

MSSc Programme in Public Policy (MPUP)

Newsletter 2014-15 Issue No.1

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I. Programme

Director's Message – Professor Wilson Wong

To all our alumni, students and friends, greetings from MPUP!

I am very pleased to announce the launching of our MPUP Newsletter. A major purpose of the Newsletter is to serve as an on-going connection between the Programme and our alumni and friends. Initially, we hope to have two issues each year. As MPUP grows, we may have more issues each year to give you the latest news about MPUP. When it is communication and connection, it should always be two-way. If there are any news and events on your side which you would like to share with us, please feel free to let us know. In fact, one major section of our Newsletter is "Alumni and Students". In this first issue, we have invited Bob Cheng, MPUP Graduate of 2013 and our first-ever Teaching Assistant, to share his experience in MPUP and his plan with us.



As time goes by, I can see the development of a unique MPUP Identity and bonding. For example, we are going to have our own office space and a full-time lecturer soon. One common characteristic of all good programmes is the unfailing support of their alumni. As a result, MPUP can never become better and stronger without you. I always emphasize what MPUP offers is more than a degree but a life-time connection with people sharing the same dream and vision. I do hope the MPUP Newsletter will draw us closer, even after you have graduated.



New Office Space in October

Our Programme is going to have our own office in October, which is located in Room 522 of Chen Kou Bun Building, Chung Chi College. A small meeting room and an office for lecturer are included in the new office. Feel free to drop by during office hours to have a look and visit us!

“Interdisciplinary Education in Public Policy:

Contributing knowledge for long-term human development”

New Management of the Faculty of Social Science

The University has appointed Professor Fung Tung as the Dean of Social Science from August to November 2014, to ensure a smooth transition and continuity at the Faculty. He is now the Associate Vice-President of the University and vice-Chairman of the Department of Geography and Resource Management.



Professor Chiu Chi-yue will serve as the Dean of Social Science starting from November 2014. He is an internationally renowned behavioral scientist and is currently Professor of Management and Marketing at Nanyang Technological University (NTU, Singapore). He received his PhD from Columbia University (New York) in social psychology. Professor Chiu has rich implications of research and also has created several new fields of investigation in basic and applied social sciences, including multiculturalism and creativity, and polycultural psychology. He also possesses extensive academic management experience, including serving as the Associate Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences and Head of the

Department of Psychology at the University of Hong Kong, the Founding Director of the Culture Science Institute and the Research Director of the College of Business at NTU. For eight years, he has collaborated with the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences to offer voluntary research development training to Chinese social scientists in mainland China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Europe and Australia.

Professor Sunny Kwong is currently Head of Graduate Division of Social Science since August 2014. He is the Associate Dean (Education) of the Faculty and Associate Professor of the Department of Economics. He is also the Level II academic advisor of our Programme under the Academic Advisory System enhanced by the University. Our Programme Director Professor Wong is the Level I advisor to provide general support and supervision to students. And Professor Kwong mainly takes the role to help students with academic problems.



II. Teachers

New Teachers of our Programme

Professor Li Wei and Professor Lam Wai Man joined our teaching team in September 2014. Professor Li, Assistant Professor of Government and Public Administration in this University, obtained her MPhil degree in Fudan University in 2006 and PhD degree in the University of Hong Kong in 2012. She is an expert in public administration and public policy and has published in top journals of her field, including China Quarterly. She teaches MPUP5111 Public Policy Process in the first term.



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Professor Lam is now Honorary Assistant Professor of the Department of Politics and Public Administration in the University of Hong Kong. She received her MA degree from the University of Sussex and a PhD degree from the University of Hong Kong. She is experienced in teaching politics and public administration in Hong Kong. Her research interests include identity politics, political culture and participation, and democratization in colonial, post-colonial and transitional societies. Professor Lam teaches MPUP5321 NGOs and Government in the first term.

New Teaching Assistant of our Programme

We have recruited a new teaching assistant, Mandy Mao, for the academic year of 2014-15. She obtained her master degree in public administration in Renmin University of China in 2004 and PhD in housing policy and public policy in the University of Hong Kong in 2013.

Nanjing University appoints Professor Terence Chong as Siyuan Chair Professor

Professor Terence Chong is appointed as Siyuan Chair Professor of Nanjing University, in the Department of International Economics and Trade. He delivered talks and lectures for the Department in June 2014.

III. Alumni & Students

Words from Cheng Yifan Bob (MPUP Graduate 2013; MPUP Teaching Assistant 2013-14)

Note: Bob has resigned from the TA position in June 2014. He is preparing his MPhil/PhD in Chinese Studies Research in Lau China Institute, King's College London starting in September 2014.



Honestly I am not a well-planned person. For me, joining MPUP is rather a “collective decision” of family and friends than an individual judgment. Living in an entirely new city of extraordinary fast pace gives you no alternative but launching your own brain. You can easily imagine the excitement and struggle of initiating my “own” plan.

I would like to express my sincere gratefulness to Prof. Wilson Wong and Prof. Terence Chong. I would not have had the opportunity to knock my heart and find my interest in continue studying without their help and support. Obtaining the Teaching Assistant position in MPUP programme is a significant turning point for me because I was given an opportunity to support my living and consider seriously my future career.

Academic career is a choice of perseverance. I experienced joy and accomplishment digging into academic topics in the first year and I saw real promising potential of education industry in the second year as TA.

Currently I stay in Beijing for my final preparation to Lau China Institute, King's College London and I am looking forward to an entire new life. Every time I turn and look back, I regard those years in Hong Kong as precious experience. Whenever I feel down or confused, whenever I lost my way, the years in MPUP shall always be lighthouse to guide my way.

Academic Distinction Award & Outstanding Student Award 2014

In graduation class of 2014, Chen Min and Ye Yifan Yorki are awarded "Academic Distinction Award" with their excellent academic performance in our Programme. Lee Chun Ho Robert and Yan Hoi Ying Crystal receive the "Outstanding Student Award", for their contribution to our Programme / the community during their MPUP studies. Congratulations and wish them every success in the future.

Admission Statistics 2014

We have admitted 32 full-time and 16 part-time students this year. For students from mainland China, all are from Project 211/985 and universities directly administered by the Chinese Ministry of Education. For students in full-time employment, they are working in government, disciplinary forces, public organization, NGO and think tank. We wish all new students have a happy learning life in our Programme.

Admission Scholarship 2014

For the Admission Scholarship for the 2014 entry, four newly-admitted students are awarded: He Bo, Huang Shuo, Lu Ka Ting and Lau Ho Yuen Benny. All of them achieved remarkable academic results. For recipients in a full-time employment, they are also contributing to the society with their work relating to the community.

Admission Exercise 2015

The admission exercise for 2015 entry will start in December 2014 and end on 13 March 2015. Should you have any friends and colleagues interested in our Programme, please welcome them to apply.

Keep in touch with us. Let us know any updates of your contact information (e.g., email address and phone number) by emailing to zitalui@cuhk.edu.hk.