DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Dear friends and colleagues,

It is my great pleasure to introduce the inaugural issue of the CUHK School of Pharmacy (CUSOP) newsletter. Our newsletter will provide the latest news on the School, including activities of the staff, students, alumni, colleagues and friends, as well as research achievements and forthcoming events.

The School of Pharmacy was established in 1992 and is the only pharmacy school in Hong Kong. Through the years, more than 300 of our students have successfully completed the Bachelor of Pharmacy degree and 40 students have completed their Master’s and PhD degrees. With our concerted efforts in education, research and professional services, we hope to promote the best pharmaceutical care and to enhance drug development in Hong Kong.

I hope you enjoy our newsletter.

Moses SS Chow
Director and Professor
School of Pharmacy
Faculty of Medicine
The Chinese University of Hong Kong

MISSION

To pursue and disseminate pharmaceutical knowledge through quality teaching, research and service development, aimed at improving the health status of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, China and beyond.

VISION

Our purpose is to improve the health of Hong Kong citizens. In this regard:

- We will ensure our curriculum meets the standards of pharmacy education in countries with advanced healthcare systems,
  a. Undergraduates will remain competitive in gaining admission to these countries’ postgraduate and professional programmes.
  b. Undergraduates could pass these countries’ examinations, leading to licensure.
  c. Postgraduates will be competitive in gaining employment in relevant sectors, both locally and internationally.
- We will become a recognized centre of excellence for drug development and drug evaluation in Southeast Asia, and will promote the growth of its pharmaceutical industries.
- We will help improve pharmaceutical services within Hong Kong and its environs to meet or exceed the standards of those enjoyed in other countries with advanced healthcare systems.
The establishment of a pharmacy degree course in Hong Kong was first proposed by pharmacy professional bodies in 1986. The Pharmaceutical Society of Hong Kong and the Practising Pharmacist Association of Hong Kong jointly proposed a tentative Bachelor of Science (Pharmacy) programme but were unable to obtain government approval. However, a general awareness of the increasing migration of pharmacists out of Hong Kong up to 1997 and the concern for an eventual shortage of pharmacists in Hong Kong led Professor Charles Kao, then Vice Chancellor, to request that a feasibility study be conducted in 1989 to examine the possibility of offering a pharmacy degree course at the Faculty of Medicine of CUHK.

To coincide with its triennium (1991-1994) planning, the Faculty of Medicine convened a working committee to submit a proposal for introducing a pharmacy degree course at CUHK. In early 1990, the Faculty was informed of the UPGS’s approval of the proposed pharmacy programme at CUHK, and the first students were admitted in September 1992. Subsequently, the Working Committee of the Pharmacy Course, composed of experts from the government, the pharmaceutical industry, pharmacy professional bodies, hospital and community pharmacists, and various departments in the Faculty of Medicine, was formed to draw up the course curriculum.

Professor Kenneth Raymond was the Founding Chairman of the newly formed Department of Pharmacy. The Department was renamed School of Pharmacy in 2000 after Professor Moses Chow became the Director of the School.

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**2000**

- Establishment of the Drug Development Centre
- 10th Anniversary celebration of the School of Pharmacy and official opening ceremony of Drug Development Centre

**2004**

- The 2004 Lung Cancer Symposium/The 9th Annual Scientific Symposium of the Hong Kong Cancer Institute
  - The symposium was held in Hong Kong on 19-20 March.

- 2004 China (Hong Kong) Clinical Pharmacy Symposium
  - This event was held in Hong Kong on 13 August 2004, and hosted guests from across China and Hong Kong.
  - 8月13日於香港舉行，獲中國內地及本港藥劑學會熱烈參與。

- The Pharmacy Conference 2004
  - The theme of the conference was "Patients and Pharmacists: In Sickness and In Health".
  - The conference was held in Hong Kong on 9-10 October.
  - In 2005, the conference will focus on the relationship between patients and pharmacists.
  - 應邀出席的除了本地同業，官方代表外，還有中、港、澳及歐美等專家參與。

**2005**

- Hong Kong Trade/Study Mission
  - "Pharmaceuticals and Chinese Medicine"
  - Fostering intellectual and cultural exchange, this important event organized by the School and the Academy for International Health Studies took place on 11 November.

- Symposium
  - Entitled "Modernization of Chinese Medicine: Application of Pharmacokinetic Principles and Formulation Science in the Development of Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) Products", the symposium was held in Hong Kong on 18 March.
  - 藥物代謝動力学和藥劑學在中藥藥品研發中的應用
**Moses Sing Sum Chow**, Pharm D. (UCSF), Director and Professor of Pharmacy. His major interest is in pharmacokinetics and drug development. He recently chaired the Inaugural Conference of the Asian Association of Schools of Pharmacy in Beijing and symposium on “Modernization of Chinese Medicine: Application of Pharmacokinetic Principles and Formulation Science in the Development of TCM Products” at the CUHK. He received HK$630,000 as part of the HK Government’s Area of Excellence Grant on “Clinical Trials of TCM and Further Development”. He also served as the External Examiner for the School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Universiti Sains Malaysia in February 2005.

**Albert Hee Lum Chow**, PhD (Toronto, Canada), MRPharmS (U.K.), Professor and Associate Director for Research, was recently awarded a research grant of HK$ 397,110 under the National Natural Science Foundation of China / Research Grants Council Joint Research Scheme for the project “Aqueous-Aqueous Emulsion for Microencapsulation of Delicate Proteins for Sustained Release”. The project represents the first major research collaboration between the Schools of Pharmacy of CUHK and Shanghai Jiao Tong University in mainland China.

**Susan Suk San Ho**, BScPhm, MS, PharmD, is Teaching Fellow and Associate Director for Education and Professional Development. Dr. Ho received her Bachelor of Pharmacy degree from the University of Toronto (Canada), Master of Science degree in Clinical Pharmacy from St. John’s University (USA) and Doctor of Pharmacy degree from the Albany College of Pharmacy (USA). She is a founding member of the School of Pharmacy. Dr. Ho teaches pharmacy practice for the BPharm programme and received the annual Teacher of the Year Award from 1998 to 2003 and the Master Teacher Award in 2004. She is an active member of many professional societies and is currently involved in various committees and advisory groups dealing with educational and professional matters in Hong Kong.

**Yee Ping Ho**, BSc(Hons) (Loughborough), PhD (Loughborough), C.Chem, MRSC, Associate Professor, joined the Chinese University of Hong Kong in 1993 and teaches Medicinal Chemistry and Pharmaceutical Analysis for the BPharm programme. Her research interest include the design and synthesis of novel TCM-platinum anticancer drugs; and is a co-inventor of one US and two PRC Patents. In recent years, she has been awarded two Earmarked Grants supported by the Research Grant Council of Hong Kong that totaled HK$ 1,452 million (2002 and 2004). Her other research areas include preclinical in vitro and in vivo evaluation of anticancer agents; and analytical method development for analysis of drugs and traditional Chinese medicines.

**Clara Bik San Lau**, BPharm, PhD, MRPharmS, graduated from King’s College London, University of London, United Kingdom. She joined the School of Pharmacy in March 2000 as an Assistant Professor. Dr Lau has a continuous interest in medicinal plants and has over 10 years’ experience on natural products research. Her current research topics include the development of a Ganoderma (Lingzhi) and/or Coriolus (Yunzhi) formula as an anti-cancer agent (3.5-year project, ITF University-Industry 50:50 matching grant of HKD 3 million). Besides, Dr Lau’s other research interest includes the in vivo and in vitro investigation on the potential anti-diabetic activities of selected Chinese herbs.

**Kenneth Kwong Chin Lee JP**, BSc(Pharm) (Washington), MPhil (CUHK), PhD (CUHK), Professor, was one of the founding members of the School. His major areas of research interest are: clinical pharmacology, pharmacoeconomics and pharmacogenetics.

**Vivian Wing Yan Lee**, BSc(Biochem) (UCLA), PharmD (USC), Dr. Lee is an Assistant Professor at the School of Pharmacy. Her research interests are in Pharmacoeconomics and Pharmacogenetics. Her research work has been published and presented at international journals and meetings. She has been involved in teaching Clinical Pharmacy curriculum for both undergraduate and postgraduate programs. She has set up the clinical pharmacy clerkship program at the Prince of Wales Hospital. She has actively participated in various pharmacy-related organizations such as the pharmacy conference organizing committee and Pharmacy & Poison Board. She is recently recognized by the Who’s Who in the World for her distinguished achievement in the profession.

**Ophelia Qi Ping Yin**, PhD (Shanghai Medical University), Assistant Professor of the School and Assistant Director of the Drug Development Centre. Dr. Yin’s research interests are pharmacokinetics and pharmacogenetics, with major focus on pharmacokinetic/pharmacodynamic modeling, and pharmacogenomics of CYP isozymes and renal transporters affecting drug disposition. As the Assistant Director and Scientific Officer of the Drug Development Centre, she is also leading an effort to provide drug evaluation services to the pharmaceutical industry. Since her appointment in Oct 2002, Dr. Yin has secured two CUHK Direct grants and a number of industry-sponsored contracts, with an approximate total funding of HK$5 million. She has also published 15 full papers and more than 20 abstracts.

**Joyce Hoi Sze You**, Pharm.D., BCPS, Associate Professor, obtained her Doctor of Pharmacy degree in the University of Illinois at Chicago. Her research interests are methodology development of pharmacoconomics and outcomes research, focusing on simulation designs of decision tree and Markov modelling. She recently completed a two-year randomized clinical trial on cost-effectiveness of a clinical pharmacist-managed anticoagulation clinic supported by the Health Care and Promotion Fund. The experimental anticoagulation service is now sustained in the Prince of Wales Hospital as the first and only clinical pharmacist-managed warfarin clinic in Hong Kong.

**Joan Zhong Zuo**, BSc (W. China Univ. of Med. Sc), PhD (Alta.), Associate Professor, joined the School of Pharmacy in January 2000 and has been involved in the teaching of Fundamentals of Organic Chemistry, Dosage Form Science III and Basic Techniques I & II. She holds a BSc and a PhD in Pharmaceutical Sciences and has had 10 years experience in the biopharmaceutics and pharmacokinetics fields. The research studies of Dr. Zuo focus on disclosing the absorption and metabolism mechanisms of the active components in the Traditional Herbal Medicine. She just received the Teacher of the Year Award (2003-2004) early this year.

**Mary Yee Man Au-Young**, Pharm.D., Instructor and Master of Clinical Pharmacy Programme Coordinator. Dr. Au-Young pursued her doctorate degree at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, USA. She is involved in didactic and clinical teaching in both the Bachelor and Master programmes. She is interested in patient education and pharmaceutical care practice. Currently, she is involved in the development and provision of clinical pharmacy service at the Prince of Wales hospital.

**Chui Ping Lee**, PharmD (University of Rhode Island), Instructor. Dr. Lee is responsible for teaching therapeutics in the Bachelor of Pharmacy and Master of Clinical Pharmacy Program. She also precepts students enrolled in clinical clerkship. Currently, Dr Lee is involved in the provision of clinical pharmacy service at the Prince of Wales Hospital.
STUDENT EVENTS

Admission Talk
- Professor Joan Zuo welcomed the newly admitted Form 7 students to the Bachelor of Pharmacy course

University of Southern California (USC)-CUHK Student Exchange Programme
- Last summer, 10 students from Year 2 visited the USC to learn and share practices and knowledge.
- Ten year-two-year students from 2004 year spent a summer in the USC.

O’Camp 迎新營
- The O’Camp helps new students orientate themselves and become familiar with life in the School of Pharmacy.

Orientation Day 迎新日

Spring Dinner 新春晚餐
- Organized by the Pharmacy Society students, this annual event brought together the School’s faculty, staff and Bachelor of Pharmacy students.

COMING EVENTS

October 15 to 16 – Hong Kong Pharmacy Conference 2005
November 14 to 17 – Asian Association of Schools of Pharmacy Symposium, Montien Riverside Hotel, Chaophya River, Bangkok, Thailand