

# Advancing Research



to

## Build a Better World

### Inaugural Research Newsletter January 2017



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香港樹仁大學

HONG KONG SHUE YAN UNIVERSITY



- 4 **Message from the Academic Vice-President, Professor Sun Tien Lun, Catherine**
- 5 **About Hong Kong Shue Yan University (SYU)**  
Background of the University  
Nurturing Research at SYU  
University's Social Responsibility: Advancing Research to Build a Better World
- 6 **Research Funding from the Competitive Research Funding Schemes for the Local Self-Financing Degree Sector under the Research Grants Council (RGC)**  
**Institutional Development Scheme (IDS) Research Grants**  
Constructing an Interdisciplinary Research Platform at Hong Kong SYU (2014-2017)  
Further Enhancement of Interdisciplinary Research at Hong Kong SYU through the Establishment of the Centre of Interdisciplinary Research in Evidence-Based Practice (2016-2019)  
**Research Grants under the Faculty Development Scheme (FDS) and the Inter-Institutional Development Scheme (IIDS)**  
FDS and IIDS  
**Photographs of RGC Visit**
- 16 **Other External Sources of Research Funding**  
Other External Grants (2014-2016)
- 18 **Research Centres**  
Contemporary China Research Centre (CCRC)  
Business Economic and Public Policy Research Centre (BEPP)  
Counselling and Research Centre
- 25 **Laboratories Supporting Research Activities**  
Laboratories in the Department of Counselling and Psychology  
SY Media Laboratory, Department of Journalism and Communication
- 28 **International Conferences and Seminars Organised by Departments**
- 30 **Promising Young Scholars**
- 34 **New Books Published by Faculty Members (2015-2016)**
- 36 **Outstanding Research Activities Conducted by Students at SYU**  
SYU student Mak Cho Kei won the regional award in the economics category of the Undergraduate Awards  
Excellent Research Conducted by SYU Students
- 39 **Future Developments**  
**New Research Complex**  
Institutional Development Scheme Centre (IDSC)  
Multimedia Production Centre (MPC)  
New Laboratories (for construction in two phases)



## Message from the Academic Vice-President, Professor Sun Tien Lun, Catherine

As Academic Vice-President of a teaching-led and research-informed university, Professor Catherine Sun believes that Hong Kong Shue Yan University should have a solid research foundation. Excellent academic research always creates a good foundation for high-quality teaching by bringing cutting-edge knowledge into the classroom.

Professor Sun believes that it is the University's social responsibility to nurture the next generation of academics and students through research. In the University's research-enriched environment, faculty members are able to conduct challenging research to develop their expertise and advance their academic careers. In today's information era, it is equally important to nurture a research mindset and critical-thinking skills in students, as this equips the younger generation with the ability to differentiate information from misinformation and information from knowledge.

In the coming years, the University will raise its publication requirements and encourage the production of more high-quality publications. To support faculty members in achieving this target, a Research and Amenities Complex will be opened in 2017. More research space and better infrastructure and equipment will be provided with the support of two Institutional Development Scheme (IDS) grants (amounting to more than HK\$12 million) from the Research Grants Council (RGC). These grants will be used to establish two research centres to support and enhance the research of faculty members. Internationally renowned scholars have also been invited to deliver workshops and seminars at the University and to brainstorm new research ideas with colleagues at SYU.



With grants received from the Inter-institutional Development Scheme (IIDS) under the RGC, workshops will be organised to bring like-minded junior and senior researchers together to pursue knowledge, collaborate and keep abreast of research developments. Besides, many faculty members also received support in hiring research assistants and obtaining teaching relief through research grants received from the RGC's Faculty Development Scheme (FDS). Professor Sun looks forward to the emergence of an even more vibrant and productive research environment at SYU, with more and more colleagues engaging in diverse, exciting and challenging research projects facilitated by financial support from the RGC and other sources.

## About Hong Kong Shue Yan University (SYU)

### Background of the University

Hong Kong Shue Yan College was founded by Dr Chung Chi Yung and Dr Hu Hung Lick, Henry in 1971, when tertiary education was available to less than 2% of the relevant age group. During its first 20 years, the College built up a solid reputation in the educational community, both in Hong Kong and internationally, for its 4-year Honours Diploma programmes. In May 2006, the Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications (HKCAAVQ), formerly the Hong Kong Council for Academic Accreditation (HKCAA), conducted an Institutional Review, whose purpose was to evaluate whether Hong Kong Shue Yan College had an overall appropriate academic environment, including institutional structure and processes, resources, quality-assurance mechanisms and academic plans suitable for the granting of university status (HKCAA Terms of Agreement 8 February 2006). The Chief Executive in Council approved the change of title to Shue Yan University in 2006.

### Nurturing Research at SYU

From 2006 to 2011, the University's efforts were directed towards achieving the objective of becoming a teaching-led, research-informed institution. Since 2011, the University has moved a step further towards becoming a teaching-led, research-active institution. The University pursues excellence in research by encouraging and helping colleagues to actively engage in innovative research. In 2013, the Research Office was set up to facilitate, coordinate and support faculty members in their applications for research funding from various external sources. Professor Chan Ching, Selina, began to serve as the Director of the Research Office in September 2016. To further advance research excellence, various speakers were invited to deliver seminars on grant applications, and meetings with colleagues were also held to encourage innovative research. Some colleagues conduct pure research with the primary aims of exploring, explaining, expanding and developing

knowledge, as well as enriching our understanding of the world. Others seek to extract real-world value from applied research. This applied research often involves knowledge transfer to external parties, which contributes to society's well-being as well as to economic and social development.

### University's Social Responsibility: Advancing Research to Build a Better World

As a liberal-arts university, SYU's social responsibility is to promote multifaceted and innovative research and hence contribute to a better world. In particular, we cherish the opportunity to act in partnership with local communities, industries, non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and the government to generate, disseminate and apply knowledge. Interdisciplinary collaboration is encouraged and innovative knowledge production is applauded. To maximise the influence of our research activities, every effort is made to facilitate knowledge transfer from the university community to the public sector and relevant sectors of industry.

SYU's goal is to build a better world by promoting research that improves best practice in industry, public-sector and government settings, empowers local communities and marginalised groups and enhances individuals' quality of life. To meet today's national and global challenges, the University encourages open and constructive dialogue between academics from various disciplines and between SYU academics and representatives of the local community, industry and the public sector. The aim is to facilitate the design and implementation of innovative interdisciplinary research, as this is expected to aid knowledge transfer and enhance the University's competitiveness. We also consider it the University's social responsibility to use faculty members' research findings to improve professional practice and public policies, as well as to support cultural pluralism and sustainable development.



## Research Funding from the Competitive Research Funding Schemes for the Local Self-financing Degree Sector under the Research Grants Council (RGC)

### Institutional Development Scheme (IDS) Research Grants

Since 2014, the Research Endowment Fund has been earmarked for competitive bidding by degree-awarding institutions in the local self-financing sector. The University has received two grants amounting to HK\$12.9 million from the IDS to build up its research capacity in specific strategic areas.

### Constructing an Interdisciplinary Research Platform at Hong Kong SYU (2014-2017)

In 2014, SYU obtained a grant of HK\$6.7 million from the IDS to enrich its research culture by constructing an interdisciplinary research platform that brings together expertise and academics from different disciplines. Interdisciplinary collaboration at SYU occurs in three strategic research areas: (1) brain-based teaching and learning; (2) decision making; and (3) negotiation and persuasion.

From 2015 to 2016, eleven distinguished scholars in the fields of brain-based teaching and learning and decision making delivered four public lectures, led seven research workshops and conducted five academic seminars and one technical tutorial at the University. More experts in the field of negotiation and persuasion will be invited to deliver lectures and seminars in the coming year. Details can be found at [www.hksyu.edu/projects/irpids/](http://www.hksyu.edu/projects/irpids/).



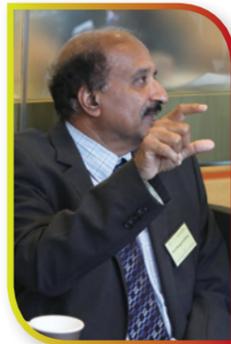
**Dr Dénes Szűcs**, Deputy Director of the Centre for Neuroscience in Education at the University of Cambridge.

Dr Szűcs delivered the first public lecture, entitled "Mathematics Development, Developmental Dyscalculia and Mathematics Anxiety". He also

gave a workshop on educational neuroscience to show SYU academics how research informs teaching and learning, particularly in the field of mathematics.

**Professor Ranga Krishnan**, former Dean of the Duke-NUS Graduate Medical School Singapore.

In a public lecture entitled "Learning for Tomorrow" on 22 May 2015, Professor Krishnan shared his insights into Internet-centric learning, a new teaching and learning method that involves the use of mobile technology to elicit students' curiosity during learning. Professor Krishnan discussed this method further in a workshop entitled "Learning Based on Scientific Principles" on the second day of his visit.



**Professor Leon Petrosyan**, Head, Department of Mathematical Game Theory and Statistical Decisions, St Petersburg State University.

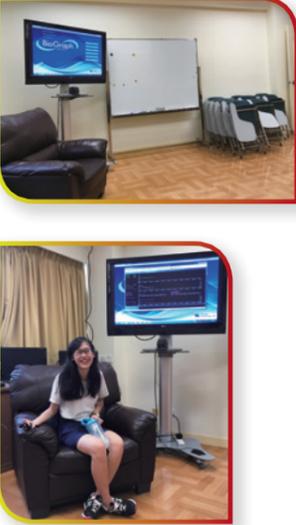


Professor Petrosyan delivered a series of workshops on game theory on 8-9 November 2015. He shared his knowledge in the following areas with students and academics in the Department of Business

Administration: the concept and techniques of time consistency; inter-temporal interactive decisions and dynamic games; and game-theory approaches to strategic thinking.

IDS funding also supported the purchase of more computer workstations, software packages such as SPSS (Statistical Package for the Social Sciences), a symbolic mathematical computation programme and other equipment required for research.

## New Equipment Acquired to Support Research

Special Research Equipment	Description	Purpose
<p>FlexComp Infiniti™</p> 	<p>A portable biofeedback system used to capture physiological responses related to emotions and decision making in scientific research. Various physiological parameters can be selected for measurement, such as skin conductance, blood volume pulse and respiration rate. The system has a wide range of applications in psychology, clinical research, physical therapy and primary care.</p>	<p>For teaching</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Used by Dr Wong Pak Ho, Bernard, (Department of Counselling and Psychology) to teach a course entitled Human Neuropsychology.</li> <li>- Used by three master's degree students in research projects addressing the following topics/questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The role of mindfulness in enhancing the counselling self-efficacy of counselling trainees;</li> <li>- Can nature be imagined?</li> <li>- Does creating mandalas increase relaxation and reduce anxiety?</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Used by one undergraduate student for a research project on approach and avoidance motivation in responding to emotional stimuli.</li> </ul>
<p>NeuroConn DC-stimulator MD</p> 	<p>A non-invasive device used to apply constant low transcranial direct current stimulation and transcranial alternating current stimulation to region of interest (ROI) in brain via electrodes on the scalp. Depending on its duration and current density and frequency, the stimulation either inhibits or activates cortical activity. The device is compatible with magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) scans. Its versatility makes it suitable for a wide range of research studies, such as studies of decision-making and risk-taking behaviour.</p>	<p>For teaching</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Used by Dr Yu Kai Ching, Calvin, (Department of Counselling and Psychology).</li> </ul>
<p>DuoMAG XT-100 rTMS System with Brainsight® TMS Neuronavigation system</p> 	<p>A system that provides focal stimulation to the brain region of interest. It integrates data from structural MRI scans to provide highly accurate stimulation to particular areas of the brain. Transcranial magnetic stimulation is widely used in motivation- and emotion-related research, making it a useful tool for examining the core concepts of negotiation and persuasion.</p>	<p>The equipment will be purchased soon.</p>

Source : <http://www.rogue-resolutions.com/catalogue/neuro-modulation/duomag-xt-rtms/>



**Further Enhancement of Interdisciplinary Research at Hong Kong SYU through the Establishment of the Centre of Interdisciplinary Research in Evidence-Based Practice (2016-2019)**

In September 2016, SYU obtained another grant from the IDS (HK\$6.2 million) to further enhance its research culture by constructing an interdisciplinary platform for research on evidence-based practice. The scheme supports the development of research expertise in the areas of interdisciplinary evidence-based practice; strengthens the provision of training and education in evidence-based practice in vocationally oriented academic programmes; and enhances links between the University and community partners via the joint development and implementation of evidence-based practice research projects. In 2017-2018, a series of public lectures, seminars and workshops on evidence-based research will be organised.

**Research Grants under the Faculty Development Scheme (FDS) and the Inter-Institutional Development Scheme (IIDS)**

In addition to IDS grants, faculty members have received research funding from the FDS and the IIDS to conduct 19 research projects and organise conferences. While the FDS provides funding for academics to conduct research projects and produce academic publications, the IIDS supports the joint organisation of seminars and workshops by SYU and other local or overseas institutions to enable colleagues to widen their academic connections and keep abreast of new developments in challenging areas of research.

The University has received more than HK\$10.1 million from these two schemes to advance new knowledge and inform teaching. Some of the research projects have implications for immigration, labour-welfare and family-related policies, while others will help to improve professional practice in sectors/industries such as information technology, accounting, education, health and social work, and counselling and clinical psychology. Projects undertaken by researchers in humanities and social-sciences students are often dedicated to helping marginalised groups, such as patients with terminal diseases, the family carers of schizophrenia outpatients and asylum seekers.

**FDS and IIDS**

Principal Investigator	Department	Project Title	Description
Dr Cui Xiling, Celine	Business Administration	“In-role and Extra-role Knowledge Sharing among Information Technology Professionals: A Self-determination Perspective”	This study provides a set of practical recommendations for IT organisations on enhancing their employees’ in-role and extra-role knowledge sharing. The findings of the project offer IT managers insights into methods of leveraging various rewards, especially intrinsic rewards, to motivate their subordinates to enhance both their in-role and their extra-role knowledge sharing.
Dr Cui Xiling, Celine	Business Administration	“Is Social Media a Distraction or an Enhancement for Organisations? A Social Media and Team Creativity Model (SMTCM)”	This project is designed to determine whether social media distract from or enhance team creativity. It is expected to provide some practical recommendations for managers on helping their teams to take advantage of social media to improve creativity and other aspects of team performance.
Dr Lee Hua	Accounting	“Are Asset Impairment and Earnings Management for Tunneling? Evidence from Connected Transactions in Hong Kong”	This project explores how firms suspected of tunneling with asset-transfer related party transactions use asset write-downs to transfer wealth to controlling shareholders, and whether these firms use either real activities or accruals to manage contemporaneous reported earnings. The analysis will provide insights into the policy implications in the mandatory disclosures on related parties and related-party transactions.
Dr Lee Shu Kam	Economics and Finance	“Nonlinear Cointegration and Relevant Market Definition: A Study of Grocery Markets”	The aim of this project is to determine whether competition in the Hong Kong grocery industry is fit and proper. Nonlinear price-based cointegration tests and statistical methods are used to analyse anti-competition.
Dr Li Yi Man, Rita	Economics and Finance	“Construction Safety Index for Skyscrapers in Hong Kong: A Multi-criteria Decision-making Approach”	The research investigates the creation of a construction safety index for skyscrapers to estimate the likelihood that accidents will occur on site. Such an index will help safety officers to implement safety-risk plans. The research also examines the relative importance of various causes of construction accidents.



Dr Jayawickrama Sharanya	English Language and Literature	“Trauma, Memory, and Healing in Modern Asian Literature”	This project investigates Asian literature created in response to conflict and catastrophe to explore the complex and surprising intersections of literature, history and ethics. Its aim is to identify connections within and foster dialogue on literature arising from experiences of colonialism, militarisation, revolution, civil war, genocide and natural catastrophe. The project contributes to the globalisation of literacy studies in the 21st century and responds to the imperative to restore a cross-cultural perspective to trauma studies.
Dr Lam Yee Man	English Language and Literature	“Risk Yet to be Socially Realised: Light Pollution in Hong Kong”	This project studies the existing discourse on light pollution; that is, how light pollution is discussed by different stakeholders. It will make a pertinent contribution to the study of risk with a unique case study of a scientifically proven risk that has not to date received a social formulation in Hong Kong. A more thorough understanding of risk will aid in the identification of suitable responses, enabling us to suggest ways of discussing and managing the problem of light pollution in the future.
Professor Leung Tin Wai	Journalism and Communication	“Hong Kong Journalists’ Oral History”	Local veteran journalists are interviewed on camera to enable readers/other audiences to understand their history of running Chinese newspaper businesses in Hong Kong. The resulting video production will be aired on the Department’s SY Media Laboratory website in January 2017, followed by a book published by Cosmos Books Ltd later.
Dr Tong Suk Chong, Crispy	Journalism and Communication	“Revisiting Public Relations Functions and Values in the Digital Era”	This research project uses a coorientation framework to explore how two groups of practitioners (public relations practitioners VS. marketing practitioners) perceive public relations values they could attain, and public relations functions and interactivity function they performed. This study makes significant theoretical and practical contributions to the understanding of the industries of public relations and marketing in Hong Kong. It also aids public relations practitioners to more effectively perform public relations functions in the digital era, as well as provide advices to formulate guidelines on effective usage of social media to build relationship between the organization and its stakeholders.

Dr Ho Yuk Ying, Irene	Sociology	“In Face of Life’s Problems, What Does Religion Mean? Assessing Rational Choice Theory with Evidence from Catholic Case Studies”	This project explores the meaning of religion for different people. It investigates the ways in which Catholics rely on their religion to deal with both surmountable and insurmountable problems in life. The findings have useful implications not only for pastoral care but also for scholars and practitioners who are interested in the role of religion in social work, counselling and health care.
Dr Hui Yew Foong	Sociology	“Mapping Diasporic Networks: The Case of the Indonesian Chinese”	This project spans the disciplines of anthropology, sociology and history. It maps out the migratory paths of specific groups within the Chinese diaspora and investigates their connection and organisation across national boundaries. The project focuses on Chinese communities associated with Medan in Sumatra, Indonesia. Although separated by political boundaries, these communities remain connected by kinship, alumni or hometown ties. These ties are investigated through multi-sited ethnographic research in Indonesia, China, Hong Kong and Taiwan to determine whether they represent a kind of Chinese transnationalism that can persist across generations and geographical regions.
Dr Lau Pui Yan, Flora	Sociology	“People without Identity: Exploring the Social Experiences of Asylum Seekers in Hong Kong”	Applying sociological perspectives to social networking and stigmatisation, the aim of this project is to study the life experiences, social connections and self-perceived identities of asylum seekers as a marginalised group. The findings will help policy makers to design improved policies for asylum seekers in Hong Kong, especially in the areas of immigration and welfare.
Dr Chan Chi Keung, Alex	Counselling and Psychology	“Executive Function Skills and Early School Success in Young Chinese Children from Low-income Families”	The aim of this study is to test for socioeconomic disparity in the development of executive-function (EF) skills in young Chinese children. The study is also designed to determine whether EF skill levels serve as indicators of risk and resilience in the early school success of economically disadvantaged young children. It examines the role of maternal and paternal parenting practices in helping young children living in poverty to develop good EF skills. Suitable policy interventions are identified.



Dr Chio Hin Man, Jasmine	Counselling and Psychology	“An Exploratory Study of the Positive Side of Work-family Dynamics”	The aim of this project is to determine whether work-related social support is effective only in the workplace, or whether it can be transferred to the family domain. The research is also designed to determine whether the positive effect of family-related social support is domain-specific or transferrable to the work domain. The findings will help to develop measures to ensure a positive work-family dynamic.
Dr Chow Tak Sang, Jason	Counselling and Psychology	“Exploring how Self-Control Training Improves Self-control Performance: An Experience Sampling Study”	The aims of this project are to determine whether a self-control training paradigm improves self-control performance in everyday life and to provide information on methods of optimising future self-control training programmes. The research also examines the mechanism underlying this self-control training paradigm. Exploring methods of improving self-control capacity has practical value in terms of improving people’s well-being. The findings of this project will be valuable for practitioners in education, clinical and business settings.
Dr Lo Lap Yan	Counselling and Psychology	“Angry is Not That Angry: Relativity of Emotion Perception and New Development of Emotional Expressions Photobank”	This project examines an alternative conceptualisation of categorical emotional perception that suggests that the discreteness of basic emotions is relative rather than absolute. The project involves the creation of a photobank with a full continuum of emotional facial expressions and different morphing sequences. The photobank will allow us to determine whether emotional expressions can be consistently identified across conditions.
Dr Zhou De Hui, Ruth	Counselling and Psychology	“Empowering Caregivers of People with Schizophrenia: Comparing Intervention Effectiveness of Family Link Education Programme (FLEP), Narrative Practice Group (CNGP) and Integrative Peer Support Growth Group (IPSGG)”	The project compares the effectiveness of three psychological interventions to identify an optimal intervention for the family carers of schizophrenia outpatients.

Dr Fu Wai	Counselling and Psychology	“The Missing Link: An Investigation of Moism, the School of Names, and the School of Diplomats, and their Place in the History of Ancient Chinese Psychology”	The project examines the contribution of Moism (墨家), the School of Names (Mingjia 名家) and the School of Diplomats (Zhonghuangjia 縱橫家) to psychology. Applying Danziger’s method of identifying psychological objects in combination with techniques for the cross-validation of texts, the study casts light on the psychological constructs adopted by Moism, the School of Names and the School of Diplomats, ancient empirical approaches to psychology and the psychological techniques used to train spies and diplomats, namely mnemonics, guided imagery, eloquence training, humour training, theatrical training, voice training and attention training. The findings will expand existing understanding of the history of psychology in Chinese communities and open up possibilities for the generation of new ideas about indigenous psychology.
Dr Fu Wai	Counselling and Psychology	“Phenomenology: A Multidisciplinary Dialogue”	The aim of this project is to enhance students’ understanding of phenomenology, which is one of today’s most influential philosophical perspectives. The project involves training workshops on applied skills in phenomenology, addressing topics such as phenomenology as a qualitative research method; the use of phenomenology to deal with ethical dilemmas; phenomenology and existential psychotherapy; and phenomenology and hermeneutics as research methods in the humanities. The workshops also cover a variety of theme-based interdisciplinary dialogues between phenomenology and areas such as psychology, sociology, science and technology, philosophy, human services and ethics.



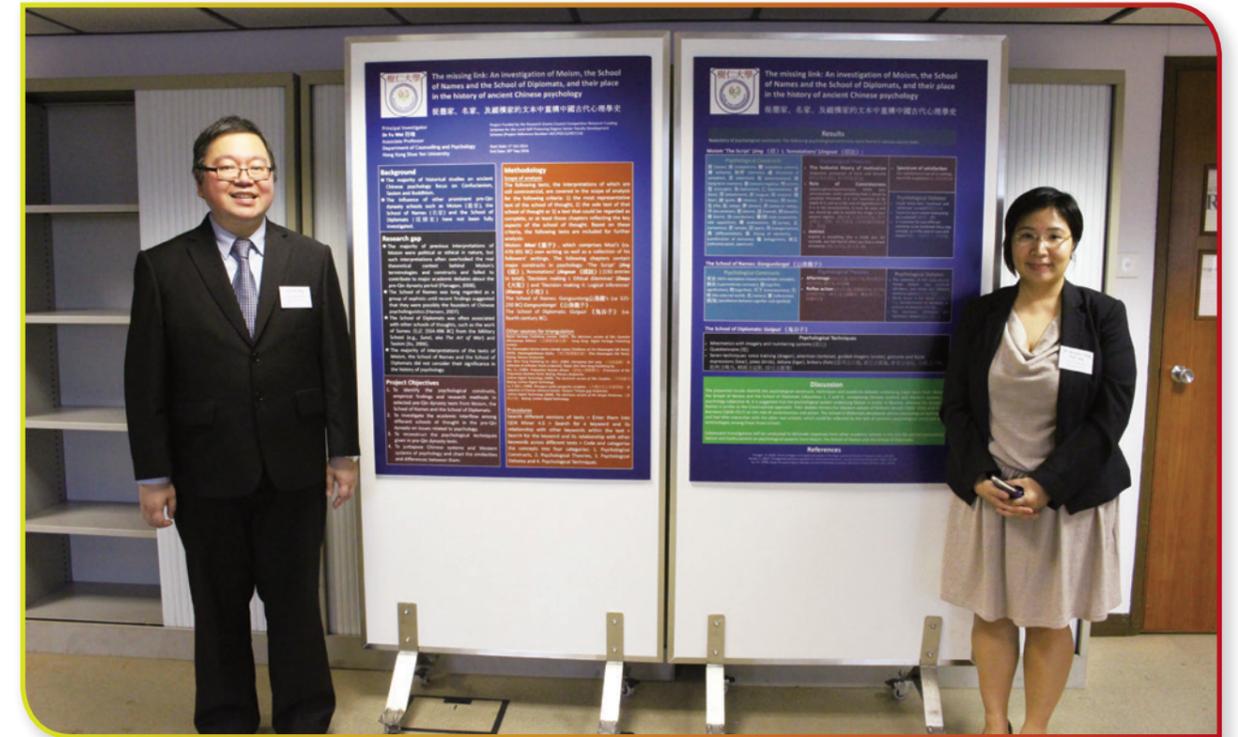
### Photographs of RGC Visit

Representatives of the RGC visited Hong Kong SYU on 3 May 2016 to familiarise themselves with the University's overall research activities and research

strategies and to monitor the implementation of ongoing research projects funded by the RGC.



▲ Principal Investigators giving Poster Presentation during the RGC visit, accompanied by Senior Management.



▲ "The Missing Link : An Investigation of Moism, the School of Names, and the School of Diplomats, and their Place in the History of Ancient Chinese Psychology" (UGC/FDS15/H07/14) by Dr Fu Wai, Associate Professor (Department of Counselling and Psychology).

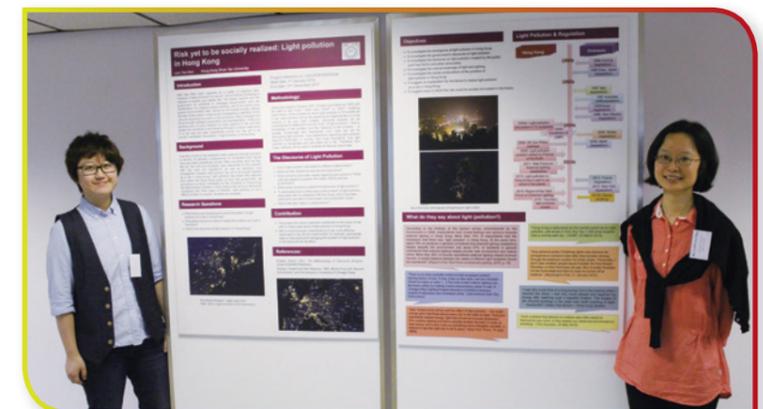
► The photograph shows Dr Li Wang On, Alex (Head of the Department of Counselling and Psychology) presenting the IDS project "Constructing an Interdisciplinary Research Platform at HKSYU" to the panel.



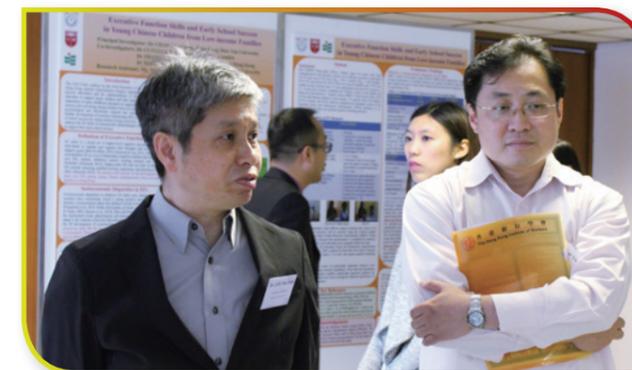
▲ "Executive Function Skills and Early School Success in Young Chinese Children from Low-income Families" (UGC/FDS15/H02/14) by Dr Chan Chi Keung, Alex (left), Assistant Professor (Department of Counselling and Psychology).



▲ "In-role and Extra-role Knowledge Sharing among Information Technology Professionals: A Self-Determination Perspective" (UGC/FDS15/B02/14) by Dr Cui Xiling, Celine (left), Assistant Professor (Department of Business Administration).



▲ "Risk Yet to be Socially Realised: Light Pollution in Hong Kong" (UGC/FDS15/H12/14) by Dr Lam Yee Man (right), Assistant Professor (Department of English Language and Literature).



◀ "Nonlinear Cointegration and Relevant Market Definition: A Study of Grocery Markets" (UGC/FDS15/B06/14) by Dr Lee Shu Kam (left), Associate Professor (Department of Economics and Finance).



## Other External Sources of Research Funding

Faculty members at SYU have also conducted research with funding support from other external sources, such as the government and private-sector organisations. Funding has been received from the Education Bureau (under the Quality Enhancement Support Scheme and the Quality Education Fund), the Home Affairs Bureau, the Labour Department, the Lord Wilson Heritage Trust, etc. Some of the research projects were conducted in collaboration

or partnership with external parties. These projects demonstrate the benefits of academic research for local communities and marginalised groups, such as ethnic minorities and children with special educational needs, as well as for industry. Other research projects support academic knowledge transfer, with important implications for the development of policies concerning young people, families and work.

### Other External Grants (2014-2016)

Principal Investigator	Project Title	Descriptions	Funding Body
Dr Lau Pui Yan, Flora (Department of Sociology)	“Breaking through the Barriers – Ethnic Minority Success Stories and their Implications for Policy Intervention in Hong Kong”	This research explores the circumstances under which people from ethnic minorities can succeed in Hong Kong, and identifies appropriate interventions for those in disadvantaged situations.	The Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC)
Dr Lee Shu Kam (Department of Economics and Finance)	“Competitiveness of Youth in Hong Kong”	This study is the first to focus on the establishment and verification of a system of indicators of the competitiveness of young people in Hong Kong. It provides recommendations for the formulation of suitable public policies and the enhancement of youth competitiveness in Hong Kong.	Home Affairs Bureau
Dr Lee Shu Kam (Department of Economics and Finance)	“Research/Study and Drawing up Practical Guides on Good People Management Practices to Promote Family Friendly Employment in the Catering Industry”	This study investigates good people management practices, leading to practical guidelines for firms in the catering industry on promoting family-friendly employment.	Labour Department
Professor Sun Tien Lun, Catherine (Academic Vice-President)	“Supporting Service to Children with Special Education Needs”	This project investigates interventions to improve the learning of children with special educational needs.	Lok Sin Tong

Principal Investigator	Project Title	Descriptions	Funding Body
Dr Hui Yew Foong (Department of Sociology)	“Documenting Bukit Brown: Exploring New Horizons of Knowledge”	The project shows how a heritage site can be documented from the perspectives of multiple disciplines (anthropology, archaeology, history, genealogical studies, architecture, geography, visual sociology, digital heritage and communications studies) using the latest technologies.	National Heritage Board of Singapore
Dr Au Chi Kin (Department of History)	“Development of E-Learning of ‘China and Globalization’”	The project investigates China and globalisation, leading to a set of electronic teaching and learning tools for secondary schools.	Quality Education Fund
Dr Lee Shu Kam (Department of Economics and Finance)	“Understanding the Pillars of Hong Kong Economy: Tourism and Retail Sector – Interactive Learning Programme”	The project investigates the retail and tourism industries, leading to the development of learning kits for secondary-school students.	Quality Education Fund



## Research Centres

SYU's 13 Research Centres play a significant role in enhancing the University's research culture by carrying out various research activities, such as conferences, seminars, research projects and

consultancy. These activities are funded by a range of external sources, such as charitable organisations, community associations and industry representatives.

Department	Research Centre
Department of English Language and Literature	- Technoscience Culture Research and Development Centre
Department of History	- History Teaching Support and Research Centre
Department of Journalism and Communication	- Online Communication Research Centre - Survey and Research Centre
Department of Business Administration	- SRS Consortium for Advanced Study in Dynamic Cooperative Games - Enterprise and Social Development Research Centre
Department of Law and Business	- Transjurisdictional Legal Policy and Theory Research Centre
Department of Counselling and Psychology	- Counselling and Research Centre
Department of Social Work	- Social Work Research and Development Centre
Department of Sociology	- Social Research Centre
University-level	- Contemporary China Research Centre (CCRC) - Business, Economic and Public Policy Research Centre (BEPP) - Sustainable Real Estate Research Centre

The Research Centres collectively serve as a platform for supporting faculty members' research and broadening students' research exposure. Most of the research projects led by the Centres are conducted by academics at SYU, sometimes in collaboration with academics from other universities or in partnership with industry professionals, NGOs and government-linked organisations.

Several Research Centres are devoted to interdisciplinary empirical research undertaken to enhance professional practice and social policy making. Some research projects are dedicated to converting innovative knowledge provided by the academic community into forms that can be used by industry or the local community. Below are some examples of the research activities conducted by SYU's Research Centres.

## Contemporary China Research Centre (CCRC)

The CCRC organised a workshop entitled "Diversity in Hong Kong: Exploring the Ethnic, Cultural and Religious Dimensions" in 2016. Speakers in various disciplines (sociology, anthropology, political science, and Asian and international studies) were invited to speak at several institutions in Hong Kong to reflect on and investigate the ethnic, cultural and religious dimensions of Hong Kong's diversity. The workshop examined the historical migration to and settlement in Hong Kong of various ethnic groups from China, South Asia and Southeast Asia, and how the diverse languages and religious and culinary practices of these migrants have been preserved and transformed. It investigated the ways in which their different migratory paths (via colonial networks or transnational networks), languages, religious and cultural backgrounds have contributed to diversity in Hong Kong, and how diversity in Hong Kong has become more "visible" in public discourse and/or social policies in the postcolonial era. The influence of such diversity on the politics of recognition and the discourse of multiculturalism in Hong Kong was interrogated and policy implications were identified.

A research project entitled "National Intangible Cultural Heritage: Chaozhou Hungry Ghosts Festival" was conducted by the CCRC from 2012 to 2015 with funding from the Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust in partnership with the Federation of the Hong Kong Chiuchow Community Organization. Undergraduate students from the Department of Sociology supported the research by conducting

preliminary fieldwork and interviews at various sites. This research was the first in-depth study of intangible cultural heritage in modern Hong Kong. The findings were published by Professor Chan Ching, Selina in a book entitled *Chaozhou Hungry Ghosts Festival: Collective Memories, Intangible Cultural Heritage and Identities*. The social and cultural dimensions of the Hungry Ghosts Festival were examined, and the factors endangering this intangible cultural heritage were analysed. Some innovative aspects of this intangible cultural heritage were also explained as a local response to globalisation in the context of the decolonisation of Hong Kong.

Seminars were delivered at various NGOs to promote public understanding of this intangible cultural heritage and the diversity of Hong Kong culture. In December 2016, the Civil Service Training and Development Institute of the Civil Service Bureau of the Hong Kong government invited Professor Chan to share her findings with senior government officials. She recommended measures to support the sustainable development of intangible cultural heritage in Hong Kong.



▲ "Diversity in Hong Kong : Exploring the Ethnic, Cultural and Religious Dimensions."



## Business Economic and Public Policy Research Centre (BEPP)

Under the leadership of Dr Lee Shu Kam, the BEPP has conducted training programmes and research and consultancy projects on the development of business, economic and public policy as requested and commissioned by local communities, business organisations and government units.

Research projects conducted by BEPP are divided into the following three categories, with implications for policy making and learning/teaching.

### i. Research projects on youth and family with policy implications

#### a. "Research on Fathers' Involvement in Hong Kong" (Oct 2014 – May 2015)

- This project investigated the involvement of fathers in parenting.



#### b. "Research on Mobile Apps and the Improvement of Family Relationships" (Oct 2013 – May 2014)

- The aim of this project was to study the patterns of use of mobile apps by family members and the effects of these patterns on family relationships. The study yielded an ideal behavioural model for the use of mobile apps to improve family relationships and sustain family values.

#### c. "Research on Values Transgeneration between Parents and Adolescents in Hong Kong" (Oct 2015 – May 2016)

- This study analysed the differences in moral values between parents and adolescents, and examined the links between parenting, family relationships and adolescents' behaviour. The findings suggested strategies for enhancing adolescents' resilience and moral education.



#### d. "Competitiveness of Youth in Hong Kong" (Sep 2012 – Mar 2015)

- This study focused on the establishment and verification of a system of indicators of youth competitiveness, and yielded implications for the formulation of suitable public policies to enhance youth competitiveness in Hong Kong.

#### e. "Survey on Gambling Trend – World Cup 2014" (Jun 2014 – Jul 2014)

- The aims of this research were to study gambling behaviour among adolescents in Hong Kong and to develop policy suggestions to mitigate the adverse consequences of such behaviour.

### ii. Research projects on work and management with policy implications

#### a. "Survey on Workplace in Hong Kong" (Mar 2016 – Aug 2016)

- The aim of this survey was to investigate the behaviour of youth in the current workplaces in Hong Kong, with a focus on their changing social values and decision-making processes.

#### b. "Independent Analysis of Views Collected on Working Hours Policy Directions" (Dec 2015 – Nov 2016)

- The project analysed the Working Hours Policy and provided related recommendations for the government.



#### c. "Research/Study and Drawing up Practical Guides on Good People Management Practices to Promote Family Friendly Employment in the Catering Industry" (Oct 2014 – Jun 2015)

- This study led to practical guidelines for good people management practices to promote family-friendly employment in the catering industry.



#### d. "Survey on Ideal Retirement in Hong Kong" (May 2016 – Jun 2016)

### iii. Research projects enhancing learning in universities or secondary schools

#### a. "Enhancement and Assessment of Students' Sustainable Life Skills" (Phase 1) (Sep 2016 – Aug 2018)

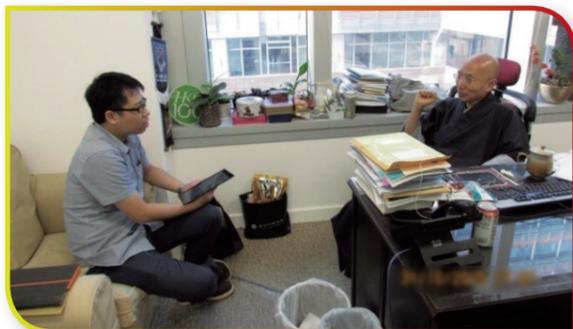
- This project examined university students' sustainable life skills with the aim of developing a comprehensive intervention programme to enhance their self-understanding and emotion management, increase their experiential exposure and support their positive personal growth. In addition, the project involved the development of individual vocational counselling services.





b. "Religion and Community Development in Hong Kong – Teaching Support and Development Programme" (Jun 2015 – Feb 2016)

- The project facilitated the teaching and learning of history and liberal studies at secondary school.



c. "Understanding the Pillars of Hong Kong Economy: Tourism and Retail Sector – Interactive Learning Programme" (Sep 2014 – Aug 2015)

- The aim of this project was to enhance secondary-school students' understanding of Hong Kong's retail and tourism industry by launching a new set of teaching and learning activities.



## Counselling and Research Centre

The Counselling and Research Centre provides support for training workshops and promotes professional development and research in the field of counselling psychology. It offers professional training for counselling psychologists, counsellors and clinical supervisors, along with psychological counselling and assessment services for students and the general public. In collaboration with the Hong Kong

Professional Teachers' Union, some colleagues have offered certified training programmes for teachers and school personnel entitled "Counselling Children with Special Education Needs" and "Career and Life Planning". With the support of NGOs and community associations, the Centre has also conducted a range of research projects with applied value. The knowledge obtained from these projects is transferred to psychologists and counsellors to help them to more effectively treat patients and others in need.

### Research Activities of the Counselling and Research Centre

Principal Investigator/ Co-Investigator	Funding Source	Research	Description
- Dr Lo Lap Yan - Dr Lin M. Muriel - Dr Yu Kai Ching, Calvin	University grant (Research and Staff Development Committee (RSDC) Grant)	Development of an online CBT programme for chronic-pain management	- An online cognitive-behavioural programme is developed to help patients to manage chronic back pain and to enhance their sense of positive self-being.  - Patients with chronic back pain will benefit from the research project.
- Dr Yu Kai Ching, Calvin	Non-funded	Ongoing sleep and dream research	- The research examines the influence of sleep and dreaming on our daily lives and functioning, and assesses the extent to which they reflect our performance or health status.  - The findings will help clinicians and clinical psychologists to understand patients' mental status.
- Dr Fu Wai - Dr Yu Kai Ching, Calvin - Zion Social Service Yuk Lai Hin Counselling Centre	Zion Social Service Yuk Lai Hin Counselling Centre	Completed study of pathological gambling and Internet-gaming addiction	- The research examines the relationships between the illusion of control, problematic Internet gaming and pathological gambling.  - The findings will help mental-health professionals to deal with people with gaming or gambling problems.



- Dr Wong Pak Ho, Bernard	Non-funded	Ongoing action research on services for people with special educational needs and career and life planning	- The findings of the project will help mental-health professionals to support teachers' and secondary-school students' career and life planning.
- Dr Hsu Si Won, Sharon - Dr Yu Kai Ching, Calvin	Non-funded	Ongoing counselling research on therapeutic alliance	- The project validates some scales for assessing therapeutic alliance.  - The findings will be useful to counsellors, counselling psychologists and people receiving counselling services.
- Dr Hsu Si Won, Sharon - Dr Wong Pak Ho, Bernard - Hong Kong Playground Association	Hong Kong Playground Association	Collaborative project on supportive counselling services and staff training	- Supportive measures are developed to help mental-health professionals to improve their counselling service.
- Dr Li Wang On, Alex - Dr Yu Kai Ching, Calvin	University grant (RSDC Grant)	Ongoing experiments on visual evoked potentials	- The project examines the different characteristics of visual evoked potentials between visual areas of the brain, especially with regard to contour integration.

## Laboratories Supporting Research Activities

### Laboratories in the Department of Counselling and Psychology

The main room of the Cognitive Psychology Laboratory is equipped with an instructor workstation and 20 personal computers for use by students in workshops and seminars. A movable curtain surrounding the instructor workstation can form an isolated cubicle for experiments that require a controlled environment. Reaction time measurement programmes have been installed on the computers to allow students to conduct their own cognitive

research. An annex adjacent to the main room has been set up for experiments, providing a workstation for cognitive and psychophysical experiments. MATLAB and E-Prime have been installed to help write self-programmed stimuli. Other equipment is available, such as a pair of stereogoggles for depth-perception experiments and an eye-tracker for eye-movement studies.

The Cognitive Psychology Laboratory provides facilities and equipment to support colleagues conducting a range of research projects.

### Research Projects Conducted at the Cognitive Psychology Laboratory

Project Investigator	Project Title
- Dr Li Wang On, Alex (Hong Kong SYU) - Dr Cheung Sing Hang (HKU) - Dr Yu Kai Ching, Calvin (Hong Kong SYU)	"Visual Evoked Potential in Contour Integration Task"
- Dr Lo Lap Yan (Hong Kong SYU) - Dr Li Wang On, Alex (Hong Kong SYU) - Dr Yeung Pui Sze, Patcy (HKU)	"Relativity of Emotion Perception and New Development of Emotional Expressions Photobank"
- Dr Wong Wai Lap, Simpson (The Education University of Hong Kong) - Dr Wong Mei Yin, Anita (HKU) - Dr Li Wang On, Alex (Hong Kong SYU) - Professor Ho Suk Han, Connie (HKU)	"Comprehension of Dyslexic Children"
- Mr Wong Ting Yat (University of Amsterdam) - Dr Yuen S. L., Kenneth (Neuroimaging Center, University Medical Center Mainz) - Dr Li Wang On, Alex (Hong Kong SYU)	"Self-determination Theory and Problematic Internet Use"
- Dr Yu Kai Ching, Calvin (Hong Kong SYU) - Dr Fan Tak Wing (psychiatrist in private practice) - Dr Li Wang On, Alex (Hong Kong SYU)	"Caregivers' Difficulties in Hong Kong"
- Dr Li Wang On, Alex (Hong Kong SYU) - Dr Li Li (HKU) - Dr Saunders, Jeffrey Allen (HKU)	"Recruitment of a Novel Cue for Active Control Depends on Control Dynamics"
- Dr Li Wang On, Alex (Hong Kong SYU) - Dr Khuu Sieu K. (The University of New South Wales) - Dr Anthony Hayes (retired from University College Dublin)	"Background Motion and the Perception of Shape Defined by Illusory Contours"



Project Investigator	Project Title
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Dr Li Wang On, Alex (Hong Kong SYU)</li> <li>- Dr Khuu Sieu K. (The University of New South Wales)</li> <li>- Dr Anthony Hayes (retired from University College Dublin)</li> </ul>	"Interaction between Complex Motion Patterns in the Perception of Shape"
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Dr Lee C. P., Terence (Hong Kong Baptist University)</li> <li>- Dr Khuu Sieu K. (The University of New South Wales)</li> <li>- Dr Li Wang On, Alex (Hong Kong SYU)</li> <li>- Dr Anthony Hayes (retired from University College Dublin)</li> </ul>	"Contributions of Looming and Stereo-motion to the Computation of Position in Depth"

The Neuropsychology Laboratory is designed to conduct both sleep and event-related potential research. It is furnished with a 256-channel EEG amplifier and other hardware and software for measuring electrical activities of the heart (EKG) and muscles (EMG), and other physiological activities, such as breathing and eye movements. At present, the SYU Neuropsychology Laboratory is the only laboratory using this system for sleep research in Hong Kong. Dr Yu Kai Ching, Calvin, has conducted a series of research projects on sleep and dreaming,

such as neural networks of REM sleep and the application of high-density EEG in retrieving dream recall.

Besides, the Counselling Laboratory and the Computer-Assisted Data Analysis Laboratory also facilitate students' research activities and practicum through laboratory-based teaching activities. Theory and practice are integrated through laboratory-based research and learning activities.

## **SY Media Laboratory, Department of Journalism and Communication**

The SY Media Laboratory (the Lab) is supported by external funding and managed by a team of media professionals, comprising editors, a production manager and IT experts. An advisory board consisting of veteran journalists and public-relations officers is responsible for ensuring the quality of the Lab's output. As part of the Lab's daily operation, selected part-time students from all years and student interns are trained to write and produce news stories, features, talk shows, animated videos, and shorts (including promotional videos) under the supervision of the team.

Unlike other student-led media platforms, which are often modelled on real-life media organisations and emphasise the principles of impartiality and objectivity, the SY Media Laboratory pays students to produce news stories based on their own balanced viewpoints to attract readers to leave comments and

share the stories through social media. The students are trained to be all-rounders of the field under the supervision of Lab professionals. During this process, students have the opportunity not only to practise the technical journalistic and production skills they have acquired from their skill-based courses, but also to sharpen their research skills and learn to articulate their perspectives on current issues when producing news stories and features and leading public discussion.

In January 2015, the Lab received a donation that is currently being used to develop and maintain a database of important incidents/events and public figures in greater China and the international arena. Each entry for an incident/event consists of a 700-word description plus an average of 25 associated news articles, each about 150 words long. The descriptions of the public figures are each approximately 600 words long. The database supports the research activities of both faculty members and students.



## International Conferences and Seminars Organised by Departments

Departments in the University also organise international conferences at Hong Kong SYU. The Department of Counselling and Psychology co-organised an international conference outside Hong Kong with other university and several professional associations from different countries. The Department of History organised international conferences and seminars in cooperation with other universities and

NGOs, such as The Education University of Hong Kong and the Chinese Culture Foundation. Both the Department of Sociology and the Department of Economics and Finance co-organised annual international conferences with professional associations. A selection of the conferences organised by various departments at SYU is provided below.

Department	Conference
English Language and Literature	Symposium entitled "Trauma, Memory and Healing in Asian Literature and Culture", 26-27 November 2015.
	Second International Conference on Linguistics and Language Studies, organised by the Chartered Institute of Linguists Hong Kong Society in conjunction with the School of Humanities and Languages of the Caritas Institute of Higher Education and the School of Education and Languages of The Open University of Hong Kong, 23-24 June 2016.
Journalism and Communication	Digital Media Ecology, 8 December 2015.
History	Academic seminar on issues of democratic constitutionalism in modern China and Hong Kong, 14 March 2015.
	International conference entitled "Hong Kong History: Cultural and Literary Interpretations", organised in collaboration with The Education University of Hong Kong, 10-11 April 2015.
	Forum on Fujian Culture in Hong Kong, organised in collaboration with the Chinese Culture Foundation, 13 June 2015.
Economics and Finance	International Conference on Banking, Real Estate and Financial Crises: Hong Kong, China and the World, jointly organised with the Sustainable Real Estate Research Centre and the BEPP, 17 January 2015.
	The 11th biennial conference of the Asian Consumer and Family Economics Association, co-organised with the Asian Consumer and Family Economics Association, Department of Business Administration, BEPP and Sustainable Real Estate Research Centre, 7-10 July 2016.
	The 11th annual meeting of the Chinese Hayek Society, co-organised with the Chinese Hayek Society, 7-8 August 2015.
Counselling and Psychology	The 4th Asia Pacific Rim International Counselling Conference (Theme: Tradition and Technology: Culture, Neuropsychology, Counselling and Psychotherapy), co-organised with Wuhan University, the Asia Pacific Rim Confederation of Counsellors, the Asian Professional Counselling Association, the Australian Counselling Association and the Psychological Counseling Association of Hubei Province, 6-8 November 2015.
Sociology	The 17th annual conference of the Hong Kong Sociological Association, entitled "Sociological Imagination in a Pluralist World", co-organised with the Hong Kong Sociological Association, 5 December 2015.

Many departments hold occasional seminars, with the Department of Chinese Language and Literature

among the most active in this regard. A list of seminars organised by this department is provided below.

Seminar Title
"The Significance of the Novel <i>Xiaotuan yuan</i> in the Literary History of China", 13 February 2015 <i>Professor XU Zidong (Professor, Department of Chinese, Lingnan University)</i>
"A Brief Discussion of Chinese Cultural Imagery and Poetics", 27 March 2015 <i>Professor HU Xiao Ming (Professor, Department of Chinese Language and Literature, East China Normal University)</i>
"Creative Thinking and the Soft Power of Humanities", 17 April 2015 <i>Professor CHANG Kao Ping (Head, Chinese Language and Literature, Hong Kong SYU)</i>
"Historical Discovery and Modern Revaluation of Qu Yuan", 30 October 2015 <i>Professor Fang Ming (Professor, Beijing Language and Culture University)</i>
"Chinese Translation of Indian Buddhist Texts, Buddhist Chinese and Historical Development and the Study of Chinese Language : A Case Study on the Creation of Personal Pronouns of Plural Mark", 20 November 2015 <i>Professor ZHU Qing Zhi (Chair Professor, Department of Chinese Language Studies, The Education University of Hong Kong)</i>
"Bronze Inscriptions and the Origins of Four-Character Poems", 18 March 2016 <i>Professor CHEN Zhi (Chair Professor, Department of Chinese, Hong Kong Baptist University)</i>
"The Essentials of Appreciation on Poetry", 1 April 2016 <i>Professor WANG Wei Yong (Professor, Department of Chinese Literature, College of Liberal Arts, National Cheng Kung University)</i>
"Onsite Investigation: Different Ways to Read the Poems of Song Dynasty", 15 April 2016 <i>Professor WANG Zhao Peng (Professor, College of Chinese Language and Literature, Wuhan University)</i>
"Recluses and Hermits and their Reclussions and Taking up the Official Posts", 14 October 2016 <i>Professor CHENG, Kat Hung Dennis (Chair Professor of Cultural History, Department of Literature and Cultural Studies, The Education University of Hong Kong)</i>
"The Modern Poetic Circles Writing in Hong Kong", 4 November 2016 <i>Professor ZHANG Hong Sheng (Chair Professor, Department of Chinese Language and Literature, Faculty of Arts, Hong Kong Baptist University)</i>
"Poetic Style as its Writer", 11 November 2016 <i>Professor ZHANG Jian (Professor, Department of Chinese Language and Literature, The Chinese University of Hong Kong)</i>



## Promising Young Scholars

### Dr Claire Wilson

(Assistant Professor, Department of Law and Business)

Dr Claire Wilson's passion for research was ignited by her work experience in the legal and private financial sectors. Her current research interests lie in the fields of banking and finance law, taxation law, financial crisis and dispute settlement, and investor-state dispute. Within these fields, she has conducted research projects on a number of distinct issues, such as the introduction of the Mediation Ordinance in Hong Kong, the legal basis of bank secrecy and the protection of Chinese investments under the investor-state dispute settlement regime in light of the Ping An versus Belgium litigation.

The majority of Dr Wilson's past and current research is applied, with a focus on analysing the law and suggesting solutions to practical legal problems. Her latest project led to a book entitled *Banking Law and Practice in Hong Kong*, which was published by Sweet & Maxwell in December 2016.

Together with Dr Eugene Wong of the Hang Seng Management College, Dr Wilson is also serving as Co-Investigator on an Inter-Institutional Development Scheme (IIDS) research project with funding support from the RGC. The aim of this interdisciplinary project is to develop an interactive case-based platform for business, maritime, aviation and logistics law for supply chain and logistics operations. She is particularly interested in issues that affect China, Hong Kong and Europe, and her current research projects pursue comparative analysis of aspects of money laundering in this region. This is a new and exciting area of research, and Dr Wilson looks forward



to making a breakthrough in the field with a new publication in the near future.

Dr Wilson holds a number of positions in addition to her current academic post, such as membership of the Board of Review (Inland Revenue Department of the Hong Kong government) and the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants (HKICPA) Disciplinary Panel.

### Dr Zhou De Hui, Ruth

(Assistant Professor, Department of Counselling and Psychology)

Dr Ruth Zhou describes her research experience as an unexpected journey inspired and supported by fellow scholars and various other agents. After receiving a PhD with distinction (summa cum laude) in cognitive psychology from the University of Duisburg-Essen, Germany, she became a post-doctoral researcher in the Department of Educational Psychology at the Chinese University of Hong Kong. She studied the cognitive efficacy of reforms to mathematics teaching in primary schools in mainland China through surveys and classroom observation.

Two years later, Dr Zhou joined the Department of Social Work at Hong Kong Baptist University, where she undertook various research projects on underprivileged groups in collaboration with colleagues, such as a study of marital metaphors, a cross-cultural study of schizophrenia rehabilitators, a programme evaluation of peer-led caregiver support groups for children and the elderly and a case-management assessment. These research projects brought her into contact with elderly people, single mothers, children and school counsellors, furthering her commitment to conducting research to help underprivileged and marginal groups in the community.

Dr Zhou joined Hong Kong SYU in 2012, when she collaborated with department colleagues on a study entitled "A Longitudinal Programme Evaluation Research of an Early Diagnosis and Early Intervention Programme for Pre-school Children with Special Educational Needs", funded by Lok Sin Tong. The project offered valuable insights into evidence-based interventions for young children with special educational needs.



With the support of the RGC, Dr Zhou is currently collaborating with a colleague from the National University of Singapore in partnership with Kwai Chung Hospital on a project entitled "Empowering Caregivers of People with Schizophrenia: Comparing Intervention Effectiveness of Family Link Education Programme (FLEP), Narrative Practice Group (CNGP) and Integrative Peer Support Growth Group (IPSGG)". The aim of the project is to develop an innovative integrative intervention model that reflects the effects of a psycho-educational carer group and a carer group within the framework of narrative therapy. As both a researcher and a narrative practitioner, Dr Zhou is excited about hearing the carers' stories and co-authoring their preferred life stories for their families.

Dr Zhou quoted Steve Jobs in his 2005 Stanford Commencement Address, as follows:

*You can't connect the dots looking forward; you can only connect them looking backward. So you have to trust that the dots will somehow connect in your future. You have to trust in something – your gut, destiny, life, karma, whatever.*

Dr Zhou feels that her current research connects several "dots" in her past research, but she cannot foresee the directions in which her current research will take her in the future. As a Christian, she trusts in the guidance of God and gains personal satisfaction from conducting research that benefits the community by addressing community concerns.



**Dr Li Yi Man, Rita**

(Associate Professor, Department of Economics and Finance)

After graduating from HKU, Dr Rita Li began her academic career as a visiting lecturer at Hong Kong Polytechnic University. In 2010, she joined SYU, where she is now an Associate Professor. She is also the founder and director of the Sustainable Real Estate Research Centre at SYU. Dr Li has conducted research on the real-estate market, using applied econometric models to investigate the market and analysing the influence of the sustainable construction of real estate. Construction safety is her other area of expertise. She has used statistical analysis to identify common injury types, the construction workers most prone to accidents, the months with the highest accident rates and so on. During this research, she also developed some practical recommendations for the industry. She also undertook a project on construction waste with Professor Simon Beecham at the School of Natural and Built Environment, University of South Australia, where she served as a visiting research fellow from late May to September 2014. The abovementioned researches have valuable implications on government policy.

Dr Li's research findings have been published in books and journals, such as the *Journal of Cleaner Production* and the *Journal of Environmental Health*. She has also served as a reviewer for *Scopus*/



SSCI/SCI journals such as the *Journal of Cleaner Production*, *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, *Sustainability*, *Housing Studies*, the *Journal of Youth Studies* (housing only), *Land Use Policy*, *Facilities* and *Urban Studies*.

Some of her research findings have been reported by mass media, such as *The Guardian* and *EcoGismets* ("Zero Waste in 2015"), *Skypost* ("Hong Kong Generation X and Y Homeownership in 2015"), *China News Service* ("Living Quality in 2016"), *Hong Kong Economic Times* ("Urban Planning in North Point in 2016") and *Time Out Magazine* ("Construction Safety in 2013").

Dr Rita Li is a chartered surveyor by profession. She has also received formal training in arbitration and mediation and is an associate member of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators and the Hong Kong Institute of Arbitrators.

**Dr Lau Pui Yan, Flora**

(Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology)



Due to personal interest and curiosity, Dr Flora Lau has studied sociology since her undergraduate and postgraduate years at University of Hong Kong (BSocSc, MPhil) and the University of Oxford (MSc, DPhil). Her doctoral thesis was published in the form of an academic book entitled *Recruitment and Promotion: Human Resources Management in Book Publishing*. She worked as a lecturer and post-doctoral fellow at HKU for 5 years before joining SYU in 2012.

Since her postgraduate years, Dr Lau has engaged in qualitative and ethnographical research on social networking, employment and minority groups in Hong Kong and the UK, and has recently expanded her research to ethnic minorities and forced migration. In 2014, she worked with the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) on a small-scale project on success stories among ethnic minorities in Hong Kong, and published two papers on the findings. Based on this project, she also published a research report entitled *Breaking through the Barriers – Ethnic Minority Success Stories and their Implications for Policy Intervention in Hong Kong* and a book chapter entitled "Personal Merits and Social Capital: The Experiences of Getting Ahead among South Asians Minorities in Hong Kong".

Dr Lau is currently working on an RGC-funded research project entitled "People without Identity: Exploring the Social Experiences of Asylum Seekers in Hong Kong". This 2-year project will be completed by the end of 2017. The research investigates the identity reconstruction and social connections of asylum seekers in Hong Kong. The core research methods are intensive in-depth interviews and site visits. Dr Lau is now working on two journal articles, entitled "Vanishing Selves: Refugees and Asylum Seekers in Hong Kong" and "Rejecting Self-Mortification: Asylum Seekers in Hong Kong", with her research colleague Iulia Gheorghiu. In addition, she is completing a small-scale research project funded by Research and Staff Development Committee (RSDC) of our University. The latter research explores the relationships between meritocracy, social networking and the job market available to fresh graduates in Hong Kong.

Dr Lau's short-term goals are to complete her ongoing projects and to produce significant academic publications based on the findings. In the long term, she will extend her research on ethnic minorities and asylum seekers in Hong Kong – perhaps to China and nearby regions.

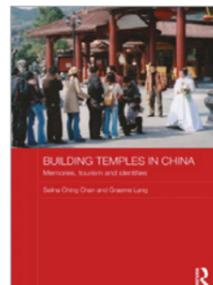


## New Books Published by Faculty Members (2015-2016)

The research findings of faculty members have been published not only in journal articles and book chapters but also in book manuscripts and edited volumes. Since 2016, the Research Office

has organised book launches and seminars for SYU academics at the Hong Kong Central Library to publicise their new books and share their findings with the wider community.

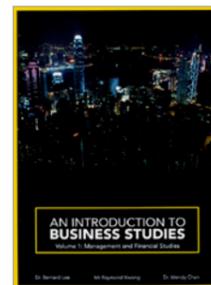
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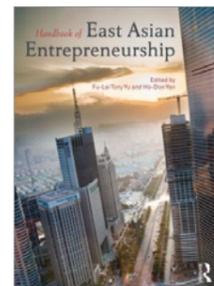
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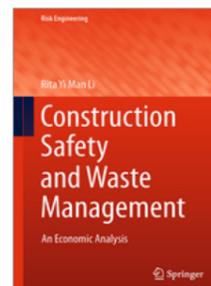
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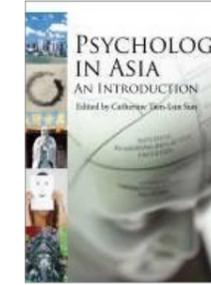


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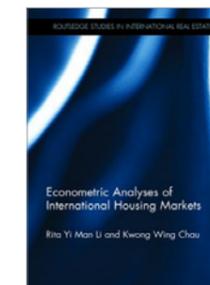
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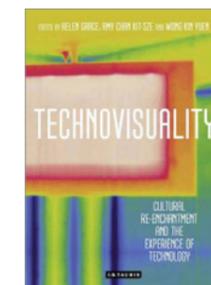
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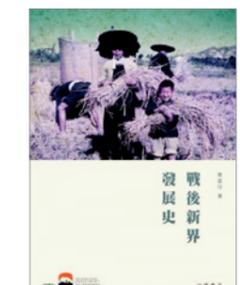
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## Outstanding Research Activities Conducted by Students at SYU

### SYU student Mak Cho Kei won the regional award in the economics category of the Undergraduate Awards

Mr Mak Cho Kei, a Year 4 student in the Department of Economics and Finance, won a regional award in the Undergraduate Awards (UA) 2016. His paper, entitled “Associations between Happiness and Sustainability in Asian Countries”, was the highest performing paper in the Asia region in the economics category. Mr Mak discovered a positive correlation between the happiness index and sustainability in Asian countries, and showed that economic factors have a more significant influence on the happiness index in Asia than in other regions.

Often referred to as the “Junior Nobel Prize”, the UA represents the world’s largest international academic awards programme, recognising excellent research and original work in business and across the sciences, humanities and creative arts. This year, the UA received 5,514 papers from undergraduates in 244 institutions across 40 countries, the highest number of submissions to date. 2016 was also the first year in which SYU entered the competition. The other regional winner in the economics category was from the University of Cambridge and the global winner in the economics category was from Stanford University.

Mr Mak is honoured to have been awarded the prize, and has been invited to Dublin for the award ceremony in November 2016. He is grateful for the support and guidance provided by his supervisors in the Department of Economics and Finance, Dr Thomas Yuen, Dr Edward Tang and Dr Rita Li.



## Excellent Research Conducted by SYU Students

Some of our undergraduate and master’s students in the Department of Journalism and Communication

and the Department of Counselling and Psychology also conducted excellent research. Their research findings have been revised in collaboration with their supervisors and presented at various international conferences in Hong Kong and overseas.

Student	Supervisor	Conference Presentations
Huang Qi Lu (postgraduate student)	Dr Li Wang On	Huang, L. and Li, W. O. (2015). “The Pet-type Effect on Hong Kong Pet Owner’s Human-Animal Bond and Psychological Distress”. Presented at the Annual Conference of the Hong Kong Psychological Society, Hong Kong, China.
Wong Tsz Kin, Eiswein (undergraduate student)	Dr Ma Wai Kit, Will	Wong, T. K. and Ma, W. W. K. (2016). “Exploring Relationship between Online Social Support and Individual Online Subjective Well-being among Young Adults”. Presented at the 66th Annual Conference of the International Communication Association, Fukuoka, Japan.
Lam Jing Hin (undergraduate student)		Lam, J. H. and Ma, W. W. K. (2016). “Exploring the Relationship between Social Media, Collaborative Learning and Learners’ Satisfaction”. Presented at the International Conference on Blended Learning, Peking University, Beijing, China.
Li Wai Lun (undergraduate student)	Dr Zhou De Hui, Ruth	Li, W. L. and Zhou, D. H. R. (2016). “How Does Hong Kong Young Adults’ Neuroticism Influence the Effectiveness of Keyword Method and Pegword-Keyword Method on Learning German Concrete Vocabulary?” Presented at the Annual Conference of the Hong Kong Psychological Society, Hong Kong, China.
Mak Lut Lim (undergraduate student)		Mak, L. L. and Zhou, D. R. (2014, August). “Hong Kong Young Adults’ Attitude on Romantic Relationship: Exploring the Influence from Parents’ Marital Relations and Parent-Child Interaction”. Presented at the International Conference on Education, Psychology, and Social Sciences, Taipei, Taiwan, China.
Pang Chi Kit (undergraduate student)		Pang, C. K. and Zhou, D. H. (2014, August). “What Factors Could Affect the Moral Responsibility?” Presented at the International Conference on Education, Psychology, and Social Sciences, Taipei, Taiwan, China.



SYU undergraduate students have also had the opportunity to work with students from the University of Oxford through Research Internship Programmes organised by the BEPP.

**Research Internship Programmes**

- a. Oxford-SYU Internship Programme 2015 (Jul 2015 – Aug 2015)



- Three interns from the University of Oxford and six student interns from SYU conducted a research project on fathers' involvement in parenting.

- b. Oxford-SYU Internship Programme 2016 (Jul 2016 – Aug 2016)



- Three groups of interns, with one student from the University of Oxford and one student from SYU in each group, conducted research on the relationships between filial piety, academic achievement, health and well-being, as well as investigating the filial piety displayed by new immigrants.
- Their research findings have been disseminated on several occasions by media outlets such as Metro Radio and the Luncheon.

**Future Developments**

**New Research Complex**

A new Research Complex is expected to be operational by January 2017. It will support research and professional activities that advance the University's overall teaching and research capability and practice.

The Research Complex will be composed of a high block of 15 storeys and a low block of 7 storeys, both built over a podium of 5 storeys. The site area of the Research Complex will be about 7,400 square metres, and the total gross floor area of the Complex will be approximately 34,657 square metres, of which 24,490 (70.7%) will house research and study venues and

the rest will be used for hostel space for students and staff accommodation. All of SYU's existing Research Centres will be moved into the new Research Complex, and a new Research Centre and several laboratories will be set up to support and enhance the University's research.

**Institutional Development Scheme Centre (IDSC)**

The IDSC will be established to support interdisciplinary research and evidence-based practice research carried out by faculty members, students and visiting scholars.





### Multimedia Production Centre (MPC)



A Jockey Club Multimedia Production Centre will be set up to support teaching and research activities with a donation of HK\$23 million from the Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust.

The MPC is expected to become a critical market-oriented production centre as well as research and educational site. Its functions will be as follows:

- providing facilities for research and practical sessions;
- promoting multimedia broadcasting methods for the digital age;
- integrating teaching activities and practical training, with new facilities enabling faculty members and students to attain education of the highest quality;
- establishing multimedia platforms for the community at large;
- facilitating collaboration between the industry and the University; and
- fostering a digital creative environment that nurtures multimedia talent in local communities.

New facilities, such as five mini-studios and a proposed theatre with 200-plus seating capacity, will enable students to merge various mass-communication media – print, television, radio and the Internet – with portable and interactive technologies for telling stories and presenting information and entertainment within a confined compound.

### New Laboratories (for construction in two phases)

#### Child Development Laboratory

- The Child Development Laboratory is positioned as a child-friendly research and intervention centre for participants aged 10 or below. It supports child-based teaching and research activities by students and departmental staff.

#### Positive Psychology Laboratory

- The PP Laboratory provides training opportunities for students/practitioners to learn and understand applications of positive psychotherapy (PPT) and encourages students to design rigorous research on evidence-based PP practice.
- The research activities at the PP Laboratory fall into five categories: 1) evidence-based PP practice in Chinese societies (Hong Kong, China, Taiwan), 2) positive development, 3) positive technology, 4) positive education and 5) religion and well-being.

#### New Cognitive Neuroscience Laboratory

- This laboratory has three major functions: collecting data (from students enrolled on specific courses), conducting research meetings and hosting small tutorial classes. There are 20 computers in the laboratory, with a full range of statistical and research programmes. Undergraduates and postgraduates conducting research relating to cognitive psychology can use the laboratory, subject to reservation, to collect data for their research.

#### School Psychology Laboratory

- The proposed School Psychology Laboratory will provide various types of assistive technology and enabling devices, allowing students to learn how best to incorporate accessibility support for individuals with special needs into their clinical practice.
- As a resource centre, the laboratory will also house a wide range of counselling and intervention

tools for counselling and educational practice in schools, such as portable adventure-based counselling tools, musical instruments, art and craft accessories, therapeutic play materials and board games.

#### Social Psychology and Well-being Laboratory

- The proposed laboratory is envisioned as a platform for the enrichment of student experience in the field of social psychology, in terms of both learning and research. Diverse class activities will be held in the laboratory. For instance, miniature workshops, demonstrations and mock experiments will be conducted as class activities for students enrolled on various courses.
- Research will be conducted jointly by students and the laboratory supervisor. The Social Psychology and Well-being Laboratory will be open to all students who actively seek opportunities to obtain research experience through internships. The laboratory is expected to provide an environment in which students with different levels of experience can work together or independently on various research projects. In particular, the proposed laboratory will welcome students who are interested in conducting research-related activities in the fields of social psychology, health psychology and industrial and organisational psychology.

#### Centre of Positive Development and Technology

- This centre will provide opportunities to conduct a variety of applied and other research projects. Head-mounted virtual reality setup provides facilities for cross-modal perception in cognitive psychology research. Besides, the centre facilities enable applied research projects in collaboration with counselling agencies, social services centres and school in promoting the use of cutting edge technology in a positive way. Proposed projects include relieving gambling addiction with virtual reality facilities and positive use of mobile technology among adolescents.



# Advancing Research

*to Build a Better World*

