

# Medical Faculty News



Faculty of Medicine, The University of Hong Kong

September 1996

Volume 1 Number 3

*A quarterly update to keep alumni and friends in touch, and up to date.*

## FACULTY EXHIBITION ON OSTEOPOROSIS



*(from left): Professor A.W.C. Kung, Professor J.C.Y. Leong, Professor S.P. Chow, Dr. The Honourable C.H. Leong, Professor L.C. Wong, Professor S.K. Lam, Dr. P.K.Y. Chin*



*Many of the public were keen to seek more information on Osteoporosis*

### *Osteoporosis and You*

This was the title of a joint exhibition organized by the Faculty of Medicine, with joint efforts of the Department of Medicine, Obstetrics and Gynaecology and Orthopaedics and Traumatology, held over the June 29th weekend at the Ocean Terminal.

The objective of this exhibition was to educate people with the correct and positive knowledge about osteoporosis through different media; there was a poster display, brochure and test card distribution and a computer game. Doctors and researchers were present for on-site consultation. Throughout the event more than 6,000 people sought information on this important condition.

The exhibition was generously supported by Merck Sharp and Dohme(Asia) and Harbour City Management.

### **WHAT'S INSIDE ...**

- Curriculum reform (pg 2)
- Alumni news (pg 3)
- What's coming up (pg 4)
- Networking update (pg 5)
- In the news (pg 6)

# DEAN'S MESSAGE

**In the post-1997 era, what makes our medical school distinct from others in China must be our international characteristic. Our undergraduate curriculum is undergoing a reform towards that direction. Our research must also move towards international collaboration, with the support of modern technology and communication. Our teachers should be encouraged and supported to explore possible ideas of joint projects at this stage. The next stage should be more focused and quality rather than quantity must be emphasized. My recent trip to North America has revealed abundant opportunities and goodwill in our sister institutions, with support from friends and alumni.**

## CURRICULUM REFORM - AN UPDATE

Summer is traditionally a time when many teaching activities wind down but a small group of teachers have been meeting regularly to plan the curriculum changes that will be necessary to implement the proposals of the Working Group on Medical Faculty Reform. The recommendations of this group were accepted by the Faculty Board, with a recommended starting date for the new curriculum structure of September 1997.

The group, chaired by Professor Tony Dixon is currently focussing on the Foundation Course, which will occupy the First Semester of the 1st year Course. The intent is that the Foundation Course will serve as an introduction to medical science and the health care system in Hong Kong, as well as helping students to develop computer skills and discover the different resources available at the medical school.



*In the new curriculum students will spend more time in tutorials working through clinical problems*

During this course, an English enhancement programme will be available. Following the Foundation Course will be a series of "systems- based" units, developed and coordinated by teams of basic scientists and clinicians. Woven throughout these units will be common threads which will include clinical and communication skills, community experiences, medical ethics and economics and evidence-based medicine. Also planned are "special study modules" elective periods that will allow students to study areas of individual interest.

The planning group is examining ideas from around the world in an effort to make sure that the Medical School course is as up to date as possible, but is also working to ensure that any changes represent a "Made in Hong Kong" programme, appropriate for the particular needs of Hong Kong medical students and the community which they will serve in the future.

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## OUR VIEWS...

The aims of this newsletter are to improve the awareness of the activities of members of the Faculty of Medicine, especially the collaborations between departments, and to inform outside bodies or individuals about current activities of the Faculty. This newsletter will be published 4 times a year and sent free to all registered medical practitioners in Hong Kong. It will also be sent to overseas Medical Schools and recent graduates of the Faculty of Medicine, University of Hong Kong. If you have photographs of your time in Medical School, news or updates on past graduates, please forward all correspondence to The Editor, Medical Faculty News, Faculty of Medicine, 7 Sassoon Road, Pok Fu Lam, Hong Kong. Fax enquiries

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# ALUMNI NEWS . . .

## Toronto Alumni Reunion

Queen's Birthday Honours were awarded to three distinguished HKU graduates...



Professor Sir Harry FANG Sin Yang CBE, MB, BS, Hon. LLD HK, MCh(Orth) Liv, FRCS Edin, FACS, FRACS, FRCPE, JP was knighted. He has made pioneering advances in spinal surgery and for his work in rehabilitation for disabled people.

Professor MA CHUNG Ho Kei CBE, MB, BS, FRCOG, JP for her contributions to Medical Education whilst serving as the Dean of the HKU Faculty of Medicine and as Professor of Obstetrics and Gynaecology.



Professor John LEONG Chi Yan OBE, MB, BS, FRCS, FRACS, JP for his achievements in orthopaedic surgery, in the development of medical and health care, and in community service.



Professor S.P. Chow had a chance to meet some of the 1968 HKU graduates when he was in Toronto, Canada recently. Pictured with him are Dr S.P. Lee, Dr T.Y. Chien, Dr S.C. Chang, Dr Peter Chang & Dr H.L. Ho.

If any alumni have news of forthcoming events, please let us know

## STUDENT ROOMS - THEN AND NOW



As the academic year begins the activity of the halls of residence comes into full swing. Before 1992 a building called the 'Clinical Students' Residence' was situated at 7 Sassoon Road. Since 1992 this has been replaced by the 150 bed Madam S H Ho Residence for Medical Students.

These rooms are for mainly 4th year and 5th year medical students with 70 rooms reserved for students doing specialty clerkship in Medicine, Surgery or



Paediatrics. Around 7-8 rooms are reserved for overseas students doing elective terms.

The residence is under the mastership of Dr David Ho Sai Wah, a cardiologist and lecturer in the Department of Medicine, who is assisted by Mr Stephen Chan, the manager and Miss Florence Ng, a clerk. This, together with the other 3 residential halls, 6 Sassoon Road is the biggest student residential area of the University.

# WHAT'S COMING UPS

September	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	1996	29	30				

## Monday 2 - Friday 6

First China-Hong Kong Education Conference, Princess Margaret Hospital. Department of Nursing Studies (2855 4749)

## Saturday 7

Laparoscopic Workshop. Animal Laboratory, Li Shu Fan Bldg, 5 Sassoon Rd. 9:00am-5:00pm. Department of Surgery (2856 3025)

## Monday 9

Lecture: Dr Bruno de Lignieres, Hopital Necker, Paris, *French Experience in HRT*. Rm 604, Professorial Block, Queen Mary Hospital. 8:30-9:30 am. Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology (2855 4260).

## Tuesday 10

Lecture: Prof JD Wood, Ohio State University, USA, *Enteric Neuro-* G05, G/F., Patrick Manson Building South Wing, 7 Sassoon Rd. Department of Pharmacology (2819 9250).

## Friday 20

Lecture: Prof Kenneth Raymond, The Chinese University of HK, *Pharmacokinetic Approaches in Assisting Dosage Adjustment* G05, G/F., Patrick Manson Building South Wing, 7 Sassoon Rd. 5:30 pm. SPMET (2819 9290).

October	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4	5
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	1996	27	28	29	30	31	

## Tuesday 8, Wednesday 9 or Thursday 10

Lecture: Prof John P Hearn, University of Wisconsin, Madison, USA, *Natural Regulation of Fertility in Wild Mammals* Department of Anatomy, HKU (2819 9220).

## Tuesday 8

Lecture: Prof Ulrich Mennen, Medical University of Southern Africa, South Africa. Department of Orthopaedic Surgery HKU (2855 4254).

## Wednesday 30

Lecture: Prof AJ Hedley, The University of Hong Kong, *The Demand for Medical Care & Environmental Factors for Respiratory Disease in HK : The Feasibility of Closing a Major Teaching Hospital in HK by 2020*. G05, G/F., Patrick Manson Building South Wing, 7 Sassoon Rd. 5:30 pm. SPMET (2819 9290).

November	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
							1	2
	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
	1996	24	25	26	27	28	29	30

## Sunday 10

Lecture: Prof Shah Ebrahim, Royal Free Hospital School of Medicine, UK, *Cardiovascular Health*. Department of Community Medicine (2819 9280).

## Tuesday 12

Lecture: Prof Shoichi Kokubun, Tohoku University School of Medicine, Japan. Department of Orthopaedic Surgery HKU (2855 4254).

## Wednesday 13

Lecture: Dr LP Samaranyake, The University of Hong Kong, *Emerging Infections, Oral Disease and Medical Practice*. G05, G/F., Patrick Manson Building South Wing, 7 Sassoon Rd. 5:30 pm SPMET (2819 9290).

## Wednesday 13 Saturday 16

Hong Kong International Cancer Congress & International EBV Symposium. Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre. Department of Surgery (2818 0232)

## Friday 15 - Sunday 17

Chinese Paediatric Forum. The University of Hong Kong. Department of Paediatrics, HKU (2855 4375).

## Saturday 23, Sunday 24

Symposium on Chinese Medicine & Public Health. Department of Community Medicine (2819 9280).

## Forthcoming Meetings...

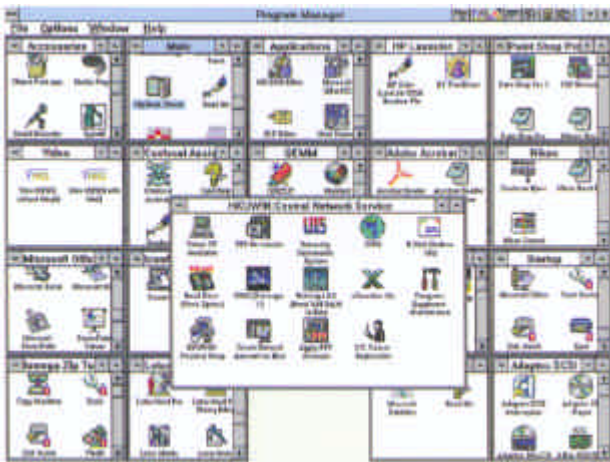
● **ORIENTATION WORKSHOP OF OPIOID RESEARCH ACROSS THE STRAIT. DECEMBER 18TH, 1996.** Dr T. M. Wong, Department of Physiology is the Co-Chairman of this Workshop. For further information contact him on (852)28199202 (phone), (852)28559730 (fax) or wongtakm@hkumail.hku.hk

● **11TH BIENNIAL CONGRESS OF THE ASIAN SURGICAL ASSOCIATION 2-5TH MARCH, 1997.** This will be held at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre and provide a forum to exchange ideas with surgeons practicing in a variety of fields of interest including general surgery, upper gastrointestinal and colorectal disease, hepatobiliary disorders, endocrine, plastic and reconstructive surgery, neurosurgery, urology and vascular surgery. Contact the Secretariat, HKICC, Department of Surgery, University of Hong Kong, Pok Fu Lam, Hong Kong (Phone: (852)28554235, Fax: (852)28181186 for further information. E-mail: mededcon@hkumail.hku.hk)

# NETWORKING UPDATE...

In the first of a regular series of articles we will show you how you can use networking facilities to keep up to date in your field.

## 1. Basic use of the World Wide Web.



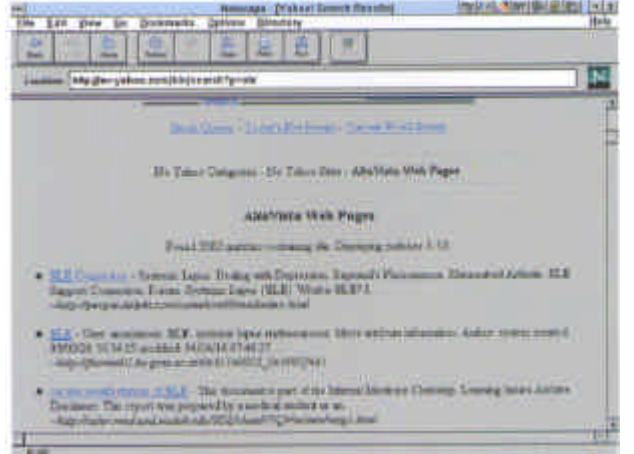
To start your journey, click the mouse on the Netscape icon



To search the title of interest type in flit, relevant words, in this case SIT



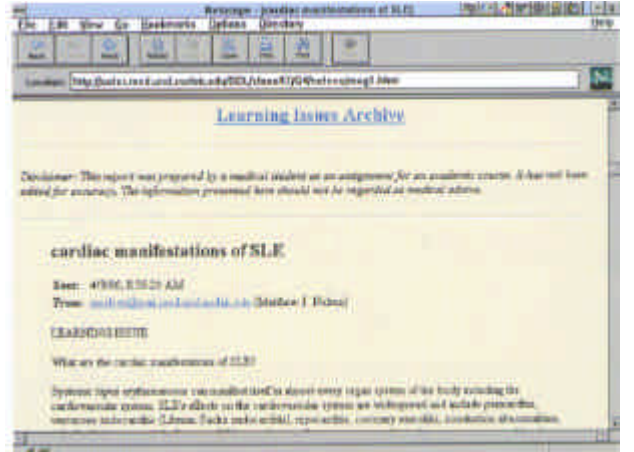
This takes you to the HKU home page. Move the mouse to the Location box.



Yahoo tells you what it has found. Click on the highlighted areas to go to the site of interest.



Type in <http://www.yahoo.com> to get into the search engine..



In this case there is a page on cardiac manifestations of SLE

**Next month:** Hot medical sites! If you know of any let us know!

# IN THE NEWS AND OUR VIEWS...

## Summer Holidays and Student Attachment

By the end of August the Faculty will have finished the sixth year of work experience for secondary medical students. This programme has been designed to give students a chance to see what happens inside a hospital and what the work of a doctor is. This year a total of 64 students out of 82 applicants were chosen to spend 2 weeks in Departments of the Faculty of Medicine.

Competition for the posts was high and the successful students were selected on the results of their HKCEE scores. The Departments which were visited were mainly clinical and included Medicine, Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Orthopaedic Surgery Paediatrics, Pathology and Surgery.

The feedback, as in previous years, was beneficial. Students thought that the experience was informative, useful and memorable and gave them a good opportunity to experience a doctor's life. They were particularly impressed with the chance to see live operations and also liked the anatomy museum.

For over half of the students, the experience reinforced their thoughts of entering into the medical profession and thought that the programme should continue for future years.



*Most students carefully listened to Mr. Ting introducing the Anatomy Museum while others were intrigued by the preserved body parts*

## Community Medicine and The Smoking Issue

The Department of Community Medicine demonstrated its strong commitment to smoking prevention and tobacco control when members participated in a petition drive to support the Smoking (Public Health) (Amendment) Bill. This bill proposes bans on tobacco advertising in print and display media. Over 3,000 signatures in support for the bill, from a broad spectrum of the community, were presented to the Governor by Dr Carol Betson, a lecturer from Community Medicine.

In another demonstration of community service, Professor A J Hedley, Head of the Department, debated with Professor

Philip Witorsch from George Washington University in the United States over Asia TV News Satellite link between Hong Kong and Singapore on the issue of environmental tobacco smoke (ETS). Professor Witorsch, a long standing consultant to the tobacco industry, maintained that there is relatively little danger from ETS but Professor Hedley argued that the current epidemiological evidence suggests that there is no safe level of exposure and that ETS is a significant public health problem - particularly in children.

## 110 Years and Going Strong

110 years is a long time for a University and since the Hong Kong College of Medicine was instituted in 1897 with Dr Sun Yat-Sen as one of its first graduates there have been many changes in the structure and function of this University.

It is therefore fitting and appropriate that mention is made of the 110th Anniversary and a Working Group has been set up to plan for this important event.

The highlight will be an International Scientific Congress planned for the later part of the year consisting of exhibitions, concurrent sessions and a gala dinner. The theme of the conference will be the advances which have been made in this region as well as the links which have been established with mainland China.

The conference will also aim to stimulate a reunion of alumni who are now spreading over all parts of the world.

Next year is also the 60th anniversary of Queen Mary Hospital. To celebrate such an occasion, Queen Mary Hospital has been organizing open weeks of individual departments from now until 1997. By opening various departments to the public, the hospital is

improving public awareness of the services that are provided. It promotes general health education and also helps to create a team spirit among the hospital staff.



*Dr. Sun Yat-sen as first graduate*