Welcome to the third annual newsletter of the School of Humanities and Social Science (SHSS). Although the 2019-20 academic year was punctuated by protests and a pandemic, I am proud that our faculty, students, and staff were able to adapt and support one another amidst a protracted sequence of uncertainties. Faculty adopted their courses for on-line delivery. Staff worked from home and covered for one another in the office on staggered schedules. Students deeply missed face-to-face interactions with classmates and faculty, but persevered through Canvas and Zoom. What a year.

As you’ll see in this newsletter, we also moved forward. Council Member Albert Ip generously agreed to serve as an Honorary Advisor to SHSS. The renovated dean’s suite brought us together for a traditional Hong Kong-style pig roast and a couple of Dean’s Teas. SHSS conferred undergraduate and graduate degrees to 300 students in the Class of 2019 - in person. We established two new research centers — the Center for Global China and Center for Aging Science. And most significantly, the fact that we succeeded in hiring 20 new faculty — all through Zoom — is a testament to our school’s continuing appeal to talented teachers and scholars.

The forthcoming year will build on these successes as we welcome the relocation of the French Center for Contemporary China (CEFC) to SHSS, diversify our course offerings, and continue global recruitment of faculty in multiple fields. I will host virtual and in-person events to keep us in touch as a community, and as always, welcome constructive suggestions on how to improve our school.
Prof Albert Ip, HKUST Council Member, was appointed as an Honorary Advisor to SHSS. In that capacity, he is eager to mentor SHSS students as they think about the relevance of their studies to different career paths. Mr. Ip has over 30 years of experience in the finance industry, both in the US and Hong Kong. He has held executive leadership positions in multiple banks, including Citibank, Bank of America Merrill Lynch, First National Bank of Chicago and Wells Fargo. Mr. Ip recently retired as CEO Langham Hospitality Investments, and is an enthusiastic champion of the value of liberal arts education in a rapidly changing employment market.
NEW RESEARCH CENTERS DIRECTED BY SHSS FACULTY

Global China Center, established in October 2019 and directed by Prof Ching Kwan Lee

The Center advances China Studies that places China in global, comparative and theoretical perspectives. Housed within SHSS, the Center seeks to foster interdisciplinary and multi-method research and teaching on global China. Internationally, GCC is building collaborative ties with other centers on global China in North America, Europe and Australia.

Center for Aging Science, established in April 2020 and directed by Prof Stuart Gietel-Basten

The Center aims to develop and foster a better understanding of healthy aging, promote the idea of balancing physical and psychological health, as well as sustaining relationships in old age. Besides addressing aging population issues, it is important to engage younger generations in understanding the science of healthy aging and learning their important role in this aging society. The Center aspires to be the leading center of aging science in Hong Kong.

MAJOR CONFERENCE/WORKSHOP

Global Webinar Series: Adaption to Historical and Contemporary Disruptions
Jointly organised by SHSS and National University of Singapore

GLOBAL WEBINAR SERIES
Adaption to Historical and Contemporary Disruptions
July 15, 2020 | 15:00 (GMT+8)
CONGRATULATIONS!

Promotions

**Prof Shengqing Wu**
Professor
HUMA

**Prof Jean Hong**
Associate Professor
SSGC

**Prof James Wong**
Assistant Professor of Social Science Education
SSGC

Awards & Honors

**Prof Stuart Gietel-Basten**
awarded Asian Universities Alliance Scholars Award

**Prof David Cheng Chang**
awarded Harvard-Yenching Institute-Radcliffe Institute Joint Fellowship (2021-2022)

**Prof Franziska Keller**
appointed Fellow at the University of Zurich’s Digital Democracy Lab

**Dr Anna Kwong**
“Shaw Auditorium Construction Project” shortlisted for “THE Awards Asia 2020 – Excellence and Innovation in the Arts”

**Prof Jianmei Liu**
awarded RCC Humanities and Social Science Prestigious Fellowship

**Dr Timothy Page**
received grant from Finland’s Jenni and Antti Wihuri Foundation for development of Idols 2020, a work of experimental music theatre, with the Helsinki-based interdisciplinary ensemble Dayjob Collective.

**Prof Kevin Tam**
appointed Editor-in-Chief of *Asian Journal of Social Psychology*

**Prof Melinda Whong**
appointed President of the Association of Hong Kong Language Centers

**Prof James Wong and the project team**
received Poster Award for Teaching and Learning Expo 2019/20

**Prof Xiaogang WU**
appointed Global Scholar at Princeton University (2020-2024)

FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

**Ching Kwan Lee & Ming Sing**
Take Back Our Future: An Eventful Sociology of the Hong Kong Umbrella Movement
*ILR Press; Cornell University Press, 2019*

**Jianmei Liu**
The Transgression of Fiction
小説的越界
*Beijing Tiandi, 2020*

**Ching Kwan Lee**
co-edited with Jan Breman, Kevan Harris and Marcel van der Linden
The Social Question in the 21st Century: A Global View
*University of California Press, 2019*

**Zongli Lu**
Professor Emeritus
Rumor in The Early Chinese Empires
*Cambridge Press (China), 2020*

**Jianmei Liu**
co-edited with David Der-wei Wang and Jin Ji 當代人文的三個方向—夏志清、李歐梵、劉再復
*Joint Publishing (Hong Kong) Company, 2020*

**Ilari Kaila**
co-produced with Silas Brown
The Bells Bow Down
*US: Innova Recordings, 2020*
CREATIVE ARTS AT SHSS - HIGHLIGHTS

HKUST Music Alive! 2019-20 Season

Outreach Music Program

TICA Opening Gala Concert: Featuring Third Coast Percussion
FACULTY EXTERNAL RESEARCH GRANTS 2019-2020

General Research Fund Projects

Wenfang Tang (SOSC)
“Detecting Social and Political Desirability in Hong Kong Public Opinion Surveys”

Shengqing Wu (HUMA)
“Sensuous Touch, Kiss, and Intimacy in Modern Chinese Literature and Culture”

David Cheng Chang (HUMA)
“The Korean War Prisoners Who Chose Neutral Nations: Their Odysseys from China and Korea to India and then Latin America”

Yongshun Cai (SOSC)
“Social Organizations and Peasant Militancy: The Case of the Chinese Famine”

Early Career Scheme

Xiaolu Ma (HUMA)
“From West to East: The Global Journey of Russian Nihilism”

Prestigious Fellowship Scheme under Humanities and Social Sciences Panel

Jianmei Liu (HUMA)
“The Predicament of “the Third Space” in Modern China”
第三空間“在現代中國的困境”

Non-UGC Grants

Franziska Keller (SOSC)
received a Germany / Hong Kong Joint Research Scheme grant to continue her international collaboration aimed at detecting hidden propaganda campaigns on social media “Astroturfing”.

Jenny Smith (HUMA)
received a grant of 2 million NEK from the Norwegian Government to build a research network called “A-NEST” & Asian-Norwegian Environmental Stories.

Kevin Tam (SOSC)
received a grant from the Sumitomo Foundation for an interdisciplinary project on public support for climate policy in Japan.

Teaching and Learning Innovation Projects (TLIP)

Delian Gaskell, Rebecca Farmer & Kin Hun Tang (CLE)
“Competency-based Common Core Foundation English Communication for Year 1 Students: Integrating innovation in education technology and blended learning within a learner-focused competency tracking framework”

Elza Tsang (CLE), Cindy Lam & Stanley Lau (OCES)
“Coastal Environmental Investigation”

Teaching

Prof Julian Groves
2019 Michael G. Gale Medal for Distinguished Teaching

Prof Jean Hong
2019 SHSS Best Teaching Award

Prof Agnes Ku
2019 SHSS Best Teaching Award
NEW STUDENTS, FALL 2020

Research Post-graduate Students

- HUMA
  - 8 MPhil students
  - 4 PhD students including 1 Hong Kong PhD Fellow
- SOSC
  - 5 MPhil students
  - 5 PhD students including 2 Hong Kong PhD Fellows

Taught Post-graduate students

- 55 MSc Global China Studies students including four 3+1 students Bachelor’s/MSc pathway from Shanghai International Studies University and Xiamen University
- 83 New MA in International Language Education Students
  - 26 students concentrating in Teaching English as Second Language specialized concentration
  - 57 students concentrating in Teaching Chinese as Second Language
- 32 New MA in Chinese Culture Students
- 37 New MA in Social Science Students

Undergraduate Majors

- 46 New Global China Studies
- 22 Quantitative Social Analysis (QSA) Students

We now have 664 Full-Time (including beyond-time) UG and PG Students (including beyond-time).
Nearly 300 UG, TPG and RPG students graduated from SHSS in 2020.

This year’s graduating GCS class of 50 students include 5 students with First Class Honors.

Faculty and classmates are invited to attend our Virtual Congregation on 21 Nov 2020.

2020 Academic Placements

HUMA Graduate
Kin Wing Kevin Chan
Assistant Lecturer, CUHK

SOSC Graduates
Bijia Chen
Postdoctoral Fellow, Institute of Qing History, Renmin University of China
Jiaying Chen
Lecturer, Renmin University of China

PhD Program Placement of MPhil Graduates

Xin He
SOSC, HKUST
Siqin Liu
SOSC, HKUST
Zhengcheng Liu
ECON, HKUST
Wenzhi Lu
SOSC, HKPFS, HKUST
Shaocong Ma
SOSC, HKUST
Student Accomplishments & Awards

Hojun Lee (BSc QSA)
- 2nd Runner Up in the 2020 Mr Armin and Mrs Lillian Kitchell Undergraduate Research Award
- 2020 Mc Donnell Int’l Scholars Academy

Siqi Chen & Yuhui Zhao
Mr. Wang Shiu Tong Scholarship in Humanities

Tsz Wang Yeung
SOSC Best UG Paper Prize 2018/2019

Ruilin Lai, Yuan Zhou & Ruihan Huang
MSc in Global China Studies Dean’s Award 2019

Siqi Chen, Ning Ding, Yijiao Guo, Siyuan Ji, Xiaoyi Liu, Mengting Miao & Mingyang Zhao
MA in Chinese Culture Dean’s Award 2019

Wing In Chau, Yabin Yin & Gefei Han
MA in Social Science Dean’s Award 2019

Sandra Ann Pescod, Lingyun Fan, Tianyu Xu, Pei Yung Li, Boya Zhou & Fengxin Xu
MA in International Language Education Dean’s award 2019

Bijia Chen
SHSS RPG Best Research Award 2019

Solsar Kong
Wallace C K Siu Prize for Undergraduate Studies 2019

Kelly Ka Ki Cheung
Academic Outstanding Performance Award for the BSc GCS Program

Warren Wenzhi Lu (SOSC)
Hong Kong PhD Fellowship Scheme (HKPFS)

RPG Alumnae News

Fang Jun (MPhil, 2018)
accepted into PhD Program in Political Science at University of Michigan.

Miao Jia (PhD, 2017)
appointed Assistant Professor of Sociology at NYU-Shanghai.

Matthew Noellert (PhD, 2014)
appointed Associate Professor of Economic History at Hitosubashi University.

Xi Song (MPhil, 2010)
appointed Associate Professor of Sociology at University of Pennsylvania.

Emma Zang (MPhil, 2014)
appointed Assistant Professor of Sociology at Yale University. Awarded “Best Graduate Student Paper” by the American Sociological Association Section on Asia/Asian-America in August 2019 for a paper in *Demography* in 2018 co-authored with Prof Cameron Campbell.
2020-21 SHSS Executive Committee

Kellee Tsai
Dean, School of Humanities and Social Science

Christian Daniels
Head of Division of Humanities

Wenfang Tang
Head of Division of Social Science

Melinda Whong
Associate Dean and Director of CLE

Yongshun Cai
Associate Dean for Post-graduate Programs

Carine Yiu
Associate Dean for Undergraduate Education

Stuart Gietel-Basten
Associate Dean for Research

Jenny Smith
Associate Professor, HUMA

Kevin Tam
Associate Professor, SOSC

Donation

Dr Charles S.C. Chan has donated HK$500,000 to set up a scholarship for SHSS RPG students.

In Memory

Professor Yang Mu 楊牧 [also known as Wang Ching-hsien 王靖獻] (1940-2020), one of the founding members of the Division of Humanities.