

SCIENTIA ILLUMINAT MEDICINAM

# THE HONG KONG COLLEGE OF PATHOLOGISTS

## 香港病理學專科學院

The Hong Kong College of Pathologists, Incorporated in Hong Kong with Limited Liability

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## Message from the President

### Inside this issue:

<i>Message from the President</i>	1
<i>14th TB Teoh Foundation Lecture Announcement</i>	2
<i>Presentation Session for Pathologists in Training</i>	2
<i>Fine Needle Aspiration Cytology of Pancreas and Liver: Seminar and Workshop</i>	3
<i>Chan Woon Cheung Education and Research Fund</i>	5
<i>Meeting Announcement</i>	7
<i>New Useful Websites</i>	7
<i>Revision of Examination Fees for 2006</i>	8
<i>Appointment of College Secretary</i>	8

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[www.hkcpath.org](http://www.hkcpath.org)

Editor:  
Dr Alexander C.L. Chan

One year ago, I had a special meeting with the Pathology Division of the Chinese Medical Association (中華醫學會病理分會) (CMAPD) – not quite a College equivalent but this one is the closest – in Jinan, Shandong, to introduce the College work, particularly on our system of training and examinations. While in many areas, such as in organizing educational programmes or developing professional standards and practice guidelines, we can work further together, I came out from the meeting with an impression that at present there is quite a significant difference in “professional autonomy” between Hong Kong and China Mainland, so that professional bodies there, and not just the CMAPD, are not going to organize independent specialist examinations or training accreditation any time soon. (Remarkably, in a separate session, the CMAPD had also invited the President and Council representatives of the Royal College of Pathologists of the United Kingdom for similar discussions.)

But the picture is fast changing. In April I had a short trip to Beijing as a member of the delegation of the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine, and we visited a number of government offices, hospitals, and academic institutions. These include the Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office of the State Council (國務院港澳辦公室), Ministry of Health (衛生部), the Association of Medical Universities & Colleges in China (高等醫學教育學會), the Chinese Medical Association (中華醫學會), the Chinese Academy of Sciences (中國科學院), Peking Union

Medical College Hospital (協和醫院), and Beijing United Family Hospital & Clinics (北京和睦家醫院). Many people I met have shown great interest in our systems of postgraduate specialist training and continuing medical education. In particular, the officials of the Ministry of Health appeared quite well versed with our systems in comparison with various overseas alternative models.

The visit is only one of a series of recent ongoing events between the Academy and the mainland, heightened the looming relevancy of China to the local medical professions. In June, when the new Minister of Health Mr Gao Jiang (高強) visited Hong Kong, he invited the Academy and its member Colleges to assist in setting up a system of specialist examination and registration in the mainland. In July, the Academy sent another delegation to Beijing to discuss with the Ministry of Health on more details. In late August or early September, there will be a working team led by Prof Huang Jiefu (黃潔夫), Deputy Minister of Health, to visit the Academy and Colleges. The aim of the visit is to consider modelling a specialist training and accreditation system based on that of Hong Kong. They will meet each College individually for information on how we organize and implement our training and examinations, as well as the process of accrediting of training units. By the end of this year, it has been hinted, the Ministry of Health will make a major decision on the future framework of specialist registration.

(Continued on page 2)

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Therefore the issue of “professional autonomy” is becoming a moot point – the government is now taking charge and directing the whole process, to ensure that it will not be too long before a national scheme of postgraduate professional training and examination is in place. All these recent developments should raise a series of questions to us: How are we going to be affected? What should be our role in this formative period of the new system? And how should we prepare ourselves in order to safeguard the best interests of our fellows?

Naturally if we believe in the merits of our own system, we should have no hesitation in advocating to them a model which closely resembles ours – the more similar the better. The familiarity of more or less the same system should facilitate professional exchanges and cooperation between the two sides, and hence more opportunities for our fellows to contribute their expertise in either location. To this end, however, we also need to address two significant differences, which are rather specific to pathology, between the two sides in order to foster a more comprehensive relationship. First is the scope of the profession – the term “pathology” in the mainland generally means only Anatomical Pathology, whereas our other specialties in pathology are being regarded as subspecialties of other medical disciplines or even non-medical ones. The other difference is that many practitioners in the clinical pathology specialties in the mainland are actually scientists, not medical doctors. We need to convince our counterpart at the outset that the having medically qualified pathologists and taking on board of all pathology disciplines in one big family should be the best way forward.

Sooner or later, we will have to face a tough question: Should we open our examinations to trainees of the mainland, and in return have theirs open to us?

Obviously the challenge concerns all medical disciplines, not just pathology. Among the Academy Colleges, it appears that two have already made up their minds and decided that they should seize the opportune moment and start planning their College examinations and training centres accreditation in the mainland. Apparently they are keen in cultivating a “Hong Kong” brand name to build up an image of high standard for their College qualifications, and to do it preemptively. Not all Colleges are comfortable with the proactive approach, however.

If we were to ask ourselves the question ten years ago, I think the answer should be quite obvious. To many local practitioners, protecting the specialist status and preventing any possible “flooding” of outside graduates were the prime concerns at that time. On the other hand, if ten years from now we are to face the same question, given the rapid pace of growth and development in China Mainland, again the answer may not be that difficult, for the balance could have been swung to the other side that our concerns shifted entirely. Today, however, the picture is more complex and dynamic. People who are eyeing on being able to access and serve a much bigger population would not hesitate to pave the way. Others, who have doubts as to whether the basic medical qualification, regardless of what might have been the overseas experience in similar situations, is “water-tight” enough to keep out possible competition from “foreign” specialists holding our qualifications, would certainly insist on not opening the floodgate.

So as the medical professions of Hong Kong are being drawn closer and closer into the China proper, if only slowly at first it certainly is accelerating, we are at a crossroad. Should we keep the firewall on for as long as we can, or should we work upon a strategy that builds bridges and takes away barriers? That is the question for us all to ponder.

**Dr. KC Lee, the President**

## 14<sup>th</sup> TB Teoh Foundation Lecture

will be held

at 5.00 p.m. on **26 November 2005**

at The Pao Yue Kong Auditorium,  
the HKAM Jockey Club Building,

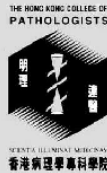
99 Wong Chuk Hang Road, Aberdeen, Hong Kong

We are honoured to have **Prof. Tsui Lap-Chee**, the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Hong Kong, to be the speaker of this year's TB Teoh Foundation Lecture. The topic is “**Lessons learned from a single-gene disease**”. This is certainly a lecture that you don't want to miss!

## Presentation Session for Pathologists in Training

The Education Committee is organizing a presentation session for trainees, which will be held on the day of the Annual General Meeting in November. This is a platform to share your experience that is of interest and with educational value with others. It also provides an opportunity to practice presentation skill. A prize will be given to the best presentation. Look out for our invitation letter on programme and abstract submission details.

**Dr. Bobby Shum, Chairman,  
Education Committee**



Jointly organized by  
the HK College of Pathologists and  
HK Society of Cytology



# Fine Needle Aspiration Cytology of Pancreas and Liver: Seminar & Workshop, 2005

Speaker: **Dr. Barbara Centeno**  
Associate Professor, University of South Florida School of  
Medicine, Tempa, Florida, USA

Program, CME/CPD points and venues:

9 September, 2005 (Friday)

## **Seminar on Fine Needle Aspiration Cytology of Pancreas**

Lecture Theatre, G/F, Block M, Queen Elizabeth Hospital,

6 – 7 pm

(HKCPath CME I point, HKMLT Board CPD code 10050061,  
1 point; MCHK CME 1 point)

10 September, 2005 (Saturday)

## **Seminar on Fine Needle Aspiration Cytology of Liver**

Kai Cheong Tong, Postgraduate Education Centre, Prince of  
Wales of Hospital 2 – 3 pm

(HKCPath CME 1 point, HKMLT Board CPD code 10050071, 1 point; MCHK CME  
1 point)

## **Microscopic slide workshop**

Students' Laboratory, PWH 3:30 – 5:30 pm

The first 44 registrants can sit with Dr. Centeno in one of four identical half-  
hour multi-head sessions.

(HKCPath CME 2 points, HKMLT Board CPD code 10050081, 2 points; MCHK  
CME 2 points)

## **Registration fee**

Seminars: Free for fellows, members and associates of HKCPath, as well as  
current members of HKSC .  
\$100 for non-members

Workshop: \$300 for all.

**All doctors and technical staff of medical laboratories are welcome.**

**Registration is required for all events.**

For enquiries: Please contact Miss Heidü Chu at 2871 8755

Supported by Department of Anatomical and Cellular Pathology, CUHK

**Fine Needle Aspiration Cytology of Pancreas and Liver:**  
**Seminar and Workshop, 2005**  
**Registration Form**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Institute: \_\_\_\_\_

Qualifications: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone no.: \_\_\_\_\_ email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Fellow / member / associate of HKCPath

Member of HKSC

You would like to register for the following event(s): *(Please tick when appropriate)*

Seminar on Pancreas FNA

Seminar on Liver FNA

Workshop

<b>HKCPath / HKSC members</b>	<b>Non-members</b>
↓	↓
<p><b>Seminar(s) only:</b> Please fax completed registration form to Secretary of HKCPath at <b>2871 8755</b></p> <p><b>Workshop +/- seminars:</b> Please send completed form together with a crossed cheque of HK \$300 payable to "The Hong Kong College of Pathologists" to the <b>Hong Kong College of Pathologists, Room 606, Hong Kong Academy of Medicine Jockey Club Building, 99 Wong Chuk Hang Road, Aberdeen, Hong Kong.</b></p>	<p><b>Seminars only:</b> Please mail completed registration form together with a crossed cheque of HK\$100 payable to "the Hong Kong College of Pathologists" to the College (see address in adjacent column).</p> <p><b>Workshop only:</b> Send form with a cheque of HK \$ 300.</p> <p><b>Workshop and seminar:</b> Send form with a cheque of HK \$ 400.</p>

Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis.

**Deadline for registration:** 2<sup>nd</sup> September, 2005

All who have submitted registration forms will be informed of the result by e-mail, latest by 7<sup>th</sup> September, 2005. In case we are unable to accommodate you in the workshop or (for non-members) seminars, your cheque will be returned by post.

## **CHAN WOON CHEUNG EDUCATION AND RESEARCH FUND**

In 1991, friends, colleagues and former students of the late Dr. Chan Woon Cheung endowed a fund in his memory to promote education, training and research in Pathology.

### Regulations Governing the Fund

- a. The fund shall be named “The Chan Woon Cheung Education and Research Fund”.
- b. The fund shall only be applied towards the promotion of education, training and research in Pathology, such as,
  - i. Research grants for studies in Pathology, or
  - ii. Grants to support training in Pathology, including passage fees and subsistence, where the training is conducted in Hong Kong or the applicant is currently working in Hong Kong.
- c. Local and overseas workers in Pathology, both members and non-members of the Hong Kong College of Pathologists, may apply for grants for the purposes set out in b. above.
- d. Applications for support from the fund may be made on the form prescribed by the Council of the Hong Kong College of Pathologists, and shall be subject to academic scrutiny by the Council. The decision of the Council shall be final.

### Administrative Arrangements

- a. The whole of the sum subscribed shall form the endowment fund and shall be invested at the discretion of the Council.
- b. Only the income shall be available for the payment of grants except under special circumstances as decided by the Council.
- c. Funds will normally be allocated not more than twice annually, but applications may be submitted at any time.
- d. After providing for awards in any one year, or if no award is made, any sum remaining may be carried forward to meet the costs of awards in subsequent years, or may be added to the capital sum for investment.
- e. The Council may establish a committee to undertake preliminary assessment of the applications for advice to the Council.
- f. Principal grant holders receiving support from the fund will be required to submit a report at the end of the period of education or training and/or annual progress report to the Council.
- g. At the beginning of each financial year, the Hon. Treasurer shall supply to the Council an annual statement of account for the fund indicating the income available for allocation during the year in question.

**Those who are interested to apply for the Chan Woon Cheung Education and Research Fund in Pathology this year, please complete the application form and return to the Registrar for consideration.**

**Application Form**

**The Chan Woon Cheung Education and Research Fund in Pathology**

Name of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Qualification(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Institute and Unit: \_\_\_\_\_

Appointment(s) held: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Tel.: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership of The Hong Kong College of Pathologists: Yes/No (please circle one)

If yes, category of Membership: \_\_\_\_\_

Brief summary of proposed study/research (details to be attached):

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Amount of grant requested (with detailed breakdown):

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Have you applied for other sponsorship? \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, please give details: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

I understand that if a grant is approved, I shall submit a report to the Council annually and at the end of the study/research.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

*The AGM of our College will be held on  
Nov 26, 2005 (Sat).  
Mark it on your diary now!*

- **Histopathology Course 2005:** Lung and Breast Pathology: by Prof. Richard Hegele and Prof. David Page: organized by HKIAP; Kai Cheong Hall, Prince of Wales Hospital, **Aug 20, 2005** ([www.hkiap.org](http://www.hkiap.org))
- **17th Triennial meeting of the International Association of Forensic Sciences:** Hong Kong Convention Centre, **Aug 21-26, 2005** ([www.iafs2005.com](http://www.iafs2005.com)) (early bird registration closes on May 31, 2005)
- **1st Annual Scientific Meeting of Asia-Pacific Society for Molecular Immunohistology (APSMI):** Peking University, Beijing, China **Aug 21, 2005** (Secretariat: [fmedpwn@md.chula.ac.th](mailto:fmedpwn@md.chula.ac.th))
- **4th Asia-Pacific IAP Congress:** Modern Pathology in the Age of Rapidly Advancing Technology; Beijing, China, **Aug 23-26, 2005** ([www.cicst.org.cn/iap2005](http://www.cicst.org.cn/iap2005))
- **Meet the Expert: The Bethesda System for Reporting Cervical Cytology and Patient Management Guidelines; HPV in Cervical Cytology Screening and Prevention:** by Dr. Diane Solomon: organized by Hong Kong Society of Cytology; Lecture Theatre of Hospital Authority Head Office, **Aug 30, 2005** ([www.cytology.org.hk](http://www.cytology.org.hk))
- **10th International Congress of Paediatric Laboratory Medicine (ICPLM):** Raffles City Convention Centre, Singapore **Sep 3-6, 2005** ([www.icplm.com](http://www.icplm.com))
- **Fine Needle Aspiration Cytology of the Pancreas and Liver:** by Dr. Barbara Centeno: organized by the Hong Kong College of Pathologists and Hong Kong Society of Cytology; **Sep 9-10, 2005** (go to pages 2-3 of this newsletter for details; [www.hkcpath.org](http://www.hkcpath.org) or [www.cytology.org.hk](http://www.cytology.org.hk))
- **ISO 15189 related training courses:** by Mr. Phil Barnes: organized by Hong Kong Accreditation Service (HKAS); **Sep 20-30, 2005** (please visit the following website for details: [www.itc.gov.hk/hkas](http://www.itc.gov.hk/hkas))
- **International Imaging Course 2005:** Musculoskeletal Imaging, Chest Imaging, Vascular Imaging; organized by Dept of Diagnostic Radiology & Organ Imaging, the Chinese University of Hong Kong; Postgraduate Education Centre, Prince of Wales Hospital, **Sep 24-25, 2005** ([www.droid.cuhk.edu.hk/web/events/iic\\_2005/iic\\_2005.pdf](http://www.droid.cuhk.edu.hk/web/events/iic_2005/iic_2005.pdf))
- **Surgical Pathology Update 2005;** organized by HKIAP and Dept of Pathology, M.D. Anderson Cancer Centre; Postgraduate Medical Centre, **Oct 21-23, 2005** ([www.hkiap.org](http://www.hkiap.org))
- **14th Annual General Meeting of Hong Kong College of Pathologists and 14th TB Teoh Foundation Lecture** by Prof. Tsui Lap Chee; Hong Kong Academy of Medicine Jockey Club Building, **Nov 26, 2005** ([www.hkcpath.org](http://www.hkcpath.org))

## NEW USEFUL WEBSITES

The International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) has recently launched an on-line atlas on cytopathology and histopathology of uterine cervix. Please visit <http://screening.iarc.fr/atlascyto.php> and <http://screening.iarc.fr/atlashisto.php> for details.

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bsfshum@graduate.hku.hk

**REVISION OF EXAMINATION FEES FOR 2006**

Due to the increasing cost for running the College examinations, the examination fee for **membership examination** will be increased from HK\$8,250 to **HK\$9,000**, and for **fellowship assessment** from HK\$11,000 to **HK\$12,500**, with effect from **2006**.

**NEWSLETTER MATERIAL?**

Please send your contributions and comments to:

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Editor of Newsletter,  
The Hong Kong College of Pathologists,  
Department of Pathology,  
Queen Elizabeth Hospital.  
Phone: 2958 6823  
Fax: 2385 2455  
Email: chancl@ha.org.hk

**APPOINTMENT OF COLLEGE SECRETARY**

We welcome **Ms Heidi Chu**, who has recently been appointed as our College Secretary. If you need her assistance, please contact her at:  
tel.:2871 8755 or hkcpath@hkam.org.hk

**CHANGING ADDRESS??**

If you are changing your address, please write your new address below and send to :

**Dr Michael Suen**

**Registrar**

**The Hong Kong College of Pathologists**

c/o Department of Pathology,

Alice Ho Miu Ling Nethersole Hospital,

11 Chuen On Road, Tai Po,

New Territories.

Fax: 2664 1515

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (     ) \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: (     ) \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Effective Date: \_\_\_\_\_