A bi-annual newsletter which keeps fellow educators, alumni and friends informed about Faculty developments and topical educational issues.
Educating educators for over 86 years!

The roots of the Faculty of Education at the University of Hong Kong go back to 1917 when the Department for the Training of Teachers (later renamed the Department of Education) was established in the Faculty of Arts. The Department was formed to realise the colonial government’s intention to improve the provision of Chinese Masters for the Anglo-Chinese secondary schools. The Department was forced to suspend its formal operation in early December 1941 when Hong Kong was occupied by the Japanese during the Second World War.

Following the surrender of the Japanese forces, the Department was re-opened in September 1951. The revived Department continued to spread its wings, with a steady increase in staff establishment and student enrolment and a gradual extension of programmes. Its structural expansion and its gain in status led the Department to becoming an autonomous School of Education on 1 September 1976.

Following eight further years of development and consolidation, the School of Education evolved into the Faculty of Education on 1 July 1984, under which was a Department of Professional Studies in Education (renamed the Department of Curriculum Studies in 1989) and a Department of Education, providing high-quality education for pre- and in-service teachers. The Department of Speech and Hearing Sciences was established in the Faculty in July 1988, the first of its kind in the territory, principally to provide locally-educated, Cantonese-speaking speech therapists to give Hong Kong improved speech and language therapy services. The Physical Education and Sports Science Unit (PESSU) joined the Faculty on 1 July 1992.

On 1 September 2002, the constituent Departments of the Faculty were merged to form the present unitary Faculty of Education, with six Divisions, in the areas of Information & Technology Studies; Language & Literature; Learning, Development & Diversity; Policy Administration & Social Sciences Education; Science, Mathematics & Computing; and Speech & Hearing Sciences. PESSU left the Faculty to join the Centre for Physical Education and Sport, forming the Institute of Human Performance.

This year we celebrate the 20th Anniversary of the establishment of the Faculty. We will have a series of events in which we invite you to participate. More information about these events is available on the website: http://www.hku.hk/education/20anniversary.htm
The Faculty has undergone various changes and achieved much success - thanks to the joint efforts and dedication of its international team of staff as well as the following major makers and shakers:

**Faculty Deans**

- **1984-1986**  
  Mr P D Reynolds

- **1986-1992**  
  Professor P J T F Morris

- **1992-1996**  
  Professor K M Cheng

- **1996-2002**  
  Dr F K S Leung

- **2002 to date**  
  Professor M Bray

**Department of Education (1984-2001) -- Heads**

- **1984-1987**  
  Professor A Brimer

- **1987-1991**  
  Professor J Biggs

- **1991-1995**  
  Professor M Bray

- **1995-2001**  
  Dr K C Wong

**Department of Curriculum Studies (1989-2001)  
(formerly Department of Professional Studies in Education(1984-1989)) -- Heads**

- **1984-1993**  
  Professor B Cooke

- **1993-1997**  
  Dr P Falvey

- **1997**  
  Dr N W Y Law

- **1998-2001**  
  Professor A B M Tsui

**Department of Speech & Hearing Sciences (1988-2002) -- Heads**

- **1988-1993**  
  Professor A Zubrick

- **1993-1994**  
  Dr L So

- **1994-1995**  
  Dr V Ciocca

- **1995-2002**  
  Professor P Fletcher

**Physical Education and Sports Science Unit (1997-2001) -- Heads**

- **~1997**  
  Mr M Speak

- **1997-2001**  
  Dr K J Lindner

- **2001-2002**  
  Dr D Macfarlane
Guess who’s who?

The Editorial Board has dug out from dusty corners and files, photos of some of our current Faculty members in their younger days. See if you can recognize them!

The Faculty has made great strides in research and scholarly activities, as evidenced in the progress made in the recent Internal Research Strategy Exercise. Major research areas and sub-areas primarily follow Division groupings, although many research projects are conducted across Divisions. Clusters of research projects and larger research programs are also located in research Centres which house projects and draw staff from a variety of sub-areas, Divisions, and even other Faculties. Major research areas include:

- Educational Psychology
- Guidance and Special Education
- Chinese Language Education
- English Language Education
- Science, Mathematics, and Information Technology
- Educational Administration
- Comparative Education and Foundations
- Curriculum and Assessment
- Language - aphasia, dyslexia & dysgraphia, child language
- Speech - motor speech, voice research
- Hearing - auditory perception & speech

Some projects which have been completed recently or are being undertaken include:

**RGC projects**

- The acquisition of the perception of lexical tone contrasts in Cantonese Valter Ciocca
- The impact of school-university partnerships in teacher education in Hong Kong Jeffrey Day
- Late talkers in Chinese: a longitudinal study Paul Fletcher
- The formation of knowledge-building communities in technology supported environments Nancy Law
- Quality classroom practice in mathematics: an international collaborative study of the eighth grade Frederick Leung
- The Chinese pedagogy of mathematics education: an inquiry into its characteristics through international comparisons Frederick Leung
- The Hong Kong component of the trends in mathematics and science study (TIMSS) Frederick Leung
- The effects of sharing among teachers on professional development in China HM Ng
- A study of inland boarding schools for ethnic minorities in China Gerry Postiglione
- Investigating subject-specific generic writing skills of senior secondary school students Mark Shum

**Quality Education Fund projects**

- A project to enhance developmental guidance in secondary schools Eadaoin Hui
- Second generation Dragonwise Chinese learning system WW Ki
- The basic Chinese language competency of Hong Kong primary and secondary students Winnie Lai
- SITES - M1 & SITES - M2 Nancy Law
- Secondary analysis of the TIMSS-R data for Hong Kong Frederick Leung
- The quality of education of primary students with reading difficulties: An efficacy study of the assessment and treatment programmes for reading difficulties Leung Man Tak
- Catering for individual differences - building on variation Pong Wing Yan
- Effective teaching and learning of Chinese language in primary schools: Vocabulary acquisition and enhancing reading S K Tse
- Progress in International Reading Literacy Study (PIRLS): The current state of reading literacy at primary level in Hong Kong and approaches towards enhancing quality S K Tse
- A Unified Professional Development Project for teachers and student-teachers Amy BM Tsui
- Quality Education with Chinese as the Medium of Instruction Amy BM Tsui
- TELEC’s IT for the enhancement of English language teaching and learning in primary schools Amy BM Tsui
- The development of a mentoring force for school improvement through school-university partnership Amy BM Tsui
- Life skills development among senior secondary school students in Hong Kong Yuen Man Tak
- From isolated to connected: Science teachers’ lifelong professional development through lesson study seminars and web-based video cases of exemplary practices Benny Yung

As part of the Faculty’s 20th Anniversary celebrations, a series of conferences is being organized to share our scholarly harvest with the wider education community.
With the current trend and speed of globalization, comparative education has become an increasingly important area for scholarly research to enable understanding into diverse education systems around the world and facilitate improvement of these systems. Our Faculty understands that Hong Kong is well placed for comparative education research (especially with its colonial background and the 1997 return of sovereignty) since it is where East meets West and it is accepted by both the North and the South. The Faculty has thus long ago embarked on comparative education studies, and has built up a critical mass of over a dozen colleagues from across disciplines working in the area. It also established the Comparative Education Research Centre (CERC) in 1994, the first of its kind in the territory.

As part of its celebration of the Faculty’s 20th Anniversary, CERC is hosting the annual conference of the Comparative Education Society of Hong Kong (CESHE) on 7 February 2004. Mark Bray, Dean of the Faculty and Chair Professor of Comparative Education, will deliver a keynote address to the Conference. This keynote address, “Comparative Education: Traditions, Applications, and the Role of HKU”, will also be the first of the three Anniversary Lectures given by the Chair Professors of the Faculty.

The conference has attracted scholars from all over the world, including Lynn Davies, Professor of International Education and Director of the Centre for International Education and Research at the University of Birmingham, who will open the conference. Another eminent visitor is David Phillips, Professor of Comparative Education at the University of Oxford and editor of the *Oxford Review of Education*.

The theme of the conference is "Comparative education in an increasingly globalized world". This theme invites consideration of how the field should respond to a world where space, or distance, is of diminishing significance. Our societies are increasingly interconnected with each other; each is increasingly multicultural, resulting in new hybrids of identity and culture. The tendency towards increasing homogenisation, sometimes felt as the export of North American popular culture, is often resisted in attempts to assert individual cultural difference, occasionally expressed in an intolerant fundamentalism. Comparative education faces the challenge of making sense of these new forms of hybridity and these assertions of difference. Its role here is also to inform the education policy development process, where governments face the challenge of educating their citizens for a globally competitive world, while their efficacy to this end is being financially and otherwise eroded. One of the strengths of comparative education research is its capacity for drawing lessons from the experience of a number of different societies. What we learn from this research is increasingly important in the development of education policy in this ever more difficult environment. The Faculty and CERC in particular have been very active in this policy debate, and we cordially invite interested parties to join the conference to contribute towards the discourse. For further details, please see the website: [www.hku.hk/cerc/cshk](http://www.hku.hk/cerc/cshk).
Postgraduate degrees in the field of Early Childhood Education (ECE) have been offered at the Faculty of Education for the past three decades. The emphasis has been at Masters' and Doctoral levels. There have been three cohorts of MEd (ECE) graduates (1983-1985, 1988-90, 1995-97) with one currently enrolled. Five students have received PhDs in the field of Early Childhood Education from the Faculty.

Programmes for Early Childhood Education were spearheaded by Sylvia Opper. These have produced some very distinguished graduates who are now key personnel in the field of Early Childhood Education in Hong Kong.

In 1992, Sylvia Opper along with other influential early childhood educators, including MEd (ECE) graduates Grace Chan, Maggie Koong and Ivan Yiu established the Hong Kong chapter of the World Organisation for Early Childhood Education. This organisation is known by its French acronym OMEP, which stands for Organisation Mondiale pour l’Education Préscolaire. OMEP is an international, non-governmental organisation, founded in 1948 to benefit children under the age of eight years. Its main objective is to promote optimum conditions for all children, in order to ensure their well-being, development and happiness within both their family units and the wider communities in which they live. It is currently represented in 70 countries, and co-operates with other international organisations with similar aims. The current OMEP-Hong Kong President is Veronica Yeung, a double alumnus of the Faculty of Education.

OMEP-Hong Kong has played an active role in enhancing pre-school education through the organisation of international conferences, seminars and workshops, and through advocacy and research. The first three international conferences were held at HKU while the last two have been held at the Hong Kong Institute of Education. The next conference, with the theme, “Cultural Perspectives in Early Childhood Education”, will be held at HKU on 13 March 2004 to tie in with the Faculty’s 20th Anniversary celebrations (see website: www.omep.org.uk). The event will be held immediately after the meeting of the World OMEP Executive Committee in Hong Kong. Members of the World Executive Committee will participate in a symposium on ECE policy and practice in which they will present perspectives from Asia and the Pacific, Africa, Europe, Latin America, and North America.
It is our special delight to celebrate our 20th birthday with the 49th ICET World Assembly in July 2004! I feel honoured to take up the challenge as the Chairperson of the Organising Committee, and seize this opportunity to wave at all readers and warmly invite you to participate!

In the climate of educational reform, educational professionals in Hong Kong are making determined strides to implement desirable changes. We recognise that genuine development must be rooted in a life of collaborative learning among policy-makers, university academics and school educators. In the light of this, the conference is being organised as a joint venture of the Education & Manpower Bureau of the Hong Kong government, the HKU Faculty of Education, and the Hong Kong Teachers’ Centre.

In planning for the Assembly, we are engaged in a process of learning about teamwork and community-building, as a result of which the ICET World Assembly 2004 has several distinctive features:

* It has reached a wide network of renowned key contributors. They will act as catalysts to inspire dynamic learning in the conference through their multiple roles as paper presenters, discussants, active participants in parallel sessions, and panellists at the closing plenary.

* We will move away from the ‘sage on the stage’ tradition, because we are keen to make this conference a process of interactive learning among teachers, as veterans and novices, locals and internationals. Together, we shall be engaged in critical review of our own learning in different contexts. We aspire to make the conference a professionally empowering experience for all participants.

* It will be a time for celebration. Our global friends will help us celebrate the 20th anniversary of the HKU Faculty of Education, and also the 15th anniversary of the Hong Kong Teachers’ Centre. We will celebrate with critical reflection for further strides. We will also develop new networks for co-learning and diverse publications.

Our Faculty’s Chair Professor of Curriculum Studies, Amy B M Tsui, will deliver a key presentation speech entitled Understanding Expertise in Teaching on 15 July 2004.

To welcome our global friends to join us for this celebration, we look forward to active contributions from our alumni and other readers. To learn more about this exciting event, please visit our website [http://icet2004.hku.hk](http://icet2004.hku.hk).
The Faculty has always been at the forefront in the provision of training and research in educational leadership. Education Commission Report Number 7 'Quality School Education - Building Quality Schools' published in October 1997 proclaims the needs to train school leaders. In response to this, the Faculty set up the Centre for Educational Leadership (CEL) in April 1998. CEL aims to create a structure to facilitate the dissemination of knowledge relating to leadership and management of educational institutions. It provides training programmes and consultancy to meet the on-going needs of educational institutions and create a base for research work in educational leadership.

As part of the celebrations of the Faculty’s 20th Anniversary, CEL is organising the CCEAM regional conference on the theme Educational Leadership in Pluralistic Societies. This is the second time that the CCEAM regional conference will be held at the University of Hong Kong. The last one took place in 1992 while Hong Kong was still a colony. The current conference could be seen a continuation of the last one which also had a focus on leadership.

The book published after the 1992 conference carries the title 'Educational Leadership and Change: An International Perspective'. From changes in educational leadership to the emphasis of locating leaders in the societies where they are working reflects the current trend of examining educational leadership from cultural lenses. The upcoming conference wishes to capture the different understandings and practices of educational leadership and their implications for different societies.

The 2004 Regional Conference will be held in two cities, Hong Kong and Shanghai. The conference is jointly organized by the Centre for Educational Leadership, Faculty of Education, at HKU and the School of Social Sciences, East China Normal University. The Hong Kong part will be from October 20 to 22 and Shanghai conference will be from October 24 to 26. In addition to keynotes, plenary sessions, paper presentations, symposia, and round tables, the conference offers the participants an opportunity to see how two of the pre-eminent cities in China are developing. It is also a great opportunity for local scholars and practitioners to interact with international participants.

For more details, please visit the website: www.hku.hk/cel2004
The past decade has seen waves of changes and reforms at different levels of the educational system, including our local school mathematics curriculum. Against this background, HKMEC, the Hong Kong Mathematics Education Conference, has adopted as its 2004 theme "Mathematics Education in Waves of Reforms and Changes". HKMEC is a biennial conference jointly organized by the Hong Kong Association for Mathematics Education (HKAME) and a local tertiary institute. Our Faculty, upon its 20th Anniversary, is privileged to host the next conference on 18 June 2004.

In contemporary times, it is useful to muse on some historical episodes. Curricular changes in recent years, which will be the focus of one plenary speech, may recall the eventful years in the early 1990s when the target-oriented curriculum (TOC) was promoted. One historic event should be considered as a significant step drawing us closer to the establishment of HKAME and the first HKMEC in 1996. Held on 13 May 1995 at HKU was a whole-day seminar entitled "Mathematics Education in Hong Kong: Opportunities to Change". Despite the fact that it was the first of its kind locally, it attracted a large audience. Frederick Leung, as one of the plenary speakers, spoke of the crises and opportunities aheads.

Another plenary session at the forthcoming conference will be concerned with what we can learn from other countries. Work along these lines include TIMSS which, under Frederick’s leadership since the early 1990s, has generated a huge corpus of data ranging from students’ paper-and-pencil test performances to video record of classroom lessons. All these data are a continuation of the work of Alan Brimer and Patrick Griffin who first published this kind of Hong Kong data in 1985.

We are confident that HKMEC 2004, like its predecessors, will attract hundreds of colleagues from various sectors of local mathematics education circle - especially frontline school teachers who play a crucial part in curriculum development.

Congratulations to ....

Carol Chan and Chris Davison on promotion to Senior Lecturer on 1 September 2003;
Pang Ming Fai, Mark Shum, Yuen Man Tak and Benny Yung on retitling to Associate Professor on 16 December 2003; and
Anita Wong on promotion to Assistant Professor (Lecturer) on 1 February 2004.

Welcome ....

Jocelyn Wong on joining as Postdoctoral Research Fellow on 1 September 2003;
Eden Li on joining as Research Assistant Professor on 1 October 2003; and
Derek Hodson on joining as Distinguished Visiting Professor on 1 January 2004.
Faculty Highlights

Racing Luncheon
27 September 2003

Guests and Faculty staff enjoyed themselves at the Reunion at the Races organised by the HKU Foundation at the Shatin Racecourse. Alumni and supporters made generous donations to name races in their honour. Our Faculty would like to say a special thank you to Mrs Eleanor Mok for her philanthropic support! We also take this opportunity to thank our alumni and friends for their generous donations through the Mustard Seed Action - thank you all!

From left: Eunice Wong, Nirmala Rao, Tara Whitehill, Gwyn Edwards, John Tan

JUPAS Open Day
18 October 2003

The annual JUPAS Open Day was held on Saturday 18 October 2003. Countless enthusiastic secondary school students, some accompanied by their equally enthusiastic parents, visited the numerous exhibitions and attended various admissions talks to find out more about the undergraduate programmes offered by the Faculty. Schools and students wishing to learn more about our programmes, admission criteria and career prospects are welcome to visit our website at http://www.hku.hk/education/jupas2003/index.htm or contact our Programme Office at 2859 2280 or edfac@hku.hk.
Public Lecture by M.A.K. Halliday
21 October 2003

M.A.K. Halliday, a world-renowned linguist and Distinguished Visiting Professor in the Faculty, delivered a public lecture entitled Matter and Meaning: Why language should be at the heart of University studies at the Rayson Huang Theatre. Over 350 participants from various quarters of the education community attended Professor Halliday’s enlightening lecture. Such was the overwhelming interest that the theatre was overflowing and many patiently stood throughout the lecture.

The 7th Modern Chinese Practical Writing International Conference
23 - 25 October 2003

Over 120 academics from Hong Kong, Mainland China, Taiwan and Singapore participated in the Conference. Fifteen sessions focused on the cultural characteristics and functions of practical writing in different places; format, linguistic features and development of practical writing; training of experts in practical writing; and application of systemic functional linguistic theory in teaching of practical writing. Those who are interested in knowing more about the issues discussed may obtain articles from Vivian Chau at 2859 5167 or hschau@hku.hk.
Faculty Highlights

1st Mentoring Workshop
25 October 2003

Over 100 secondary teachers attended the 1st Mentoring Workshop held at Kowloon Wah Yan College. The 3.5-hour workshop familiarised new mentors with relevant skills and enabled sharing of mentoring experiences. The Faculty takes this opportunity to thank the following facilitators at the Workshop:

- Katherine Chiu, Island School
- Chiu Siu Hong, Kiangsu - Chekiang College (Shatin)
- Jenny Lai, Aberdeen Baptist Lui Ming Choi College
- Raymond Lau, LST Leung Kau Kiu College

Details of the workshop can be found at our Faculty website:
http://pws.edu.hku.hk/workshops.htm

Two more Mentoring Workshops will be held on 10 Jan 2004 and 27 Mar 2004. For further details and registration, please contact Roberta Li at 2857 8375 or repli@hku.hk.

Faculty of Education Graduation Ceremony
7 December 2003

The Faculty held its annual Graduation Ceremony at the City Hall. The Vice-Chancellor officiated at the event and Michael Tien, MBE, was the Guest of Honour. Mr Tien delivered an inspiring speech on the importance of language awareness among teachers. He also presented awards to the following outstanding graduates:

- Miss Luk Ka-yan, BEd (Language Education) graduate, Equilibrium Cultural Education Foundation Award
- Mrs Marina Jane Furniss-Roe, PCEd graduate, Rowell Prize in Education
- Mrs Pinky Tam Pui-ling, PCEd graduate, Rowell Prize in Education
- Mrs Subramanian Jeyanthi, PCEd graduate, True Light Middle School of Hong Kong Prize in Education
- Miss Yick Doi Pei, PCEd graduate, True Light Middle School of Hong Kong Prize in Education

To these award recipients and all the graduates, the Faculty offers congratulations!
The Faculty welcome visitors of many kinds. Here are some who came during the period September to December 2003:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Name of visitor</th>
<th>Post / Institution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Faculty Visitor</td>
<td>Philip Altbach</td>
<td>Professor of Higher Education, J. Donald Monan, SJ, Boston College, USA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty Visitor</td>
<td>John Hattie</td>
<td>School of Education, The University of Auckland, New Zealand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K P Tin Fellow</td>
<td>Shang Xuefeng</td>
<td>Associate Professor, Vice Chair of the Chinese Department Beijing Normal University, PRC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K P Tin Fellow</td>
<td>Wang Wei</td>
<td>Research Institute for Basic Education, Beijing Academy of Educational Sciences, PRC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K P Tin Fellow</td>
<td>Ying Danjun</td>
<td>College of Foreign Language, Zhejiang Normal University Jinhua, Zhejiang, PRC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K P Tin Fellow</td>
<td>Yu Shengquan</td>
<td>Beijing Normal University, PRC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K P Tin Fellow</td>
<td>Zhang Xiaofeng</td>
<td>School of Educational Administration, East China Normal University, Shanghai, PRC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K P Tin Fellow</td>
<td>Zhou Qingsheng</td>
<td>Graduate School, Institute of Ethnology and Anthropology, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Beijing, PRC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Onwel Visiting Fellow</td>
<td>Sharon Lynn Kagan</td>
<td>Professor of Early Childhood &amp; Family Policy, Teacher’s College, Columbia University, USA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Onwel Visiting Fellow</td>
<td>Marlene Scardamalia</td>
<td>Director, Institute for Knowledge Innovation &amp; Technology and Professor, Centre for Applied Cognitive Science &amp; Curriculum, Teaching &amp; Learning Department, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, University of Toronto, Canada</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visiting Professor</td>
<td>Ference Marton</td>
<td>Department of Education, G tebor g University, Sweden</td>
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The Faculty is celebrating its 20th anniversary in 2004 with a series of events:

ANNIVERSARY LECTURES

7 February 2004; 3:00 pm (Rayson Huang Theatre)
Mark Bray, Dean, Chair of Comparative Education
Comparative Education: Traditions, Applications, and the Role of HKU

14 February 2004; 2:30 pm (HOC LG-06)
Derek Hodson, Distinguished Visiting Professor
Time for Action: Science Education for Responsible Citizenship

15 July 2004; 2:00 pm
Amy B M Tsui, Chair of Curriculum Studies
Understanding Expertise in Teaching

21 October 2004; 5:30 pm (tentative)
Cheng Kai Ming, Chair of Education

CONFERENCES

7 February 2004
Comparative Education Society of Hong Kong, Annual Conference:
Comparative Education in an Increasingly Globalized World

13 March 2004
World Organisation for Early Childhood Education International Conference
http://www.omep.org.uk

18 June 2004
Hong Kong Mathematics Education Conference 2004

25, 26 June 2004
Centre for Information Technology in Education Research Symposium

13-17 July 2004
International Council on Education for Teaching: World Assembly - Teachers as Learners: Building Communities for Professional Development

20-22 October 2004 (Hong Kong)
The Commonwealth Council for Educational Administration and Management:
Regional Conference: Education Leadership in Pluralistic Societies
http://web.hku.hk/%7Ecel2004/

24-26 October 2004 (Shanghai)

ANNIVERSARY DINNER

Date: 27 November 2004 (Sat)
Venue: Loke Yew Hall

Please view http://www.hku.hk/education/ for more updated information, or contact Ms Anson Chan at 2241 5467.
Over the decades, the field of comparative education has evolved in significant ways. Traditionally, the field has been especially concerned with cross-national comparisons, taking countries as the unit for analysis. More recently the field has been invigorated by new approaches and by diversification of the units for analysis. Scholars in Asia, including academics associated with the Comparative Education Society of Hong Kong (CESHK), have become increasingly prominent. This lecture will begin by reviewing these important trends.

The lecture will then turn to applications of comparative education tools in both academic and professional domains. It will critically analyse some problems of applications, taking examples from both Hong Kong and other parts of the world.

Finally, the lecture will consider the role of the University of Hong Kong (HKU) in the field of comparative education. The contributions by scholars in HKU have stretched back many decades, and gained prominence with the establishment of the Comparative Education Research Centre (CERC) in the Faculty of Education in 1994. The lecture will highlight the work of CERC, with a perspective on its continuing contribution to HKU’s role in international academic leadership.