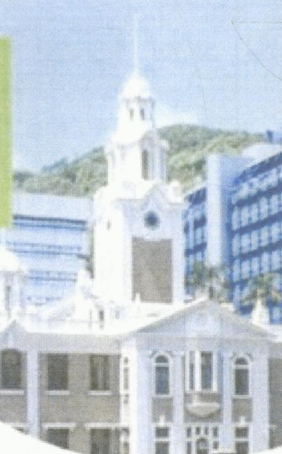


THE GRADUATE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Visit of the Delegation of the Association of Chairmen of Graduate Schools (ACGS)

OCT 2004



In March 2003, the Delegation of the ACGS from Mainland China had come to Hong Kong to meet with administrators of postgraduate education in universities in Hong Kong. The delegation consisted of 10 Graduate School Deans/Associate Deans from top universities in Mainland China, including Shanghai Jiaotong University, Tsinghua University, Peking University, Harbin Institute of Technology, Sun Yat-Sen University, Beijing University of Posts & Telecommunication, Fudan University, Tongji University, Huazhong University of Science & Technology and Southeast University.

From 20 March to 22 March, the Delegation had visited the Graduate Schools of the University of Hong Kong, Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong University of Science & Technology, Hong Kong Polytechnic University, City University of Hong Kong, Lingnan University, as well as the Hong Kong Council for Academic Accreditation.

The purposes of the visit were to promote mutual understanding of the postgraduate education systems in Hong Kong and Mainland and to build up connection and collaboration between universities in the two places. This was the Association's first visit to Hong Kong and their visit was of significant importance to us as it signified the first official exchange between universities in Hong Kong and the Association. This would also help us to better promote and publicize our MPhil and PhD programmes and to recruit better students from the major key universities in the Mainland.



Seminar on Postgraduate Education System in Mainland China

A seminar on "Postgraduate Education System in Mainland China" was held on 13 January 2003.

The speakers were Professor Yang Jia Qing (楊家慶教授) and Professor Lin Gong Shi (林功實教授) from Tsinghua University. Both of them have a lot of collaborations with academics in Hong Kong and have been close friends of the universities here.

Professor Yang is the Vice Chairman of the Council and former Pro-Vice Chancellor and Chairman of the Graduate School of Tsinghua University. During the seminar, Professor Yang explained to us, in detail, the reality and development of postgraduate education in

mainland China. Professor Lin, Vice Chairman of the Graduate School of Tsinghua University, then talked to us about postgraduate education in Tsinghua University.

It was a very informative seminar through which the audience had obtained a good understanding about the Chinese postgraduate education system. If you have missed this seminar, you can now download the PowerPoint presentations by Professor Yang and Professor Lin from the Graduate School website, at <http://www.hku.hk/gradsch/news>. A video of the seminar is also available from the Graduate School office for one-week borrowing.





Miss Silvia Fok Siu Har

MPhil Thesis Prize Winner
Faculty of Arts

Supervisors:

Dr. D. J. Clarke, *Department of Fine Arts*
Prof. Qingli Wan, *Department of Fine Arts*

Thesis: The Development of the Stars (Xingxing) Artists, 1979-2000

Miss Fok's thesis focuses on the work of the Stars (Xingxing) group of artists and has made an important contribution to our understanding of contemporary Chinese Art. With extensive interviews, and her careful attention to detail, Miss Fok's work is a "definitive account to which all future scholars will have to refer", according to Dr. D. J. Clarke, Miss Fok's supervisor.



Mr. Terence Lee Kin Wah

MPhil Thesis Prize Winner
Faculty of Medicine

Supervisors:

Dr. I. O. L. Ng, *Department of Pathology*
Prof. S. T. Fan, *Department of Pathology*

Thesis: Targeted gene delivery using a receptor-mediated gene transfer system and chemosensitivity in hepatocellular carcinoma

Mr. Lee's study is at the forefront of research on gene therapy. Reliable, responsible and careful, he is persistent in his pursuit of finding answers and possibilities in his projects. His efforts during his MPhil study have been recognized by awards in international conferences, such as the Award at the 17th Meeting of the International Academy of Tumor Marker Oncology. Mr. Lee is now continuing his study in gene therapy at HKU.



Dr. Brian Christopher Thompson

PhD Thesis Prize Winner
Faculty of Arts

Supervisor: Dr. M. Noone, *Department of Music*

External Advisor:

Dr. K. Preston, *The College of William and Mary*

Thesis: Calixa Lavallée (1842-1891): A Critical Biography

Dr. Thompson's thesis examines the life and times of Calixa Lavallée (1842-1891), the composer of Canada's official national anthem, O Canada. The study traces the events of Lavallée's life in minute detail, and casts new light on our understanding of the composer as well as the society in his times. Since completing his PhD degree, Dr. Thompson has lectured at many prestigious international conferences.



Dr. Nathaniel Jay Dominy

PhD Thesis Prize Winner
Faculty of Medicine

Supervisors:

Prof. P. W. Lucas, *Department of Anatomy*
Dr. R. T. Corlett, *Department of Ecology & Biodiversity*

Thesis: Trichromacy and the Ecology of Food Selection in Four African Primates

Dr. Dominy registered for an MPhil degree at HKU in Oct 1998, transferred to PhD studies in Jan 2000 and submitted his thesis on primates in just 27 months. His publications during his time at HKU have made him known worldwide and his work has received massive publicity in national newspapers and scientific journals. Dr. Dominy has stepped foot on every continent for conducting research and giving seminars or lectures. Now he is a Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Chicago.

The Expansion of Postgraduate Studies in Mainland China *(Figures are in thousands)*

POSTGRADUATE DEGREES

Year	1978	2001
Applications	63	530
Admissions	10	162
Current Students	21	393

DOCTORAL DEGREES

Year	1990	1995	2000
Admissions	3	11	25
Graduates	2	5	11
Current Students	11	29	69

MASTER DEGREES

Year	1990	1995	2000
Admissions	26	40	96
Graduates	32	27	60
Current Students	81	116	214



Li Ka Shing Prize Presentation Ceremony

In 1990, Dr. Li Ka Shing made a generous donation to the University of Hong Kong. It was agreed that a part of the investment income earned on the donation be used to establish the Li Ka Shing Prizes for the best research degree theses in recognition of academic excellence.

In each alternate year, four winners are selected. One PhD thesis prize and one MPhil thesis prize are awarded to graduates from within each of two broad groupings – group A, comprising graduates in the Faculties of Architecture, Arts, Business & Economics, Education, Law and Social Sciences; and group B, comprising graduates in the Faculties of Dentistry, Engineering, Medicine and Science.

The Li Ka Shing Prize Presentation Ceremony was successfully held on 28 February 2003 in the Rayson Huang Theatre of the University of Hong Kong. This was the first time the Graduate School organized such a ceremony. Four prizes in the form of gold medals were awarded to the winners who graduated in 1999/2000 and 2000/2001. We were very honored to have Miss Amy Yu, Manager of the Chairman's Office, Cheung Kong (Holdings) Ltd. to present the prizes to the winners.

Congratulations to the winners and their supervisors!



Postgraduate Programs in Mainland China



With business and research collaborations with Mainland China on the rise, there is a high demand for personnel with knowledge and experience in Mainland China. As a result, more and more students in Hong Kong are interested in taking up postgraduate study opportunities in top mainland universities.

While the Deans/Associate Deans of the Graduate Schools from 10 top Chinese universities were visiting Hong Kong, the Graduate School of the University of Hong Kong therefore made use of the opportunity to organize a seminar on the topic of "How Hong Kong Students Can Apply for Admission to Postgraduate Programs in Mainland China". The seminar was held on 21 March 2003 in Knowles Building.

During the seminar, a brief introduction of the procedures for application to postgraduate programs was

given by Professor Ye Qu Yuan (葉取源教授), Vice President and Dean of the Graduate School of Shanghai Jiaotong University. It was then followed by a question-and-answer session. Questions had been raised on many areas, including language of instruction, supervisory arrangement, international exchange opportunities and career prospect, etc.

If you would like to know more about this seminar, you can now borrow a video of the event from the Graduate School Office. You can also approach the Beijing-Hong Kong Academic Exchange Centre (京港學術交流中心) for more information about postgraduate programs in Mainland China.

Beijing-Hong Kong Academic Exchange Centre 京港學術交流中心

Add: 16/F Park Avenue Tower, 5 Moreton Terrace,
Causeway Bay, Hong Kong
香港銅鑼灣摩頓臺5號百富中心16樓

Tel: 2892 1267

Fax: 2834 5519

URL: <http://www.bhkaec.org.hk/>



RGC Postgraduate Student Conference/Seminar Grants

What are the aims of the scheme?

The overall aims of this scheme are to support and promote inter-institutional and inter-disciplinary contacts among postgraduate students of the UGC-funded institutions, and to provide opportunities for postgraduate students of these institutions to meet and interact with eminent scholars from outside Hong Kong.

Who can apply?

Postgraduate students involved either as the organizer or as a primary partner in the planning and organization of a proposed conference/seminar, and that the conference/seminar should be open to all postgraduate students in the UGC-funded institutions.

What kind of funding will be provided?

The scheme will provide funding up to a maximum of \$50,000 per application to meet the costs of air passages, hotel accommodation and subsistence allowance to be incurred by overseas guest speakers invited for local inter-institutional conferences/seminars.

Is there an application deadline?

No. Applications are accepted and considered all year round.

Where can I obtain more information?

Please go to <http://www.ugc.edu.hk/rgc/english/forms/index.html> and download the Guidance Notes for Application and forms. After you have read the Guidance Notes in detail, any enquiries regarding the scheme may be addressed to the Research Services of the Registry at 2803-0558.

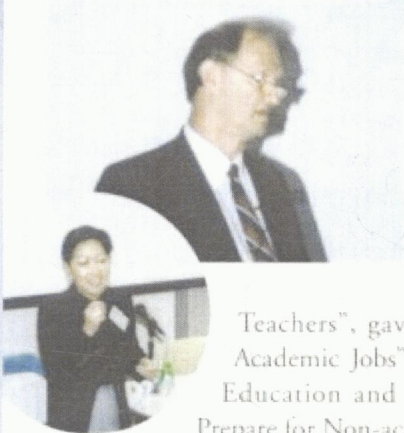
Where should I submit my application?

Applications from HKU must be submitted through

Ms. Wendy Lin

Research Services, HKU
Room 901, Knowles Building,
The University of Hong Kong

Career Workshop for RPG Students



The "Career Workshop for RPG Students" was successfully held on 21 January 2003 with the aim of helping RPG students to prepare for academic and non-academic jobs. More than 100 students had attended the workshop.

During the workshop, Professor John Malpas, PVC and Deputy Chairman of the "Committee for the Selection of Senior

Teachers", gave a presentation about "How to Prepare for Academic Jobs"; while Ms. Louisa Li, Director of the Careers Education and Placement Centre, advised us on "How to Prepare for Non-academic Jobs".

"The academic world is these days crowded and highly competitive. You don't get far hiding your light under a bushel. You have to promote yourself, appear at conferences, publish everything you can... It is tough and it is corrupting. It breeds a culture of over confidence, of attention-seeking."

- McCalman (1996) *"Towns and Gowns: the Humanities and the Community"*

Professor Malpas started his presentation with the above quote to emphasize the importance for research students to "Get Known" to prepare for a job in the academia. To "Get Known", research students should attend conferences, use their supervisors' network, and publish the results of their post-graduate work in good journals during the course of their candidature. When students start hunting for academic jobs, they must evaluate the position and institution very carefully.

In the world of non-academic jobs, Ms. Li told us that employers often praised the analytical ability, research skills and mature character of research students. However, students should also develop good communication skills and learn to appreciate the business world. In addition, Ms. Li advised students to start their preparation as early as possible. They should start developing the skills for their intended career NOW, no matter it is academic or non-academic.

In response to the popularity of this workshop to research students, the Graduate School will organize similar activities again in the future. The PowerPoint presentations used in the workshop have also been uploaded to the Graduate School website at <http://www.hku.hk/gradsch/news/>. Starting from June, a video of the workshop will be available from the Graduate School office for one-week borrowing.



Produced by: The Graduate School, P403, Graduate House,
The University of Hong Kong, Pokfulam Road, Hong Kong.