



# BIANNUAL NEWSLETTER

December 2020



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# MESSAGE from HEAD OF UNDERGRADUATE PANEL



## 疫下點滴

李家翹博士，本科委員會主席

新冠肺炎瘟疫爆發至今已歷大半年，最近疫情趨向穩定，中大亦由純線上教學，逐步改為線上/面對面的“混合模式教學”(mix-mode teaching)，首先實行的是研究院課程，以及本科高年級及有特殊需要（如有實驗室課）的課程。政政系也不例外。近日校園裏多了回校的同學，部分餐廳午飯時間又再人滿為患，圖書館也比前一段時間多了些人氣。

新冠疫情自年初爆發，線上教學至今已持續了兩個半學期（連同夏季學期）有多，中大校園的教學和生活都發生了深刻的變化。線上教學對不少老師而言是不小的挑戰。我享受傳統課室裏的面對面授課，一來我可自由在課室裏走動，時而在白板上寫寫畫畫，更可隨時向同學提問，時刻留意同學的反應，彈性調整講課節奏、鋪排講課內容，我自問一直發揮自如，有時下課後也會對自己的講課感到滿意而洋洋得意半天。今年農曆新年時在家準備假後開始的線上課，我本來還滿有自信，以為換成線上課，自己可以化身“網紅”，對著鏡頭神態自若照本宣科，實行課照講、筆記照派，一切如常。

怎知線上課開始後，我便發覺它并不如我原初想象的那麼簡單。Zoom 軟件不難操作，科技盲如我也能輕易上手，但講課時要對著電腦鏡頭，同時要兼顧允許 (admit) 同學進入課堂，更要回應同學透過語音和文字的提問，令人手忙腳亂。後來我更認清一個事實：我不是當“網紅”的材料。用 Zoom 上課，我平時說話時的身體動作要收斂些，滿不自然，而對著虛擬、不露面、“靜音”的觀眾，要侃侃而談二、三小時，內容充實之餘還間中要加插些“笑位”以防觀眾走神，原來并不如想象般容易。實體觀眾的眼神、動作、反應等都是成功課堂不可或缺的部分。人與人面對面的溝通、接觸，不能輕易以新科技的虛擬形式所替代。教學上，虛擬的空間和實體的人聚合的空間不能等量齊觀，前者虛無縹緲，後者才有重量、有質感。好的教學效果，是人與人的共處才能達成。

經過一個多學期的磨練，有同學說我的線上課有了改進，我的表現也開始展現出以前的那種揮灑自如。這對我而言固然可喜，證明我都能適應教學上的新科技應用。但這幾個月教學上的異常狀態會否成為往後的一種常態，很值得我們關注。除授課效果打折扣外，考核方式也難免要適應線上課的局限，新的考核方法能否維持過往的多樣性、全面性，個人和小組功課兼備的形式？講究師生互動小組導修課，以致近年流行的“翻轉教室”(flipped classroom) 教學法能否達致預期的效果？圖書館的資源，能否配合線上課的需要？部分課程原來會安排的田野考察，能否如常舉行？更重要者，大學教育正式與非正式教學并重，同學除正式上課外，還能從多姿多彩的校園生活中學習、成長。疫情下校園生活幾乎全停頓，迎新營改為線上、同學停止“入宿”、課外活動暫停，對在讀同學造成的影響難以估計。我們為人師者，又能否做得更多，使同學的學習權益不被剝奪？

中大校園正逐步恢復正常，最近我得知政政系系會新莊“傾莊”順利、即將舉行換屆選舉，睿星計劃 (Star Project) 有同學接棒，系內同學也依舊熱衷參與辯論隊，希望這是好的開始。



Dear all Colleagues,

We are very pleased to publish our second edition of the GPA Biannual Newsletter in 2020. 2020 has been an incredibly difficult year for us all, both in Hong Kong and also globally. The COVID-19 pandemic has transformed the way we live, work and interact with one another. In short, the COVID-19 pandemic has transformed our day to day lives.

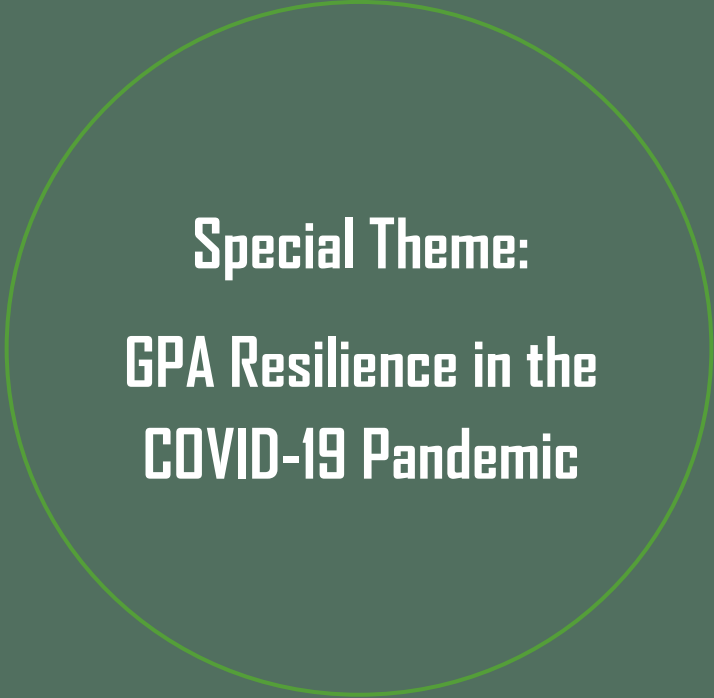
It is therefore fitting that the Special Theme of this GPA Biannual Newsletter is “GPA Resilience in the face of the COVID-19 Pandemic.” We have not been deterred in the GPA Department. We have kept resilient and confronted this time of crisis, in continuing to conduct Online Teaching via ZOOM, alongside conducting Online Admissions Talks for our Undergraduate, Postgraduate Taught Masters Programmes and also Online Webinars in the Department.

Top quality research has continued to be published by our great Faculty colleagues in the Department too, alongside our excellent PhD students in GPA. Considering these troubled times, this is incredibly impressive and should be applauded!

Thank you & take good care all colleagues, students & Alumni during this incredibly difficult period.

I assure you all that these dark times will pass and there will be light at the end of the tunnel.

Dr. James F. Downes



**Special Theme:**

**GPA Resilience in the  
COVID-19 Pandemic**



# UPDATES OF GPA 50TH ANNIVERSARY

We are pleased to announce the following updates of the GPA 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary:

## Celebration Banquet (16 May 2021)

As announced earlier, the Banquet has been rescheduled as follows:

Date: 16 May 2021 (Sunday)

Time: 7:00pm (Reception: 6:00pm)

Venue: Regency Ballroom,  
Hyatt Regency Hong Kong, Shatin,  
18 Chak Cheung Street,  
Shatin, N.T., Hong Kong ([Map](#))

Ticket prices and registration details are to be announced.



## Alumni Research Webinar Series (January – April 2021)

To showcase the research community of GPA alumni and to provide reunion opportunities for GPA teachers, alumni and current students in the 50th Anniversary celebration, an alumni webinar series will be organized as follows:

Moderator: A retired GPA teacher

Panels: GPA alumni working in the academic field

- ✧ January – Public Administration
- ✧ February – Political Philosophy
- ✧ March – Comparative Politics (China)
- ✧ April – Comparative Politics (Hong Kong)

More details are to be announced.

## Call for the GPA 50th Anniversary Donation - Sponsorship Package

Our GPA Department has made great strides and progress since its founding in 1970. The Department is proud of its achievements and its Alumni. Many of our graduates have gone on to pursue highly successful careers. In order for us to continue our great work in the GPA Department in the coming future, we are making a humble call for donations and sponsors, that relate to two main areas:

- (1) To support the GPA 50th Anniversary activities; and
- (2) To supports students' academic development and enhancement.

The Sponsorship scheme for the GPA 50th Anniversary is as follows:

SPONSORSHIP PACKAGE	Platinum 50	Gold 50	Silver 50	Bronze 50
	HK\$50,000	HK\$30,000	HK\$10,000	HK\$5,000
Acknowledgement in Souvenir Programme	✓	✓	✓	✓
Advertisement in Souvenir Programme	✓	✓	✓	N/A
Complimentary Banquet Ticket and Souvenir Set (Watch, Wine and Mug)	✓	✓	✓	✓

More details are to be announced.

## Join GPA 50th Anniversary Facebook Group – Class Photo Challenge

The 50th Anniversary Facebook Group has been set up for alumni to get re-connected. Please join (and ask your classmates to join) the Group now to participate in the “Class Photo Challenge” by tagging your classmates and uploading photos of your class:

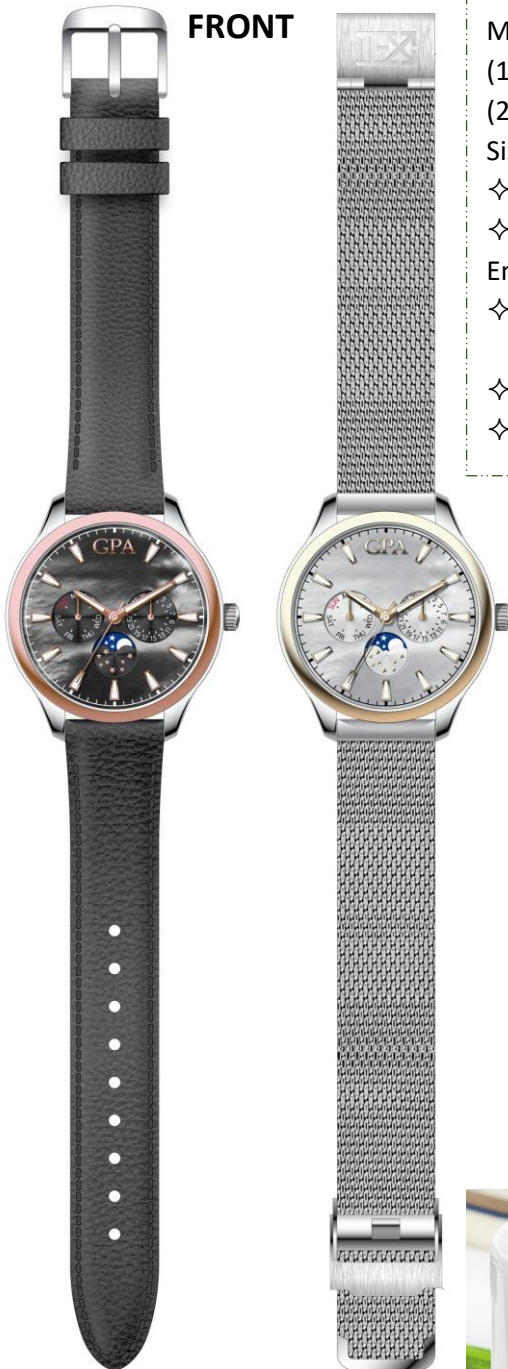
**GPA 50th Anniversary Facebook Group:** <https://www.facebook.com/groups/cuhkgpa50>





# UPDATES OF GPA 50TH ANNIVERSARY

## Souvenirs\*



### Watch

Price: HK\$688

Models:

- (1) Rose Gold (Leather Strap)
- (2) Stainless Steel (Mesh Band)

Size:

- ◇ Case - 4.4 x 4.6 (cm)
- ◇ Strap/Band (W): 1.8 (cm) (Leather)/1.6-1.8(cm) (Mesh) -

Engraving:

- ◇ Line 1: Name (up to 5 Chinese characters/18 English characters, including space, symbols and digits)
- ◇ Line 2: Year of Graduation/Appointment (up to 15 characters)
- ◇ Line 3: Serial No.

### BACK



### Wine

Price: HK\$150

Volume: 750 ml/bottle

Brand: Los Galanes

Type: Syrah-Tempraniilo 2019

Label Design: 2 Options



**\*Ordering details are to be announced.**



### Ceramic Mug

Price: HK\$50

Size (in cm):

8 x 8 x 9.5 (H)

## GPA 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Contact

For questions related to the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration, please send a message to [gpa50@cuhk.edu.hk](mailto:gpa50@cuhk.edu.hk). For updates, please stay tuned to our website <http://www.gpa.cuhk.edu.hk/>.

# STAR RESEARCHERS

1. Chen, X., (2020). Civic and Non-Civic Activism under Autocracy: Shifting Political Space for Popular Collective Action, *Mobilization*, Vol. 25(SI), pp. 623–640.

2. Chen, X. and Liu, J., (2020). Village Leaders, Dual Brokerage and Political Order in Rural China, *The China Quarterly*.

(Dr. Liu is the PhD graduate of the Department of Government and Public Administration)

**Abstract:** Drawing on an ethnographic study in two counties in Hunan province, this article explores how political brokerage has contributed to political order in China by facilitating contentious and non-contentious bargaining between the government and ordinary people. To account for the changing role of village leaders in rural politics, the article develops a concept of dual brokerage. This concept not only recognizes formal and informal linkages between village leaders and the two principals – the government and the community of villagers – but also underscores the interactivity between the linkages. We contend that despite the tensions between village leaders’ roles as state agents and as village representatives, these two roles in the reform era tend to be mutually beneficial. Under such an institutional configuration, village leaders in China in the reform era have strong incentives to act as dual agents and can make policy implementation more flexible and the use of state force more moderate. A comparison between the trilateral interactions before and after the tax reform in 2005 confirms that whether village leaders can effectively act as dual agents has a significant impact on the quality of rural governance in China.



**Professor Chen Xi**  
Associate Professor  
Department of Government  
and Public Administration,  
CUHK

1. Zhan, J. V., (forthcoming). Repress or Redistribute? The Chinese State’s Response to Resource Conflicts, *The China Quarterly*.

2. Zhan, J.V. and Zhong, P., (forthcoming). Authoritarian Critical Citizens and Declining Political Trust in China, *The China Review*.

(Dr. Zhong is the PhD graduate of the Department of Government and Public Administration)

**Abstract:** Cross-national opinion surveys reveal that the Chinese regime enjoys perplexingly high level of political trust when compared internationally. However, by tracing multiple surveys over time, this study finds that the trust in the Chinese central government has declined notably since the early 2000s. We identify rising public criticism of income inequality as an underlying cause for the declining political trust during the surveyed period. We propose the concept of authoritarian critical citizens to understand the impact of citizens’ evaluation of specific government performance on diffuse support in authoritarian contexts. Whereas in democracies the rise of critical citizens may not undermine regime support, we argue that the rise of authoritarian critical citizens poses serious challenge to the Chinese party-state because the decline of specific support erodes the legitimacy and support of authoritarian regimes.

3. Iftikhar, M. and Zhan, J.V. (forthcoming). The Geopolitics of China’s Overseas Port Investments: A Comparative Analysis of Greece and Pakistan, *Geopolitics*.

(Dr. Iftikhar is the PhD graduate of the Department of Government and Public Administration)

**Abstract:** With China’s continuous rise and growing external commercial, strategic, and political endeavours, questions have arisen about the motivation, timing, and locale of China’s outreaching strategies. This research analyzes China’s overseas port investments through a comparative study of Greece and Pakistan, two important partners of China’s Belt and Road Initiative. Adopting the neoclassical realist framework and drawing on expert interviews, official statistics, and policy documents, this paper reveals how China’s economic security objectives in combination with changing geopolitical structures led to its external port investments. This research contributes to the studies on rising powers and geopolitics by showing how China as a rising power capitalizes on geopolitical opportunities created by the changing interests of dominant powers to expand its presence in strategically important regions.



**Professor Vivian Zhan Jing**  
Associate Professor  
Department of Government  
and Public Administration,  
CUHK

# STAR RESEARCHERS

Wong, S. (2020). One-upmanship and Putdowns: The Aggressive Use of Interaction Rituals in Face-to-face Diplomacy, *International Theory*.

**Abstract:** When leaders meet in person, they perform a wide range of interaction rituals. They dress for the occasion, greet each other and shake hands, exchange pleasantries and gifts, arrive at the meeting venue and have themselves seated according to protocol, and so on. What do they make of the performance of such rituals? In this paper, I argue that leaders often take advantage of or outright flout what the sociologist Erving Goffman calls the prevailing ‘ceremonial idiom’ of an interaction – that is the intersubjective understanding they share on what rituals to perform and how to perform them – to realize a number of political and personal objectives, with larger international consequences. The ‘ceremonial idiom’ is deliberately transgressed and a counterpart’s ‘face’ threatened – overtly but more often subtly – to achieve what are commonly known as ‘one-upmanship’ and ‘putdowns’ in interpersonal contact. Empirically, I demonstrate my argument with over two dozen episodes of face-to-face diplomacy across six categories of interaction rituals: the identity of leaders, gestural, spatial–physical, task-embedded, linguistic, and communication rules. I also outline several directions for future research.

### **Recent Updates: Nomination for the Young Scholar Award**

Prof. Seanon Wong had been nominated for the Young Scholar Award (Diplomatic Studies Section) of the International Studies Association. The award recognizes scholars whose research demonstrates the potential to advance the study of diplomacy. Since the results will be announced early 2021, let’s all stay tuned to it.



**Professor Seanon Wong Si Lon**  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Government and  
Public Administration, CUHK



**Professor Li Lianjiang**  
Professor  
Department of Government and  
Public Administration, CUHK

(Photo credit to [CUHK UPDATES](#))

O’Brien, K. J., Li, L. and Liu, M., (2020). Bureaucrat-Assisted Contention in China, *Mobilization*, Vol. 25(S1), pp. 661–674.

### **Recent Updates: Interview by the CUHK UPDATES**

Prof. Li Lianjiang has the honour to be interviewed by the CUHK UPDATES recently, in which he shared his story from his childhood to presently being a professor in the Department of Government and Public Administration. The content of the interview is now placed on “Popular Stories” on the webpage of CUHK UPDATES

In the interview, Prof. Li shared some of the unforgettable moments in his life. Born as a peasant in China in the early sixties, Prof. Li had a hard time during childhood, and reading has since then become his hobby. In 1978, he gained the ticket to study philosophy at Nankai University at the age of 14, a new path for his life was then struck out. He still remembered how much hard work he had paid from being a teenager who knew virtually nothing about ABC in year 1, to the one with the highest proficiency in English among all other classmates in year 3.

In 1990, Prof. Li headed to the US to read politics at The Ohio State University. Later, he met his teacher Kevin O’Brien who then become his supervisor of doctoral research. In 2006, the two published their co-authored *Rightful Resistance in Rural China*.

“Writing is an invariably frustrating exercise—you always need to surpass yourself. A scholar is not to repeat his own words. A viewpoint can only be expressed once, and every time you need to outlast your previous selves. In this eternal loop, you get a sense that you are not intelligent enough, feeling invariably helpless and hopeless. This is the toughest bit about academic work.” In review of his life in the academia, the honest scholar made the remarks. He also lives up to what he claims.

Please click [HERE](#) for the full interview “One Heart, One Way” of Prof. Li Lianjiang from CUHK UPDATES



# STAR RESEARCHERS

1. Wu, R., Lo, C.W.H. and Liu, N. (2020). Legal Professionalism and the Ethical Challenge for Legal Education: Insights from a Comparative Study of Future Lawyers in Greater China, *The China Quarterly*.

2. Lo, C.W.H., Liu, N., Pang, X. and Li, P.H.Y. (2020). Unpacking the Complexity of Environmental Regulatory Governance in a Globalizing World: A Critical Review for Research Agenda Setting. *Journal of Environmental Policy and Planning*. Vol. 22(5), pp.594-607.

**Abstract:** There has been growing complexity in the study of environmental regulatory governance. In terms of regulatory approaches, the focus of national styles has gradually shifted to the local level, down to street-level regulators. As for compliance strategies, regulated entities, particularly enterprises, have moved their strategies from the evasion-compliance dichotomy to more progressive ones that are beyond compliance. As environmental watchdogs on behalf of civil society, ENGOs, particularly those in developing and non-democratic political settings, have increasingly found more space for strategizing their active efforts to monitor enforcement agencies and polluting enterprises in the regulatory process. The spilling of regulatory regimes into developing countries has led to an urgent need for regulatory studies in such nations, with a call for new theoretical formulations that are capable of explaining regulatory governance in those countries. Research methodologies adopted have become increasingly sophisticated, moving from using a single method to using mixed methods by integrating qualitative and quantitative ones, with longitudinal studies and panel data analysis as the recent trends. This study aspires to perform a critical review of the existing body of literature on environmental regulatory governance in these major aspects as the basis for a research agenda setting.

3. Min, S., Kim, N. and Lo, C.W.H. (2020). CSR Drivers for Primary vs. Secondary Stakeholders: Evidence from Hong Kong, *Journal of Asian Business Studies*. Vol. 14(3), pp. 399-419.

## **Recent Updates: Introduction of HKBSI and GBABSI results**

The Centre of Business Sustainability (CBS), is a joint setup by the Department of Government and Public Administration together with the Department of Management, has in August 2020 announced the results of the 5<sup>th</sup> Hong Kong Business Sustainability Index (HKBSI) and launched the 1<sup>st</sup> Greater Bay Area Business Sustainability Index (GBABSI).

The HKBSI is aimed at charting the ongoing development and performance of Hang Seng Index constituent companies on business sustainability. Compared to the results of the 4<sup>th</sup> HKBSI released last year, the overall average score of the 50 Hang Seng Index constituent companies as at 30 July 2019 in the 5<sup>th</sup> HKBSI was 57.54 (out of 100 points), up by 2.73 percent, whereas the performance of the top 20 companies remained stable with a slight increase of 1.93 percent.

As for GBABSI, the performance gap between the top 20 GBABSI companies and the rest was pronounced. The average score of the top 20 companies was 76.64 points and that of the bottom 20 companies was 23.81 points. 43 out of 67 GBABSI companies (64%) scored less than 50 points. In relation to Hong Kong based and non-Hong Kong based GBABSI companies, the performance gap between them was also wide with an average score of 54.80 points and 36.12 points respectively.



**Professor Carlos Lo Wing Hung**

**Department Head, Professor  
Department of Government and  
Public Administration, CUHK**

**Director  
The Centre for Business Sustainability,  
CUHK**



# STAR RESEARCHERS

**Professor Chow Po Chung**

**Associate Professor**

**Department of Government and Public Administration,  
CUHK**

Congratulations to Professor Chow Po Chung, for receiving 13th Hong Kong Book Prize for Our Golden Times 《我們的黃金時代》, 2019. The book was selected by the professional panel and the votes from the readers as one of Best 9 Books in Chinese that were published in 2019.

Please click [HERE](#) for more information about 13th Hong Kong Book Prize and [HERE](#) for an interview of the sharing from Professor Chow.

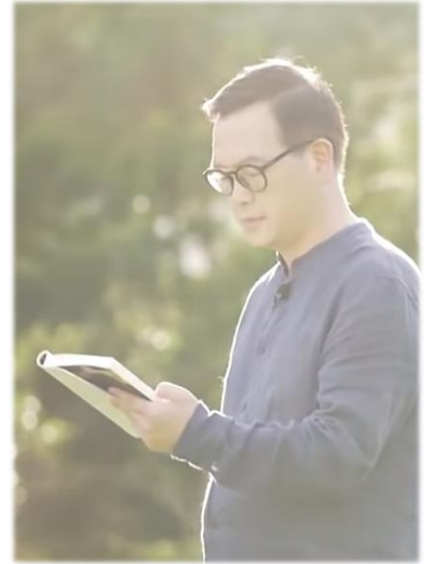


Photo credit to RTHK

「香港書獎：第二集：閱讀之必要」

**Dr. James F. Downes**

**Lecturer**

**Head of Admissions and Publicity Panel,  
Department of Government and Public  
Administration, CUHK**

Bruno, V.A. J.F. Downes. (2020). "The (Temporary) Fall of the Populist Radical Right in European Politics?" Stuttgart, ibidem. In: Radical Right-Wing Responses to COVID-19 (Hannover: Ibidem/Columbia University Press, 2020).

Downes, J.F. (2020). "How the far right took over the mainstream." Countering the Radical Right Series. openDemocracy.

**Mr. Ivan Choy Chi Keung**

**Senior Lecturer**

**Department of Government  
and Public Administration,  
CUHK**

蔡子強，《大人們的餐桌·中華篇：從民初到二十一世紀，22位牽動華人政局的政治人物飲食軼事》，時報出版，2019

**Professor Ma Ngok**

**Associate Professor**

**Department of Government and  
Public Administration,  
CUHK**

馬嶽，《反抗的共同體：二〇一九香港反送中運動》，左岸文化，2020



Photo credit to 時報出版



Photo credit to 左岸文化

# GRANT UPDATES

## Research Grants 2020/21:

Our faculty members are committed to research excellence across the discipline of political science. Three of our renowned colleagues have recently been awarded prestigious and large-scale research grants to conduct their high impact research. The funding results in 2020-21 are outlined below:

**Professor Chen Xi**  
**Associate Professor**  
**Department of Government and Public Administration, CUHK**

Project Title: Weeds and Flowers: State and Social Organizations under Xi Jinping

General Research Fund,  
Hong Kong Research Grants Council



**Professor Li Lianjiang**  
**Professor**  
**Department of Government and Public Administration, CUHK**

Project Title: Reassessing Trust in Government, Support for Democracy and Rights Consciousness in Contemporary China: A Machine Learning Approach

General Research Fund,  
Hong Kong Research Grants Council

**Professor William Smith**  
**Associate Professor**  
**Department of Government and Public Administration, CUHK**

Project Title: Law and Disorder: The Ethics of Protest Policing

General Research Fund,  
Hong Kong Research Grants Council



# TEACHING CORNER: SHARING FROM PROFESSOR TSAO KING KWUN

**Professor Tsao King Kwun**

**Adjunct Associate Professor / Part-time Lecturer**

**Department of Government and Public Administration, CUHK**

**“Education as a Mission of the Conscience”<sup>1</sup>—Some thoughts on teaching**

After working for 25 years at the Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK or the University), I retired from the Department of Government and Public Administration (GPA Department) in 2014. Since then, I have been teaching part-time. When I joined CUHK in 1989, my duties were to teach and perform administrative duties, as assigned by the Department Head, plus in some lesser measure to do research in my field.

Gradually, the University came to put more emphasis on research, so that each of these dimensions of performance--teaching, performing administrative duties, and doing research--were emphasized equally. Further shifts over the years, in response to changes in the landscape of global higher education, have now taken place, and the focus is now very decidedly on research.

The shift to a primary focus on research has been essential in order for the University to compete with other institutions for funding and rankings, locally, regionally, and globally as well. I have nothing to add on this, as the crucial mission for a research university is to engage in cutting-edge research to generate new knowledge, raise its profile and increase its impacts internationally.

In these comments, I would like to say something on teaching instead.

As a result of the focus on the primacy and importance of research, it is rational and understandable for colleagues to pay less attention to teaching and services. After all, publication records offer support for colleagues' applications for tenure-tracked positions, enhance prospects for promotions and salary increases, and even help one to change jobs and move to more prestigious institutions. Thus, colleagues pay less attention to teaching and ignore many service-related tasks.

<sup>1</sup> By Ho Hsiu-hwang, *The Humanities Bulletin*, Vol. 4, Hong Kong: Chinese University of Hong Kong, December 1995. Translated by Kwok-kan Tam and A.T.L. Parkin, with Lidi Wang, from the Chinese version 〈教育畢竟仍是種良心事業〉, in *Teaching and Learning in The Chinese University of Hong Kong* 1 (1 May 1995): 2.

<http://humanum.arts.cuhk.edu.hk/~hhho/humanmission.htm>

The Chinese version can be found: 何秀煌著 <<從通識教育的觀點看—文明教育和人性教育的反思>> 台北:東大圖書股份有限公司。1998年5月初版

<http://humanum.arts.cuhk.edu.hk/~hhho/geconscience.htm>





Consequently, there is less time spent with students--no office hours, less curriculum-related advice given, and no time devoted to the welfare of the students. In addition, class sizes are larger, and the employment of many non-tenured young teachers has proliferated, most of them teaching many courses per year. All these developments have made teaching a secondary and a less prestigious task in most of the research-oriented universities. This has happened to us too.

Surely, time has changed dramatically about the way how we educate our students. Professor Ho Hsiu-hwang, 何秀煌, my teacher at the University, called education “a Mission of the Conscience” “教育畢竟仍是種良心事業”. Let me quote:

“Today, it is common to find education politicized, industrialized, and commercialized. In its worst form, education is being put on show as if for a beauty contest. We care for little more than outward appearances.”<sup>2</sup>

What Professor Ho stated has two important components and they are still relevant today. The first is external: the forces of politics (writ large or small), industrialization, commercialization. The second is internal: the core values of teaching, values that are central to the care that teachers and scholars devote to their work and their students. Let me go through and elaborate these two significances.

### A

First, it is undoubtedly the case that the external forces of politicization, industrialization, and commercialization, as characterized by Professor Ho, have been shaping and moulding universities for centuries. Surely, the university does not exist in a vacuum: Its fabric has been interwoven with external contexts and outside forces from the beginning. Nowadays, these external forces are vividly witnessed by the forces of globalization (or anti-globalization in the most recent form) and internationalization.

The consequences are mixed. They include rising stress on brand recognition; fierce competition for staff, students, and funding; and greater focus on global rankings, among many others. The most significant result, I think, is that most of the academic indicators have been dictated by the dominant kingdom of economics, computer science, mathematics, and statistics. All of these apply quantitative measures to assess most, if not all, measures of performances. Results are boiled down to a digital number to gauge and judge the activities and performance of colleagues, without paying due attention to the qualitative and substantive differences of the subject matters and issues involved.

As for the issue of politicization--whether in response to pressures from political parties, concerned groups, individuals, and other organizations, or otherwise--it has become more severe today. Sometimes openly, sometimes subtly, these pressures have influenced and impacted our autonomy and independence at the university level. Politicization on the campus has become a norm rather than an exception.

I am nostalgic about, and have fond memories of, our University life in the 1990s, when GPA Department could offer an environment for the coexistence of many different types of good-quality students. Some of them hoped to become professors and teachers; some wanted to become government officers in administrative departments and the like; some aspired to be political activists; others wanted to be successful business persons; and .....This kind of inclusion, diversity, tolerance and respect for different political views is all gone these days! Sadly!

With the encroachment of the Covid-19 pandemic, changes have come in the way we educate our future generations. Zoom teaching has become the only way to teach on campus, and this is novel. To the enthusiastic supporters of Zoom teaching, this method creates many more opportunities than challenges. It is the e-learning technique that can accommodate unlimited enrollments; it is unconfined by geography; the promises are bountiful.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid., In Chinese, “現在我們普遍見到的現象是: 教育政治化, 教育工業化, 教育商業化。最不堪的是教育「選美」化。我們注重表面工作”

For me, I am still learning this newly developed trade, along with its nitty-gritty techniques. Even more important, this new way of teaching brings us to contemplate the second component of Professor Ho's statement: Will Zoom teaching be compatible with the ideals of teaching, either in the West or in the Chinese tradition?

## **B**

Professor Ho's concern is about the Western tradition of liberal teaching, which is at stake centrally in the tradition's quest for intellectual discussion and understanding. It is especially important in the field of humanities and social sciences. The ideal is a small class size, with a devoted teacher who can stimulate students' learning. The format is an old-style "chalk and talk" one, similar to the Socratic mode of teaching I experienced as a student at the University of Chicago. Liberal education, pro-active discussions and interactive modes of teaching have suffered as the focus on research has overtaken university life. There are fewer dialogues and fewer arguments in class. Without face-to-face personal contact with students, how are we to educate our students in a more direct and personal way? As Professor Ho suggests:

"Warning signs have already appeared. How can we expect education to forge good faith and true feelings between the educator and the educated, when it is not guided by conscience, love, or moral aspirations?"<sup>3</sup>

Yes, we may become technicians to offer skills and knowledge, but that is not what teaching means in Professor Ho's sense.

Perhaps Professor Ho's idea is more related to the Chinese tradition and ideals of what it means to be a teacher. It is said: "經師易遇, 人師難遭" (*Jingshi Yiyu, Renshi Nanzao*) or "經師易得, 人師難求". (*Jingshi Yide, Renshi Nanqiu*) "It's easier to get a teacher of classics than a teacher of man".

Definitely, it is easy to find a teacher with skills who knows all the classics in the traditional sense. However, it is difficult to find a teacher who can set the right example, who can represent and instill the virtues that students need to follow and learn.

The cultivation of good virtues and of how to be a good person has been the Chinese tradition: The teacher performs an exemplary role. Without having personal, direct, and face-to-face contact, it is extremely difficult to carry out this kind of teaching, and to nurture, cultivate, and educate our students in both traditions. Regardless of the differences between traditions in the East and in the West, I think the two are equivalent in asking teachers to be passionate, caring, involved, and engaged, where students can follow and learn. These qualities matter a lot.

In short, Professor Ho's ideas are still relevant and important today. External forces are always present, appearing here and there to impact and change our teaching, research and governance practices at the university level. The fine qualities of having a personal, direct, and qualitative education are still our mission to strive for, both in the West and in the East.

Perhaps it is time for us to consider and think about our mission amid this Covid-19 pandemic crisis, as our common human destiny urges us to do.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid., In Chinese, "當教育的事業不再以良心為指引, 不再用感情去投入, 不再以道德為理想的時候, 教的人和受教的人之間怎能心心相傳, 怎能情情相涵?"



# GPAD IN THE NEWS

**Dr. James F. Downes**

Is COVID-19 Sparking A Temporary Fall of The Radical Right in Europe?. CARR. 2020-5-20

Ideological Ambiguity, Issue Blurring & Party Dissent: The Electoral Decline of the Populist Italian Five Star Movement. CARR. 2020-7-6

Disunity within the Ranks? Party Expulsions in the European Radical Right: 2000–2020. CARR. 2020-8-28

How the far right took over the mainstream. openDemocracy. 2020-9-24

Disunity within the ranks? Party expulsions in the European Far-Right: 2000-2020. CeRSP (with Felix Wiebrecht, Edward K.F. Chan, Anna Kam)

**Selected interviews:**

Hard Brexit more damaging for UK than EU. CNBC. 2020-6-24

Brussels caught 'copying' Boris' slogans as EU leadership descends into Brexit infighting. CNBC. 2020-6-25



**Dr. James F. Downes**

Lecturer

Head of Admissions and Publicity Panel,  
Department of Government and Public  
Administration, CUHK



**Professor Chow Po Chung**

Associate Professor

Department of Government and Public Administration, CUHK

「周保松：公共生活的意義」，《端傳媒》，2020年9月27日

「五夜講場 - 哲學有偈傾 2020：香港哲學家：周保松」，香港電台，2020年11月16日

「錢永祥、劉擎、周濂、周保松：自由主義與愛國主義」，《端傳媒》，2020年7月4日

**Dr. Nelson Lee Ka Kiu**

Lecturer

Department of Government and Public Administration, CUHK

「世界城市與國家領土性--香港，面對著怎樣的中國？」，《端傳媒》，2019年12月2日

深入訪問：「香港國安法通過，其實就是衝著美國來？川普會出什麼牌？」，《天下雜誌》（臺灣），2020年5月28日

深入訪問：「香港的第二次國際關鍵時刻？中美談判桌上的攪炒博弈戰」，《端傳媒》，2020年6月30日





# GPAD IN THE NEWS

「自由專制破局後的破局」，《明報》，2020年11月20日  
「事先張揚的選舉操控」，《明報》，2020年10月23日  
「又再重讀《無權力者的力量》」，《明報》，2020年9月8日  
「有關初選的幾點思考」，《明報》，2020年7月24日

專訪「「35+」之後會點？馬嶽：射咗波先諗係咪VAR啦！」，《香港獨立媒體》，2020年4月18日

## Selected interviews:

「議會倘無辯論 外界關注勢減」，《信報》，2020年11月10日  
「選管會：境外投票須有監察機制 馬嶽：如有賄選如何內地執法？建制批「不作為」」，《明報》，2020年10月13日  
「學者倡推全港民調化解爭議」，《香港蘋果日報》，2020年8月20日  
「本土派大捷 黃碧雲料「出局」 胡志偉涂謹申末位入閘 馬嶽：選民睇人唔睇黨」，《明報》，2020年7月14日

「美國大選啟示錄：What democracy is ..... and is not」，《明報》，2020年11月11日

「韓戰不單救了台灣，更救了蔣介石」，《明報》，2020年10月28日  
「《奪冠》：大格局難變；小格局內勉力而為」，《明報》，2020年10月21日  
「押後施政報告：「等埋阿爺」？」，《明報》，2020年10月14日  
「《新聞守護者》：大饑荒裏兩個記者的不同抉擇」，《明報》，2020年10月7日  
「木蘭非漢人？」，《明報》，2020年9月23日  
「歷史的風景●西安事變@華清池 中共滲透何其厲害」，《蘋果日報》，2020年9月22日  
「「說不出的未來」：「送走」會成「新常態」嗎？」，《明報》，2020年9月16日

「萬木草堂 康有為的帝師夢話」，《蘋果日報》，2020年9月15日  
「「我是台灣人」：「戰狼」禍害一葉知秋」，《明報》，2020年9月9日  
「總辭或反造就「萬年議會」」，《明報》，2020年9月9日  
「東鄉平八郎@三笠號 「已經退無可退」」，《蘋果日報》，2020年9月1日  
「從龍有逆鱗 到指鹿為馬」，《明報》，2020年9月2日  
「為何我不贊成總辭 兼答客問」，《明報》，2020年8月26日  
「當美國遇上首個政治和意識形態南轅北轍，經濟實力卻旗鼓相當的對手」，《明報》，2020年8月19日  
「探監記」，《明報》，2020年8月14日  
「【歷史的風景】洪秀全故居 思覺失調者的夢囈」，《蘋果日報》，2020年7月21日  
「還能留住不變的幸福嗎？」，《明報》，2020年6月10日



**Prof. Ma Ngok**  
Associate Professor  
Department of Government and  
Public Administration, CUHK



**Mr. Ivan Choy Chi Keung**  
Senior Lecturer  
Department of Government and  
Public Administration, CUHK

# POSTGRADUATE UPDATES: STAR POSTGRADUATE RESEARCHERS

**Mr. Cai Xiang**

**PhD Graduate of 2020,**

**Department of Government and Public Administration, CUHK**

## **Conference Presentation:**

National PhD Student Forum on Public Law: "Excellence Award of the 14th National PhD Student Forum on Public Law"

Title: From 'One-sided Compound' Anti-corruption Structure to a Merged Special Agency: The Institutionalization of a Merged Party-state Revealed by the Establishment of National Supervisory Committee

Abstract: The operation of Chinese political system in reality has consistently been in a state of dual orders, which consists of law and extra-law. This type of coexistence of orders is precisely depicted by the paradigm of Guerrilla Policy. When it comes into the practice of anti-corruption, it forms a 'one-sided compound' structure, consisting of party discipline inspection and state procuratorate, which can be well revealed by the practice of Shuanggui. By reforming the formal institutions to meet the reasonable investigation needs, the establishment of National Supervisory Commission has changed this situation. Meanwhile, the unification of the dual orders of anti-corruption also signals Xi and CCP's vision of 'rule of law', namely the institutionalization of a merged party-state, that distinguishes itself from the traditional institutionalization theory assuming the judicial independence and Guerrilla Work Style theory.

**Mr. Zhang Zhiyuan**

**PhD Year 3 Student**

**Department of Government and Public Administration, CUHK**

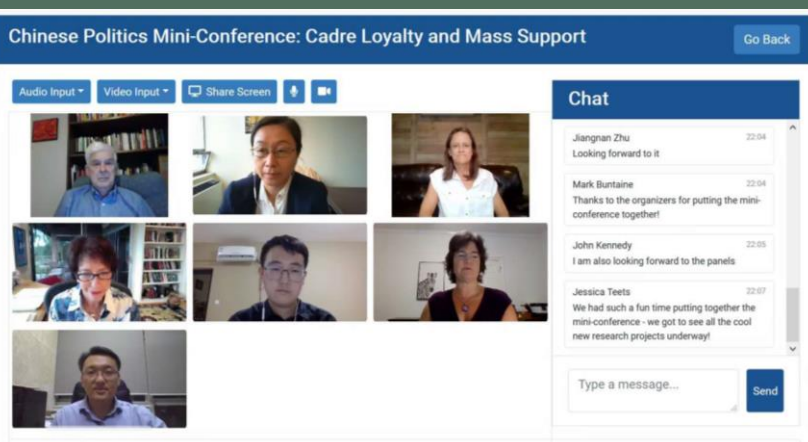
## **Publication:**

Jiang, J., Shao, Z., and Zhang, Z., (forthcoming). The Price of Probity: Anticorruption and Adverse Selection in the Chinese Bureaucracy, *British Journal of Political Science*.

Abstract: Fighting corruption is often seen as a crucial step toward building better institutions, but how it affects political selection remains less well understood. We argue that in systems where corruption functions as an informal incentive for government to attract talent, anticorruption initiatives that curb rent-seeking opportunities may unintentionally weaken both the quality and the representativeness of the bureaucracy. We test this argument in China using an original nationwide survey of government officials and an identification strategy that exploits exogenous variations in enforcement levels created by the recent anticorruption campaign. We find that intensified enforcement has generated two potentially negative selection effects: a deterrence effect that lowered the average ability of newly recruited bureaucrats, and a compositional effect that discouraged the entry of lower-class individuals in favor of those who are affluent and well connected. These findings highlight important hidden human capital costs of corruption elimination in developing countries.

## **Conference Presentation:**

Zhang, Z., (2020). The Economic Origin of 'Loyal Opposition': Homeownership and Political Participation in China. Presented at 2020 APSA Annual Conference.



**Mr. Zhang Zhiyuan (in the middle of the photo)**

# POSTGRADUATE UPDATES: STAR POSTGRADUATE RESEARCHERS

**Mr. Wan Kin Man**

**Mphil Continuing Student**

**Department of Government and Public Administration, CUHK**

**Publication:**

1. Wan, K. M., Ho, L. K. K., Wong, N. W., & Chiu, A. (2020). Fighting COVID-19 in Hong Kong: The effects of community and social mobilization, *World Development*, Vol. 134, 105055.

**Abstract:** The globalized world economy has been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic since early February 2020. In the midst of this global public health crisis, a prompt review of the counterinsurgencies that have occurred in different jurisdictions is helpful. This article examines the experience of Hong Kong (HKSAR), which successfully limited its number of confirmed cases to approximately 1100 until early June 2020. Considering the limited actions that the government has taken against the pandemic, we emphasize the prominent role of Hong Kong's civil society through highlighting the strong and spontaneous mobilization of its local communities originating from their experiences during the SARS outbreak in 2003 and the social unrest in 2019, as well as their doubts regarding the pandemic assessments and recommendations of the HKSAR and WHO authorities. This article suggests that the influence of civil society should not be overlooked in the context of pandemic management.

2. Wan, K. M., Ng, K. U., & Lin, T. H. (2020). The Political Economy of Football: Democracy, Income Inequality, and Men's National Football Performance. *Social Indicators Research*, Vol. 151, pp.981–1013.

**Abstract:** The reasons why some countries outperform others in international football games warrant exploration. In this article, we argue that the synergy of economic development, democratic experience, football association duration, and low income inequality improves the performance of men's national football teams. Contemporary professional football is a typical "club good" that encourages members to act collectively by watching games, organizing associations, and investing in talent and capital for team success. We hypothesize that economic development sustains professional football, particularly in democratic regimes that allow collective action through football associations. Wealthy democracies most effectively shape institutional incentives that improve the transparency, fairness, and competitiveness of leagues and contribute to their prosperity, benefiting the talent pool for national football teams. In addition, income inequality excludes the talents from the poor and reduces national football performance. We used panel data from 119 countries for the period from 1999 to 2014 as well as fixed-effects models to verify our hypotheses. The result confirms that democracy improves national football performance. During this period, for instance, Panama, a young democracy, got 13.2% increase in estimated In FIFA scores. By contrast, Thailand, becoming autocracy in 2007, experienced 12.6% decrease in estimated In FIFA scores. Democracy stock also moderated the effects of a long football association history to improve national football performance. In addition, reduced income inequality increased performance.

**Conference Presentation:**

Jiang, J., & Wan, K. M. (2020). Liberal Democracy and Education-Based Inequality in the Post-Cold War Era. Presented at 2020 APSA Annual Conference. (Equal contribution)

**Mr. Yang Kai**

**PhD Year 2 Student**

**Department of Government and Public Administration, CUHK**

He has won the **Ernst March Grant - Eurasia-Pacific Uninet** to support a research and will stay in Austria. He will be based at the Department of Asian Studies at the University of Vienna from December 2020 until August 2021.

**Mr. Zhang Zheng**

**PhD Year 2 Student**

**Department of Government and Public Administration, CUHK**

Zhang, Z., (2020). Local Party Building and Citizen's Propensity for Membership in Party-State System. Presented at 2020 HKPSA Annual Conference.

**Miss Zheng Ruoting**

**PhD Continuing Student**

**Department of Government and Public Administration, CUHK**

She has won the Fulbright Scholarship in 2019-2020 to support research activities.





# POSTGRADUATE UPDATES: STAR POSTGRADUATE RESEARCHERS

**Mr. Wang Hao**

**PhD Year 1 Student**

**Department of Government and Public Administration, CUHK**

**Publication:**

Tang, H., Wang, H. (2020), Strong Political Party and Its Social Basis: The Mechanism Analysis of the Chinese Communist Party Taking Root in Beijing, 1949–1952. *Chinese Political Science Review*, Vol. 5, pp.457–487

Abstract: Based on the archival research, the authors take the experience of Chinese Communist Party (CCP) in urban governance (1949–1952) as the subject of research and select the city of Beijing as its case study. Focusing on the process of the CCP taking root in Beijing, the authors attempt to answer the following question: how the CCP achieved effective governance and orderly construction in the urban society where its power foundation was very weak at that time? The historical archives indicate that the CCP’s process of taking root in the city from 1949 to 1952 encompasses three mechanisms: (1) the Growing and Infiltrating Mechanism; (2) the Movement Embedding Mechanism; (3) the Interest Integrating Mechanism. Based on the analysis of those mechanisms and utilizing a Party-center perspective, this article draws inspiration from historical archives and argues that the CCP is a Strong Political Party. And the authors conclude that the sufficient condition for a Strong Political Party lies in three facets: (1) strong organizational network; (2) strong social mobilization; (3) strong social support. Investigating the CCP’s process of taking root in Beijing from 1949 to 1952 can help us to re-examine the governing logic of the CCP and reflect its uniqueness—maintaining independent superpower and gaining a consolidated social basis. This paper may provide a new interpretation of how the CCP could take root in Beijing, which may enrich our understanding of the CCP’s nature.

## **Postgraduate Online Seminar: Welcoming Meeting and Research Experience Sharing**

As a fresh Ph.D. student in GPA of CUHK, I am honored to be invited to write a piece of short sharing about the postgraduate online seminar regarding welcoming meeting and research experience sharing for the Biannual Newsletter of Sept 2020.

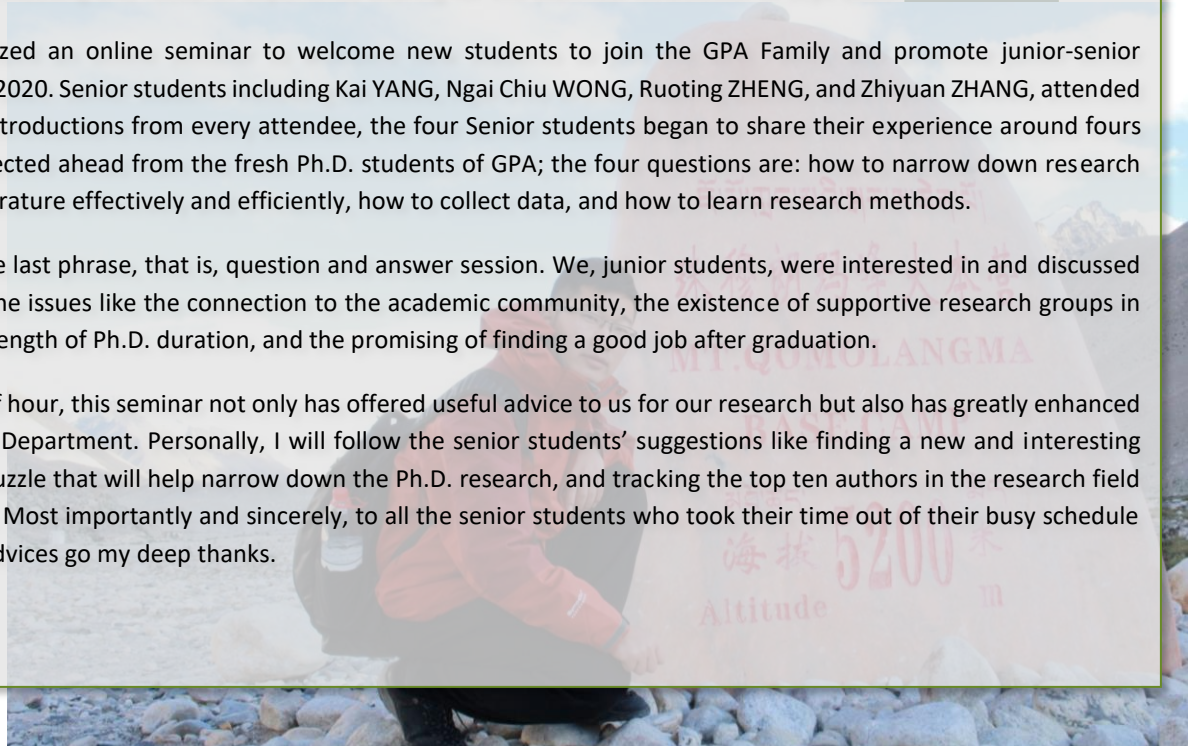
Postgraduate students organized an online seminar to welcome new students to join the GPA Family and promote junior-senior communication on August 28, 2020. Senior students including Kai YANG, Ngai Chiu WONG, Ruoting ZHENG, and Zhiyuan ZHANG, attended the seminar. After brief self-introductions from every attendee, the four Senior students began to share their experience around four questions that have been collected ahead from the fresh Ph.D. students of GPA; the four questions are: how to narrow down research scope, how to read English literature effectively and efficiently, how to collect data, and how to learn research methods.

Then, the meeting reached the last phrase, that is, question and answer session. We, junior students, were interested in and discussed with the senior cohorts with the issues like the connection to the academic community, the existence of supportive research groups in the Department, the average length of Ph.D. duration, and the promising of finding a good job after graduation.

Overall, lasted for one and half hour, this seminar not only has offered useful advice to us for our research but also has greatly enhanced our sense of belonging in our Department. Personally, I will follow the senior students’ suggestions like finding a new and interesting phenomenon to find a good puzzle that will help narrow down the Ph.D. research, and tracking the top ten authors in the research field of social instability, and so on. Most importantly and sincerely, to all the senior students who took their time out of their busy schedule to provide useful and timely advices go my deep thanks.

WANG Hao

Sep. 1, 2020



# MASTER PROGRAMME UPDATES: MPUP and GPGC

## Alumni Updates



### **MSSc Programme in Public Policy (MPUP)**

**Mr. Frasier Fong, Class of 2020**

**Environmental Protection Officer, Environmental Protection Department, HKSAR Government**

As an interdisciplinary programme, MPUP equips me with comprehensive knowledge and necessary skills relating to major areas covering public policy research, economy, finance, environment and politics, which not only benefit my personal development but also constitute a solid foundation for my career. The programme broadens my understanding of policy issues and enables me to view public policies, ranging from major government policies to day-to-day operational decisions, from new angles and in different ways. It allows me to formulate new ideas and insights into different policy areas, which is useful to my role as a civil servant. Moreover, during my studies, I deeply enjoyed the opportunity to meet fellow students from a diverse range of backgrounds and experience. The MPUP indeed provides valuable and practical skills to students and leads to a wide range of career options in the public and private sectors. I therefore highly recommend this programme to those who are interested in public policy and would like to pursue a career development in this field.

### **MSSc Programme in Public Policy (MPUP)**

**Miss Son YeonJi, Class of 2020**

**Researcher, Political Affairs and Economy Section, Consulate General of the Republic of Korea in Hong Kong**

As an international student in the programme, MPUP certainly provided me a comprehensive knowledge about public policy in general, as well as a helpful guideline in understanding public policy in Hong Kong. This is especially a plus for my career since I can now apply the theory and techniques obtained to conduct in-depth research about political and economic affairs of Hong Kong. The programme also granted me an opportunity to participate in academic seminars and field trips which motivated me to view issues from different perspectives of multi-stakeholders and engage in critical thinking for policy-making. Most of all, MPUP was a valuable experience to build personal networks with students from different walks of life and interdisciplinary career field.



### **MSSc Programme in Government and Politics (Greater China)**

**Miss Feng Xuefei, Class of 2019**

**Project Manager, China Development Bank (Hunan Branch)**

GPGC is an original and pioneering programme. What makes it special is that it focuses on the crucial and often controversial issues in the socio-political developments of Mainland China, Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan. Although the one-year study period is short, the quality and quantity of courses offered by GPGC are very substantial, which fully enhanced my political sensitivity and my understanding of the political pattern of East Asia. I like the inclusive and harmonious academic atmosphere of GPGC, which gives me an opportunity to compare the Chinese political system with those of western societies from a shaper and more open perspective. I am sure that the start of my career in China Development Bank has benefited greatly from my studies in GPGC.

The excellent alumni resources of GPGC is also worth mentioning. Through Alumni Day and its career sharing sessions, I fully benefited from the social resources, contacts and the latest job information brought by outstanding alumni, and eventually developed my own map of career development.



# MASTER PROGRAMME UPDATES: MPUP and GPGC

## Alumni Updates

### **MSSc Programme in Government and Politics (Greater China)**

**Mr. Philip Mulder, Class of 2019**

**Director of Career and College Counseling, Nord Anglia School Foshan**

With 8 years of work experience before applying for this Master's, I was the non-traditional US Citizen in the 2018 /2019 cohort. Being unique in the class, I was healthily challenged in multiple ways – from critically analyzing my country's own policies using an Asian lens to realizing my thinking patterns contrasted from my younger peers, allowing me to fill the elderly brother role within the class. It refreshed my approach to learning and helped me critically analyze my own perspective while sharpening my thinking by incorporating more complexity into my research to encompass Asian history, mindsets, and public policy institutions and processes. The professors were excellent guides in helping us think comprehensively and concisely as my classmates mastered the content and applied it through rigorous research and professional written work.

Studying about Greater China's various governmental policies and institutional processes was a linguistic challenge as several courses were in Mandarin Chinese, but in the end, there is no better place to study the region than at CUHK which lies at the heart of Greater China itself.

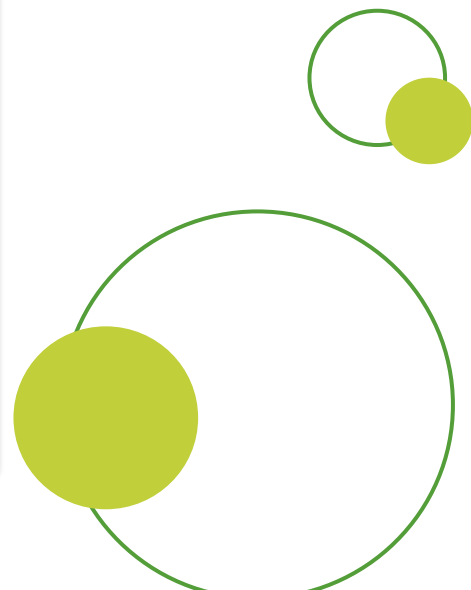


## Admission Scholarship and Student Profile

For the Admission Scholarship for 2020 entry, 8 newly-admitted students with remarkable academic achievements and/or impressive working experience are awarded, namely Yuen Pui Ue, Li Yunran, Pang Chong Wing and Cheung Siu Chung from MPUP and Cao Yang, Chang Jie, Wang Ziyi and Wong Sze-wai from GPGC.

For 2020 entry, MPUP has admitted around 34 full-time and 26 part-time students, and GPGC has admitted 37 full-time and 12 part-time students with a good mix of background. Most newly admitted full-time students came from major local universities and "Double First Class" universities in mainland China. As for the part-time new students, they are working in various fields, such as government, disciplinary forces, banks, NGOs and educational institutions.

We wish all new students a fruitful year ahead in both programmes.





# MASTER PROGRAMME UPDATES: MPUP and GPGC

## Highlights of Programme Activities

### Orientation for New Students via Zoom – MPUP and GPGC, 29 August 2020 (Saturday)

GPGC and MPUP welcomed new students of the 2020 entry at two respective orientation sessions conducted via Zoom on 29 August 2020, which furnished students with important programme information and let them meet the course teachers and their fellow classmates online.

At the MPUP session, teachers and students were assigned into breakout rooms to mingle and get to know each other before the start of the academic year.

At the GPGC session, while Professor Zhan Jing, Professor Qin Hui, Professor Tsao King Kwun and Professor Chow Po Chung attended the real time online gathering and gave welcoming speeches, Professor Michel Bonnin sent his warm remarks to the students from Paris via a prerecorded video.

Despite the fact that the sessions were organized online via Zoom due to the alarming surge of COVID-19 in Hong Kong and other parts of the world, students were attentive and grasped the opportunity to exchange ideas with teachers.



GPGC Orientation for New Students via Zoom

MPUP Orientation for New Students via Zoom

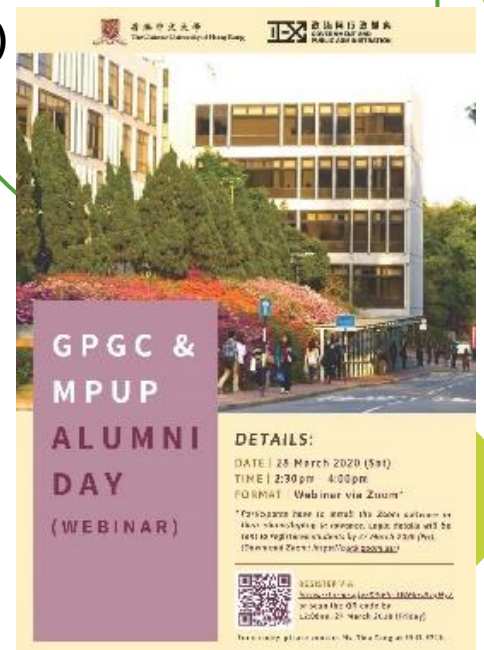


### MPUP and GPGC Alumni Day (Webinar via Zoom), 28 March 2020 (Saturday)

To help students start their career planning and prepare for job search upon graduation, MPUP co-organized the GPGC & MPUP Alumni Day on 28 March 2020 (Sat) with the MSc Programme in Government and Politics (Greater China) (GPGC) of the Department of Government and Public Administration in the form of webinar via Zoom.

Six alumni from the two programmes, namely Ms. Xuefei Feng (GPGC), Ms. Meiyang Jiang (GPGC), Mr. Luyao LIN (GPGC), Ms. Xinchun WU (GPGC), Ms. Hao YAN (GPGC) and Ms. Nicole LIN (MPUP), were invited as guest speakers at the Alumni Day. Each of them offered fruitful and insightful sharing about career planning, job search and tips on preparation for the recruitment process based on their career experience in a variety of sectors, from Finance, Business Administration, Media, NGO to the Government.

Participants appreciated the opportunity to get to know about the career prospects in a wide range of sectors and to have valuable exchange with the alumni during the Q & A session.





# MASTER PROGRAMME UPDATES: MPUP and GPGC

## Staff Updates of Master Programmes

### Staff Updates of MPUP Office

Given the manpower restructuring of the GPA Department, Ms. Christine Wong, has been reassigned to the Department Office to provide administrative support for the Department since May 2020.

Dr. Brenda Liu, the former Programme Manager of the MSSc in Government and Politics (Greater China) (GPGC) has taken over the role to work with Ms. Tina Tang and Ms. Bertha Chung for the administration for both GPGC and MPUP programmes.

Despite the staff movement, the programme office is always ready to provide assistance to students and alumni.

### New Part-time Teacher: Professor Maria Francesch-Huidobro – MPUP5111 Public Policy Process

Professor Francesch-Huidobro is a political scientist with over twenty-five years of academic and professional experience in public policy and environmental, sustainability, climate change and energy security policy analysis. Before joining CUHK, she undertook consultancy (Konrad Adenauer Stiftung, Civic Exchange, Carbon Care Asia, etc) and was professor of political science and public administration at the University of Hong Kong (2005-2008) and City University of Hong Kong (2009-2016). She holds a BSc and MSc in Microbiology (Madrid), a master's in Public Administration (MPA- HKU), and a PhD in Political Science and Public Administration (HKU).

Her work revolves around the processes by which Asian polities manage institutional and policy changes when confronted with new environmental demands, be it geopolitical, socio-economic or technical. Her analysis firmly relies on stakeholders' engagement as a way to ascertain the pros and cons of the policy solutions proposed. She has led numerous publicly and privately funded projects which have resulted, among others, in strategies for carbon reduction implementation and assessment models and enabling low carbon living at district level. Recent projects include studies on the role of cities in climate diplomacy, on low carbon transitions in isolated electricity supply systems in Southeast Asia, and on carbon pricing policies. She is author of *Governance, Politics and the Environment: a Singapore Study* (ISEAS 2008), and co-author of *Governing Climate Change in Chinese Cities* (Routledge 2015). Her work on climate adaptation governance in delta cities has been cited by the IPCC Special Report on 1.5C (2018).



### New Part-time Teacher: Dr. Peter Fong – MPUP5121 Values and Ethics in Public Policy

Dr. Fong is the President of HK Public Administration Association & Editor-in-Chief of *Public Administration & Policy Journal* published by Emerald; He teaches strategic management and supervises DBA students' dissertations of University of Wales. He holds Advisory/Visiting Professorships in Tongji, Tsinghua, Renmin, Tianjin Universities and HK Poly U. He is a fellow of HK Institute of Planners & Planning Institute Australia. He was a Teaching Fellow of Judge Business School, University of Cambridge; Director of EMBA programme, HKU Business School; Associate Professor, Department of Urban Planning, HKU; Executive Vice President of City University of Macao; Head, Centre for China Development, HKU SPACE; Honorary Professor, China Training Centre for Senior Civil Servants in Beijing; Studies Director, Civil Service Training & Development Institute, HKSAR Government; Visiting Scholar, MIT; and Consultants, the World Bank and Delta Asia Bank.

# UNDERGRADUATE UPDATES

## Professor Kuan Hsin Chi Best Thesis Award 2018-19 Sharing from the Awardee: Mr. Ng Yuk Man

### Mr. Ng Yuk Man

Graduate of Undergraduate Programme of 2018-19

Department of Government and Public Administration, CUHK

It is my great pleasure to know my graduation thesis was recognized by the department. I am so grateful for receiving so much support from my teachers and classmates in GPAD during writing my graduation thesis. Firstly, I would like to express my most sincere gratitude to my supervisor, Dr. James Floyd Downes. I believe this thesis could not be completed without his invaluable advice and guidance. A big thanks is given to Professor Landry Pierre for the guidance on the quantitative part of my thesis in the seminar course, GPAD 4080 Political Analysis. My appreciation also goes to Professor Wong Hok-Wui Stan, the principal of HKES for his generosity to share his precious survey data of Hong Kong elections. Besides, I would like to thank two District Councilors, Mr. Poon Chi-Kin Gary and Ms. Ho Hang Mui for accepting my interviews, which gave me great qualitative resources for my thesis. Last but not least, I cannot be more grateful to Prof. Kuan Hsin-chi for this award. This recognition means a lot to me.

Studying GPAD in CUHK is likely the most correct choice in my life. GPAD is like a big family where people with different values and ideas can discuss, debate, and even take action together in a free and harmonious atmosphere. However, white terror recently reigns in Hong Kong, especially in educational sector. Such a free atmosphere is not a constant. Hope our GPAD family can still uphold academic freedom under such difficult circumstance.

My thesis, "Can Constituency Service Foster Democratization? A Case Study of Hong Kong." is a research related to the latest development of Hong Kong democratic movement. It questions the effectiveness of constituency service on strengthening our civil society. Writing before the 2019 Anti-China Extradition Movement, I presented a pessimistic view on the democratization of Hong Kong in my thesis. (Un)fortunately, part of my hypothesis was disproved by the fact that democrats won overwhelmingly in 2019 District Council Election. This shows politics is always full of uncertainty as well as possibilities. So, please, do not lose hope to our land.



Mr. Ng Yuk Man and his supervisor of graduation thesis, Dr. James F. Downes



Mr. Ng Yuk Man was one of the members of the GPA Debate Team



# UNDERGRADUATE UPDATE

## Sharing about the exchange at University of Warwick

**Mr. Ronex Leung Ho Ching**  
**Undergraduate Year 4 Student**  
**Department of Government and Public Administration, CUHK**

In many ways, my experience during the exchange in United Kingdom is profound and unforgettable. So many thanks to the GPAD department for offering me such a precious opportunity to study politics abroad, and to meet wonderful teachers and peers from all over the world. Living and learning at the University of Warwick really enhanced my cultural understandings and expanded my intellectual capabilities. In particular, I was intrigued by the well-established courses of international political economy and war studies. Lecture halls, sports centres, kitchens and common rooms (for most of the time, food and wine are what bring us together) were spaces where interesting encounters and friendships would happen. Apart from study and campus life, travel is definitely another main dish of the whole exchange experience. I was privileged to travel across Europe during my Christmas vacation. Time flies, I still remember vividly the charming landscape and all the nice people I met in Ireland, as well as the strange but alluring Soviet Modernist architecture in Eastern Europe — sweet moments and wonders in the journey which will linger in my heart forever.....



# SHARING ABOUT THE EXCHANGES

## Sharing about the exchange at Waseda University

**Mr. Kwan Wing Sze Eva Carmen**  
**Undergraduate Year 4 Student**  
**Department of Government and Public Administration, CUHK**

Through a joint exchange programme between GPAD and Waseda University, I was given a chance to head to Tokyo for a year-long student exchange at the School of Political Science and Economics, Waseda University.

Studying in one of the largest faculty in Waseda, I had the chance to take various interesting courses concerning multiple Asian Pacific countries in a class with diverging cultural backgrounds. In some lectures, students from different countries would explain some of the domestic policies to give other students some context when discussing specific states. Waseda encourages self-learning which motivated me to read more out of the syllabus.

Apart from the academic exchange, I was also introduced to Japanese and foreign cultures in this international hub. Staying with foreigners in the dorm made me learn more about their stories and native culture, let alone to be exposed to Japanese cuisines and language every day. I also made use of my holidays to travel to other parts of Japan to learn about their local history.

2020 is an unfortunate year when COVID-19 strikes worldwide. This year was particularly difficult for exchange students because we had to make prompt decisions according to how the Hong Kong and Japanese governments responded. I stayed in Japan for the second semester and both the university and the government provided support for foreigners. The (hopefully) once-in-a-lifetime circumstance made me grow a lot as to learn how to cope with matters in a foreign country.

This experience at Waseda University was eye-opening for me. Living in Tokyo is so similar yet unlike to Hong Kong in so many ways, that I did not realise before coming for a year. I am very grateful for the department for giving me this splendid opportunity.





# ADMISSION OF 2020 ENTRY – WELCOME TO GPA!

We are delighted to have around 50 new admitted students from different admission channels in academic year 2020-21.

Due to the situation of COVID-19, for health and safety sake of all new students and staff concerned, the academic counselling session and Orientation for new GPA students had to go online. 42 newly admitted students joined the Academic Counselling Day on 25 August to know more about the academic curriculum, academic honesty, student exchange and related information for your study in CUHK. And our teachers, colleagues and senior students shared the views on adaptation into the university life. Freshmen also joined the 2020 GPAD Orientation Day which was organized by the senior students on 29 August.

We wish the freshmen will enjoy the coming 4-year study at CUHK and GPAD!

## ADMISSION UPDATES – PROMOTION FOR 2020 ENTRY

GPA Department joined and organized a series of events for the promotion for 2020 entry. Due to the situation of COVID-19, all of below events changed to an online mode.

### Promotion events for 2020 Entry

CUHK Thematic Talk Series: Faculty of Social Science

Topic: Strategies for a Successful Interview

19 May 2020 Speaker: Dr. James F. Downes, Lecturer,  
Head of Admissions and PR Committee,  
Department of Government and Public Administration, CUHK

Programme Exploration Day

Topic of Online live session: Introduction of GPA Programme

29 May 2020 Speaker: Professor Ma Ngok, Associate Professor,  
Department of Government and Public Administration, CUHK

SocSci Viewpoint – COVID-19 Talk Series

Topic: The Pandemic and the September Legislative Council Election

5 June 2020 Speaker: Professor Ma Ngok, Associate Professor,  
Department of Government and Public Administration, CUHK

Programme Taster Fair

Topic of Online live session: The Idea of Education at CUHK

5 June 2020 Speaker: Professor Chow Po Chung, Associate Professor,  
Department of Government and Public Administration, CUHK



CUHK Thematic Talk Series: Faculty of Social Science



### Programme Taster Fair

## 中文大學的教育理念

周保松教授

日期: 2020年7月11日(六)

時間: 3 - 4:30pm

報名: <https://bit.ly/2XVrFXW>

報名截止日期: 2020年7月7日(網上會議資料詳情會於截止後以電郵形式傳送)

查詢: 3943 5431 / [jasmineyp@cuhk.edu.hk](mailto:jasmineyp@cuhk.edu.hk)

廣東話主講



Programme Taster Fair



SocSci Viewpoint – COVID-19 Talk Series



# ADMISSION UPDATES – PROMOTION FOR 2021 ENTRY

## CUHK Virtual Information Day for Undergraduate Admissions

In view of the current COVID-19 pandemic, the Information Day for Undergraduate Admissions took place on 10 October 2020 (Saturday) on an online virtual fair platform. The fair enabled real-time online interaction between the host and visitors.

By visiting the virtual booth of the Department of Government and Public Administration, information regarding the undergraduate curriculum, GPA scholarships, exchange and internship programmes, GPA student life were diversely presented by an interactive game, alongside videos and texts.

A number of interactive activities were offered by the GPA Department including 4 admission talks provided by the members of Admission and PR Committee, including Professor Carlos Lo Wing Hung, Professor Chow Po Chung, Prof. Ma Ngok and Dr. James F. Downes. The representatives of student societies in GPA also shared their U-life experience with the over 230 visitors who joined our admission talks.

On that day, 3 sessions of Instagram live 'Q and A in GPA' have been organized by GPA students as well. Visitors could have interesting interaction with our students in the live sessions.



Capture of the admission talks



Sharing from student representatives



Instagram live with GPA Students

## STAFF UPDATES

Professor Jiang Junyan, Assistant Professor, Ms. Sammy Kwan, the Executive Officer and Ms. Mui, the cleaning worker, have left the Department of Government and Public Administration since June 2020.

Professor Jiang has been instrumental to the Department's continued teaching and research success and we wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

We also wish Ms. Kwan the best for her next position and Ms. Mui for an enjoyable retirement life.



Farewell dinner at Chung Chi College Staff Club

# 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 [jasmineyip@cuhk.edu.hk](mailto:jasmineyip@cuhk.edu.hk)

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We're on the web!

See us at:

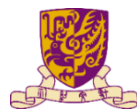
<http://www.gpa.cuhk.edu.hk/>



## GPA Alumni Information Update:

To change your contact details, please fill in the form below.

<https://cloud.itsc.cuhk.edu.hk/webform/view.php?id=5086636>



政治與行政學系  
GOVERNMENT AND  
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

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