

RESEARCH PROJECTS

Rethinking Ainu Identity: An Ethnographic Study of Ainu Folk Art in Lake Akan, Hokkaido

✍ CHEUNG Chin Hung Sidney

☐ 1 March 2003

❖ Sumitomo Foundation

This project seeks to gain a closer understanding of not only the social construction of Ainu identity given that Ainu-Japanese relationships are interwoven, but also the Ainu folk art movements to which it gives rise. With the focus on Ainu folk art in Lake Akan, this research project will answer the following questions: What has affected the meanings of Ainu folk art during the last few decades? What does the Ainu New Law mean to Akan's Ainu community and how it shaped their cultural traditions? How can the development of Ainu folk art in Akan help us understand the Ainu-Japanese relations? I will not only describe regional characteristics, changes and different meanings of Ainu culture and their folk art, but also pay attention to how and why Ainu folk culture has been influenced and give insights into the complicated Ainu-Japanese relations in Japan today. (SS02568)

Fishpond in the Marsh: An Ethnography Study of Fishing Industry in Inner Deep Bay

✍ CHEUNG Chin Hung Sidney

☐ 1 April 2003

❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

Today, Hong Kong's only world class wetland

conservation site, Mai Po, together with its surroundings, is facing an immeasurable threat resulting from many factors: infrastructural development, aging of the local community, pollution, and fish market competition from mainland China. The impact might bring the decline of the traditional fishing industry, which might even cause the loss of one of Hong Kong's traditional occupations in the area. The outcomes should not be overlooked. In ten years, we will have less than half of the existing fishponds under operation, while some portions of the land might have gone to infrastructural and residential development. Even though, a large area of marsh will probably be contributed for wetland conservation in exchange for residential development from other developers, there is no overall plan for the natural heritage conservation as well as a sustainable development guideline in the above wetland area. What will happen when all aged farmers cannot work? Who is going to take over the traditional fishpond cultivation so that migratory birds can still come to rest and be fed by food from the fishponds? In order to have a holistic understanding of the socio-historic development of the Inner Deep Bay, and the study of fishing industry should be one the best showcases for relevant conservation issues in Hong Kong. In this project, I seek to document the freshwater fishpond cultivation as a traditional occupation in the area, and to examine the history and social change of the fishing community in Inner Deep Bay, especially the development including rise and decline of the industry during the last few decades.

(SS02505)

The Subsistence Strategies in South China and Hong Kong between 10,000 and 4000 Years Ago

✍ LU Lie Dan • FU Xian Guo*

□ 10 July 2002

❖ Research Grants Council (Earmarked Grants)

South China and Hong Kong are important areas with respect to the development and spread of early agricultural societies in East and Southeast Asia. To date, the prehistory of these regions during the relevant time span for these developments, between 10,000 and 4000 years ago, is still only poorly understood. This project aims to investigate the significant economic change from hunting and gathering to agriculture in southern China and Hong Kong, and the causes of, and processes behind this change.

By conducting archaeological survey and excavations and scientific analyses on archaeological data, this project will first investigate the natural resources and human exploitation of these resources before the development of agriculture in this region. It will then examine whether rice agriculture developed locally, or was introduced from the Yangzi Valley, and expanded further to Southeast Asia and the Pacific. The project will also investigate whether prehistoric people in southern China were reacting to environmental variation through modification of their subsistence strategies during the transition to agriculture at about 5000 years ago. The outcome will provide essential data for an important chapter of local prehistory, and on past relationships between human, culture and their environments. It will also provide vital information for the origin and diaspora of the Austronesian, which is an important issue on Asian and world archaeology.

(CU02196)

The "Generation Gap" in the Japanese World of Work Today

✉ MATHEWS Gordon Clark

□ 5 June 2002

❖ CUHK Special Grant for Conducting Research Abroad in Summer

The "generation gap" in the world of work has often been discussed in Japan in recent decades, with elders criticizing young employees for their laziness and fecklessness; but these young people have generally gone on to become very much like their elders. Today, however, in an age of economic downturn, the Japanese corporate order has lost much of its legitimacy, and young employees thus may have new power vis-à-vis their corporate elders. In this project, I will extend my previous research on "the Japanese generation gap" (conducted in Tokyo and Sapporo in 1999-2000) to examine how some of the 72 Japanese young people aged 19-24 whom I interviewed two years ago are coping with their work in various Japanese companies: how much, as they become slightly older, they are coming to accept the rigors of Japanese corporate life and how much they resist fitting a corporate order they may see as obsolete. How much might "the generation gap" and its implications be changing the Japanese corporate order of today and tomorrow? And what are the implications of this for Japan as a whole?

(SS01639)

On Learning to Belong to a Nation: A Comparison of Hong Kong, Chinese, and American Young People's Senses of National Identity

✉ MATHEWS Gordon Clark

□ 1 December 2002

❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

"The idea of a man without a nation seems to impose a strain on the modern imagination," Ernest Gellner

has written. However, Hong Kong has been one of the few places in the world in which Gellner's statement has not applied, at least until 1 July 1997. in this project, I seek to find out how Hong Kong students today describe what it means to belong to their nation, and I seek to compare what these students say with what students from mainland China and the United States say about belonging to the nation. There is a significant difference between the sense of nation as ethnicity held by Chinese students and the sense of nation as civic principle held by Americans. However, a bigger difference is between Chinese and American students, who have been trained since early childhood to "love their country", and Hong Kong students, many of whom have only recently been learning to "love their country." How do the discourses of "belonging to a country" vary between and among these three groups of students? How do the processes of their socialization into national identity differ from and resemble one another? Most broadly, to what extent might some Hong Kong students, in their hesitation towards loving their country, represent a colonial past in a present world of national belonging, and to what extent might they represent a globalized future, in which identity comes to be based more on the world market than on the national state? (SS02712)

Please refer to previous issues of this publication for more details of the following ongoing research at the department:

Edition Title/Investigators

- | | |
|---------|---|
| 2001-02 | Selling Soap to China: Global Consumerism and the Sources of Desire (SS01348)
✍ BOSCO Joseph |
| 2001-02 | The Prehistoric Subsistence Strategies at Sha Ha, Hong Kong (SS01501)
✍ LU Lie Dan • ZHAO Zhijun* |
| 2001-02 | The Origin of Pottery and the Development of Subsistence Strategies in Northern South China in the Early Holocene (SS01909)
✍ LU Lie Dan • FU Xianguo* |
| 1994-95 | Youth in Hong Kong: Popular Culture, Political Culture (SS94091)
✍ TAM Siu Mi Maria |
| 2001-02 | The Social Construction of Family and Gender: An Investigation of Polygyny across the Hong Kong-China Border (SS01349)
✍ TAM Siu Mi Maria • MA Lai Chong (Dept of Social Work) |
| 2001-02 | 家族、移民 與華人網絡：泉州華僑村落的研究
Lineage, Migration and Chinese Network: A Study of Emigrant Communities in Quanzhou of Fujian (SS01926)
✍ 陳志明 TAN Chee Beng • WANG Lianmao* • ANG See Teresita* |

RESEARCH PROJECTS

Tectonics in Hong Kong

✍ GU Daqing • BERTIN Vito Daniel • NUTT Timothy John

□ 1 March 2003

❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

The purpose of the proposed investigation is to conduct a formal analysis of selected local buildings designed and built during the 1940's to 70's. The investigation focuses on the tectonic aspect of architectural design. The term *tectonics* used in architecture indicates a particular field of design inquiry. The key issue is about the interrelationship between space and the physical means that defines space. In Hong Kong, some of the buildings designed and built during the 1940's to 70's possess a particular quality in their tectonic expression. This quality can be revealed through an exercise of formal analysis. In the long history of Hong Kong architecture, the design achievements in this particular period are, generally speaking, unknown not only to the public but also to many architects. Therefore, this project will be the first attempt to fill in a void in the study of Hong Kong architecture by documenting and analyzing some carefully selected buildings from this period. The resulting document will also provide an important local reference for design teaching in local schools.

(SS02341)

Hong Kong Traditional Architectural Information System HKTAIS

✍ HO Puay Peng • WONG Kam Fai William (Dept of Systems Engineering & Engin. Management) • YANG Christopher Chuen Chi (Dept of Systems Engineering & Engin. Management) • HUI Mei Kei Maggie • LO Ka Yu#

□ 14 February 2003

❖ The Antiquities & Monuments Office

In collaboration with Antique and Monument Office (AMO), Professor Ho Puay-Peng, Architecture Department of the University will develop an electronic archive and analytical system (Hong Kong Traditional Architectural Information System AIS) for traditional Chinese buildings in Hong Kong. The system is a web-based program, which can store detailed architectural information of approximately 150 (nos) traditional Chinese buildings. Apart from acting as a database archive, the program also provides searching functions that enable the users to select specific features of the buildings for their own studies. The program also supports comparative analysis on different architectural features among the recorded buildings. The searching fields range from the family name of the building's original owner to the structural system, also down to the detail ornamentations.

The development of an architectural electronic archive system in the field of Chinese architecture has never been done elsewhere before. Therefore this project will be a pioneer study, it will also set a standard for the field of Chinese Architectural studies.

The project team will involve CINTEC (Center of Innovation and Technology) of the University to act as a collaborator in the design of the AIS database with corresponding XML schema. The works of CINTEC will include functional requirement specification, system specification, development,

system testing, and user acceptance testing. CINTEC will help the maintenance of the finished product and storage of the data during this research project's period. In the long-term future, the finished HKTAIS and data stored inside will be transferred to AMO's new research center and therefore maintained by AMO.

(SS02882)

Facility at CUHK for Testing Temperatures and Ventilation Conditions in Highrise Apartments in Hong Kong

✍ NG Yan Yung • GIVONI Baruch

□ 11 November 2002

❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

It is possible to reproduce the expected indoor temperature in a building, under given climatic conditions by constructing a test cell having an envelope structure closely similar to that of the full size building. This methodology provides a cheap and effective way to study various design parameters very quickly. The project will construct such a facility at a roof top of a building in CUHK. The exterior walls of the test cell are built with the same materials and the same thickness as the real building. The windows' size have the same window/floor area ratio as in the real building. Walls of the modeled apartment that are not exposed to the outdoor, e.g. facing neighboring apartments, internal corridor, etc., as well as the roof and the floor, are well insulated. The test cell is fitted with thermal couples for measurement. Thermal behaviors or design parameters like orientation, thermal mass, ventilation aperture, solar gain and cool air input will be studied. Mathematical models and formulae will be developed to aid designers to predict indoor thermal comfort

with external weather data.

(EE02861)

Defining Standard Skies for Daylighting and Energy Efficient Design of Buildings in Hong Kong

✍ NG Yan Yung • TREGENZA Peter*

□ 31 December 2002

❖ Research Grants Council (Earmarked Grants)

The use of daylight in building provides a better and a more welcoming ambience. It leads to improved health and productivity. Algorithms based on the genetic CIE Standard Sky models, which were defined in the early 50s, are being used to predict daylight in buildings. However, they do not represent the sky conditions of Hong Kong. This leads to errors in estimating daylight provisions of building spaces. The International Daylight Measurement Programme (IDMP) initiated in 1991 by the CIE (Commission Internationale de l'Éclairage). 46 stations were established. Based on the data collected, CIE has recently issued a draft standard and algorithms incorporating a set of 15 new Standard Skies. They are intended to be a better universal basis for the classification of skies. The purpose of this research project is collect sky data in Hong Kong to establish the extent to which the proposed set of CIE Standard Skies can represent skies of Hong Kong. And to determine if a subset of the standard skies could be defined for more accurate calculations of daylighting of buildings in Hong Kong. The result of the project will tabulated data of sky data of Hong Kong based on the CIE new Standard Skies Algorithms. The data could be used to develop better design tools and software for creating naturally well-lit building spaces with reduced risk of too little or too much glazing area,

and for estimating supplementary electric lighting needs, control and energy saving.

(CU02198)

Environmental Consultancy for Public Rental Housing Development at Tin Shui Wai Area 103 & 104

✍ TSOU Jin Yeu • CHOW Ka Ming • ZHU Yimin
• LAM Fung Ki

□ 28 June 2002

❖ Hong Kong Housing Authority

The research team is invited by the Hong Kong Housing Authority, HKSAR, to conduct appropriate environmental studies and assessment tests with appropriate computer simulation software and shall carry out analysis of tests results. The research team will advise a set of local and international standards against which the results shall be compared. Based on these results, the research team will make practical and site specific recommendations with justifications on the building design, layout, orientation, use of special devices, materials, with a view to achieve better solutions. The research will mainly focus on the urban wind environment simulation, natural ventilation assessment, and daylight provision.

(SS01469)

Improving the Air Quality of Public Transport Interchanges: A CFD Design Model

✍ TSOU Jin Yeu

□ 1 November 2002

❖ Research Grants Council (Earmarked Grants)

Indoor public transport interchanges (PTI) are ubiquitous in Hong Kong. Usually, huge areas (with limited height) are used for different forms of public

transportation on the ground floor with dense development above that serious air pollution problems are imposed. According to information published in newspapers and data from an Environmental Protection Department (EPD) report, air pollution in PTIs is a serious consideration in Hong Kong. In the past, this was considered as an engineering problem instead of an architectural problem. The traditional solution to this problem is quantitative instead of qualitative. To effectively integrate architectural design with an efficient ventilation system to remove pollutants from PTIs, designers and engineers need to predict and visualize pollutant concentration and the time history of pollutant transfer in PTIs during early stages of design. In past studies, airflow in PTIs was only considered as a steady, single-phase flow. Now, with time dependent computational fluid dynamics (CFD) multiphase simulation, prediction of pollutant concentrations and the time history of pollutant transfer become probable. Combining Virtual Reality technology developed in our previous projects, designers and engineers can visualize the pollution flow pattern in a PTI. On the basis of simulation results, new designers can be proposed and tested.

(CU02199)

Developing Modeling Method in Architecture Utilizing Photogrammetric Technique

✍ TSOU Jin Yeu • ZHANG Zu Xun* • ZHANG Jian Qing*

□ 1 December 2002

❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

The objective of the research proposal is to develop a reliable and easy-operating method for the task of

modeling in Architecture. Currently, the modeling method in architecture mostly depends on manual operating. It is obvious there are a lot of disadvantages. In this research project we propose to introduce photogrammetric technique to obtain the necessary information for architectural application. Photogrammetry, the use of photography for surveying, primarily facilitates the production of maps and geographic databases from aerial photographs. As a long developed surveying techniques, it has achieved the precision of 1/10th pixel in theory, that is, achieving the so-called sub-pixel accuracy. One of its advantages is non-touch for using the certain overlapped image pair to survey and obtain the necessary information. Second, it is easy to obtain the necessary information for modeling in large area, which is fundamental for environment simulating in urban planning. In order to develop a reliable method to aid modeling construction, experiments are necessary and important to validate its effectiveness. The effort of our research is to apply this well-established technique - photogrammetry in architecture modeling. By using this advanced surveying technique, we can easy get the necessary information to facilitate modeling construction. The aim of the research proposal is to develop a feasible method utilizing photogrammetric technique to facilitate the modeling construction task in architecture.

(SS02520)

Housing Development at Sha Tin Areas 4C & 38A Phase 3 Environmental Study on Alternative Design Options

✉ TSOU Jin Yeu • CHOW Ka Ming • ZHU Yimin
 □ 1 June 2003
 ❖ Hong Kong Housing Authority

The research team is invited by the Hong Kong Housing Authority, HKSAR, to conduct appropriate environmental studies for Sha Tin Areas 4C & 38A Phase 3 housing development. The project will focus on assess the natural ventilation for three alternative housing designs. The research team will assess the ventilation rates and ventilation pattern at various floors of the domestic blocks under prevailing wind condition, and identify with improvement proposals on reentrant area, internal void space, and corridor of domestic blocks where natural ventilation is insufficient.

(SS02998)

Please refer to previous issues of this publication for more details of the following ongoing research at the department:

<u>Edition</u>	<u>Title/Investigators</u>
1998-99	The Vernacular Contained, a Study of Hong Kong's Container Architecture (SS98024) ✉ BERTIN Vito Daniel • GU Daqing • WOO Pui Leng
1998-99	Ritual, Opera and Bamboo Structures (SS98076) ✉ CHANG Ping Hung • LEE Tunney Fee
2001-02	Urban Environmental Design Charrette in Pearl River Delta, Guangzhou (SS01553) ✉ CHANG Ping Hung • CODY Jeffrey William • YUET Tsang Chi • YEUNG Hans W Y* • Glenn Shive* • SUN Y M*

1999-00	Urban Structure of Old Lhasa (SS99044) ✍ HO Puay Peng	2001-02	On-site Measurement of Natural Lighting of Public Flat (EE01386) ✍ NG Yan Yung
2000-01	Photographic Documentation of Pictorial Decorations (SS00364) ✍ HO Puay Peng	1998-99	Computer Simulation for Architectural Design (SS98059C) ✍ TSOU Jin Yeu • LIM Wan Fung Bernard • LONNMAN Bruce Eric# • KAN Wai Tak Jeff • LIAO Zaiyi# • CHOW Ka Ming
2001-02	Chinese Traditional Buildings in Hong Kong: An Investigation into Their Design, Layout, Construction, and Ornamentation (SS01366) ✍ HO Puay Peng • LAM Sair Ling* • LIM Wan Fung Bernard	2000-01	Environmental Simulation for Investigating High-rise Residential Building Block Design (SS20003) ✍ TSOU Jin Yeu • ZHU Yimin • KAN Wai Tak Jeff • CHOW Ka Ming • LAM Fung Ki
2001-02	Cartographic Survey of the Entrance of Wai (圍門樓), the Worshipping Hall(神樓) and the Surrounding Walls(圍樓) of Sheung Cheung Wai(上璋圍) in Ping Shan, Yuen Long (SS01588) ✍ HO Puay Peng	2001-02	Natural Visual Landscape Analysis for Urban Design of Dongshan New Town (SS01616) ✍ TSOU Jin Yeu • LIN Hui (Dept of Geography & Resource Management) • CHOW Ka Ming • LAM Fung Ki
2001-02	A Prototype of an Interactive Grammar-based Design Tool (SS01440) ✍ LI Andrew I-kang	2001-02	Visualizing Jalan Besar - Mapping the Urbanization of a District in Singapore (SS01539) ✍ WOO Pui Leng
2000-01	Developing Innovative School Design Parameters in Hong Kong for 21 st Century (SS20004) ✍ LIM Wan Fung Bernard		
1999-00	Review of Lighting and Ventilation Requirements of Buildings (SS99054) ✍ NG Yan Yung • TSOU Jin Yeu		

RESEARCH PROJECTS

An Analysis of the Admission of Talents Scheme in Hong Kong: Theory and CGE Evaluation

✉ CHAO Chi Chur • YAO Shunli* • YU Siu Hung Eden*

☐ 1 September 2002

❖ Research Grants Council (Earmarked Grants)

Every country in the world these days has adopted some type of immigration policy. Such an adoption of restrictive immigration policy, whether quantitative or qualitative in nature, presumably is a response to the concern that immigration may be detrimental to the host country. However, somewhat surprisingly, a majority of studies in the literature has found that immigration is beneficial to the host country, a fact that does not explain the extensive implementation of immigration policy.

As a matter of fact, most countries prefer skilled and professional workers and as a result severely limit the entry of non-skilled workers except for family reunion. The Admission of Talents Scheme (ATS) introduced in Hong Kong in April 2001 provides a clear example of an immigration policy in favor of skilled professional workers for a largely service-based economy. This may be due to the fact that skilled workers can generate scale economies in production that contribute to the welfare of the native residents in the host economy.

This research will first develop theoretical frameworks, incorporating imperfect competition and scale economies, to examine the welfare effect of admission of talents to the host economy. We will then numerically simulate the models and quantitatively assess the implications of relaxation of

immigration of skilled versus unskilled labor for the Hong Kong economy. The findings can shed some light on understanding why the present adoption of the immigration policy tends to be favor of skilled workers over unskilled workers.

(CU02201)

The Boundaries of the Firms in the Absence of Property Rights

✉ CHOU Szu Wen

☐ 11 November 2002

❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

In this project we want to explore the role of firm boundaries in human capital intensive industries, an issue that cannot be addressed by the existing property rights approach theory of the firm. We argue that firm boundaries can work as information barriers that blurs employees' individual outside identities. We suspect that having people work inside the boundaries of the firm is more efficient than having them work as independent individuals when there exists substantial externality in their actions.

(SS02734)

An Econometric Analysis of China's Regional Demand for Health Care

✉ CHOU Win Lin

☐ 1 December 2002

❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

The main objective of this project is to investigate the relationship between income growth and the demand for health care in China. In particular, the income

elasticity of health care demand in China will be examined. Since there is no generally accepted quantity measure for health care services, this project examines the health expenditure rather than the quantity that is demanded. As the distribution of income in China is geographically skewed, pooled cross section and time series data will be used to examine the impact of provincial incomes on health expenditures.

Unlike the survey research approach that is used by the World Bank, this project adopts an econometric approach. Specifically, it uses a panel cointegration approach. Cointegrated health expenditure models will be estimated by two newly developed methods, namely, the dynamic ordinary least squares (DOLS) proposed by Kao and Chiang (1998) and the fully modified (FM) OLS of Pedroni (1997, 1999). These methods have the advantage of correcting for the problem of endogeneity bias among the explanatory variables. Failing to account for the problem of endogeneity would ultimately result in biased estimation results.

(SS02768)

Institutions, Financial System Structure, and Financial Crises

- ✍ DU Julan
- ☐ 9 December 2002
- ❖ Research Grants Council (Earmarked Grants)

This project intends to investigate how weak legal institutions contribute to the likelihood and depth of financial crises through their impact on the structure of domestic financial system and the capital structure of local corporations. It plans to conduct empirical analysis to see if weak institutions affect currency and banking crises through a bank-based financial system and a debt-laden corporate financial structure.

(CU02203)

Corporate Ownership Structure and Stock Volatility

- ✍ DU Julan
- ☐ 1 January 2003
- ❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

This project intends to investigate how corporate ownership structure affects company stock return volatility in East Asian economies. We pay particular attention to examining how the presence of large shareholders and the difference between cash flow rights and control rights will affect stock volatility. Our project will enhance our understanding of the corporate governance foundation of market volatility across countries, and will have profound implications for government regulation of security markets.

(BS02629)

What Causes Consumer Confidence to Move? A Multi-country Analysis

- ✍ KWAN Cheuk Chiu
- ☐ 1 March 2003
- ❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

The main objective of this research is to find out what causes the consumer confidence index to move. Using Johansen's (1991) cointegration technique and the consumer survey conducted by the European Commission, I examine the long-run relationship between the confidence index and its potential determinants such as lagged consumption growth, labor income, inflation, stock market prices,

unemployment, etc. Furthermore, I employ Granger's (1969) multivariate causality test to examine the existence (or absence) of the causal relationship among these economic variables. The empirical results based on this causality study should be able to identify the main determinants of the consumer confidence index.

The outcome of this research will serve two purposes. First, this study represents the first formal investigation of the causal relationship between consumer confidence and its likely determinants. As a consequence, the results obtained here will constitute a significant contribution to the literature on the subject. Second, from a policy perspective, an advanced warning from a major determinant that signals consumer sentiment to rise or fall would be extremely useful for purposes of economic planning.

(SS02382)

Capital Market Imperfection and Informational Friction in Property Markets

✍ LEUNG Ka Yui Charles • CHOW Ying Foon
(Dept of Finance)

□ 11 November 2002

❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

Property prices are volatile. For example, between 1982-89, the nominal prices of condominium in Boston rose about 170 percent, before they fell more than 40 percent later. The property prices of Hong Kong have also experienced a drop of 50 percent in 1997. As residential properties constitute probably the largest share of the wealth of many households, significant decreases in property prices as such would greatly reduce the wealth. In particular, some households must first sell their old houses to pay for the down payment of new houses

("liquidity-constrained"). It inevitably reduces the number of houses available for sale and limits the choices for even those who are not liquidity-constrained. As a result, the market becomes "sluggish."

This project has several objectives. First, it documents the extent to which property transactions are affected by "the wealth effect" in Hong Kong and the United States. Second, it explains the difference of the two places and provides lessons for policy-making. Third, it builds a dynamic general equilibrium model to study the implications of "the wealth effect" in a property market with imperfect information, and the corresponding policy implications.

(SS02389)

Indeterminacy of Equilibrium in Open Economies

✍ MENG Qinglai

□ 12 August 2002

❖ Research Grants Council (Earmarked Grants)

It is known that under some conditions closed economy dynamic general equilibrium models can be subject to indeterminacy, in the sense that there exist a continuum of convergent paths to the steady state. The literature on indeterminacy explores the idea that equilibria need not be uniquely determined by the fundamentals of the economy, and that the existence of indeterminate equilibria is associated with the possibility that beliefs can influence outcomes.

Recent research has started to extend the analysis to open economy models. This is a useful and realistic extension because most economies in the world are small and open. This project follows this new line of research. The project is aimed at charactering conditions under which indeterminacy can arise in alternative and realistic open economy business cycle

or endogenous growth models. These include introducing monopolistic competition, adding endogenous labor supply and other factors.

(CU02206)

Investment and Interest Rate Policy in Models of Discrete-time

✍ MENG Qinglai • YIP Chong Kee

□ 1 March 2003

❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

This project investigates how the inclusion of investment can affect the dynamics and stability of the economy in discrete-time models if the monetary authority follows interest rate feedback rules. By using discrete-time models, we incorporate alternative interest rate policies such as backward-looking and forward-looking interest rate feedback rules. Besides the simple rule where nominal interest rate responds to inflation rate, we also study the general rule in which nominal interest rate responds to both inflation and output. The project intends to shed light on the important issue of proper designing of the government's monetary policies.

(SS02977)

Hong Kong's Economic Integration with the Pearl River Delta: Quantifying the Benefits and Costs

✍ SUNG Yun Wing

□ 28 June 2003

❖ Central Policy Unit, HKSAR Government

The project aims to quantify the benefits and costs to Hong Kong (HK) of its economic integration with the Pearl River Delta (PRD) through various markets, the

market for goods and services, the capital market, financial markets, the real estate market, and the real estate market, and the labour market. The benefits to HK in terms of income and employment generated by HK's exports of goods and services to the PRD will be quantified. HK's investment earnings in the PRD will be studied. The costs to HK of specialization in terms of structural unemployment and export instability (if any) will be examined. Interactions in the real estate, labour, and financial markets will also be assessed.

(SS02304)

The Roles of Institutions and Technical Change in Macroeconomic Volatility, Crisis and Growth

✍ TANG Sammy Hak Kan

□ 1 March 2003

❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

The proposed research aims to empirically test the hypothesis that technical change (measured by total factor productivity growth, number of R&D personnel or number of science and technical publications) is a major mediating channel through which institutional causes affect macroeconomic volatility, crisis and growth. The proposed study expands upon the main results of the institutional school to examine in greater detail how the effects of institutions trickle down to affect macroeconomic performance. If the causal link between institutions, technical change and macroeconomic performance can be established, policy-makers, especially those in developing countries, will be able to formulate specific policies to enhance macroeconomic performance.

(SS02923)

Barriers to International Capital Flows: Theory and Policy

✉ YIP Chong Kee

☐ 15 August 2002

❖ Research Grants Council (Earmarked Grants)

Until recently, the trend in world capital markets has been toward increasing “globalization”. However, recent events in Latin America and Asia have forced a rethinking of the desirability of unrestricted world capital flows. In this project we ask whether simple restrictions on capital mobility can succeed in reducing the volatility of funds flows, whether such restrictions are consistent with the long-term development of the countries that might impose them, whether such restrictions are consistent with the long-term development of the countries that might impose them, whether such restrictions are beneficial for poorer countries while harming wealthier countries, and whether barriers to capital movements should be reduced in magnitude as the development process proceeds.

Our vehicle for analyzing these issues is a two country model where both countries are identical except, possibly, for their policies with respect to capital flows and their initial capital stocks. We explore the consequences of barriers to capital flows which are crudely based on those employed by Chile and Malaysia. Finally, based on parameterizations from real world data of the model, we run simulation to obtain quantitative implications for policy analysis. (CU02207)

Understanding Business Cycle Comovement

✉ ZENG Zhixiong

☐ 1 December 2002

❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

Both economists and laymen are keenly aware of booms and recessions as they witness output, employment, and investment in most sectors expanding and contracting simultaneously. Such synchronized movement of sectoral activities, referred to as cross-sector comovement, is one of the defining characteristics of the business cycle. Unfortunately, this important phenomenon has received very little attention in the literature. Furthermore, the limited number of existing studies are largely confined to a framework where shocks to technology alone drive the business cycle. In contrast, this project brings monetary and financial elements into a dynamic business cycle model to investigate the mechanism that underlies the synchronized movement of sectoral activities. This study will emphasize the fact that firms in most sectors of the economy rely heavily on the financial market to obtain necessary funds for their operation, therefore fluctuations in financial market conditions, such as interest rates, risk premium, and collateral value, etc., can have economy-wide impact and induce employment and investment to move together across sectors over the business cycle. The framework allows examination of the effects on sectoral and aggregate economic activities of monetary and financial factors, as well as the widely studied technology shocks.

(SS02764)

Please refer to previous issues of this publication for more details of the following ongoing research at the department:

Edition Title/Investigators

2001-02	Foreign Equity Participation, Domestic Capital Accumulation, Income Distribution and Welfare (SS01520) ✍ CHAO Chi Chur	✍ KWAN Cheuk Chiu
2001-02	International Capital Mobility and Pollution Tax Coordination (SS01685) ✍ CHAO Chi Chur	2000-01 Volatility and Dynamics of Property Prices (CU00329) ✍ LEUNG Ka Yui Charles • KAN Kamhon* • KWONG Kai Sun Sunny • TSE Chung Yi*
2000-01	Estimating of and Testing for a Break in the Differencing Parameter (CU00369) ✍ CHONG Tai Leung	2001-02 Testing Alternative Theories of Property Price-Trading Volume Correlations (SS01337) ✍ LEUNG Ka Yui Charles
2000-01	The Role of the Foreign Trade Sector in the Chinese Economy: Simulations from Two Bilaterally Linked Econometric Models for China and Hong Kong (CU00370) ✍ CHOU Win Lin	2001-02 Asian Crisis, Recovery and Real Estate (SS01595) ✍ LEUNG Ka Yui Charles • EDELSTIEN Robert H*
2001-02	Do External Markets Affect the Efficiency of Internal Markets: An International Study (SS01623) ✍ DU Julian	2001-02 Does a Financial Crisis Change the Demand of Housing Attributes? (SS01951) ✍ LEUNG Ka Yui Charles
2001-02	Why is Stock Volatility So Different around the World? Evidence from Cross-Country Firm-level Data (SS01924) ✍ DU Julian • WEI Shang Jin*	2001-02 Privatization of China's State Owned Enterprises (SS01978) ✍ LI Hongbin • BRANDT Loyen* • SHEN Minggao*
2000-01	Can Consumer Attitudes Forecast Household Spending? A Multi-country Study (SS00962) ✍ KWAN Cheuk Chiu	2001-02 Are Private Firms Discriminated by China's Commercial Banks? (SS01906) ✍ LI Hongbin
2001-02	Sample Partial Autocorrelations and Portmanteau Tests of Randomness (SS01341)	2000-01 Monetary Policy and Economic Stability in Open Economies (SS00521) ✍ MENG Qinglai
		2001-02 Business-Cycle Volatility and Technical Change: Cross-Country and Cross-Industry Evidence (SS01392)

- ✍ TANG Sammy Hak Kan
- 1999-00 The Positive Political Economy of Intergovernmental Relations and Regional Disparities in China (CU99119)
✍ TSUI Kai Yuen • WANG Youqiang# • HU Angang*
- 2001-02 Welfare Impact of Changing Housing Policy in Hong Kong (SS01472)
✍ YAN Wai Hin • LEUNG Ka Yui Charles
- 2000-01 Transitional Dynamics in Monetary Endogenous Growth Models: Theory and Evidence (CU00357)
✍ YIP Chong Kee
- 2000-01 The Impact of Twinning on Educational Attainment (SS00569)
✍ YUNG Chor Wing Linda • ZHANG Junsen
- 2001-02 Schooling Investments and Returns under Different Policy Regimes in Urban China: A Collection and Study of Twins Data (SS01358)
✍ ZHANG Junsen • LIU Pak Wai
- 2001-02 Labor Supply, Earnings and Consumption in China's Economic Transition, 1986-2000 (SS01805)
✍ ZHANG Junsen • GONG Xiaodong* • LI Shi*
- 2001-02 Economic Reforms and Labour Market Transitions in Urban China (BS01632)
✍ ZHANG Junsen • ZHAO Yao Hui*
- 2001-02 Rising Longevity, Population Growth, and Economic Growth (SS01952)
✍ ZHANG Junsen • ZHANG Jie*

RESEARCH PROJECTS

Characterization and Estimation of Low Flows in the East River (Dongjian) Basin

✉ CHEN Yongqin David

☐ 11 November 2002

❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

Water resources in the East River basin have been highly developed and heavily committed for a variety of uses such as water supply, hydropower, navigation, irrigation, and suppression of seawater invasion. In recent years the East River provides supply to meet about 80% of Hong Kong annual water demands. Compared to flood problems and their associated hazards, which are often more visible and dramatic, fewer efforts have been devoted to study the occurrence, characteristics, estimation techniques and environmental and economic impacts of river low flows. However, low-flow conditions and hydrologic droughts are obviously very crucial to the reliability and vulnerability of the East River water resources systems to satisfy the multiple objectives of water uses. This study is therefore proposed to employ hydrologic analysis methods for low-flow characterization and estimation. Two techniques, frequency analysis and baseflow recession analysis, will be performed to characterize low flows in terms of minimum average-streamflow rates and the associated probability distributions. To estimate low-flow statistics at ungauged sites, this study will adopt a regional hydrologic modeling approach to developing statistical relationships (both ordinary regression and geographically weighted regression) between low-flow statistics at gauged sites and a

number of drainage basin characteristics derived from maps and remote sensing images. This study will not only have treatments scientific merits, but also highly valuable practical significance and enormous relevance to Hong Kong.

(SS02987)

Training Workshop on Land Use Map Production & Updating with Remote Sensing Images

✉ FUNG Tung • YEUNG Shui Ling

☐ 1 June 2003

❖ Planning Department, HKSAR Government

This consultancy project serves to upkeep town planners and survey officers of the Planning Department, HKSAR with the latest developments in remote sensing and equip them with the necessary knowledge in the production of land use map. The workshop is composed of lectures, laboratory and field works. It covers concepts of remote sensing, spectral characteristics of terrestrial features, satellite image properties, digital image processing systems, image enhancement and image classification for land use production, change detection for map updating and verification of map accuracy.

(SS02371)

A Neural Network Approach to Entropy Maximizing Spatial Interaction Analysis

✉ LEUNG Yee • SIR Alan Wilson* • CHEN Kaizhou*

☐ 1 December 2002

❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

Since the inception of the gravity model in the study of interaction (such as traffic, commodities and

population flows) between entities (such as districts, cities, regions) in space, the origin-destination type of spatial interaction analysis has become a main-line research in geography, regional science and transportation planning. Entropy-based models in general and entropy-maximizing models in particular are influential theoretical constructs which have been exerting great impact on basic and applied research in the field. Taking entropy as a guiding principle, we can estimate optimal origin-destination flows which satisfy certain planning constraints such as total system cost and flow restrictions on origins and destinations. From the theoretical point of view, it generates a series of issues on flow analysis along the line of system optimization. From the practical point of view, it creates issues in computation and real-life implementation.

Therefore, how to obtain directly the optimal solution of a large-scale entropy-maximizing problem, particularly in real time, with sound theoretical properties is a very important, difficult but yet unresolved problem. The purpose of this proposed investigation is to tackle this problem with novel ideas. We propose to construct powerful neural-networks to solve convex entropy-maximization problems arising from the designs and applications of entropy-based models over the years. We will strictly prove the stability and asymptotic convergence of the networks which give direct solutions, satisfying the necessary and sufficient conditions for optimality, to the entropy-maximization problem. This will provide an initial answer to some outstanding issues in the literature.

The proposed approach renders for the first time a tight integration of entropy-maximization model and neural network, and offers a general representation and solution to a large variety of origin-destination type of spatial interaction problems. It paves the

road for a larger project involving the solution of entropy-based convex, concave and global optimization problems, as well as the construction of a user-friendly software system integrating databases, solution algorithms, and graphic display so that everything necessary for the implementation and application of the entropy-based neural-network models will be in a unified whole. It might open up a new area of basic and applied research in the field.

(SS02305)

Investigating and Analyzing Natural and Cultural Landscapes for Sustainable Use as Nature-based Recreation and Ecotourism Destinations in Hong Kong

✍ MARAFA Lawal Mohammed

☐ 1 March 2003

❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

Landscapes, whether natural or cultural are important components of human habitation. They share common grounds as they reflect an interface on human relationship with the natural environment, which often defines their character of existence. Cultural and natural landscapes also act as backdrops for non-consumptive human uses which recently have included nature-based recreation and ecotourism. As these landscapes are open to the public for non-consumptive purposes, continuous visitation and use by humans will expose them to the aggravation of degradation and deterioration of their uniqueness, value and relevant ecological processes. The study and analysis of these landscapes, their classification and investigation of landscape ecology can contribute in part, to their sustainability. It can also maintain and enhance natural values on the landscape for attraction to nature-based recreation and ecotourism

participants. The study, classification and categorization of landscapes particularly in an urban fringe poses substantial philosophical and methodological problems and challenges. While there is need for protection of the natural and cultural landscapes, and their conservation, they are also required to cater for the rising trend and demand for ecotourism, nature-based recreation, education and the provision of general amenity for the increasing number of urban dwellers. The study will adopt a hierarchical methodology of landscape classification, categorize and evaluate landscapes based on their abiotic, biotic and cultural attributes and develop an adoptable framework for developing ideal landscape condition for nature-based recreation and ecotourism. (SS02417)

Survey of Community Attitudes to Waste Reduction and Recycling

✍ NG Sai Leung

□ 1 November 2002

❖ Environment and Conservation Fund

In Hong Kong, municipal wasteloads have increased an average of about 4% per year since late 1980s. It is expected that the remaining landfill space can last only for 10 to 15 years. In September 2001, the Secretary for the Environment and Food addressed that “reduction and recycling” is a key component in the waste management. In this year, the government has implemented a number of programmes to increase community involvement in reducing and recycling waste, including double the number of waste separation bins for recycling in public places to a total of 16,000; introduce a sustained public education programme to ensure that the general public is well informed on how to prevent waste production and how to separate the waste for

recycling, etc. Much of the effort is targeted at households and individuals. The purpose of the project is to critically investigate the general public’s attitude, awareness and preference on waste reduction and recycling so that relevant information is collected for facilitating effective environmental management, and appropriate policy and legislation.

(SS02779)

Soil and Nutrient Dynamics as a Function of Terracing Methods in the Three Gorges Reservoir Area in China: A Multi-disciplinary Investigation

✍ NG Sai Leung • CAI Qiangguo* • CHAU Kwai Cheong • LAM Kin Che • ZHANG Guanyuan*

□ 31 December 2002

❖ Research Grants Council (Earmarked Grants)

The Three Gorges Project in China is a huge project purported to bring significant benefits to the nation and yet at the same time necessitates the resettlement of over 1 million people to remote upland areas that are economically underdeveloped and ecologically fragile. Because of the steep topography, various terracing methods have been adopted to check soil and nutrient losses in the resettlement area. This project aims at investigating the sediment and nutrient dynamics as a function of terracing methods from a multi-disciplinary perspective. To this end, this study will involve three independent but complementary exercises. Firstly, field experiment and laboratory determination of soil and nutrient fluxes will provide scientific data, which are important from the perspective of soil conservation. Secondly, cost-benefits analysis will compare strengths and weaknesses of three terracing methods, which may facilitate an optimal soil management scheme. Thirdly, questionnaire survey will be undertaken to assess the social acceptance so that the

discrepancy between the public and the reality can be narrowed. Outputs of this study will have both practical and theoretical significance. Not only this study will advance the research of soil erosion and conservation, but also the findings will definitely bring benefits to thousands of resettled people in the Three Gorges Region and will have the potential of promoting the sustainable development in other rural areas in China.

(CU02217)

Viability of Xinhui as a Logistics Hub

✉ YEUNG Yue Man • SHEN Jianfa • ZHANG Li

□ 1 November 2002

❖ Dah Chong Hong Ltd. and Sims Trading Co.

The objective of this research project is to determine the viability or otherwise of Xinhui as a logistics hub in the western wing of the Pearl River Delta. This involves a comparative study of the existing port facilities in the western part of the Delta. Specifically, a comparison is made between Xinhui and the following ports: Gaolan Port in Zhuhai, Yangjiang Port, Zhongshan Port, Nansha Port in Panyu, and Huangpu Port in Guangzhou.

The study will review the comparative strengths and weaknesses of these ports and then whether Xinhui is suitable as a logistics hub. A report will be produced following field studies, data gathering and analysis, and a comprehensive review and analysis.

(SS02446)

Self-help Housing and Chengzhongcun (Urban Villages) in China's Urbanization

✉ ZHANG Li • ZHAO Xiaobin*

□ 1 December 2002

❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

China is experiencing rapid growth in urbanization in the current transitional period, characterized by massive rural-to-urban migration. Because of their lack of legitimate urban status (a permanent urban household registration) and their employment mostly in low-paid occupations, great numbers of rural migrants as an urban underprivileged group have been institutionally and economically excluded from the urban housing system. As a result, they are forced to seek accommodation with a self-help approach. This situation has produced various types of ghetto settlements which were almost absent in pre-reform China. The project is concerned with habitat issues of rural migrants during the rapid process of urbanization, with special reference to the urban village (*chengzhongcun*), a major and unique type of migrant enclave in Chinese cities. As a matter of fact, *chengzhongcun* is generally perceived as undesirable for urban governance because of their association with unsuitable land use, the dilapidated type of housing construction, severe infrastructure deficiencies, intensified social disorder, and deterioration of the urban environment. As *chengzhongcun* resembles some of the worse features of shanty towns in other cities of the world, there has been a strong signal from government to demolish it under the guise of urban redevelopment. However, the positive features of *chengzhongcun* in the course of China's urbanization have received no acknowledgement in the official redevelopment plan. This project seeks to understand the underlying rationale of self-help housing and the important contribution of *chengzhongcun* to Chinese urbanization. It is also going to investigate the impact of government action towards *chengzhongcun* as a migrant settlement.

(SS02626)

Please refer to previous issues of this publication for more details of the following ongoing research at the department:

<u>Edition</u>	<u>Title/Investigators</u>
2001-02	Landscape Ecology of Feng Shui Woodlands and Their Potential for Ecotourism Using High Resolution IKONOS Images and GIS (SS01774) ✉ FUNG Tung • MARAFA Lawal Mohammed
1999-00	Parks and Open Space in Urban Hong Kong: Pollution Problems and Design Solutions (CU99113) ✉ LAM Kin Che • BANIASSAD Esmail (Dept of Architecture)
2001-02	Are All Noises the Same? A Laboratory Simulation Experiment on Human Response to Road and Rail Traffic Noise (SS01662) ✉ LAM Kin Che
1999-00	A Scale-space Filtering Approach to Spatial Data Clustering (CU99136) ✉ LEUNG Yee • ZHANG Jianshe*
2000-01	Analysis and Development of Measurement-based Geographic Information System (GIS) (CU00362) ✉ LEUNG Yee • GOODCHILD Michael F*

1993-94 Development of a Multi-Window System for Exploratory Spatial/Temporal Data Analysis (SS94005)

✉ LIN Hui

1998-99 Geographic Information Acquisition, Analysis & Application (PS98001)

✉ LIN Hui • AU Yuk Fai Kevin (Dept of Management) • CHEN Yongqin David • LAM Chi Chung (Dept of Curriculum & Instruction) • LEE Yiu Bun (Dept of Information Engineering) • LI Duan (Dept of Systems Engineering & Engin. Management) • LIEW Soung Chang (Dept of Information Engineering) • LU Qin (Dept of Translation) • SHEN Jianfa • TONG Fuk Kay Franklin (Dept of Information Engineering) • TSOU Jin Yeu (Dept of Architecture) • TUAN Chyau (Dept of Decision Sciences and Managerial Economics) • XU Yangsheng (Dept of Auto. & Computer-Aided Engin.) • ZOU Jun (Dept of Mathematics)

1998-99 A Joint Experiment on the L-SAR All-Weather Remote Sensing System for Landslide Monitoring in Hong Kong Region (CU98334)

✉ LIN Hui • GUO Huadong* • SHAO Yun* • CHEN Yongqin David • WANG Changling*

1999-00 Development of a Virtual Studio for Designing the Ecological Security Pattern of the Country Park System in Hong Kong (CU99132)

- ✍ LIN Hui • ZOU Jun (Dept of Mathematics) • CHEN Yongqin David • SUN Hanqiu (Dept of Computer Science and Engineering) • GONG Jianhua (Joint Lab. for Geoinformation Science)# • YU Kongjian*
- 2000-01 Developing China's West: A Critical Path to Balanced Natural Development (SS00566)
✍ YEUNG Yue Man • SHEN Jianfa
- 2001-02 Organizing Urban Space under Rapid Urbanization: Changing Urban Governance in China (SS99951)
✍ SHEN Jianfa

RESEARCH PROJECTS

A Study of Tiananmen Square as a Spatial Space of Popular Protest in Modern China

✉ MA Shu Yun

☐ 1 July 2002

❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

Almost all major popular protests in modern China – the May Fourth Movement 1919, the April Fifth Democracy Wall Movement 1976, and the June Fourth Demonstration 1989 – took place in Tiananmen Square. This is also where the headquarters of the central government of the People's Republic of China and the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) are positioned. While the Chinese people's choice of Tiananmen Square as the stage of popular protest is not difficult to explain, it is not clear why did Chinese leaders locate the party-state's political heart at this highly sensitive place. The proposed project will situate this issue in the Habermasian perspective of public sphere. The objective is to develop a theoretical analysis of the spatial space of popular protest in modern China, with a focus on Tiananmen Square.

(SS02940)

Global Information Technology Pressure and Government Accountability: A Study of Bureaucratic Response to E-Government in Hong Kong, China, Taiwan and Countries of Major Regions

✉ WONG Wai Ho • WELCH Eric*

☐ 1 September 2002

❖ Research Grants Council (Earmarked Grants)

To what extent and in what ways does the global information technology revolution affect the openness and accountability of public organizations in Hong Kong, China, Taiwan and countries of major regions? Does government accountability, as measured by web-site openness, increase over time? This study will try to answer these important questions of whether information technology (or e-government) help enhance government accountability and to what extent does the domestic context, particularly the civil service systems, mediate this effect of global pressure. The theoretical framework, methodology, and analysis of the project are built on the three previous publications of the PI and Co-I (Welch and Wong, 1998; Wong and Welch, 2001a and 2001b). Adopting a model of the effects of global pressure on public bureaucracy (Welch and Wong, 1998) as the theoretical framework, this study combines two streams of research and sources of data – the Cyberspace Policy Research Group's (CyPRG) comparative analysis of web site openness and Ferrel Heady's (1996) classification of the major dimensions of civil service systems – to test hypotheses about how the domestic context, as relevant to the national civil service systems, mediate the effect of the global information technology (IT) pressure on government accountability. A total of 17 countries (including Hong Kong) of five major regions (North America, Western Europe, Asia, Africa and Australasia) are included in the study.

(CU02223)

Mapping Hong Kong's Constitutional Identity

✉ YU Xingzhong

☐ 1 March 2003

❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

The goal of this research is to understand and articulate Hong Kong's constitutional identity. This research believes that Hong Kong's constitutional identity will emerge when the Basic Law and the common law constitutional tradition are integrated. The focus of the research will be on HOW the two can be integrated. Through comparative, empirical and case analysis, this research will explore common law constitutional practice in Hong Kong and compare such practice with the Basic Law provisions on major constitutional matters such as limitations on ultimate political authority, interpretive practice, mechanisms to guarantee individual freedoms, judicial review of legislative and administrative acts and the relative positioning of respective power branches. The outcome will be a collection of annotations of relevant provisions of the Basic Law with common law constitutional cases. (SS02664)

✉ KUAN Hsin Chi • LAU Siu Kai (Dept of Sociology)

2001-02 Visiting Scholars (Mainland China) Scheme (SS01813)

✉ KUAN Hsin Chi

2000-01 Comparing the New Public Management Reforms in Hong Kong and Singapore (CU00374)

✉ LEE Wing Yee Eliza • HAQUE Shamsul*

2000-01 The Politics of Listing Chinese State Enterprises on Hong Kong (CU00354)

✉ MA Shu Yun

2000-01 Associational Revolution in China (SS00362)

✉ WANG Shaoguang • WANG Ming*

2001-02 Hong Kong and China: Political Linkage and Interaction (SS01448)

✉ WONG Wai Ho • CHAN Joseph Man (School of Journalism and Communication)

Please refer to previous issues of this publication for more details of the following ongoing research at the department:

Edition Title/Investigators

2000-01 Learning, Electoral Behaviour, and Democratization in Hong Kong (CU00359)

2000-01 Shaping Political Localism in Reform China (CU00347)

✉ WU Guoguang • TSAO King Kwun

RESEARCH PROJECTS

Reversed Cultural Globalization: A Case Study of *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*

✍ CHAN Joseph Man

☐ 11 November 2002

❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

With Hollywood dominating the world's movie screens, globalization in the realm of audio-visual culture is often equated to Americanization. The unprecedented success of the Asian movie, *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*, in the West represents a form of *reversed* cultural globalization, a trend in which Chinese culture is transculturated by Hollywood for the world audience. Using *Crouching Tiger* as a case study, employing methods that include textual analysis, indepth interviews and documentation analysis, this project seeks to examine these questions: (1) How is Chinese culture in the form of martial arts and native stories appropriated by Hollywood for the American and global audience? (2) Under what conditions is reversed cultural globalization made possible? Why is it happening? To what extent is it a genuine reversed cultural flow? How do American viewers evaluate such a hybridized movie?

(SS02393)

Construction the Picture of AIDS: How the Hong Kong Press Covering the Epidemic

✍ CHANG Hao Chieh

☐ 1 January 2002

❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

This study examines how the local news media cover AIDS related stories in Hong Kong. AIDS has plagued the global community for nearly two decades and is posing a growing threat to this community. Although various campaign efforts have endeavoured to educate people on prevention measures, people's ignorance of the AIDS epidemic seems more deeply rooted than expected. A recent survey conducted by The Chinese University shows that almost half the Hong Kong men who sleep with prostitutes believe they are not at risk of contracting AIDS without any protection. Why do people participate in such high-risk activities still consider themselves risk free? Why do all the campaign efforts fail to generate the public awareness? Studies show that the news media have been identified as the major source about AIDS in many countries and they can have facilitates or contradictory effect on public information campaigns. Therefore, it is essential to examine how the Hong Kong press cover AIDS related stories. Has it in any way contributed to the public misconceptions? A content analysis on media coverage of AIDS related stories can be used to assess how the press frames the issue. The findings may provide some important insights to health educators and policy makers to better assess the role of the press in constructing the picture of AIDS epidemic and help them make informed choices in selecting effective integrated campaign strategies.

(SS02750)

The Internet's Role in Cultivating Multiple Identities and Tolerance of Ambiguities

✍ LEE Paul Siu Nam

☐ 1 June 2003

❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

The objective of this study is to empirically examine the issue of the cultivation and acceptance of multiple identities as a result of the use of the Internet. The findings of this study will throw light on the paths human societies are treading. The study uses a telephone survey and focus group studies to reach its objective. A telephone survey of a probability sample of 3,000 respondents is conducted. In addition, focus group studies are used to tap the meanings of assuming multiple identities on the Internet and to explore the implications of taking on different identities in relation to tolerance of ambiguities and differences. This study is significant in gauging the extent to which the Internet can contribute to the cultivation of multiple identities and tolerance of ambiguities. These two qualities are believed to be essential in fostering empathetic skills, mutual understanding and tolerance among different peoples. The ability to tolerate ambiguities and differences among different peoples is considered a requisite for harmony and peace. (SS02658)

Culture Communication in Hong Kong

✉ LEUNG Wai Yin Kenneth

☐ 15 January 2003

❖ Chinese Culture On Net Foundation

This is a survey research designed to scale the landscape of various aspects of Chinese culture amongst primary school pupils. A multi-stage cluster sample of about 1,800 pupils from 9 schools on Hong Kong Island, Kowloon Peninsula and the New Territories will be drawn for such test. The landscape of Chinese culture is defined as awareness,

understanding and appreciation of the history, artifacts, traditions, inter-personal relationships, religion and philosophical thoughts and life-styles. (SS02535)

Please refer to previous issues of this publication for more details of the following ongoing research at the department:

<u>Edition</u>	<u>Title/Investigators</u>
1999-00	Submission, Resistance and Circumvention: The Changing Journalistic Practices and Culture in Chinese Media (CU99121) ✉ CHAN Joseph Man • CHEN Huailin* • LEE Chin Chuan* • 詹伯慧* • 李如龍* • PAN Zhongdang*
2000-01	Examining the Economic Nature of Online Content: From the User's Perspective (SS00785) ✉ CHYI Hsiang Iris
2000-01	Popular Culture Consumption and Youth Identities in Hong Kong: Trajectories and Transitions (SS99461) ✉ FUNG Ying Him Anthony • ERNI John* • GROSSBERG Lawrence*
2000-01	Assessing the Role of Foreign Television in Hong Kong: Local Culture and Global Identity (CU00344) ✉ LEE Paul Siu Nam

- 2001-02 Critical Analysis of Libel Litigations in Hong Kong: Implications for Press Freedom and Responsibility (SS01316)
✍ LEUNG Wai Yin Kenneth • CHAN Johannes M M*
- 2001-02 Changing Patterns of New Media Consumption in the Information Age: A Study on Adoption, Use and Impact on Life Quality in Hong Kong Families (AL01315)
✍ LEUNG Wing Chi Louis • LEE Paul Siu Nam
- 2001-02 Media Representations and Identity Politics of Transborder Marriage in Hong Kong and China (SS01318)
- ✍ MA Kit Wai • CHEUNG Chin Hung Sidney (Dept of Anthropology) • FUNG Anthony*
- 2001-02 Hong Kong Identity Survey (2002) (SS01631)
✍ MA Kit Wai • FUNG Ying Him Anthony
- 2001-02 The Changing News Landscape in Hong Kong: A Techno-Economic Perspective (SS01320)
✍ SO York Kee Clement

RESEARCH PROJECTS

A Self-paced Sequential Protocol of Play in Public Good Dilemmas

✉ AU Wing Tung

☐ 1 December 2002

❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

A pervasive aspect of social interaction is the conflict between maximizing personal gain and maximizing collective gain. In a social dilemma situation there is an incentive to maximize personal gain, but if all members do so, all are worse off than if all choose to maximize collective gain. This project focuses on a public good (PG) social dilemma, which is a commodity or service made available to all members of a group, where its provision depends on the voluntary contribution of the group members. Once provided, all can enjoy the benefits of the PG, regardless of whether or not they contributed. Everyday examples include contribution to charities, and performing volunteering work, and etc. The primary objective of this project is to examine a protocol of play that mimics the daily situation that people also decide when to make a decision. We label this protocol of play a Self-paced Sequential (SPS) protocol. The secondary objective is to study how information structure affects cooperation behaviors. We vary the type of information that is available to group members and compare four situations: (1) & (2) a cooperation-information and a non-cooperative-information condition in which members know only the number of people cooperating and not cooperating, respectively, (3) a full-information condition that members know both

the number of cooperators and non-cooperators, and (4) a no-information condition in which neither the number of cooperators nor non-cooperators are disclosed. It is predicted that the full-information and non-cooperation-information conditions will induce more cooperation than the cooperation and no-information-conditions.
(SS02402)

Assessing Psychometric Properties of Chinese Rating Scale Qualifiers

✉ AU Wing Tung • TAYLOR Paul John • HO Ming Chun • ROHRMANN Bernd*

☐ 1 March 2003

❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

Psychological research has long been using rating scales to measure people's attitudes, feelings, and behaviors. However, the psychometric values of verbal qualifiers need systematic investigation before we can use them on rating scales to measure psychological constructs meaningfully and accurately. An experimental method for scaling verbal qualifiers has been developed by Rohrmann (2002) and applied to English words. This project extends the pioneering work in the scaling of verbal qualifiers to the Chinese language and also assesses their linguistic equivalence to English words.

From this project we will determine the psychometric values of verbal qualifiers that are commonly used in psychological research. The results will allow us to make recommendations on the use of verbal qualifiers for rating scales assessing different modalities like frequency, agreement, probability, & etc. A list of psychometrically equivalent verbal qualifiers will be compiled for the use of translating between Chinese and English rating scales.

The lists of psychometrically scaled verbal qualifiers, and their values, developed from this project will be a critical reference for researchers and practitioners interested in using rating scales in Chinese. Any translation of rating scales between English and Chinese will also be able to rely on these findings to ensure that their scale anchors are equivalent across languages.

(SS02995)

Invariance of Haptic Perception in Force Pattern

✉ CHAN Tin Cheung

□ 1 November 2002

❖ Research Grants Council (Earmarked Grants)

Turvey and his colleagues asserted that inertia tensor, a complex mechanical property, is the informational invariance for the perception of length and direction of a hand-wielded object. They rejected force and torque as information because force and torque change in wielding. Yet information has to be the pattern of energy distribution such as the optic array in vision. For haptic perception, it has to be the pattern of mechanical perturbation produced in wielding. In my previous work, results show that, with components of inertia tensor dissociated from static torque, perceived length varies with static torque and not inertia tensor. In this project, I would like to show that their previous results of inertia tensor affecting the direction of a pointing arm is actually a result of the forces acting on the arm. Also, I will develop the formal description of the invariance of the perception of rod length. It is hypothesized that such invariance can be described as the force pattern detected at the hand sampled at certain singular points. Also, it can also be described in terms of muscle tension produced in wielding.

Results in testing these hypotheses should contribute to the better understanding of perceptual invariance particularly in haptic perception. Contribution to robotics is also possible.

(CU02230)

An Item Response Theory Analysis of the Chinese Personality Assessment Inventory: A Case Study on Service Orientation in a Hotel Setting

✉ CHAN Wai • CHEUNG Fanny Mui Ching

□ 11 November 2002

❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

The Chinese Personality Assessment Inventory (CPAI) is an indigenous personality for the Chinese people (Cheung et al., 1996). Despite the attractive features and practical values of this instrument, there are still important issues related to the psychometric properties of the CPAI items. In this project, we propose to analyze the CPAI using item response theory (IRT), a statistical method that provides a more refined and exhaustive item and scale level analysis than the traditional analytic method based on the classical test theory. In particular, we will focus on the prediction of service orientation based on the CPAI personality scales by administering the measures to the employees of a hotel chain. The CPAI data will be analyzed both by the traditional classical test approach and the IRT approach. The estimated personality scores based on the two different approaches will be used to predict the service performance. This will shed light on the practical utility of the IRT approach when compared to the classical approach. In addition, the substantive results of the study will inform us about the personality correlates of service orientation.

(SS02515)

Cognitive Processes in Picture Naming

- ✍ CHEN Hsuan Chih
- 6 November 2002
- ❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

This project aims to investigate the cognitive processes involved in picture naming. In the proposed experiment, a target picture and a distractor word will be presented either simultaneously or sequentially, and participants will be asked to name the target and ignore the distractor. Picture-word relatedness will be varied to examine various types of lexical activation in word production. The proposed research will contribute to our knowledge about Chinese language processing.
(SS02653)

Gender Diversity and Leadership Effectiveness: An Exploratory Study in the Chinese Work Setting

- ✍ CHEUNG Fanny Mui Ching • TO Yuen Weun
- 1 July 2002
- ❖ PDI Global Research Consortia Grant

The key objective of this research project is to identify a comprehensive taxonomy of leadership attributes that are critical for job performance in the Chinese work setting. It attempts to fill the gap in previous research by extending the taxonomy of leadership attributes to include feminine characteristics, which presumably may have been overlooked due to stereotypical perceptions of male researchers in the last few decades. We also examine how various leadership behaviors and personality relate with one's job performance, as well

as the role of gender in determining leadership effectiveness in a Chinese cultural context.

The study yields both theoretical and application significance. Theoretically, the present study serves to extend past research on leadership attributes with a taxonomy of feminine characteristics and further validate the performance domains of task and contextual performance. Our understanding of the relationships between personality, leadership attributes and performance will help practitioners and organizations to address personnel issues more effectively.
(SS02490)

The Development of Adolescent Well-being Measures - A Preparatory Study to Validate the Chinese Personality Assessment Inventory for Adolescents (CPAI-A)

- ✍ CHEUNG Fanny Mui Ching
- 1 March 2003
- ❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

This project is a preparatory study for a 2003-04 RGC study proposed to develop and standardize the Chinese Personality Assessment Inventory for the Adolescents (CPAI-A). The CPAI-A is an adaptation of the CPAI for Chinese adolescents. The CPAI is an indigenous instrument developed to assess personality of Chinese adults, with cultural relevance taken into account. In the RGC study, several instruments of psychological well-being among Chinese adolescents will be included to provide a preliminary validation of the CPAI-A in predicting psychological well-being. To provide a comprehensive and culturally relevant measure for Chinese adolescents, a life satisfaction scale will be developed and validated in this Direct Grant project.

These measures will be used as indicators of psychological well-being. Using a combined emic-etic approach, the Multidimensional Students' Life Satisfaction Scale (MSLSS) will be used as a starting framework and local constructs will be added. The life events measures previously used in the CPAI-2 and MMPI-A standardization studies will also be adapted for Chinese adolescents. A pilot test will be conducted to ensure that items are comprehensible to the adolescents. The main study will recruit around 1,200 secondary school students, and the structural relationship among life satisfaction, life events, self-esteem, and other variables will be examined.

(SS02689)

Contributions of Early Speech and Reading to Sound Awareness

✍ CHEUNG Him

☐ 11 November 2002

❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

The proposed project aims at examining the separate effects of speech and early reading experience on the development of phonological awareness in young children. Phonological awareness refers to the capacity to decompose speech into small sound units and manipulate these units. Past research has demonstrated a consistent effect of reading (orthographic) experience, in that readers of alphabetic scripts have more fine-tuned phonological awareness than readers of non-alphabetic scripts. This is because the alphabetic writing system represents speech in terms of phonemes (i.e., each letter stands for a phoneme, roughly), whereas non-alphabetic systems typically represent speech at higher phonological levels (e.g., Chinese characters

represent meaningful syllables). What previous research has by and large ignored is the effect of speech experience, which has to do with the phonological properties of the language in question. To investigate this issue, I plan to compare the phonological awareness of young children coming from different language backgrounds. Their linguistic environments differ such that comparisons among them will reveal the independent effects of speech versus reading experience. If both reading and speech experience can modify phonological awareness, then the level of representation subserving phonological awareness could play a role in providing an informational space in which listening to speech and reading can integrate.

(SS02522)

Sending Memorable Health Messages to the Old

✍ FUNG Hoi Lam Helene

☐ 1 December 2002

❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

The proposed project aims at studying how age differences in goals affect the ways that people react to health messages. People of different ages prioritize different goals. A theory in human development, known as socioemotional selectivity theory, holds that as people age and perceive time as more limited, they attach greater importance to emotional aspects of their lives. In previous studies, we have found evidence for this in social preferences and message preferences. Compared with younger adults, older adults are more likely to prefer to interact with emotionally close social partners, to show more positive attitude toward messages with emotional appeal, and to remember a greater proportion of information from those messages. In

this project, we seek to extend this line of research to preference for health messages. We will test (1) whether older people are more likely to find health messages that emphasize emotions more attractive, memorable and persuasive than are younger people, and (2) whether the valence of the messages affects this relationship.
(SS02455)

The Effects of Discounting and Downward Comparison on the Psychological Well-being of Older Adults

- ✉ FUNG Hoi Lam Helene • CHAN C M Alfred* • CHENG Sheung Tak*
- ☐ 1 December 2002
- ❖ RGC Earmarked Research Grant (CityU)

This project examines how psychological well-being is maintained in old age by the individual discounting the process of aging and comparing himself/herself to less fortunate (hypothetical) others. Two studies will be conducted. In the first study, participants of young, middle and old ages (n = 200 each) will respond to a questionnaire that tap their self-perceptions as well as their perceptions of “most other people of the same age” are like, as well as measures of psychological well-being. The difference between one views oneself and how one views others produces a measure of social comparison and allows an assessment of how social comparison impacts on well-being.

The elderly participants will also be asked what they think they will be like in one year’s time. A year later, they will be interviewed again on their current self-perceptions. By comparing what they said a year earlier to their current self-perceptions, we will examine how over-discounting (making worse predictions than reality), under-discounting (making

better predictions than reality), and accurate discounting (making similar predictions as reality) affect psychological well-being at baseline and follow-up.
(SS02845)

Perceived Endings, Mortality Salience and Goal Regulation

- ✉ FUNG Hoi Lam Helene • LANG Frieder R*
- ☐ 1 January 2003
- ❖ Germany/Hong Kong Joint Research Scheme

As we age, many reminders – such as graduations, births of children and grandchildren, deaths of age peers, and one’s own health problems – all provide gentle and not-so-gentle reminders that lifetime is – in some sense – running out. Socioemotional selectivity theory suggests that it is precisely this sense of anticipated ending that makes old age emotionally meaningful. This project will test the theory by examining what we strive for, i.e., our goals, when we are reminded of the finitude of our life. It will also study the cognitive and behavioral outcomes of these goals in an aging context. Finally, it will investigate potential cultural differences in the above relationships between Hong Kong Chinese and Germans.
(SS02986)

What Causes Differences in Viewpoint Cost Functions in Object Recognition?

- ✉ HAYWARD William Gordon
- ☐ 1 October 2002
- ❖ Research Grants Council (Earmarked Grants)

Despite a long-running debate over the effects of a change in viewpoint on object recognition

performance by human observers, recent work from my lab (Hayward & Williams, 2000; Cass, Burke, & Hayward, 2001) shows that neither side of the debate can successfully explain why some recognition situations are more difficult (in terms of costs incurred by changes in viewpoint) than others. In this grant application, I wish to continue the work that I have started, and examine different factors that may influence viewpoint cost functions. In particular, I wish to examine the role of object geometry, which has been suggested as a cause of different levels of recognition performance without any systematic study of its effects. Additional experiments will examine the role of target-distractor similarity. I expect that the project could help to resolve this longstanding debate in the field of human object recognition.

(CU02232)

Development and Validation of Clinical Risks and Needs Evaluation Measures for Offenders

- ✉ LEUNG Wing Leung Patrick • CHEUNG Fanny Mui Ching • MAK Wing Sze Winnie
- 1 January 2003
- ❖ Correctional Services Department, HKSAR Government

This project aims at developing and validating clinical risks and needs evaluation measures for offenders, including adult violent offenders, sex offenders, and young offenders. It is a project in collaboration with the Correctional Services Department, Hong Kong SAR Government. It is estimated that the project will take about two-and-a-half years to complete.

(SS02348)

Does a Fragile Sense of Self Predict Eating Pathology among Chinese Adolescent Girls in Hong Kong and Beijing? A 2-year Follow-up Study

- ✉ LEUNG Yiu Kin Freedom • WANG Jianping*
- 1 June 2003
- ❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

A fragile sense of self has long been implicated in the development of eating disorders. Findings from previous high-risk studies in the West generally support that low self-esteem is a valid vulnerability marker for future eating disorders. Recent theory and evidence, however, suggest that there is much more to self-esteem than whether it is high or low, and instability or fragility of self-esteem is an even more important construct in predicting psychological functioning. To extent knowledge in this area, the present study will examine the utility of the two components of self-esteem (both the level and fragility of self-esteem) in predicting eating pathology among Chinese adolescent girls in Hong Kong and Beijing in a 2-year follow-up study. Four thousand adolescents girls, 2000 from Hong Kong and Beijing respectively, between the ages of 11 and 13 will be recruited for the study. Subjects will be tested at three different time points over a period of two years with various measures assessing a fragile sense of self, parenting styles, unstable mood trait, weight and shape related variables, and eating symptoms. The following research questions will be addressed: (1) Does a fragile sense of self predict future eating pathology among Chinese adolescent girls in Hong Kong and Beijing? (2) What are the causal relationships among parenting styles, unstable mood trait, self-esteem problems, and other weight and shape related variables in the development of

pathological eating? (3) Will sociocultural differences between Hong Kong and Beijing contribute to different result patterns across cities? Findings from this study will shed light on processes and mechanisms that help transform a fragile sense of self into pathological eating.

(SS02932)

Understanding Help-seeking: How Stigma and Other Sociocultural Factors Affect Illness Behaviors for Mental Illness

✍ MAK Wing Sze Winnie

□ 11 November 2002

❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

The study explores the roles public stigma and other sociocultural factors play in affecting individuals' help-seeking attitudes and behaviors for mental illness. Stigma has been identified as a primary barrier to access and utilization of care. Despite its potentially deleterious effects on individuals, very few empirical studies have been done to examine its association with illness behaviors, particularly in a Chinese cultural context. Illness behavior includes the way individuals experience, interpret, and cope with a disease. Stigma as well as cultural values can influence individuals' view of mental illness, help-seeking attitudes, and help-seeking behaviors. The study addresses two specific aims: (1) Descriptive work will be conducted to explore the influences of individuals' perception of mental illness, face concern, and other sociocultural variables (e.g., gender, age, socioeconomic status) in the development of stigma towards individuals suffering from mental illnesses; (2) Explanatory path model will be built to understand the association between the level of stigma, sociodemographic variables,

cultural values, and specific perceptions about mental illness on help-seeking attitudes and behaviors. This study serves as an important starting point in more comprehensively understanding various factors that may hinder help-seeking for mental illness. In understanding the underlying mechanisms that lead to this dearth of care, researchers and practitioners can better design culturally relevant and effective community programs that enhance public's willingness to seek help when they experience psychological distress.

(SS02908)

Refinement and Testing of the Dialogical Reading Technique for Language-delayed Hong Kong Chinese Children

✍ MCBRIDE Catherine Alexandra

□ 15 November 2002

❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

We seek to understand the effects of dialogic reading, an interactive parent-child reading technique, on the language development of language-delayed children in Hong Kong. We will compare the effects of this technique to those in a control condition in which parent and children engage in shared-book reading without any special training.

Language developmental delay affects a substantial proportion (estimates range from 5 to 15%) of children, with lasting consequences for their development. Given the seriousness of the influence of early speech delay on children's later development, the proposed study will be conducted to establish the extent to which the proposed reading technique can facilitate language-delayed children's learning of language and literacy skills.

Although the dialogic reading technique has enhanced both language and emergent literacy skills of North American children, there is little research available on the effects of this technique on Chinese children. This study will help us to evaluate the overall effectiveness of the dialogic reading technique for Chinese language-delayed children, and to refine the technique for wider use in Hong Kong. As developed in North America, the dialogic reading technique is teachable within a short period of time to adults who have no background in psychology or linguistics, and the training is inexpensive. Positive results of this study may encourage parents and educators to learn and use the technique across Hong Kong, and this will be an important breakthrough in remedial language teaching techniques created to help parents and educators to teach language-delayed children most effectively.

(SS02784)

Functional Brain Imaging Using the Event Related Optical Signal

✍ PENNEY Trevor Bruce • HAYWARD William Gordon • CHEN Hsuan Chih • GRATTON Gabriele* • FABIANI Monica* • MACLIN Ed*

☐ 1 July 2002

❖ CUHK Mainline Research Scheme

Optical brain imaging takes advantage of the properties of light scattering and absorption in the brain to allow functional imaging of cortical brain activity non-invasively. It allows detection of both slow hemodynamic changes, assumed to reflect increased oxygen demands of active neurons, as well as more rapid changes, believed to reflect changes in ion concentration as neurons become active. These rapid changes have the same temporal resolution as provided by measuring the electrical activity of the

brain using electroencephalography (EEG) or magnetoencephalography (MEG). Importantly, however, optical imaging has excellent spatial resolution as compared to EEG or MEG. Recently, the Department of Psychology at CUHK purchased a 64 channel optical imaging system. Our goal in the present proposal is to facilitate connections and collaborations between members of the Cognition and Brain Studies group in the Dept. of Psychology at CUHK and members of the Beckman Institute of Cognitive Neuroscience/Department of Psychology at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. The co-directors of the Beckman Institute pioneered the use of the fast optical signal as a measure brain activity in cognitive neuroscience studies. Visits to CUHK by members of the Illinois lab will allow the CUHK proposal participants to benefit from their expertise in using the fast optical signal to answer fundamental questions in cognitive neuroscience. Second, it will provide an opportunity to determine areas of overlap in research interests and areas of complementary expertise that will facilitate collaboration on questions about the brain basis of attention, memory, and language processing.

(SS02508)

Cultural and Psychosocial Factors Associated with Willingness toward Posthumous Organ Donation in Hong Kong

✍ TANG So Kum Catherine

☐ 11 November 2002

❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

With scientific advancements in medical technology in recent decades, organ transplantation has rapidly developed as an acceptable treatment for various fatal diseases. However, the demand for organs far

exceeds that of the supply across countries. Many people die as a result of not able to find a suitable donor. This study aims to devise a comprehensive theoretical model to predict posthumous organ donation intention and behavioral commitment of signing the donation card. About 1,000 Chinese residing in Hong Kong will be interviewed. Various cultural and psychosocial factors under investigation include a sense of community, religious beliefs and cultural beliefs about death, altruistic beliefs, knowledge and normative beliefs about organ donation, and attitudes toward becoming a donor. Findings of this study have significance in designing public health campaigns to promote the acceptance of posthumous organ donation as well as to enhance the intention and behavior commitment to become a donor.

(SS02574)

A Study on Adolescent Sexuality and Peer Child Sexual Abuse in Hong Kong

✉ TANG So Kum Catherine

□ 1 January 2003

❖ End Child Sexual Abuse Foundation

There are increasing incidents of adolescent sexual abuse by their peers. Existing prevention and educational programs rarely target at sexual by adolescent peers. There is an urgent need to have a better understanding of sexual attitudes and behaviors of adolescents to develop and facilitate more effective sexual education and sexual abuse prevention programs for upper primary and junior secondary school students. This study thus aims to (1) provide update information about adolescent sexuality in Hong Kong, (2) explore factors related to rapid and early sexual maturation among adolescents, (3) investigate the prevalence rate and profiles of abusers

and victims of peer child sexual abuse among adolescents in Hong Kong, (4) examine how sexual permissiveness relates to the occurrence of peer child sexual abuse, (5) determine health and mental health consequences of peer child sexual abuse, and (6) identify key components for education and prevention programs in relation to child peer sexual abuse. This study will consist of two parts. Part I is qualitative interviews of upper primary and junior secondary school students. Part II is a large-scale of 3,000 students.

(SS02456)

The Transportability of Job Analysis Findings Across Countries: A Comparison of Job Ratings between Hong Kong and the USA

✉ TAYLOR Paul John

□ 1 December 2002

❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

Globalization has resulted in an increasing need for the application of job-related information across countries. Recently there has been an increase in the development of generic job information that is meant to generalize to similar jobs across different organizations, but the research base for this generic job information has been drawn almost exclusively from research done in individual countries, primarily the USA. Without an understanding of the ways in which jobs compare across countries, the application of job analysis findings from one country to another may result in inappropriate use of human resource practices. The aim of this project is to begin to answer the broad question of whether job analysis information is transportable across countries, by comparing the activities and requirements of jobs across two countries: Hong Kong and the USA.

The study will involve the completion of job analysis questionnaires concerning general work activities, ability requirements, and personality requirements for a set of 32 benchmark jobs within a sample of organizations within Hong Kong, followed by an analysis of that data in comparison to an existing, comparable dataset from the USA. At a conceptual level, the results of this project will suggest what impact, if any, country differences have on the activities and requirements of jobs. At a more practical level, the study will also be able to inform multi-national and local organizations within Hong Kong about the extent to which generic job information developed overseas can be applied locally.
(SS02918)

2000-01 Negotiating Survival: A Study of Hong Kong, Guangzhou, and U.S. Students' Negotiation and Dispute (SS00736)
✍ BOND Michael Harris • TARDIF Twila#

1999-00 Neuropsychological Sequelae of Radiation-induced Brain-damage and Its Risk Factors (CU99110)
✍ CHAN Sui Yin Agnes • LAW Stephen* • TSE Kin Chuen Vincent*

2001-02 Neuropsychological Intervention Program for Primary School Underachievers - A Research Project (ED01312)
✍ CHAN Sui Yin Agnes • PUN Shuk Han# • CHAN Wing Kwong* • HO Yim Chi

Please refer to previous issues of this publication for more details of the following ongoing research at the department:

<u>Edition</u>	<u>Title/Investigators</u>	
1999-00	A Systematic Investigation of the Response Scale Effect on Group Decision Making (CU99104) ✍ AU Wing Tung	2000-01 The Nature of Subliminal Perception (CU00338) ✍ CHAN Tin Cheung
1989-90	Mutual Perceptions around the Pacific Rim (AB88005) ✍ BOND Michael Harris	2001-02 State Transition in Bimanual Motor Coordination (SS01321) ✍ CHAN Tin Cheung
1999-00	A Multi-cultural Study of Social Beliefs (SS99015) ✍ BOND Michael Harris • LEUNG Kwok*	2001-02 The Role of Brain Synchronization and Short Term Memory in Attention (SS01506) ✍ CHAN Tin Cheung
		1999-00 The Analysis of Dose-response Data: An Exact Unconditional Approach (CU99170)

	<p>✍ CHAN Wai • TANG Man Lai (Dept of Statistics)# • CHAN Ping Shing Ben (Dept of Statistics)</p>		<p>✍ FUNG Hoi Lam Helene • LANG Frieder*</p>
2001-02	<p>Processing Lexical Tone in Cantonese (SS01353)</p> <p>✍ CHEN Hsuan Chih</p>	2000-01	<p>Re-examining the Role of Parts in Object Recognition (CU00332)</p> <p>✍ HAYWARD William Gordon</p>
2001-02	<p>The Processing of Chinese Language from an Electrophysiological Perspective (PS01311)</p> <p>✍ CHEN Hsuan Chih • TANG Siu Lam# • PENNEY Trevor Bruce • GUNTER Thomas C*</p>	2001-02	<p>Investigating View Interpolation in Object Recognition (SS01831)</p> <p>✍ HAYWARD William Gordon</p>
2000-01	<p>Universal and Indigenous Dimensions of the Chinese Personality Assessment Inventory (CPAI) (CU00333)</p> <p>✍ CHEUNG Fanny Mui Ching • LEONG T L Frederick* • LEUNG Kwok*</p>	1998-99	<p>A Test on the Psychometric Properties of CBCL/YSR and DISC-4P/Y in a Community Sample: A Pilot Study on a Two-stage Approach to the Epidemiology of Adolescent Mental Health (CU98348)</p> <p>✍ LEUNG Wing Leung Patrick • HO Ting Pong* • HUNG Se Fong* • LEE Chi Chiu (Dept of Psychiatry) • TANG Chun Pan*</p>
2001-02	<p>Rain Lily's Build-in Study (SS00726)</p> <p>✍ CHEUNG Fanny Mui Ching</p>	2000-01	<p>Comparison of Psychological Characteristics of Adolescent Girls Displaying Bulimic Behaviors in Beijing, Shanghai and Hong Kong (SS00914)</p> <p>✍ LEUNG Yiu Kin Freedom • QIAN Ming Yi*</p>
2001-02	<p>Personality Profiles of Chinese Psychiatric Patients: An Indigenous Approach (SS01326)</p> <p>✍ CHEUNG Fanny Mui Ching • LEUNG Yiu Kin Freedom</p>	2001-02	<p>Does Behavioral Inhibition Predict Later Anxiety Disorders among Chinese Adolescents in Hong Kong and Beijing? A 2-Year Follow-up Study (SS01485)</p> <p>✍ LEUNG Yiu Kin Freedom • WANG Jianping* • WONG Max* • WONG Tony*</p>
2001-02	<p>Convergent Validity of the CPAI in Asia (SS01315)</p> <p>✍ CHEUNG Fanny Mui Ching • CHEUNG Shu Fai</p>		
2001-02	<p>Age Differences in Coping with Stress: Role of Time Perspective (SS01514)</p>	2001-02	<p>Universals and Specifics in Reading Development: Speed of Processing,</p>

- Phonological Awareness, Morphological Awareness, and Home Literacy Environment (ED01325)
 ✍ MCBRIDE Catherine Alexandra • SHU Hua* • WAGNER Richard K* • YIP Choy Yin Virginia (Dept of Modern Langs. And Intercultural Studies)
- 2001-02 The Impact of Dialogical Reading on Hearing Impaired and Normal Hearing Hong Kong Kindergarten Students (SS01513)
 ✍ MCBRIDE Catherine Alexandra
- 2001-02 Cantonese-speaking Children's Language Development from First Words to Early Reading: A Longitudinal Study (SS01496)
 ✍ MCBRIDE Catherine Alexandra • TARDIF Twila Zoe* • LEUNG Sheila*
- 2000-01 Is Language Processing Cognitively Encapsulated? A Brain Imaging Analysis of Tonal and Non-tonal Languages (SS20013)
 ✍ PENNEY Trevor Bruce • Besson Mireille* • SCHON Danielle*
- 2001-02 A Behavioral and Electrophysiological Investigation of Temporal Processing (SS01322)
 ✍ PENNEY Trevor Bruce
- 2001-02 Premenstrual Distress and Multiple Roles: A Comparative Study on Chinese and American Women (SS01946)
- ✍ TANG So Kum Catherine • LEE Antoinette Marie*
- 2001-02 A Meta-analytic Review of Behaviour Modelling Training in Organisational Settings (SS01574)
 ✍ TAYLOR Paul John
- 2000-01 Utilization of Neuro-cognitive Science for the Improvement of Language Education in Hong Kong (MD20022)
 ✍ TO Cho Yee • CHAN Sui Yin Agnes • CHAN Tin Cheung • CHAN Yu Leung (Dept of Diagnostic Radiology & Organ Imaging) • FOK Tai Fai (Dept of Paediatrics) • FUNG Kwok Pui (Biochemistry) • HUNG Hin Wai Joseph (Dept of English) • LAU Din Cheuk (Dept of Chinese Language & Literature) • MARK Kai Keung (Dept of Community and Family Medicine)# • MOK Ka Wai Alice (Dept of Community and Family Medicine)# • YUE Kwan Cheuk (Dept of Japanese Studies)# • ZHANG Jingsong (School of Public Health)# • FUNG Man Lung* • SO Ting Pat Albert* • KWAN Ting Fai* • CHAN H Y Francis* • CHAN Wing Kwong* • CHAU Wai Lap Albert* • FUNG C W Peter* • HOOSAIN Rumjahn* • LEE Hok Ming* • MAN Tin Yau Tania* • NG Choi Yi* • NG Yuk Lan Laura* • TANG Mei Sin*

RESEARCH PROJECTS

A Longitudinal Study of the Impact of Services Provided by Single Parents' Centres in Hong Kong

✍ AU Chor Fai

☐ 4 April 2003

❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

Although welfare reform is well underway in Hong Kong, and although the call for accountability is increasing daily, systematic research to assess the impact of social welfare services in the form of longitudinal studies has been minimal. The result is thus a great uncertainty with regard to what we might expect from social inputs in combating social problems and satisfying social needs. To fill the knowledge gap, the present study would use a longitudinal approach to investigate the impact of the services provided by Single Parents' Centres in supporting single parents in their quest for independence and self-reliance. Specifically, the present study would:

- (1) study the impact of the services provided by Single Parents' Centres on the single parents that they serve;
- (2) inform the government and services providers with regard to the utility of the services provided by Single Parents' Centres from a long-term perspective; and
- (3) examine and give recommendations as to how social services should be designed and delivered to achieve better results

(SS02563)

The Impact of Managerialism on the Welfare Professionals

✍ LEUNG Tse Fong Terry • MOK Bong Ho • WONG Hung

☐ 1 April 2003

❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

The primary objective of this study is to understand the perception, experience and coping responses of the front line social workers on the managerialist demands imposed by various management reform initiatives for the subvented welfare sector. In depth interviews and focus groups are employed as the data collection strategies. The study is expected to have policy significance for those agencies that plan / act to cushion the negative impact of the managerialist demands on the practitioners, and will contribute to the eventual evaluation of such policy initiatives claimed to enhance accountability and effectiveness of welfare services. The theoretical significance of the study lies in the clues it gives for exploring further how the managerialist agenda so fervently pursued by the Government can affect the process of service delivery to the welfare clients. Given its theoretical and policy implications, the study is intended for development into an Earmarked Grant proposal subsequently.

(SS02682)

Social Value, Societal Change and Perception of Social Welfare - An Extended Study of a RGC Project

✍ MOK Bong Ho • WONG Chack Kie • WONG Ka Ying Timothy (Hong Kong Institute of Asia-Pacific Studies)

- 1 December 2002
- ❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

The primary objective of this study is to assess the public's perception of social welfare and social welfare outcomes, using a telephone survey approach. This study is expected to generate a set of indicators of social welfare outcome which will have important implications for social welfare policy-making. It will also contribute to a more systematic understanding of public perceptions of social welfare in Hong Kong, their underlying ideologies and the effects of societal changes on them. As an extended study of a RGC project, it will serve as a pilot study of the major instruments to be used in the RGC project. The findings of this study will be compared and triangulated with data collected by a household survey in the RGC project.

(SS02624)

Support for Aged Parents: A Study of Hong Kong School Youth

✉ NGAI Ngan Pun • CHEUNG Chau Kiu*

- 1 April 2003
- ❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

Responsibility for aged parents among the younger generation faces a critical challenge in contemporary Chinese society because of the supported decline in filial piety, and change in demographic and family structure. The concern is particularly significant when parental dependency and burden of care for them meets with the young generation indifference and reluctance. Finding ways to mitigate contradiction in duties and responsibilities between older and younger generations is essential for the

success of social policies and programs. Whereas a factor pertaining to social construction has been notable for the positive or negative influence of social policies and programs on people's support for their elderly parents, empirical evidence in support of the assertion has not been readily available. Such data are especially important if they are derived from opinions of young people who sooner or later will have to shoulder the majority of responsibility for the elder parents.

The present project will collect empirical data for the analysis of Chinese young people's support for their parents in Hong Kong. The causes of youth's support or lack of support for their parents will be identified. Implications for various social policies and program alternatives for young people's support and care of older parents will be examined. The project will collect data by means of a survey of 1,000 young people aged between 15 and 18 in Hong Kong's high school students. The samples will be obtained by a random sampling procedure to ensure their representativeness. The study will not only offer up-to-date and pertinent descriptive and representative findings about Hong Kong young people's support for their parents, but also will shed light on the development of social policies and programs aimed at improving young people's support for their parents.

(SS02731)

Parent-adolescent Communication, Adolescent Cognitions and Adolescent Psychological Well-being: An Exploratory Study

✉ SHEK Tan Lei Daniel • LAM Ching Man

- 1 January 2003
- ❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

A survey of the literature shows that there are few systematic studies on the relationships among parent-adolescent communication, adolescent cognitions and adolescent psychological well-being. In particular, there is a severe lack of related studies in different Chinese contexts. This study attempts to:

- (1) develop a global measure of parent-adolescent communication with reference to different process dimensions including frequency, initiation, recognition, self-disclosure, domination, satisfaction, emotional expression, empathy and trust;
- (2) develop measures of adolescents' beliefs about parent-child relationship, parent-adolescent communication and the attributes of their parents;
- (3) study the relationships between adolescents' family beliefs and parent-adolescent communication;
- (4) examine the relationship between parent-adolescent communication and adolescent psychological well-being;
- (5) assess parental differences in family beliefs and parent-adolescent communication.

In view of the non-existence of systematic research studies in parent-adolescent communication in the Chinese culture, this study will clarify the theoretical issues underlying the relationships amongst family beliefs, parent-adolescent communication and adolescent psychological well-being. The study will also yield useful findings that can be utilized by the helping professionals.

(SS02538)

Health Insurance and Social and Economic Development in China

✍ WONG Chack Kie • LO Vai Io* • TANG Kwong Leung*

☐ 1 November 2002

❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

This is a study aimed to examine whether health insurance is appropriate and necessary to the context of China's social and economic development. At the present moment, most of China's 1.2 billion population do not have health insurance coverage. We can anticipate that health care protection will be a burning issue in China, as population ageing and escalation of health cost will fuel it, as in the case elsewhere. This study also aims to identify the main problems facing health care insurance and to examine whether users and stakeholders are receptive to health insurance. It will use field visits and an opinion survey as the methodology for exploring health insurance, as the financing and allocation of health care resources, and its relations with China's national goals of social and economic development.

(SS02448)

Public Perceptions of Social Welfare in Hong Kong

✍ WONG Chack Kie • MOK Bong Ho • WONG Ka Ying Timothy (Hong Kong Institute of Asia-Pacific Studies)

☐ 1 December 2002

❖ Research Grants Council (Earmarked Grants)

This project examines subjective social welfare outcomes, instead of state expenditures or social policy programmes, in the assessment of a welfare system. Social welfare, as a social policy ensuring the well-being of its people, has been confusing and has never led to clear choice-making for the people.

Its meaning, intent and ideology are subject to interpretation and are the centre of debate for state provisions. Building upon prior research, this project is designed to systematically examine Hong Kong's public perceptions of social welfare. We will focus on identifying a system of social values that underpins Hong Kong public perceptions and attitudes toward social welfare. We will also examine whether public perceptions are affected by social, economic and political changes, in addition to basic socio-economic and demographic variables of respondents. The project and the data it generates from a large household survey will be valuable to the social development of Hong Kong because public opinions are an important source of political legitimacy for social policy, social welfare and other state provisions. They are especially important in an era of change when timely information and empirically generated knowledge become the basis for new changes and new direction for social development.

(CU02237)

2001-02 Comparative Studies on Economic Development and Women's Family Status in Chinese Societies - Hong Kong Study (SS01866)
 ✍ LAU Yuk King • MA Lai Chong • CHAN Ying Keung (Dept of Sociology)

2000-01 A Model of Successful Aging for the Elderly Living Alone in the Community: A Pilot Study (SS00387)
 ✍ LEE Jik Joen • SHEK Tan Lei Daniel

2000-01 Lifelong Education for the Elderly: A Case Study of the Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui Welfare Council Institute of Continuing Education for Senior Citizens (SS20012)
 ✍ LEE Jik Joen • WONG S Y Rebecca* • WAN K P Catherine* • SHUN Wai Chuen* • CHAN K H Charles*

Please refer to previous issues of this publication for more details of the following ongoing research at the department:

<u>Edition</u>	<u>Title/Investigators</u>
2000-01	Experiences and Adjustment of Young New Arrivals from Mainland China: A Narrative Analysis (CU00367) ✍ LAM Mong Chow Amy • CHAN Ting Sam (Hong Kong Institute of Educational Research) • TSOI Kcon Wah

2001-02 An Exploratory Study on Urinary Incontinence in the Elderly (SS01806)
 ✍ LEE Jik Joen

1999-00 Evaluation of Structural Family Therapy for Chinese Anorexia Nervosa Patients in Hong Kong (CU99090)
 ✍ MA Lai Chong • LAI Yee Ching Kelly (Dept of Psychiatry) • LEE Sing (Dept of Psychiatry)

2000-01 The Politics of Identity Constitution among Youth Workers in Hong Kong (SS00433)
 ✍ NGAI Sek Yum

1999-00	<p>Growing up Poor: Why Adolescents Experiencing Economic Disadvantage Succeed or Fail (CU99087)</p> <p>✍ SHEK Tan Lei Daniel • LAM Mong Chow Amy • TSOI Kcon Wah • LAM Ching Man • HO Tsang Kit-man*</p>	1999-00	<p>Need, Welfare Choices and “Welfare Socialization” in Reform China - Beijing (SS99020)</p> <p>✍ WONG Chack Kie • NGAI Ngan Pun • PUN Shuk Han (Dept of Psychology)#</p>
1999-00	<p>A Pioneering Longitudinal Study of the Development and Validation of a Drug Prevention Program in Hong Kong (SS99052)</p> <p>✍ SHEK Tan Lei Daniel</p>	2000-01	<p>Citizenship and Social Development in Post-Colonial Hong Kong (CU00351)</p> <p>✍ WONG Chack Kie • WONG Ka Ying Timothy (Hong Kong Institute of Asia-Pacific Studies)</p>

RESEARCH PROJECTS

廣東商業組織的社會、經濟及政治影響 - - 從清代到當代的研究

Social, Economic and Political Impacts of Business Organizations in Guangdong - From Qing to Contemporary China

✍ 陳健民 CHAN Kin Man • QIU Hai Xiong* • LIU Zheng Gang* • QIU Jie*

☐ 25 August 2002

❖ South China Program

This research investigates how business organizations may create social capital in terms of networks, reciprocal norms and trust among merchants and other groups, and how they effect on the economic and social development of Guangdong from Qing to contemporary period.
(SS02608)

Problem Assessment and Programme Evaluation of Drug Abuse Treatment and Rehabilitation in Macau

✍ CHEUNG Yuet Wah • CHIEN James M. N.*

☐ 1 December 2001

❖ Government of the Macao SAR

This study, one and a half years of duration, was commissioned by the Government of Macau SAR to the Society for the Aid and Rehabilitation of Drug Abusers (SARDA), Hong Kong in December 2001, at a research grant of HK500,000. The Chairman of the Research Committee of SARDA (Dr. James M.N. Ch'ien) and Vice-Chairman (myself) became PI and CI, respectively, of the study. There were two major

objectives of the study. First, it assessed the situation of drug abuse in Macau, and evaluated the adequacy of existing work and facilities of drug treatment and rehabilitation in Macau. Second, it examined the characteristics of drug abusers in Macau, with emphasis on their pattern of drug use, social and psychological correlates of drug use, their need for services, and the difficulties they would face in re-integration into the society. The influence of the proximity of Macau to Zhuhai and other mainland cities on cross-boundary drug use among Macau drug abusers was also studied.
(SS01611)

1991 Garment and Electronics Enterprise Survey (One Dataset)

✍ CHIU Wing Kai Stephen • LUI Tai Lok

☐ 16 November 2002

❖ Consortium for the Study of Asian Economies, Institute of Government Affairs, University of California - Davis

To transfer a dataset of the sponsor: 1991 garment and electronics enterprise survey. SPSS data file, codebook with univariate frequency tabulations, questionnaire and description of survey sampling and implementation details on CD-ROM by the investigators.
(SS02989)

Between Maids and Surrogate Parents: Foreign Domestic Helpers and Family Changes in Hong Kong

✍ CHIU Wing Kai Stephen

☐ 3 March 2003

- ❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

This project is a pilot study of the role and significance of foreign domestic helpers (FDHs) in contemporary Hong Kong families. Most previous study focuses on the situations of foreign domestic helpers and their employment conditions while journalistic attention has been put on the abuses on the helpers or by the helpers. This study instead shifts the focus to the employers and their families. As this is a pilot project, several key research questions will be explored:

- (1) What are the factors determining the employment of FDHs by local families?
- (2) What are the main areas of responsibilities for FDHs or their roles in the host families?
- (3) What are the patterns of social relations between the host families and their FDHs?
- (4) What are the main problem areas arising from the employment of FDHs?
- (5) What would be the possible impacts on local families of the several policy proposals on FDHs being recently circulated?

A combination of statistical analysis of Census data, content analysis of news reports and in-depth interview of employers will be implemented in this project.

(SS02406)

Exploring the Phenomenon of Hospital Readmission: A System Analysis Approach

✉ LEE Pui Leung Rance • WONG Kam Yuet Frances* • CHANG Katherine* • CHOW Susan* • LEE Wai Man* • CHAN Kit Choi* • CHAN Cecilia*

☐ 1 September 2002

- ❖ Research Grants Council (Coll. with PolyU ERG)

Cost containment is an important agenda of the health care delivery system in Hong Kong. One means of reducing costs is to minimize unnecessary hospitalization. The average hospital readmission rate for medical patients, within 28 days, is 15%. Hospital readmissions are a concern because they suggest that patients are discharged with unresolved problems, or reflect the quality of care or operational efficiency of the hospital. Considering that the Hospital Authority of Hong Kong is responsible for over one million admissions annually, a 15% readmission rate imposes a heavy burden on our health services. The Hospital Authority has set a performance indicator of 7.2% for the overall unplanned readmission rate within 28 days in the general setting. Researches on hospital readmissions have mainly used biomedical variables to offer a limited explanation of why patients repeatedly use hospital services. This proposal endeavours to include biomedical and non-biomedical variables at both the individual as well as the contextual level, to build a model to better explain the phenomenon of hospital readmission. Also, this study introduces community nurse follow-up as a variable of social support. It helps to test whether a different level of care in the community, as compared to hospital care, will achieve similar health outcomes. Specifically, we question how predisposing characteristics (e.g. age, gender, education), enabling resources (e.g. social economic status, social support, discharge follow-up), need (e.g. health status, perceived needs) directly affect the repeated use of hospital services (readmission rate) and mediate the effects of health outcome (e.g. self-reported health, ADL index), which in turn affect readmission rates. We seek to

discover whether improved health outcomes (self-reported health, ADL index, consumer satisfaction) tend to be related to the amount and type of health care services utilized. The study will recruit 320 sets of subjects in two acute care hospitals in Hong Kong over a twelve month period. Andersen's health care utilization model will be used as the conceptual framework for analysis. The data will be analysed using the strategy of Latent Variable Structure Equation Modeling.

(SS02790)

The Middle Class in Asia: Its Ups and Downs in Three Chinese Cities

✍ LUI Tai Lok

☐ 15 November 2002

❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

The proposed project is an attempt to develop a comparative study of the middle class in Hong Kong, Shanghai and Taipei. Largely an extension of the investigator's previous study of social classes in East Asia, this project probes current socio-economic and political changes and their impacts on the middle class in these three Chinese cities. It is an examination of the changing fortunes of the middle class and the changing moral and political outlooks of the middle class there.

(SS02630)

Towards a Theory of Global Curricular Change: The Case of Social Studies Instructions

✍ WONG Suk Ying Veronica

☐ 31 December 2002

❖ Research Grants Council (Earmarked Grants)

The purpose of the study is to investigate systematically the institutionalization of the modern social studies curriculum. The main objective is to examine and compare national differences in the organization of and emphasis on social studies instructional content in elementary and secondary school curricula to better understand the meaning – and changes in the meaning – that are embedded in this curricular area. The implications of such inquiry is profoundly significant and important to the analyses of, and the practice of educational change (and reform): it will show how much such change is fed by, and sometimes constrained by, the preferred educational models of wider institutions in world culture. To the extent that national societies adopt educational models arbitrarily that have been instituted by the powerful exemplary systems in the global environment, national educational systems are severely constrained in their ability to produce curricula that address real local needs. My purpose, then, is not merely to develop separate and contained theories about the historical and cross-national development of the school subject of “social studies.” Through the investigation of this instructional area as a “case,” I wish to outline a general theory of curricular change, which explains the development and diffusion patterns in the content and presentation of school knowledge.

(CU02238)

Please refer to previous issues of this publication for more details of the following ongoing research at the department:

Edition Title/Investigators

2000-01 Development of Private Enterprises and Social Participation in China (SS00393)

	<p>☞ CHAN Kin Man • QIU Haixiong* • ZHANG Houyi* • DAI Jianzhong*</p>	2000-01	The Rise of Rural Industrialization in China: A Grass Roots Survey (SS00685)
1999-00	<p>A Longitudinal Study of Chronic Drug Abusers in Hong Kong (SS99025)</p> <p>☞ CHEUNG Yuet Wah • TANG So Kum Catherine (Dept of Psychology) • CH'EN James* • PI Peter*</p>		<p>☞ LAU Chong Chor • PENG Yusheng • CAI He* • LIU Linping*</p>
		1989-90	Subjective Social Indicators Research Programme (AB85008)
			☞ LAU Siu Kai
2001-02	<p>Northbound Pleasures: Pattern of Cross-border Deviance of Hong Kong Marginal Youths and Its Implications for Adolescent Deviance in Hong Kong (SS01331)</p> <p>☞ CHEUNG Yuet Wah • LEE Wing Lin Francis* • TANG So Kum Catherine (Dept of Psychology)</p>	1995-96	Legal Culture of Hong Kong (AB89092)
			☞ LAU Siu Kai
		1995-96	Political Culture and Political Participation in China, Taiwan and Hong Kong (AB92030)
			☞ LAU Siu Kai • KUAN Hsin Chi (Dept of Government & Public Administration)
2001-02	<p>Interface between Tertiary and School Sectors 2000 - Support Programme for the Teaching and Learning of Liberal Studies (ED01746)</p> <p>☞ CHIU Wing Kai Stephen</p>	2000-01	Social and Political Change in a Period of Reform and Readjustment: Indicators of Social Development in Hong Kong 2001 (CU00331)
			☞ LAU Siu Kai • WAN Shirley Po San (Hong Kong Institute of Asia-Pacific Studies) • LEE Ming Kwan* • WONG Siu Lun*
2001-02	<p>Support Program for the Learning and Teaching of Liberal Studies (ASL) for Secondary School Teachers and Students (SS01673)</p> <p>☞ CHIU Wing Kai Stephen</p>	1999-00	A Comparative Study of Social Networks and Mental Health in Hong Kong and Beijing (CU99135)
			☞ LEE Pui Leung Rance • CHAN Ying Keung • PENG Yusheng • LAI Wan Foon Gina*
2001-02	<p>The Transformation of Corporate Control and Structure in Urban China (SS01413)</p> <p>☞ KWOK Man Shan</p>		
1990-91	<p>The Organizational Culture of Chinese Factories (AB91005)</p> <p>☞ LAU Chong Chor • QIU Hai Xiong*</p>	2000-01	Explaining the Phenomenon of Hospital Readmission: A Social Analysis Approach (SS00839)

	✍ LEE Pui Leung Rance • WONG Kam Yuet Frances* • CHOW Susan* • CHANG Katherine* • LEE Wai Man* • CHAN Cecila* • CHAN Kit Choi*	1989-90	Youth Life Satisfaction in Hong Kong (AB85012) ✍ MAN Jic Leung Peter
1989-90	Urbanization in China (AB84002) ✍ MAN Jic Leung Peter	1993-94	Leisure and Social Change in Hong Kong (SS93018) ✍ NG Pedro Pak Tao