### GPA Biannual Newsletter









Message from Prof Seanon Wong - 1

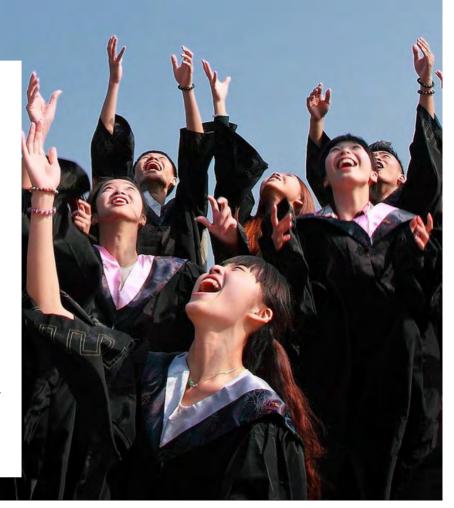
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#### Half a century young and still growing!

From the challenges the COVID-19 pandemic poses to the uncertainties under Hong Kong's fast-changing sociopolitical environment, the GPA Department is facing some strong headwinds. But as the American country music singer, Jimmy Dean, once said: "I can't change the direction of the wind, but I can adjust my sails to always reach my destination." And a brighter future is what we are destined for. Welcome abroad!

As I pen this message, a task force under the auspices of the Faculty of Social Science is working hard with all stakeholders to bring together – under one school – the department and its sister programmes in Global Studies and Data Science and Policy Studies. From the name of the new school to course offering, students, faculty members and alumni have contributed ideas – bold, visionary, and creative – to bring about what will certainly be the city's mecca for education and research in politics and public policy. This is an exciting time for all of us.

For now, I invite you to witness and savor in the pages that follow some of the department's recent achievements and activities. And there are plenty – enjoy!"

### SPECIAL THEME: CAREERS

### Meet GPA Freshman!





My freshman life studying as a GPA student is fruitful. Studying in the GPA programme, I can learn relevant knowledge about political science which is something that I am interested in. Through participating in tutorial discussions and putting my thoughts into words, studying in GPA also train my analytical and critical thinking skills.

The tutorial session of the GPA course is inspiring and thought-provoking. It provides an opportunity for students to discuss with others so that we can gain a deeper understanding on the course content by raising questions and learning from others' ideas.

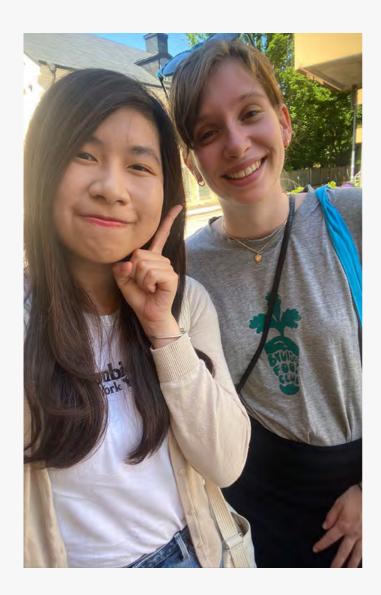
On top of that, the students here are enthusiastic in having academic discussions with each other even after lessons, creating a rich learning environment. Therefore, we also manage to build a strong bonding with our classmates.

Moreover, the good teacher-student relationship is one of the most unique parts of studying GPA in CUHK. The lecturers here are not only passionate in teaching, but they are also friendly that we develop a strong rapport with them. All in all, studying as a GPA student is rewarding. It is a valuable experience that cannot be duplicated elsewhere.



#### NG, Hei Man Stephanie Uppsala University Sweden

Last year, I went on a semester exchange at Uppsala University, Sweden. This exchange offered was a precious and invaluable journey of self-exploration. Studying in the Department Government at Uppsala University was fascinating. Uppsala University students encouraged actively to participate in lessons, alongside weekly debates in the areas of Development Studies.





Furthermore, I was also able to immerse myself in discussions with from distinct cultural students backgrounds. This allowed us to opine on development projects across world the (e.g. agricultural development in Ethiopia) and provided me with more comprehensive understanding of sustainable development issues.

Living in Uppsala University, I was given a lot of opportunities to join student activities, such as high table dinners and live music shows. Through joining these events, I had a chance to try various traditional Swedish snacks prepared by local students, and at the same time enhance understanding of Swedish culture.

Exciting Exchange Opportunities

### Exciting Exchange Opportunities

#### NG, Hei Man Stephanie (cont'd)



Deciding to complete a semester exchange during the COVID-19 pandemic was never an easy move, as many uncertainties and struggles could be encountered. Despite these constraints during the pandemic, I was able to live independently in a new environment, experiencing the annual Valborg and Midsummer festivals with the locals. Therefore, my exchange experience turned out to be fruitful, in numerous ways. Instead of sightseeing in different countries, I was able to thoroughly explore this little Swedish town. This was without doubt a precious exchange experience overall.

# Exciting Exchange Opportunities

# TAI, Sherman Warwick University United Kingdom





I am incredibly grateful to the Department of Government and Public Administration for offering me the opportunity to study at Warwick University last year. It could not have been a more peculiar experience.

I was in Year 5, flew there in a pandemic, went through two national lockdowns, and spent a month in Spain under the UK flight ban.

Surprisingly with all these extraordinary circumstances, I enjoyed every bit of my journey abroad. The exchange opportunity at Warwick enabled me to further identify my research interests and provided me with a clearer path down the road for my future Master's studies.

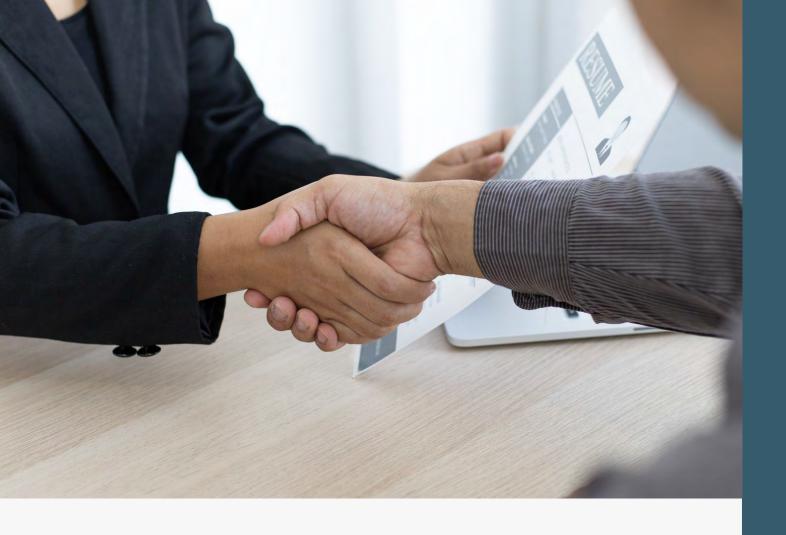
#### TAI, Sherman (Cont'd)



Restraining from 'household mixing,' my flat ended up spending most of our free times with each other baking cakes, going to 'Pub Quizes' alongside playing football. It is fascinating when you chat with students from diverse nationalities and cultural backgrounds. Furthermore, you also notice just how different your everyday routines are, particularly regarding different life experiences and value orientations.

The same goes for all the people that I have met in hostels across the many cities of Spain. This might be the most valuable take-away: the realization that my accustomed way of living is not the only option; and the ability to see, out of comparison about my beloved Hong Kong.

Exciting
Exchange Opportunities



### Promising Career Prospects

The GPA Undergraduate Curriculum enables students to acquire key knowledge in the fields of Politics, Government and Public Administration. This is advantageous for those who aspire to work in the Government and Public Sector Organizations in their future related careers. According to our employment statistics, each year we have around 30% or above of graduates who join Government or Public Organisations upon graduation from our GPA Department. Furthermore, GPA graduates are also working in a variety of sectors other than Government and Public Organizations, such as in Education, Media, alongside the Social and Legal Sectors.

See next page for the Employment Figures.

### Promising Career Prospect

#### **▼** Employment Figures as of 2015 – 2020

Sector/ Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Government	10.26%	16.98%	17.65%	22.58%	28.26%
Commerce & Industry	41.03%	32.08%	29.41%	32.26%	14.12%
Social and Public Organizations	12.82%	15.09%	17.65%	6.45%	31.79%
Education	12.82%	9.43%	2.94%	12.90%	14.13%
Further Studies	17.95%	18.87%	11.76%	9.68%	8.80%
Others	5.13%	7.55%	20.59%	16.13%	2.90%

Many of our Alumni who joined government worked their way up to senior positions and played key roles in numerous Government Departments, notably Miss LAW Shuk Pui Rosanna, Commissioner for Transport; alongside Mr. NG King Tsun Kenneth, former Political Assistant to the Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs, now the General Manager of Communications and Public Affairs of the West Kowloon Cultural District Authority.

Since its establishment in 1970, the GPA Department has cultivated numerous excellent graduates for social advancement in Hong Kong society. We will commit to nurturing talents for the future as we have done so for the last 50 years.

### Co-intelligence Programme 2022



This year, the GPA Department has collaborated with eight companies/ institutes to provide numerous internship opportunities in a wide range of different fields to our Undergraduate students. Let's take a look!

### Co-intelligence Programme 2022



#### **Edelman Hong Kong**

A world leading public relations agency



#### **KTA Planning Limited**

Involved in a number of projects for Government Departments alongside public organisation



#### Oursky

Tech company founded by CU alum 12/12 on the Joel Test for better coding



#### Hong Kong Public Opinion Research Institute

Conducts public opinion studies which are of important interest and values to academics, journalists, policy makers and the general public in Hong Kong



#### LeadAll Consulting Ltd

A Consulting firm founded in 2021 that specializes in Government and Public Relations



#### Strategic Planning Department, Hang Seng Bank

GGPA 3.3 or above, 6-month internship Possibility of referral to longer-term employment, such as a Management Trainee (MT)



#### Tang, Wong & Chow Solicitors

Maintain justice in the possible scope and provide appropriate legal services to the public



#### **StockViva**

Fintech start-up firm affiliated with the Science Park



## \* GPA50 Celebration Banquet

On 15 August 2021, the Department of Government and Public Administration (GPA Department) celebrated its 50th Anniversary with the special Celebration Banquet at the Hyatt Regency Hong Kong, Sha Tin, with more than 150 important political figures, guests, alumni, and staff joining this momentous occasion.



Mr. Jasper Tsang with Prof. Carlos Lo, Prof. Andrew Wong and Mr. Ivan Choy



Dr. Priscilla Leung

Distinguished figures such as Mr. Tsang Yok Sing Jasper, former Legislative Council president, and Ms. Tam Kam Lam Annie, former Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare were amongst the notable attendee list. The event also attracted many prominent alumni of different fields, such as: Dr. Leung Mei Fun Priscilla, Legislative Councillor; Miss Law Shuk Pui Rosanna, Commissioner for Transport; Mr. Donald Chen, Executive Director (Corporate Services) of Hong Kong Monetary Authority; Mr. Kwok Ka Chuen Kenneth, Assistant Commissioner of Police (SD) (Support) amongst many others.

### GPA50 Celebration Banquet



A Prof. Alan Chan, Provost, CUHK



A Prof. CY Chiu, Dean, FoSS, CUHK



Prof. Carlos Lo, Chairperson of GPA

Founded in 1970, the Department of Government and Public Administration has been committed to excellence in teaching, research, and community service. Prof. Lo Wing Hung Carlos, Chairperson of the Department and Government and Public Administration delivered a speech at the Banquet in which he summed up the Department's achievements in the past 50 years and shared its future development plans. Prof. Lo remarked that: "Over the past 50 years, the GPA Department has accumulated a profound and fine tradition of achieving cultivating students' sensitivity to political and social issues, and the ability to perform independent thinking and critical analysis. As the Department approaches its 50th anniversary, we will embrace our traditions whilst striving for innovations, aiming for professionalism, internationalization, and optimisation."



The founders of the GPA Department, Prof. Kuan Hsin Chi, Prof. Andrew Wong, Prof. Cheng Chak Yan and Prof. Wong Kui Hung Jeremiah were also present that day to witness the historical moment of the GPA Department alongside sharing their unique teaching experiences alongside their wisdom of life.

- Prof. Cheng Chak Yan
- Prof. Jeremiah Wong



MC Mr. Kenneth Ng, Prof. Andrew Wong and Prof. Kuan Hsin Chi

From left to right:
MC Mr. Kenneth Ng,
Prof. Andrew Wong,
Prof. Kuan Hsin Chi,
Prof. Cheng Chak Yan,
Prof. Jeremiah Wong,
MC Ms Ho Man Man





# GPA50 Celebration Banquet

As the event drew to a close, the Department embarked upon its next glorious chapter.





### GPA50 Afternoon Gathering Session

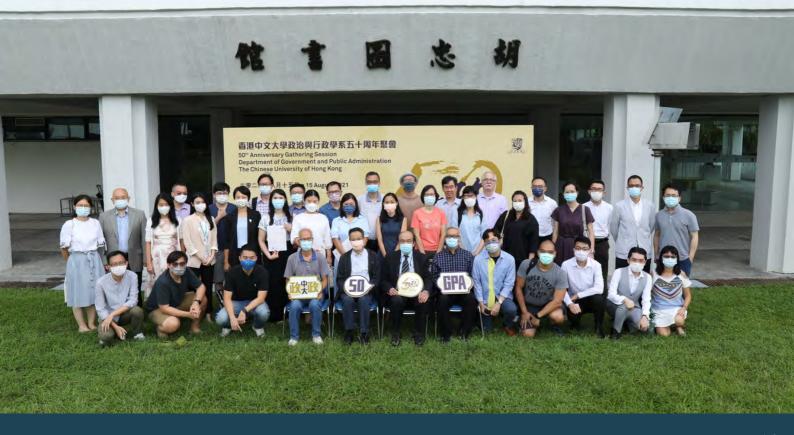
On the same day, the Department organised an Afternoon Social Session at United College. Many alumni seized the opportunity to meet with both our current and retired teachers including Prof. Kuan-Hsin-chi, Prof. Andrew Wong, Prof. Chang Chak-yan and Prof. King Tsao.

A photo wall was set up for our teachers and alumni to take a trip down the memory lane alongside revisiting the precious moments of the past 50 years of the department.

Accompanied by warm afternoon sunshine and light drizzles of rain, we are sure that the afternoon gathering session was another unforgettable occasion for our GPA Department!











Model A Model B Watch / HK\$ 688 Each

#### Models:

Model A: Rose Gold (Leather Strap) Model B: Stainless Steel (Mesh Band)

#### Caseback Engraving: Service not provided

#### ► Wine / HK\$ 150 Each

Volume: 750 ml / bottle **Brand:** Los Galanes

Type: Syrah-Tempraniilo 2019 Label Design: 2 Options (Label A / B)



Label A

#### ▼ Ceramic Mug / HK\$ 50 Each

**Size (cm):**  $8 \times 8 \times 9.5$  (H)





Commemorating the Department's 50th Anniversary, The GPA 50th Anniversary Special Issue tells the full story of how the GPA family began and has continued its mission for over five decades.

With over 30 interviews with former Department Chairpersons, current teachers and alumni, the book reveals the wide spectrum of knowledge and academic freedom that the GPA Department has offered to students over the five decades.

You can grab a free copy at our GPA Office or send us a pre-paid self-addressed envelope (A4 size or above, \$15) so that we can mail it to your doorstep!

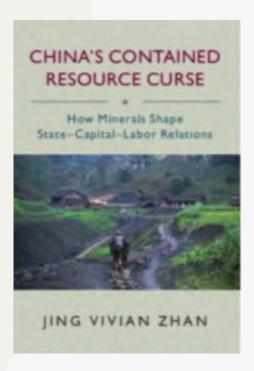
#### **Our Office**

3/F, T.C. Cheng Building, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, N.T., Hong Kong

### Star Researcher

#### New Prestigious Book Published by Prof. Zhan Jing Vivian in Cambridge University Press -China's Contained Resource Curse





#### **Book Information:**

This is the first monograph on the socioeconomic and political impacts of minerals on contemporary China. This book takes a novel perspective on the resource curse by disaggregating the society into three key actors, the state, capital, and labor. It tells nuanced stories about the distinctive effects of mineral resources on the state-capitallabor triad in China, a resource-rich country that has been largely overlooked in the resource curse discourse. Taking a subnational approach, this research zooms in on local situations and identifies clear causal channels through which mineral resources affect local development and governance as well as the welfare of local citizens. Characterizing mining industries as pro-capital and antilabor, this research also highlights the redistributive roles that the state can play to address the unfair game. It reveals the Chinese state's strategies to contain the resource curse and also pinpoints some pitfalls of the China model, which offer important policy implications for China and other resource-rich countries.

#### **Author Information:**

Dr. Zhan specializes in comparative political economy, contemporary Chinese politics, intergovernmental relations, local governance, and development studies. Her pioneering research on China's resource sector and resource policies has been published in journals such as the China Quarterly, Environmental and Resource Economics, and the Extractive Industries and Society and received the CUHK Research Excellence Award.

Details: www.cambridge.org/9781316511268

### Star Researcher

#### New Paper Published by Prof. Carlos Lo



Professor Carlos Lo Professor and Department Head

Hui Li, Shui-Yan Tang & Carlos Wing-Hung Lo (2022): Resource dependency, perceived political environment, and ENGO advocacy under authoritarian rule, Journal of Environmental Policy & Planning, DOI: 10.1080/1523908X.2022.2031928

#### **Abstract**

ENGOs are an essential part of the institutional fabric of environmental governance. A key issue is how they participate in environmental policymaking through different strategies, including legal, administrative, and media advocacy. Using original data on Chinese ENGOs, this article examines how ENGOs' dependency on government funding and donations, and their perceptions of the broader political environment, affect their engagement in policy advocacy. Our empirical analysis shows that a) government funding increases ENGOs' engagement in all advocacy strategies, whereas donations reduce administrative advocacy; and b) the perceived political environment affects ENGO advocacy strategies by changing the dynamics between funders and ENGOs, triggering caution against political risks and increasing ENGOs' dependence on donors. This study highlights how a restrictive political environment shapes ENGOs' relations with the state and their philanthropic donors in environmental governance.

Read the full article here. (https://doi.org/10.1080/1523908X.2022.2031928)

### GPAD in the News





#### A Roundtable Discussion on the French Presidential Elections

Online seminar organized by the Department of Government and International Studies and supported by the Hong Kong Political Science Association (HKPSA).

Date: 22 April 2022 (Friday)

Participants:

#### Prof. Pierre Landry

Professor, Department of Government and Public Administration, Chinese University of Hong Kong

#### Prof. Alistair Cole

Head of Department, Department of Government and International Studies, Hong Kong Baptist University

#### Dr. Emilie Tran

Assistant Professor, Department of Government and International Studies, Hong Kong Baptist University

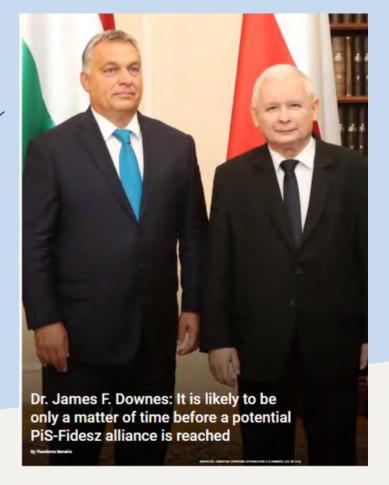
#### **Dr. James Downes**

Lecturer in Comparative Politics and Global Studies, Department of Government and Public Administration, Chinese University of Hong Kong

Click here for the full recording. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IEa0Cbdq4hs

### GPAD in the News





#### Interview on European Populism for a Brussels Based Newspaper by Dr. James F. Downes

Brussels-based newspaper European Interest had the opportunity to interview Dr. James F. Downes on the rise, governing and expected future politics of the two government parties.

Dr. Downes explained how the two governments move towards the radical right and their "bras de fer" with the European Commission and the European Parliament. He also discussed the potential of an alliance between the two parties and governments.

"Based on current events within both the PiS and Fidesz Governments, that it is only likely to be a matter of time, before a potential PiS-Fidesz alliance is reached, either via a formal EU Parliament bloc (with other political parties such as The League in Italy) or via an informal domestic level pact/alliance between both Fidesz and PiS", argues Dr. James F. Downes.

#### Read the full article here.

https://www.europeaninterest.eu/article/dr-james-f-downes-it-is-likely-to-be-only-a-matter-of-time-before-a-potential-pis-fidesz-alliance-is-reached/



### Teaching Corner

Dr. James F. DOWNES Awarded both the CUHK Vice-Chancellor's Exemplary Teaching Award & The CUHK FoSS Exemplary Teaching Award

We are pleased to announce Dr. James F. DOWNES was awarded the prestigious CUHK Faculty of Social Science Exemplary Teaching Award (2021) in recognition of his outstanding teaching in the Department of Government and Public Administration. As the 2021 Award Winner, Dr. DOWNES has also been nominated by the Faculty of Social Science for the CUHK Vice-Chancellor's Exemplary Teaching Award (2021).

Dr. DOWNES has taught a wide range of courses that span the areas of Comparative European Politics, International Relations, Comparative Asian Politics alongside Research Methods on the MSSc in Greater China Programme (GPGC), the MSSc in Public Policy Programme (MPUP) and on the Global Studies Undergraduate level Programme. Many congratulations to Dr. DOWNES!

### Postgraduate Student Update

We are very pleased to announce that our former PhD Student and recent graduate Dr. Felix Wiebrecht has received a Post-Doctoral offer from the prestigious Varieties of Democracy Institute (V-Dem) at the University of Gothenburg, based in Sweden.

The V-Dem Institute, led by Professor Staffan I. Lindberg is an independent and internationally renowned research institute. The Headquarters of the V-Dem project houses one of the worlds largest-ever social science data collection projects with over 3000 researchers and other experts from 180 countries.

Most significantly, their dataset includes more than 450 specific indicators, over 50 different indices of democracy and human rights, alongside civil society, legal system and 27 million data points from 202 countries covering the period between 1789–2018.



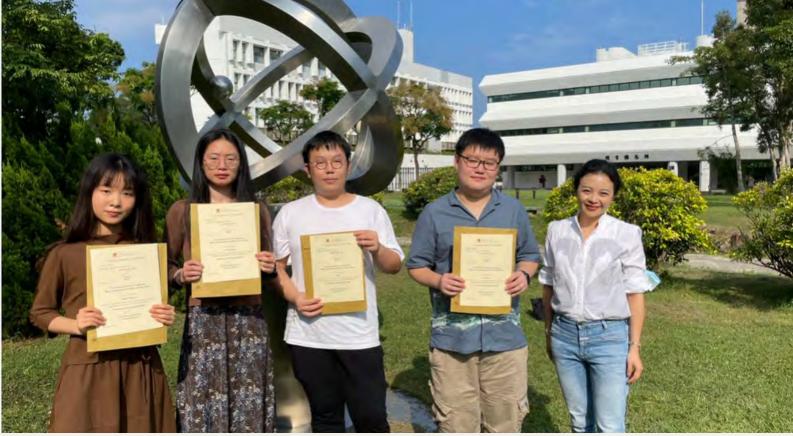


#### **GPGC Orientation Day (6 Sep 2021)**

為使同學增加對課程的瞭解、盡快適應研究生的學習生活,GPGC課程於九月六日舉辨新生迎新及課程介紹活動。課程主任詹晶教授、課程老師曹景鈞教授、葉國豪博士及蔡子強高級講師參加了是次活動,而Dr. James Downes 及來自德國圖賓根大學講席教授Prof. Gunter Schubert (舒耕德)參與了實時網絡會議。身處法國巴黎的Michel Bonnin教授則精心預錄了視頻,為同學介紹他講授的科目。

詹晶教授在致歡迎詞時鼓勵學生秉持H.O.P.E 的信念,也就是要建立遠大的抱負(High Aspiration),開通的頭腦(Open Mind),專業(Professional),和保持持續學習及探究新事物的心(Exploration)。

接著,課程總監劉淳溥士為同學簡介了數項重要學術事項和大學可提供的資源。最後,教師和學生被分配到小組,在學年開始前互相交流和瞭解。











#### **GPGC Admission Scholarship**

恭喜陳源同學,梁文佳同學,王詩源同學及李思奇同學榮獲2021/22 學 年入學獎學金及獎狀!

GPGC 招生委員會每年都會遴選出優秀的同學,提名他們獲得入學獎,藉此作出鼓勵及嘉許。



The MSSc in Public Policy regularly invites policy makers to have interaction and exchange views with students. This time, Ms. Regina Ip, a member of the Executive Council (ExCo) and Legislative Council of Hong Kong (LegCo), alongside being the Founder and current Chairperson of the New People's Party was invited to share her experience with us. The dialogue was organized as part of the course exercise of MPUP5111 Public Policy Process, taught by Prof. Maria Francesch and centered around the theme of Leadership and Trust in Public Policy Makers.

During the dialogue, Ms Ip shared the difference between working as a Civil Servant and a politician. Furthermore, Ms. Ip also highlighted the key elements that contribute to a good policy making process. Aside from the insightful sharing by the speakers, MPUP students benefited greatly from further discussing some of the fundamental social issues during the Q&A session after the sharing session.





We always value career support to achieve the mission to nurture future competent policy professionals and leaders. With the acclaim gained over the past years, we once again invited Ms. Wong Ming Lok, a professional and experienced trainer who conducted a series of AO/EO trainings, to deliver a workshop on the HKSAR Government Joint Recruitment Examination (JRE) exclusively for students of the Department of GPA in October 2021.







On 28 August, the MPUP programme organized the academic orientation to welcome our new students.

The orientation was kick-started with a welcoming speech by Prof. Carlos Lo, the MPUP Programme Directory, followed by a greeting and self-introduction of MPUP teachers. Dr. Brenda Liu, the new Programme Manager, gave advice on important academic matters and resources provided by the University. Lastly, teachers and students were assigned into small group to mingle and get to know each other before the start of the academic year.

With over 30 students participating in-person (F2F) and a few joining online, we also managed to take a group photo together!



### Admission Updates

The GPA Department is pleased to announce that our undergraduate programme will adopt a new JUPAS selection principle this year, changing from the 4C + 2X to Best 5 Subjects.

The weightings for the subjects remain the same, i.e.

English Language 1.5

Chinese Language 1.25

Liberal Studies 1.25

Other Subjects 1.0



GPA Alumni Information Updates:
To change your contact details, please fill in the form below.
<a href="https://cloud.itsc.cuhk.edu.hk/webform/view.php?id=5086636">https://cloud.itsc.cuhk.edu.hk/webform/view.php?id=5086636</a>





Admission and Public Relations Committee,
Department of Government and Public Administration
Chief Editor: Dr. James F. DOWNES
Secretary: Miss Katherine SHA
GPA Student Reporters: Mr. Matthias CHAN

### STAY CONNECTED

If you have any news, comments, or anything we can include in the next issue of newsletter, please contact us by sending an email to katherinesha@cuhk.edu.hk.

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