and clients, I came to learn more about my own strengths and weaknesses. This internship has indeed helped me grow and mature, in aspects like intra- and inter-personal skills, proper working habits, analytical ability, and risk management etc. It has equipped me with the necessary skills for survival in a real working environment.

Now that I have finished the internship and look back, I realise that I am a different person. I have become more motivated and eager to learn. All in all, my outlook towards life has sharpened. Everything seems to become much clearer in its context now. Through this internship, my social awareness has increased, my sense of empathy deepened, my capacity for appropriate action expanded and my confidence in social behavior improved. Indeed, to give is to take – whether the tasks that I have done have been contributive to society or not, I realise that in the end, I am the one who has benefited the most. Through giving, I have received, and through devoting I have improved. I am grateful to have joined the SEP – it was like a training for life.

YEW Wing-see, Carol (姚穎詩小姐) BSocSc III
Association Concerning Sexual Violence Against Women



USA



My trip to DC to conduct my Practice/Policy Research in Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (HKETO) under the Social Exposure Programme was something out of my wildest imagination. A pioneer for overseas internship placement (or I should say a "white mouse"),

I savored multifarious exposure. From forcing myself to talk to a Senator at the cocktail reception of the Hong Kong Annual Film Festival despite severe social phobia and jetlag, to visiting New York unaccompanied on a four-hour bus ride, I erred and grew. My intellect was also sharpened through researches into various aspects, particularly in international trade and politics, and through the insight offered by my supervisors. As a result, my understanding of the US as a centre of international relations, and my knowledge of US domestic politics and culture was very much deepened.

I would therefore express my heart-felt appreciation to Dr James Tang for his sharp foresight in recognizing the value of establishing overseas

community partnership in the light of an increasingly globalized world. Without his effort, my internship experience would not be as rewarding as it was. Also, I am grateful to Dr Francis Lee and Ms Catherine Leung for their generous accommodation and guidance in facilitating my completion of the internship requirement. I also owe my gratitude to Mr Edward Yau, for his insight into international relations and for kindly providing me with an abundance of information about the HKETO. I wish this overseas internship placement every success and I look forward to its expansion.

CHAN Ka-wing, Karen (陳嘉穎小姐), BSocSc III
Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Washington DC



Social Sciences Society



In September, the campus becomes lively again. I am excited to find that HKU is overflowing with fresh and energetic faces.

When I entered HKU last year, I had one thing in mind: to get the most I could from this university. To be the ex-co member of any Society in HKU was what I was determined to do. I was elected Chairman of the Social Sciences Society after a few months of intense preparation. My life was difficult at the beginning of my session. Having no idea of how challenging the obstacles were, knowing little of the life ahead of me, I did have a hard time to get used to the situation.

Throughout the first half of my session, I was learning from my work as the Society's Chairman. Inauguration, Social Sciences Festival, ad-hoc current affairs forums, internship programme, Orientation Programme and some more – through all these functions, I gradually learnt the way to deal with the Society's work. I, along with the whole committee, also managed to do better and better in these functions.

My attitude towards my work also changed bit by bit. Initially, I treated everything as duties, aiming at finishing them and fulfilling my responsibility. Now, I enjoy my work so much. For example, it should be tiring working days and nights preparing for the orientation camp, but somehow meeting and chatting with my fellow classmates during work just made me feel refreshing. I believe it is the personal relationships which make me enjoy working here. Experiencing ups and downs, sharing tears and joys, I enjoy my every moment working and staying with my classmates.

I have walked through a long way in my life as an ex-co member and the end point is not far away. Every step behind me was filled with a unique memory. When I look back, I can always see the barriers that I have overcome and challenges that I was confronted with. The experience and responsibility in the first half of the session have made me a more mature person.

Being able to master the work with ease, I now seem to take the challenge as routine. It may signify my personal growth, but is also a sign for me to retire from my job. It is time for those freshmen with passion and a sense of mission to take up my position and continue the work of the Society.

MAN Huen-pok, Bob (文萱博先生)
Chairman



Alumni

Timeless Bonding with the Faculty

The spirit of the Faculty has been passed from generation to generation. We are pleased to have the memories from two families, Kwok and Cheung...

Kwok Family



Nature or Nurture?

Am I born for the study of social sciences? Or am I trained to love doing so? I would say both. My passion to investigate into current affairs and social issues has been built since I was a child. The quest for such understanding was arguably triggered by the open and supportive environment where I spent my adolescence. I have been lucky enough to have the guidance and support from my parents – both are graduates of the Faculty with their major in social work. My formative years were shaped by their affectionate teaching which offered me perspectives to look at the society. Thus, I decided to follow their footsteps and entrust the Faculty with my tertiary education.

KWOK Kin-fun, Joseph
(郭鍵勳先生)
Bachelor of Social Work 1972

YUEN Wai-yee, Victoria
(原慧儀女士)
Bachelor of Social Work 1974



Battlefield

My admission to the Faculty happened with my move to the dormitory (Ricci Hall), and this undeniably reduced my time to spend with my family. Yet, I tried my best to make myself available at home, at least for dinner once a week. Why? Apart from spending time together, what I treasured most was the opportunity to exchange ideas with (and to challenge and be challenged by) my parents. The dinner table is always our battlefield for debate and my excellent venue for learning. We debate over news and university issues, or any new theories which I have just learned.



The experience of studying in this Faculty has become my family's common bonding and our cherished memories.

KWOK Cheuk-hang, Justin (郭卓珩先生)
Bachelor of Social Sciences 2004

Cheung Family

"The best I got from the University of Hong Kong from 1972-5 was related not to classroom, but to people, not to teachers, but to fellow students. I learnt, along with my U-mates, to be responsive to the needs of society. This same spirit continues, after thirty years. Only today, I am more focused in my response, and I feel better connected with the teachers."

CHEUNG Ka-hing, Peter (張家興先生)
Bachelor of Social Sciences 1975
PhD Candidate, Department of Social Work and Social Administration



"While the pursuit of a PhD Degree was a lonely path, research group meetings were always challenging, and meetings with my supervisor comforting. My most freeing thought was related to an advice to me to throw away any book that appeared relevant but practically and inherently unintelligible."



PAU Yi-kum, Grace (包意琴女士)
PhD, Department of Social Work and Social Administration 2001

"Before entering the University of Hong Kong, I only knew how to be critical, objective and cold. Over the years, the teachers demonstrated to me the possibility of being wholesomely human while remaining rigorously academic and intellectually critical."

CHEUNG Chuen-yih, Amos (張傳義先生)
Bachelor of Social Work 2002
Postgraduate Certificate in Psychology 2004
Master of Social Sciences in Clinical Psychology 2004-2005

Stay in touch

The Faculty of Social Sciences has unfortunately lost contact with some of its alumni. We wish to take this opportunity to ask you to share with the Faculty any contact details of local or overseas alumni whom you are in touch with. Please complete and return the following form to the Faculty so that we can keep them informed of the most up-to-date development and activities of the Faculty and the University.

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

Part I: Your Information

Name: _____ (Surname first)

Chinese Name: _____

Sex: M/F (delete where appropriate)

Telephone: _____

E-mail: _____

Year of Graduation: _____

Degree Awarded: _____

Part II: Other Alumni's Information

Name: _____ (Surname first)

Chinese Name: _____

Sex: M/F (delete where appropriate)

Correspondence Address: _____

Telephone: _____ (Home)

Pager/Mobile: _____

E-mail: _____

Year of Graduation: _____

Degree Awarded: _____

March – May, 2004

Information Seminars to promote the Part-time Bachelor of Criminal Justice (BCJ) Programme 2004-2005

The Department of Sociology organized two Information Seminars on April 15 and May 18, 2004 in the main campus and two Information Seminars on March 23 and March 27, 2004 respectively in the City University and in the Police Sports and Recreation Club to promote its Part-time Bachelor of Criminal Justice (BCJ) Programme. The programme caters for both the experienced practitioner and those seeking a career in the field of criminal justice or related fields.

April 24, 2004

The Fourth Research Postgraduate Conference in Social Sciences

This Conference serves as a platform for students in both junior and senior years to exchange research ideas. We are pleased that 29 oral and 5 poster presentations were delivered this year. Other than the traditional oral and poster presentations, a roundtable discussion session was newly introduced for the first year research students to discuss and exchange views on issues related to social science theories and methods. We would like to take this opportunity to offer our congratulations to Ms SIM Sock Chin (沈淑貞女士), Miss CHO Li Fung (卓麗鳳小姐) and Miss CHAN Chung Yan (陳頌恩小姐) and Mr LAW Lik Hang (羅力恆先生) who won the outstanding oral and poster presenter awards.



May 8, 2004

Social Exposure Programme (SEP) Launching Ceremony

The SEP Launching Ceremony was held to celebrate the newly introduced Social Exposure Programme (SEP), which is one of the most innovative and important initiatives in Social Sciences undergraduate curriculum reform and which requires multidisciplinary skills and knowledge. More than 60 local and international 'community partners' (organizations) have participated in this Programme. The red rainstorm signal was hoisted on the day of the Ceremony, but still more than 70 students and representatives from the 'community partners' took part in the Ceremony. These representatives included Mr CHAN Wing Kai (陳永佳先生), Head, Complaint and Advice Division, Consumer Council who has also supported the internship programme of the Faculty in the past few years. At the Ceremony, Mr Chan kindly shared his experience with the other participants.



April 19 – 28, 2004

Elderly Care Training in China "Caring with the Heart" 江蘇無錫老人服務臨床實踐專業知識培訓班

The population of China, including Hong Kong, is ageing rapidly. As the Health Ministry in China is starting to focus its attention on the tremendous social and economic effects of ageing, our University responds timely and takes the lead in developing research and educational endeavours related to ageing.

With support from the Rotary Club of Kowloon, the Sau Po Centre on Ageing (of the Department of Social Work and Social Administration) has been delivering a series of training programmes in China. Collaborating with the Chinese National Committee on Ageing and the Office of the Senior Affairs Commission of Jiang Su Province, several staff members of the Sau Po Centre together with a number of concerned scholars and practitioners visited Wuxi in April this year and delivered a 10-day training programme for nursing home senior managers. The programme was well received not only by government officials but also by student participants.



May 15, 2004

JUPAS Orientation Day

This is an annual event organized to help form-seven students understand the curricula offered by the Faculty. More than 700 students interacted with the teaching staff and current students through talks, sharing sessions, and laboratory visits.

May 10, 2004

Corporate Crime and the Enron/Arthur Anderson Debacle

This seminar was presented by Professor James B. Jacobs and hosted by the Department of Sociology in conjunction with The Hong Kong Society of Criminology and the Asian Institute of International Financial Law (AIIFL).

May 22, 2004

Workshop on Dream Therapy by Dr Eva Pattis

In the workshop, Dr Pattis examined different attitudes towards dreams and dreaming, the function of dreams in psychic health and the basic principles of Jungian dream interpretation. Examples of personal and archetypal dreams illustrate how dreams can become an essential instrument in psychotherapy. Their compensating function helps the dreamer to experience his conflicts on a different level and opens creative ways of problem solving.

May 20, 2004

Enclave Economy and Community Building

This seminar was presented by Professor Min Zhou and hosted by the Department of Sociology in conjunction with Centre for Anthropological Research.

July 3, 2004

Symposium on Case Management for Community-Based Professionals

Co-organized by Haven of Hope Christian Service and Hong Kong Community Nurses Association, the captioned Symposium, held on 3 July 2004, was attended by over 300 health care professionals, including doctors, medical social workers, nurses, physiotherapists, and occupational therapists. Professor Ada C Mui from the Columbia University, School of Social Work, USA, was the invited keynote speaker.



July 5 – 6, 2004

Transnational Religions: Intersections of the 'Global' & 'Local'

Various speakers took part in this International Conference hosted by the Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore and the Department of Sociology and the Centre for Anthropological Research, HKU.

July 9 – 10, 2004

Bringing Politics Back In: Globalisation, Pluralism, and Securitisation in East Asia

The Conference, which was held in Conrad Hong Kong, was co-hosted by the Ilmin International Relations Institute of Korea University and the Faculty of Social Sciences, HKU and sponsored by the Ford Foundation. A panel of experts from Hong Kong, Korea, Japan, India, Singapore and the United States shared their research findings and views on the captioned topic. The panel discussion was led by In-taek HYUN, Director of the Ilmin International Relations Institute.



July 14, 2004

Press Conference on Findings on the Effectiveness of Using Cognitive Therapy in Hong Kong

Research findings on the effectiveness of treating emotional disorders using cognitive therapy were presented by Dr Daniel WONG (黃富強博士) and his research team from the Department of Social Work and Social Administration. Dr Wong is one of the only two certified cognitive therapists in Hong Kong, and they have demonstrated that a significant improvement in general mental health can be gained through cognitive therapy.



July 20 – 23, 2004

Social Sciences Summer Programme (SSSP)

The SSSP was in its third year. 68 participants were selected from 53 secondary schools to participate in a 4-day programme with 20 current undergraduates from the Faculty. The participants attended a series of interesting, stimulating and multi-disciplinary forums and lectures to learn about different disciplines within the Faculty. They were housed in Lady Ho Tung Hall to have a taste of University hall life.

The participants had the opportunity to obtain first-hand information via field trips to Ma Hang Prison, Pik Uk Prison and Radio Television Hong Kong for the project presentation which they had to do during the 4-day Programme. They also attended the highlight of the Programme, a High Table Dinner which was not only attractive to participating students, but also a memorable occasion for their participating parents and teachers.



August 5 – 8, 2004

4-Day Workshop on "Advanced Practice Strategies for Negotiating Loss and Transition" by Professor Robert A Neimeyer

During this 4-day workshop, Professor Robert A Neimeyer, a world renowned expert on death, dying and bereavement, who has received numerous awards for his contributions on death and dying, discussed how to view loss and healing through a constructivist, meaning-making lens. He suggested several novel procedures for assessing personal and family meaning systems as well as procedures for treating individuals and families.



September 20, 2004

Government and Laws Programme Welcoming Party

More than fifty Government and Laws students joined the welcoming party organized by the Department of Politics and Public Administration. This lunch gathering provided a relaxing atmosphere for the new students to get to know and chat with their fellow students, senior students, as well as teaching staff from the Department of Politics and Public Administration and the Department of Law.



September 9, 2004

World Suicide Prevention Day 2004: WHO's Global Initiative and Local Strategy

The Hong Kong Jockey Club Centre for Suicide Research and Prevention organized the captioned seminar. Dr Jose Manoel Bertolote, Coordinator, Management of Mental and Brain Disorders, Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse, presented WHO's global initiative on suicide prevention.

In the session which followed, distinguished panelists, Dr Dominic Lee (Professor, Department of Psychiatry, CUHK), Dr Tai-wai Wong (Consultant, Department of Accident & Emergency, Pamela Youde Nethersole Eastern Hospital) and Mr King Cheung Chan (Executive Committee Member of the Hong Kong News Executives' Association) and Dr Paul Yip (Director of Centre for Suicide Research and Prevention), expressed views from their specialist perspectives. Dr Christine Loh, CEO, Civic Exchange, was the moderator of this session.



10 **october**

Elderly Care Training in China "Caring with the Heart"

Date: October 28 – November 6, 2004
Venue: Kun Ming, China
Contact: Mr Ross Chan / Ms Twigg Chow
(Tel: 2241 5134; E-mail: rossc@hkucc.hku.hk)

11 **november**

Yoga of Transformational Living

Date: November 4, 11, 18, 25 and December 2, 9, 2004 (12:30pm-1:30pm)
Venue: Centre on Behavioral Health, G/F, Pauline Chan Building, 10 Sassoon Road, Pokfulam, Hong Kong
Contact: Ms Loretta Fung (Tel: 2589 0510; E-mail: lfung@hkucc.hku.hk)

Public Lecture: Filial Piety & Contemporary Families

Date: November 6, 2004 (2:00pm-5:00pm)
Venue: Room 1121, K.K. Leung Building, HKU
Contact: Mr Andy Ho (Tel: 2241 5950; E-mail: andyho@hkucc.hku.hk)

Media and Suicide: Pitfalls or Prevention

Date: November 8, 2004 (5:00pm-7:00pm) (TBC)
Venue: T2, Meng Wah Complex, HKU
Speaker: Professor Keith Hawton
Contact: Ms Patricia Liu (Tel: 2241 5030; E-mail: csp@hku.hk)

Mindfulness-based Stress Reduction in Mind-Body Medicine

Date: November 11, 2004 (2:30pm-5:30pm)
Venue: Centre on Behavioral Health, G/F, Pauline Chan Building, 10 Sassoon Road, Pokfulam, Hong Kong
Contact: Ms Loretta Fung (Tel: 2589 0510; E-mail: lfung@hkucc.hku.hk)

Conference — Doing Oral History on Chinese Societies

Date: November 12 – 13, 2004
Venue: Council Chamber, 8/F, Meng Wah Complex, HKU
Contact: Ms WL Wong (Tel: 2241 5901; E-mail: wonwailing@hku.hk)

Mindfulness-based Stress Reduction in Mind-Body Medicine

Date: November 19 – 21, 2004
Venue: Po Leung Kuk Pak Tam Chung Holiday Camp
Contact: Ms Loretta Fung (Tel: 2589 0510; E-mail: lfung@hkucc.hku.hk)

Challengers in Dementia Care

Speakers: Professor Neena L Chappell
Date: November 15, 2004 (2:30pm-5:30pm)
Venue: Lecture Theatre, Hospital Authority Building, 147B Argyle Street, Kln
Contact: Ms Connie Chin (Tel: 2241 5133; E-mail: chinc@hkucc.hku.hk)

Conference Series Part 5: Strengthening Political Parties in Hong Kong

Date: November 27, 2004 (9:00am-5:00pm)
Venue: Council Chamber, 8/F, Meng Wah Complex, HKU
Contact: Ms Christy Tsui (Tel: 2241 5541; E-mail: wksui@hkucc.hku.hk)

The International Conference on Filial Piety 全球華人孝親敬老研討會

Date: November 29 – December 1, 2004
Venue: B. P. International House
Contact: Ms Columnn Chu (Tel: 2817 6033; E-mail: issd@socialservice.org.hk)

12 **december**

The Hong Kong Sociological Association 2004 Annual Conference — Social Transformations in Hong Kong and Asia: Crisis, Progress and Renewal

Date: December 4, 2004
Venue: Council Chamber, 8/F, Meng Wah Complex, HKU
Contact: Dr YW Chu (Tel: 2859 2058; E-mail: ywchu@hkusua.hku.hk)

Faculty Graduation Ceremony 2004

Date: December 5, 2004
Venue: Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre
Contact: Ms Christy Tsui (Tel: 2241 5541; E-mail: wksui@hkucc.hku.hk)

Workshop on Guided Care Protocol for Demented Elders

Date: December 6 (9:30am-5:00pm) & December 13, 2004 (9:30am-1:00pm)
Venue: Room 103, K.K. Leung Building, HKU
Contact: Ms Connie Chin (Tel: 2241 5133; E-mail: chinc@hkucc.hku.hk)

Counseling Older Adults

Date: December 17, 2004
Venue: To be confirmed
Contact: Ms Connie Chin (Tel: 2241 5133; E-mail: chinc@hkucc.hku.hk)

One-Year Certificate Course on Suicide Prevention and Treatment 2004-2005

Date: December, 2004 – September, 2005
Venue: HKU
Speaker: Dr John Banmen and Mrs Grace Yung
Contact: Ms Patricia Liu / Ms Natalie Tong (Tel: 2241 5030 / 2241 5023; E-mail: csp@hku.hk)
Remarks: CME accreditation is available upon completion of the course

1 **january**

Older Adult Family Counseling in Practice: Clinical Supervision and Live Case Demonstration

Date: January 29, February 26, March 12 and April 9, 2005 (2:30pm-5:30pm)
January 15 & April 30, 2005 (10:00am-5:30pm)
Venue: The HK Chinese Women's Club Madam Wong Chan Sook Ying Memorial Care & Attention Home
Contact: Mr Ross Chan (Tel: 2241 5134; E-mail: rossc@hkucc.hku.hk)

Events Spotlight

In April 2004, the Faculty of Law and the Faculty of Social Sciences launched a series of conferences under the title "Constitutional Review on Democracy: The Way Forward" which is designed to establish a forum for exploring the controversial political and legal issues in the current constitutional review. The series aims at facilitating a systematic and in-depth discussion of evidence-based analyses and research findings.

The conferences have been well attended, and have attracted significant media attention. So far, there have been four sessions in the series.

Legal Perspectives on Constitutional Reform

24 April 2004

Speakers:

Peter WESLEY-SMITH — Faculty of Law, HKU
CAI Dingjian (蔡定劍教授) — China University of Political Science and Law
Yash GHAI — Faculty of Law, HKU
CHEN Hung-ye, Albert (陳弘毅教授) — Faculty of Law, HKU
TAI Yiu-ting, Benny (戴耀廷先生) — Faculty of Law, HKU

The speakers examined Hong Kong's current constitutional arrangements in light of recent events, such as the call for democratic elections and the NPC's interpretation of the Basic Law.

Professor Johannes Chan opened the session with a call to return to the basic foundations of Hong Kong's constitutional framework: the Joint Declaration, and the Basic Law, in order to move forward on constitutional reform.

Professor Wesley-Smith examined the doctrine of the separation of powers, pointing out that the Basic Law does not support the proposition that Hong Kong's government system is "executive-led". Professor Chen provided the historical justification for the "executive-led" government. He suggested that consensus democracy, where power is shared amongst the various sections of government, is the most appropriate means of creating a strong government in Hong Kong.

Professor Cai described the Chinese system for interpreting laws, which he acknowledged to have defects, and concluded that the establishment of a special system of constitutional adjudication is becoming increasingly imperative. Associate Professor Tai's paper focused on the conditions for constitutional reform as set out in the Basic Law: "gradual and orderly development" and "actual situation in Hong Kong". A number of further considerations appear to have become requirements for the initiation of constitutional change, even though, as the speaker argued, they do not have the same legal status as the two cardinal principles.

Professor Yash Ghai concluded the conference by highlighting the threats to Hong Kong's autonomy. In order to recover Hong Kong's autonomy, he said, there needs to be major structural and institutional changes, and the scope of decision-making of the SAR should be clarified, and the interpretation powers of the National People's Congress Standing Committee reformed.



Free Markets & Constitutional Reform: Creating a Deliberative Framework for Hong Kong

12 June 2004

Speakers:

Ming CHAN — Hoover Institute, Stanford University
Stephen BROWN — Kim Eng Securities
James TH TANG (鄧特抗博士) — Faculty of Social Sciences, HKU
Christine LOH (陸蔭蕙女士) — Civic Exchange

Commentators:

Tom MASTERSON — Past Vice President of the American Chamber of Commerce
Eden WOON (翁以登博士) — HK General Chamber of Commerce

This conference analysed the perspective of the business community on proposals for political reform in Hong Kong, and was followed by a lively audience forum.

Professor Ming gave a historical perspective on what he termed the "rewarding alliance" between government and business in Hong Kong. He noted that the privileged social and political status of big business élites under the colonial regime, which has been transformed into tycoon patronage of the top layer of the HKSAR regime, has rendered them unprepared and unwilling to enter the political arena through electoral participation.

Mr Brown then examined what the nature of political economy means for Hong Kong, positing that a liberal capitalist economy would best meet Hong Kong's desires for prosperity.

Dr Tang looked at political reform from the perspective of small and medium sized enterprises. His statistical analysis showed that although owners of SME's feel that no political party represents their "middle of the road" position, they supported democratic reform, and did not feel that a move to democracy would mean a move to welfarism.

Christine Loh offered a framework for analyzing political ideologies, in order that corporates may decide on their most appropriate mode of participation.

Functional Constituencies: Where to Now?

10 July 2004

Speakers:

Gladys LI, SC (李志喜女士) — Barrister
Simon NM YOUNG (楊艾文先生) — Centre for Comparative and Public Law, HKU
Rowena YF KWOK (郭儀芬女士) — Faculty of Social Sciences, HKU
SIN Chung-kai (單仲偕先生) — Information and Technology Functional Constituency
Michael DEGOLYER — Government and International Studies Department, HKBU
Johannes MM CHAN (陳文敏教授) — Faculty of Law, HKU

The speakers discussed the role of functional constituencies in Hong Kong's political development, assessed the existing arrangements of the functional constituencies, and examined whether functional constituencies may be reconciled with moves towards universal suffrage.

Ms Li undertook a legal analysis of the functional constituencies, concluding that the system falls short of Hong Kong's obligations under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. Associate Professor Young presented his research paper on FC anomalies, highlighting in particular the uneven enfranchisement inherent in the system, the disparities in size of the electorates of the FCs, and the arbitrary classifications of constituencies. Assistant Professor Kwok gave a statistical analysis of the voting behaviour of FCs in the Legislative Council, observing that LegCo appears to be a less conflicted and obstructive chamber that it is sometimes depicted to be. Most bills were passed with unanimous votes, and disagreements congregated around political and economic issues.

Mr Sin offered his assessment of the development of FCs, from his own experience. While he saw the FCs' professionalism and their ability to address sectoral interests as advantages of the system, the unjust nature of the voting system undermined its appropriateness.

Associate Professor DeGolyer gave a rousing presentation on the challenges of researching functional constituencies, in particular the lack of information about who and what make up FC electorates. He emphasised the role of the "sweet sixteen" FCs who, because of their power to veto bills due to LegCo's voting rules, are the "kingmakers" with enormous influence over law-making, and yet the individuals making up those groups are difficult to identify.

Hong Kong's New Politics: A Post-Election Analysis

18 September 2004

Speakers:

Robert CHUNG (鍾庭耀博士) — Public Opinion Programme, HKU
MA Ngok (馬嶽博士) — Division of Social Sciences, HKUST
Chris YEUNG (楊健興先生) — South China Morning Post
Allen LEE (李鵬飛先生) — Public affairs commentator
WANG Zhenmin (王振民教授) — Law School, Tsinghua University
Larry DIAMOND — Hoover Institute, Stanford University
Yash GHAI — Faculty of Law, HKU
Joseph CHAN (陳祖為博士) — Faculty of Social Sciences, HKU
Peter WESLEY-SMITH — Faculty of Law, HKU
SING Ming (成名博士) — Department of Public and Social Administration, CityUHK
KUAN Hsin-chi (關信基教授) — Department of Government and Public Administration, CUHK

Dr Chung and Dr Ma considered LegCo's post-election composition, and Mr Yeung, Mr Lee, and Professor Wang examined the potential effects of the new power distribution on relations within LegCo, between LegCo and the Executive Council, and between the Hong Kong government and the Central government.

Professor Diamond remarked that Hong Kong fulfils many of the conditions that are generally accepted to be necessary for democratic reform, and indeed appears more ready for democracy than many states that have moved to democracy. Professor Yash Ghai argued that until China itself becomes democratic, Hong Kong will not be truly autonomous.

Professor Wesley-Smith and Professor Sing looked at options for the future development of Hong Kong's political structure. Professor Wesley-Smith discussed the pros and cons of a bicameral legislature, while Professor Sing used statistical data to compare the viability of parliamentary and presidential democracies.

The next session in this Constitutional Review series, "Strengthening political parties in Hong Kong", will be held on November 27, 2004.

Congratulations

Professor I CHI (齊鈺教授) —
Department of Social Work and Social
Administration
Bronze Bauhinia Star in Chief Executive's
Honours List 2004

Dr LAI Kam-yuk (賴錦玉博士) —
PhD/Social Work and Social Administration
(graduated in 2004)
Awards for Outstanding Research
Postgraduate Students

Dr TMC LEE (李湄珍博士) —
Department of Psychology
Outstanding Young Researcher Award
2003-2004

Mr TAM Kim-pong (談儉邦先生) —
PhD/Psychology
The Hong Kong Wong Clan Association
Scholarship

Miss TSE Yee-kwan (謝綺筠小姐) —
BSocSc(Gen)II
Dean's List of University of California Santa
Cruz (Spring, Winter Quarter 2004)



Donations

(For the period from March to August 2004)

The Centre on Behavioral Health has received donations of HK\$200,000 and HK\$30,000 from Pok Oi Hospital and Ms LOR Ka-man, Carmen respectively in support of Mustard Seed Action, and a sum of HK\$331,850 from alumni and friends.

The Centre for Civil Society and Governance has received a donation of HK\$93,480 from The Asia Foundation in support of the research on enhancing governance in the non-profit sector in Hong Kong.

Ms YANG Hsueh-chi, Serena has donated HK\$300,000 to the New Hall, Cambridge – Department of Psychology, the University of Hong Kong (HKU) Scholarship for the Cambridge-Hong Kong University Student Exchange Programme.

The Department of Social Work and Social Administration has received a donation of HK\$50,000 from the Tung Wah Group of Hospitals for the study of Risk Factors and Impacts of Problem Debts on Hong Kong Family. The Department has also received a sum of HK\$407,731 from alumni and friends for its education and research development.

The HKU Family Institute has received a sum of HK\$753,182 in support of its development and community services. The donors include the Chan Chong Charitable Foundation, San Ho Enterprise Ltd, Zonta Club of the New Territories, Great Eastern Healthcare Limited, Ms YANG Hsueh-chi, Serena, Ms CHEN Wai-wai, Vivien, Dr CHAN Wan-tung and Mrs Selina KWOK, etc.

Societist

is published twice a year in Spring and Fall by the Faculty of Social Sciences, The University of Hong Kong. Electronic copies of Societist are available on web at <http://www.hku.hk/socsc/newsletters.htm>

If you would like to receive a hard copy of Societist in the future, please e-mail us at socsc@hkucc.hku.hk. The Faculty welcomes any form of contributions to the *Societist*.

Editor-in-Chief

Dr James TH TANG, Dean
(鄧特抗博士)

Editors

Dr YK CHU (朱耀光博士)
— Department of Sociology
Dr CW LAM (林昭寰博士)
— Department of Social Work
and Social Administration

Editorial Assistants

Mrs Amy TSANG (曾梁惠慈女士)
Miss Vanessa SIT (薛曉霞小姐)
Miss Gloria CHAN (陳嘉茵小姐)
Mr Tommy FAN (范溢雄先生)

Advisor

Dr Benjamin LEUNG (梁啟平博士)
— Honorary Associate
Professor, Department of
Sociology

The Faculty of Social Sciences reserves the right to publish and edit any material submitted for publication. Views expressed in *Societist* by individual contributors do not necessarily represent those of the Faculty and/or the University.

Faculty of Social Sciences

Room 104, Meng Wah Complex
The University of Hong Kong
Pokfulam Road, Hong Kong

Telephone:

(852) 2859 1086

Fax:

(852) 2517 0806

E-mail:

socsc@hkucc.hku.hk

Website:

<http://www.hku.hk/socsc>

All rights reserved.
November 2004