



MSSc Programme in Public Policy

The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Newsletter 2017-18 Issue No.1

I. Director's Message – Professor Wong Wai Ho, Wilson

We start this new academic year of 2017-18 with new development and new staff in MPUP!

In terms of programme development, with the vision to nurture future leaders, starting from this year, we are proud to strengthen the career support and professional development of our students. For instance, a series of workshop with various focus, including JRE, AO & EO workshops, would be offered. At the same time, MPUP is reaching out proactively to collaborate with external parties to strengthen students' career preparedness and competitiveness. As a matter of fact, we have just visited the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau of the HKSAR Government last week!

With regard to our new staff, we are lucky to have recruited some talented and outstanding faculty members. First of all, Professor Carlos Lo has joined MPUP and also taken up the chairmanship of the Department of Government and Public Administration. Professor Chris Hinnant, our visiting scholar and associate editor of *Government Information Quarterly* (GIQ), a leading journal of the field, and Professor Lina Vyas, have joined our team as well. Please do welcome them in person when you see them in classes in the second term or our programme events. Administration-wise, we have Miss Koey Lee join our administrative team. Koey has significantly increased our capacity to serve as a platform to interact with policymakers and practitioners with the ultimate objectives of integrating knowledge and practice.

Finally, we have just gone through a major review exercise in this September where a formal review panel is set up by the university to evaluate our programme. I would like to take this opportunity to thank for the contribution of dedicated teachers, alumni and students in attending various review meetings. We would share the panel advice as soon as it is available.

Before we meet again, take care and enjoy this newsletter!

II. Staff Updates

Professor Chris Hinnant (Visiting Scholar of Term 2)

New teacher of MPUP5801 Topical Studies in Public Policy I - Managing Innovation and Change in the Public Sector



Professor Hinnant is an Associate Professor in the School of Information at Florida State University. He is a former Fellow and Assistant Director in the IT Team at the U.S. Government Accountability Office. His research interests include social and organizational informatics, digital government, information management and policy, technological innovation, public management, social science research methods, and applied statistics. He is particularly interested in how public organizations employ Information and Communication Technology (ICT) to alter organizational processes and structures and how the use of ICT ultimately impacts institutional governance mechanisms. His research has appeared or is forthcoming in journals such as *Library and Information Science Research*, *Journal of the American Society for Information Science & Technology*, *Administration and Society*, *Government Information Quarterly*, *Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory*, and *IEEE Transactions on Engineering Management*. He also currently serves as an Associate Editor of the journal *Government Information Quarterly*, a top journal of the field.

“Interdisciplinary Education in Public Policy:
Contributing knowledge for long-term human development”

Professor Carlos Lo

New teacher of MPUP5802 Topical Studies in Public Policy II – Issues and Problems in Modern Public Policy

Professor Lo is the Head of Department of Government and Public Administration, CUHK since August 2017. He obtained his PhD degree from the Flinders University of South Australia in 1990 and received a doctor of law degree from the Renmin University of China in 2001. His main research interests are in the areas of law and government, environmental management, public sector management, and corporate social and environmental responsibility, within the contexts of China and Hong Kong. Recently, Prof. Lo has offered consultant services and organized management training programs for public and business sectors. His works have appeared in leading international academic journals



Dr Lina Vyas

New teacher of MPUP5311 Public Organization Management



Dr Vyas is the Assistant Professor in Department of Asian and Policy Studies of Education University of Hong Kong. She is the Program Leader, Master of Public Policy and Governance. Her research interests include Public Administration and Management; Public Personnel Management/ Personnel Management; Organization Behaviour; Public Sector Reform in Asia; and Comparative Public Administration and Policy. She is also interested in teaching Human Resource Management; Organizational Behaviour Studies; Public Administration and Management; and Financial Resource Management. Dr Vyas has published articles in leading international journals including Public Management Review, International Journal of Human Resource Management, International Social Work, and Public Personnel Management.

Dr Baldwin Wong

New teacher of MPUP5121 Values and Ethics in Public Policy

Dr Wong is the Lecturer of General Education Foundation Programme of CUHK. He obtained his PhD from London School of Economics and Political Science. His academic interests include social contract theories, contemporary liberalism, democratic theories, normative moral theories, history of modern political thought: from Hobbes to Marx and Confucian political theory.



New member of MPUP office



Miss Koey Lee joined the MPUP office since August 2017 and would contribute for programme operation and development. The MPUP administration team is now formed by (from left) Miss Koey Lee, Project Assistant, Professor Wilson Wong, Programme Director, Ms Joyce Chan, Executive Officer, and Miss Bertha Chung, General Clerk. Alumni and students are welcome to approach any of them regarding programme matters.

III. Alumni and Students

Academic Distinction Award 2017

In graduating class of 2017, Angel Chan, Sing-yeung Lam, Hugo Leong, Amy Mao and Anna Wu are awarded Academic Distinction Award with their excellent academic performance. Congratulations for their achievements.

Admission Scholarship 2017

For the Admission Scholarship for the 2017 entry, eight newly-admitted students are awarded: Nora Bai, Gary Chan, Jelly Cheung, Hilda Lee, Ka-ping Man, Sherry Sun, Morley Xu and Vivian Xu. All of them possessed remarkable academic results and/or impressive work experience. For recipients in full-time employment, they are also contributing to the society with their work relating to the community.

Admission Statistics 2017

We have admitted 34 full-time and 17 part-time students this year. For students from mainland China, all of them come from universities under Project 211/985. For students in full-time employment, they are working in different fields, such as government, disciplinary forces, private sector, media and educational institutions. We wish all new students a fruitful and rewarding learning journey in our Programme.

IV. Past Events

Academic Orientation for New Students – 2 September 2017

Before the school year officially starts, all new students are invited to the academic orientation to meet the Programme Director and MPUP teachers. Apart from getting to know the programme structure and requirements, students also had a relaxing mingling session with teachers and fellow classmates.



Dialogue with Dr Bernard Chan, Under Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development – 4 October 2017

A group of MPUP students visited Commerce and Economic Development Bureau on 4 October 2017. The fruitful event started with an introduction of the role and functions of the Bureau, followed by an in-depth discussion and interaction with Dr Bernard Chan, Under Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (third from right in front row). Participants were inspired about how knowledge and theory can integrate with real life practice.



IV. Upcoming Events

AO/EO Preparation Workshops

MPUP has invited Ms Wong Ming Lok, a former AO and experienced trainer who conducted numerous AO/EO workshops for universities, to give an intensive training, JRE Workshop – Writing Critically and Effectively in Public Policy, with personalized feedback for improvement to students and alumni. The workshop is fully subscribed shortly after it opens for registration.

More workshops about the AO/EO recruitment exercise would be organized in Term 2. Further announcements would be made when details are confirmed.

Career Workshop Series

MPUP is working with Independent Learning Centre (ILC) to offer workshops throughout the year on essential job seeking skills, i.e. CV and cover letter writing and interview skills. More information would be available in due course.

MPUP Website Revamp

The programme is going to revamp its website (<http://mpup.ssc.cuhk.edu.hk>). Alumni and students are invited to contribute ideas on the content and/or design to attract high quality applicants and present the happenings at MPUP more effectively. Suggestions can be emailed to publicpolicy@cuhk.edu.hk by the end of October.

Academic Visitor – Professor Tang Shui Yan

Professor Tang Shui Yan, Frances R. and John J. Duggan Professor in Public Administration and Interim Chair, Department of Governance, Management and the Policy Process of Sol Price School of Public Policy, University of Southern California, a top ranked university in public policy in the U.S., would be visiting CUHK in December. Professor Tang obtained his PhD from Indiana University and his expertise is on environmental policy, organizational commitment, institutional analysis, etc. Details of seminar(s) by Professor Tang would be available soon.

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

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