

# The Century Premier Journal

A publication of  
Robert Black College  
The University of Hong Kong

香港大學柏立基學院世紀首刊

梁以任題



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page Number

### **FOREWORD**

*Professor Vincent W.S. Leung, College Master, Robert Black College* ..... 5

### **EDITORIAL**

*Dr. Park S.P. Ng, Senior Resident Tutor, Robert Black College* ..... 6

*Dr. Wellcome W.H. Ho, Rayson Huang Fellow, Robert Black College* ..... 6

*Dr. Shelley X.L. Wang, Ivy Wu Fellow, The University of Hong Kong* ..... 6

### **GUEST NIGHT SERIES:**

#### **The Case for Pleasure**

*Professor Georges M. Halpern, Professor Emeritus of Medicine,  
University of California, Davis, U.S.A.* ..... 10

#### **The Public Understanding of Science**

*Sir Walter Bodmer, Principle, Hertford College, Oxford, U.K.* ..... 19

#### **The Privilege of Silence**

*Mr. Patrick Yu, Barrister, Hong Kong* ..... 21

#### **Virtual Reality: Fictionalizing Life**

*Professor Mimi Chan, Department of English, The University of Hong Kong* ..... 28

#### **Is Barrister a Dying Breed?**

*Ms. Audrey Eu, Barrister, Hong Kong* ..... 33

#### **Greening Our City: Vision Implausible or Mission Impossible?**

*Professor C.Y. Jim, Department of Geography, The University of Hong Kong* ..... 36

#### **Hong Kong Liquidity and the Chinese Connection**

*Mr. Chi Lo, Regional Head of Research (N.E. Asia) & Senior Economist,  
Standard Chartered Bank Global Markets, Hong Kong* ..... 41

#### **How Long will Japan Stay Japanese?**

*Professor Ronald Dore, Senior Research Fellow, Centre for Economic  
Performance, London School of Economics and Political Science, U.K.* ..... 43

#### **Beyond Repair or Beyond Despair: Our Future at the Crossroad**

*Mrs. Mei Ng, Director, Friends of the Earth Hong Kong* ..... 45

#### **Will there be Life after Dot-coms? - A Look at the Future of the Internet**

*Dr. Paul Y.S. Cheung, Senior Vice-President, PCCW-HKT, Hong Kong* ..... 47

#### **Why Wild West?**

*Mr. Chan Kei Lum, Chairman & Managing Director, Sarinah Foods, Hong Kong* ..... 49

#### **Anti-technology: Reason for Hope or Despair?**

*Professor Brian J. Duggan, Department of Mechanical Engineering,  
The University of Hong Kong* ..... 55

## SEMINAR NIGHT SERIES:

**Opening the Black-box of Cancer Genetics***Dr. Eric C.W. So, Department of Pathology, The University of Hong Kong* ..... 60**The Pilgrim's Progress: The Journey to the East***Mr. John T.P. Lai, Department of Chinese, The University of Hong Kong* ..... 61**E-Trading in Hong Kong***Mr. T.K. Chui, Department of Finance, The Chinese University of Hong Kong* ..... 62**Energy Conversion and Two Laws of Thermodynamics***Mr. Yang Tianliang, Department of Mechanical Engineering,  
The University of Hong Kong* ..... 63**Food, Glorious Food?***Dr. Park S.P. Ng, Department of Microbiology, The University of Hong Kong* ..... 64**How to Make Material Stronger?***Mr. Chiu Yu Lung, Department of Mechanical Engineering,  
The University of Hong Kong* ..... 66**Predicting Human Behavior***Mr. Pradyumna Amatyia, Department of Politics & Public Administration,  
The University of Hong Kong* ..... 67**The Prospect of Hong Kong Democratization: The Implication of  
the 2000 Legislative Council Election***Mr. Victor C.M. Chan, Department of Politics & Public Administration,  
The University of Hong Kong* ..... 69**Democracy, American Style! The U.S. Presidential Election***Mr. Lee J. Brenner, Department of Politics & Public Administration,  
The University of Hong Kong* ..... 70**Mauritius, Paradise of the Indian Ocean***Mr. Rajesh Jeewon, Department of Ecology & Biodiversity,  
The University of Hong Kong* ..... 71**West Lake Reflections***Ms. Jiang Hong, Department of Medicine, The University of Hong Kong* ..... 72**Project Finance for Private Infrastructure Projects in Asia***Mr. Kathri Devapriya, Department of Real Estate & Construction,  
The University of Hong Kong* ..... 73**Tropical Building Designs: How They Respond to Their Contexts***Ms. Ruffina Thilakarathne, Department of Architecture, The University of Hong Kong* .. 74**God's Own Country: Kerala***Dr. Babu Jose, Faculty of Dentistry, The University of Hong Kong* ..... 75

**Fungal Expedition**

*Dr. Wellcome W.H. Ho, Department of Ecology & Biodiversity,  
The University of Hong Kong* ..... 76

**Be Healthy in your Office**

*Dr. Hong Shunjia, Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology,  
The University of Hong Kong* ..... 77

**The Role of Personality at Work in Hong Kong: Trait Determinants of Sales Performance in the Insurance Industry in Hong Kong**

*Mr. Kevin H.C. Cheng, Department of Psychology, The University of Hong Kong* ..... 78

**American Fraternities: Bring on the Beer or Building Brotherly Bonds?**

*Mr. Garrett Gravesen, University of Georgia, U.S.A.* ..... 79

**An Irishman in Hong Kong**

*Mr. Stephen Gowdy, Department of Electrical & Electronic Engineering,  
The University of Hong Kong* ..... 80

**Who is Afraid of Hepatitis?**

*Dr. Park S.P. Ng, Department of Microbiology, The University of Hong Kong* ..... 81

**The Thirty Six Strategies**

*Mr. Albert K.W. Law, Department of Electrical & Electronic Engineering,  
Swire Scholar Robert Black College, The University of Hong Kong* ..... 83

**Influenza: Nothing but Change is Permanent**

*Mr. Mario P.S. Chin, Department of Microbiology, The University of Hong Kong* .... 84

**CONTRIBUTIONS FROM COLLEGE RESIDENTS:****Hong Kong to Me**

*Dr. Patricia Potts, Senior Research Fellow,  
Canterbury Christ Church University College, U.K.* ..... 86

**Women “Opinion Leaders” in Corporate and Academic Life in Hong Kong and Singapore**

*Dr. Ann Brooks, Senior Lecturer in Sociology, Massey University, New Zealand* ..... 89

**Schools and Learning: Propositions for Improvement**

*Mr. James Henri, Deputy Director, Centre for Information Technology in School  
& Teacher Education, Faculty of Education, The University of Hong Kong* ..... 91

**Work Motivation in Japanese Banks: A Hong Kong Study**

*Ms. Sanna Lee, Swire Scholar, Robert Black College, The University of Hong Kong* .. 98

**PUBLIC LECTURE CONTRIBUTED BY COLLEGE:****The Making of a Favourable Impression**

*Professor Vincent W.S. Leung, Emeritus Professor, The University of Hong Kong* ..... 100

## CONTRIBUTIONS IN OTHER LANGUAGES:

柏立基夜之園	編者 .....	110
八花齊放	梁子光 .....	111
在寂寞裡謝去的花朵（鄉愁）	王雪萊 .....	114
問夜（無題）	黛丫 .....	116
歷史的腳步	金萍 .....	117
藍色柏立基 — 當東方遇到西方	陳淑彬 .....	119
梅堂雜憶	胡燕 .....	122
回憶愛情	風里 .....	124
渴望愛情	梅小雨 .....	125
生育隨想錄	施旺 .....	126
《金瓶梅》人稱代詞的特點	張惠英 .....	127
香港社会の移動性 — 日本との比較において —	愛みち子 .....	131
<b>SWIRE SCHOLARS ASSOCIATION</b> .....		133
<b>PICTORIALS OF COLLEGE EVENTS</b> .....		137
<b>PHOTOGRAPHS OF SPEAKERS</b> .....		141
<b>COLLEGE INFORMATION SUMMARIES</b> .....		149
<b>AUTHOR INDEX</b> .....		164

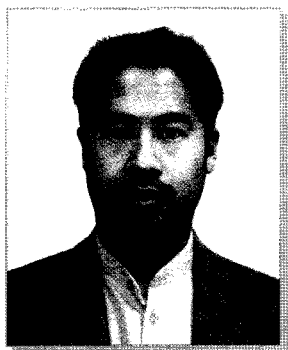
## *FOREWORD*

**Professor Vincent W.S. Leung**  
College Master

As the 21<sup>st</sup> century commences, perhaps it is an appropriate time to reflect on the world at large and on the Robert Black College in particular. After the industrial revolution and the communications revolution, the time taken for us or our messages to reach a distant location is dramatically reduced. The great advance in science and technology has resulted in a phenomenal rise in the quality of life for those who can afford it. The large increase in the world population is matched by a corresponding decrease in forestry, vegetation and natural resources in different parts of the world. As the new century progresses, we are faced with the severe problems created by the worsening environment and by the continued increase of our life expectancy. On a different note, at the turn of the century, the College has been in operation for over thirty years as a guesthouse of the University of Hong Kong. It has also established a reputation as one of the academic and cultural-exchange centres in Hong Kong. The first College journal which was published in 1989, contained accounts on the birth of the College and its formative years. The subsequent issues of the journals served the various purposes of (a) celebrating an anniversary of the College, (b) commemorating the return of Hong Kong to China, (c) marking the beginning of an epoch, and (d) recording the papers and speeches of guests and residents of the College. This present journal serves the combined purposes and (c) and (d). The special features of this journal are that there is a sizable section of contents in Chinese giving the journal a bilingual appearance and that there is a panel of editors in place of one single editor as it was the case with the past journals. At this junction, I would like to express my deep appreciation to the editors, Dr. Park Ng and Dr. Wellcome Ho, for their joint efforts in collecting and putting all the English materials together in the journal and to Dr. Shelley Wang for her part in editing the Chinese contributions in the journal. My sincere thanks also go to the authors of all the articles and abstracts which are without exception of very high quality. With the loss of the May Wing and its 70 graduate residents in September, 2001, regrettably the College has to stop running the College Seminars. While it is intended that the publication of the College journal will continue, the frequency of future publications may have to be reduced unless contributions of articles are forthcoming from the present and former residents of the College. In this respect I also look forward to receiving contributions from all readers of the College journals and all friends of the College in the years to come. Finally, I would like to extend a warm welcome to all our readers living afar to visit the college to have a taste of cultural exchanges between East and West, and between North and South. Information on the college is available in its homepage:  
<http://www.hku.hk/rblack>.



## EDITORIAL



Dr. Park S.P. Ng



Dr. Wellcome W.H. Ho



Dr. Shelley X.L. Wang

An integral part of education is communications. Despite being in the age of communications, you can often find students, and sometimes academics, struggling to communicate their ideas effectively. Their research is often too specialized for laymen, or even others in similar fields, to comprehend, which makes effective communication even more important. One of our main duties at the College is to organize the Robert Black College Seminar Series. Resident postgraduate students of the College and May Wing are encouraged to present topics of their choices to an audience of a wide-ranging background (typical of the resident profile of the College). It was most enjoyable as we saw them putting together presentations that effectively communicate abstract and specific topics such as their research to a general audience. To many of them who have been deeply engrossed in their own research, this opens up new vista to put their work in “real life” perspectives, which is critical for effective communication either in their future roles as educators or for collaboration with others in their fields. Sadly, May Wing’s status as the College’s postgraduate residence terminated in September of 2001 and the College Seminar Series has also in turn diminished. On behalf of all the students who have been benefited by the Series over the last 10 years, we thank Professor W.S. Leung for his foresight in initiating such a worthy programme at the College.

The College has developed an atmosphere most conducive to intellectual communications. From a typical breakfast where high caliber residential guests from a plethora of disciplines sit for stimulating intellectual exchange to a Guest Night event that offers very different views on a chosen topic of the night’s guest speaker, the College is enhancing communications. We are fortunate to be part of the College and be able to bask in such an atmosphere. This is also the sentiment of many residents, some of whom return regularly to the College for this outstanding feature of the College.

This issue of the Robert Black College Journal, “The Century Premier Journal”, is a manifestation of the College’s contribution to intellectual communications, a compilation of very special topics being communicated to an audience of vastly different backgrounds. We are fortunate to have the opportunity to take part in the publication of this journal and have learnt very much in the process of doing so. We sincerely hope that the readers will enjoy the selection of the articles whereby they will remember the uniqueness of the College. And for those who have not yet stayed at the College before, this journal will provide a feeling of the very special atmosphere that the College has to offer. Maybe we shall see you one day as a resident or as someone bringing a new resident to the College!

Finally, we would like to express our gratitude to all those who have contributed to the journal, without which the publication of this journal would not have been possible: article contributions from Guest Night and Seminar Series speakers, past and present residents, the Swire Scholars; Ms. Catalina Ng and Mr. James Henri for their assistance in editing the articles; clerical support from the College staff; and last but not least, the College Master, Professor W.S. Leung for sharing his insights and experience.





***ROBERT BLACK COLLEGE  
GUEST NIGHT SERIES***

***(2000 – 2001)***

## THE CASE FOR PLEASURE

**Professor Georges M. Halpern**

Professor Emeritus of Medicine, University of California, Davis  
Visiting Professor, The University of Hong Kong

Robert Black College Guest Night, 21<sup>st</sup> January, 2000

Pleasure plays an important role in everyday life, but it is undervalued and under-explored in both science and society. Pleasure activities, enjoyed in moderation, make a positive contribution to, and are part of, a balanced and well-rounded approach to life. By creating a better understanding of the benefits of pleasure, we will allow people to make informed choices and to enjoy themselves without excessive worry or guilt.

### **Challenging the health evangelists: All those rules may be making people ill**

We could be healthier and happier if doctors gave up telling us what NOT to do. Well-meaning but misinformed evangelists who preach “healthy” behavior including avoiding fat or sugary foods; cutting out “stimulants” like coffee, tea or tobacco; and taking plenty of exercise have hijacked “Health”. But increasingly evidence suggests that most people’s inability to keep to the rules generates GUILT and this in turn may lead to serious illness.

*Grieve not your heart, whatever comes,  
Let sweet music play before you;  
Recall not the evil, loathsome to God  
But have joy, joy, joy and pleasure!*

(The Harper’s Song for Inherkhaw, 1160 BCE)

There is ample historic evidence to show that our very distant ancestors enjoyed the human pleasures of today. This suggests that mechanisms for experiencing pleasure might be pre-programmed in the human brain.

“Healthism” is a culture of health – some would say a new religion – that has divided human activities into healthy and unhealthy, approved and disapproved, responsible and irresponsible, permitted and forbidden. Unacceptable behaviors include enjoying drinks containing alcohol or caffeine, smoking, eating “unhealthy” foods, and avoiding exercise and medical check-ups. Of course reasonable concern for our health is fine, but the single-minded pursuit is a symptom of ill health – hypochondria.

These health evangelists do not recognize individuality. They seem to believe that there is a perfect body shape and a perfect way to live. They believe there should be stringent limits for all activities with the ideal of total abstinence. The ideal person would be alcohol-free, caffeine-free, cholesterol-free, salt-free and sugar-free.

People’s failure to live up to the ideals promoted by healthism leads to powerful feelings of guilt, and this in turn has serious consequences for both mental and physical health. Moreover, a survey has shown that 43 per cent of adults report that they would enjoy things more if they did not feel guilty about them.

Guilt is a stressor releasing the stress hormones including the corticosteroids; sustained steroid release has been shown to have pathological effects including infections, ulcers, heart disease, cancer and brain damage.

Human pleasures are pre-programmed in the brain: when adult Australians were asked to record the degree of enjoyment they perceived in eight everyday products – coffee, tea, chocolate, cigarettes, beer, wine, potato chips, and sweet biscuits, men and women largely agreed on the relative enjoyments, except for beer which was MOST enjoyed by the men and LEAST by the women. Different age groups reacted slightly differently, but for each respondent subgroup the overall mean rating for enjoyment across all products was much the same. This suggests the operation of a “pleasure quota” – that is people obtain a constant amount of pleasure or enjoyment from everyday products in different ways.

Pleasure has an important role in the healthy regulation of behavior, both physically and mentally. Subjects choose pleasant temperatures to achieve temperature regulation and pleasant tastes to achieve body weight regulation. Moreover, the avoidance of unpleasant muscle pain proves to achieve efficient performance in physical tasks: sensory and mental pleasures are the motor for useful performance. The rating of pleasure is the mirror image of performance!

Both the seeking and avoidance of sensory pleasure optimize behaviors that play a vital role in life. The process can also be demonstrated with remembered pleasures, some of them life supporting; strong pleasures are remembered better than modest ones.

Globally, pleasure is aroused by the same mechanisms and follows the same laws in physiological and mental tasks, and it has the effect of allowing an individual to achieve his/her ideal physical and mental performance.

The best things in life are – almost – free. An analysis of a large survey of English people’s everyday use of substances like tea and coffee, a smoke, a drink, or some chocolate, indicate that these simple things provided **definite pleasures**. Top ranking pleasure for men was food and drink, music, reading, family/children, while women’s top ranking pleasures were family/children, nature scenery, entertainment and reading. Sex/love was mentioned frequently, and appeared to be universal and taken for granted. The respondents reported lots of simple everyday pleasures in heartfelt and honest terms and, although there were some examples of self-indulgence or hedonism, there was no evidence that people generally were hell-bent on pleasure seeking. Getting respondents to write about their pleasures and enjoyments – instead of war, famine and disasters, problems, stress, worries and fears – might help them focus on the more positive aspects of life.

Studies of people’s enjoyments and pleasure clearly support the message that “a little of what you fancy” does you good, and we should not be made to feel guilty about pleasures. For most people these are the only pleasures they are likely to enjoy in the only life they have.

## The question of guilt

People's behavior could be controlled by their feelings of guilt or shame, or by bribery. "Guilt" is the feeling one experiences when acting against a personal code, whereas "shame" is the feeling that follows discovery and condemnation by others. Neither guilt nor shame is the result on innate features of human consciousness, but the product of an educational process allowing both family and State to maintain social control. European society has relied on the imposition of guilt in a child by age three or four, to ensure that it learned the social rules. In some European countries (e.g. Italy), society is moving from a position of control by guilt to control by shame; thus behavior is more and more being dictated by external rather than internal regulation.

Shame and guilt are important behavioral functions, but one might ask whether they make the achievement of happiness an impossible aim. Shame is not a satisfactory control mode; it was necessary to find an alternative. Offering communal pleasurable reward for acceptable behavior might be effective in reducing anti-social acts.

Preferences could become values, thus converting something that has been good for you to something that is morally correct. Governments tend to act on questions of morality, whereas they usually do not on questions of preference. In the US, cigarette smoking has been most subjected to moralization, although eating meat, fat and chocolate are rapidly following the same pattern.

Factors encouraging moralization include the Protestant ethic; reported harm to children; association of an activity with an already stigmatized group. In the US, "food as source of nutrition" has been replaced by "food as source of obesity". Americans have surrounded themselves with a variety of alternative foods, in the apparent belief that immortality was just around the corner – which is also why enormous (and growing) amounts of antibiotics, vitamins, supplements and nutraceuticals are consumed. *"There is a common tendency in America to think of food more as a poison than a pleasure"*.

Americans are overloaded with information about what is "bad". Food is either "good" or "bad", and the "bad" is not to be touched. Yet salt and fat make food tasty! The American attitudes to food can be compared unfavorably with the much more pleasure-oriented attitudes in France. The French approach is clearly better for the quality of life, and it might also be better for health. The French woman's attitude to chocolate cake is to relish it, whereas the American woman thinks about the calorific value!

A combination of the public's failure to appreciate the true nature of risk; the difference between a risk factor and a disease; and the uneven course of scientific progress have conspired to make eating unpleasant, worrisome and guilt-ridden, particularly for females. But, in a way, mainstream Western ethical tradition may not be "anti-pleasure" but "anti-license". Therapists now see guilt, which has been part of moral and legal language, as a nuisance and to be got rid of. If someone has done something wrong it is only sensible that he/she should feel guilty or acknowledged the guilt. The problem is those who are guilty but do not feel it.

Although feeling guilty might subvert pleasure, there are occasions when morally it should. What is needed is some way of differentiating between good from bad pleasures, so people would know when feeling guilty is appropriate or not. We do not need a list of scares about diet and health that has characterized Anglo-Saxon cultures. Ideologues, meddlers, bureaucrats, politicians and lobby groups for a variety of reasons promoted them. But they would not be successful if people were more secure in their food culture. So perhaps what some researchers identify as guilt about food and pleasure should be better characterized as a more general insecurity, showing itself in nervousness, panic and self-reproach.

While feeling guilty about enjoying good food, wine, brandy and cigars might undermine the pleasure they give, that is not the end of the story. There are occasions when people should feel guilty about their pleasures, for example when NOT enjoying them, or NOT providing them for others. If we don't admit the moral dimension and get it right, the Puritans will have the field left to themselves.

### **Pleasure and health**

There are "innocent" diseases, and "blameworthy" diseases. The former include athletic injuries, cancer in children, allergies, passive smoke-related illnesses (in which people are victims of the "sinful" behavior of others), and chronic fatigue syndrome. Blameworthy diseases include any transmitted by sexual acts, any related to alcohol use, cigarette smoking or (recently) illicit drug use, and those related to genetics or the natural processes of biology such as obesity, old age, depression, and cancer.

It appears that Americans still promote the idea that "health is good, and if one is good, one will be healthy". In the U.S. goodness is equated with health, youth and beauty. With the rise of *healthism* has come increased emphasis on personal behavior as a cause of illness.

Doctors have promulgated healthy behavior and scolded those whom they considered to have behaved improperly. But what influence did/does this have on the sick? Physicians have also concurred with laypeople in the categorization of environmental influences. "Good" things include asceticism, vegetables, leanness, exercise, abstinence, optimism, cleanliness, beauty, and youth; while "bad" things include meat, fat, sugar, obesity, smoking, alcohol, drugs, sexual promiscuity, sloth, pessimism, dirtiness, ugliness, and old age.

There is evidence that people suffering from so-called "bad diseases" avoid consulting physicians. We should wonder whether the tendency of physicians to generate guilt in patients might itself cause illness. The power of the so-called "placebo" effect – psychic influence upon emotional and physical well-being is well known. But what of the opposite, the "nocebo" effect, which has, as its ultimate expression, the voodoo curse? What is the effect of national pronouncements by scientific and physician bodies, prevalent social beliefs and individual exhortations by doctors on patients who are told that if they act in a certain way they will get sick?

Are we through our emphasis on health actually creating illness? Certainly we are creating anxiety, as evidenced by the public uproar over such things as the rumor of toxic materials in the shiny surfaces of apples, pesticides and dietary carcinogens.

Might it be possible that as a profession, physicians are functioning to a degree as Voodoo priests and actually causing diseases in certain individuals?

There is now substantial evidence that people suffering significant and chronic stress develop an impaired immune response – that is they become vulnerable to illness. The body's immune response is its natural defence mechanism against infection that gears up white blood cells to attack germ intruders.

Tests on women who had just given birth to babies, and experienced classic stressors, have shown that their immune responses had been boosted by the “pleasure of birth”, as had been suggested by earlier short term acute studies. One of the strategies for the future therefore would be to look at everyday stressors. The word “stress” might itself be inappropriate; more suitable would be the term “psychological challenge”.

Since the experience of pleasure can be scientifically shown to help the body's defenses, it opens up a new approach for maintaining health. Similar to physical fitness, fitness of the immune system requires training. Increasing evidence suggests that moderate sports can decrease the frequency of infections while excessive exhausting exercise can lead to the opposite, a situation that has been described as a J-curve. Following prolonged exhausting exercise (unpleasant experience!), a transient partial suppression of several immune functions (a.k.a. “AIDS”) can be shown, and this period provides a window for invasion of microbes.

But what about psychological stress? Nurses who report frequent episodes of anxiety have significantly lower rates of sIgA (the defenses in mouth and throat) than nurses who report only occasional surges. And what about academic stress? Acute psychological stress in students exerts influence on saliva defenses, and may well be a factor in the often-reported relationship between stress and impaired oral health.

The effects of music and an auditory stimulus on the levels of salivary secretory IgA were studied in groups of college students. Analysis indicated significant increases for the group that listened to “pleasant” music.

Coming back to exercise, I once caressed the idea of using sex as a substitute to gym, and an interesting approach to weight loss. But a recent article in *Sports Medicine* is rewarding my prescient proposals: “the sexual response is a form of exercise which has strong biological and evolutionary components...there are parallels between the orgasmic response and exercise.” Physiological bases of sexual responses help to explain the well being that often accompanies states of passionate love, addiction and exercise, (e.g. opioids). Studies suggest that sexual activity is associated with well-being and longevity, yet many health and exercise professionals fail to take account of sexual activity in advancing exercise programs and executing studies. The best stress reliever is orgasmic sex: people who have sex once or twice weekly have substantially higher levels of sIgA than do people who have sex less than once a week, or never at all. Preliminary studies confirm that regular sexual orgasms, in female subjects, are also associated with an increase in g-IFN production.

### **Sweet pleasures of life**

The pleasure-pain principle dictates much of what we do in life. We are attracted to substances, people and situations that evoke pleasure. When it comes to food and

drink, people eat for taste, not for nutrition. *Nutrition comes as a by-product of eating the foods we like to eat.*

Arguably, the food with the greatest impact on mood is chocolate; as all palatable foods stimulate endorphin release in the brain, this is the most likely mechanism to account for the elevation of mood. Besides the hedonic appeal of chocolate (fat, sugar, texture, and aroma), it may be used by some as a form of self-medication for dietary deficiencies (e.g. magnesium), or to balance low levels of neurotransmitters involved in the regulation of mood, immune response, food intake, and compulsive behaviors (e.g. serotonin and dopamine).

The association of sweetness with pleasure is apparently universal in humans. The sweet taste is the only one that is innate. In recent decades several books devoted to the “evils” of sugar have been published, among them *Sugar Blues* by Dufty (1975), which among other things, held sugar responsible for brain malfunction, bubonic plague, heart attacks, criminal behavior, freckles, hair loss, impotence, insect bites, loss of memory, obstinate resentment of discipline, schizophrenia and suicide. Dufty has acknowledged the striking similarity between his views on sugar and 18<sup>th</sup> Century medical beliefs on the consequences of masturbation, claiming that this was because the ills they attributed to masturbation were actually caused by sugar.

Although epidemiology does not prove causality – just association, some epidemiological findings are quite solid: one of them is that the main risk factor for heart disease, cancer and other diseases of affluent societies, is...**age**.

### **The positive contribution of pleasure to life**

In everyday life, some choose to consume caffeine, alcohol and/or nicotine, as strategies for coping with various situations during the day. If people feel drowsy, they reach for a cup of coffee. When they need to think and concentrate, some people have a cigarette. When they get home after a stressful day at work, then many people like to relax and unwind with a good meal, together with a glass of wine, even a cigarette or a cigar and some chocolate. So, it is clear that the use of so-called social substances is situation dependent.

Now, what about the effects of combinations of food and caffeine on memory, attention and reaction time? Breakfast alone makes people alert, perform better and puts them in a better mood. But if you combine breakfast with a cup of coffee the combination results in even better memory and higher alertness. Even the effects of sweetness (sugar) can boost the effects of caffeine. On the other hand, when performance is impaired by alcohol, a heavy lunch, or night work, then caffeine can reverse the lowered arousal.

The pan-cultural use of pleasure products, which contain alcohol and/or nicotine, indicates that pleasure has a central role in people’s lives. Psychometric studies demonstrate the impact of pleasure products on performance in laboratory tests, and tests mimicking everyday tasks. Nicotine, caffeine and chocolate improve cognitive and psychomotor performance over that seen at rested levels, ameliorate the effect of fatigue seen after a prolonged period of work, and counteract impairments in performance seen with doses of alcohol. Not only does the individual benefit, but society gains, if productivity is increased and accidents are reduced.



While many types of cognitive function are impaired by social doses of alcohol, alcohol may help to aid creativity, especially artists and authors. Although alcohol has some effect on creativity, the expectancy and situational effects result in more creative thoughts. Thus, there is a positive effect on cognition of drinking low-to-moderate amounts of alcohol, besides the well-known relaxant effects.

### **Wine brings more than physical health**

Life can be lived in a casual way, or plumbed to the depths. We all choose how and where to spend our energy and attention. You may play music, cook seriously, tend a lovely garden. Maybe the things you love aren't vital, but they make life richer. Passion is never wasted effort.

And here's the second question, as a corollary: why wine lovers do learn to taste? We know that the effort we put in understanding and appreciating wine – as opposed to simply enjoying it (or its psychotropic effects – pays big dividends. Really tasting wine adds an extra dimension to the basic daily routines of eating and drinking. It turns obligation into pleasure, a daily necessity into a celebration of life.

Blind tasting is a great parlor game. But the real goal is to understand – and enjoy – a wine, not to unmask it. Through a concentrated application of all the senses, and by comparison of the immediate sense data with memories of other wines tasted, the serious taster can decipher a wine biography to an amazing extent, including the growing season that produced it, the approach of the winemaker who created it, and its relation to other wines of similar type or origin. Every bottle of wine is a message, the physical embodiment of a specific place and time captured and transmitted for the pleasure of the taster. Open a bottle of 1961 red Bordeaux and even a generation later the dusty warmth of that long, hot summer floods the dining room.

Even more, though, wine is a catalyst. The effort to understand it through tasting, and to share that understanding with other tasters, creates a common experience that builds bonds between people. Great wine has that marvelous quality of immediately establishing communication between those who are drinking it. Tasting it at table should not be a solitary activity and fine wine should not be drunk without comment. There are few pleasures that loosen the tongue as much as sharing wine, glass in hand. In essence it is easy to describe what one senses provided one has made a sufficient effort to notice it. What is clearly perceived can be clearly expressed.

Remember though that tasting is not a test – your subjective response is more important than any “right answers”. The bottom line is: Wine tastes good to you is good wine, and chances are that this wine will do you good. And more good news: “The world of wine is infinite”.

### **Pleasure and choice**

There are two foci of thoughts regarding the role of pleasure. One is what one might loosely call the “scientific theme” which is focused on the scientific case for the effects of various pleasures, particularly as contributors to enjoyment in everyday life. The second theme, while not at all divorced from this, is focused more on the political, sociological and philosophical aspects of pleasure. The latter stream focuses particularly on the way in which modern society, health promotion, and Government

itself, have sought to marginalize and, in some instances, criminalize and prohibit various aspects of pleasure.

Can traditional economic models provide a satisfactory explanation of pleasure choices, particularly the traditional division between “wants” and “needs”? The economics alone have provided a very poor account of the way ordinary people made pleasure decisions, and it needs to broaden the way in which it thought about these decisions by incorporating psychological data.

Investigators looked at governmental attempts to prohibit various forms of pleasure, either through the increasing taxation of it, or the outright criminalization by prohibition, e.g. the United States experience with alcohol. The distinction between high taxation and prohibition turns out, in fact, to be a very small one, and the consequences, which are often not thought about, are quite significant, in terms of wider aspects of society.

For instance, when you deprive people of pleasures to which they are greatly attached, they will be predisposed to resort to all sorts of criminal behavior. Even ordinary citizens can become criminalized if you attempt to overtax out things like cigarettes or alcohol.

Let us look now at the “New Puritanism”. It is made up of a smorgasbord of often-contradictory beliefs about the interests of the natural world, the primacy of public policy over private behavior, and the corruption of science.

The New Puritanism has become the ideology of the late 20<sup>th</sup>/beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> centuries, and has replaced more traditional ways of thinking about individuals, their relations to each other, society, and, most particularly, pleasure. All this has occurred with the aid and the connivance of the media. The way in which the media have operated has affected the ways in which both individuals and, more importantly, government seek to think about and control pleasure.

If we consider now the value of pleasure, we should broaden the usual dichotomy between, on the one hand, the interventions of what has been called “The Nanny State” in attempting to look after people, even sometimes against their will, and on the other hand, those who argue for the absolute autonomy and rights of the individual.

This polarization often overlooks a third perspective that arguably is equally valuable, and that is the fact that we are socialized into civilized pleasures. Society has an array of informal controls that develop an individual’s self-regulation of pleasure, and so finds self-fulfillment without the heavy hand of state regulation. So when the state attempts to control pleasures, it is not only suppressing individual liberty, but also attacking a long process of evolutionary civilization, which has attached meaning to pleasure in society.

Sir Isaiah Berlin developed the distinction between “negative” and “positive” freedom. State attempts to intrude into individual decision-making about pleasure, of whatever form, pose a significant danger to democracy. It is simply a threat to the freedom of individual choice, as an attempt to interfere with the autonomous condition of individuals to make decisions about their own lives. If we allow individuals the

right to make decisions about pleasure, we counteract this interference, and strengthen the case for individual liberty.

Stressors are inevitable: we cannot avoid them; they are part of living, and a necessary part of it. But the important aspect is to be able to relax and unwind, and counteract these stressors. François Rabelais (1494 – 1553), one of my favorite mentors, left us with the Rabelaisian view; “by relaxing tension through laughter, one soothes the anxiety that the sexual emotions occasion in certain souls, confusing it with the guilt of sin”.

People have a right to choose their pleasures, even if they are said to be unhealthy. People have a right to enjoy their pleasures without guilt – whatever these pleasures are. People should live a life of moderate hedonism, so that they can live to the full the only life they are ever likely to have!

But we should be vigilant: bigots are everywhere. My late friend Bernard Zacharias, trombonist of the Sidney Bechet & Claude Luter jazz band, created an imaginary principality in the heart of France; its motto was *Stultitia cinget*.

Since I am (mostly) dealing with nutrition, remember that misinterpretation of reliable scientific findings is a major cause of abnormal nutrition behavior. Overreaction to health messages may precipitate such conditions as *anorexia nervosa*, or nutrient toxicity. Adverse food reactions, real or more often imagined, lead to restriction in food selection. Excessive austerity in food – and wine – use negates the pleasure of eating, a useful mechanism in food choice ensuring food diversity – and pleasurable health.

It is not by chance that most people toast as *Salute/Salud/Santé*....

*This is an abridged version of the original article of the same title presented by the author, which, together with a comprehensive reference list, is available upon request from: ghalpern@mindspring.com*

## THE PUBLIC UNDERSTANDING OF SCIENCE

**Sir Walter Bodmer**

Principle, Hertford College, Oxford

Kenneth Robinson Fellow 2000, The University of Hong Kong

Robert Black College Guest Night, 23<sup>rd</sup> March, 2000

Nearly thirty years ago while I was driving across the border from France back to London from a vacation with my family, a young customs officer stopped me. When I told this officer that I was a professor at Oxford, thinking that I could get passed the border quicker without further hassle, the officer asked me which discipline I was teaching. When I told this young officer that I was a professor of genetics, the officer remarked jokingly that he better let me through because he was afraid that I might turn him into a frog. This incident happened at a time when scientist John Gurdon was experimenting on the cloning of frogs.

This episode amazed me. That a young customs officer might have such an awareness of current scientific issues, and possess a certain level of understanding of science and genetics seemed quite remarkable. I wondered about how public awareness and public interest in scientific issues is created?

Science and technology play a significant role in everyone's life in our modern society. We live in a society that is dominated by science and technology that influences all aspects of our daily lives, be it life at home, life at work, at play, or our health. All aspects, in one way or another, depend on scientific evolution. Therefore, the public should be aware and should be concerned with scientific issues. Further, they should understand the risk involved. One example of such is human cloning. The cloning of human cells not only brings about issues on risk and utility involved but it also brings out issues on ethics. Another example would be genetically modification in agriculture, which also brings issues on the risk and the utility of its products. But, success in these two scientific areas, as in many others, would bring enormous benefits to our society. The cloning of human cells allows us to produce human organs for medical transplantation, whereas genetically modification in agriculture could solve many of our world's food problems, like food shortage in the third world.

When science has such great impact directly on people's lives, people have an obligation to ask tough questions and challenge the scientists' findings, when and if that seems appropriate. Public participation, active discussion and informed/intelligent decision allow the public to take full advantage of scientific advances. However, active participation and effective reasoning about scientific issues requires the public to have a certain level of understanding of science. That is where scientists and education come into the picture.

There is a need for scientists to engage the public in scientific issues, not with the traditional one-way communication, but rather, to involve the public in active participation on scientific issues. To achieve this kind of communication, I suggest that scientists must first learn to communicate with the public in an easily understandable way, with simple English and less jargon. Secondly, scientists must

understand how the public ranks scientific issues. Scientists must understand what leads the public to react either positively or negatively toward particular scientific issues or products. Utility, risk, and the credibility of scientists are the top three things that the public considers when faced with particular scientific issues. In order for scientists to command credibility and for the public to better understand the risk and utility involved in scientific advancement, there should be sufficient peer evaluation on scientific findings and the information on these findings should be made widely available to the public.

However, this has not been a common practice for most scientists. University is a good place for fostering a new attitude in the new generation of scientists. University should also be a place that serves two other purposes. One is to provide opportunities for scientists to learn to better communicate with the public. The second, is to provide a certain level of understand of science for the general public through education.

Finally, I would argue that the goal of promoting public understanding of science is not to galvanise favor or disfavor of a particular attitude to a scientific problem. The goal is to make possible intelligent public participation and active discussion of the difficult and controversial issues that are raised in our modern society.

## THE PRIVILEGE OF SILENCE

**Mr. Patrick Yu**

Barrister

Hong Kong

Robert Black College Guest Night, 25<sup>th</sup> May, 2000

Silence is not a common virtue with lawyers, as you will find out soon enough. There are occasions however when discretion is the better part of valour and even lawyers choose to remain silent much as they dearly wish to be heard, e.g. when confronted by an irate and unreasonable spouse. There are also occasions when one is obliged to remain silent on certain specific knowledge acquired, e.g. when a priest is bound by his vow of silence not to disclose what he has heard in confession. Likewise, there are occasions when facts relating to officialdom cannot be divulged because of the Official Secrets Act. The topic of my talk this evening has nothing to do with any of those situations. Instead, I shall be discussing the privilege of silence accorded a defendant in criminal law.

I specify criminal law because no question of any such privilege arises in civil lawsuits which are determined on a balance of probabilities. In civil proceedings judgment will be awarded to whichever of the litigants with whom the truth more probably lies. I am referring of course only to the evidential aspect of such proceedings. That being the case, no defendant in civil proceedings can afford to remain silent in the face of allegations made against him on oath, however fantastic and incredible those allegations may sound, and irrespective of the extent to which they may have been discredited under cross-examination. This is because on a balance of probabilities, one iota of evidence will suffice to tip the scales against a silent defendant.

The scenario in a criminal trial is far from being the same as in civil proceedings, because the criterion applicable is altogether different. An accused person charged with an offence is at law presumed to be innocent until the contrary is proven, and the onus of proof rests at all times with the prosecution not only to prove the offence but to prove it beyond reasonable doubt. Thus if the prosecution fails to make out a case, the accused will of course be acquitted without having to utter a word in his own defence. Even where a case has been made out, an accused can yet elect to remain silent and be entitled to be acquitted if the evidence led falls short of proving the particular charge to the satisfaction of the court. If our system of criminal jurisprudence appears to favour an accused person, the reason is that it readily appreciates an ill-deserved acquittal is not nearly as heinous as a wrongful conviction.

Pray bear with me for labouring what may appear obvious to you. Over the years I have received surprising albeit polite enquiries about criminal trials from knowledgeable people both in England and in Hong Kong who seem to have a regrettable lack of understanding of our legal system.

Popular questions not infrequently asked include:

- (1) whether defence counsel ever suffers pangs of conscience when getting a guilty client acquitted; and

- (2) what prompts defence counsel to advise an accused person to give evidence on oath, or, alternatively, remain silent.

The first question posed reflects, I am afraid, an inadequate knowledge of the presumption of innocence under our system of criminal jurisprudence. No one is at law guilty until and unless he has been convicted in a court of law. An acquittal necessarily means that an accused has been found “Not Guilty” of the offence with which he stands charged, even though he may have perpetrated one hundred and one other sins. “Getting a guilty client acquitted” is therefore, I am sorry to say, a contradiction in terms. To mention pangs of conscience also shows an unfortunate ignorance of the functions of a lawyer in a criminal trial. A barrister is not an entirely free agent. He cannot decline a brief merely because he does not like the look of it or because he disapproves of what his client has done. His position is not dissimilar to that of a medical doctor called upon to treat a patient. Once he is retained, he is obliged, nay, duty-bound to do his very best for his client, this side of the rules of course. While coaching a client what to say would, for example, be against the rules, and indeed in itself criminal, exploiting favourable elements in a case and errors of judgment on the part of an opponent is a recognised function of every lawyer, and there is no reason why such exploitation leading to an acquittal should cause pangs of conscience.

There is no short answer to the second question, namely, what prompts defence counsel to advise an accused person to give evidence on oath, or, alternatively, remain silent. Such advice depends on the circumstances of each case, and the nature and extent of the prosecution testimony. I can do no better than cite three pre-historic cases of mine to illustrate some of the principles involved in so advising a client and the factors which led me to the particular advice I gave in each of those cases.

In April 1967, the Cultural Revolution on the Chinese mainland reared its ugly head in Hong Kong. For some eight weeks, local inhabitants lived in awesome fear and misgivings, during which tens of thousands of militant political agitators marched daily through the heart of town shouting and carrying anti-British slogans and blatantly brushing law and order aside, while hand-made bombs were regularly found in public places causing not a few people to be injured. The officers and men of the Hong Kong police were specifically instructed throughout this period to avoid any head-on confrontation with these offenders, and as a result had to back down time and again from making any lawful arrests. In June, these agitators disappeared as suddenly as they first appeared. But ugly memories of those traumatic weeks lingered, especially with the custodians of the law who had seen their colleagues suffer insults and injuries without redress.

Against this background, a police corporal then responsible for the prisoners in the North Kowloon Magistracy was charged with the murder of one of those prisoners. As this case sounds almost like a Perry Mason attempt to prove that the crime was committed by someone else other than the accused, I must invite you to bear in mind the following sequence of events. The deceased man, surnamed Lee, was arrested at Shaw Studio in Kowloon on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> June for having in his possession an inflammatory political poster. He was kept in custody at Wong Tai Sin Police Station from the afternoon of Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> June, throughout Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> June, until 2:00 p.m. on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> June, when he was taken to the North Kowloon Magistracy, and

delivered into the custody of the accused at 2:15 p.m. At 2:30 p.m., Lee went before the magistrate, and was ordered to be taken immediately to hospital where he died at 5:45 p.m. the same afternoon. The case of the prosecution could be summed up as follows: (1) The police pathologist had conducted a Post Mortem on the deceased, and concluded that the cause of death was a ruptured kidney inflicted no more than four hours before death, that is to say not before 1:45 p.m. on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> June; (2) According to a number of officers from Wong Tai Sin Police Station, Lee was in good health and condition when handed over to the accused at 2:15 p.m.; and (3) One of the other prisoners in the North Kowloon Magistracy said he saw the accused assault Lee shortly before the latter went to court at 2:30 p.m. Those three grounds appeared at first sight to wrap up the murder charge against the accused very neatly and conclusively. However as the trial proceeded, each and every one of those grounds was effectively and totally undermined.

At the trial, I had the Professor of Surgery of the HKU sitting at counsel's table to assist me. Under cross-examination, the police pathologist abandoned each and every one of the four reasons hitherto given by him in support of his opinion that the ruptured kidney could not have been inflicted more than 4 hours prior to death, and agreed to extend his original four-hour limit to five. This meant that even in his opinion the kidney could have been ruptured as early as 12:45 p.m. on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> June, i.e. to say 1¼ hours before the deceased left Wong Tai Sin Police Station. This completely destroyed the first ground upon which the prosecution case was based.

Furthermore the Post Mortem conducted on the deceased revealed surprisingly two sets of extensive injuries appearing in various obvious parts of the deceased's body, at least one set of which, comprising some 13 such injuries, had become discoloured to the extent that they could not have been inflicted at the North Kowloon Magistracy, and must have been sustained not later than Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> June while the deceased was in custody at Wong Tai Sin Police Station. The second set of 11 other injuries was more recent but could not be specifically timed, and thus could likewise have been inflicted before the deceased left Wong Tai Sin Police Station at 2:00 p.m. on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> June. These two sets of injuries especially the first set altogether dismantled the second ground upon which the prosecution case was built, namely, the claim by the Wong Tai Sin Police Station officers that the deceased was delivered in good health and condition to the accused.

The third ground relied on by the prosecution comprising the eye-witness' account of the assault by the accused on the deceased was likewise completely discredited under cross-examination. In any event, this account of alleged assault was so flimsy as to be totally inadequate to link it up with the fatal kidney injury.

Thus, to cut a long story short, at the end of the day, the medical and other evidence led by the prosecution showed that the fatal injury was, to say the least, equally consistent, indeed if not more consistent, with having been inflicted by the unknown officers and men of Wong Tai Sin Police Station, where the deceased was detained for some 44 hours and where he had sustained at least the first set of 13 discoloured injuries, as by the accused, in whose custody the deceased remained for no more than 15 minutes. That being so, no properly directed jury could possibly convict the accused. Accordingly I advised the accused and he elected to remain silent. Instead I called the Professor of Surgery as a defence witness. He expressed the opinion that



until 1967 no up-to-date medical expertise could time the rupture to the kidney to within four hours of death, and that the fatal injury could easily have been inflicted as much as 8, 12 or even 24 hours before. If so, the likelihood that it had been sustained during the deceased's detention at Wong Tai Sin Police Station was necessarily even more compelling.

Very unfortunately the trial judge failed to appreciate what the medical evidence revealed and what the crux of the defence was, and altogether misdirected the jury. As a result, the accused was convicted, although not of murder, but only of manslaughter. However on appeal all three Appeal Judges held that if properly directed, no reasonable jury could possibly have returned a guilty verdict against the accused, whose conviction was accordingly quashed.

In 1972, I was defence counsel in the Victoria District Court for an American commercial traveller to Hong Kong charged with Attempted Fraud. In the early part of the year, the accused had purchased a consignment of precious jewels in Venezuela worth some half a million U.S. dollars and had ordered them to be dispatched to Hong Kong for delivery to be taken at Jardine Matheson & Co. Ltd. After travelling to various other parts of the world before returning to his home town of Watertown outside Boston, he had subsequently come to Hong Kong in order to collect and dispose of his purchase. However at Jardine Matheson & Co. Ltd., he not only failed to take delivery of his gems, but was arrested, because according to a junior member of the staff of the said company, several weeks earlier someone answering the same name and description of the accused had already taken delivery of the said gems. In other words my client was accused of seeking to take delivery of those gems a second time, which was a strange suggestion in itself. At the trial, the prosecution called, in addition to the young employee who claimed he could recognise the accused as the man who had taken delivery of the jewels earlier on, a handwriting expert who had compared the signature of the accused recovered from the hotel where he was staying with that of the man who had signed for the jewels at Jardine Matheson & Co. Ltd., and concluded that the two specimens of signature were identical and must have been the handwriting of the same person. After the close of the prosecution case, I submitted to the trial judge that the defendant had no case to answer. The charge of Attempted Fraud was based essentially on the allegation that the accused had already taken delivery of the jewels. This would only make sense if the accused was merely going through the motion of requesting and not obtaining delivery of the gems on the second occasion in order in due course to bring a fraudulent claim against Jardine Matheson & Co. Ltd. or the insurance company involved. In other words, he was merely preparing the way for such a subsequent fraudulent claim to be brought. At law, an attempt to defraud is an offence, but mere preparation is not. I cited a case in the United Kingdom in which a man had put away his wife's jewellery, then tied himself up, falsely claiming that burglars had broken into his house, bound and gagged him, rifled his safe, and made away with his wife's collection of jewellery kept inside it. Upon investigation being made, the husband eventually admitted that his account of the alleged burglary was all a sham in order to enable him to make a subsequent false claim against the insurance company which had insured his wife's jewellery against theft. He was accordingly charged with and convicted of Attempted Fraud. The Court of Appeal however held that as the intended claim against the insurance company had not yet been brought, the sham could only be said to be in its embryo. He had indeed made preparation to put forward a fraudulent claim, but had not yet

made any actual attempt to defraud the insurance company, even though he had tried deliberately to mislead the police. His conviction for Attempted Fraud was accordingly quashed.

In the case of my American client, the trial judge rejected my submission and called upon the defendant to answer the charge. If my submission had been upheld, the acquittal of my client would of course have immediately followed. As it happened, I had to decide whether to call my client and his witnesses to give evidence, or whether to stand by my submission, call no evidence, and trust that my submission would be upheld by the Court of Appeal in the event of my client getting convicted as a result of his remaining silent.

The accused in the case had at all times denied the charge and maintained that he had never set foot in Hong Kong before he was arrested, and that there was no question of his having collected his gems on an earlier occasion. He had in addition flown in two witnesses from America to support his claim. The first of these was a banker from the accused's home town where he had had a meeting with the accused in his bank on the very day the jewels were collected in Hong Kong. If this witness was telling the truth, there was no way the accused could have been in Hong Kong on the material date bearing in mind the time difference between Hong Kong and Boston. The other witness flown by the accused to Hong Kong was an eighty-year-old American lady who was a handwriting expert and had been accepted time and again in American courts as a specialist on handwriting and forgery. She expressed the opinion that the specimens of the accused's signature and that of the man who had collected the jewels were not identical although there were similarities.

In the light of this corroborative evidence, I advised the accused that he had everything to gain and nothing to lose by giving evidence on oath. For, even if his evidence and that of his witnesses failed to convince the court, and he was convicted, I could still appeal on my legal submission of no case to answer. The accused duly gave evidence on his own behalf, which was followed by that of the banker and the old lady. At the end of which, the trial judge had no difficulty in acquitting my client. The highlight in this case came very surprisingly during the cross-examination of the old lady by Prosecution Counsel. The handwriting expert called by the prosecution had cited Harrison as the authority for his opinion, Harrison being the author of a number of publications on handwriting and forgery. When the old lady said that this would not be the first time she had differed from Harrison, she was asked in what circumstances she had done so. Her reply was "When I taught him!" Not surprisingly, the District Judge in acquitting the accused indicated that he preferred the opinion of the old lady to that of the local handwriting expert.

The third case was a rare example of an accused person breaking his silence on advice in order surprisingly to confirm the greater part of the prosecution case while underlining its failure to substantiate an essential aspect of the charge.

This trial occurred in the latter part of 1957. My client was a sailor employed on board the S.S. Foochow, a cargo boat ploughing the China seas. He was accused of murdering another of the ship's sailors. The prosecution case was based exclusively on two confessions made by the accused, the first to his captain and the second to the police in Hong Kong. The absence of the alleged victim of the murder from his station

had been noticed just as the S.S. Foochow was leaving the harbour of Shanghai. A report was made to the captain, and the accused was immediately sent for because he was the person last seen with the missing sailor. The accused readily confessed to the captain that because the missing sailor had cheated him of a lot of money, he had killed him by knocking him out with an iron bar, dragged his unconscious body from their cabin to the side of the ship, and dumped it overboard. Upon the arrival of the S.S. Foochow in Hong Kong, the accused repeated to the local police what he had told his captain.

At the trial, I elicited from the captain that his ship had left Shanghai at mid-day, that the visibility in the harbour and the weather at the material time were both excellent, that there was a large number of small craft moving around in the close vicinity of the S.S. Foochow, and that he could easily see the people on board those craft and what they were doing, thereby rendering it a fair surmise that those people could just as easily have seen the dumping of the alleged victim overboard. I then called the accused to give evidence on his own behalf. After repeating on oath what he had told his captain and the police, he was asked why he said he had killed the other sailor. His reply was that the blow was a heavy one on his head, as a result of which the victim had not moved again after being struck and had remained unconscious until he was thrown overboard. He had therefore assumed he must have either died from his head-wound or at least from drowning after being dumped into the sea. He said he had at no time felt the pulse or tested the breath of the victim, because everything had taken place as the S.S. Foochow began to move from the dock in Shanghai, and the only thought in his mind at the time was to throw the body overboard in order to avoid discovery.

The net result of all this evidence was that notwithstanding the repeated confessions of the accused to having killed his former friend, no one could really say whether the missing sailor was alive or dead when he was thrown overboard. Nor could anyone preclude the not unlikely possibility that the missing sailor might well have been picked up by the people in the smaller craft from the Shanghai harbour and thus saved from drowning at least. I cited a notorious case which had taken place a long time ago in the U.K. in which the alleged victim in a murder trial had re-emerged very much alive after a period of time but tragically only after his alleged murderer had been convicted on his confession to the murder and accordingly hanged. I submitted that the so-called Bamboo Curtain cutting off Shanghai and the Chinese mainland from all media throughout the 1950s' had unfortunately made it impossible for enquiries to be made about the whereabouts of the missing sailor after the event. In the premises, it would be dangerous and contrary to the presumption of innocence to assume that the other sailor must have met his death. The jury very conscientiously deliberated for 9? hours before returning a unanimous verdict of Not Guilty in favour of the accused who was accordingly acquitted of the charge of Murder and discharged.

You may feel justifiably alarmed that the accused in this case should be allowed to leave court altogether unpunished despite having knocked someone unconscious and thrown him into the sea. The fault did not however lie with the law, the court, the jury, or defence counsel. I hate to say it but prosecution counsel must accept full responsibility for this unfortunate result. For, if instead of Murder, the accused had been charged with Wounding with Intent, no question of proving the death of the

victim would even arise. I would undoubtedly have advised the accused who would only be too willing to plead guilty to the alternative charge, and there would be no question of the accused getting away altogether unpunished. Thus if any person should suffer pangs of conscious in that case, prosecution counsel was the only one who deserved that privilege.

I hope those three cases will have given you some idea of the part played by defence counsel involved in advising a client whether to give evidence or remain silent. I can cite you a great variety of other cases. But I am afraid my thirty minutes are up.

So, let me wind up my talk by telling you instead an amusing story about Singapore. A visitor to this city state was taken by his host to the Supreme Court on the first day, the new Legislative Assembly on the second day and a by-election on the third day. On each occasion he spent hours listening to lawyers rivalling one another in making long and tedious speeches. On the fourth day the visitor said he had had enough of lawyers. Could he be shown instead some part of the island which was peculiarly Singapore? Thereupon his host drove him to the Hokien section of China town where the shops all had their proprietors' names painted on the wall outside. On one side of the street, there was a shop where the Chinese name painted outside was 王金發. Directly across the street was another shop with the name 蘇健美. Romanised into English, 王金發 in Hokien read "Wee Can Fart", while 蘇健美 across the road read "So Can Wee". Upon returning home, the visitor was asked what he thought of Singapore. His reply was that it was an amazing place where the lawyers bull-shitted the whole day long while the shop-keepers were peculiarly eager to advertise their ability to fart.

It remains for me to thank Professor Leung for inviting me here this evening and to thank you all for listening so patiently to my bull-shitting this past half hour.

## VIRTUAL REALITY: FICTIONALIZING LIFE

Professor Mimi Chan  
Department of English  
The University of Hong Kong

Robert Black College Guest Night, 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2000

Ladies and Gentlemen, first I must thank all of you for being here tonight. Your presence is proof indeed of great friendship. And special thanks goes to the Master, Professor Leung, who has so kindly given this dinner in my honour. He accorded me the privilege of speaking at Robert Black once before, ten years ago, on the publication of an earlier book, entitled *Through Western Eyes: Images of Chinese Women in Anglo – American Literature*, published by Joint Publishing Company. And now the immediate occasion for this gathering is the publication of my recent work – *All the King's Women* by the HKU Press – a book which many of you present have loyally read through. And two of you present had to read the manuscript in a great hurry in order to endorse it.

I thank the Press for having published it and produced such a handsome volume, enhanced by the picture of the elegant woman on the cover. For his suggestion of using the painting I am grateful to my husband, SK. I confess that as one who has been an academic all her professional life, being published has always been very important to me.

But these two books about Chinese women which I have just mentioned are *particularly* important to me. The first – *Through Western Eyes* – because I had been working on the ideas in the book for years and because I felt strongly about the subject, (and last but not least I think I owe my last promotion to it), but *All the King's Women* is far and away the more important. I was engaged mainly in writing literary criticism in the thirty-odd years that I taught in the University. This is the first work of historical fiction that I have attempted. I had already retired when I finally sat down to think it through and to finish it; there was no question of publishing or perishing. No question of a promotion. It was for me a labour of love, done totally without any ulterior motive except to satisfy my own creative instincts.

Or perhaps there was one ulterior motive. In my book on Western literary images of Chinese women and in a number of my other critical essays I have dwelt on the problems of stereotyping, of writers who have been exploitative of the behaviour and customs of the Chinese in order to attract a larger readership, hoping to succeed according to a sort of “quaintness quotient”, a sort of “QQ” instead of “IQ”. I have not been slow to point to what I assumed was their ill-will, their malice shown in their “patronizing” of their material. I wanted to see if it was possible, with good will and good intentions, to talk about Chinese mores, beliefs and behaviour, about Chinese women of the recent past, *without* appearing to patronize my material, without making us into a weird and barbaric race. If this testing of myself can be called an ulterior motive then there was an ulterior motive in my writing *All the King's Women*. My readers are perhaps the best judges of the results of my efforts.

I have honestly tried to make the Chinese women in my work human beings, sharing generic characteristics with the rest of humankind as well as bearing distinctive marks of their Chinese culture and upbringing. This creative effort is also a natural development from my research over the years in Asian writers writing creatively in English and also of my participation in teaching “Creative Writing” courses in the English Department. I have long harboured fears that I was being accused by my creative writing students of 識彈唔識唱, “Knowing only how to carp and cavil but not knowing how to sing (perform)”.

I want now to talk a little on the genesis of the work, on the process of fictionalizing life. In *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Duke Theseus says,

The lunatic, the lover, and the poet  
Are of imagination all compact.  
... The poet's eye, in a fine frenzy rolling,  
Doth glance from heaven to earth, from earth to heaven,  
And as imagination bodies forth  
The forms of things unknown, the poet's pen  
Turns them to shapes, and gives to airy nothing  
A local habitation and a name.

I cannot boast of being a poet, nor of being particularly imaginative. I have instead based my fiction on fact, but of course the creative artist is not just a historian, or a recorder of fact. My book can be described as a presentation of virtual reality, an amalgamation of life with fantasy and the imagination.

I was very fortunate to have had a very vivid and very interesting reality with which to work. I am grateful to my husband and my other informants for providing a vision of this reality. What I did was to use what facts I had to create a unified vision of the milieu and times in which the King and his women lived through the manipulation of the literary techniques of description, narration, characterization and dialogue, creating fiction from life, producing a set of images and sounds and impressions which hopefully allows the reader to participate imaginatively in the fictional experience.

Take the figure of the title – the King. He is based on a real-life person, a minor figure in modern Chinese history. It is his story which binds together the stories of eight of the women in his life. Let me explain – for the benefit of those who have not seen, let alone read, the book. It is called *All the King's Women*. I thought a great deal about the title, and even today am ambivalent about it because it may well be a little misleading, not informative enough. The King is not a real king, not a sovereign, not a monarch but the lord and master of a large household of wives, children and servitors, whose nickname was “King”. I chose the title because I could not resist the wordplay. You know the nursery rhyme, “Humpty Dumpty”.

Humpty Dumpty sat on a wall;  
Humpty Dumpty had a great fall;  
All the king's horses and all the king's men  
Couldn't put Humpty Dumpty together again.

From the well-known phrase “all the king's men” I derived “All the King's Women”. Though the King is central to my narrative (or narratives for one can read each of the

chapters as a separate story) all that we know about him are essentially the facts about his life, his fluctuations of fortune, and his death. We only “see” him through the eyes of the women in his life. The narrator marries his son years after his death and is not able to give any personal insights into his character.

The focus is very much on the King’s women. These consist of four concubines, one sister, one daughter, one “small” mother and one servant. Through these women I wanted to give a picture of the extremely restricted existence of Chinese women in the first decades of the twentieth century. Even for the majority of the wealthy “misses with a thousand pieces of gold” there were very limited choices and few opportunities. The women whose stories I have chosen come from a range of backgrounds and they are alike in being at once “victims” but, with the exception of the vulnerable young stepmother, they are also “survivors” who confront their situations in their own way, often with dignity and courage, sometimes with humour. I make every effort not to “patronize” these women. Indeed I see them as “heroic” in their efforts to do the best they can for themselves and for those whom they feel responsible, within the crippling constraints imposed by the society of the time. The example of the fourth concubine comes to mind. Limited and totally without personal ambition she actively seeks concubinage in order to provide security for her family.

I set out with the avowed intention of removing my Chinese women from the realm of stereotypes. In Western fiction we keep encountering certain stereotypes, for example, the dragon lady, usually a vamp like the film star Anna May Wong or the doormat – a miserable subservient bumpkin like O Lan in Pearl Buck’s *The Good Earth*. But the task was not always an easy one. The eight heroines of my story are composite characters, made up of characteristics from real women in the King’s family whom I came to know. In delineating them I was guided by certain criteria which I had adopted in my writing of literary criticism, and these, hopefully, helped to make them human rather than simply weird and “Chinese” or rather weird because Chinese. Generally these principles were: (1) The character has a normal range of human emotions and motives which are realistically shaped by the environment; (2) the character is clearly an individual who has personal concerns that are realistic and convincing within the context of the story; (3) all the descriptions and values of Chinese culture and history are accurate and used appropriately in regard to the character (cf William F. Wu, *The Yellow Peril*, Archon, Hamden, Conn. 1982). This is more easily said than done. It is not easy for Western readers to always bear in mind the cultural and historical environment in which these women lived. At least one American reader regarded the women as preternaturally stoical, able to endure the most incredible self-abasement and degradation. She is forgetting that sexual favours and the assumption of a position of subservience may be small prices to pay for security and creature comforts at a time when women counted for so little. And one must not forget injustices – perhaps in different forms – still inflicted on women, Western and Chinese, even today.

I have introduced the device of a commentary by “modern” Westernized Chinese characters. The narrator of the whole story, the daughter-in-law, her husband and the ubiquitous cousin, Lotex, and others introduce an extra dimension to the characterization of Chinese people, and are intended also to help sustain the illusion of reality.

I have included a simplified geneological table. I was told by a radio interviewer that such table can be very off-putting, suggesting the need to trace highly complex relationships before a reader is able to follow the story. In fact this is not so in the case of my story and my table, which is only roughly based on reality and represents my efforts to buttress the sense of realism and to give focus to the characters I have chosen for my narratives.

It is rightly said that fact can be stranger than fiction. Take the example of the King's illustrious forebear, Strance-eyed Three. I quote from my work here – "He was called 'Strange-eyed Three' because he was the third child in the family and – more significantly – he had the strange power of being able to see the smallest objects. His eyes were like a pair of microscopes. Allegedly he could see objects which were a great distance away, too. Thus his eyes were a combination of microscopes and telescopes. This would be hard to believe except that he left behind proof of his unusual abilities. He copied the whole of Confucius's Analects on to a small round fan and the Tang Poem, 'The Song of the Pipa Girl' on to a grain of rice". This was before you could get technological help. Apart from details of what he copied all this is drawn from life. Similarly nowadays we tend to treat with incredulity the idea of spirits entering a person's body and taking possession of it. This is essentially what seems to happen to the old family retainer Ah Hing in Chapter 4. And yet, apart from details of when this phenomenon takes place and of the songs she sings, I have it on the most reliable authority that this is fact, not fiction.

But this is not to say that I have not taken great liberties with fact. I knew for a fact that one of the concubines spent some time in Manchester and that her daughter was owner of a Chinese takeaway. I changed the locale from Manchester to London because I know London better and relied on my imagination to work out the rest. Indeed supplying local habitations and names to flights of imaginative fancy which take liberties with life was not always such smooth sailing. In my book, the King's elegant sister, Violet, a character who is an amalgam of a number of elegant women I know, betrayed by her husband, takes her children to the United States. She settles in Newton, Massachusetts, and sets up a restaurant in Chestnut Hill, and then another in Brooklyn. This is in the 1950s. "No, no", cautioned my American sister-in-law in great consternation. There were no Chinese restaurants in either Chestnut Hill or Brookline in the 1950's. "You must change the galley proofs". So I did – to Cambridge Massachusetts and Manhattan.

Of more vital concern to me was reality in the presentation of atmosphere and background. I did not want to shortchange potential readers by making up just any exotic background for "old China". It was at this level that I very much wanted to achieve "authenticity" to give an idea of what Southern China and Hong Kong were like in the early decades of the twentieth century. One of my reviewers, in the *South China Morning Post*, praised me for the meticulous care with which I had researched the background of the story. He said that it is with surprise that one realizes the world presented, which already seems so remote, is actually Hong Kong and Southern China a few decades ago. My habits as a studious academic researcher die hard, but I have tried to introduce the qualities of a creative writer also, combining the facts about life and customs uncovered through my research with the narrative so that I can at once inform and entertain. I was deeply gratified by the comments of my very good friend, Head of the History Department, Professor Chan Lau Kit-ching, about this



background: “In telling the life stories of the women, Mimi Chan tells us so much and so well about the rural societies in various parts of Guangdong and the urban societies in various parts of Guangzhou and Hong Kong, not only during the King’s life-span... but in many instances right to the end of the twentieth century”. I am beholden to academics who have worked on this area for example, Janice E. Stockard (*Daughter of the Canton Delta*, HKU Press, 1992; originally Stanford University Press, 1989), who supplied invaluable information about the marriage patterns in Southern China, which gives substance to the first part of the story about the fourth concubine.

Some of you may have read my former colleague, Christopher New’s novel, *Shanghai*, which deals with the fortunes of a Shanghai family and involves detailed descriptions of the Shanghai of a few decades ago. The details seem so real that I was astounded when Chris told me that he had not once been to Shanghai, let alone lived there. He had relied entirely on books and maps. I knew for a fact that one of the King’s sisters had married the son of a rich and powerful warlord based in Yunnan. I felt that Yunnan did not have a great deal of cosmopolitan appeal, and decided to base the warlord, whom I turned into a fabulously wealthy industrialist, in the much more glamorous and fascinating Shanghai. Though I have been to Shanghai a number of times I had to rely on copious reading, including Betty Wei’s *Shanghai: Crucible of Modern China*, Oxford, 1987, to attempt to recreate the Shanghai of the past.

In attempting to create a virtual reality for my readers I have relied on fact, on research and on imagination. I just hope that my readers will enjoy reading it as much as I enjoyed writing it – and I enjoyed writing it a lot.

I began with thanks. Now I shall conclude with thanks. Thank you again, Professor Leung, the Hong Kong University Press and all of you here, including my “kindergarten friends” who have remained loyal for over half a century.

## IS BARRISTER A DYING BREED?

**Ms. Audry Eu**  
Barrister, Hong Kong

Robert Black College Guest Night, 5<sup>th</sup> October, 2000

It is always an honour to be invited to the Robert Black College and speak to distinguished intellectuals and academics. To play safe, I will stick to a topic I know, the profession of barristers.

For those of you who are visiting Hong Kong, the legal profession here is divided into solicitors and barristers. I put to one side the lawyers in the rarefied atmosphere of academic institutions and speak of those practicing in town. At the risk of gross simplification, solicitors are usually general practitioners; clients go to them for all kinds of legal problems. They operate in partnerships, run a business, supervise a lot of employees and share profits. Barristers are like consultants; solicitors refer cases to them for researched advice and for their advocacy in court. They operate as sole proprietors and are not allowed to share their income. Very often, their only employee is the secretary. There are about 5000 solicitors as opposed to 700 barristers in Hong Kong. The solicitors governing body is the Law Society whereas the barristers belong to the Bar Association. You can cross over from one branch to the other but you cannot be both at the same time.

There is a crucial difference between a barrister and a solicitor that is the reason for as well as a threat to, our separate existence. That is the higher right of audience (HRA). Barristers have the exclusive higher right of audience, that is they have the right to appear, before the higher courts, including the open court hearings in the High Court, the Court of Appeal and the Court of Final Appeal. Some solicitors resent this restriction. They feel it makes them inferior. The public questions this monopoly. They suspect it leads to increased costs.

For many years now, there have been repeated attacks on the exclusive HRA granted to barristers. Every time we feel we are facing a crisis and the end is approaching. In 1995, Gladys Li took over as Chairman of the Bar. At the time, we were fighting the Attorney General consultation paper on legal services, one of the proposals was to extend HRA. When she received the symbol of chairmanship from her predecessor, a miniature armchair, by then in a rather battered and delicate condition, she said, half solemnly and half in jest, she had no intention of becoming the last Chairman of the Bar. We survived the crisis and went into the handover in 1997. Now that the SAR government has settled in, the same problem has reared its head again.

This time the problem is even more acute. Before 1997, the theme was preservation. Any drastic change to the old system should be treated with caution. Shortly after the handover, we were hit by the Asian economic depression. It affected many solicitors very badly. Prior to the handover, at least 60% of the solicitors' income came from conveyance fees. And fees were fixed according to the price of the property involved. Scale fees were abolished in 1997. On top of that, the economic depression and the government's new housing policy were adding sleet to snow. Property prices plummeted and the number of transactions dwindled. All this led to a fierce price war

and ugly undercutting. Solicitors who used to do exclusively conveyance were hardest hit. The latest problem is that their insurer has incurred very heavy losses such that this year the premium is going up by 250%. Solicitors are naturally looking to expand their area of practice; the HRA is a possible target.

In fact, the greatest demands for HRA do not come from conveyance solicitors but from city firms and young practitioners. By city firms, I refer to the international firms that have their headquarters in London or other major cities. They are generally experienced litigators and naturally feel themselves superior to the average barrister. They resent the fact that they cannot appear in the higher courts if they would like to. They regard the system as archaic and artificial. As for young practitioners, many of them study law because their ambition is to be an advocate, but they also prefer the security of belonging to a firm and earning a fixed salary. They do not like the uncertainty of a barrister's sole practice. There is no job security. So they would like the HRA to be extended so that they can have the best of both worlds. Once that happens, it is feared the few will be interested in joining the Bar.

I also mentioned the public. Their natural reaction is: why should I have two lawyers when I only need one; why can't the solicitor who has been handling my case go to court for me; isn't it more expensive to hire a barrister to do the same job? They say a consumer should have a choice, the greater the choice, the greater the competition.

There is also the global trend. We are one of the few places with a divided legal profession. Solicitors are moving towards incorporation and limited liability. Many professionals are thinking of one stop shop with multi-disciplinary services. Businesses are getting bigger. Yet barristers insist on a one-man band. We seem to be going against the trend and the survival odds cannot be good. Currently overseas senior barristers can jet in and out of Hong Kong to do specific cases. If the HRA is extended, the market will probably be extended to many more barristers and solicitors from abroad.

The Law Society has recently put forward their proposals to the Chief Justice and the Secretary of Justice on the extension of the HRA. One proposal is to extend the HRA to all solicitors but only for specific cases, for example, to vendor and purchaser summons, companies winding up or admiralty cases. The other proposal is to extend the right to some solicitors through an accreditation system. I suppose the third option is to have both at the same time. The initial reaction from the Chief Justice is that the matter should be shelved for two years pending a review of the District Court where the jurisdictional limit has just been increased three fold. As late as last month, a paper from the Department of Justice arrived at the same conclusion. But almost before the ink on that Department of Justice paper was dry, the Secretary of Justice said a Committee would be formed to look at proposals.

There is nothing wrong with a Committee to review the situation. Indeed the suggestion for a Committee is put forward by the legal functional constituency's representative on the Legislative Council who is herself a member of the Bar. But one very difficult factor is the feeling of mistrust and the suspicion that there will be an underlying political agenda. It is generally believed that the Bar has few friends in the higher echelon of government. Certainly not by design or intention, but we invariably find ourselves opposing the government on many matters relating to the rule of law,

human rights or administration of justice. The relationship between the Bar and the Department of Justice has not been easy. Almost as soon as the Secretary of Justice took up office, there was the controversial non prosecution of Sally Aw which later led to the motion of non-confidence against her, there was the retrospective passage of the Immigration No. 3 Ordinance, the NPC interpretation after the Government lost the right of abode cases, there was anxiety over rendition and extra-territoriality of the PRC jurisdiction. The list of conflicts is perhaps by now too long and deep for the wounds to heal. I think it is extremely unfortunate that a matter as important as the future of legal services is to be dealt with against this sort of background. It will be a battle fought on public interest but some of the arguments can be very involved, it is not easy for the layman to come to an informed view. As for those involved in the battle, perhaps the fairest way to put it, is that all sides will be tainted with so much self interest that it is not easy to form a dispassionate view.

Having thus declared my self-interest, perhaps I may be permitted to state my personal view. I have no doubt that advocacy is a specialized skill that needs constant and continuous improvement by practice. By advocacy, I mean not just the art of persuasion, but also the preparation, the analysis, the application of the law. Good advocates do make a difference to the outcome of the case. Because of our common law system, each decided case is part of the precedents that form part of the law in Hong Kong. Respected and distinguished advocates may one day become judges. They help to further develop the common law and interpret the statute law. I think everybody will agree that our system of justice, the importance we attach to independence of the judiciary and the rule of law are what distinguish Hong Kong from another city in the Mainland. Specialized advocates are one of the essential building blocks. The question is thus how we can best improve the efficiency of the current system and maintain a sufficient pool of high quality and specialist advocates. A general extension of the HRA is definitely the wrong direction. If there is to be a limited extension of the HRA to include accredited advocates, then the key question is who will do the accreditation? In my view, since professional bodies are to be self-regulated, accreditation should be given to the professional body of the accredited advocates. It cannot be given to the Government. That, incidentally, is the system on the Mainland, where the licence to practice is granted by the Ministry of Justice. The mischief of such a system is obvious. Of course, there will always be allegations, that because of self-interest, the accrediting professional body may want to limit the number of its members. But there is no reason why suitable safeguards cannot be worked into the system to ensure its fairness and integrity.

Because of the background I have mentioned, I cannot say I look forward to the review. I hope that the unpleasantness will be minimal and whatever the outcome, it will ultimately be for the greater good of Hong Kong.

# GREENING OUR CITY: VISION IMPLAUSIBLE OR MISSION IMPOSSIBLE?

**Professor C.Y. Jim**  
Department of Geography  
The University of Hong Kong

Robert Black College Guest Night, 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2000

## **Introduction**

The creation of cities as a cultural institution is often construed as a form of human triumph over nature, furnishing a safe refuge from its fickle and merciless harshness. Urbanization has allowed our escape from the bondage of the land, but it has also detached humans from nature, and in the process, incurred massive onslaught on natural ingredients within and around cities. City and nature have in many instances become diametrical opposites, with little room for compromise and mutual accommodation. The excesses of urban growth have brought serious problems to the health of cities and their sequestered inhabitants. In recent years, with rising environmental consciousness and the desire to build sustainable cities, humans have come round a big circle and attempted to re-establish the lost link with nature.

Trees in modern times are widely recognized as natural companions of settlements, as the premier greenery component amongst the different types of amenity vegetation. They play important environmental and ornamental functions, and in many cities they provide an indispensable infrastructure that is on a par with essential urban utilities and facilities. Human affinity for trees is regarded as an expression of an innate desire that is deeply rooted in the primeval days when we lived in blissful harmony with our forest home. This earnest and often subliminal urge to be close to trees transcends cultural realms and has a timeless universal appeal.

The presence of greenspace is the key element of a livable city that permits a return to nature's embrace. The honourable practice has been embodied in the garden city ideal formally advocated by Ebenezer Howard in eighteenth century Britain, and subsequently emulated elsewhere by enlightened city authorities as the *de rigueur* in urban planning. Green cities bring pride to citizens and nations, and indeed can be considered as the epitome of urban culture. This study endeavours to trace the vicissitudes of greenery in the course of 160 years of urban development in Hong Kong, identify the physical and institutional constraints to urban trees, and suggest solutions to bring about a greener city.

## **Past and current status**

Incipient urban form in Hong Kong in the 1840s to about 1900, already with some resemblance of a compact city, had every intention to accommodate trees. Historical photographs and old maps provide some hints on the city fabric then. The nineteenth century town plan was more open and porous, equipped with roadside and interstitial space that permitted penetration by and preservation of amenity vegetation. Many buildings were set back from lot boundaries and trees were quite generously planted wherever possible. The desire to green the city was alive and well, and substantial tree cover gradually sprang up in some streets and neighbourhoods.

The notable cases in point, with handsome roadside trees in the past, were Bonham Road (near the Robinson Road junction), the banks of Bowrington Canal (now Canal Roads East and West), Des Voeux Road Central (Admiralty section), Queen's Road Central and Pedder Street on Hong Kong Island, and Canton Road, Granville Road and Nathan Road in Kowloon. With the lone exception of Nathan Road, these sylvan roads of the bygone era have since lost their green companions due to road widening and intensification of land use in the adjoining lots. The pleasant green foundation sadly has been largely obliterated in the subsequent myopic rush to develop the city.

The rise in population and their economic activities necessitated urban development at an increasing density. In developed areas, the city gradually squeezed out the roadside and intra-lot greenspace. New development areas began as oppressively packed enclaves with hardly any residual space for greenery. The decades before and after the Second World War experienced phenomenal population expansion that brought large-scale land use intensification and infilling of existing plots. Consequently, the environmental conditions for both trees and people deteriorated. Hong Kong has developed an inordinately high-density and high-rise urban form with built-up areas occupying merely 16 per cent of the land. The amount of plantable space in such a city configuration is extremely limited.

### **Daunting constraints**

The most severe constraint on greening in Hong Kong is the tight and unfriendly town plan that is inimical to the green city notion. At the micro-scale, the city is replete with all sorts of impediments to the expansion of tree crowns, such as narrow pavements, buildings abutting pavements, almost ubiquitous presence of building awnings above pavements, and proliferation of advertisement and traffic signs. Buildings and other structures, resulting in damage or stifled growth, sometimes intrude upon existing trees. In the keen contest for physical space between buildings and trees, the latter is sadly often the loser.

The building form in Hong Kong especially in the last few decades has adopted a rather undesirable mode. In most high-density areas, the routine practice is to construct a large podium with a 100 per cent site coverage, above which the towering blocks have a certain amount of set back (that is less than 100 per cent site coverage) from the lot boundary with a design that follows building regulations. This method of construction leaves no room at all for tree planting at the street level, and creates an oppressive concrete-canyon streetscape. Redevelopment of old districts has, therefore, failed to bring improvement in landscape quality other than replacing low-rise old buildings with high-rise new ones with a higher population density. The comprehensive urban renewal usually means that instead of many adjoining podiums, a huge podium is built to cover an amalgamated lot.

The situation under the ground is also commonly beset by constraints. The soil environment is essential for the proper growth of tree roots that play a key role in tree health and vigour. The space below the pavement is often filled with all sorts of buried utilities that often preclude tree planting. The need to open trenches to repair or install utilities frequently cause root damage to existing roadside trees. No wonder

so few of the street trees in Hong Kong, except the sturdiest, could reach the champion calibre.

The poor quality of the urban soil, usually a haphazard mixture of soils and construction rubble, poses an unsuitable medium for plant growth. With plenty of stones and cement materials, and sometimes contaminated by pollutants, it does not have the desirable composition and properties for trees. Moreover, the soil is commonly compacted to meet load-bearing requirements and often sealed by pour concrete, thus curtailing the entry of water and aeration. The local landscape practice, however, does little to evaluate the soil or to ameliorate the problems by adding amendments or replacing with a properly constituted soil mix.

### **Towards a green city**

A number of measures could be adopted to improve the conditions for tree growth in our city. The most fundamental constraint, the grave shortage of plantable space, has to be resolved at the town planning stage. In areas with excessive development concentration, measures could be taken to reduce the density gradually over time by making use of the chance provided by urban renewal. The planning standard for open space could be upgraded to reflect the rising expectation of the community and the need to meet modern world city norm. Space for amenity vegetation could be allocated a dedicated land-use zone to give assurance to both quantity and quality, and most importantly to give statutory protection from usurpation by other uses.

The desirable pattern of greenspace could as far as possible have an even distribution in different neighbourhoods and have a high degree of connectivity to form a matrix of greenways linking larger green pockets. The pedestrianization of streets could be more earnestly pursued to provide opportunities for such linear green strips to meander through the heavily built-up areas. Various measures could be implemented in a coordinated manner to create a more porous town plan. Pavement could be widened, new buildings could be set back from the lot frontage, and the footprint of the podium could be reduced, aiming at allotting more space at the street level for greening and pedestrian movement through city blocks.

Every opportunity presented by urban redevelopment and extension into new development areas could be grasped to earmark a diversity of plantable spaces at roadside, lot frontage and intra-lot locations. A suitable guideline with appropriate incentives would allay the common worry of losing development potential. The flexible application of relevant planning and building instruments, such as site coverage, set back, gross floor area, building height and plot ratio, could permit innovative building design to bring about a more open town plan with adequate room for greenspace. The recently promulgated green building initiative could be expanded to give a clear signal to developers to participate actively in the green city endeavour.

A successful greening programme requires attention at every level of the operation. The design and quality of the planting site is a major determinant of tree performance. The lack of sufficient soil volume especially at roadside situations has been widely recognized as the main cause of poor tree growth and premature decline. The present conventional site preparation method could be modernized to incorporate modern

concepts of soil corridor and expanded tree pit, so as to take into account recent research findings on root growth and shared rooting volume between adjacent trees.

Setting a more stringent specification and adhering to it earnestly could substantially upgrade the quality of planting materials. The choice of species could be more thoroughly overhauled to ascertain a good match between site conditions and trees in the long term. With several hundred suitable tropical species, both native and exotic, at our disposal, there are plenty of opportunities to create an interesting and diversified urban tree stock. Citizens and visitors would no doubt warmly welcome the adoption of more species with attractive flowers, vivid seasonal changes and usual tree form. The use of palms and the rather wasteful under-use of the rare large sites for trees with small final dimensions could perhaps be rectified.

The frequency and method of tree care could be improved, and the wider practice of preventive maintenance will help to establish a more robust tree population with a reduced management burden. A higher standard for tree protection and transplanting associated with construction and trenching activities will preserve more of our outstanding specimens. The assiduous application of new arboricultural knowledge and techniques, and the training of the tree staff to first degree or better still postgraduate level, would raise the quality of tree care. Funding for tree research specific to local and tropical urban forestry would provide support and input to different aspects of tree work.

The allocation of one government department as the tree and greening authority will disperse the ambiguities and want of coordination amongst the many players and stakeholders. A comprehensive citywide greening strategy and green plan will set clear directions for future work. A dedicated tree ordinance to incorporate the principles and practices of greening will give comprehensive support and encouragement to the green city endeavour, and bring Hong Kong in line with many other cities in both developed and developing countries.

## **Conclusions**

It can be demonstrated that to modify Hong Kong gradually into a green city is an attainable goal. It is an entirely desirable and necessary target for our city, which has the basic conditions to merge nature and culture in a synergistic manner in our relentless attempt to create a livable and world-class metropolis. Despite the many physical and institutional constraints, with a change in mindset and a bold departure from past practices, with determination, vision, creativity and leadership, and with coordination and cooperation amongst different quarters, the green ideas and ideals could be translated into action and reality.





Figure 1. Champion calibre specimens, such as this magnificent Silk Tree (*Albizia julibrissin*) dwelling at Wisteria Road in Yau Yat Tsuen, deserve special protection and care.



Figure 2. The old stone walls in Hong Kong accommodate a unique collection of large trees, mainly Chinese Banyan (*Ficus microcarpa*) and Large-leaved Banyan (*Ficus virens*), deserve to be preserved as the city's natural-cum-cultural heritage.

## HONG KONG LIQUIDITY AND THE CHINESE CONNECTION

**Mr. Chi Lo**

Regional Head of Research (N.E. Asia) & Senior Economist  
Standard Chartered Bank Global Markets, Hong Kong

Robert Black College Guest Night, 4<sup>th</sup> January, 2001

In my view the quantity of Hong Kong dollars floating in the market is the greatest indicator of a possible growth rate. Currently, Hong Kong uses the currency board system that requires the local currency to be pegged at 7.8 to the U.S. dollar. Therefore, the interest rate has to also be in line with the U.S. rates.

I would argue that the currency board system would not hurt Hong Kong. U.S. interest rates have been going up for the past 18 months, whereas, Hong Kong interest rates have not followed suit. Why? This is due to the large amount of liquidity and capital inflow into Hong Kong. This imbalance of supply and demand pushed the Hong Kong interest rates downward.

Ample liquidity is underpinning the real estate and stock market. Money floating around has to go somewhere, therefore supporting the asset price growth of property and stock. Comparing the Hang Seng Index against the retail sales volume, I notice a high correlation between higher stock prices and increasing local consumption (which accounted for 2/3 of economy).

Action by international fund managers and direct investments from overseas account for the majority of funds injected into Hong Kong. The one common goal of these investors is the China market. Foreign investors bought red-chip stocks and Hong Kong companies with China linked investments.

Looking at the turmoil in the rest of Asia, Hong Kong and China, by default became a safe heaven for money. This line of argument provided reasons for the lower Hong Kong inter-bank interest rates while the U.S. rates remained high. Studying the spread between the LIBOR and HIBOR, I note that the gap widened as money flowed into Hong Kong during periods of new stock issues (IPOs), implying the root of the Chinese connections.

How did all these factors benefit Hong Kong? HKMA would buy the foreign funds coming into Hong Kong, increasing the Foreign Reserve, and in turn giving local currency unit to investors, which led to the increase in local money supply in the banking system.

Although banks are flooded with money, the banks' loan/deposit ratio has not changed. The overall loan growth had been contracting and the deposit/saving rate has in fact increased due to the uncertain economic conditions. The banks are not lending due to the increased credit risks. Most loans were only given to the larger, top tier companies, while small, medium size enterprises received very little. Therefore, if there is no outlet for the money supplied, it has to go back to stock/asset price. This asset growth will eventually lead to a wealth effect.

The outlook for liquidity this year indicates a softer local interest rate environment. Although there is still risk in the stock market, these risks are contained, because the U.S., or IMF, will step in to provide liquidity to the marketplace. But due to the global risk right now, any gain would likely be capped.

Finally, looking at the interest rate trend in Hong Kong and U.S. I predict that the growth for Hong Kong would be 4.5% due to the good liquidity and positive sentiments toward China.

## HOW LONG WILL JAPAN STAY JAPANESE?

**Professor Ronald Dore**

Senior Research Fellow, London School of Economics and Political Science  
Kenneth Robinson Fellow 2001, The University of Hong Kong

Robert Black College Guest Night, 9<sup>th</sup> February, 2001

Japanese-ness is different in present Japan as compared to 50 years ago. Historical Japan (before 1950's) was backward and over populated. In modern Japan, defined as the last 50 years, the population trend has reversed. Contemporary Japan is faced with a low birth-rate/population problem. One reason is the changing role and attitude of the modern Japanese women. Increasing numbers of Japanese females have more interesting jobs in the workplace. There are also increasingly more single unmarried women over 30 today (10%) than in the 1960s (5%). What used to be the M-pattern of the labor force – where women married first and then return to the workforce after having children has changed, the so-called “OL” or office lady today is having such a nice life that they are getting married later.

Does the women play a bigger role today than in the past? In 1947, more women were elected to the Japanese Diet and ever since then, the number has not been surpassed. However, are the women happier today than in the past? A survey done by the Institute of Mathematics shows that both men and women think that the Japanese females today have a more enjoyable life than back in 1953 when the survey was first used. Another question that asked if women should have the same rights as men, saw a decline in total positive responses. In another survey, 82% of the respondents answered yes, when they were asked whether they think they have a better life than their grandmothers.

In the 1950s, Japanese-ness involved ancestor worship and not letting your family line die out. It was important enough that some daughters would marry men into the family to assume their family name. However, in a survey by the Japan Institute of Mathematics, the results show that fewer people would adopt children for the sole reason of carrying on the family name today than in the 1950s, reflecting the changing attitude towards the continuation of the family name.

The continuous labor socialist and communist leaders in the labor union led disputes in the 1950s. During that time, the States played a bigger role in the economy, protecting the small businesses, such as the Sake producers against the larger Whiskey producers. In the 1930s, Japanese corporations were run like typical Anglo-Saxon firms, however, post World War II, directives were given to corporations that made them operate in an abnormal fashion. They were no longer concerned about squeezing for profits and most offered life-time employments for workers. There were also explicit contracts between the Board of Directors (which consists of elders from the workforce) and the Union that were made at the expense of company profitability. This led to a lower turnover in the workforce and having the average rate of tenure going up in large firms as well as smaller ones.

In the 1960s, Japanese managers were afraid of hostile takeover by American, so they created a series of cross holdings in different companies. The maintenance of long

lasting supplier relations were also formed, with the idea that it will be mutually beneficial in the long run. Social solidarity also led to higher income and inheritance taxes, and long-term health care for the aged.

Japan is trying to inject structural reforms, i.e. sacking non-performing workers like American firms, along with deregulations and privatizations. However following the American system which demonstrated their “convoy model” when regulators rescue the Long Term Capital Management in order that the convoy can stay together is not a good system for Japan either.

Why the changes? The Japanese economy has been stagnant for decades. There have been a lot of discussions on how the Japanese should execute changes, and much has been taught in University and reported in the local newspapers, which favor the American or the British economic model. These models might not be applicable to the Japanese economy. It is interesting to note though that a majority of firms in Japan look to a core group of banks for credit facilities today, and are prepared to pay steep fees for bank services. These fees are known as the “wet” way. However, with credit rating of firms improving, companies are re-evaluating their banking relationships in a “drying” way similar to its western counterparts, which may indicate a changing Japanese-ness.

## **BEYOND REPAIR OR BEYOND DESPAIR: OUR FUTURE AT THE CROSSROAD**

**Mrs. Mei Ng**

Director

Friends of the Earth Hong Kong

Robert Black College Guest Night, 4<sup>th</sup> May, 2001

There is hope and optimism in Hong Kong's environmental movement. But I would blame the slow progress of the environmental movement on social and cultural values of Hong Kong, as well as the competing and narrowly focused interests of the SAR government. With collective effort and persistence, it is possible for the city to be mobilized towards more sustainable development in the future, one step at a time.

The fundamental problem of Hong Kong lies in its social and cultural value. Competing with time and competing for material gain has become the daily routine for the people of Hong Kong. The people are narrowly focused and often react on a short spectrum where one only sees what is immediate and what is directly in front of them. Putting a high value on immediate monetary benefits, and neglecting the environmental issues that have such long-term impacts and are so vital to their quality of life. The government perceives economic growth and economic prosperity as the ultimate in bringing Hong Kong into the league of the world-class city. Caught up in this delusion, insufficient attention is paid to environmental protection and conservation policies, as a result, nature and environment is being kept in the backseat in Hong Kong to the all-consuming needs of development. A good example of such is the Disney Project.

There is still hope for nature and the environment of Hong Kong. With the effort of some of the non-government organizations and voluntary groups, progress has been made in the environmental movement in Hong Kong. On the government level, FOE monitors the environmental performance of the government to ensure transparency in the policy making process, and they also lobby for sustainable policy and vision. Lobbying for the revision on the strategic sewage disposal strategy, alternative energy policy and consultancy selection process are just some of the issues that they are working on. Through persistent lobbying, my organization has successfully raised the attention of the government on many environmental policies. One success case is that the Country and Marine Park Board meeting has now opened its door to the public since mid 2000. This change has allowed for public participation in the environmental issues of Hong Kong and has helped in enhancing environmental awareness in the general public.

Apart from affecting changes in the public sector, it is important to form partnerships. FOE has formed partnership with Hong Kong Electric to set up a full-scale wind monitoring study at Po Toi Island and another is planned for Lamma Island. And China has joined forces with the World Resources Institute, linking top business schools in the United States with top Universities in China to introduce the Business Environmental Leadership Learning Program. This partnership is very strategic. Graduates from these top Universities in China will be placed in very strategic State enterprises and government bureau, and as China is poised to join the WTO, capacity

building for sustainable business has been a priority need. Further, the China Women Leader's Environment Training Program, sponsored by United Nation Development Program, offers lectures on sustainable planning and environment management to facilitate learning opportunities for China's lady mayors, women village leaders and cadres. There are partnerships that Universities, NGOs, and voluntary groups can forge, to create a united voice and to build community proactivism.

In conclusion, I urge everyone to participate in protecting and conserving the natural beauty of Hong Kong. The society should re-evaluate its value. And it is the responsibility of each and every individual to change the society's attitude towards the environment. There is no need to look elsewhere, the catalyst for change is within us and here in our hometown.

# **WILL THERE BE LIFE AFTER DOT-COMS? A LOOK AT THE FUTURE OF THE INTERNET**

**Dr. Paul Y.S. Cheung**  
Senior Vice-President  
PCCW-HKT

Robert Black College Guest Night, 17<sup>th</sup> May, 2001

## **Will there be life after dot-com?**

In the beginning of the dot-com era, which was twenty-four to thirty months ago, dot-com companies started booming. At their peak, the dot-coms were generating twice the market capital of traditional businesses. Traditional businesses viewed dot-com companies as the new players substituting the market, and they were threatened by these new dot-coms. There was Amazon.com versus the traditional Barnes & Noble; there was eToy versus ToysRus; there was E\*TRADE versus Charles Schwab, just to name a few. Just about everyone was trying to jump onto the bandwagon and consequently, created the new gold rush. Then came the crash. The dimension of the crash was enormous. The drop in the market capital for most of these dot-coms was over eighty percent

## **Why did the dot-coms fail?**

Professor Michael Porter wrote a paper in the March Harvard Business Review, in which he argued that the Internet tends to weaken industrial profitability without providing proprietary operational advantage. In his analysis, Professor Porter pointed out the problems with the Internet and also pointed out a few reasons why there has been a dot-com crash.

First, distorted market signals, often of the dot-coms' own creation, clouded the marketplace. These signals disrupted the market as well as confused the dot-coms themselves.

Second, the Internet reduced entry barriers, and therefore new competitors could easily gain entry. In this situation, first-mover advantage did not apply because switching costs were low, thus, reducing customer loyalty.

Third, the Internet reduced product differentiation. Price alone has become the differentiator, which gave rise to cutthroat competition.

Fourth, the Internet increased competition and substitution, so unless a company had a distinct competitive advantage it was not going to last because there were other companies who could easily substitute its products.

Fifth, there was a problem of a lack of focus. All the dot-coms tried to outrun their competitors, and tried to be everything to everyone, thus, taking away focus from building on their own companies. The Internet has developed a harmful Internet culture, a culture in which people think that valuable contents and services should be free.



Although the dot-com bubble has burst, technology and the Internet will continue to influence and impact the way that we conduct business. Technology has improved tremendously through the past three decades and change in technology alters the way we do business, re-models the nature of the business itself, and transforms the business process that we are using, irrespective of the presence of a “dot” before the “com”.

### **What are the winning strategies when deploying technology in businesses?**

A business unit should be built to last, not built to flip. A business unit needs sustainable means of revenue and profit, a viable business model, and a very clear value proposition. Second, a business unit definitely cannot be just a website or a portal. It needs integration of e-business strategies and consistent interface with all partners so that technology and Internet actually add value in the whole value chain. Third, a business unit needs strategic partnerships and win-win alliances. It needs to work with strategic partners to leverage strength. Fourth, a business unit must provide an integrated solution, not piece-meal, a bit here a bit there type of solution.

Convergence is the key, a strategy that has been widely applied in PCCW. PCCW sees convergence of telecommunication and the Internet; the convergence of connectivity and services, providing value-added service on top of connectivity as the critical issues. Convergence means convergence of old media and new media - printed media and “reach” media. Convergence means convergence of bricks and clicks. And convergence means convergence of the physical and the virtual.

### **Will there be life after dot-com?**

All businesses are information businesses in our modern society. Technology and the Internet have altered the way we do business permanently; re-modeled the nature of business permanently; and transformed the business processes permanently. The dot-coms’ dots may cool down, go off, or disappear, however, technology and innovation will hold the key to our economic future. And there is life after dot-com – it is called real business.

*Dr. Cheung is a former Dean of The Faculty of Engineering, The University of Hong Kong.*

## WHY WILD WEST?

**Mr. Chan Kei Lum**

Chairman and Managing Director  
Sarinah Foods Company Limited, Hong Kong

Robert Black College Guest Night, 14<sup>th</sup> June, 2001

Many years ago, there was a very popular television series in the United States called “Wild, Wild West” depicting the adventures of two people, both rough and tumbling types, exploring the American West in the 1800s. I name my topic today after this television series because I see a parallel between the opening up of the American West and the development of western China. They were “Wild” because of the high degree of risks and uncertainty, because of places few dared venture into. Both had wide-open spaces and were rich in natural resources. Both were populated by peoples of diverse ethnic origins and different religious affiliations. Both were places regulated by law but not always governable by law. Most important of all, they both offered an abundance of opportunities for those with an entrepreneur spirit and, for the visionaries and those romantic at heart, a sense of adventure.

But what do we mean when we refer to western China? Do we mean the green pastures of the Qinghai plateau? Are we referring to the loess highlands? Or do we mean large cities like Xian and Chengdu? People are always trying to remember what areas western China includes. Lets look at the map of China. If we draw a line between the two colours: green and beige, we would probably have quite accurately defined western China, at least according to the latest call for development. However, the line also indicates something else. On the two sides, with some exceptions, we see the differences between mountains and plains, arid and fertile fields, deserts and lakes and streams, ethnic minority and the Hans, different religious persuasions, haves and have-nots, modern vs. backward, and accessible and remote. The line we draw actually depicts two worlds, with differences that transcend our imagination. There is in China a phrase that describes these areas: Lao Shao Bian Qiong 老少邊窮. 老 means old revolutionary district such as Taihangshan, Jingtanshan and Yanan, 少 refers to ethnic minority regions, like Ningxia and Guangxi. 邊 means regions on the national borders, for example, Xinjiang and Inner Mongolia. And 窮 is just poor. The space west of the line demarcating eastern and western China includes all of these areas.

Since 1949, the Chinese leadership made three calls to develop western China. The first was in the 1960s when the government initiated the call to “develop the Great Northwest”, to “support the bordering regions”, and to “go up the mountains and down the villages”. Many people responded, either voluntarily or unwillingly, most were students from the eastern cities. Many have since become localized and made their homes in the northwest. A whole generation devoted most of their lives to the northwest, but China and particularly the northwest remained poor. China simply did not have the resources to succeed. In the 80’s, Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping championed the open and reform policy, giving special preferences to the coastal regions, and to “let some of the people get rich first”. In 1997, Chinese leaders again called for the development of the mid-western regions including Xizang, Qinghai, Sichuan, Shannxi, Ningxia, Gansu, and Xinjiang. Not many people responded to the

call. The government simply did not assume the necessary leadership role and the call to develop the mid-west just fizzled out. During the Ninth People's Congress in year 2000, the leadership again made the decision to develop the nation's western region. This time, the government showed a lot of determination with commitment of funds and major infrastructure projects. The government's lead had stirred up a significant interest, both in and outside the country.

After the establishment of the new China in 1949, the ethnic minority regions were liberated from the old social structure and government. Some of them were accorded a measure of autonomy, and a number of ethnic autonomous regions were formed. Despite heavy emphasis on ethnic harmony by the central government, the cultural, ethnic and religious diversity have always been a cause for friction and therefore potential instability. Each time the government called for the development of the west, the primary objective was to seek stability in the region. The open and reform policy practised since the 80's brought prosperity to the coastal regions, yet the west, with the exception of some cities, remained backward. The faster the country progressed, the more the disparity between regions.

Western China boasts of several great cities. Chongqing, China's most populous city, is also a center of heavy industries. Chengdu has long been a base for national defense industries. Xian, a place rich in cultural history and a center of learning, is also a city known for its chemical and petrochemical companies. Together they offer a solid foundation for growth in technology and manufacturing. While the development of the west will bring much needed capital and experience to these cities, the potential for improvement is even greater and more meaningful for the countryside.

China developed her civilization in the cradle of the Yellow River, formulated her political culture in the north, attained financial prosperity in the coastal regions, but it is the unexplored west that holds much of her natural resources and future promises.

The twentieth century belonged to the scientists and technologists. We believe the twenty-first century will belong to those who control information and natural resources. As the world becomes more and more polluted and natural resources deplete at an alarming rate, the fight to gain control of natural resources will become intensified.

In 1994, our company made the decision to invest in western China, and specifically in agriculture. We believed that this field offered tremendous potential. Over a six-year period, we established a number of farms and farm products processing centers in Ningxia, Inner Mongolia, and Guangxi, all ethnic autonomous regions, and in the foot of Taihangshan in Hebei. Ningxia, China's smallest autonomous region, is the center of Islam in China. Inner Mongolia, home of the Mongols, shares a long border with Mongolia and Russia. Guangxi is home to numerous ethnic minorities and is adjacent to Vietnam. Taihangshan is an old revolutionary base. Before the nation's second and third call to develop the west, we had already gone westward into the “老少邊窮” areas, and had first hand experiences of what it meant to be a pioneer.

Once we made our decision to invest in agriculture, we naturally did a lot of travelling, to scout out the land, and to seek out areas of opportunities. Interestingly

enough, our travels took us through a path covering Hainandao, Yunnan, Guizhou, Guangxi, Sichuan, Shaanxi, Ningxia and Inner Mongolia. This parallels almost exactly the line drawn today separating east and west. Of course, our journeys did not quite follow the path from south to north in that order, but more haphazardly as opportunities were presented to us. We spent our time mostly in the countryside rather than in cities, and the people we met, aside from some government officials, were mostly local people. As city people from Hong Kong, we formed a number of very strong first impressions:

1. China is a vast, beautiful and wild country. While we may be familiar with the geography of China or have toured some of her scenic places, our past experiences did not prepare us adequately for the deep emotional impact.
2. We found the local people, especially those in the countryside, to be honest, down to earth and very likable.
3. While the country was poor, we saw a great deal of potential. Precisely because it was backward, there was ample room for improvement.

Armed with these initial impressions, we set out on our adventure into agriculture. To tell the truth, we did not really know what we were getting into. We had a vision, a desire to do something meaningful, a wish to help the poor and to improve the environment, and of course, a belief in our own business judgement and our ability to succeed. While we had enjoyed some measure of achievements and a high level of attention, we did not anticipate the numerous difficulties encountered along the way. I would like to share some of our experiences and our conclusions with you today.

1. It is important to select the proper line of business. By going into agriculture, we inadvertently picked a business most favored by the central government. Wherever we went, when we made mention of the fact that we were in the agriculture business, we immediately became the center of attention. That was because the problem of the peasants had always been a key concern of the government. In our six years of operation, in Ningxia, Inner Mongolia, Hebei and Guangxi, we have not had any problems from the government. Contrary to popular beliefs in Hong Kong and outside of China, our experience was that one did not have to pay bribes to get things done, and we did not pay any. Nor were we ever asked to pay special fees or levied unauthorized taxes. We were given the green light wherever we went. We also did not need much of an entertainment budget. More often than not, we were the ones being entertained. This is not to say that there is no graft in China. We believed that by not taking any short cuts and abiding by the law, we were less exposed to questionable practices. We are firm believers of "greed yields poverty".
2. The amount of social benefits one generates also determines the government's attitude. For example, our farms employ about 1,000 people at different times of the year. This is not a large number compared to some large factories. However, while the factories benefit their employees and suppliers, our farming business brings to the local community a new way of production, and new ideas as well as opening up a channel to the market place. The potential benefit to the community is immeasurable. Agricultural reform is perhaps the most difficult task the government faces today, and they see us as one solution to a difficult problem.

3. Our environmental protection and improvement policy has won us support, not only from the government, but also from local people even though sometimes our interests collide.
4. By going to the poorest and remote areas, our operations provided employment and contribute directly to the improvement of the plight of the poor. This was done not as charity but in a productive, dignified and meaningful way. As our operation expanded, the social benefits also increased which in turn helped to fuel our development. Helping to alleviate poverty is good fellowship. It is also good business practice.
5. To this date, we do not have a Hong Kong employee permanently assigned to our China mainland operations. We rely totally on people employed in the mainland. We have found most of them to be honest, loyal, hard working, and capable. Growing up in the China mainland culture, they are better able than Hong Kong people to deal with every day problems. Their way of doing things may be different, but often more effective. All they require is a degree of trust and some level of training and coaching.
6. Chinese tradition has it that the aged is to be venerated and the wise respected. Strict rules were established at one time regarding relationship with Heaven, Earth, Emperor, Parents and Teachers. Nowhere was there anything regarding what our behavior should be towards people as a “person”. A person as an individual seems to be a western concept still new to many parts of China. We have found this to be a very powerful motivator. “Respect for People” is a principle written into our company culture. By adhering to this principle, and doing it with compassion, we were able to motivate people to new heights. Our employees no longer work just for wages, but also for a sense of well being, for their own achievement, and for the respect they earn within the company. People compete to see who does the best job. I must say that in the agriculture business, work is hard and monotonous. There are no Saturdays or Sundays. People work when it is over 40 degrees out, and they work when it is 35 below. They do it because things need to be done, and not because they are told to do. Having the proper “Respect”, people needed no urging. “Loyalty” simply cannot be purchased. Our experience tells us that we have found a most powerful weapon, especially as we go into the Wild West.
7. We have experienced no difference between Hong Kong and China mainland people. We were often humbled by our ignorance, and by the wisdom shown by simple peasants. For us, the six years were a period of re-education. Workings with the soil, along side the common people and in nature have given us a new set of values. We have come to identify with our brethren to the north.

Our efforts over the last years were also met with many difficulties and disappointments. Lessons learned the hard way stay with us, and I would like to share some of them with you, hoping that they can be of value to those interested in the Wild West.

1. We had grossly under-estimated the problem of time and long distances. The time it took to get to one place affected our ability to respond to problems, often having to rely totally on the judgement of the person in charge.
2. Communication was a major problem, especially in remote regions where telephones were not set up.

3. Expenses were higher than projected and this put a strain on our financial resources.
4. The degree of difficulty and complexity was multiplied many fold because of the size and distances of China. Problems requiring timely solutions can drag on for a long time.
5. The size of the projects is important, especially in the west. We found out the hard way that small projects get no attention. For any project to succeed, it has to be large enough to attract attention and support.
6. One needs to be financially self-sufficient. We had difficulty getting financial support from banks in Hong Kong because all our projects and assets were in China mainland, and banks in the mainland will not loan us money because we were considered a foreign enterprise.

The call to develop the west has stirred up imagination. People from many parts of China have flocked to the west. Many will fail but some will find their pot of gold. The Hong Kong government's response to the call was to put up a political show. Chief Secretary Donald Tsang led a large delegation, consisting mostly of Hong Kong's rich and famous, on a high profile visit to a number of western cities. According to newspaper reports, hundreds of millions of dollars of Letters of Intent were signed. Doubtless, these high profile visits may have opened up new opportunities and some projects may actually be started. At the very least, it was a gesture to the central government that Hong Kong and the rich people are behind the idea. But what of the common people? Does the development of the west present them with opportunities as well?

Companies with foresight had already established themselves in the west long before this fervor. In the 80's, Johnson & Johnson established a modern factory in Xian from which they supplied their products to the China and foreign market. Holiday Inns are found as far away as Urumqi and Lhasa. Even before the call, the opportunities were always there. The big cities in the west were not much different then than they are now. If the rich and famous had wanted to invest in them, they could have done so many years ago, with terms no less favorable than today.

I believe the true meaning of developing the west lies in the development of the resources outside of the cities. Western China is rich in minerals, energy, agriculture and human resources. It offers colorful cultural history and tourism. Its space and diversity offer almost unheard of opportunities, limited only by people's imagination. While I admit to be a hopeless romantic, I do not advocate people rushing into the unknown dreaming of instant riches, and totally unprepared for the hardship and challenges. Adventure is not for everyone, only for the stout hearted.

Chief Secretary Donald Tsang, in a speech made during the recent tour of the west, said that what Hong Kong people have to offer are financial resources and management experience. I do not quite agree with Mr. Tsang. While I cannot comment on the financial resources, especially of the very rich, I don't think Hong Kong's management experience necessarily apply to the west. We should not forget that the west represents more than two third of China's land area and most of her ethnic minorities. To bring Hong Kong's management experience to the west without a deep understanding of the people and culture is a formula for failure. Prior to the Asian financial crisis, Hong Kong people have had a relatively good life with easy

money from the stock and property markets. People often confuse such instant riches with real achievements to forget that Hong Kong real strength lies in its entrepreneur spirit, the willingness to take risks, the resiliency and single mindedness to succeed. This strength was evident during the decades of the 60s and 70s when Hong Kong people pulled themselves up by their own bootstraps to build a strong industrial and commercial foundation. This is the spirit needed in the development of the west, and Hong Kong people have to revive such a spirit if they are to participate in this exciting adventure.

I began this talk with the “Wild, Wild West” and would like to end the talk on the same theme. Among the people exploring the American west were the railway barons, speculators, opportunists, adventurers, farmers, ranchers, romantics and missionaries. To an extent, they were all entrepreneurs, willing to commit to an idea, to venture into unknown territory, and to risk it all to get to their objective. Americans in those days were rugged individualists, today they have become corporate men. The 21<sup>st</sup> century is not the 1800s, and western China is not the American west. The rugged individualist of yesteryears will find it very difficult to cope with the new “West” today, but for anyone to succeed will require the same kind of spirit, the same sense of commitment, and the same missionary zeal. Hong Kong people have to decide for themselves what role they want to play in this great adventure of the century, whether they want to be part of this adventure, or to stay behind mourning of opportunities lost and good times past. I, for one, have made my choice.

# ANTI-TECHNOLOGY: REASON FOR HOPE OR DESPAIR?

**Professor B.J. Duggan**

Department of Mechanical Engineering  
The University of Hong Kong

Robert Black College Guest Night, 27<sup>th</sup> September, 2001

The achievements that mankind has made over the past 10,000 years have much to do with the technology he has invented for with it he invented farming, the city and a technological society. The greatest achievements of technological society I believe to be

- (i) A guaranteed food supply so that no one needs to starve.
- (ii) Shelter from the environment that has allowed the whole planet, hot cold and temperate regions, to be inhabited.
- (iii) The survival of children and the long life of adults, something humans have always desired.

However these gains have been achieved at a considerable cost in terms of pollution of the environment and, in many senses, a degraded life style, especially for factory workers. There is in existence a significant anti-technology movement that is evident, particularly in the arts and humanities. In film there is the masterpiece "Modern Times" by Charlie Chaplin, in books *Silent Spring* by Rachel Carson and *Brave New World* by Aldous Huxley. A French philosopher and lawyer, Jacques Ellul, analysed the anti-technology movement in his important work, *La Technique*, which is available in its English translation as *The Technological Society*. There he showed there to be two quite distinct parts of the anti-technology argument.

The first is the most obvious. Technology does bad things. It is dangerous. Consider the death rate from car and motorcycle accidents. It degrades the environment by emitting toxic chemicals into the air and water thus killing or changing whole ecosystems. It makes us face difficult moral choices such as organ transplants, where the need is great but the donors are few. Genetically modified plants and animals can invade ecosystems, and be eaten by other creatures, all with unknown consequences. The list of bad things laid at the door of technology is huge, but Ellul is not persuaded by this case. He correctly sees that the answer to poor technology is not less technology, but improved technology. One important area addressed in his work is the human response to risk. Humans accept, quite easily, dangerous activities provided they choose to do those things. There are many examples: hang gliding, climbing mountains, racing motorcycles, the list is endless. On the other hand, it is unacceptable for humans to be put into risky situations by employers or governments.

Table 1 shows risk as it is encountered in everyday life, and since being struck by lightning is something naturally occurring, this level of risk is often called "acceptable". Figure 1 shows risk as it is encountered over a whole lifetime. Note that being born is a risky business. When faced with the choices for actually reducing risk, humans select to reduce what they consider to be risks outside of their control, rather than reducing dangerous situations in which they think they are in control, even when the death rate from the former can be demonstrated to be much less than the



latter. This element of human choice shows that the notion of acceptable risk is a complex idea, yet is central to this family of objections to technology.

Ellul's most fundamental objection to technology lies in the area of human development through evolutionary processes. When we consider the environment that mankind inhabits in a developed country, it is obvious that this is dominated by technology, and this technological environment has replaced the world of nature. Simple examples are the easy availability of effective and cheap contraceptive technologies which have drastically modified family structures with possible evolutionary consequences, and the ubiquity of easy, cheap and rapid transport systems destroying the much older idea of "place" as somewhere where a person has roots, is deeply known and where relationships are long-lasting. Since no one planned this technological universe, and no one can control it, he suggests our situation is very serious. We inhabit a universe of undirected means in a vast market place of technology that does not necessarily have the best interests of people in its blank mind.

Table 1. Risk of violent or accidental death in England and Wales, 1981. (Inman, 1985. Reprinted by permission of Oxford University Press).

Risk Level	Range (per year)	Violent and accidental death
1	1 in 1-9	
2	1 in 10-99	
3	1 in 100-999	
4	1 in 1,000-9,999	
5	1 in 10,000-99,999	Road accidents, burns, falls, suicide
6	1 in 100,000-999,999	Homicide, railways, aircraft
7	1 in 1,000,000-9,999,999	Falling objects
8	1 in 10,000,000-99,999,999	Lightning, animal and plant venom

# RISK

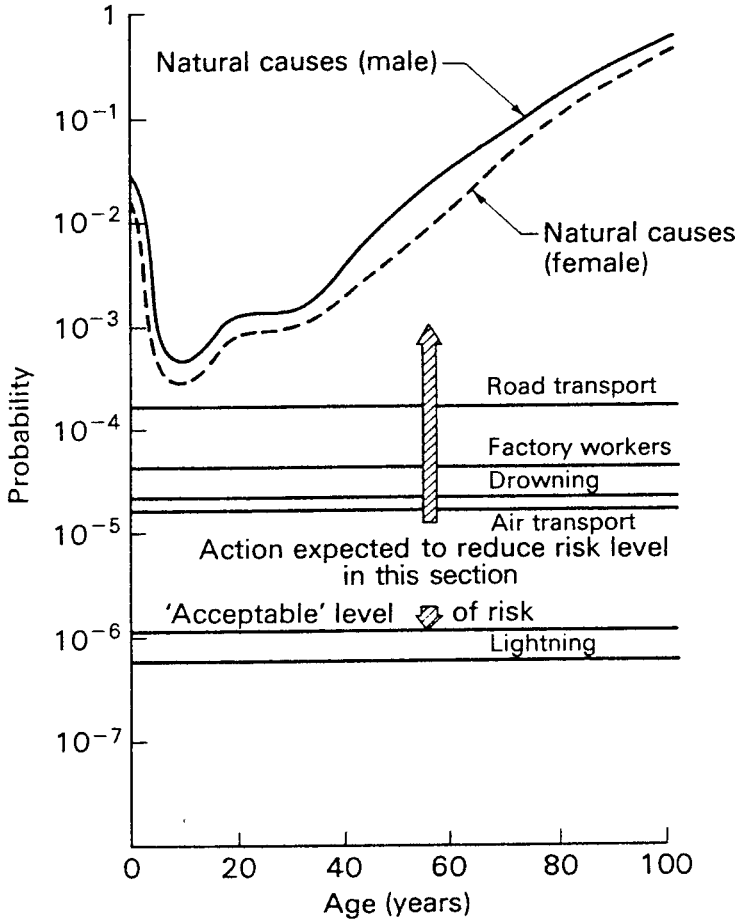


Figure 1. Probability of death per year from various causes (averaged for all ages, except for natural causes), indicating the range over which there is public expectation that action will be taken to reduce risk. (Warner, 1985. Reprinted by permission of Oxford University Press).

## References

- Ellul, J. (1964). *The Technological Society*. Vintage Books, Random House, London.
- Inman, W.H.W. (1985). Risks in medical intervention. *In Risk: man-made hazards to man*, Cooper, M.G. (ed). Clarendon Press, Oxford.
- Warner, F. (1985). Risks and the energy industry. *In Risk: man-made hazards to man*, Cooper, M.G. (ed). Clarendon Press, Oxford.



***ROBERT BLACK COLLEGE  
SEMINAR NIGHT SERIES***

***(2000 – 2001)***

# OPENING THE BLACK-BOX OF CANCER GENETICS

**Dr. Eric C.W. So**

Department of Pathology  
Senior Resident Tutor, Robert Black College  
The University of Hong Kong

Robert Black College Seminar, 18<sup>th</sup> January, 2000

In this seminar, I will focus on the roles of oncogenes and tumor suppressor genes in cancer, and the basic principles of gene therapy. Cancer is a genetic disease characterized by unrestrained cell growth that competes with its neighbours for space and nutrients, and which results in disruption and eventual destruction of the living organism.

In normal cells, cell growth and differentiation are tightly regulated by complex signaling pathways. Most cells are programmed to die after certain cycles of cell division and differentiation. To render its immortal property, a cancer cell differs from a normal cell in having aberrant proliferative and/or survival signaling pathways.

It is now known that at least three major types of genes, namely oncogenes, tumor suppressor genes and DNA repair genes, play their part in regulating these important properties of cells.

Most of these genes turn out to be also involved in cancer. Oncogenes are genes that positively promote cell proliferation and survival, when overactive can help to transform a normal cell into a cancer cell. Some of the oncogenes arise from DNA mutation of cellular genes, called proto-oncogenes, that are normal non-mutant versions of oncogenes. Tumor suppressor genes are another class of genes involved in controlling cell growth. The products of tumor suppressor genes inhibit cell proliferation and promote cell death, so they essentially have an opposite function to oncogenes. In normal cells there is a balance between the activities of proto-oncogene and tumor suppressor genes. However, this balance is disrupted in cancer cells by increasing the activity of proto-oncogene/oncogene and/or inactivating the function of tumor suppressor genes.

## **THE PILGRIM'S PROGRESS: THE JOURNEY TO THE EAST**

《天路歷程》東遊記

**Mr. John T.P. Lai**

Department of Chinese  
The University of Hong Kong

Robert Black College Seminar, 18<sup>th</sup> May, 2000

Acclaimed in the West as a literary classic and a Christian masterpiece John Bunyan's (1628-1688) work *The Pilgrim's Progress* has, since its publication in 1678, been printed, read, and translated more than any book other than the Bible. Over the centuries it has been rendered into some 200 different languages. In 1851, during the late Qing period, it was the first western novel translated into Chinese.

Western missionaries completed most of the early translations. In an attempt to meet the specific needs of the target language audience some versions have been published in Chinese dialects: Cantonese, Xiamen and Fuzhou in addition to the classical and vernacular Chinese versions. Most of the illustrations incorporated in the Chinese texts carry with them a vivid Chinese style and flavour. Efforts to assimilate a foreign work into the Chinese culture are very much in evidence in the journey of *Pilgrim's Progress* to the East.

The one-and-a-half-century history of the Chinese translation of *The Pilgrim's Progress* is an excellent example of a diachronic study. The introduction of the work into China included a number of stages from which distinctive features and language changes can be traced. Within each stage there are different forms of presentation such as the traditional written versions or innovative comic and video productions as this provides substantial material for a synchronic study of the Chinese translations.

## **E-TRADING IN HONG KONG**

**Mr. T.K. Chui**

Department of Finance

The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Robert Black College Seminar, 18<sup>th</sup> May, 2000

Markets for investment services have changed dramatically during the last two years. A major driver of these changes was Internet Technology including the worldwide web and intranets.

Internet Technology is revolutionizing investment services markets. Share trading, investment information, and e-IPOs on the Internet are a reality. A wide range of new possibilities, for linking market participants, disseminating information, transacting business, serving customers and regulating markets, are emerging. Virtual exchanges that transcend borders and regulatory regimes loom on the horizon. Internet Technology will have a very significant effect on the dynamics of Hong Kong's investment services market and on the competitiveness, value added, and profitability of various participants.

The impacts on Hong Kong will be dramatic. But what exactly will they be? And what strategies should be followed in Hong Kong especially by the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong (SEHK) to use Internet Technology for maximum advantage? This presentation will focus on the evolution of the securities industry, especially the coming of AMS 3 (Automatic Order Matching and Execution System 3), and its impact on the securities industry.

# ENERGY CONVERSION AND TWO LAWS OF THERMODYNAMICS

**Mr. Tianliang Yang**

Department of Mechanical Engineering  
The University of Hong Kong

Robert Black College Seminar, 19<sup>th</sup> October, 2000

Energy conversion provides us with the modern way of life. If energy conversion methods had not been invented we would not have electricity and our way of life would be beyond our imagination. Because electricity can easily be transported and used, people in modern society are particularly interested in converting energy into electricity. Nowadays, two kinds of energy, thermal energy and hydro-energy, comprise the main components of energy used for generating electricity. In most countries the quantity of thermal energy used is more than that of the hydro-energy.

This evening I will explore basic principles of converting thermal energy into electricity. I will discuss the first and second law of thermodynamics, for converting the thermal energy to mechanical energy. Based on the basic laws of thermodynamics, the working principle of the real steam power plant will be presented.

Four basic components: the boiler, the turbine, the condenser and the electricity generator make up a thermal steam power plant. The boiler is used to convert chemical energy, stored in the fuel that is inputted from the environment, into thermal energy and thereby generates high-temperature and high-pressure steam. The condenser is used to release to the environment some useless energy in the steam. Both the turbine and the electricity generator are used to convert thermal energy into mechanical energy and then from mechanical energy into electricity. In spite of its four basic components, in order to convert a higher portion of thermal energy into electricity, the modern power plant is equipped with thousands of auxiliary equipment for higher conversion efficiency. Even with energy conserving equipment and technologically enhanced processes, the efficiency of the modern steam power plant is still lower than 45%. This means that more than 55% of the thermal energy inputted into the power plant is released to the environment and wasted. Can we create a significant reduction in the amount of wasted energy in the near future? The second law of thermodynamics gives us the answer: No!



# FOOD, GLORIOUS FOOD?

**Dr. Park S.P. Ng**

Lecturer, Department of Microbiology  
Senior Resident Tutor, Robert Black College  
The University of Hong Kong

Robert Black College Seminar, 19<sup>th</sup> October, 2000

We need food to provide ourselves with the energy to live. True, but is eating food only a question of energy renewal? With our increasingly affluent lifestyles, has eating food shifted more and more from a process purely to stave off hunger to more of a lifestyle-dependent choice? Yes, otherwise our choice of food would still be unglamorous high-energy food such as carbohydrates (steamed rice) and proteins (boiled meats). However, underlying principles of eating food have been truly time-honoured and unchanging. What has changed is the priority we place on these principles because of what we can do and choose when it comes to food.

Our cave-dwelling ancestors had very few choices so they ate what was available around them to provide them with energy – convenience. Then they began using fire to heat the food, and spices to improve its taste – getting enjoyment out of food. People ate more if the hunt or harvest was plentiful – affordability. They would not eat rotten food or food that was known to be poisonous – self-preservation.

I would argue that we are under the same influences as our ancestors were, although our priorities may be different. We choose places to eat/food types that are close by/and easy to cook (convenience). We choose places to eat/and food types that are tasty (getting enjoyment out of food). We choose places to eat/food types that we can afford to pay (affordability). We choose places to eat/food types that are perceived to be healthy and not dirty (self-preservation). These four factors are more fundamental than others such as religious and psychosomatic influences, and will be the focus of my talk. These factors today have cause more problems to us in many ways. In this brief talk, I will identify some concerns (with an emphasis on microbiology) associated with these factors. A few examples:

## **Convenience:**

1. The demand for longer shelf life now that our life styles leave us with very little time for daily shopping. In order to achieve this, the total bacterial content of food has to be very low or totally sterile. This will reduce the number of non-pathogenic organisms (sometimes referred to as spoilage organisms) that normally suppress growth of pathogenic organisms, rendering the food more susceptible to colonization by pathogenic organisms. Another result, though not scientifically proven, may be the lowering of tolerance to a higher loading of non-pathogenic organisms.
2. The use of refrigerators actually lures us into a false sense of security. Most users will rely on the fridge to keep food for longer than we really should. At certain levels, the practice of the past of acquiring and consuming food within the same day may be safer practice.

### **Getting enjoyment out of food:**

1. New recipes sometimes cause physical/chemical changes in food that render them hazardous. The changes in physical (acidity, water availability) as well as chemical factors may transform the food into a hazardous product.
2. Demand for exotic, or out of season international foods may result in the international transfer of infective toxic agents: BSE from cattle, Norwalk virus from shellfish and the dioxin incidents in Europe.
3. We like our salads “fresh and crunchy” and may add ingredients to achieve this. One common ingredient is alfalfa sprouts (raw). But these sprouts are very good harbourage for bacteria. When grown in anything but sterile conditions, there is a risk of infection. Salmonella poisoning from alfalfa has been found in the U.S. Likewise the consumption of lightly cooked burgers to “preserve” the taste of the beef but surface contamination of muscle-meats is not fully reduced in the cooking process.

### **Affordability:**

1. To achieve increasing yields from crop and animal farming we have bred, by conventional methods and/or modern genetic procedures, new strains of crops and animals. Some argue that problems could arise from uncertainty in long-term consumption of such products but a more realistic risk is the narrowing in species diversity leaving our food source vulnerable to emerging plant or animal pathogens.
2. In arable farming, the use of chemicals is wide spread either as fertilizers or pesticides. The problem with pesticides is the direct transfer of toxicity to us and the effects of cumulative consumption. Artificial fertilizers actually discourage the practice of crop rotation. The ultimate result will be the depletion of the ability of the land to sustain crops.
3. New practices of animal husbandry are also highly detrimental to us. The feeding of high protein diets to herbivorous animals is a prime example: bovine spongiform encephalitis – mad cow disease. Another is the overuse of antibiotics causing more drug-resistant pathogens.

### **Self-preservation:**

We are flooded with information on what food is good or bad. The real problem is not the sheer volume of information; it is the misinformation of advertising campaigns. The 1980s promotion of margarine as a good substitute for butter has been shown to be inaccurate. The use of saccharin as a substitute to sugar was discredited when it was later found to be harmful in animal experiments. A high protein diet was desired in government promotions of the 1950's but now a high meat diet is associated with GI tract cancer and heart diseases.

I ask you to reflect on the fundamentals of our choice of food in relation to life style needs and to understand the wider implications of our choices on the overall safety and supply of our food sources. Armed with a better understanding we may be able to make life style choices with regards to food that encourages practices which are not as detrimental to our food sources as today.

## HOW TO MAKE MATERIAL STRONGER?

**Mr. Chiu Yu Lung**

Department of Mechanical Engineering  
The University of Hong Kong

Robert Black College Seminar, 16<sup>th</sup> November, 2000

In this talk some fundamentals of strength and the deformation process of crystalline materials will be briefly introduced. The strength of a crystalline material is usually denoted by flow stress, hardness, and tensile strength. The plastic deformation of a crystal is basically a process of introducing dislocations and the subsequent dislocation motion under applied stress. Introducing obstacles to the dislocation motion within the materials, therefore, could increase the strength of crystals. The most commonly utilized obstacles are:

- (i) other dislocations;
- (ii) internal boundaries such as grain, sub-grain, or cell boundaries;
- (iii) solute atoms; and
- (iv) second-phase particles.

Examples will be given for different mechanisms of strengthening crystalline materials and their practical applications in enhancing our lives.

# PREDICTING HUMAN BEHAVIOR

Mr. Pradyumna Amatya

Department of Politics and Public Administration  
The University of Hong Kong

Robert Black College Seminar, 16<sup>th</sup> November, 2000

“Why people do what they do” has often been the core of the concern among social scientists. In the process of muddling though, social scientists frequently pinpoint the factors that may shape human behavior. Such factors include: individual tastes and preferences; choice; interest; values; belief; perceptions of the world; experiences; rules; norms; information; cognitive capability; communal orientation; and so forth and so on. There is of course an almost infinite array of potential factors that might influence human behavior, but that is not my interest tonight. What I am interested in, rather, is the tools and frameworks that the social scientists have been able to craft to deal with – possibly the most complex phenomena in the living world – human behaviour.

In the social sciences there have emerged lately three dominating frameworks to predict human behavior:

1. Rational Choice (RC) approaches (game theory, decision analysis, and economic analysis).
2. Cultural approaches (ethnicity, religion, and values).
3. Institutional approaches.

1. The RC approach explains human behavior by showing that it was the best thing to do, given the situation and the strategies of other actors or players. In this regard, one may argue that this framework looks upon a very common feature of human behavior, namely *egoism*. An action is the best thing to do when it maximizes the utility of players, or when it maximizes the difference between the benefits and costs. Here we begin with a little discussion of economic principles:

- (i) Total benefits – Total costs = Maximum difference
- (ii) Marginal benefit/marginal cost = 1

These equations (I & II) can be applied to a great variety of human behavior and a large set of different situations. Out of equations come two different decision principles:

- (a) Individual rationality = the Nash equilibrium; and
- (b) Collective rationality = Pareto optimality.

The most fascinating problems in human interaction arise when the Nash equilibrium does not result in strategies that are Pareto optimal. When used in game theory certain standard situations within human interaction emerge that occur often like: Defection in cooperation: *PD Games*; Threat in confrontation: *Chicken games*; Logic of negotiation: *Battle of the Sexes games*.

The opposition to RC comes from two angles. First, it is claimed that it bypasses altruistic or collective preferences, which are important in social life. Second, it is argued that it cannot explain institutions, as it focuses only upon preferences. If reality is complex and difficult to grab, then RC over simplifies to allow one to understand at least some features well. When simplicity is not enough, when detailed understanding is imperative and when intuitive insights count for more, then one may wish to consult another approach.

2. The cultural approach explains human behaviour by fitting it into ways of life. Ways of life stem from communities and their values. It explores various ways of analyzing different ways of life such as ethnicity, religion, and universal values. Group loyalties, personal sacrifices for nation or religion, social movements, and revolutions, are few common behavioral patterns that better fit with the cultural analysis approach than any other framework. In this regard, one may argue that this framework looks upon a very common feature of human behavior, namely *altruism*. Some of the most fascinating theories that come from the cultural approach include: Weber's theory of religion and capitalism, nation building theories of state, post-materialist values and value changes in advanced countries, and trust theory.

3. The institutional approach explains human behaviour by acknowledging formal rules, informal constraints, and their enforcement characteristics in a society that shapes their decision-making. These constraints act as the prescription about what actions are required, prohibited, and permitted. In contrast to the frameworks mentioned above, it considers human as innately rational (bounded rationality), and have incomplete information and limited cognitive capability to process such information. Free-riding, shirking, breaking contractual agreements, self-interest and seeking with guile, are among those few common behavioural patterns that better fit with the institutional approach than any other framework. In this regard, one may argue that this framework looks upon a very common feature of human behavior, namely *opportunism*.

I have been able to describe the three most common features of human behavior: egoism, altruism and opportunism and the related tools that can be used to explain such behaviours. The fact is, however, that despite these developments, understanding human behaviour remains complex and elusive. In fact predicting human behavior remains largely "unpredictable and unexplained".

# THE PROSPECT OF HONG KONG DEMOCRATIZATION: THE IMPLICATION OF THE 2000 LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ELECTION

**Mr. Victor C.M. Chan**

Department of Politics and Public Administration  
The University of Hong Kong

Robert Black College Seminar, 14<sup>th</sup> December, 2000

The process of democratization involves increasing accountability of political institutions, enlarging citizen participation, and extending the covered issues related to the society. In Hong Kong, this process began in the 1980's. Since then, one of the major controversies has been attempts to extend the number of directly elected seats in the Legislative Council so as to increase citizens' political participation in Hong Kong. Before 1991, the members of Legislative Council were either appointed by the Governor or indirectly elected from Functional Constituencies and districts. However, after 1991, a gradual increase in the number of directly elected seats is being realized.

According to the Basic Law, after a complete constitutional review in 2007, the entire legislature will be ultimately elected through universal suffrage. There were roughly two main camps in the Hong Kong legislature – Pro-Democracy forces and Pro-Beijing Forces. The Pro-Democracy forces such as the Democratic Party and the Frontier did very well from direct elections held in geographical constituencies and have been winning the majority of seats from these constituencies since 1991. Naturally, they are the major advocators of full democracy in the Hong Kong Legislature. On the other hand, the Pro-Beijing forces including the Democratic Alliance for Betterment (DAB), Hong Kong Progressive Alliance and Liberal Party, which usually perform poorly in geographical constituency, support a gradual process of democratization in Hong Kong and avoid radical actions.

The 2000 Legislative Council election was held on 10<sup>th</sup> September 2000. The overall turnout rate was 43.57%, which was lower than the one in 1998 with 53%. The results of this election generated several implications for the prospect of Hong Kong Democratization. Compared with the 1998 Legislative Council election, the support of Pro-Democracy forces, however, has declined from 69.3% to around 62.7%, while the number of votes taken by Pro-Beijing and Pro-Government forces has steadily increased from 30.7% to 37.43%. This results from the internal fragmentation and to strategic error within the Pro-Democracy forces, strong organizational power and resources of Pro-Beijing Forces and the lower turnout rate. As the main advocators of full democracy, the declining support of Pro-Democracy forces eroded their mandate for fighting for democracy. In addition the strengthened Pro-Beijing forces will likely become the main obstacle or counter-force for full democracy in the Legislative Council. It will be far more difficult to pass any proposals for furthering Hong Kong's democratization even in 2007. The general public seemed no longer enthusiastic about the election as indicated by declining turnout rate. The low participation will become another excuse for delaying the process of democratization. Given these constraints and downsides, I presume that the prospect of Hong Kong democratization is not foreseeable at least in the near future.

# **DEMOCRACY, AMERICAN STYLE! THE U.S. PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION**

**Mr. Lee J. Brenner**

Rotary Scholar, Tufts University, U.S.A.  
Department of Politics & Public Administration  
The University of Hong Kong

Robert Black College Seminar, 14<sup>th</sup> December, 2000

As the U.S., and the world, watches the daily soap opera that has come from the November 7<sup>th</sup> U.S. presidential election, it is necessary to take a step back from the political “spin” and the legal ramblings, to look at what this historic election means for the American people and the world, as well as for the strength of the American democratic system of government.

No matter who ends up in the White House, this election has demonstrated the strength of America’s democratic system. With such a close election, and such intense international coverage since the election, there is bound to be a belief that the system somehow failed and is inherently flawed. Yes, there have been problems, and most likely, there will be procedural changes made to the process before the next election. Yet, the furor over these problems is a healthy sign that the system works. The large number of court challenges by both ordinary citizens and political parties should ensure that if indeed there was fraud, it will be detected soon enough. But democracy hasn’t failed just because it takes time to work. Americans can continue their daily lives without fear of insurrection, revolution, or coup while they wait to hear who next will occupy the White House. There are no tanks surrounding federal buildings, and the people that choose to protest are doing so peacefully.

There seems to be a great need in this day and age to have immediate answers. That is one downside to the Information Age. But, rushing the process because we want an answer would be a greater corruption of the system than allowing it to take advantage of the checks and balances that have been built in to the system over the years. President Clinton may be a “lame duck” President, but, as he has said, he’s still got another six weeks to “quack”. Presumably, he can keep the country stable and prosperous at the same time. And in the end, there is going to be a peaceful transition of power and the country will move forward as one nation.

## MAURITIUS, PARADISE OF THE INDIAN OCEAN

**Mr. Rajesh Jeewon**

Department of Ecology & Biodiversity

The University of Hong Kong

Resident, Republic of Mauritius

Robert Black College Seminar, 11<sup>th</sup> January, 2001

Mauritius, an island of volcanic origin situated 2,400 km east of the South African coast, has a total area of 1,854 sq. km. On the world map, it is a small dot to the east of Madagascar. Other areas belonging to Mauritius include the Agalega Islands, Cargados Carajos Shoals (Saint Brandon), Chagos Archipelago and Rodrigues.

The first humans to visit Mauritius were probably Arabian navigators in the 16<sup>th</sup> century who called it *Dina Arobi*. A few years later, in 1507, the Portuguese discovered Mauritius and named it *Cirne* but never settled there. In September 1598, the Dutch took possession of the island and called it *Mauritius*. Then in September 1715, the French took possession and called it *Isle de France*. In 1810, there was a naval battle between the French and the British. Finally, it was not until the 15<sup>th</sup> October 1814, that the official information was conveyed of "The Treaty of Peace" by which Mauritius was ceded to Great Britain. The island was under British rule until 1968 when Mauritius gained Independence. The new government retained the name Mauritius and in 1992, Mauritius became a Republic.

English, the official language of Mauritius, is not the most widely used language which is French and in particular the local dialect, Creole. Teaching is in English but the written and spoken press is predominantly in French. Mauritius has seven Oriental languages including: Hindi, Urdu, Tamil, Telegu, Gujurati, Bhojpuri and Sanskrit, all of Indian origin. There are two languages of Chinese origin: Hakka and Cantonese.

The population is 1.8 million. It is divided into several ethnic groups, whose members originally arrived from the Indian sub-continent, from China, from Europe and from Africa. The majority are Hindus, followed by Christians. The five main communities cohabitate in peace on the island, and offer a vivid example of tolerance and harmony between groups that are in fact separated by origin, culture and religion.

Mauritius's stable democracy with regular free elections and positive human rights record attracts considerable foreign investment. Mauritius has one of the highest per capita incomes in the Indian Ocean and African continent. And its economy is mainly agriculture (sugar cane) with growing industrial, financial, and tourist sectors.

Mauritius is a true heaven for all kinds of tourist activities including the beauty of the most exotic resorts – beauty that defies imagination!! No island on earth offers such a variety of beautiful beaches and lagoons. The scenery is of remarkable variety and beauty. There is probably no other place in the world where there is a greater diversity of landscape and seascape – of mountains, forests, rivers and waterfalls – within such a small place as Mauritius!! "God created Mauritius and then the heaven". (Mark Twain, 1897)



## WEST LAKE REFLECTIONS

**Ms. Jiang Hong**

Department of Medicine  
The University of Hong Kong  
Resident of Hangzhou

Robert Black College Seminar, 11<sup>th</sup> January, 2001

Hangzhou with its West Lake is a major resort city in southeast China with the distinction of having served as a Southern Song Dynasty capital as well as having a long association with tea production and the silk industry. West Lake and the polymorphic aspects of its beauty have impressed so many people since ancient times: seen at dawn from the Early Sun Terrace on Geling Hill; at sun set from Lakeside Park; on Mid-Autumn full moon night from Calm Lake Pavilion; from afar on Jade Emperor Hill; and from up-close at the Three Pools Mirroring the Moon. It is experiences like these in all seasons and in all weather which have given rise to legends, inspired poems and even generated a popular expression which goes so far as to say: “In heaven there is paradise, on earth there are Suzhou and Hangzhou”. The scenic beauty of West Lake is also closely associated with legendary and historical figures: the Tang Dynasty poet Bai Juyi (772 – 846); the Northern Song poet Lin Hejun (967 – 1028) and Su Dongpu (1037 – 1101); the Southern Song Dynasty commander Yue Fei (1103 – 1142); to name but a few. It is such beauty and imagery that gives the area such a special poetic aura.

# **PROJECT FINANCE FOR PRIVATE INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS IN ASIA**

**Mr. Kathri Devapriya**

Department of Real Estate & Construction  
The University of Hong Kong

Robert Black College Seminar, 21<sup>st</sup> March, 2001

Project Finance (PF) has widely been adapted to finance Private Infrastructure Projects (PIPs) in developing countries. However, despite the emergence of successful PF modalities such as Built-Operate-Own/Built-Operate-Transfer and its variants, PF has not necessarily eliminated the critical issues in financing complex infrastructure projects in Asia. Fundamental causes such as uncertainty and the complex nature of transactions, information imperfection and agency-theoretic issues associated with PF contracts warrant a more critical investigation of these issues beyond the PF domain. In this presentation both financial theory and the economic theory of transaction costs, in particular agency theory, are advocated as a combined platform to look at those critical issues. The discussion focuses on the critical dimension and behavioral issues of PF transaction together with agency issues that cause difficulties in PIPs, particularly in uncertain environments in Asia. With the support of case study findings, it will further elaborate how those fundamentals result in difficulties for risk apportionment and in higher transaction costs in PIP finance. The presentation finally raises the proposition that a workable PF arrangement for PIPs is governed by certain variables and approaches taken to treat such variables result in a deferent PF model for Asia.

# **TROPICAL BUILDING DESIGNS: HOW THEY RESPOND TO THEIR CONTEXTS**

**Ms. Ruffina Thilakaratne**  
Department of Architecture  
The University of Hong Kong

Robert Black College Seminar, 21<sup>st</sup> March, 2001

It is probably self evident that the design of a building should match its context. In architectural terms context is generally associated with climatic, geographic/topographical factors and character or the cultural significance of that area. This presentation examines the underlying relationship between these factors and building designs, in particular climatic factors such as wind direction, sun path and precipitation; geographic/topographical factors such as vegetation, vistas, presence of natural features, elevation of the site. These factors will influence the building design throughout the design process right from the time of design inception (its siting and orientation on site) all the way through to the physical completion of the building.

A tropical region is characterised by high intensity of sunlight, heavy rainfall and high relative humidity. This means that the main considerations when designing in the tropics are to reduce heat gain, increase cross ventilation and protect the building structure from high rainfall. Various design strategies can help moderate climatic impacts and to produce favorable conditions for human habitation.

This presentation exemplifies building projects from tropical countries mostly from Asia, which have responded sensibly to their contexts.

## GOD'S OWN COUNTRY: KERALA

**Dr. Babu Jose**

Faculty of Dentistry  
The University of Hong Kong

Robert Black College Seminar, 19<sup>th</sup> April, 2001

This seminar is about the history of Kerala, its geography and climate, the government, the people and customs, education system, the major religions, Malayalam – the language, the art forms, the contribution of Kerala to arts and science, the cuisine, tourist destinations, and the “Kerala experience” of social development.

The literal meaning of the word Kerala is “The land of coconut trees”. Situated in the southwestern region of India, the state of Kerala has an area of 39,000 sq. km. Its landscape is diverse with vast plains, mountains, rainforests, rivers, backwaters and a long coastline in the west to the Arabian Sea. The legend regarding the origin of Kerala is credited to Parasurama, a mythological figure who threw his axe to claim a land of 160 katams (an old measure for distance) Marine geological studies, soil composition research and sediment analysis have proved that Kerala is a landmass that emerged after the recession of the sea. The National Geographic Society chose Kerala as one of the 50 “must see” destinations of a lifetime. It is one of the ten destinations listed in the “Paradise Found” category. The only other featured Indian destination that featured is the Taj Mahal in the “World Wonders” category. National Geographic Society suggests that “Statistically Kerala stands out as the Mount Everest of social development; there’s truly no place like it”.

At its southern most tip in Kanyakumari there is a confluence of 3 oceans. The Indian Ocean, Arabian Sea and Bay of Bengal. Its neighbouring states are Tamilnadu and Karnataka. The population is 31.1 million. Kerala is the only state in India with females outnumbering males, the ratio being 1058 to 1000. The official language, which has its roots in Sanskrit, is Malayalam. Kerala provides a unique example of the peaceful coexistence of the three major world religions. The majority (60%) of the population is Hindu. Christians and Muslims compose the remnant in almost equal numbers. In the past there were a small population of Jews but most have migrated to Israel during the last few decades.

Ancient Kerala traded in spices cardamom and black gold – pepper with Greeks, Romans and the Middle East. The Bible Book of Esther (second century BC) contains the first mention of Jews in connection with India when there is mention of the presence of Jews in Hodu (India). St. Thomas the apostle arrived in Muziris, Kerala in 52 AD (now Kodungallur) and paved the way for Christianity in India. The Portuguese traveler Vasco da Gama landed in Kappad, Kerala in 1498. The Dutch, then the French and the British followed. Colonial British rule ended on 15<sup>th</sup> of August 1947. Kerala became a state in the Republic of India on 1<sup>st</sup> November 1956.

Kerala ranks with developed countries in adult literacy, life expectancy, infant mortality rate and birth rate. Kerala has the highest literacy rate in India with a district average of 94%. In 1989 the Ernakulam district of Kerala achieved 100% literacy.

## FUNGAL EXPEDITION

**Dr. Wellcome W.H. Ho**

Department of Ecology & Biodiversity  
Rayson Huang Fellow, Robert Black College  
The University of Hong Kong

Robert Black College Seminar, 19<sup>th</sup> April, 2001

Fungi (organisms which include mushrooms) have been used since ancient times for the benefit of mankind. The art of using fungi in such traditional processes as cheese ripening and wine making has since evolved into modern biotechnology and has led to the commercial application of fungal processes and a wide array of commercial fungal products. With the emergence of AIDS/HIV and multi-drug resistance microbial strains, the search for new drugs from fungi to cure diseases is ever more pressing.

Fewer than 5% of the estimated 1.5 million species of fungi are known. Not surprisingly, each year the University of Hong Kong Culture Collection (HKUCC) identifies 40 to 50 new species of fungi. There is a continuing need to know more about fungi, both for a better understanding of their role in nature and to sustain the search for novel fungal products and fungal processes. This is especially true in Asia where fungal biodiversity is believed to be rich but relatively unexplored. This problem is compounded by rapid urban developments in Asia, which may lead to the loss of fungal biodiversity even before it is fully documented and conserved.

HKUCC has adopted the mission to conserve South East Asian fungi. With the support from the Innovation and Technology Support Programme of HKSAR, HKUCC has one of the world's largest collections of fungi from S.E. Asia. Over 100 collections made throughout S.E. Asia, provide 8,000 fungal strains that have been preserved at ultra-low temperature of -135<sup>o</sup>C. These fungi are preserved as a genetic resource for research and exploitation.

Fungi produce an array of metabolites, of which some have antibiotic effects. Over 10,000 antibiotics are now known, from bacterial and fungal origin, plus synthetic compounds. The total market value of the drugs produced from fungi is enormous and may exceed US\$ 20 billion each year. The collection in HKUCC has attracted the interest of several drug companies that are interested in collaborating in screening fungi for the production of novel bioactive compounds.

There are large numbers of plants with medicinal properties. The Yew tree, for example, produces the important anticancer drug Taxol. Taxol remained expensive and inadequate for clinical trial until it was found that a fungus that lives within the Yew tree is responsible for the production of Taxol. This triggered HKUCC to search for fungi in various Chinese medicinal plants from the Guangdong Province.

The increasingly rapid loss of biological diversity is a serious ecological challenge. This loss is irreversible on a human timescale and reduces the resources available to all future human generations. HKUCC is competing with the loss of natural habitats in isolating and preserving fungi *ex situ* before they become extinct.

## BE HEALTHY IN YOUR OFFICE

**Dr. Hong Shunjia**

Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology  
The University of Hong Kong

Robert Black College Seminar, 17<sup>th</sup> May, 2001

Since the advent of the personal computer, office technology has undergone rapid change. The personal computer has become the main tool for office workers. It was estimated that by the year 2000, people working with computers accounted for half of the working population. In our university environment, a great percentage of staff time is spent working at a computer either in an office or study room. Office ergonomics has become a great issue that we should not take for granted.

The office workstation should allow the worker to sit and carry out duties in comfort while allowing for voluntary changes in the working position. There are three contact areas in the workspace that affect posture: the seat, the work surface, and the floor. To ensure the most comfortable posture possible, two of the areas should be adjustable. However, under most conditions, the table or desk is not adjustable.

A fully adjustable chair is essential. The following features are expected:

- (i) Controls that are easy to operate from the sitting position.
- (ii) A seat that adjusts for both height and tilt.
- (iii) A seat that does not put pressure on the back of the thighs or knees.
- (iv) A seat with a front edge that curves towards the floor.
- (v) Breathable, non-slippery fabric on the seat.
- (vi) A backrest shaped to support the lower back.
- (vii) A stable five-point base with wheels or casters suitable for the type of flooring.
- (viii) A swivel mechanism.
- (ix) Armrests that can be adjusted to the elbow height when upper arms are hanging down and forearms are at about a 90-degree angle to the upper arms.
- (x) Armrests that do not interfere with free movements within the workstation.

The appropriate chair is selected but now it needs to be adjusted. The highest point of the seat should be just below the kneecap. Sitting on the chair, keep your feet flat on the floor and check that the clearance between the front edge of the seat and your calves fits a clenched fist (~2 inches). Adjust the backrest forwards and backwards as well as up and down so that it fits the hollow of the lower back. Sit upright, arms hanging loosely by your sides. Bend your elbows at about a right angle and adjust the armrest height until they barely touch the underside of the elbows.

If your workstation is too low to provide enough space for your legs, you should not use such a workstation on a regular basis. If your workstation is too high, you should adjust your chair height and use a footrest.

Regular short breaks from sitting together with taking simple relaxing exercises will prevent many injuries. Air-conditioners must be serviced and air quality checked regularly. Smoking must be prohibited.

**THE ROLE OF PERSONALITY AT WORK IN HONG KONG:  
TRAIT DETERMINANTS OF SALES PERFORMANCE IN THE  
INSURANCE INDUSTRY IN HONG KONG**

**Mr. Kevin H.C. Cheng**  
Department of Psychology  
Swire Scholar, Robert Black College  
The University of Hong Kong

Robert Black College Seminar, 17<sup>th</sup> May, 2001

Recent research in work performance has documented the role of employee personality. In the present study, the association between personality characteristics and work performance was examined in greater depth for the life insurance sector. Agent's gender, education, working experience as well as their supervisory duties are used as covariate variables. It was expected that there would be a differential relationship of traits and performance at different stages of the employee's career development. To measure motivation-based and work-related traits, we used the Chinese Personality at Work (CPW) Questionnaire, which is partially based on Murray's (1938) conception of individual differences in manifested needs. Hierarchical regression analysis showed that sales performance (as indicated by commission earned) could be predicted by a low level of "Innovativeness and Change-Orientation" and a high level of "Autonomy" for newly recruited sales agents. However, for experienced agents with supervisory role, "Attention-Seeking" and "Tenacity" are the significant predictors of sales performance. The results support Furnham's (1991) suggestion that work performance is contingent upon the fitting of appropriate individual traits to the inherent demands of the work environment/job characteristics in different industries.

## **AMERICAN FRATERNITIES: BRING ON THE BEER OR BUILDING BROTHERLY BONDS?**

**Mr. Garrett Gravesen**

Court Scholar, University of Georgia, U.S.A.  
Founding Father, Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity

Robert Black College Seminar, 19<sup>th</sup> June, 2001

SEX, BOOZE, MUSIC, GIRLS: all words that capture the eye of a typical human being on first sight, and hopefully terms that will grab your attention for this seminar because American fraternities have it all. Is it possible though that there is more to the drunken merry-making that 20<sup>th</sup> century multimedia has made fraternity life out to be? Is it possible that this age-old tradition of Greek bonding goes beyond the booze and the bedroom that are so closely stigmatized to it? Is it possible that the American fraternities of the 21<sup>st</sup> century can actually build brotherly bonds and have Godly principles at their very core?

Take a deeper look into the life of a “frat boy” in the American fraternity system that has been tarnished time and time again due to negligent behavior and unruly revelry. That’s right, ladies and gentlemen, sit back, relax, and enjoy this month’s edition, hosted by Garrett Gravesen, of “American Fraternities: Bring on the Beer or Building Brotherly Bonds?”.

Sigma Phi Epsilon, the largest fraternity in the United States, seeks to change the cultural stereotypes surrounding the Greek system. We will take a look into the Balanced Man Program, a system unlike any other in fraternities of the day. This system has single handedly transformed the beer guzzling bloats of yesterday that made up the American fraternity into the balanced men of today that strive at its very core to uphold in all walks of life, the three pillars of “virtue, diligence, and brotherly love”. We will even take a look into fraternities in the U.S. that went terribly wrong such as FIJI, which is known to have a feminine mystique surrounding it due to seemingly girlish nature of its members. Each fraternity is different and many stories will be brought forth. Is it truly possible that a fraternity in the world today could strive to uphold the principles of God himself and attempt to make better men? I can tell you my story; I hope you are listening!

Proverbs 28:6 “Better a poor man whose walk is blameless than a rich man whose ways are perverse”.



## AN IRISHMAN IN HONG KONG

**Mr. Stephen Gowdy**

Rotary Scholar, University of York, U.K.  
Department of Electrical & Electronic Engineering  
The University of Hong Kong

Robert Black College Seminar, 19<sup>th</sup> June, 2001

Two years ago, I applied for a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarship. While I was eager to win, I believed as I filled out the application form that the most I would get out of such an application was a little interview experience. Little did I know that 18 months later I would be studying at the University of Hong Kong.

Each year, up to 1,300 students are selected to participate in a worldwide exchange scheme known as the Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarship. Rotary is a community service based organization, with the motto "Service Above Self". Operating through 29,000 Rotary Clubs in 160 countries, it is an organization of business and professional leaders who provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and help build goodwill and peace in the world.

Ambassadorial Scholarships are intended to promote international understanding and goodwill through study in another country. Rotary is the largest, privately funded scholarship scheme in the world. Five scholars, of whom I was one, spent 2000/2001 in Hong Kong.

Originally from Newtownards, a small town outside Belfast in Northern Ireland, I had been studying in the University of York, England, when I first heard about the Scholarship Scheme. Although I felt that I had little chance of being selected, I applied in the hope that I might be rewarded. Nine months later I received the letter informing me of my selection.

After much organizing and discussion, I eventually arrived in Hong Kong on the 1<sup>st</sup> September 2000. The following ten months have been an amazing experience for me. Although studying here proved more of a challenge than I expected, my examination results don't fully reflect all that I have learned in my time here.

I have found friends not only from Hong Kong, but also from a vast range of countries, thereby broadening my experiences and understanding of the real meaning of the term "Global Community". I have enjoyed exploring the cosmopolitan culture and heritage of Hong Kong – a mix of things Chinese and Western. Finally, I have been fortunate to be able to have the opportunity to explore Hong Kong as a location. Famed as a thriving city of skyscrapers, it has been amazing to see not only that side of Hong Kong, but also the beauty of the New Territories, the Outlying Islands and even the parks and trails around Hong Kong Island itself.

Overall, I have enjoyed my time in Hong Kong. I will return to the U.K. with ten months of memories that will undoubtedly influence me in later life. Thank you for providing me with more than just a year of study.

## WHO IS AFRAID OF HEPATITIS?

**Dr. Park S.P. Ng**

Lecturer, Department of Microbiology  
Honorary Fellow, Robert Black College  
The University of Hong Kong

Robert Black College Seminar, 4<sup>th</sup> October, 2001

Each of us is familiar with the word “hepatitis”, but what do we know about it? Can eating “bad” seafood transmit hepatitis? Can it be transmitted by contaminated blood? Can one be a chronic carrier of the disease and if so what are the risks? Does hepatitis always lead to cancer of the liver? Could a vaccine be used to prevent hepatitis? Which groups should be targeted for hepatitis vaccination?

Hepatitis refers to inflammation of the liver and possibly with hepatic cell death. The symptoms include: malaise, jaundice, fever, darkening urine and lightening stool, over varying periods depending on the exact nature of the hepatitis. Hepatitis may be caused by transmission or as a result of genetic or physiological factors. Exposure to chemical substances (including alcohol) can also play a role in hepatitis. The most common form of hepatitis is, however, caused by a family of viruses. The names of the viruses are well known. They have the very original nomenclature of the alphabets: A, B, C, D, E and G. Since 1966 the Hong Kong Department of Health has recorded cases of hepatitis and since 1988 these have been recorded by their sub-classification.

### **Hepatitis A:**

Hepatitis A virus is transmitted through the oral-fecal route via contaminated food or water. It has a higher association with shellfish because as a bivalve, the organism filters water and concentrates the virus in its intestinal tract. Boiling can de-activate the virus and thus render even contaminated food or drinks safe. It is an acute infection with an incubation period of 15 – 45 days and symptoms persist for 2 – 8 weeks only (15% of adults may maintain symptoms for up to 4 months). Confirmation of Hepatitis A requires detection of the presence of the immune systems' generation of a specific antibody. Drugs are not currently available to treat this infection. The use of good hygienic practices is the main prevention weapon. Over 95% of Hong Kong adults over the age of 40 have immunity from Hepatitis A.

### **Hepatitis B:**

Hepatitis B virus is transmitted through body fluids. Hong Kong has maintained a ~10% positive rate in the population, mainly through mother-to-infant transmission. Other causes include intra-venous drug use and sexual activity. Hepatitis B can be both chronic and acute with phases where the subject is seriously ill as well as asymptomatic carrier states. Diagnosis is through a series of blood tests aimed at viral particles and immune antibodies. Immunity can be acquired through vaccination, or previous infection (~10%). Even infected infants can become immune (~10%). Chronic carriers should exercise some caution in the prevention of the spread of the disease because of the possibility of liver cancer or cirrhosis (~20%). A trial drug, lamivudine, is being used for the treatment of Hepatitis B, however, the rapid development of mutant strains casts doubt on its long-term efficacy.

**Hepatitis C:**

Hepatitis C is similar to Hepatitis B, and is also a blood-borne virus. The major difference is that it is not transmitted through sexual contact or from mother-to-infant. This virus was first isolated in 1988 and since 1991 the Hong Kong Red Cross has screened blood and blood products for Hepatitis C. Hepatitis C can also lead to chronic carrier state (>50%) with increased risk of liver cancer and cirrhosis. Diagnosis is through the detection of antibodies. Vaccines and anti-viral drugs specific for this virus are not available. Hepatitis C prevalence in Hong Kong is thought to be much lower than that of Hepatitis B, at ~0.5%.

**Hepatitis D:**

The Hepatitis D virus is always associated with Hepatitis B and is also a blood-borne virus. It requires viral replication function of the B virus in order to propagate. Those carriers of Hepatitis B virus are therefore at higher risk of contacting co-infection of Hepatitis D virus, however the Hong Kong incidence of Hepatitis D is very low (~1% of Hepatitis B carriers). Seventy percent of cases are caused by intra-venous drug use. Should a patient be co-infected, the risk of liver cancer and cirrhosis increases significantly. The Hepatitis B vaccine is effective in preventing Hepatitis B and therefore is also used against Hepatitis D.

**Hepatitis E:**

Hepatitis E is another enteric virus and like Hepatitis A is mostly associated with contaminated water and shellfish. Symptoms are milder than for Hepatitis A but infected pregnant females have a higher risk of developing the more severe form of hepatitis, fulminant hepatitis, which can lead to fetal mortality. Those infected usually recovers fully with no known chronic carrier state. It is estimated that about one third of acute non A – C hepatitis cases in Hong Kong are caused by this virus. About 15% of Hong Kong's population has antibodies against this virus, indicating previous infection and possibly providing some immunity as well. Treatments and vaccines are not available for this virus; however, the Department of Microbiology (HKU) has produced the most promising vaccine candidate to-date and is awaiting further trials.

**Hepatitis G:**

Hepatitis G was recently discovered (1995) and is also a blood-borne infection with 25% genetic similarity to Hepatitis C. It was discovered as a non A – E hepatitis but in most cases, it exists as a co-infection with Hepatitis B or Hepatitis C. Symptoms are mild with normal liver functions. The non-specific viral treatment of interferon is effective. Infected individuals can become chronic carriers.

**Others:**

There are still other forms of unknown causes of hepatitis that may be of viral origin that require further research.

## THE THIRTY SIX STRATEGIES

**Mr. Albert K.W. Law**

Department of Electrical & Electronic Engineering  
Swire Scholar, Robert Black College  
The University of Hong Kong

Robert Black College Seminar, 4<sup>th</sup> October, 2001

The Thirty Six Strategies are well known to the Chinese. However, their origins are unknown. No author or compiler has been recorded. No date as to their writing has been ascertained. The first recorded mention of the Thirty Six Strategies dates back to the Nan Qi Dynasty (AD 489 – 537) when they are mentioned in the Nan Qi Shi (History of the Nan Qi Dynasty):

“Among the Thirty Six Strategies of Master Tan, escape is the best.”

Master Tan may be the famous General Tan Daoji of the Song Dynasty (AD 420 – 479), but there is no evidence to either prove or disprove his authorship. While this is the first recorded mention of the Thirty Six Strategies, some of the proverbs in the Thirty Six Strategies are based on events that occurred up to seven hundred years earlier than that. Judging from these records, the Thirty Six Strategies may have a history of over two thousand years. The Thirty Six Strategies are a collection of ancient Chinese proverbs that describe some of the most clever and subtle strategies ever devised. These proverbs illustrate not only battlefield strategies, but also tactics used in psychological warfare to weaken the enemy's will to fight. The strategist holds the key to the appropriate use of a strategy or a combination of strategies for each situation. As situations change, so must the strategies. There is no unique solution to any problem or situation; the solution depends on the imagination and creativity of strategist. In modern society, the Thirty Six Strategies are still suitably applied in the fields of business, politics, diplomacy and warfare.

# INFLUENZA: NOTHING BUT CHANGE IS PERMANENT

**Mr. Mario P.S. Chin**  
Department of Microbiology  
The University of Hong Kong

Robert Black College Seminar, 1<sup>st</sup> November, 2001

Influentia or “to influence” as in English was a term used, in Europe in the Middle Ages, to describe a mysterious epidemic that was thought to be under the influence of the stars. This disease is now known as influenza and is definitely not attributed to anything in outer space. Here are some frequently asked questions.

## **What is influenza?**

Influenza or “flu” is an infection of the respiratory tract and is highly contagious. It spreads from person to person through coughing and sneezing. Influenza affects all age groups and causes moderate to severe illness and complications such as pneumonia.

## **What causes influenza?**

The influenza virus causes influenza. Viruses are pathogens and, unlike bacteria, can only reproduce in living cells. There are three influenza viruses, namely, types A, B and C. Influenza A can infect humans and animals and has been the major cause of influenza pandemics while influenza B and C are milder and can only infect humans. Hence today’s discussion will mainly focus on influenza A.

## **What makes influenza so problematic?**

Influenza virus makes things difficult for the host’s defenses by constantly changing the proteins on its coat. Minor mutation in these proteins is known as antigenic drift and may result in epidemics. Major change in the surface proteins, caused by mixing of genes, which leads to swapping of coats, is known as antigenic shift. This process only occurs in the influenza A virus and can result in a worldwide pandemic.

## **How is influenza prevented?**

Because of its inherent nature to change, the best protection from influenza is achieved by an annual “flu shot”. Influenza activity in temperate regions usually peaks in the winter. Since vaccine is most effective when it precedes exposure by no more than 2 to 4 months, autumn is the best time to receive a “shot”.

## **What is an appropriate response to influenza?**

See a doctor! Take plenty of fluids and rest. Influenza virus is not bacteria, thus is not sensitive to antibiotics. If symptoms first appeared within the previous two days, discuss specific antiviral treatment with your doctor. Antivirals such as amantadine or rimantadine (effective against influenza A only) and neuraminidase inhibitors such as oseltamivir or zanamivir (effective against both influenza A and B) can decrease the severity and duration of the illness. Fever and muscle aches may be treated with acetaminophen.

## **What can we learn from influenza?**

If this little pathogen keeps on changing to survive, so will we.

***CONTRIBUTIONS FROM  
COLLEGE RESIDENTS***

## HONG KONG TO ME

**Dr. Patricia Potts**

Senior Research Fellow  
Canterbury Christ Church University College  
Canterbury, Kent, UK

I first visited Hong Kong in 1988, the year of the Dragon. 1988 was also the year of the most auspicious opening of I.M. Pei's new Bank of China on 8.8.88. Twelve years later, came my second Dragon, when I spent six months at Robert Black College. In between, I stayed at the College many times, for brief consultancies at HKU and on my way to and from projects in mainland China. The peculiar delights of the College are, therefore, associated with some of the most stimulating experiences of my life.

I arrived in Hong Kong after five days on my own in Shanghai, where I had visited schools with a Russian-speaking senior education officer and a self-taught English-speaking much younger colleague. I did not come to the Western mid-levels on this occasion but stayed down on the Kowloon waterfront, where I met with an international group of educators, all heading, eventually, for a conference in Beijing. Dazzled by the Hong Kong skyline at night and bemused by the streets and pencil-thin high-rises during the day, I was also beginning to learn about Hong Kong's past. As I read Emily Hahn's *China to Me*, her vivid account of the thirties and early forties, gave me a taste for the uncomfortable history and geography of Hong Kong that is now well-rooted.

I returned to Hong Kong in 1990, the first Marden Fellow in the Department of Education at HKU. (These short fellowships are still awarded each year). Arriving by plane at Kai Tak was an experience that has achieved mythic status. Slicing down between blocks of flats, trailing noise and shadow like a giant beast and racing towards the water at the end of the runway, made an unforgettable introduction to Hong Kong. Shunting through traffic chaos is nothing new for me, a Londoner. But the drive along Conduit Road continued the fantasy ride begun at the airport. Tipping over into University Drive from Kotewall Road, I had my first sight of Robert Black College. The sweep of the Harbour was, in those days, unbroken by off-the-peg university science blocks or up-market residential cylinders. There was no Tsing Ma Bridge hanging by a tarmac thread in the distance. The colour was intense, the green of the hillside and the blue of the College roofs. And, after the gear-grinding trip across town, it was quiet. The sudden peacefulness of the College, with its direct access up to the Peak, remains a treasured open secret.

There are all sorts of routes from Robert Black College down to Central but the best was the number 13 bus. I grew up on the number 13, riding along the Finchley Road every day to school at Swiss Cottage. In 1990, the Hong Kong number 13 was a cream-and-blue, bone-shaking double-decker, all windows wide open for a snatch of breeze, bringing me eyeball-to-eyeball with one of the most three-dimensional cities in the world. Now that the bus is single-decker and air-conditioned, the ride has lost much of its drama, so I often walk or use the escalator.

When I saw red pillar-boxes with collection times displayed in Chinese characters, I was amused. But this concrete symbol of imperialism was only one sign of the

complexities of social and cultural relationships in Hong Kong. For example, during the spring of 1990 I visited a large number of schools in the company of one of three colleagues: an Australian woman, a Chinese woman and a British man. In terms of my own educational history, it turned out that I had more in common with my Chinese colleague than with the “Westerners”. She took me to visit a new secondary school in Yuen Long, where the headmistress had been her English teacher years ago. At lunch, we shared our personal histories and I learned that, in the sixties, my Chinese friend had studied the very same English seventeenth century poetry and prose as I had as a teenager back in London.

Yet, after visiting schools in Shanghai, I realised how Chinese the government schools were in Hong Kong, though there are still many significant differences, for example, the size of the non-governmental voluntary sector. My own work is concerned with identifying and trying to overcome barriers to learning. I bring with me to Hong Kong my experience of the UK and I draw on my experience of Hong Kong to develop a critical perspective on the UK. Meeting the educational requirements of all students and achieving competitive excellence are stated aims in both settings. I explore the relationship between these priorities and find that the tensions between them are unresolved. Similarly, current calls to foster students’ creativity run counter to centralised curricula and assessment systems.

In 2000, my second Year of the Dragon in Hong Kong, I constructed a mural of cuttings, photos, maps and postcards: a visual diary of my months at Robert Black College. Beside articles on air pollution, images from Wong Kar Wai’s *In the Mood for Love*, stories of exam stress and a graphic demonstration of the power of the Li family, I pinned up an extract from a sermon preached by John Donne at Whitehall in 1627. I had just read Vikram Seth’s novel *An Equal Music* and I was intrigued by the source of his title. Donne describes a utopia in which “there shall be no Cloud nor Sun, no darknesse nor dazzling, but one equall light, no noyse nor silence but one equall musick, no fears nor hopes but one equal possession, no foes nor friends, but one equall communion and Identity, no ends nor beginnings, but one equall eternity”. The poetry of this vision is irresistible. But, in the utopian visions of both “West” and “East”, crucial differences of interest and power are denied.

I can discuss these issues with young Chinese colleagues just down the hill on the university campus or I can try them out on my fellow visitors. Breakfast at Robert Black College is both domestic and cosmopolitan. Breakfast provides the opportunity for a rehearsal of the days lecture over the fried eggs and congee. But these early-morning solos were usually muted by friendly chatter about sightseeing and shopping, as well as by informal professional gossip. Prior to 1997, Robert Black himself stared out at us from the back of the dining hall. Now he finds himself above the door of the library, between the portraits of College Masters and Patrons.

I was staying in the College at the time of the handover. As Elgar’s music rose up against the hot rain to embrace the Peak, the illegitimacy of Britain’s position was obvious. When I first came to Hong Kong, British customs and assumptions were overt and, despite the rushed attempts to strengthen democratic processes in the early nineties, I became increasingly aware of the legacy of imperial indifference to political participation and social support. But as Beijing exerts more and more control over Hong Kong, it does not look as if these barriers will come down. The focus has shifted



from Central to Wanchai, where the wonderful ascending bird of the Convention and Exhibition Centre represents the new Special Administrative Region of China.

However, it seems to me that the sharper edges of both British and Chinese culture are softening under the swell of globalisation and that this, as well as the relationship with Beijing, adds to the problems of past and future identity for Hong Kong's people. The Romanesque beauty of the reconstructed Murray Building in Stanley is an illustration of the problem of the past for Hong Kong. Removed from Queensway twenty years ago to make way for Pacific Place, the first world-class hotel, conference and shopping complex in Hong Kong, the British military headquarters has been restored and placed in an area of significance for Hong Kong's recent history. The image is powerful and provocative. But, going inside, you will not find any telling of the stories, not from any of the possible perspectives. Inside the Murray Building now there is a Spanish restaurant. You could be anywhere. (This is increasingly true of Pacific Place). When I go to Stanley I sit out on the balcony café in the far corner of the supermarket, a bonus of the recent developments there, enjoying the beach and the bay. The mall, though not in the least beautiful, is intelligible as a social project; opposite, the Murray Building has been drained of meaning.

A problem for the future identity of Hong Kong is indicated by debates about language. In education, the relative status of Cantonese, Putonghua and English has fluctuated during the decade or so that I have been visiting Hong Kong. English is no longer a medium for colonial rule but remains the lingua franca of international communication. The value of the English language in Hong Kong's educational and commercial contexts is therefore reinforced rather than diminished. Putonghua is gradually asserting its role in the SAR and may eventually become the language of instruction in schools, as it is across the rest of China, leaving Cantonese as the local dialect of family and street life.

Robert Black College is tranquil but it is also online. My view of the Harbour frames emails from my daughters, downloaded documents from overseas governments and vast library catalogues. Here we are in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. I am planning a comparative study of the ways in which the use of space and time in educational contexts affects processes of inclusion and exclusion. I hope that this project will soon bring me back to RBC.

*Patricia is the editor and co-author of the book "Inclusion in the City", to be published in 2002 by Routledge.*

# WOMEN “OPINION LEADERS” IN CORPORATE AND ACADEMIC LIFE IN HONG KONG AND SINGAPORE

**Dr. Ann Brooks**

Senior Lecturer in Sociology  
Massey University, New Zealand

While residing in the Robert Black College in 2000, I was based as a Visiting Scholar at the Department of Sociology, University of Hong Kong (and later at the National University of Singapore). My research was the topic of senior women in academic, corporate, cultural and political life in Hong Kong and Singapore.

My research focuses on women “opinion leaders” in the context of organizational and societal change. More specifically the research explores patterns of leadership and management for women in senior positions in academic and corporate life in Hong Kong and Singapore. It investigates a number of questions that are significant for women, both in terms of their work identities within an organizational context, and in terms of women’s role as “opinion leaders” within Hong Kong and Singapore. Women in senior positions were interviewed to explore patterns of leadership and management and to assess their impact on change in their respective societies. Many of the women interviewed have been significant contributors to debates around the future direction of change in different contexts in the region for a number of years. Their personal circumstances were considered as well as their work identities within an organizational context.

The interviews conducted in Hong Kong and Singapore generated powerful, wide-ranging, and important statements of women’s capacity for leadership and decision making and more broadly their contribution to society. Their voices and critiques will provide invaluable insights to an international readership on how significant women in Southeast Asia think and deal with change. They also reveal how women in Hong Kong and Singapore experience organizational and societal changes.

Some of the most significant issues identified as effecting change include:

- Policy debates around equal opportunity and equity issues;
- Education as a central factor in increasing the number of women in positions of leadership;
- Role of foreign immigrant (largely female) population(s) in serving the needs of advanced economies;
- The importance of demographics and its impact on women in terms of their personal experiences;
- The importance of child-care provisions and “family friendly firms” in fully recognising women as a significant economic resource;
- Gender issues around women in the professions.

Singapore and Hong Kong, while very different, see themselves as highly significant centres for Southeast Asia. Both have positioned themselves as “market leaders” in terms of technological and economic growth and in the way they are addressing the global knowledge economy. Both centres are experiencing rapid social and economic change against the background of their postcolonial identities. Central to the research is women’s role in both effecting change and experiencing change. I was particularly

interested in how the governments of Singapore and Hong Kong addressed the needs of women in their policies. For example Singapore's Ministry of Community Development promotes the concept of "family friendly firms". Childcare provisions in that country are particularly interesting and include flexible work options, flexi-place working, job-sharing permanent part-time work, gradual return to work after childbirth, and maternity/paternity leave. Leave to look after sick children/spouse/parents, medical coverage for dependents, elder care subsidies, and Employee Assistance Programmes are policies either in place or being actively promoted to address the needs of the knowledge-based economy.

*This research will be set in the context of profiling social change in the region and forms part of the book "Corporate and Academic Work Identities and Organizational Change in Hong Kong and Singapore", to be published in 2002 by Hong Kong University Press.*

## SCHOOLS AND LEARNING: PROPOSITIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT

**Mr. James Henri**

Deputy Director, Centre for Information Technology in School and Teacher Education (CITE), Faculty of Education, The University of Hong Kong

What does learning look like in the classrooms with which you have some familiarity? And how have classrooms and schools changed over the past ten years?

It should be taken for granted that what is being learned in the classrooms of today is very much different that what was learned a decade ago...and let us hope that is the case because the body of knowledge has increased dramatically in that period. Consider a few things that have changed over ten years:

- mobile phones and other hand held communication devices are common-place
- many diseases have been eradicated
- wilderness areas are disappearing
- globalisation is a fact
- the human genome project is almost complete.

If you watch old movies you are quickly reminded how information and communication technologies have developed and how this has affected what people do at work and at home and how industries can develop and die almost overnight.

Since the world around us is changing rapidly it stands to reason that people must be learning new things. Learning new ways of doing things, both in a proactive or inventive sense, and doing new things in a reactive or consumer sense. So where are these new ways being learned? Where are people learning to imagine new things, explore new possibilities, and to create new worlds? Where are people learning that choice and risk are prerequisites to growth and that failure is a necessary part of experimentation? Where are people learning to work in teams, interdependently employing cross-discipline knowledge, and taking responsibility for their own learning?

Since a person's formative years are spent at school it would be expected that many of the key prerequisites for living in a very rapidly changing world are being learned right there. School must be a place of possibility. But more than that, school must equip students with the mindset that enables them to see that learning never ends and that being equipped to learn is of paramount importance.

Half a lifetime ago, Tapscott (1996) pleaded the case for changing the way we look at learning at school. He stated that:

*Growing up is about learning. The Net Generation are beginning to process information and learn differently than the boomers.... The destination is different and so is the route the kids must take.*

Have we listened?

How well any school creates the culture in which learning is as fashionable as the latest "in" words is largely dependent upon the ability of the teaching force to reinvent itself. How willing is the staff to role model good practice? How much support is

available to the staff to continually re-equip itself for an ever-changing world? To what extent are the key change enablers within school “allowed to” provide leadership for change?

The school principal is the frontline school leader and whether or not classroom practice is evolving to meet the needs of the new millennium is largely a factor of the quality of that leadership. This fact is recognized and emphasized in the Curriculum Development Council consultative document, Learning to learn: The way forward in curriculum development (CDC 2000). In fact while not explicitly stated within the document it is clear that the emphasis given to leadership is in fact given to “information leadership”. That is the document recognizes the principals fundamental role in changing school culture from a textbook driven industrial model, to an information driven flexible and interdependent model, where collaborative practice becomes a norm.

Principals are encouraged to identify the quality of learning and the processes of learning as touchstones. Information leadership is shown when principals recognize the relationship between effective change processes and the development of collaborative cultures, and information literacy. Principal recognition that as teachers and students master the skills of becoming informed, as they become effective users of information and ideas, as they recognize that solutions are often about weighing evidence and taking into account point of view, as much as finding a “right” answer, they will emerge as effective operators within the knowledge society.

Schools characterized by an industrial model of instructional practice are typified by certain modes of behavior, belief, and practice. These have been codified in a number of places and can be expressed as:

Teaching means:

- isolated activity
- self-contained classrooms
- teacher autonomy and control
- vague goals
- group instruction
- reliance on the textbook
- teacher essential and central to learning process
- assessment is summative, quantitative, and focused on product outcomes

Learning means:

- repetition and “busy work”
- pleasing the teacher
- memorization for the test
- copying the “experts”

In an industrial age school, teachers are “busy”; too busy to talk, reflect and plan together. Teachers are grouped by narrowly defined and traditional subjects and rarely venture beyond the limits of those subject groupings. Their desks are piled high with papers to mark, they concentrate on what students know rather than on what they are learning. They teach from well-rehearsed notes and use a few trusted resources,

usually books. Teachers with ideas for innovation and experimentation are distrusted, and roadblocks to change are well known and used often.

When a principal chooses to move a school out of the industrial age paradigm it is essential to understand that this is a major change and will be a difficult process which may take up to five years. Change means doing things differently. Change relies for its credibility on notions and evidence that outcomes will improve when schools adjust to their ever changing environment and the needs of that environment. Indeed, because of lag-time the best schools anticipate the needs of future citizens. Once this is understood it is assumed that the change process will be fraught with such things as uncertainty, risk-taking, power shifts, and that those teachers who are change agents must be given the resources and authority to drive change.

Inflexibility is the antithesis of innovation and principals who strive for quality schools will focus on this roadblock as enemy number one. Some of the common inflexibilities are:

- fixed and short lesson time
- tight subject divisions
- teaching from one or two textbooks
- small classrooms with large class sizes
- a paucity of scheduled time for collaborative (curriculum and topic) planning
- a lack of articulated whole school approach to information literacy
- an over emphasis on assessment rather than on learning
- a lack of quality mentoring and professional development opportunities
- the isolation and inappropriate use of specialist teachers
- the underdevelopment and inefficient management of school-based information services
- a paucity of technical and clerical support to free teachers from “busy-work”
- a lack of a policy making and decision making processes (including delegation)

To the extent that a principal is able to define staffing needs and hire staff s/he would be looking to employ people who could provide evidence that they were already committed to:

- life-long learning
- the belief that learning is the central activity of both individual students and teachers and the school as a whole
- collaborative practices as the major plank in a school’s culture
- continuous improvement as a benchmark of lifelong learning
- leadership as a force (rather than a position) that is distributed and shared

As a totality these characteristics are identifiable in leaning communities, that are based on management practices, such as teaming, networking and action research, that unlock the true value of the individual, that seek to manage knowledge (Senge 1990).

The way a community manages and structures knowledge transfer evolves proportionately with changes in the relationship of education to technology and information. Hanson (2000) notes that the paradigm of knowledge management goes

much further than the hardwiring of best practice. Knowledge management is about people, their work practices and their work culture, and comprises four basic knowledge processes:

- developing new knowledge
- securing new and existing knowledge
- distributing knowledge
- combining available knowledge.

Hanson develops her thesis in her proposition that:

The most powerful “knowing” occurs as a result of interaction, or knowledge conversion, between tacit and explicit knowledge. Explicit knowledge is formal knowledge that can be packaged as information. Tacit knowledge is personal knowledge embedded in individual experiences and shared and exchanged through direct face-to-face contact. Explicit knowledge on the other hand must be decoded and recoded into one’s mental model, where it is then internalised as tacit knowledge. Explicit knowledge defines the identity, the competencies and the intellectual assets of an organisation independently of its employees, but it can only grow and sustain itself through a rich background of tacit knowledge (Borghoff and Pareschi 1998; Davenport and Prusak 1998; Sveiby 1997).

When applied to a school, or any organisation, these concepts refer to the sum total experience and learning residing within the community of practice. The goal, according to Borghoff and Pareschi (1998) is not to maximise knowledge development, storage, distribution and combination, but to improve the organisation’s ability to grow and adapt in response to the changing circumstances of the macro environment.

To the extent that schools are developing learning communities they are ready for the emerging phenomenon that Koenig (1998) describes as the Faster Learning Organisation (FLO). The FLO idea reflects a shift in emphasis from transaction processing to an emphasis on systems that support competencies for communication building, people networks, and on-the-job learning.

KM is much more than an advanced application of “wired workplaces”. Davenport and Prusak (1998) for example, are cautious about the limits of technological solutions (skills in identifying, classifying and organising information, in conjunction with ICTs) implying that the real work of knowledge managers is “watercooler talk” where people are seen as the most important repositories of knowledge.

During a discussion on an online forum about KM, Anantatmula (2001) supports this view of the importance of the watercooler notion of KM in the claim that KM is about applying technology, management processes, best practices, and *company culture* (my emphasis) to transfer knowledge and connect those who possess knowledge to those who do not.

So how is schooling in Hong Kong responding to this paradigm shift? Learning to learn (2000) identifies the teacher librarian as a key agent for change. This may seem like strange thinking but is in fact enlightened. As schools are re-engineered to become flexible places where the focus is on students learning how to learn interdependently, and on teachers as guides on the side rather than sages on the stage, the role of information leaders becomes critical.

[Scenario 1] When the role of the teacher was to impart a body of “knowledge” from a textbook to a student brain (word for word) what was needed was the textbook, the teacher, a teaching space, and rules of discipline.

[Scenario 2] When the role of the teacher is to create an environment in which students think about their learning, learn at their own pace and in their own way, with an emphasis on exploring point of view and seeking evidence rather than on merely accepting opinion, what is needed is time for planning and collaboration among teachers and for physical and intellectual access to a wide range of appropriate information resources.

[Scenario 3] When teachers work in isolated places and have few opportunities for meaningful interaction, their knowledge leaves when they leave the organization.

[Scenario 4] When a school recognizes that knowledge creation is its most important asset it invests resources and time to create a “watercooler culture” where the rewards mechanism is tied to the building of a collaborative KM culture.

Scenario 1 paints a picture of a group of individual teachers doing their own thing pretty much in isolation from each other. This is the “Teacher as King” world. Teachers have their own thing to do and don’t need to know what other colleagues are doing. Scenario 2 paints a picture of a team of teachers, where whole school policy and planning become critical to success.

Scenario 1 schools really don’t need information services and certainly don’t need a teacher librarian. In scenario 2 schools the provision of quality information services and the collegial role of the teacher librarian are critical underpinnings of student learning.

Scenario three schools waste time and resources recreating knowledge or fall back on simple rote learning techniques that require small investments. Scenario four schools have learned that KM culture-building is a dynamic way to create a living model of what teachers are attempting to preach through the curriculum.

The evidence for the positive correlation between school information services, that capture knowledge, and student achievement is mounting as can be seen in a number of US studies available at [http://www.lrs.org/html/about/school\\_studies.html](http://www.lrs.org/html/about/school_studies.html)

The most recent study conducted by Ester Smith for the Texas State Library and Archives Commission [www.tsl.state.tx.us/ld/pubs/schlibsurvey/index.html](http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/ld/pubs/schlibsurvey/index.html) confirmed findings from earlier studies in Colorado, Pennsylvania, Alaska, and Massachusetts.

Among other findings in Texas:

- Texas Assessment of Academic Skills (TAAS) performance was associated at the elementary school level with substantial investments in library resources over the past decade.
- At the middle school level, teacher librarian collaboration with classroom teachers in design and development of instructional units was associated with higher student academic performance.



- At the high school level, larger library resource collections, access to a wide variety of resource formats, and teacher librarian collaboration for instructional development and leadership in provision of staff development were associated with stronger student performance.

The development of quality information services does not happen by chance and cannot be provided by under-qualified staff, by class teachers in their spare time, or by a teacher librarian who is weighed down with extra unrelated responsibilities such as subject teaching and pastoral roles.

An exemplary principal who wants knowledge-society information services should:

- Articulate and communicate a vision of the preferred future that includes a collaborative culture with a problem solving focus.
- Provide a blue print for change as part of the school development plan.
- Connect key innovations under a common approach to diffusion.
- Make information literacy a policy issue.
- Provide pressure (expectations) and support (time and resources for training and professional development) to enable the achievement of the vision.
- Expect and reward collaborative endeavors such as team planning. Expect the teacher librarian to make this a high priority.
- Place an emphasis on the equipping of staff to understand the change process. Encourage risk-taking and allow mistakes.
- Appoint only the best teachers to the position of teacher librarian. To that end ensure that they possess (or are in the process of gaining) tertiary qualifications in teacher librarianship to manage information services. Ensure that they have leadership skills and credibility among colleagues.

Principals who appoint teachers, who have appropriate credentials and personal characteristics, to the position of teacher librarian and who support a culture of collegiality will help create schools where classroom learning looks quite different from the practices of a decade ago. In a modern school the teacher librarian, as an information leader, will work closely with teaching colleagues to ensure that all teachers and students are mastering the processes of becoming informed and enthusiastically building a KM culture.

## **Bibliography**

Amidon, D. M. (1997). *Innovation strategy for the knowledge economy: the Ken awakening*. Boston: Butterworth-Heinemann.

Anantatmula, Vittal (2001) My definition of KM.  
[http://km.gwu.edu/km/bb\\_view.cfm?postid=241](http://km.gwu.edu/km/bb_view.cfm?postid=241) (accessed 15<sup>th</sup> November 2001).

Borghoff, U. M. and Pareschi, R. (eds.) (1998). *Information technology for knowledge management*. New York: Springer.

Davenport, T. H. and Prusak, L. (1998). *Working knowledge: how organizations manage what they know*. Boston: Harvard Business School.

Hanson, K. (2000). Knowledge management: Interaction not transaction. In Hay, L. and Henri, J. (eds.). *Enter the millennium. Information services in schools*. Wagga Wagga, NSW: Centre for Studies in Teacher Librarianship, Charles Sturt University, 206-210.

Koenig, M. E. D. (1998). Information driven management concepts and themes: a toolkit for librarians. Munchen: K. G. Saur.

Kuhn, O. and Abecker, A. (1998). Corporate memories for knowledge management in industrial practice: Prospects and challenges. In Borghoff, U.M. and Pareschi, R. (eds.) Information technology for knowledge management. New York: Springer.

LRS school library media impact studies  
[http://www.lrs.org/html/about/school\\_studies.html](http://www.lrs.org/html/about/school_studies.html) (accessed 15<sup>th</sup> November 2001).

Senge, P.M. (1990). The Fifth discipline: the art and practice of the learning organization. New York: Bantam Doubleday Dell.

Tapscott, Don. (1996). Growing up digital: The Rise of the Net Generation. NY: McGraw Hill.

Smith, Ester G. (2001). Texas School Libraries: Standards, Resources, Services, and student performance. [www.tsl.state.tx.us/ld/pubs/schlibsurvey/index.html](http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/ld/pubs/schlibsurvey/index.html) (accessed 15<sup>th</sup> November 2001).

Sveiby, K.E. (1997). The New organizational wealth: managing and measuring knowledge-based assets. San Francisco: Berrett-Koehler.

*James Henri can be contacted at [james@cite.hku.hk](mailto:james@cite.hku.hk) and course information can be found at <http://www.cite.hku.hk/>*

# WORK MOTIVATION IN JAPANESE BANKS: A HONG KONG STUDY

**Ms. Sanna Lee**

Department of Japanese Studies  
Swire Scholar, Robert Black College  
The University of Hong Kong

In the late 1990s, Asia was plagued with a number of economic and financial troubles. The Asian crisis caused many business closures in Southeast Asian countries, and high unemployment rates were reported in both Japan and Hong Kong. For decades, people believed that the emphasis in Japan on human resources had led to high productivity, good performance and strong commitment in the workplace. Recent structural re-engineering in Japanese banks in Hong Kong to replace the traditional systems of work motivation definitely calls for more careful examination.

Conventional approaches to work motivation involve extensive motivational theories, such as content theories, process theories and the reinforcement theories that provide the concepts and the frameworks needed to link motivation to Japanese management practices. Many people cast doubt on the feasibility of a wholesale transfer of Japanese management, considering its historical background in corporate familism and the contemporary images of Japanese companies being male-dominant, very disciplined and committed to work. Scholars from different schools of thoughts such as the culturalist school, rationalist school and HRM-Technology school, diagnosed the issue over several decades and have not yet come to much consensus. However, recent case studies in Southeast Asia pointed to the fact that it is important to bridge economic reasons and cultural considerations when we considering the wholesale transfer of Japanese management. This is supported by the findings of this survey in local Japanese banks, and that of the comparison made with 2 other studies on employee motivation.

While Japanese organisations are labeled as male-dominant, similar phenomena are observed in local companies. Male employees in general receive more attention from their supervisors and they are given more important tasks leading to better chances of promotion than female employees. In addition, Japanese male employees are found to exhibit greater satisfaction and motivation than local employees while local male managers are the least satisfied group. Data also suggests that the interaction between nationality and sex can affect the level of job satisfaction.

The wholesale transfer of Japanese management is not found in the local Japanese banks. The reasons are mostly economic ones. There have been a number of financial troubles in Asia and particularly those related to the financial sector such as banking. While job security is often expected to be the most important factor affecting work motivation, to Japanese employees, the opportunity for personal growth and development ranks top priority. In contrast, Hong Kong employees stay in their jobs mostly because of the good working hours. All these findings provide evidence that the applicability of motivational theories in cross-cultural settings is very limited if cultural factors are not taken seriously.

Besides the applicability of motivational theory, it is also important to note certain other phenomena of motivation. Certain relationships claimed by past researchers,

such as the U-shape relationship by Herzberg, do not always stay true. More recent studies have suggested that the validity of such relationships do not always hold firm. Other variables such as nationality, sex, education levels and job positions as we have found from the regression analysis of the employees in Japanese banks, also exert their influence on motivation at different stages of one's career. Managing motivation in a foreign company often needs to address more complex cross-cultural issues. Past researches have demonstrated the complexities and difficulties in identifying a universal formula for the relationships of job satisfaction. It is also important to acknowledge that motivation does not amount to job satisfaction. The former concerns more on how behavior get started, directed, as well as maintained, and is an on-going and dynamic process while the latter is more of the end product of a certain organisational practice but it does form an integral part of motivation. They do not directly lead to each other. Without interest or need, behavior is difficult to start; without support and guidance, behavior is difficult to direct; and without job satisfaction, behavior is difficult to maintain.

For organisations actively seeking improvement in light of growing global competitiveness, large-scale lay-offs without considering the co-ordination and workload of employees may be harmful to organisations and weaken their competitiveness and adaptability to the ever-changing economic world. Therefore, the careful retention of human resources becomes critical. Retaining experienced and promising employees is more likely if their needs and ideas are considered. This interest in them will motivate them. It is beyond the scope of my study to fully examine various motivational techniques and their effects in different industries. The following quotation summarises the purpose of motivation, applicable at both organisational level and individual level.

*All men seek one goal: success of happiness. The only way to achieve true success is to express yourself completely in service to society. First, have a definite, clear, practical ideal – a goal, an objective. Second, have the necessary means to achieve your ends – wisdom, money, materials and methods. Third, adjust your means to that end.*

*Aristotle, 384-322 B.C.*

# PUBLIC LECTURE CONTRIBUTED BY COLLEGE

## THE MAKING OF A FAVOURABLE IMPRESSION

**Professor Vincent W.S. Leung**

Emeritus Professor, The University of Hong Kong

### **Introduction**

Professor Ng, thank you very much for your kind introduction. You seem to know more about me than I know about myself.

Ladies and gentlemen, I know that in giving this seminar, once again I am going to tarnish my humble image. So let me first of all explain to you how I got myself into this embarrassing situation. Several months ago, I had a casual conversation with Professor C.C. Chan, the then Head of Department of Electrical & Electronic Engineering of the University of Hong Kong. Being not so humble as his predecessor, Professor Chan told me what a great job he was doing in his department. He then shook his head and lamented that he felt very sorry for the graduates and graduate students in his department and in Hong Kong generally. He continued to say, and I quote: “Many of our graduates are really very able and they know a great deal, but unfortunately they don’t know how to present themselves on important occasions. As a result, they don’t do justice to themselves and it is such a great pity”. Professor Chan and I immediately agreed that a seminar such as the one given here to-day was badly needed by the graduates. Professor Chan and I also immediately disagreed as to who should give the seminar. I thought Professor Chan should give the seminar because he is senior to me, being the President of the Hong Kong Institution of Engineers at the time. On the other hand, Professor Chan thought that I should give the seminar because of my being senior to him in age, even though I look much younger than he. So, we started to have a heated argument.

Ladies and gentlemen, now you know who has won the argument. I have specially designed this seminar today for all university graduates in Hong Kong, but I hope the seminar will also be useful to those of you who are still on the way up your career ladder. I have a feeling that that means most of you in the room since you all look very ambitious to me. By the way, I am very glad to see so many young faces here today. You remind me of the days when I was young once upon a time. Let me return to the subject of today’s seminar, which is about the making of favourable impressions. Here is a picture of a beautiful young lady on the screen. We can of course make a favourable impression on others by our appearance. Next is a photo of a handsome young man on the screen. In presenting to you the second photo, I want to show you that men too, can make a favourable impression by their appearance. However, I do not deny the fact that in this respect, women have an advantage over men because they have more to show. Nevertheless, appearance is only skin deep. Generally speaking, a favourable impression made by your good appearance is an asset in your career only if you are in the show business or if you are a model. In any case, I cannot help you very much on the subject of appearance as I am not very good at doing a facial for you. In all other professions, what you say weighs much heavier than how you look. So, I shall now drop the subject of good appearance and go on to talk about what you should say to make a favourable impression on others – in other words, to say the right thing, to the right people at the right time. Before going into the topic of the seminar,

let me say how happy I am today to be making a modest contribution to the University in the names of the Robert Black College and the Department of Electrical & Electronic Engineering. To these two units of the University I have given the best years of my life. At this juncture I would like to express my deep appreciation to Ms. Queenie Chan, Ms. Anita Siu, Mr. Sam Wong, Ms. Rita Woo and Mr. Lam Fung for organising the seminar for me.

### **To be known**

Ladies and gentlemen, I shall now go on to the subject of the seminar and I shall begin by quoting a Chinese proverb, which says:

在家靠父母  
出外靠朋友

meaning that: At home we rely on our parents.  
Away from home we rely on our friends.

To the above proverb, I would like to add:

立業靠人識

meaning that: To establish ourselves in society we rely on being known.

By the way, the third line is not part of the Chinese proverb but is a creation of mine for the seminar. But if after its birth today, it is repeated again and again, it may one day become part of the Chinese proverb. It is very important that you are known by important people. Here is an example. In the photo on the screen, the young man in the centre is supposed to be me, although I don't look like him any more. The young lady shaking hands with me in the photo is the Queen of England. The only reason why I show you this photo is that I want you to have confidence in what I am going to say on making yourself known to important people and that what I say is based on fact and not imagination. By the way, please do not get me wrong. I am not encouraging you to make connections with the rich and the powerful (otherwise known as 搞關係) in order to "enter the house by the back door" (otherwise known as 走後門). I would consider this kind of behaviour highly deplorable as it is against the noble principle of fair play.

## **Conferences**

### **(a) Cocktail party**

Ladies and gentlemen, as a new graduate or a junior member of a profession, one of the best opportunities for you to impress the right people lies in your attendance of conferences. You will have plenty of such opportunities as the world to-day is full of conferences. I shall now discuss with you what you can do to impress other delegates in a conference. Let me take the example of an international conference and I shall begin at the beginning. The first function of an international conference is probably a welcome reception in the form of a cocktail party. Cocktail parties are part of Western culture but they are new to the traditional Chinese way of life. One of the major purposes of holding a cocktail party is to enable the participants to get to know each other. The drinks and the food are of secondary importance, so don't spend too much time eating and drinking at the party. In the cocktail lounge, the hosts and guests usually form themselves into small groups. People standing in each group will chat among themselves although they may not know each other. You should go from

group to group, giving priority to the groups where there are people you wish to meet. After introducing yourself to a group you can “break the ice” by asking the views of the people in the group on some current affairs in the news. If you are interested in getting to know a particular person in a group, you can exchange name cards with the person before you move on to the next group. Do not linger in any particular group for too long and do not spend too much time talking to people you already know very well. Otherwise, you will not be making the best use of your time at the cocktail party. After the party, you can examine the name cards you have collected and decide on the desirability and possibility of keeping contact with some of your new acquaintances.

**(b) Plenary session**

Ladies and gentlemen, assuming that you did not get drunk at the cocktail party, you will probably be attending the plenary session of the conference the following morning. The plenary session is the big meeting of the conference open to all conference delegates to attend. There will be the opening speech and the keynote speeches. You should read the texts of one or two of these speeches the night before the plenary session if they are already printed. Form your opinion on one or two issues raised in the speeches. Try to arrive early at the plenary session and find a seat just behind the rows of reserved seats at the front so that your hand can catch the chairman’s eyes when it is raised at question time. Gather sufficient courage to be the first or second person to raise your hand in response to the chairman’s call for questions after one of the speakers has just finished speaking. Make a short and sharp prepared statement on some points made in his speech. Although you have already read the text of his speech, you should make your statement to appear to be spontaneous. The statement should **either** be constructive, i.e. with suggestions supplementing the ideas put forward by the speaker **or** be controversial, i.e. with criticisms and reservations on his ideas. If your statement is made with a sense of humour, it will be even more impressive. When the chairman first calls for questions, there is usually a moment of awkward silence in the room. He will be more than happy to let you have the microphone. However, if you have waited and your hand is among a number of hands raised, the chairman will choose to give the microphone to someone senior to you or better known than you despite your raised hand. Also the audience will pay more attention to you if you are the first or second “questioner” to speak at the meeting.

Ladies and gentlemen, what I have said about speaking at a plenary session of a conference came from an experience I personally had when I was a very junior member of staff of the University of Hong Kong. Let me share my experience with you. Many years ago, I was the most junior member of a four-man delegation from the University of Hong Kong to attend the Commonwealth Universities Congress in Sydney. Each university delegation was led by its Vice-Chancellor. At the congress, there were over 1,200 delegates and over 120 Vice-Chancellors and Presidents. Since I was a small fish among many big fishes, I was not assigned any duty to perform at this high-powered congress. As I believe that in life we should give and take, I decided to justify my attendance of the congress by speaking briefly at the plenary session. So, I sat on a strategic seat at the session, raised my hand as soon as questions were invited from the floor and made a seemingly spontaneous controversial statement on the theme of the congress which was:

## “The Need to Expand University Education Universally”

While all the speakers spoke in favour of changing some current sub-degree courses into degree courses, I put forward a critical view and I urged that in university education, we must not promote quantity at the expense of quality. Being a controversial view, a leading Australian newspaper picked it up and used my brief remarks as the heading of its article on the congress the following morning. The newspaper heading read:

“Academic from Hong Kong Urges Upkeeping Standard in University Education”

That was the only time during the congress when the word “Hong Kong” appeared in the Australian press reporting the congress. Incidentally, our Vice-Chancellor at the time was one of the most broad-minded Vice-Chancellors in the history of the University of Hong Kong. Instead of telling me off for stealing the limelight, he congratulated me for what I did in making the name of our University known to the Australian public. Whether he shared my controversial view on the issue I would never know.

### (c) Parallel sessions

Ladies and gentlemen, after the plenary session come the parallel sessions where you will probably be one of the speakers. These sessions are relatively small and each of them is attended by delegates with the same specialised interests. I shall now discuss with you what you can do as a speaker to impress the audience in a parallel session. Your presentation may be divided into four parts, namely:

1. Preparation
2. Opening Remarks
3. Core of the Paper and
4. Closing Remarks

I shall speak briefly on each part in turn. First the preparation: By preparation, I don't mean the preparation of your paper or the audio-visual materials which are of course also very important and you have to prepare them well. By preparation here, I mean your psychological preparation. As you walk into the meeting room, you should build up your confidence by reminding yourself that this is the moment you have come to the conference for, that you will soon be the star on the stage, and that you are going to shine. In your opening remarks, your first couple of sentences should be designed to catch the attention of your audience. In my opening remarks today, you may remember that I started by cracking jokes on Professor Ng, myself and Professor Chan. These jokes are meant to catch your attention. Let me give you one example of humorous opening remarks with which you can begin your presentation in a parallel session. Here it is:

“Ladies and gentlemen, I have good news and bad news for you. First the bad news: The bad news is that the senior author of the paper, Professor Lee, is busily engaged in Hong Kong and cannot join us here today. I am sorry you have to put up with me. Now the good news: The good news is that Professor Lee has promised to stand by with his mobile phone in Hong Kong for the next three hours to answer your questions. But you have to pay for your telephone calls to Hong Kong”.

Next, your first video projection should also be designed to catch the attention of the audience. You may remember that my first video projection to-day was a beautiful



young lady. I hope I have succeeded in catching your attention by showing you what you did not expect to see, namely the photo of a beautiful young lady on the screen. Now I shall move on to the next part of your presentation which is the core of your paper. In order to impress the audience, try not to bore them with details of your work. Just point out to them the following: anything significant in your research, any new knowledge you have found, any new techniques you have developed or any discoveries you have made. The audience will be impressed if you have pushed forward the frontier of knowledge, if you have advanced the state of the art in the subject, if you have established new theories, or if you have discovered new applications on existing theories. Since the nature of a paper differs from paper to paper, you have to decide on the salient points in your paper and present them to the audience.

After the core of your paper come your closing remarks. Since these are the last words of your presentation, they are very important. In this part of the presentation, you should talk about your future plan and where your present work will lead to. The idea is that you want to interest some delegates in the audience to work in your field or even to collaborate with you in your research. There is a tendency today that all major research projects in the world are carried out by a group or a team of researchers. Also if you succeed in getting someone in the audience interested in doing work related to your field of research, your work will be quoted as a reference. As you know, the more your work is quoted, the better known you will become in your profession. Finally, the last sentence in your closing remarks should be a sentence for the audience to remember. Similarly, you should also design your last video projection in such a way that it will stay in the mind of your audience for a long time to come.

During the rest of the parallel session, you will be part of the audience. Since the audience is rather small, asking a question at the end of a presentation in a parallel session may not produce a significant impact. If you are interested in getting to know one of the speakers, you should prepare a question to put to him at the coffee break after he has presented his paper. You may begin your conversation by congratulating the speaker on his presentation before asking your question. He will be charmed by your praise and he will be happy to get to know you. An exchange of visits between you and the speaker may follow and the visits may even lead to co-operation and joint projects.

#### **(d) Head hunting**

In certain countries such as the United States, it is well known that large commercial and industrial companies from time to time send their head hunters to major conferences to look for suitable heads to hunt to fill vacancies in their companies. These head hunters usually look for their targets among the speakers in the parallel sessions. After they have identified their targets they will approach them at coffee breaks. Personally, I had one such experience first-hand many years ago when I was still in my employable age attending a conference in New York. At the coffee break after I presented my paper, I was approached by a head hunter who was interested in my head. Our brief talk was followed by a rendezvous in a restaurant where I was offered a job in his company on the spot. It seems to me that something like that has happened to our recent Dean of Engineering. His head was hunted after he had made several favourable impressions on the little superman of Hong Kong. We all wish him

good luck in his new post as Senior Vice-President in the biggest telecommunications company in Hong Kong.

### **(e) Conference dinner**

Towards the end of an international conference, there is usually a conference dinner held in an elegant restaurant or banquet hall. I know some of you may find the conference dinner rather expensive. Nevertheless, you should make a point to attend the conference dinner even if you have to borrow money to pay for it. You see, the dinner will provide you with another good opportunity to impress some more conference delegates you are interested in. You will probably be given free seating at the dinner since you are not senior enough to be seated at the head table. By this time, you will have in mind several conference delegates whom you would like to impress but you have not yet had a chance to do so. When the dinner bell rings and the guests begin to approach the dining tables, you just follow one or two of the guests, whom you have chosen to impress, to their table and find a seat close to them, i.e. close enough to be able to engage in a conversation with them. Since the dinner will last for a couple of hours and your conversation cannot last that long, there will be moments of awkward silence at the dining table. This is your opportunity to impress all the diners at your table by telling them one or two dinner jokes.

Ladies and gentlemen, to show that I practise what I preach, I shall now tell you a couple of jokes which I have told at conference dinners. Here is the first joke: Several years ago, I attended an international conference at a famous holiday resort and I was a speaker at a morning parallel session. After registration, the first morning session began and there was a full audience in the meeting room. As the first speaker was presenting his paper, people in the audience began to leave the room, presumably turning themselves into tourists. By the time the first speaker finished his presentation, half of the people in the audience had left the room. I went up to the stage as the second speaker of the session to present my paper. As I was very absorbed with my presentation, I did not notice the continual disappearance of the audience. When I finished my presentation and switched on the light, I saw only one person left in the audience sitting in the front row. I put up a brave face, walked towards the person, shook his hand and said to him: "It is so nice of you to stay on to support me. I am glad that at least one person is interested in my presentation". The man said in his reply: "Dr. Leung, please do not be mistaken. I am not interested in your presentation at all. I have to stay on in the room because I am the next speaker".

Let me tell you another joke related to conferences. On another occasion, I attended an international conference in Nice, in the South of France. Being a family man and a good husband, I wanted to send an e-mail home to my wife in Hong Kong. As I did not have a notebook computer with me, I wrote my e-mail message on a piece of paper and gave it to the conference staff to send it to my wife. My e-mail message read: "Darling, I am having a wonderful time. Wish you were here". When I returned home, my wife greeted me at the door with two slaps on my face. I was puzzled and asked her what the matter was. She showed me the e-mail she received from me which read: "Darling, I am having a wonderful time. Wish you were her".

### **Interviews**

Ladies and gentlemen, I shall now leave the subject of conferences and go on to discuss with you how you can make a favourable impression at an interview. You will

probably have to pass over the hurdle of an interview when you apply for a job, a promotion, a grant or loan and a fellowship or scholarship. Firstly when you go to attend an interview, you should assume that you have a reasonable chance of success. My guess is that your chance is between 1 in 2 and 1 in 5. As the interviewers are very busy people, they only want to see candidates who have a chance to succeed. Whether your application is a success or a failure almost entirely depends on your performance at the interview, in other words, on how favourable an impression you can make on the interviewing panel. Preparation for the interview is therefore of the utmost importance. An interview is like an oral examination. Find out the personal data of the interviewers from their homepages and other sources. From their background and interests you can anticipate all the possible questions and think of the answers the interviewers are interested to hear. Treat the interview as a dialogue. Keep your eyes on the interviewer whose question you are answering. Do not speak for too long on any particular question and allow time for other interviewers to ask their questions. If you have questions to ask or requests to make, refrain from doing so unless you are asked to do so. You can always reject an offer if your conditions for accepting the offer are not met. Remember it is much better for you to reject their offer than for them to reject your application.

### **Elections**

Next, I shall turn to the subject of elections. Some of the administrative positions in many institutions, associations, societies, or even educational establishments are elected posts. I shall now discuss with you how you can impress members of an electing body in order to obtain their votes. Your first objective is again to make yourself known to members of the organisation. You can do so by making very brief remarks once (preferably only once) at each of the regular (i.e. monthly or bi-monthly) meetings. For example, you will be appreciated if you can put forward a compromise between two different solutions advocated at a meeting. Next, you should make a contribution to the organisation by making a constructive proposal at one of these meetings that will benefit the members or the organisation as a whole. If the proposal is accepted, be prepared to offer your voluntary service to implement your proposal. If the time you make your proposal is near an election of the organisation, so much the better. When the election for a key position comes, you will appear in the minds of the electorate who will be inclined to give you their votes. So far I have been saying that you can make a favourable impression by what you say. That is not to say that you should say something for the sake of saying something. Indeed, you can make a fool of yourself by saying the wrong thing. As a Chinese proverb says, 獻醜不如藏拙, meaning that "It is better to make no impression than to make a bad impression".

### **Impressive writing**

Speaking is of course not the only means by which you can make a favourable impression on others. You can impress others by your writing as well. To do so you will have to have a good command of the language in which you write. You have to use articulate words, phrases, clauses and sentences when you write your letters, notes, messages, e-mails and publications. I believe that language skill, in both English and Chinese, can be acquired by self-learning up to a reasonably high level. The way to do so is to imitate the good writers, in other words write the way they write. This you can do by reading a paragraph, say of several hundred words, of an article written by a good writer every day for a period of time. After reading the paragraph, put the article away and try to write in your own words the same message

in the paragraph you have just read. After you have written your paragraph, compare yours with that written by the good writer. Observe the difference and rewrite the paragraph in the form written by the good writer. Try to remember to use the new way in expressing yourself in writing. If you do that daily for several months, you will become a reasonably good writer yourself. A well-written document is undoubtedly a great asset when it comes to impressing others. But you have to make an effort to acquire the skill.

### **Changing times**

Ladies and gentlemen, I have just described to you some techniques I have personally used to make favourable impressions on various people whose paths I have crossed in my career. I know that time has changed and I know that you and I hold different views on the meaning of life. While you and I may share the common belief in hardworking which is a traditional virtue in Chinese culture, we probably attach different values to our lives. For example: In my time, people believe in saving hard for the rainy day. But to-day, you believe in paying hard with your credit card. Also, in my time, people were more conservative. But to-day, you are more liberal, with your body and soul. Many of the ways and means I have used to impress others have been found to be effective, at least in my time. If you are convinced by what I have said, you may first try them out and if necessary modify them to meet the needs of your era.

### **From ordeal to pleasure**

Ladies and gentlemen, I realise that some of the measures I have suggested that you should take may be chores or even ordeals to you. Let me put your mind at ease by telling you one of the stories of my life. I have a brother, and when we were young we used to encourage each other. Like me, he was rather thoughtful but unlike me, he was very wise. Once my brother gave me the following advice. He said: "In life, sometimes we have to force ourselves to do things that we don't like to do. But after we have done the chores seriously for a while, the chores will become routines and before long we shall begin to enjoy the routines. For example, we may hate to take the initiative to talk to stranger after stranger at a cocktail party. But after we have done so a few times we shall get used to the routine, and soon we shall begin to enjoy the routine. Hopefully before too long, others will take their initiative to talk to us to try to impress us at the cocktail parties". For those of you in the room who are on the giving end of favourable impressions, you can be comforted by the thought that your period of agony will not be so long. I can assure you that any effort you make in this direction will be well rewarded. For the others in the room who are already on the receiving end of favourable impressions, I thank you kindly for your patience and endurance during the last hour. The time for you to make your contributions on the subject is about to come. We are all very eager to hear your views which I am sure will greatly enrich the seminar.

Ladies and gentlemen, thank you all very much for coming to support the function.

I WISH YOU A VERY BRIGHT FUTURE.

祝君 前途似錦

*A Chinese version of the speech can be obtained from the Robert Black College Office or accessed in the College homepage: <http://www.hku.hk/rblack>.*



***CONTRIBUTIONS  
IN OTHER LANGUAGES***

# 柏立基夜之園

編者

噓——請放低你的聲息，請放慢你的腳步，請挽住你伙伴的手，請今夜挽得格外溫柔……

今晚，我們來到柏立基夜之園裏，你聽一聽吧

聽一聽她們怎麼說，  
那些睡着了的的花朵；  
她們無限溫暖的睡意，  
是沐在今夜的月光裏；  
請聽一聽那“歷史的腳步”聲  
如何從柏立基園穿越；  
讓我們在此時回憶愛情  
回憶鄉愁  
回憶起“你的含羞”；  
“當東方遇到西方”，  
我們的回憶是在“藍色的柏立基”  
與密林深處  
那一處幽暗的梅堂。

## • 古詩 •

# 八花齊放

梁子光

### 引言

作者梁子光，字炳光。清末舉人，曾參與維新運動。一生博學，善書法。生前著詩四百餘首，其詩文雅而句字美。擇取八篇，曰“八花齊放”，以饗讀者。詩中古文詞句由朱安群教授註解。

讀他的詩，彷彿是信步踱入了幽暗的夜之園，花香蟲吟，月淡而風清。令你不禁要放低了聲，放緩了步，放飛了思緒……去跟隨他，在那久遠的年代裏遊弋；你不禁要俯下身，去品那奇異的香，去嘗那珍奇的果；去感懷“無限晚愁飛一片”的梨花心，去慨嘆“不盡天涯不盡風”的離別情。

詩人的筆是白流蘇，是玉嬌蕊，是絢爛斑斕如“日斜紅雨”，“翠蓋青翰”；詩人的筆又是炙炷沉香，是泉清水冽如“冷蝶宿枝”，“冰葦銀床”；詩人寫花，寫“青紫蔥蘢”花之色，寫“障面裁紈”、“當心掛鏡”花之形，寫“朝來小玉開屏立，浴罷昭儀隔帳看”花之態，其實是寫人，其實是寫詩人敏感而多情的心；其實是灼熱的激情，是“既含弟兮又宜笑”，是“子慕予兮善窈窕”；不禁使我們想知道在那樣一個寂寞而又動盪的年代裏，詩人究竟是懷着怎樣一顆高貴又憂傷的心，去嘆這園中的花開花落？去看這世間的冷暖無常？

抑或是應了那樣一句話，“我們的文明，無論是升華還是浮華，有一天都將成為過去？”抑或是還存在着某種奢望，有某些珍貴的感情能永遠於世間？

### 首夏見芙蓉花

芙蓉花葉雨輕明，	青紫蔥蘢碧水冥。
倚杖露光沾袖凍，	過橋吟影入溪停。
夷猶南浦春波後，	彷彿秋風卯酒醒。
翠蓋青翰越人有，	為君時有櫂歌聽。

#### 註解

夷猶：猶豫，徘徊不前。

南浦：泛指送別之地。

卯酒：晨酒。

櫂歌：船上歌聲。

翠蓋青翰：翠蓋——綠色的傘蓋，指荷葉；翰——毛筆。荷葉荷花未開時像綠筆。



## 梨花

梅花去後人間月，  
夜色銀屏鎖兒女，  
霧迷甲帳仙無質，  
無限晚愁飛一片，

只有梨花得二分。  
曉寒粉蝶落風裙。  
兩重春樓夢有雲。  
謝他穠李太紛紛。

### 註解

銀屏、粉蝶：狀梨花之白。  
無質：形容梨花體態輕盈。  
晚愁：春晚花飛引發愁緒。

## 柳花

不盡天涯不盡風，  
多生離恨諸天上，  
魚嚼斷萍吹碧沫，  
春窗兒女陽春怨，

水村西外夕陽東。  
弱夢情人三月中。  
燕私連袂覆香絨。  
曳雪牽雲送玉驄。

### 註解

柳花飄飛是離別的象徵，故云“曳雪牽雲送玉驄”。“柳絲長，玉驄難系”，引伸出兒女離別之怨。

## 白茶花

剪雪層層膩葉盤，  
朝來小玉開屏立，  
解語授經應般若，  
仙家品格無柔骨，

月光無色但增寒。  
浴罷昭儀隔帳看。  
非珠明夜定琅玕。  
合詠華山女道冠。

### 註解

小玉：常用作美侍女的名子。  
昭儀：宮中女官。這裏“小玉”“昭儀”，借美女描白茶花之美好姿態。  
琅玕：美玉，有時借指翠竹。

## 繡球花

宋玉家無糞土牆，  
中邊星月銀灣曉，  
障面裁紈秋怨別，  
蓬飛白首朱門客，

諸花圍繞葉琅琅。  
濁澤瓊瑤玉水香。  
當心掛鏡爛生光。  
蔓引嫖姚蹴鞠場。

### 註解

宋玉：美男子，用以喻繡球花的美麗。

障面裁紈：遮面的圓形小扇，用絲織品裁製而成。

掛鏡：與上句說的團扇均呈圓形，用以比況繡球花。

嫖姚：官名。漢霍光曾任嫖姚校尉。這裏借指勁疾勇悍者。

蹴鞠：踢球。由繡球花聯想而及。

## 桃花

往歲桃花西隔鄰，  
即今春色催行客，  
風攬餘寒猶慘淡，  
得非青鳥啣來種，

日斜紅雨送青春。  
卻是花間作主人。  
日趨傷別與逡巡。  
細數殘開報老親。

### 註解

趨：是趨的簡寫。

青鳥：指傳信使者。

## 墨蘭

淡韻濃姿祇易尋，  
不留夜月單燈影，  
空色緇塵忘垢淨，  
單元更與通元悟，

墨蘭真賞絕幽深；  
先得春風得畫心。  
陸離長劍合陰沉；  
通坐聞香靜不禁。

## 對菊

雲露清深袷袂涼，  
秋須好月矜幽素，  
冷蝶宿枝如問病，  
三年舉室爇齋禁，

吟肩孤鶴對孤芳。  
晚綴疏花故靜香。  
徵君斷酒恐嫌狂。  
乞我留侯辟穀香。

## 在寂寞裡謝去的花朵

王雪萊 中國·湖北

### (一)

陽光蒸乾了我的幻想  
輕飄的風吹開我無力的翅膀  
可是我不能夠飛翔  
不能夠飛翔……

我的雙翅已在狂風裡折斷

輕盈的蒲公英在半天裡等待  
陽光把溫暖的回憶藏滿了胸懷  
我的夢像昨夜的波光  
昨夜的波光……

破碎的花瓣  
不經意地撒在路間

可是我還是渴望  
我渴望飛翔  
我的雙翅將在狂風裡優美地  
折斷

### (二)

晨霧輕輕推開紗窗  
風把花香堆了滿床  
在寂寞裡悄悄謝去了的花朵  
其實那並非你的過錯……

……

其實那並非你的過錯  
你只是在寂寞裡睡去了的花朵  
風把花香堆了滿床  
晨霧輕輕推開紗窗……

## 鄉愁

王雪萊 中國·湖北

如今我在這紅土的異鄉  
鄉愁可不就是我離斷的愁腸  
我的微笑着的望著你的眼睛  
藏起我所有的失落與惆悵

你的素白的盪動着的裙衣  
模糊成我眼裡一團銀色的霧雨  
微風輕漾着綻開你的笑顏  
輕輕引我走向你的近前

我指望與你重踏那幽深的小路  
携你幽蔽在密林深處  
只恐秋深已落是滿地芳菲  
歸來獨留我一路裡傷悲

我嘆一聲：這南國雨可不就是我心頭淚  
夢裡只笑我痴戀着的那一回

## 問夜

黛丫 中國·南京

夜的來臨  
石榴上淡淡的紅暈；  
是猶豫着的羞澀  
等待遠方歸客？  
是遲來的矜恃  
恨不該與你相識。

## 無題

你的含羞  
像夢幻  
痴迷了我的目光……

清風  
掠過湖面  
吹去了遙遠的江南

誰牽着你的手  
走在你的身後？  
穿過山崗  
穿過青青的草地  
……

“你怎麼知道我沒有詩意？”

過去了好多年  
過去了的  
是時間，  
和沉留下來無邊的  
懷念……

## 歷史的腳步

金萍 中國·北京

我出生在北京。在這座充滿帝王之氣的北方城市裡，京腔京韻伴隨着秋去春來，我年復一年地長大。儘管從沒有長時間遠離過京城，但在“老北京”的眼中，我仍算不上是一個地道的北京人，因為在我的血脈中，早已深深地烙下了江南祖先的基因。於是江南故鄉便成了我魂繫夢牽的地方。

在一個細雨綿綿的秋日，我終於踏上了尋訪故鄉的旅程。

江南故地位於臨近上海的杭嘉湖平原上，物產豐富，人傑地靈，素有“漁米之鄉”、“人間天堂”的美譽。早在遠古時期，祖先們就繁衍生息在這片富饒的土地上，至今還廣為傳頌的大禹及西施都是這方水土養育的傑出人物的代表。漫步在江南故鄉的土地上，古鎮、小橋、流水、人家，籠罩在瀰漫的兩霧裡，構成一幅淡淡的水墨畫，引得人尋古覓幽之情勃發。我不由自主地踏進了一座座深宅大院的門：小蓮莊、嘉業藏書樓、張氏故居……，經歷了一個多世紀的風風雨雨，這裡早已是人去樓空，但那設計獨特的西洋樓、豪華的水晶吊燈、至今在歐洲已失傳的彩繪玻璃，以及藏錢財的密室和已被日本人燒毀大半的西式花園，都像是在默默地訴說着昔日主人們享受的奢華。這一切雖然都掩藏在高高的圍牆裡，但融匯了西式風格的建築，卻明顯地暗示了主人與外界不同尋常的聯繫。十九世紀中葉，伴隨着上海的開埠通商，杭嘉湖一帶成為當時世界最大的生絲產地和出口基地，在短短的幾十年間，全國半數以上的財富聚集到了這裡，今天我們所看到的只是這株大樹上的一個小枝杈而已。然而，到了二十世紀四、五十年代，由於眾所周知的原因，這裡的繁榮忽然消失、不復存在了。

坐在為遊人開闢的茶室裡，回味着淡淡的茶香，心裡略感一絲沉重。就在我還沉浸在歷史的感嘆中時，同行的鄉親與鄰座的客人已交談甚歡。我被他們的興致感染，也加入到其中。這時我才了解到，這些客人都是來自上海的客商，他們的工廠大多設在此地，產品行銷全國乃至全世界。如今上海已成為世界上發展最快的城市，其周邊一帶也成為最具吸引力的最佳投資地區。我的鄉親告訴我，他的工廠也有幾千人，除了技術人員是從上海請來的以外，其餘都是本地農民，農忙時回鄉耕種，其它時間在工廠工作。這樣的廠在這裡很多、很普遍，如今的“魚米之鄉”早已是輕、紡產品的生產和加工基地，且生意越來越紅火。聽着他們的交談，我不禁有一種輪

迴感，彷彿轉眼之間歷史的腳步在這裡兜了個圈，從這裡走開又重新回到這裡，然而這一來一回，人世間半個世紀過去了，這期間發生了多少故事，不得而知，只是這裡的鄉音依然是那樣動聽，這裡的山水依然是那樣美麗，這裡的人們依然是那樣勤奮，這裡的文化氣氛依然是那樣濃厚。我想，只要人們追求美好生活的精神不死，就像種子一樣，一遇到合適的土壤就會生根、長葉、開花。

寫到這裡，我不禁想到香港。由於工作的原因，近二十年來我一直關注着香港的發展和變化。但我從沒有像今天這樣深刻地體會到發自香港人內心的茫然與失落。香港的前途似乎看不清，港人的信心也一降再降。我覺得，回顧故鄉的興衰和香港的發展，這之間似乎有着某種必然的關聯，如果說故鄉的衰落正是香港發展的開始的話，那時的香港條件未必有多好；如果說現時故鄉的興旺是香港衰落的開始的話，現時的香港條件並不差。歷史的經驗告訴我們，發展的道路總是不平坦的，如果喪失了自信心，就如同喪失了發展的內在動力，要想得到歷史的眷顧，就必須跟上歷史的腳步。

# 藍色柏立基

## 當東方遇到西方

陳淑彬 馬來西亞·吉隆坡

藍色標誌着濤濤大海，寬敞的胸懷尚能容得下歷史的蒼涼。藍色柏立基，一種屬於非民族性，非國家觀念的標誌，正反映了這個城市過去的殖民遺跡、現在的不肯定以及開放的未來。

海島港灣落日的蒼茫被一種黎明般的微妙光芒洗刷，世事穿梭塵中，但覺萬境通明。這是在香江的第一個初夏，夜的蒼茫把我帶到悒悒藍色舊夢裡，追索着那個混沌的東方與西方。

### 夜來海上

我從柏立基學院走出來，在夜的邊緣遠眺島外廣闊的海洋，細數海上點點繁星。目睹迷離虛幻的萬丈燈火，彷彿多一盞或少一盞，都無損港島仲夏夜的絕美與悲涼。遼遼燈火，飄浮天上，盪漾水面，自戀似地相互輝映，虛虛實實地使人全然遺忘身在何處，但是不能遺忘的仍然是歷史沖刷的力量。

柏立基學院——第一個在香江下榻的地方。一個混雜着東方的外衣與西方鈕帶的古典建築，位於港島最高峰——扯旗山的西北坡，是香港大學專為研究生、訪問學者及短期研修人員提供的外賓樓。學院依山而立，上有克敦道，銜接景色怡人的薄扶林郊野公園；一路行來古樹幽幽，遙望維多利亞港灣的繁華舊夢，仿如葱葱莊園屹立於綠色的林海中，更顯得從容而淡雅。

學院建於1967年，見證了港大半世紀以來的變換。學院有着獨特的仿古建築，灰牆、紅門以及與海灣映映相襯的藍色琉璃瓦更是一種介於現代與傳統之間的美學構圖。

院內各樓宇間依山勢的變化錯落有致，長廊相連，迂迴跌宕。小宛、亭台供人憑欄遠眺，分享着港人夢寐以求的山覽海景——這也是港島的奇觀——一個座落在繁華都會裡的古典建築，在充塞着後現代建築的紅塵裡仍不失其悠遠的古雅魅力。

面對古典建築物被淘汰，藍色柏立基自有其值得保留的歷史意義。它見證了港大的成長、島嶼的過渡，並為世界各地的學者提供種種來與去的方便，在學術的流放與歸來之間，各式各樣的文化人也借此作為追尋文化身份的種種襯照。



## 歷史夾縫處

柏立基學校是個沒有國界的大家庭。學院乃為接待從世界各地遠道而來的文人學者而設。中西交融的文化氣息彷彿帶你回到了聯合國的大熔爐中。餐廳的飲食也是中西合璧的，每周特設的雞尾酒會更把學者們帶到了英殖民帝國時代的夢幻裡，把酒言歡，暢所欲言的文人交鋒之間終究離不開對昔日殖民文化的追思與緬懷。

這種藉着東方的外衣穿梭在雞尾酒會中尋找文化身份的認可，總是讓東方學者情不自禁地覺察到那種文化矛盾與曖昧，原是謎樣般的復雜。香港知識分子對自己身份的反省，自有其各種不同的態度。一種做法是與其他時空的比較來介定，或者從他人的關聯中回頭反省自己，從自己所“不是甚麼”來介定自己是甚麼。對於文化身份的追尋，往往亦從如何描繪“他人”開始。這“他人”可能是其他來到這個島嶼上的人，也可能是離開這片土地所遇到的種種不同的人。這種在茶餘飯後的交流同時也是香港人在歷史夾縫處尋找自我空間的出路。

香港的學術工作者對描繪他們獨特經驗裡的歷史，愈來愈感興趣。這也是在學院裡常碰到的問題。然而香港最獨特的，正是這種東西處於夾縫中的特性，以及對不純粹的根源或對根源本身不純粹性質的一種自覺。作為一個後殖民者，香港人普遍上的“東方”自我意識並不強，香港的日常生活與發展一早已被看成是“腐朽”的，所以香港對文化純潔性並沒有強烈的幻想，這個後殖民的城市知道自己是個雜種和孤兒，有如在被遺棄的歷史宿命成長，在東方與西方的夾縫中妥協求生存，這也是港人早已熟悉的生存哲學。香港不會以延續的純民族文化而自傲，反之，它的文化生產往往是一種特殊的協商，在這樣的協商形態中，正如其建築學的型號，在土牆與洋灰中尋找身份，穿梭周旋於東西方之間，抵御錯亂與曖昧，而始終不願淪為大英殖民主義或是中國權威主義的政治玩偶。

## 滄海茫茫

歷史沖刷的力量，再一次襲擊維多利亞港灣。時間並不沉默，百年前曾經被命運改造的香港，現在面臨的是歷史被改寫的時代。曾經以倫敦和北京兩個政治中心所構成的歷史主軸，看來是如此搖不可撼。在這兩個軸心之間所留下來的縫隙，正是

香港居民忙碌穿梭的空間。殖民島上的每一位子民，經過世代的競逐，無論如何還是不能掙脫宿命的安排。

藍色標誌着濤濤大海，寬敞的胸懷尚能容得下歷史的蒼涼。藍色柏立基，一種屬於非民族性，非國家觀念的標誌，正反映了這個城市過去的殖民遺跡、現在的不肯定以及開放的未來。它暗示了香港文化的轉運功能，亦即香港一直以來扮演着的，在不同文化間載運貴重物品和價值觀的角色，如果柏立基能繼續處身於世界城市的文化橋樑，那是因為它把後現代文化身份的携動性帶到了現實的生活中。

當西風在唱着悲傷的歌曲，不禁讓我想起羅大佑的音樂，“船兒灣灣入海港，回頭望望，已是滄海茫茫”。

藍色柏立基遙遙屹立於港島頂峰，目睹了種種歷史的變幻，在尊重不同偉大傳統間的差異中試圖努力闡明這些差異的世界主義，東方和西方最終仍要在這裡相遇了。

# 梅堂雜憶

胡燕 中國·廣州

關於梅堂的記憶彷彿無數雜亂的音符在一個不懂音樂的人眼前晃動。梅堂陪伴了我在香港兩年多的日子。這幾個音符，雖難成曲，卻也算是一點紀念吧。

## 搬家

記得搬入梅堂是在九九年的初夏。同學們都覺得我很幸運，我只是搖頭笑笑，我不相信運氣。搬入梅堂是華幫的忙，那時我認識她還不太久。搬家的那天，大約是下午，我倆一人推著一輛小推車，上面裝著我的全部家當，從研究生堂向梅堂進發。印象中這段路很近，但推著重重的小推車，走起來還真有點距離。我和華一路走一路開心地聊著，我一身汗可她說不累。

看來她個子雖比我小，力氣還不小。然而許久以後，我和華更熟絡了我才知道，那一次搬家累得她躺了好幾天。我心裏很過意不去。但華永遠是那種讓你心情舒暢的朋友，她打趣說，早知道那麼遠就動用他先生和機動小車了，唉怎麼早沒想到。我說那時候你還沒領教我的死板，沒經驗嘛。兩人笑成一堆。

## 晨曦

在香港的日子很少逛街出遊，卻結交了一大班好朋友。常常坐在自己的宿舍，那是梅堂二樓一間朝南的小房間，一邊心滿意足地回味著彼此交往的喜樂，一邊欣賞著窗外的小花園和大榕樹。梅堂真的好美，窗外的景色百看不厭，有時還有意想不到的驚喜。記得搬到梅堂快一年又是一個初夏，我從美國開會回來，正是東方泛白、太陽初升的早晨。我的小房間浸在一片安祥中，安祥得像鄰居們尚未醒來的酣夢。打開窗子，晨曦從長長的落地窗灑進屋裏，那淡淡的金色，柔和得像慈父的目光。窗外的小花園裏，粉的、黃的花朵正在晨光中舒展著嬌嫩的身軀。那棵大榕樹，細小的葉片綠油油的，長長的深褐色的氣根像冉冉的鬚鬚。一切都靜靜的，祇有“鬚鬚”偶爾在晨風中晃一晃。原來梅堂的晨曦美得如此令人心動！晚睡晚起的壞習慣讓我錯過了多美的景色。我忍不住拿起相機。後來同學看我在美國拍的照片，都猜不到這最後一張竟是我的梅堂小屋。也許猜不到的，還有我那天的心情。從美國的朋友那裏捎了滿滿一行囊的情誼，眼中受造萬物好像全都在向我訴說著耶和華的愛。

## 小聚

轉眼之間已是搬到梅堂的第三個夏天。今年的這一個夏天滿是離愁別緒。在港大的學業就要三年了，是時候離開了，離開早已熟悉的一切，也離開剛剛團聚的丈夫。聽說梅堂作為研究生宿舍用途的時期也快結束了，憑空又添多了一絲惆悵。想起梅堂的好，那種像家一樣的感覺。梅堂的設施很齊全，飲食起居都很方便。底層的大活動室就像家裏的客廳，可以看看報，與同學分享一輯錄影帶，也是三五好友相聚聊天的好地方。記得離開香港前，芳約了幾位姊妹老友，晚餐後來到梅堂的“客廳”，一聊就是兩個多小時。沒有喧嚷，有的祇是發自真誠的輕言細語。那是我第一次深入了解，真正的朋友在一起是可以如此坦蕩而不失仁慈，彼此扶持，彼此鼓勵。那一次的交往至今猶在眼前。

## 離別

住在梅堂兩年多的日子，還有太多太多的感動和難以忘懷的留戀。非常非常友善的鄰居，好商好量的管理人員，親切寬容的梅堂主人，常來探望我的老朋友……

眼前跳動的音符好多好多，祇是不知到底該去捕捉哪一個。記得離開梅堂的那天下雨了，周圍的一切很安靜。望望窗外，已找不到昔日小松鼠在樹上跳來跳去的影子，也不見了小鳥停在窗外欄杆上的悠閑。它們回到自己的家了。於是，我想我也該走了。再見，梅堂！

# 回憶愛情

風里 中國·上海

我，二十八歲，已婚，和妻子情同手足。這種感情已不是愛情，但比愛情強百倍。對我來說，愛情是一個遙遠的概念。

我十七歲時愛上一個同班女孩，當時我寫了一封情書放在兜裡，第二天壯着膽子把情書交給那女孩，她受寵若驚，回信表示批准。我去北京上大學的時候，她在吉林大學，正在我準備蹬她時，她先下手為強把我蹬了。為此，我很受打擊，以致大學裡的人頭兩年一直以為我弱智。

我重整旗鼓認真去愛，屢愛屢敗，哥兒們說我太認真，我這個人有個優點，有錯就改。後來愛誰都是三心二意的，突然間我覺得自己游刃有餘了——在適當的時候，找適當的借口，用適當的方式，對準適當的對象從事愛的遊戲，居然百戰不殆。有的女人說有的男人只對一件事感興趣，我就是這種男人。

最後，我突然感到不能這樣下去了，人總不能戀一輩子愛呀！總得為黨和人民做點兒甚麼。於是我決定結婚，我最後一位女朋友有幸成為我的第一位妻子。目前，我還沒打算找第二位。

往日的情人中最懷念我的是那位我在大學校國草坪上認識的中學生。那天我吃得實在太多，便去草坪散步，遠遠看見一個苗條白淨的女孩，我走過去和她聊天。因為她馬上要高考，我沒忍心給她第一個吻，後來她為我痛苦，據她的一個追求者透露，我留給她的印象最好，我明白這是因為我們之間最不了解。

在與我有緣的所有女孩中，我最懷念誰呢？我誰也不懷念，我很想告訴她們這一點，但一旦她們問起我，我難免給她們一個美麗的謊言。

前幾天一位愛好哲學的朋友問我“作為一個心理學家，你如何看待愛情？”我知道現代心理學家像研究不明白思維的生理機制一樣搞不清楚愛情是怎麼一回事，不過我還是對他說：“愛情是人類為滿足最低級慾望所找到的最高級的借口。”

比我年輕的朋友們，別拿我這話當真。

# 渴望愛情

梅小雨 中國·深圳

人，去不到我心裏去，我努力也沒有辦法，何況我不努力。而走到我心裏去的人，一經他走進來，就更難以將他驅逐。忘是忘不掉的，也無法去憎恨，因為憎恨只能強化這種依戀。我之所以稱它為依戀，是因為我並不確定這是愛情，愛情也許並不存在，或者它只是某一必然過程中比較美好的一部分。但無疑人與人之間是那樣容易產生感情。

在高地的小屋裏，我獨自聽那些寂寞的音樂時，總是難以抑制這種對愛情的渴望與絕望，於是我像搬家一樣，將所有的書本連同我一齊移植到辦公室，這樣我就可以在辦公室裏也感受到絕望與孤獨了。好在窗外車來車往，身邊有一個並無多少詩意的小男孩，他因為患有鼻炎而不時擤鼻涕，但這並不妨礙他欣賞他喜歡的爵士樂。他欣賞的時候，他飛也似敲擊鍵盤所發出的輕脆又有節奏的聲響與窗外馬路上的喧嘩和計算機裏幽然又昂揚的爵士樂絕然成趣。

而在我，一尺之遙，我在這辦公台裏隨便找一個角落就可以抒發我的記憶……實在是我要無法忍受這孤獨了。

這些年來，一直感覺到心頭澀澀的，鼻子酸酸的，一經遇到一些借口與理由，我就會理直氣壯地去哭泣，哭泣實在是世上最容易發生的感情事件。

無論是在香蜜湖畔午後寂靜的睡房裏，我慵慵地臥在一大堆織物中，還是在晌午迎着薄薄的陽光，穿越在海邊的小道上，或者是在柏立基茶花園第十四級石階上獨自黯然地坐着，又或是深夜獨個不經意地走回高地的小屋，哪怕是在幽暗的爵士樂酒吧裏，或是在散發着宜人香氣的餐室裏與人低吟淺嘯，又或者是在寂然的課堂上似是而非地靜聽，我會忽然感覺要俯下身來蒙住臉流淚，並且這時我的眼睛就濕潤了，我於是明白自己是累了。

我承認我想投入我母親的懷抱，假如能夠，我想回歸到她溫暖又寧靜的子宮裏——我的故地。心理學家講：退縮 (withdraw) 意味着對現實的失望與對挫折的恐懼。我承認假如我不能退縮到我母親的子宮裏，我願意投入到一個異性的懷抱中去；我渴望用我已不再美麗的手去撫摸他的臉，他的髮，他的肩與他的胸膛；我並不渴望被他撫摸，也不希望與他糾葛太多，我只需要崇拜他的經歷與熱情，並且希望在這新的熱情中去忘卻自己過往所犯下的錯誤；誰又能擔保這不是一個新的錯誤的開始呢？

好在，總有一個能掌管大局的人，讓他來掌管我的命運吧。

# 生育隨想錄

施旺 中國·上海

我生命中許多重大的事件都是在我具備決策所需要的經驗和智力的時候決定的。比如最重大的事件——我的出生，是由我父母替我做的主。

再比如我選的事業，也是不明智的決定。我選了心理學作為我終生的職業，現在看來，我當初實在不清楚職業與事業的區別，也不懂凡事變成謀生手段就失去樂趣的道理。如果能重新選擇的話，我會選擇學醫。心理學是人類的自我反省，它太嚴肅而又太奢侈，所以不適合成為一個發展中國家的職業。

如今我已是30歲的人了，自認為具備了決策所需要的經驗和智力。眼下生命中最重大的事件便是生孩子做父母了，所以我可要好好考慮考慮。於是我問我父母當初生我的時候的想法，他們認真地想了想告訴我，第一，人人都生孩子，所以他們也不例外，第二，有了孩子，老了也有個照應。第三，沒孩子，兩個人過太沒意思。我相信兩老講的是實話，而且今天好多人生孩子也是這麼想的，可我總覺得還得多考慮考慮，以上三個條件並不充分。

我覺得如果一對夫妻沒有對生命和生活的熱愛和尊重，他們就不該成為父母。如果他們不具備健康的心理和身體，也不太應該生孩子。這不是小題大做，因為他們不是在幹別的，他們是在製造生命。我不知道有多少父母懂得，孩子一旦誕生，就是一個與父母平等的生命。我們的祖先一貫不以為然。魏禧《日錄》中有大約這樣的話，父母即卻以非禮殺子，子不當怨，蓋我本無身，因父母而後有之，殺之，不過與未生一樣。這大約就是那些純粹因洩怒而痛打孩子的父母的思想基礎吧。如果父母把孩子視為有生命的財產，實際讓他們的孩子受到的待遇和家禽家畜無異。

按斯巴達人的做法，身體不健壯到一定程度的婦女是不允許生育的，所以古代斯巴達人幾乎個個都是強有力的勇士。我們現在講優生也是出於同樣的考慮。身體欠佳的父母，會產生虛弱的、醜陋的後代，同樣，每個變態者身後往往都站着一對變態的父母。很多成年人在自己的心理年齡還相當於一個孩子的時候就成了孩子的父母。他們組成的家庭便成了古怪性格的生產基地。

經常有人問我結婚這麼多年了，為啥不要孩子，我是個熱愛生命的人，也尊重生命的價值，也相信自己的體力和智力，但卻不滿於生活的環境，不滿於我們家門口的惡臭的垃圾堆，不滿於許多事情所花費的紅包和精力。所以我只好把自己比做一隻高貴的雞，因為過於挑剔雞窩而遲遲不願意生蛋。

長江後浪推前浪，世上新人換舊人，我們實在不可過於挑剔，不可對社會進步有不合實際的期望，然而生孩子畢竟使我們幾乎成了上帝，他創造頭兩個生命，接着便是我們的事，我們至少應嚴守最低的一個標準，即保證他們過得比我們好。其實，有了這個想法，也就配作父母了。

## • 特約文獻 •

# 《金瓶梅》人稱代詞的特點

—— 摘自《漢語方言代詞研究》

張惠英 中國·北京

《金瓶梅》一書的人稱代詞，用得最多的當然是些北方的共同用語，如“俺、俺每、我、咱、你、他”等，但又時不時地用一些不常見的人稱代詞，如“自我、自你、自恁、自他、自伊”。和其他用北方共同語寫的白話作品相比，這種帶詞頭“自”的人稱代詞，就成了《金瓶梅》人稱代詞的特點。

### 1. “自我”用作“我”

(1) 武松道，我行不更名，坐不改姓。自我便是陽谷縣人氏。（一回 7 頁下 1 行，大安影印明萬曆本，下同）

按，“自我”便是“我”，容與堂本及金聖嘆評本《水滸》二十三回作“小人”。

(2) 又一個走過來，便道，自我認的，你每都猜不着。（十五回 4 頁上 6 行）

(3) 春梅道，你每有皮襖，都打發與他。俺娘也沒皮襖，自我不動身。（四六回 11 頁上 4 行）

(4) 玉樓笑道，剛才為小廝討銀子，和爹亂了這回子，亂將出來，自我吃了，卻是頂缸受氣。（四六回 17 頁上 8 行）

(5) 應伯爵見西門慶眼裡酸酸的，便道，哥，別人不知你心，自我略知一二。（六五回 15 頁下 1 行）

(6) （月娘說金蓮）你便就撐着頭兒說，別人不知道，自我曉的。你成日守着他，怎麼不曉的。（七五回 22 頁下 7 行）

按，上述“自我”都指“我”。也許，有些例中“自我”解作“只我”似乎也通，但例(3)中的“自我不動身”，卻只能理解為“我”。

### 2. “自你”用作“你”，“自恁”用作“你”的敬稱



- (1) 月娘道，教他媽媽抱罷，況自你這密褐色挑繡裙子不耐污，撒上點子贖到了不成。（四十回 3 頁上 7 行）

按，“自你”就是你。如果“自”上屬讀成“況自”，則未見此說法。

- (2) 自你每月吃用稀奇之物，他在世千百年，他還沒曾看見哩。（十九回 15 頁下 6 行）

按，這個“自你”從上下文看解作“你”和“只你”兩可。

- (3) 婆子道，官人倘若要說俺侄兒媳婦，自恁來閒講便了，何必費煩又買禮來。（七回 3 頁下 11 行）

按，“自恁”指你，因上句稱“官人”，所以這個“自恁”顯然表示有客氣、恭敬的意思。這是西門慶來提親，婆子就很客氣。

- (4) 那薛嫂見錢眼開，說道，好姐夫，自恁沒錢使，將來謝我。（八六回 1 頁下 7 行）

按，這個“自恁”和“好姐夫”呼應，也是表示客氣的意思。

順便提一下，“您（恁）”用作表敬的稱呼，在王實甫的《西廂記》第三本第四折 136 頁（王季思校本，人民文學出版社，1958 年）即已見到：“（紅娘對張生云）來時節肯不肯盡由他，見時節親不親在於恁”。蘇州人金聖嘆一開始不一定懂得北方話的敬稱，所以他評的《繡像第六才子書》改作“親不親盡在你”，但在卷六“后候”評論時又恢復原本用字，還說，“以您而自揣，應覺骨肉之為疏，……代您而思惟，頓覺神魂之若合。”（詳參張惠英《第二人稱“賢、仁、恁、您”語源試探》，《中國語文》1991 年第 3 期。）

- (5) （宋惠蓮道）老娘不是個饒人的，明日我咒罵了樣兒與他聽。破着我一條性命，自恁尋不着主兒哩。（二五回 5 頁下 9 行）

按，這裡宋惠蓮對他丈夫辯白，“自恁”是稱他丈夫來旺兒，不是敬稱，可能用作反話，用客氣的稱呼表示她心裡對他的惱怒。

### 3. “自他”、“自伊”用作“他”

- (1) （月娘道）自他媳婦子七病八病，一時病倒了在那裡，上床誰扶持他。（二

按，“自他”就是“他”，此指來旺。因為月娘不同意西門慶派來旺兒兩口給原李瓶兒的房子上值，故借口來旺婦有病來推托。

(2) 自伊師明悟，少其一目，俗名金禪。(七三回 11 頁 11 行)

按，“自伊師明悟”，即他明悟師父、他明悟和尚。“自伊”就是“伊”“他”。

#### 4. 用“自”作人稱代詞詞頭反映了吳方言的特點

人稱代詞而綴詞頭的，在漢語方言中很少見。今吳方言一些地區，今仍保持“自”或“實”作人稱代詞詞頭的說法。

先看 1908 年上海土山灣慈母堂第二次印的《土話指南》，其中“自我（亦作‘是我’）、自儂、自伊（是伊）、自侬、自儂”等說法見得極多。例如：

(1) 自我伊就勿敢碰個。若使碰起我來味，一把揪牢之，撥伊一個勿殼漲，讓伊吃得苦頭來，響亦響勿出。(上卷 12 頁)

按，“自我”就是“我”，下句就單說“我”了。

(2) 伊要個，是我亦無啥勿可以。(上卷 33 頁)

按，“是我”就是“自我”，就是“我”。吳語連讀時，“是我”音同“自我”。

(3) 個裝生活，包撥自儂，生拉比別人便宜點。——固是自然，若使包撥我做味，勿但比別人便宜百千兩銀子，就是生活，亦堅固新拉。(上卷 27 頁)

按，“自儂”就是稱對方“你”，所以對方答話時便稱“我”。

(4) 自伊寫之一封回信，告訴伊屋裡人說，勿曾留啥銀子。(上卷 42 頁)

按，“自伊”就是“伊”、“他”。

(5) 照閣下個高見，我去回答伊，省是伊再來者。(上卷 45 頁)

按，“是伊”同“自伊”，如“自我”作“是我”。

(6) 無啥話勿得，是自侬舍親，認得個朋友，搭別人打官司，舍親教我出去，替伊拉話攏之罷。(上卷 48 頁)

按，“自侬”就是“侬”，就是“我們”。

(7) 自家親眷朋友當中，有啥人要離間自儂弟兄個否佬。（上卷 30 頁）

按，“自儂”就是“儂”，就是“你們”。

今吳語口語這個人稱代詞“自”已講得不多，但並沒有絕跡。今奉賢話稱“你”是“實儂”，“你們”是“實儂”。松江話稱“你”是“實奴”，“你們”是“實儂”，“他”是“自其”或“實伊”。浙江的湖州、安吉、德清、富陽、長興口語仍說“自我、實我、自其”等。詞頭“實”和“自”來源相同，故“自我、實我”可互讀。今崇明方言中，一些上年紀的人把“我”說成[zã]（音同“尚”，“自我”的合音），把“你”說成“甚”（“自你”的合音）。

所以，《金瓶梅》的“自我、自你、自恁、自他、自伊”顯然是吳語方言的反映。吳語沒有敬稱“恁（您）”，“自恁”是模仿北方話的敬稱“您”再加上吳語的人稱代詞詞頭及其構造方式配制而成。

# 香港社会の移動性 — 日本との比較において — SOCIAL MOBILITY IN HONG KONG AND JAPAN

愛みち子

Ms. Michiko Ai

東京大学大学院 総合文化研究科 地域文化研究専攻 博士課程

Doctoral Candidate, Department of Area Studies, The University of Tokyo

共立女子短期大学 生活科学科 非常勤講師

Lecturer, Dept. Science of Living, Kyoritsu Women's Junior College, Japan

私は香港を研究対象としている。語学などを含めて中国を研究する者が1000人以上いると言われる日本で、香港だけを研究対象とする者は少ない。「なぜ日本人のあなたが香港に興味をもったの?」と聞かれる事が多い。かつて香港に住んでいた元住民であるから、香港との縁を断ちがたいという未練もあるが、それよりも香港には私の住む日本社会に対する批判的で新鮮な指摘にあふれているのだ。

数十年にわたって、日本から香港への人の渡航、特に観光客の渡航は多かった。中国人観光客が台頭するまでは、香港の観光客の中で最も多いのが日本人だった。日本人観光客の香港ツアーの目的は、大抵「グルメ(gourmet)」と「ショッピング(shopping)」であった。2泊3日といった短期間にはできるだけ多くの「おいしいもの」と「安くて価値あるもの」を手に入れる。そんな、いつもの日常生活にはありえない凝縮した楽しみを短時間内に実現してくれるのが香港なのである。

仮に香港以外の土地で、同じような高密度の楽しみを得ようとすれば、多くの時間を要するだろう。観光地香港が短時間で多くの楽しみを約束するのは、この社会に移動の便宜が保証されているからに他ならない。交通の発達と容易な地理的移動、それが観光のみならず、香港の日常生活を彩っている。

日本には、速さと時間の正確さを達成した交通手段がある。工学上の技術開発と人的管理によって達成されたものである。しかし長距離を結ぶ単線的移動に目覚ましい効果があるものの、縦横無尽に空間移動する主体をあらゆる方向に速やかに運ぶ全体的システムではない。依然として交通手段と交通手段の間の連絡の便宜が優れず、いろいろな無駄や矛盾を見る限り、社会全体として移動のスムーズさを目指したシステムとは思えない。

したがって香港社会のキーワードの一つが「移動」であろうと思う。速やかに地理的移動を果たすことは、社会の中のあらゆるパフォーマンスの密度が濃くなることである。香港社会が他の経済地域に比べて特に優れた面である。

地理的移動もさる事ながら、しかし日本人の私が評価すべきなのは、香港社会にみる社会的な移動の容易さなのである。特に職場を変えることに抵抗が見られないのは明らかである。学校にあっても年齢も出身地も入学時期も異なるクラスメートがいる。香港内外への移住も常に多い。香港の人々は、職場や学校や居住地といった所属の変化への心理的ハードルが低いと言えるだろう。

この点こそ、日本社会と香港社会が両極端を示す特徴である。社会のあり方を如実に映すのは社会問題だ。目を転じてみよう。日本社会では人が一つの所属から移動せず、そこに執着し留まったことから起こる弊害が多い。その弊害の極端な例が「イジメ」や「過労死」であろう。「イジメ」は学生や会社員が、毎日顔を合わせ複数のクラスメートや同僚から執拗な嫌がらせを受けることをいう。悪意に満ちた暴力から、無意識的な態度まで形はいろいろある。いずれにしても嫌がらせを受けた方は酷く被害感情をもつ。疎外感と孤独と絶望で自殺するケースも稀ではない。

「過労死」とは、会社員が常識を超えた時間外労働や休日出勤が続いた結果、心身を病んで死に到ることをいう。心臓発作などの突発的な病死もあれば、疲労と追いつめられた心境から、身ら命を断つケースも多い。過酷な持続的労働は、もち

ろん自ら望んだものではなく、職場の慣習や上司からの要望に従ったためである。

これら2つの社会問題の特徴は、被害者が明らかに自分にとって不利な環境に身を置きながら、そこから脱しようとするのではなく、そこに留まる決意をした結果から来ている。なぜ、最終的に死を迎えねばならないほど追いつめられても、被害者たちはその環境から脱する(移動する)ことをしなかったのだろうか？

私には、日本社会には根強い移動への抵抗があるように思える。日本人の同様のこだわりは他の面にも表れている。たった一つの仕事を失った事、失業したことによる自殺の多さ、同じ時期に大量の求職者が就職できないことを「就職氷河期」と呼ぶこと、転校や転勤をすることが学校や企業内部では不利に扱われること、などである。

香港には、社会的移動への抵抗がない。それは移民がこの都市を作ってきたことにそもそも起因するのであろう。香港社会が社会的変動に柔軟に対応できる体質を持っていることも、個人が柔軟に所属や組織を移っていけることと深く関連しているだろう。香港は歴史的に周辺地域の社会変動の影響を受けてきた。中国の政府変動や新しくはアジアの経済変動などにである。香港はあらゆる変動に影響を直接受けながら、香港そのものが役割を失うことはなかった。主権の返還という大変動によってすらも香港が役割を失わず、価値が維持されるわけは、個人が環境の変化に対応することを常としているからであろう。日本人にもっとも欠落している社会的歴史的経験である。だから私は香港研究が日本社会への提言に寄与すると信じている。

### English Abstract:

The keyword to understanding Hong Kong society is *people's movement*. Within this broad sociological concept, two significant movements should be pointed out in the case of Hong Kong: geographic movement and social movement. From both viewpoints, clear contrasts can be seen between Hong Kong society and Japanese society.

Geographic movement refers to the physical movement of the people. Compared to most other countries, it is relatively easy for Hong Kong people to move seamlessly within its territory. In addition to the physical size of Hong Kong, this is largely due to Hong Kong's transportation system which has brought efficient mobility to the society. The system also contributed much to Hong Kong's economic performances by allowing high levels of physical mobility amongst its people.

As for the social movement, it can be seen through the fact that Hong Kong people do not have an overwhelming sense of attachment to any particular community, thus encouraging them to adapt easily to various communities or moreover, shifts in culture. This also explains why Hong Kong people can deal with rapid changes such as the change of sovereignty back to China in 1997.

In Japan, many vital social problems and serious crimes such as “Ijime” or “Karoushi”, occur inside closed communities or organizations such as schools and companies. If Japanese people can be more adaptive in their sense of attachment to their local communities like the people in Hong Kong, these social problems may be avoided. The pattern of *people's movement* in Hong Kong should be a valuable sociological example to Japanese society.

***SWIRE SCHOLARS ASSOCIATION***

## SWIRE SCHOLARS ASSOCIATION

**Mr. Albert K.W. Law**

Chairman, Swire Scholars Association

The Swire Scholars Association was established after its foundation ceremony on 26<sup>th</sup> February, 1998. Members of the Association comprise all scholars who received the Swire Scholarships in Hong Kong. Sir Adrian Swire, Chairman of John Swire & Sons Ltd., was invited as Honorary Patron and Professor Vincent W.S. Leung, Master of Robert Black College, as Honorary President. Ms. Sanna Lee, Chairman of Swire Scholars Association (2000 – 2001), was invited as Honorary Adviser for the long-term development of the Association.

The objective of the Association is to promote academic exchange, social awareness and solidarity among Swire Scholars. The Swire Scholars Association frequently holds various programs for its members and residents of Robert Black College, such as seasonal parties, recreational functions and charity programs. The scholars also take up various duties at the College's Guest and Seminar Night Series.

Swire Scholars Nights were held for the reunion of past and present Swire Scholars on 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2000 and 6<sup>th</sup> December, 2001. Professor C.Y. Jim, Head of Department of Geography, the University of Hong Kong and the Hon. Margaret Ng, a member of Legislative Council of the Hong Kong SAR, were invited as our guest speakers for the Swire Scholars Nights in 2000 and 2001 respectively. A raffle draw was conducted after the speech. With the generosity of the Swire Group, return air tickets were donated for the first prize of raffle draw. This year, other prizes were kindly donated by the College Master and Professor Richard Frewer, Head of Department of Architecture of the University who resides in the College. Proceeds from the raffle draw will be used to finance the activities of the Association.

With kind assistance from the Hong Kong Children and Youth Services as well as Friends of the Earth (HK) Ltd., we have continued the meaningful pursuits of the Association by organising the Doll Collection Campaign in the spring of 2001. The aim was to collect unwanted dolls for disadvantaged children in Hong Kong and Mainland China. Dolls collected were either given to poor children or donated to charity groups. The event received unprecedented high popularity. We collected over 500 dolls in the campaign.

In conjunction with Robert Black College, Nature Walk and Movie Nights were also organized in 2001. The Nature Walk was a 2-hour walk to the Peak from the College. Two Movie Nights, "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon" and "Gladiator" were held in the College on 1<sup>st</sup> March, 2001 and 5<sup>th</sup> April, 2001 respectively. The Movie Nights were attended by over 60 guests including Swire Scholars and College residents.

Swire Scholars, past and present, are given opportunities to interact at these functions and activities. We often discuss the role of and philosophy behind being a Swire

Scholar: “offer opportunity to all and demand responsibility from all”. Let us all take more responsibility, not only for ourselves and our families, but also for our neighbours and our society. I am honoured to be the Chairman of Swire Scholars Association. But no chairman can undertake this mission alone. All Swire Scholars must play their parts in this mission. We recognize a simple but powerful truth – we need one another and we must care for one another. At the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, let us begin with energy and confidence, and let us all work united towards this goal.



Past and present Swire Scholars at the Swire Scholars Reunion



Welcome by Ms. Sanna Lee



Swire Night Dinner



Sharing the joyful days in Robert Black College

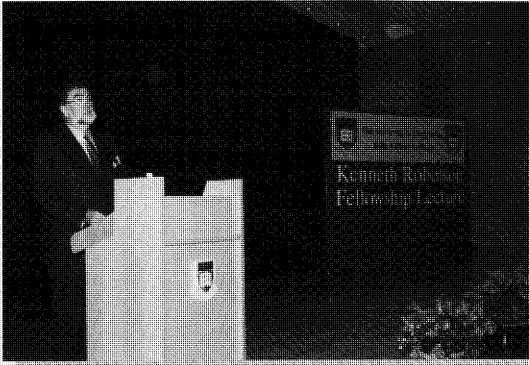




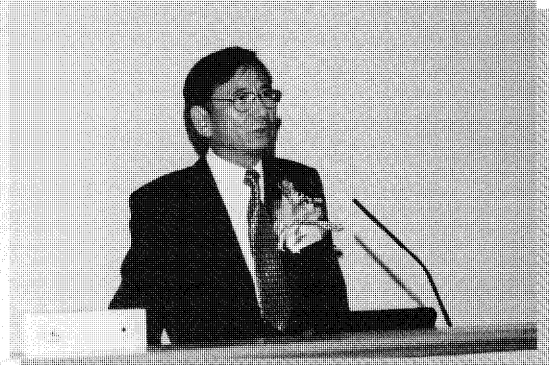
***PICTORIAL OF COLLEGE EVENTS***

***(2000 – 2001)***

## COLLEGE LECTURES



Opening Address by Professor W.I.R. Davies at the 2001 Kenneth Robinson Fellow Lecture



Public Lecture by Professor W.S. Leung



Guest Night pre-dinner cocktail



Guest Night pre-dinner cocktail



Buffet Dinner



Speech at Kong Siu Luey Lounge

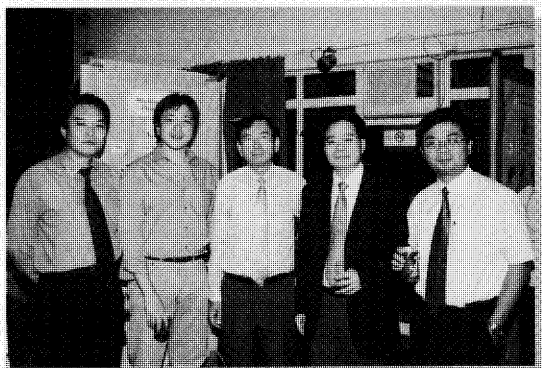
## FAREWELL DINNER FOR MAY WING RESIDENTS



Speech by resident representative



Master and residents



Master and former residents

## CHRISTMAS PARTY



Lucky Draw at a Christmas Party

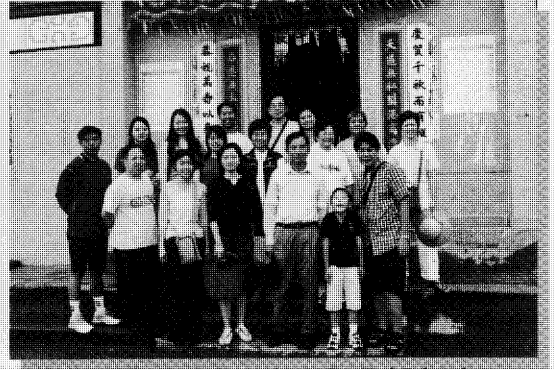


Dancing at a Christmas Party

# LEISURE ACTIVITIES



Boat trip to Po Toi Island



Visit to Tin Hau Temple at Po Toi Island



Fun time: swimming and boat rowing at Po Ta Island



Morning Trail Walk to the Peak 1



Morning Trail Walk to the Peak 2



Master and guests in Uzbekistan costume

***PHOTOGRAPHS OF SPEAKERS***

***(2000 – 2001)***

## GUEST NIGHT SPEAKERS



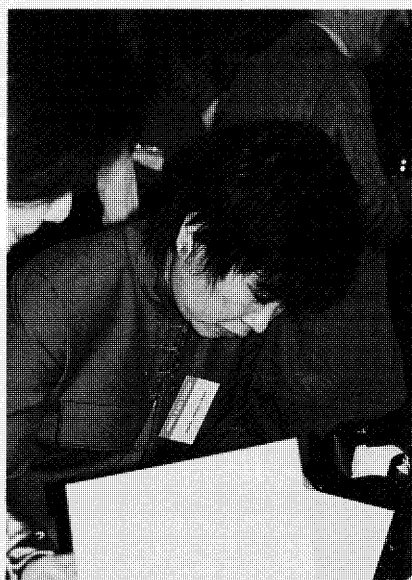
Professor Georges Halpern



Sir Walter Bodmer



Mr. Patrick Yu



Professor Mimi Chan

## GUEST NIGHT SPEAKERS



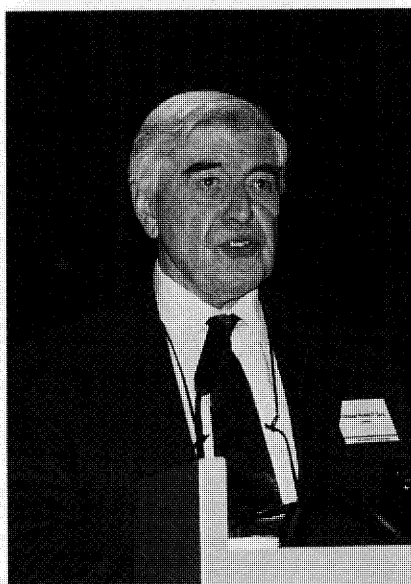
Ms. Audrey Eu



Professor C.Y. Jim



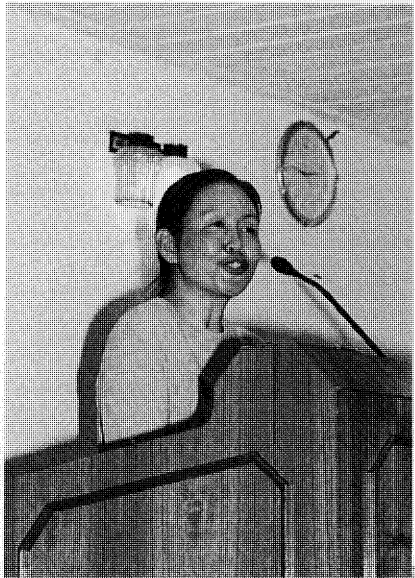
Mr. Chi Lo



Professor Ronald Dore



**GUEST NIGHT SPEAKERS**



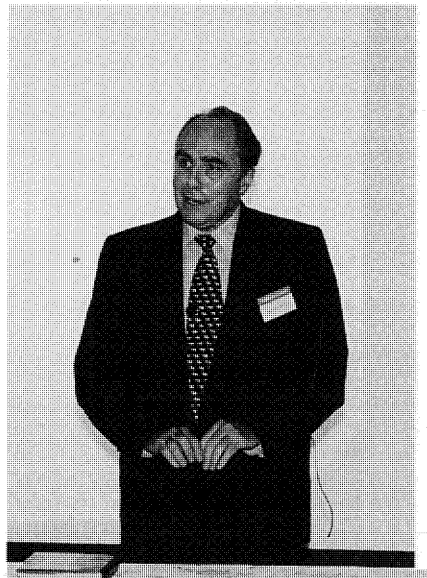
Mrs. Mei Ng



Dr. Paul Y.S. Cheung

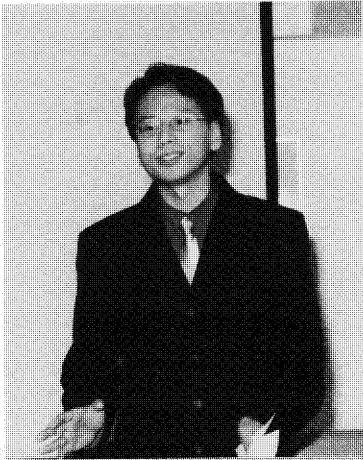


Mr. Chan Kei Lam



Professor Brian Duggan

## SEMINAR NIGHT SPEAKERS



Dr. Eric C.W. So



Mr. John T.P. Lai



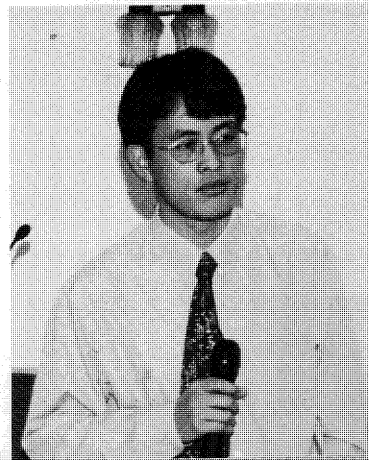
Mr. T.K. Chui



Mr. Yang Tianliang

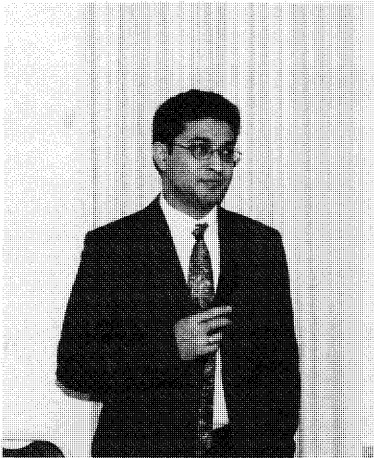


Dr. Park S.P. Ng



Mr. Chiu Yu Lung

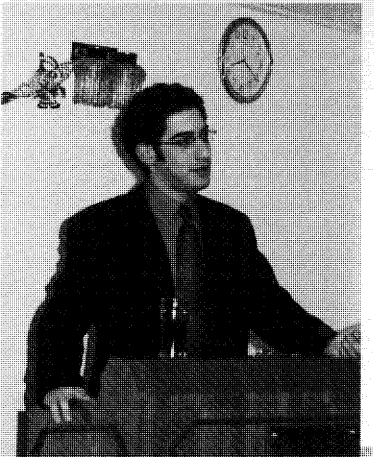
**SEMINAR NIGHT SPEAKERS**



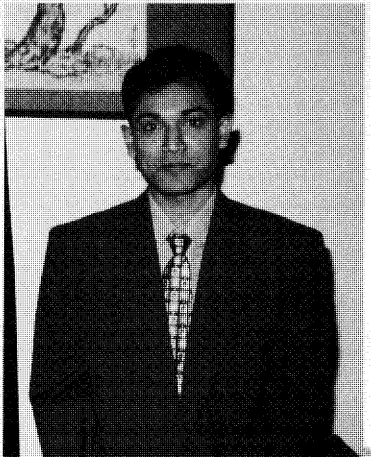
Mr. Pradyumna Amatya



Mr. Victor C.M. Chan



Mr. Lee J. Brenner



Mr. Rajesh Jeewon

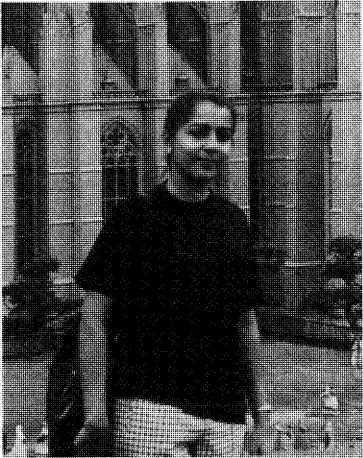


Ms. Jiang Hong



Mr. Kathri Devapriya

## SEMINAR NIGHT SPEAKERS



Ms. Ruffina Thilakaratne



Dr. Babu Jose



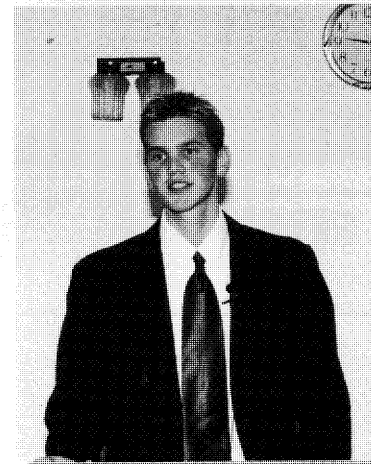
Dr. Wellcome W.H. Ho



Dr. Hong Shunjia



Mr. Kevin H.C. Cheng

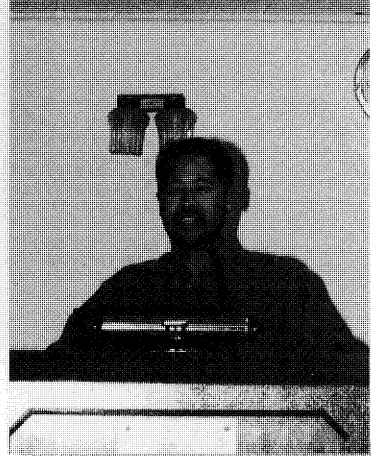


Mr. Garrett Gravesen

# SEMINAR NIGHT SPEAKERS



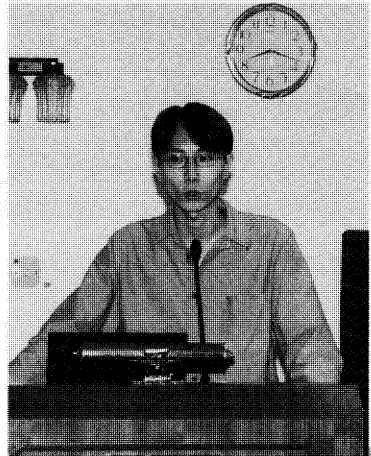
Mr. Stephen Gowdy



Dr. Park S.P. Ng



Mr. Albert K.W. Law



Mr. Mario P.S. Chin

***COLLEGE INFORMATION  
SUMMARIES***

***(1992 – 2002)***

**Robert Black College Committee of Management (1992/93 – 2001/02)**

**1992 – 1993**

**Chairman:**

Prof. W.S. Leung

**Members:**

Dr. Pauline Chan  
Prof. S.T.H. Chan  
Prof. T.K. Chan  
Prof. E.K.Y. Chen  
Mr. D.A. Gledhill  
Dr. L.B. Kan  
Mr. T.I. Kong  
Dr. B.M. Kotewall  
Mr. P.B.L. Lam  
Prof. K.C. Lye  
Mr. P.D.A. Sutch  
Prof. G.W. Wang  
Prof. S.H.Y. Wei

**1995 – 1996**

**Chairman:**

Prof. W.S. Leung

**Members:**

Mr. W.P.J. Brandon  
Dr. Pauline Chan  
Prof. S.T.H. Chan  
Prof. E.K.Y. Chen  
Mr. D.A. Gledhill  
Prof. F.C.S. Ho  
Dr. L.B. Kan  
Dr. B.M. Kotewall  
Mr. P.B.L. Lam  
Prof. N. Lee  
Mr. P.D.A. Sutch  
Prof. A. Walker  
Prof. G.W. Wang  
Prof. S.H.Y. Wei

**1993 – 1994**

**Chairman:**

Prof. W.S. Leung

**Members:**

Mr. W.P.J. Brandon  
Dr. Pauline Chan  
Prof. S.T.H. Chan  
Prof. E.K.Y. Chen  
Mr. D.A. Gledhill  
Prof. F.C.S. Ho  
Dr. L.B. Kan  
Dr. B.M. Kotewall  
Mr. P.B.L. Lam  
Prof. N. Lee  
Mr. P.D.A. Sutch  
Prof. A. Walker  
Prof. G.W. Wang  
Prof. S.H.Y. Wei

**1996 – 1997**

**Chairman:**

Prof. W.S. Leung

**Members:**

Mr. W.P.J. Brandon  
Dr. Pauline Chan  
Prof. S.T.H. Chan  
Prof. Y.C. Cheng  
Mr. D.A. Gledhill  
Prof. L. Goldstein  
Mr. W.B. Howarth  
Dr. L.B. Kan  
Dr. B.M. Kotewall  
Mr. P.B.L. Lam  
Prof. M.H. Ng  
Mr. P.D.A. Sutch  
Prof. A. Walker  
Prof. S.L. Wong

**1994 – 1995**

**Chairman:**

Prof. W.S. Leung

**Members:**

Mr. W.P.J. Brandon  
Dr. Pauline Chan  
Prof. S.T.H. Chan  
Prof. E.K.Y. Chen  
Mr. D.A. Gledhill  
Prof. L. Goldstein  
Prof. F.C.S. Ho  
Dr. L.B. Kan  
Dr. B.M. Kotewall  
Mr. P.B.L. Lam  
Prof. N. Lee  
Mr. P.D.A. Sutch  
Prof. A. Walker  
Prof. G.W. Wang

**1997 – 1998**

**Chairman:**

Prof. W.S. Leung

**Members:**

Mr. W.P.J. Brandon  
Dr. Pauline Chan  
Prof. S.T.H. Chan  
Prof. Y.C. Cheng  
Mr. D.A. Gledhill  
Prof. L. Goldstein  
Dr. L.B. Kan  
Mr. P.B.L. Lam  
Prof. M.H. Ng  
Mr. P.D.A. Sutch  
Prof. A. Walker  
Prof. S.L. Wong  
Prof. E.C.M. Young  
Mr. Nelson Young

**1998 – 1999**    **Chairman:**  
 Prof. W.S. Leung  
**Members:**  
 Mr. W.P.J. Brandon  
 Dr. Pauline Chan  
 Prof. Y.C. Cheng  
 Mr. D.A. Gledhill  
 Prof. L. Goldstein  
 Prof. C.Y. Jim  
 Dr. L.B. Kan  
 Mr. P.B.L. Lam  
 Prof. M.H. Ng  
 Mr. P.D.A. Sutch  
 Prof. A. Walker  
 Prof. S.L. Wong  
 Prof. E.C.M. Young  
 Mr. Nelson Young

**2000 – 2001**    **Chairman:**  
 Prof. W.S. Leung  
**Members:**  
 Mr. Francis S.Y. Bong  
 Prof. C.C. Chan  
 Prof. Y.C. Cheng  
 Mr. J.R. Choa  
 Prof. L. Goldstein  
 Mr. James Huhges-Hallett  
 Prof. C.Y. Jim  
 Dr. L.B. Kan  
 Mr. P.B.L. Lam  
 Prof. J. Spinks  
 Prof. R.M. Wilkinson  
 Prof. S.L. Wong  
 Prof. E.C.M. Young

**1999 – 2000**    **Chairman:**  
 Prof. W.S. Leung  
**Members:**  
 Mr. Francis S.Y. Bong  
 Prof. C.C. Chan  
 Prof. Y.C. Cheng  
 Mr. J.R. Choa  
 Mr. D.A. Gledhill  
 Prof. L. Goldstein  
 Mr. James Huhges-Hallett  
 Prof. C.Y. Jim  
 Dr. L.B. Kan  
 Mr. P.B.L. Lam  
 Prof. R.M. Wilkinson  
 Prof. S.L. Wong  
 Prof. E.C.M. Young  
 Prof. R.T.T. Young

**2001 – 2002**    **Chairman:**  
 Prof. W.S. Leung  
**Members:**  
 Mr. Francis S.Y. Bong  
 Prof. C.C. Chan  
 Mr. J.R. Choa  
 Prof. W.I.R. Davies  
 Prof. B.J. Duggan  
 Mr. James Huhges-Hallett  
 Prof. C.Y. Jim  
 Dr. L.B. Kan  
 Mr. P.B.L. Lam  
 Dr. E.J. Powell  
 Prof. R.M. Wilkinson  
 Prof. S.L. Wong  
 Prof. E.C.M. Young

**Swire Scholarship (Central Premises) Holders (1996/97 – 2001/02)**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Department</b>
<b>1996 – 1997</b>	Chau Wai Kei	Anatomy
	Cheung Ching Wan	PPA
	Cheung Kin Wai	G & G
	Cho Ka Wai	Chinese
	Ko Wai Chi Gigi	CompLit
	Man Oi Kuen	Music
<b>1997 – 1998</b>	Chau Wai Kei	Anatomy
	Cheung Ching Wan	PPA
	Cheung Kin Wai	G & G
	Cho Ka Wai	Chinese
	Chow Ka Po	EEE
	Ko Wai Chi Gigi	CompLit
	Man Oi Kuen	Music
	So Hing Mei	Architecture
	Wai Pong Wa	PPA
Wong Chor Fai Terence	EEE	
Wong Chun Hung	ME	
<b>1998 – 1999</b>	Chau Wai Kei	Anatomy
	Chiu Ching Li	Japanese Studies
	Chow Ka Po	EEE
	Halim Kaha Desi	Zoology



	Hung Edward	CSIS
	Ko Wai Chi Gigi	CompLit
	Lai Tsz Pang	Chinese
	Lee Ying Tong Sanna	Japanese Studies
	Ma Yin Nin	Botany
	Man Oi Kuen	Music
	So Hing Mei	Architecture
	Wai Pong Wa	PPA
<b>1999 – 2000</b>	Chiu Ching Li	Japanese Studies
	Chow Ka Po	EEE
	Halim Kaha Desi	Zoology
	Lai Tsz Pang	Chinese
	Lee Ying Tong Sanna	Japanese Studies
	Mok Tsz Kin	EEE
	So Hing Mei	Architecture
	Yau Hiu Yu Fisch	Geog & Geol
	Yip Man Hei	History
<b>2000 – 2001</b>	Chan Hiu Yun Joyce	Sociology
	Cheng Hing Cheung Kevin	Psychology
	Chin Po San Mario	Microbiology
	Law Kwok Wai Albert	EEE
	Lee Ying Tong Sanna	Japanese Studies
	Lo Kwok Fung Angela	Anatomy
	Mok Tsz Kin	EEE
	Tam Pui Yim Jenifer	Sociology
	Woo Bo Kei	EEE
	Yau Hiu Yu Fisch	Geog & Geol
	Yip Man Hei	History
<b>2001 – 2002</b>	Cheng Hing Cheung Kevin	Psychology
	Huang Fung Yu Camy	O & G
	Kee Francis	Medicine
	Law Kwok Wai Albert	EEE
	Lee Ying Tong Sanna	Japanese Studies
	Lo Kwok Fung Angela	Anatomy
	Poon Ch Yan Dianna	Chemistry
	Tam Pui Yim Jenifer	Sociology
	Tsang Hoi Ling	Psychology
	Tsui Ka Yee Yenny	Psychology
	Yau Hiu Yu Fisch	Geog & Geol
	Yip Man Hei	History

#### Swire Scholarship Holders (1992/93 – 2001/02)

<b>Year</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Department</b>
<b>1992 – 1993</b>	Chan Kin Fung	Zoology
	Chan Kit Chu	CUPEM
	Cheng Ka Leung	Chemistry
	Cheung Man Ki	Chemistry
	Cheung Tung Fai	Physiology
	Cheung Wai Man	Physics
	Cheung Yuen Yee Alice	Geography
	Chow Hiu Ling Bess	Philosophy
	Chu Wai Man	Mathematics
	Go Yin Yin	Anatomy
	Ko Ka Shun Joshua	Pharmacology
	Lau Kap Man	Chemistry
	Leung Kin Ming Rayman	Zoology
	Leung Pui King	Chemistry
	Loo Pui Ying Becky	Geography
	Tam Ngai Chung Neville	Anatomy

	Wong Kong Chu	Zoology
	Wong Tak Pan	Physiology
	Wong Wai Yeung	Chemistry
	Yam Elsie	Comparative Literature
	Yee Chin Ming	Geography
<b>1993 – 1994</b>	Cheung Yuen Yee Alice	Geography
	Choi Wing Kin Sam	Chemistry
	Chow Chun Lam James	Physics
	Ho Ching Yee	Geography
	Leung Pui King	Chemistry
	Mak Shuk Han	Geography
	So Hing Mei	Architecture
	Wan Ho Yin	History
	Wong Chi Wai	Chemistry
	Wong Donna	Pharmacology
	Yang Tat Chi Teddy	Pharmacology
	Yeung Kok Yan	Chemistry
<b>1994 – 1995</b>	Au Yat Kun	Chemistry
	Chan Kin Fung	Zoology
	Cheng Cecilia	Psychology
	Cho Ka Wai	Chinese
	Chui Tsan Kit	Chemistry
	Ho Ching Yee	Geography
	Lau Sze Fei Sophia	Politics and Public Administration
	Lau Wai Ping Jackie	Children's Dentistry and Orthodontics
	Lau Yan Yan	Geography
	Leung Pui King	Chemistry
	Ling Kam Wing	Biochemistry
	Mak Shuk Han	Geography
	Ngai Yuen Yi	Geography
	Tsui Wing Yan Pamela	Chemistry
	Wong Chi Wai	Architecture
	Wong Kong Chu	Zoology
	Wong Kwok Ngon	Law
	Wong Lai Mui	Chinese
	Yang Tat Chi Teddy	Pharmacology
<b>1995 – 1996</b>	Chan Kim Mui Eileen	Comparative Literature
	Chan Kwan Ho	Chinese
	Chan Yuen Ying Annie	Chinese
	Chau Wai Kei	Anatomy
	Cheung Ching Wan	Politics and Public Administration
	Cheung Kin Wai	Geography
	Chui Tsan Kit	Chemistry
	Ho Ching Yee	Geography
	Ko Wai Chi	Comparative Literature
	Kwok King Yu	CUPEM
	Lai Shin Kwan	Architecture
	Lau Yan Yan	Geography
	Mak Shuk Han	Geography
	Man Oi Kuen	Music
	Sun Ka Wah	Botany
	Yam Tai Ming Dawin	Architecture
	Yip Man Kit	Physics
	Young Suk Han Edith	Architecture
	Yuen Tsz Kit	Ecology and Biodiversity
<b>1996 – 1997</b>	Chan Fuk Keung	Architecture
	Chan Kwan Ho	Chinese
	Chan Yuen Ying Annie	Chinese
	Chau Wai Kei	Anatomy

Cheung Ching Wan	Politics and Public Administration
Cheung Kin Wai	Geography
Cho Ka Wai	Chinese
Chow Ka Po	Electrical and Electronic Engineering
Chow Ming Chung	Dentistry
Ko Wai Chi	Comparative Literature
Kwok King Yu	CUPEM
Lai Shin Kwan	Architecture
Lau Yuet Ying	Social Sciences
Man Oi Kuen	Music
Salda Violeta B.	Botany
So Hing Mei	Architecture
Szeto Chun Pong	Chemistry
To Tai Fai Peter	Architecture
Tung Ho Shan	Chemistry
Wai Pong Wa	Politics and Public Administration
Wai Sen Mun	Zoology
Wan Cheuk Ting Jennifer	Architecture
Wan Iat Meng	Civil Engineering
Wong Kar Ho	Chemistry
Ying Lai Chu Veronica	Architecture
Yip Man Kit	Physics

**1997 – 1998**

Chan Venus Wai-sum	Architecture
Chan Yuen Ying Annie	Chinese
Chau Wai Kei	Anatomy
Chiu Ching Li	Japanese Studies
Chow Ka Po	Electrical and Electronic Engineering
Chow Ming Chung	Dentistry
Halim Kaha Desi	Zoology
Ho Ngai Man	Chemistry
Kai Sze Fai Alex	Chemistry
Ko Wai Chi	Comparative Literature
Kwok King Yu	CUPEM
Lai Tsz Pang	Chinese
Lam Chung Man	Chemistry
Lam Kit	Law
Lam Tom Wing Hong	Social Sciences
Lee Ying Tong Sanna	Japanese Studies
Leung Tsui Shan	Geography
Ma Yin Nin	Botany
Man Oi Kuen	Music
So Hing Mei	Architecture
Szeto Chun Pong	Chemistry
Tsang Chun Kit	Chemistry
Tung Ho Shan	Chemistry
Wai Pong Wa	Politics and Public Administration
Wai Sen Mun	Zoology
Wong Chun Kit	Architecture
Wong Kar Ho	Chemistry

**1998 – 1999**

Chan Hiu Yun Joyce	Sociology
Chan Kit Yi Kitty	Architecture
Cheng Hing Cheung Kevin	Psychology
Chin Po San Mario	Microbiology
Chiu Ching Li	Japanese Studies
Chiu Yu Lung	Mechanical Engineering
Chow Ka Po	Electrical and Electronic Engineering
Ho Ngai Man	Chemistry
Ko Yuen Yi	Chemistry
Lai Ching Nor Shirley	Dentistry
Lai Tsz Pang	Chinese

Lam Tom Wing Hong	Social Sciences
Lau Gar Lum	Sociology
Lau Pui Chuen Lisa	Architecture
Lee Shuk Fong Susanna	Architecture
Lee Ying Tong Sanna	Japanese Studies
Ma Yin Nin	Botany
So Hing Mei	Architecture
Szeto Chun Pong	Chemistry
Tam Pui Yim Jenifer	Sociology
Tsang Chun Kit	Chemistry
Wong Chun Kit	Architecture
Yau Hiu Yu Fisch	Geography
Yip Man Hei	History

**1999 – 2000**

Chan Chi Ming Victor	Politics and Public Administration
Chan Hang Ting	Mechanical Engineering
Ho Lai Mei	Chemistry
Ho Ngai Man	Chemistry
Ko Yuen Yi	Chemistry
Lau Gar Lum	Sociology
Lee Ying Tong Sanna	Japanese Studies
Lo Chung Man	Architecture
Lo Kwok Fung Angela	Anatomy
Mak Yiu Fai	Dentistry
Tse Kin Wai	Law
Woo Bo Kei	Electrical and Electronic Engineering
Yau Hiu Yu Fisch	Geography
Yip Man Hei	History
Yung Ka Fu	Chemistry

**2000 – 2001**

Chan Chi Ming Victor	Politics and Public Administration
Chan Hang Ting	Mechanical Engineering
Ho Lai Mei	Chemistry
Huang Fung Yu	Medicine
Kee Francis	Medicine
Lai Ching Nor	Dentistry
Lau Pui Chuen	Architecture
Lee Shuk Fong	Architecture
Lee Ying Tong Sanna	Japanese Studies
Leung Sze Kar	Chemistry
Lo Chung Man	Architecture
Mak Yiu Fai	Dentistry
Poon Ch Yan	Science
Tsang Hoi Ling	Social Sciences
Tse Kin Wai	Law
Tsui Ka Yee Yenny	Social Sciences

**Swire Studentship Holders (1993/94 – 1999/2001)**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Department</b>
1993 – 1994	Zhang Yipeng Social	Sciences
1996 – 1997	Chan Kim Mui Eileen	Comparative Literature
	Song Changyong	Law
1997 – 1998	Xi Jun Jian	
1999 – 2000	Bian Quanshui	Business
2000 – 2001	Wang Heng	Business

**Swire Travel Grant Holders (1994/95 – 1997/98)**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Department</b>
1994 – 1995	Cheng Cecilia	Psychology
	Yang Tat Chi Teddy	Pharmacology
1995 – 1996	Chan Kwan Ho	Chinese
	Cheung Ching Wan	Politics and Public Administration
	Cheung Kin Wai	Geography
	Man Oi Kuen	Music
1996 – 1997	Sun Ka Wah	Botany
	Chau Wai Kei	Anatomy
	Cheung Kin Wai	Geography
	Ko Wai Chi	Comparative Literature
1997 – 1998	Tung Ho Shan	Chemistry
	Lam Kit	Law
1998 – 1999	Tung Ho Shan	Chemistry
2000 – 2001	Cheng Hing Cheung Kevin	Psychology
	Law Kwok Wai Albert	EEE

**Ivy Wu Fellows (1994/95 – 2001/02)**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Department</b>	
1994 – 1995	Huang Min	Pharmacology	
	Lan Li	Biochemistry	
	Li Xiaoming	Surgery	
	Liao Ximan	Biochemistry	
	Qu Xuedong	Medicine	
	Shi Yanfen	Paediatrics	
	Wang Weiqing	Medicine	
	Xu Weisheng	Pathology	
	Zhang You	Pathology	
	Zhu Genghui	Medicine	
	1995 – 1996	Chen Daliang	Microbiology
		Huang Tianguai	O & G
		Lao Zhenguo	Orthopedic Surgery
Li Shanguo		O & G	
Xie Tao		Medicine	
Xu Rongkun		Physiology	
Yang Xin Hai		Microbiology	
Yu Xiaoyi		Anatomy	
Zeng Xiaofeng		Pathology	
Zhang Yongkui		Physiology	
Zhang Zichen	Anatomy		
Zhao Tiebing	Paediatrics		
1996 – 1997	Gao Wentao	Molecular Biology	
	Guo Yan Jun	Diagnostic Radiology	
	Hu Jiong	Medicine	
	Jing Weiming	Orthopedic Surgery	
	Li Ping	Clinical Oncology	
	Liao Weiming	Orthopedic Surgery	
	Pan Lingya	O & G	
	Qiao Jie	O & G	
	Qin Lan Fang	Pathology	
	Shi Gang	O & G	
	Xin Baozhong	Microbiology	
	Zhang Ji Zhong	Microbiology	
	Zhang Min	Medicine	
	Zhang Rong	Pharmacology	
	Zhang You	Pathology	
Zheng Jianping	Community Medicine		

<b>1997 – 1998</b>	Chen Chunling	O & G
	Chen Pingyan	Community Medicine
	Chen Xiaorui	Medicine
	Fan Shangrong	O & G
	Jiang Hong	Medicine
	Liang Xiuhua	Paediatrics
	Lu Jing	O & G
	Ma Liang	Microbiology
	Mo Hao	O & G
	Pan Guang	Medicine
Wang Huaijun	O & G	
Wang Qiong	Medicine	
Zhao Guangfa	Surgery	
<b>1998 – 1999</b>	Guo Lanting	Psychiatry
	Han Guohong	Diagnostic Radiology
	Hong Shunjia	O & G
	Ji Jianzhong	Ophthalmology
	Li Li	Medicine
	Liu Yanfang	Medicine
	Mao Yueshi	Medicine
	Shen Jianxiong	Orthopaedic Surgery
	Shen Zhujun	Medicine
	Shi Qiuling	Community Medicine
	Wang Jin	Clinical Oncology
Wang Tao	Community Medicine	
Yang Guiyong	Orthopaedic Surgery	
Yang Zhenfan	Surgery	
Yu Hong	Pathology	
<b>1999 – 2000</b>	Chen Hong	Anatomy
	Chen Jie	Surgery
	Hei Mingyan	Paediatrics
	Li Jungxiong	Paediatrics
	Liu Jun	Biochemistry
	Wang Xuelai	Medicine
	Xie Dan	Pathology
	Xu Kexin	Surgery
	Yang Hua	Medicine
Zhu Yinghua	Orthopaedic Surgery	
<b>2000 – 2001</b>	Chen Min	O & G
	Guo Hong	Medicine
	Hu Wei	Medicine
	Li Xianliang	Surgery
	Ma Dexian	Pharmacology
	Mei Jie	Medicine
	Shan Jian	Physiology
	Shao Yuan	Surgery
	Shi Honghui	O & G
	Wang Chaohua	O & G
	Wang Hongxia	O & G
	Wu Junping	O & G
	Zhan Hong	Medicine
Zhang Wenqing	Community Medicine	
Zhu Hui	Biochemistry	
<b>2001 – 2002</b>	Han Yibing	O & G
	Hu Xiatong	Medicine
	Li Huaiguang	Orthopaedic Surgery
	Li Shanshan	Pathology
	Liang Ying	Paediatrics

Nong Shaohan	Paediatrics
Sha Xiaojin	Paediatrics
Wang Yue	O & G
Wen Tianfu	Surgery
Zeng Jinqi	Medicine
Zhang Qing	Medicine
Zhu Hong	Pathology

#### Rayson Huang Post-doctoral Fellows (1992/93 – 2001/02)

Year	Name	Department
1992 – 1993	Mireille Lafleur	
1993 – 1995	Liu Jianhua	Ecology and Biodiversity
1995 – 1996	Chan Chin Wing	Chemistry
1996 – 1997	Alexander Mikhalev	Mathematics
1997 – 1998	Leong Che Kan	Education
1998 – 1999	Chan Wing Han	
1999 – 2000	Wong Chun Hung	Mechanical Engineering
2000 – 2002	Ho Wai Hong	Ecology and Biodiversity

#### Wang Gungwu Scholarship Holders (1992/93 – 1999/00)

Year	Name	Department
1992 – 1993	Amoako Daniel Kwasi	Physiology
	Anthony Mely Caballero	Politics and Public Administration
	Balonan Lino C.	Physiology
	Chan Suzanna	Chemistry
	Chan Wan Man Mable	Law
	Chavva Venkataramana Reddy	Physics
	Chen Yu Ling	Chinese
	Choong Mei Fun	Ecology and Biodiversity
	Collado Lilia S.	Botany
	Denny Martin Anthony	Arts
	Fang Dong	Anatomy
	Frohlich Jane	Ecology and Biodiversity
	Guan Yi	Microbiology
	Himango Stephanie Voreen	Politics and Public Administration
	Huang Qin	Zoology
	Ingham Michael Anthony	English
	Kanagbo Kangoma Anthony	Politics and Public Administration
	Lai Yuk Yeu William	Zoology
	Lee Guan Kin	Chinese
	Lin Daming	Statistics and Actuarial Science
	Lin Fu Rong	Mathematics
	Nightingale Nicola	English
	Sciutto James Ernest	History
	Tian Li	Biochemistry
	Wang Wei	Geography
	Wu Fulong	CUPEM
Xiao Hong	Chemistry	
Xu Zhongling	Asian Studies	
Yang Chun	Geography	
Yin Yegao	Chemistry	
Zsoter Andras	Chemistry	
1993 – 1994	Bose Prodip Kumar	Anatomy
	Cheng Liying	Curriculum Studies
	Dorcas Allen	Psychology
	Fan Zhaoxia	Physiology
	Ho Kwet Heung	Physiology

Kang Kwon Myung Hee  
Li Feng  
Li Xia  
Lin Guanyang  
Pleister Hubertus  
Quon James Wing  
Wright Jacqueline Gilda  
Wu Guangwen  
Xu Zhongling  
Xue Wenmei  
Yee Lai Wan  
You Siwei  
Zaman Quazi Mohd Mahtab-uz  
Zhou Dan  
Zhu Wen

**1994 – 1995**

Amoako Daniel Kwasi  
Anthony Mely Caballero  
Bose Prodip Kumar  
Chen Yu Ling  
Cheng Liying  
Collado Lilia S.  
Dorcas Allen  
Fan Zhaoxia  
Fang Dong  
Garza Julian  
He Yao  
Ho Kwet Heung  
Huang Qin  
Kang Kwon Myung Hee  
Lee Guan Kin  
Li Feng  
Li Xia  
Lim Ah Tong Asher  
Lin Guanyang  
Liu Chunjing  
Parsons Edward Michael  
Pleister Hubertus  
Preiss Wolfgang  
Salda Violeta B.  
Stone Paul  
Sun Jinglan  
Tubilewicz Czeslaw  
Vazhappilly Rema  
Wu Guangwen  
Xu Xiaoliang  
Xue Wenmei  
Yang Chun  
Yip Lionel Ross  
You Siwei  
Zaman Quazi Mohd Mahtab-uz  
Zhu Jianxin  
Zhu Wen

**1995 – 1996**

Abdullah Abu Saleh Md  
Bench David Ari  
Bose Prodip Kumar  
Buckman Solomon  
Chang Yea Wen  
Cheng Liying  
Cook James Felix  
Jiao Guansheng

Politics and Public Administration  
Psychology  
CUPEM  
Chemistry  
Business  
Law  
Ecology and Biodiversity  
Chemistry  
Asian Studies  
Chemistry  
CUPEM  
Anatomy  
Architecture  
Dentistry  
Physics

Physiology  
Politics and Public Administration  
Anatomy  
Chinese  
Curriculum Studies  
Botany  
Psychology  
Physiology  
Anatomy  
Politics and Public Administration  
Community Medicine  
Physiology  
Zoology  
Politics and Public Administration  
Chinese  
Psychology  
CUPEM  
Dentistry  
Chemistry  
Chemistry  
Ecology and Biodiversity  
Business  
Social Sciences  
Botany  
Curriculum Studies  
Physics  
Politics and Public Administration  
Botany  
Chemistry  
Physics  
Chemistry  
Geography  
Law  
Anatomy  
Architecture  
Physics  
Physics

Community Medicine  
Social Sciences  
Anatomy  
Earth Sciences  
Pathology  
Curriculum Studies  
Social Sciences  
Chemistry



Johnson Kathy Lee	Social Sciences
Kelkar Avijit Shriniwas	Chemistry
Li Feng	Psychology
Liu Huijun	Botany
Lu Songhui	Ecology and Biodiversity
Luebke Kirsten Beate	Law
Parsons Edward Michael	Ecology and Biodiversity
Salda Violeta B.	Botany
Slade Mark Andrew	Politics and Public Administration
Sreenivasan Narayanan	Dentistry
Stone Paul	Curriculum Studies
Strofs Jason Peter	Social Sciences
Sun Jinglan	Physics
Tran Chanh Duong	Dentistry
Vungkhanching Martha	Social Work and Social Administration
Vyas Anand	Physics
Wang Yousong	Real Estate and Construction
Wu Guangwen	Chemistry
Xue Wenmei	Chemistry
You Siwei	Anatomy
Zaman Quazi Mohd Mahtab-uz	Architecture
Zhang Yongkui	Physiology

**1996 – 1997**

Abdullah Abu Saleh Md	Community Medicine
Buckman Solomon	Earth Sciences
Cheng Yun	CUPEM
Deng Aihong	Physics
Du Xi	Children's Dentistry and Orthodontics
Gu Hong	Statistics and Actuarial Science
He Wenjun	Earth Sciences
Hui Hoi Sing Cindy	Social Sciences
Jiao Guansheng	Chemistry
Kelkar Avijit Shriniwas	Chemistry
Li Li	Law
Liu Chunjing	Chemistry
Liu Huijun	Botany
Long Guoying	CUPEM
Lu Songhui	Ecology and Biodiversity
Luan Shiwu	Statistics and Actuarial Science
Nag Subodh	Physiology
Salda Violeta B.	Botany
Slade Mark Andrew	Politics and Public Administration
Sreenivasan Narayanan	Dentistry
Tran Chanh Duong	Dentistry
Vungkhanching Martha	Social Work and Social Administration
Vyas Anand	Physics
Wang Yousong	Real Estate and Construction
Wen Hongshi	Law
Xie Bin	Anatomy
Xu Fangxiu	Botany
Xu Jiasen	Obstetrics and Gynaecology
Zhang Xiaohui	Physics
Zhang Yongkui	Physiology

**1997 – 1998**

Abdullah Abu Saleh Md	Community Medicine
Aponsu Goniya Malamage Indrajith	Economics and Finance
Buckman Solomon	Earth Sciences
Chai Hong	Anatomy
Chang Mei Tsu	Chinese
Chen Shaohua	Medicine
Cheng Yun	CUPEM
Deepa Alex	Botany

Deng Aihong	Physics
Ding Haibiao	Zoology
Du Bo	Chemistry
Du Xi	Children's Dentistry and Orthodontics
Ellepola Arjuna Nishantha Bandara	Oral Biology Unit
Fang Hong	English
Gu Hong	Statistics and Actuarial Science
Guo Weili	Physics
He Wenjun	Earth Sciences
Ho Chiew Siang	Politics and Public Administration
Hu Yan	CUPEM
Kaluarachchi T.K.P.K.	Biochemistry
Kelkar Avijit Shriniwas	Chemistry
Law Wing Mei Nicole	Law
Leong Veng Mei	Sociology
Li Li	Law
Liu Huijun	Botany
Long Guoying	CUPEM
Lu Songhui	Ecology and Biodiversity
Ma Liang	Microbiology
Nag Subodh	Physiology
Ranghoo Vijayanti Mala	Ecology and Biodiversity
Tran Chanh Duong	Dentistry
Vungkhanching Martha	Social Work and Social Administration
Vyas Anand	Physics
Wadu Mesthrige Jayantha	Architecture
Wang Hong	Social Work and Social Administration
Wang Xiaofei	Physiology
Wang Yousong	Real Estate and Construction
Weerasooriya Aruna Dharmapriya	Ecology and Biodiversity
Wei Xi	Dentistry
Wen Hongshi	Law
Wu Yongmei	Japanese Studies
Xie Bin	Anatomy
Xu Jiasen	Obstetrics and Gynaecology
Yang Chunhui	Mechanical Engineering
Ye Ting	Comparative Literature
Zhang Chi	Chemistry
Zhang Xiaohui	Physics
Zhang Zhitian	Botany
Zhao Hui	Radioisotope Unit
Zhou Donghao	Chemistry

**1998 – 1999**

Amatya Pradyumna	Politics and Public Administration
Anil Sukumaran	Dentistry
Aponsu Goniya Malamage Indrajith	Economics and Finance
Buckman Solomon	Earth Sciences
Chai Hong	Anatomy
Chan Kit Yi Kitty	Architecture
Chan Su Pin	Chinese
Chang Mei Tsu	Chinese
Chen Shaohua	Medicine
Chi Ning	Chemistry
Dassanayake Ranil Samantha	Dentistry
Deepa Alex	Botany
Fang Hong	English
Gu Shen	Chemistry
He Wenjun	Earth Sciences
Ho Chiew Siang	Politics and Public Administration
Hu Yan	CUPEM
Jeewon Rajesh	Ecology and Biodiversity

Jose Babu	Dentistry
Junaideen Sainulabdeen Mohamed	Civil Engineering
Kaluarachchi T.K.P.K.	Biochemistry
Leong Veng Mei	Sociology
Ma Liang	Microbiology
Musanje Lawrence	Dentistry
Nag Subodh	Physiology
Shen Ying Hao	Dentistry
Wadu Mesthrige Jayantha	Architecture
Wang Hong	Social Work and Social Administration
Wang Qiong	Medicine
Wang Xiaofei	Physiology
Weerakoon Sureka Kumari	Botany
Weerasooriya Aruna Dharmapriya	Ecology and Biodiversity
Wu Yongmei	Japanese Studies
Xu Jiasen	Obstetrics and Gynaecology
Yang Chunhui	Mechanical Engineering
Ye Ting	Comparative Literature
Zhang Jihong	Real Estate and Construction
Zhang Zhitian	Botany
Zhao Hui	Earth Sciences

**1999 – 2000**

Amatya Pradyumna	Politics and Public Administration
Anil Sukumaran	Dentistry
Chai Hong	Anatomy
Chan Su Pin	Chinese
Chang Mei Tsu	Chinese
Chen Shaohua	Medicine
Dassanayake Ranil Samantha	Dentistry
Fang Hong	English
Gu Shen	Chemistry
He Hanping	Botany
Hong Shunjia	Obstetrics and Gynaecology
Hu Yan	CUPEM
Jeewon Rajesh	Ecology and Biodiversity
Junaideen Sainulabdeen Mohamed	Civil Engineering
Kaluarachchi T.K.P.K.	Biochemistry
Kathri Achchige Kapila Devapriya	Real Estate and Construction
Ma Liang	Microbiology
Musanje Lawrence	Dentistry
Sununliganon Laddawun	Dentistry
Thilakarathne Ruffina Sharmila	Architecture
Wang Hong	Social Work and Social Administration
Weerasooriya Aruna Dharmapriya	Ecology and Biodiversity
Xing Jie	Botany
Xu Lichong	Civil Engineering
Yang Chunhui	Mechanical Engineering
Zhang Chi	Chemistry
Zhang Jihong	Real Estate and Construction
Zhao Hui	Earth Sciences

**2000 – 2001**

Achchige K.D. Kathri	Real Estate
Chiu Yu Lung	Mechanical Engineering
He Han Ping	Botany
Hong Shun Jia	O & G
Laddawun Sununliganon	Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery
Ma Liang	Microbiology
Ruffina S. Thilakarathne	Architecture
Sita Ram Ghimire	Ecology and Biodiversity
Xing Jie	Botany
Xu Lichong	Civil Engineering

**Kenneth Robinson Fellows (1993/94 – 2001/02)**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Institution &amp; Country</b>
1993 – 1994	Elliot Berg	Development Alternatives Inc., USA
1995 – 1996	Thomas Donaldson	Georgetown University, USA
1996 – 1997	Michael Walzer	Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, USA
1997 – 1998	Dan Sperber	French National Centre for Scientific Research, France
1998 – 1999	Amy Gutmann	Princeton University, USA
1999 – 2000	Walter F. Bodmer	University of Oxford, UK
2000 – 2001	Ronald Philip Dore	London School of Economics and Political Science, UK
2001 – 2002	Walter Mischel	Columbia University, USA

**Senior Tutors of May Wing (1993/94 – 2000/01)**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Department</b>
1993 – 1994	Chu Chun Hung	University Health Service
1994 – 1996	Robin Gauld	Politics and Public Administration
1997 – 1998	Wu Tong	Electrical and Electronic Engineering
1998 – 2000	So Chi Wai	Pathology
2000 – 2001	Park Ng	Microbiology

## AUTHOR INDEX

	<b>Page Number</b>
Ai, Michiko [ 愛子 ]	131
Amatya, Pradyumna	67
Bodmer, Walter	19
Brenner, Lee J.	70
Brooks, Ann	89
Chan, Kei Lum	49
Chan, Mimi	28
Chan, Victor C.M.	69
Chen, Shu Bin [ 陳淑彬 ]	119
Cheng, Kevin H.C.	78
Cheung, Paul Y.S.	47
Chin, Mario P.S.	84
Chiu, Yu Lung	66
Chui, T.K.	62
Dayye [ 黛丫 ]	116
Devapriya, Kathri	73
Dore, Ronald	43
Duggan, Brian J.	55
Eu, Audrey	33
Feng, Li [ 風里 ]	124
Gowdy, Stephen	80
Gravesen, Garrett	79
Halpern, Georges M.	10
Henri, James	91
Ho, Wellcome W.H.	6, 76
Hong, Shunjia	77
Hu, Yan [ 胡燕 ]	122
Jeewon, Rajesh	71
Jiang, Hong	72
Jim, C.Y.	36
Jing, Ping [ 金萍 ]	117
Jose, Babu	75
Lai, John T.P.	61
Law, Albert K.W.	83, 134
Lee, Sanna	98
Leung, Vincent W.S.	5, 100
Liang, Zi Guang [ 梁子光 ]	111
Lo, Chi	41
Mei, Xiao Yu [ 梅小雨 ]	125
Ng, Mei	45
Ng, Park S.P.	6, 64, 81
Potts, Patricia	86
Shi, Wang [ 施旺 ]	126
So, Eric C.W.	60
Thilakarathne, Ruffina	74
Wang, Shelley X.L. [ 王雪萊 ]	6, 114
Yang, Tianliang	63
Yu, Patrick	21
Zhang, Hui Ying [ 張惠英 ]	127