

Students' Corner Quicksilver

The Biochemistry Society 2008-2009 is named "Quicksilver". It can be considered as "quick" plus "silver". "Quick" implies efficiency and accuracy. This means our committee members will co-operate with each other such that our society can operate effectively. "Silver" implies our willingness in serving our members. We will try our best in encouraging our fellow students to join the activities organized by us. We hope our society and members will be those "shining" ones in our future.



Members in Quicksilver



College Photodays



Graduation Class 2007-2008



O'Camp



Chinese New Year Banquet



BCH Shield Competition



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Purpose of donation:
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CUHK BCH Newsletter-Helix



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news

Helix goes "Green"



June 2008
Issue 4
Not for Sale

What's New?



Professor Tsang Wai Kei received his BSc and PhD degree and postdoctoral training in our Department in which he is now serving as a Research Assistant Professor. He has developed a very strong sense of belonging, "The Department of Biochemistry is like a big family with helpful staff and enthusiastic students. What I appreciate most are the good communication and close relationship between staff and students", said Professor Tsang.

Inspired by his supervisor, "Contribution to the Society" becomes an aspiration in his research on Applied Biochemistry. One of his research areas relates to development of industrial enzymes which involves protein and pathway engineering and fermentation, aiming at developing cost effective industrial processes using modified enzymes. Mutants with improved activities and thermostabilities have been generated. He received HK\$799,000 for his 2007-2008 RGC Competitive

Earmarked Research Grant (CERG) – funded project entitled, "Characterization of highly active, thermostable mutants of Trigonopsis variabilis D-amino acid oxidase for antibiotic production: kinetic measurements, structural studies and beyond". He is also interested in antifungal research, which is an extension of his earlier studies on the human fungal pathogen Candida albicans. His group is examining compounds with anticandidal activity, in particular towards resistant clinical strains.

"Being a professor, not only can I carry out research in my areas of interest, but I also have opportunities to interact with students." Professor Tsang pointed out that our Department is strong in focused research areas. Colleagues are experienced, knowledgeable and helpful and he loves the atmosphere.

By student reporter – Cheng Chung Chie (B.Sc(2010))

Two New Professors

Professor Chan Ting Fung, whose specialty is in genomics, joined the Department of Biochemistry this year. He was a Computer Science/Molecular Biology undergraduate student at the University of Wisconsin-Madison when the Human Genome Project was launched. At that time the Departments of Genetics and Computer Sciences jointly formed the Genetic Computing Group (GCG). It was then he first became interested in genome analysis, in particular, DNA sequencing and possible methods of computational analysis. Further studies at the Washington University School of Medicine and postdoctoral training at the University of California-San Francisco provided him with the opportunities to focus on genomic research in depth.

Professor Chan was born in HK, and so had a natural desire to return to his hometown and to cooperate in research with mainland China. He hopes that his research will one day lead to

a better understanding of the Chinese human genome, such as physiological features and the evolution of the Chinese race.

Professor Chan feels that the Biochemistry Department in CUHK is quite unique for its wide diversity of research expertise and friendly and collegial colleagues. Biological research in the future will be a multi-disciplinary effort. Experts in other areas such as mathematics, computer sciences, physics, and clinical sciences will all play a crucial role.

"Biochemistry is not just a degree course. It is a science, and science can be and should be fun. As the saying goes, "Hobbies are fun". If you realize that Biochemistry can be one of your hobbies, you will then have fun with it." Prof. Chan remarked.

By student reporter – Jacky Loo (B.Sc(2008))



Best Teacher Awards

Faculty of Science
Faculty Exemplary Teaching Award
2006-2007



Prof. KN Leung

Year	Recipients
1998 / 1999	K W Tsui
1999 / 2000	T B Ng
2000 / 2001	S S T Lee
2001 / 2002	S S T Lee*
2002 / 2003	K N Leung
2003 / 2004	K N Leung
2004 / 2005	K N Leung
2005 / 2006	S S T Lee
2006 / 2007	K N Leung

* Recipient of VC Exemplary Teaching award

Faculty of Medicine
Teacher of the Year Awards
2006-2007



Prof. Christopher H.K. Cheng

Year	Recipients
1996 / 1997	T B Ng
1998 / 1999	T B Ng
1999 / 2000	T B Ng
2000 / 2001	Hon Ki Cheng
2001 / 2002	T B Ng
2002 / 2003	T B Ng
2003 / 2004	Hon Ki Cheng
2004 / 2005	Hon Ki Cheng
2005 / 2006	Hon Ki Cheng
2006 / 2007	Hon Ki Cheng



Let's go **GREEN**
Helix goes
"ECO"-friendly!

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