

# Newsletter

## 2018 - 19

**MSSc Programme in Public Policy (MPUP)**  
**Department of Government and Public Administration**

### I. Programme

#### *Director's Message*

Greetings from MPUP!

To begin with, I am excited to share with you some good news!

MPUP is proud to have achieved a major milestone by becoming one of the members of the Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration (NASPPA) (*Membership 2019 to 2024*), an international membership organization of graduate public service education programmes. It connects 300+ member schools worldwide, including top-notch schools such as Harvard University, Princeton University, Columbia University, and University of Chicago. By becoming part of this league of prestigious schools, the Programme's global visibility and recognition are rising to another level!

MPUP students would have access to NASPAA resources and opportunities in many major areas including networking, career support, and professional learning. Among them, there is an upcoming NASPAA policy simulation competition, to be held in KDI School of Public Policy and Management, South Korea in February 2019. MPUP is going to send and sponsor our students as representatives to participate in it. They would have the opportunity to compete with master students from other prestigious public policy programmes all over the world. Further updates are available in the "Student/Alumni Update" section.



Building on the success of MPUP, an Undergraduate Programme, *Data Science and Policy Studies (DSPS)* (JUPAS Code: JS4893), has recently been launched. Based in the Faculty of Social Science of CUHK, DSPS is a new and innovative interdisciplinary programme which combines public policy knowledge and technological and analytical capacities to prepare students for tackling complex policy problems. I am honored to be appointed as the founding director. My joint MPUP-DSPS directorship is a sign of the commitment of the Faculty to promote synergy between the two programmes. It may also pave way for CUHK to become a hub of public policy education in the future.

Surrounded by joy, I would also like to take this opportunity to extend my best wishes to you for the coming Chinese New Year. May you have some good time with friends and family during the break and a great year ahead.

#### **Professor Wilson Wong**

Associate Professor, Department of Government and Public Administration  
 Director, MSSc Programme in Public Policy (MPUP)  
 Director, BSSc Programme in Data Science and Policy Studies (DSPS)  
 The Chinese University of Hong Kong



## II. Programme Update

### Term End Gathering

MPUP office organized a term end gathering in December 2018 to celebrate the hard work of teachers and students in Term 1.

It was a great time for teachers and students to gather and relax before the term officially ended.



### Master's Degree Graduation Ceremony

The Master's Degree Graduation Ceremony was held on 16 November 2018. The heartiest congratulations from MPUP to the Class of 2018 and wish all the graduates every success in their future endeavours.

MPUP would always love to stay connected with and receive updates from alumni.



### Meeting with Delegation from University of Auckland, New Zealand

Delegation of the University of Auckland, New Zealand visited CUHK Faculty of Social Science during 20 - 23 October 2018.

On 23 October, Professor Wilson Wong, Programme Director, Professor May Chu, Assistant Programme Director and Professor Yuan Xu, Programme Management Committee Member, were pleased to greet the delegation on behalf of MPUP.

Both parties took the occasion to explore possible international collaborations on research and education.





### III. Teacher's & Staff Update

#### Public Policy Forum on Economic Opportunities of Climate Change

In face of the pressing challenge brought by climate change, Professor Yuan Xu, MPUP Programme Committee and teacher of MPUP5422 took the lead to initiate a public policy forum featuring the economic opportunities of it on 1 November 2018 at Cho Yiu Conference Hall, CUHK. The forum was co-organized by the Policy Research of Hong Kong Institute of Asia Pacific Studies (HKIAPS), the Global China Research Programme, the MSSc Programme in Public Policy (MPUP), the Centre for Business Sustainability, and the Department of Geography and Resource Management of CUHK.

Professor Fanny Cheung, Pro-Vice-Chancellor and Co-Director of HKIAPS, CUHK delivered a welcome speech to kick off the event, followed by the keynote speech given by Mr Kam-Sing Wong, Secretary for the Environment, HKSAR Government. As a policymaker and practitioner, Secretary K.S. Wong shared with participants the dual-track approach taken by the Government in climate mitigation. Apart from the policy perspective, panellists from various fields, namely academic, environmental management and business, were invited to present their ideas during the forum, moderated by Professor Wilson Wong, MPUP Programme Director.



Thanks to the honourable speakers and distinguished guests in sharing their field expertise which depicted a holistic picture and contributed sound arguments for inviting more vigorous efforts in climate mitigation. Constructive feedback was received during the discussion session regarding the potential areas the Government can work on to boost efforts.

#### Co-Lead Faculty Members in Big Data Executive Training

Professor Wilson Wong, MPUP Programme Director, and Professor Chris Hinnant, MPUP Visiting Scholar in 2017 - 18, were teaming up together to serve as co-lead faculty members of the Public Policy and Leadership Executive Training on "Using Big Data to Create Public Value: Opportunities, Challenges, and Strategies" in Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST) between 26 - 28 November 2018. In the training, Professor Wong delivered two sessions (big data and open data).



Due to factors including the importance of the topic, design of the programme, and the quality of the speakers, the training has set a record in the number of attended participants. It attracted a total of 53 participants, who are all officials and policymakers from the HKSAR Government.



It is tough to teach a large class like that in an executive training. But with the commitment of the co-lead faculty members and all the speakers, they were able to provide a three-day transformative learning experience for all participants.



## IV. Student/Alumni Update

### News from Ms Arya Wang, Class of 2018

Arya is currently working as an Assistant Officer in Corporate Affairs Division at the China Mobile International Limited.

Studying in MPUP is a valuable experience to Arya. Through active participation in events and activities, her interpersonal skill has been advanced. In-class discussions on social phenomena and selected topics; and interaction with classmates through group work not only enriched her study life in MPUP, but also helped strengthen her independent thinking and widen her perspectives in analyzing public policies.

Moreover, even her work values have been transformed, from simply making a living to perceiving it a way to bring positive impacts to the world.



### News from Ms Tintin Ding, Class of 2018

Tintin currently works for a public relations company and is mainly responsible for IPO projects, that is, to assist companies listed in Hong Kong to go public.

MPUP courses have influenced her way of thinking. Specifically, the elective course on Crisis Management has helped her to be more comfortable with media relations, whereas the required course on Economics has trained her to look at the changes in the financial market more rationally.



Tintin believes that study and work complement each other through reflections. She perceives the knowledge learnt in classes as her "work weapon". The experience at work also helps her better understand the knowledge learnt in the MPUP.

### News from Mr Siria Hong, Class of 2018

Siria is now working as an editing affairs secretary and reporter in Xinhua News Agency.

She would like to send her heartfelt gratitude to MPUP teachers. The logical way of thinking and communication skills learnt in class are beneficial to her work.



### MPUP Social Gathering

MPUP class representatives organized a themed party for students to interact outside of class time. Students had a good time mingling with each other.



### Visit to Hong Kong Housing Society

Thanks to Professor Annie Tam's coordination, MPUP students visited the Hong Kong Housing Society (HKHS) in December 2018 and discussed housing policy with Mr. Wu Moon-hoi, the former chairman of the HKHS. Mr. Wu is also widely recognized as the "Father of Home Ownership Scheme" in Hong Kong.



It was a valuable experience for our students to exchange views with an experienced practitioner, through which the knowledge they learnt in class has been further consolidated.



### NASPAA-Batten Student Simulation Competition 2019

Five MPUP students have been nominated to form a team and participate in the upcoming NASPAA's policy simulation competition under the Programme's sponsorship. The competition will be held in KDI School of Public Policy and Management, South Korea in February 2019.

In this event, students would have the opportunity to compete head-to-head with master students from other prestigious public policy programmes all over the world.

The five of them have been receiving training, coaching, and briefing from the Programme to get well prepared for the competition.



Please stay tuned with us for updates of the competition.

## V. Past Events

### *MPUP JRE Workshop 2018*

With the positive feedback received last year, Ms Wong Ming Lok, a professional and experienced trainer, was invited to conduct a workshop on the HKSAR Government Joint Recruitment Examination (JRE) again for MPUP and non-MPUP students in November 2018.

Ms Wong introduced to participants the basics, strategies and skills for taking JRE during the first session, through which participants had a better grasp of the examination and were guided to find a focus for preparation.

A mock test was then arranged for participants to help them familiarize with the examination format, followed by an in-depth feedback session on their performance. Participants received practical comments to further consolidate their knowledge.

Thanks to Ms Wong again, participants found the workshop fruitful.



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### *Career Mentorship Scheme – Meeting with Mr. Raymond Wong, former permanent secretary of Civil Service Bureau*

MPUP has invited Mr. Raymond Wong, former permanent secretary of Civil Service Bureau (CSB), HKSAR Government, to conduct a sharing session with students about the AO grade, including its selection.

Students aspired to a career in civil service have gained insights from Mr. Wong's sharing, including the criteria an AO should possess and core values of the AOs.

Thanks to Mr. Wong again for his invaluable sharing to MPUP students.





## VI. Upcoming Events

### Visit by Professor Mary Feeney



MPUP has invited Professor Mary Feeney, a professor at the Arizona State University and also the editor of the *Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory (JPART)*, the No. 1 top journal in the field of Public Administration.

It is an honour that the editor of the No.1 top journal has accepted the Programme's invitation to pay a visit to the University in late March 2019. A seminar is tentatively scheduled for 29 March 2019, through which students can interact with Professor Feeney and learn from her expertise.

More details will be announced in due course.



### Admission Exercise 2019

The admission exercise for 2019 entry has started and the application deadline is 15 March 2019. The latest programme brochure is now available [here](#).

Should you know any friends and colleagues who are interested in our Programme, please feel free to circulate the brochure and encourage them to apply as soon as possible.



### MPUP Souvenir 2019



To thank for your continuous support, the Programme has prepared a luggage tag as souvenir to all students and alumni.

For alumni, we would be mailing it to your correspondence address according to our database. Since we may not have your most updated address after graduation, please contact us via [publicpolicy@cuhk.edu.hk](mailto:publicpolicy@cuhk.edu.hk) if you have not received it in due course.

## VII. Stay Connected



MPUP LinkedIn group:  
MSSc Programme in Public Policy, CUHK



Keep in touch by letting us know via [publicpolicy@cuhk.edu.hk](mailto:publicpolicy@cuhk.edu.hk) if your contact number or email has been changed.



If there is any information you would like to share in the "Student/Alumni Update" section of the next issue, please feel free to contact us.

***"Interdisciplinary Education in Public Policy:  
Contributing knowledge for long-term human development"***