



The Curator  
Hung On-To Memorial Library

04 OCT 2004

## Graduate School Accommodation Survey for Research Postgraduate Students

With an aim to helping the University plan for the housing needs of research postgraduate students in future, the Graduate School had conducted an accommodation survey in May/June to obtain an overall picture of the research postgraduate students' current housing conditions and to collect their views on postgraduate accommodation.

A total of 760 local and non-local students had responded to our survey, representing 13% of our local student population and 98% of our non-local student population. The results of the survey showed that the majority of our research postgraduate students were living in private accommodation and there was a high demand for **inexpensive** and **close-to-campus** university housing with **single room arrangement**.

The detailed statistical analysis and summary of students' comments had been sent to the bodies concerned for information, such as the Accommodation Committee, Estates Office and the Office of Student Affairs. We believe the results of the survey would be useful for the consideration of future design of University hostels and allocation of residential places for research postgraduate students.

The Graduate School would like to thank all the students who had taken the time to respond to the survey.

## Graduate School Course Evaluation

To obtain MPhil/PhD students' feedback on the Graduate School courses, each student was asked to complete a course evaluation form upon completion of a course. Opinion was sought on areas such as the course level, workload and course content, etc. Students could also provide open comments on the courses.

The course evaluation results in the previous academic years showed that students were generally satisfied with the Graduate School courses. A lot of valuable feedback had also been received from the students on how to make the courses even more helpful for their research studies. Such feedback had been very useful for the Graduate School to consider changes to the coursework programme.

As an example, before the academic year 2003/04, MPhil/4-year PhD students were required to attend 3 Core Course II modules each lasting for 8 hours. After considering many students' comments that the modules were too short, each module is now lengthened to 12 hours in order to provide students with more in-depth training on the subject, and students are required to attend 2 modules only.

The course evaluation results had also been presented to the University's *MPhil Review Working Group* for evaluating our MPhil programme. The Working Group had made several suggestions on the Graduate School courses. These suggestions are being studied and considered for implementation in the near future.

As a student, you are most encouraged to provide comments and suggestions on the courses in the evaluation forms. They may contribute to the future development of the MPhil/4-year PhD programme.

If you would like to read more about the course evaluation statistics for the previous academic years, please visit our website at: <http://www.hku.hk/gradsch/coursework/evaluation.htm>





The Graduate School would like to congratulate the following students for their outstanding achievements in obtaining external awards and international recognition of their research work:

## Avon Foundation-AACR International Scholar-in-Training Awards 2004

(At the 95th Annual Meeting of the American Association for Cancer Research)



**Mr. YANG Chongqing**, MPhil Student, Department of Pathology

**Supervisor:** Dr. ANY Cheung, Prof. HYS Ngan, Dr. US Khoo

**Single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) in the coding sequence of follicle stimulating hormone receptor (FSHR) are associated with ovarian cancer susceptibility.**

Yang CQ<sup>1</sup>, Ngan HYS<sup>2</sup>, Khoo US<sup>1</sup>, Chan KYK<sup>1,2</sup>, Chiu PM<sup>1</sup>, Chan QKY<sup>1</sup>, Xue WC<sup>1</sup>, Cheung ANY<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Pathology, <sup>2</sup>Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology

**Abstract:** Follicle stimulating hormone (FSH) and its receptor FSHR play critical roles in reproductive function and may implicate in ovarian carcinogenesis. Single nucleotide polymorphism (SNP) of the FSHR gene affect FSH efficacy. Our study demonstrated an association between two SNPs of FSHR gene, Ala307Thr and Ser680Asn, and susceptibility to ovarian cancer. The susceptibility is histological type specific. Our findings suggest that different types of ovarian cancer may adopt different carcinogenetic pathways.

*Mr. Yang Chongqing with his supervisor, Dr. ANY Cheung*



## AACR-ITO EN, Ltd. Scholar-in-Training Awards 2004

(At the 95th Annual Meeting of the American Association for Cancer Research)



**Mr. LEUNG Ho Yin, Thomas**, PhD Student, Department of Pathology

**Supervisor:** Prof. IOL Ng, Dr. DY Jin

**Characterization of novel putative tumor suppressor gene, *DLC2* (deleted in liver cancer 2), in hepatocellular carcinoma**

Leung TH<sup>1</sup>, Ching YP<sup>1</sup>, Wong CM<sup>1</sup>, Ng DC<sup>2</sup>, Jin DY<sup>2</sup>, Ng IOL<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Pathology, <sup>2</sup>Department of Biochemistry

**Abstract:** Our group has identified for the first time a putative tumour suppressor gene which we named deleted in liver cancer 2 (DLC2) gene and is located at chromosome 13q12.3. This new gene, DLC2, encodes a Rho GTPase activating protein (RhoGAP) with GAP activity specific for RhoA. From the bioinformatics search and expression studies of DLC2 gene in humans, we have identified four isoforms of the DLC2 gene, which we designate as DLC2 $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ ,  $\gamma$ , and  $\delta$ . Transfection of DLC2 $\alpha$  and DLC2 $\gamma$  into mouse fibroblasts induced significant morphological changes which were associated with remarkable inhibition of actin stress fiber formation. These results were in keeping with the functions of DLC2 as a RhoGAP and that it induced morphological alterations through regulation of cytoskeletal reorganization. We have thus concluded that DLC2 likely exerts its tumor suppressor function partly via its RhoGAP function to inhibit RhoA activity, resulting in suppression of stress fiber formation.

*Mr. Thomas Leung (2nd from left) with his supervisor Prof. IOL Ng (4th from right) and fellow researchers*







## Urban China Research Network Small Grant Awards

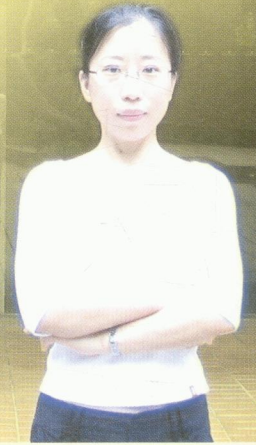
(Based at the University of Albany in USA)  
Spring 2004 Graduate Student Awards

**Ms. CHEN Yan**, *PhD Student, Department of Geography*

**Supervisor:** Prof. C. Y. Jim

**Topic:** Valuing Ecosystem Services of Recreational Opportunities and Amenities Generated by Green Spaces in Guangzhou

**Abstract:** Ecosystem services of recreational opportunities and amenities generated by urban green spaces were usually highly valued by citizens and they were found to be willing to pay for these benefits. Contingent valuation method (CVM), which has been widely used in valuing non-market benefits in overseas studies, would be applied to measure the monetary value of recreational opportunities and amenities generated by green spaces in Guangzhou. In addition, residents' knowledge and recognition of ecosystem service would be explored. The study would contribute to understanding of green spaces in Chinese cities and the application of CVM in China.



**Mr. HU Zhiyong**, *PhD Student, Department of Geography*

**Supervisor:** Dr. G.C.S. Lin

**Topic:** The Transformation of State-Owned Enterprises in Chinese Cities: A Comparative Study of Shenyang and Guangzhou

**Abstract:** Existing studies on urban development in China have generated huge amount of literature on many aspects of urban transformation such as urban population, rural-urban migration, urban land-use change, urban housing and so on. By contrast, relatively little has been written on the growth and development of SOEs in urban China, which remain to be an important and powerful agent affecting China's urban development. This project aims to fill in this gap by analyzing and explaining the heterogeneous nature of China's SOEs with special reference to their inherently embedded institutional context. The major hypothesis made in this project is that the success or failure of SOEs in urban China depends on the ways in which they are institutionally embedded in place-specific and historical-contingent context. To test this hypothesis, this project will conduct a comparative analysis of SOEs in Shenyang and Guangzhou through questionnaire survey, semi-structured interview, and detailed case study.



**Mr. WANG Tan**, *PhD Student, Department of Geography*

**Supervisor:** Dr. S.X. Zhao

**Topic:** Emerging "Headquarter Economies" and Hyper-Service Hubs in the People's Republic of China

**Abstract:** In mainland China, there are three headquarter clusters emerging — Bohai Rim Area centered in Beijing, Yangtze River Delta centered in Shanghai and Pearl River Delta centered in Guangzhou and Shenzhen. However, how do different regions in the spatial division mandate/coordinate with each other? This study, taking regional headquarters (RHQs) of large transnational corporations (TNCs) as the research target, aims to investigate the impact of complex locational behaviors of regional HQs from TNCs with different organization structures on the regional economy. The study will first analyze the roles and functions of RHQs and their spatial arrangements of operations. Attempts will then be made to explain the reasons underlying RHQs' agglomeration in different regions, and to evaluate the regional impacts of TNCs' organization behavior in this agglomeration process. Finally, important theoretical and empirical implications of the research finding will be addressed.





# Endeavour Australia Cheung Kong Awards 2005

**Aim of the Awards:** To attract high-performing scholars and particularly research proposals which will benefit the further development of social and economic environment of Asia and Australia.

**Value of the Awards:** Financial support for postgraduate students and postdoctoral fellows to undertake short-term research in Australia will be provided. The Awards are valued at up to A\$25,000 and the benefits include

- travel allowance of A\$5,000;
- establishment allowance of A\$5,000; and
- a monthly stipend of A\$2,500 for up to six months.

14 awards will be provided for scholars from Mainland China and the Hong Kong SAR to undertake research in Australia.

**Eligibility:** Applicants must

- be citizens or permanent residents of a designated Asian country or administrative region, and be physically resident in that country, at the time of application;
- satisfy the minimum English requirement for the Awards; and
- hold at least an undergraduate degree.

**Application deadline:** 26 October 2004 (Tue)

For more information and the application form, please visit: [http://www.dest.gov.au/international/awards/end\\_auscheungkongawards.htm](http://www.dest.gov.au/international/awards/end_auscheungkongawards.htm)

For enquiries, please contact:

**Ms. Natalie Palmer** (*Corporate Affairs Officer, Cheung Kong (Holdings) Ltd.*) at (852) 2122 2529 or [natalie.palmer@ckh.com.hk](mailto:natalie.palmer@ckh.com.hk).

## Frequently Asked Question

**Q: How can I apply for restriction of library access to my thesis?**

**A:** After you have finished all the thesis corrections and received a letter from the Graduate School confirming that you have satisfactorily completed all the degree requirements, you may apply for restriction of library access to your thesis. Please write to the DRPC stating your reasons and specifying the proposed period of restriction (either 1 year, 2 years or 3 years). The DRPC will forward your application to the Faculty for endorsement and the Board of Examination for Graduate Studies for approval.

Please note that such restriction normally would not be granted unless under exceptional circumstances. Preparing for journal publications would NOT be a justified reason for restricted access.

## CALL FOR PAPERS

### 2004 School of Languages Postgraduate Conference, University of Melbourne

We are pleased to inform you that papers are now being invited for the 2004 School of Languages Postgraduate Conference at the University of Melbourne, which will be held from 14 November 2004 (Sun) to 15 November 2004 (Mon).

Postgraduate students of language, culture, literature and linguistics from any university are particularly welcome to submit their papers. Please note the requirements on the abstract, paper and presentation as follows:

**Abstract:** Approximately 150-200 words in length and have some relevance to one or more of the keywords: **Interventions, Interactions** or **Interrelations**. (Papers that do not have a direct relevance to the keywords are also welcome.) It should include the title of the paper, the author's name, university affiliation and the author's contact details. The abstracts will be published in the conference programme.

**Paper:** Should not exceed 5000 words.

**Presentation:** No more than 20 minutes in length.

Please note that joint presentations are also encouraged, as are individual papers.

The completed registration form should be submitted to "School of Languages Postgraduate Conference Organising Committee, School of Languages, University of Melbourne 3010, Australia" or [sol-conf@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:sol-conf@unimelb.edu.au) by 8 October 2004 (Fri). A written version of the accepted papers should be submitted electronically by **14 November 2004 (Sun)**, to be considered for publication in the refereed conference proceedings.

For more information, please contact the School of Languages Postgraduate Conference Organising Committee by email: [sol-conf@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:sol-conf@unimelb.edu.au)

The Graduate School Newsletter is published once every four months (in September, January and May) and distributed to all research postgraduate students and supervisors via departments. Earlier issues can be read at the Graduate School Homepage at <http://www.hku.hk/gradsch> (Publications & Resources → Newsletters).

Research postgraduate students and supervisors are welcome to submit articles to us (Email: [mpmyee@hkucc.hku.hk](mailto:mpmyee@hkucc.hku.hk)) for publication in the Newsletter. The next issue will be available in January 2005 and the deadline for submission of articles will be 15 December 2004.



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