Faculty of

Education

Human Rights Teaching Kit for Pre-School Children

- □ 1 November 1996
- Committee on the Promotion of Civic Education

This commissioned project aims at design and produce a multi-media teaching kit to promote human rights among pre-primary students. The materials cover concepts including equality, mutual respect, freedom, the value of life. There are two types of activities, one to be used in kindergarten and nursery, the other to be taught at home. Pupil-centered strategies are adopted to help students to develop their understanding of the human right concepts and instill positive attitudes towards the principals of human rights. (ED96001)

An Evaluation of Curriculum Materials for TOC English

- SZE Man Man Paul
- □ 15 October 1996
- Chung Chi College Student Work Fund

In support of the full implementation of the Target Oriented Curriculum (TOC) in primary schools in September, 1996, new curriculum materials have been produced by educational publishers for the subjects English, Chinese, and Maths. Under TOC, curriculum materials play a very different role, and this entails a different conceptualization and design of teaching materials for classroom teaching.

This project focuses on the subject English. It aims to examine to what extent published materials for TOC English have actually realized the principles of the TOC English curriculum. Three aspects of the TOC English curriculum will be examined: dimension targets; modules and units; and task-based learning. The project will discuss implications for materials design for the next phase of TOC implementation. (ED96027)

Survey on the Parents' Rights and Responsibilities in Their Children's Education

- □ 1 March 1997
- Home-School Cooperation Unit, Education Department

The main objective of the commissioned research is to clarify parents-views and school's perspectives on the rights and responsibilities of their involvement in their children's education. This research is a survey study. A set of structured questionnaires are designed to collect data from parents, teachers and students of Primary One (P1), Primary Six (P6), Secondary One (S1) and Secondary Three (S3) grade levels in Hong Kong. (ED96029)

Mathematics Curriculum Reform for Universal Education: Development of Instruments

- □ 1 October 1996
- CUHK Research Committee Funding

This research is proposed to make a comprehensive appraisal on the school mathematics curriculum, at both the intended and the implemented levels in the nine-year compulsory universal education, with a view to make practical suggestions in developing a new mathematics curriculum. Three main research questions were formulated: (a) what are the strengths and weaknesses of the existing mathematics curriculum and classroom teaching; (b) what are the learning styles and learning difficulties among our students; and (c) what are the expectations of school mathematics among school authorities, employers Both quantitative and qualitative and parents. methods will be used to collect data. These include classroom observation, interest group interviews, survey by questionnaires and document analysis. Comments from curriculum experts worldwide will be sought on the goals, learning targets and contents of the intended mathematics curriculum by means of content analysis. Expectations on school mathematics of its various end-users will be identified through interviews and questionnaire surveys. Learning habits and difficulties of school students will also be identified with the help of classroom observation, in-depth interviews and analysis of students' workings of mathematics problems. (ED96016)

A Discussion of Exceptional Corresponding Rules When Deriving Modern Cantonese Pronunciations from Fan-chieh Used at Sui-T'ang Times

- 🖉 YU Nae Wing
- □ 1 April 1997
- CUHK Research Committee Funding

Tracks of phonological changes can always be traced. The Cantonese dialect used as the teaching medium in Hong Kong was a main dialect spoken in Mid-China some 1000 years ago--that is why when we enchant the Tang poems in Cantonese, we can still feel the phonological rhythm. The present discussion is actually a continuation of the researcher's past paper "A discussion of certain rules when deriving modern Cantonese pronunciations from fan-chieh used at Sui & Tang times" which pointed out what regular corresponding rules could be discovered from the process of changes between fan-chieh and modern Cantonese pronunciations, while this paper investigates into the exceptional corresponding rules found during the same process of chance to practise related phonological theories.

In this project, data on current modern Cantonese pronunciations will firstly be collected. And their past phonological changes will be investigated with the support of past written records. Analysis from linguistic, socio-linguistic and phonological points of view will then be conducted on exceptional corresponding rules discovered. (AL96003)

Please refer to previous issues of *Research Projects Summary* for more details of the following ongoing research at the department:

Edition	Title/Investigators
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- 1995-96 Testing English Language Listening Skills on a Personal Computer (AL95061)∠ CONIAM David John
- 1995-96 Teaching Strategies and Design to Improve Comprehension and Writing Abilities in Chinese Language (ED95032)

- ∠ HO Man Koon SIU Ping Kee
 (Educational Psychology) SO
 Yuet Wah* AU Pui Kuen*

- 1995-96 Teacher Receptivity to Curriculum Changes (ED95042) ∠ LEE Chi Kin John

- - ∠ LEE Fong Lok CHOW Hon Kwong

- - ∠ WONG Hin wan LAM Chi Chung ● LEE Chi Kin John ● WONG Ngai Ying
- 1995-96 Research and Development Programme on Teaching and Curriculum for Chinese in Primary and Secondary Schools (ED92028)

- WONG Hin Wah

 FONG Kan Hay
 YEUNG Chi Kwan
 YEUNG Kwai Hong*
 CHOW Hon Kwong

Leslie Nai Kwai (Educational Administration & Policy)

- 1995-96 A Research on the Aims, Objectives, Targets, Enforcement of 9-Year Compulsory Education and the Assessment and Allocation System (ED95038)
 - ✗ WONG Hin Wah CHENG Wingchung* ● HAU Kit Tai (Educational Psychology) ● HON Hau Sut ● HUI Kwok-fai* ● LEE Chi Kin John ● NI Yujing (Educational Psychology)
 ● TSUI Chun-cheung* ● WONG Kam Cheung*

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A Preliminary Review of University Finance Strategies in China and Hong Kong

- □ 1 November 1996
- CUHK Research Committee Funding

This project proposes to examine and describe the university finance strategies in China and in Hong Kong. The finance of higher education is in crisis all over the world, particularly in the developing countries. It is because of the rapid increase in enrollment on the one hand and the decrease in the fiscal capacity of the central government to support higher education on the other. It is apparent that both China and Hong Kong will have to diversify their sources of finance and to target the allocation more on foci of excellence. The description will focus at two levels: (1) the government level illustrating the general policy; and (2) the institution level illustrating the responses of some typical universities. The strategies will be examined under the adequacy, efficiency and equity principles of educational finance.

(ED96017)

The Development of a Cross-Cultural Framework and Accompanying Instrumentation for the Comparative Analysis of School-level Organisation and Administration

- ∠ DIMMOCK Clive WALKER Allan
- □ 1 January 1997
- CUHK Research Committee Funding

This study is proposed as the first stage of a more extensive project and aims to develop a cross-cultural framework for the comparative study of schools focusing on their school level organisation and administration. Further, the study intends to develop appropriate instruments, both qualitative and quantitative, to facilitate the comparison of schoollevel organisational and administrative characteristics. The researchers' analysis suggests that frameworks developed to date only address functionalist perspectives and largely ignore the important cultural dimension at both organisational and national levels. It is argued that until greater understandings are gained of cultural similarities and differences between schools and the symbiotic relationship they have with their national cultures, comparisons are likely to remain superficial. Policy makers and practitioners are likely to continue to adopt educational administrative theories and practices which are culturally inappropriate. Expert

consultation and extensive literature reviews will be undertaken to construct the framework. Literature will be reviewed on existing comparative educational frameworks, organisational culture, national or societal culture, and school effectiveness. The framework and accompanying instrumentation will be tested initially in Hong Kong schools. It is anticipated that the development and application of the framework will enable greater comparative understandings through a fuller picture of culturespecific approaches to educational administration. (ED96018)

Organizational Values and Cultures of Primary Schools in Hong Kong

- Reung PANG Sun Keung
- □ 1 February 1997
- CUHK Research Committee Funding

This project is an extension of a quantitative study of organizational values and cultures of secondary schools in Hong Kong. Primary schools and teachers are proposed to be the subjects investigated in this study to achieve the following objectives:

(1) to establish a general applicability for the two previously self-created and developed instruments, the School Values Inventory and the Teachers' School Life Questionnaire;

(2) to test the reliability and validity of the two LISREL factor analytic models previously confirmed in a sample of secondary schools;

(3) to study organizational values and cultures in primary schools and compare their characteristics to those of secondary schools; and

(4) to examine the effects of organizational values and cultures on teachers' feelings about school life.

About 60 primary schools will be randomly selected and about 1200 teachers from these schools will be surveyed with the questionnaires to solicit their opinions about and perceptions of the schools. LISREL and multilevel modeling techniques will be used to analyze the data collected. This study may make several theoretical and practical contributions as below:

(1) to a better understanding of the specific area of organizational theory within the field of educational administration;

(2) to provide instruments to understand and assess organizational cultures and lives in primary schools;

(3) to reveal the relationships between organizational cultures and teachers' feelings about school life; and

(4) to clarify the meanings of the concepts of "strong culture", "weak culture" and "conflicting culture" in organization study.

(ED96007)

Training Course for Supervisors, Heads and Deputy Heads of SMI Schools

- 🗷 WALKER Allan
- □ 4 December 1996
- Education Department, Hong Kong Government

This programme will provide one training course for 35 supervisors, heads and deputy heads of Primary and Secondary Schools joining the School Management Initiative Scheme. The length of training will be 30 hours and the content will include concept of SMI/effective schools, role of the Advisory Council/School Management Committee, school plan, school profile, staff development and staff appraisal, school policies and procedures. (ED96028)

Please refer to previous issues of *Research Projects Summary* for more details of the following ongoing research at the department:

Edition	Title/Investigators
1989-90	The Development of Primary Education in Hong Kong (ED88015)
1989-90	School Government (ED90016) & CHAN Benjamin Yeuk Man
1994-95	Transformational Leadership Behavior of Principals in Effective Secular and Religious Schools (ED94036)
1995-96	A Comparative Study of Influences on

- - CHAN Benjamin Yeuk Man DAY Chris*
- 1992-93 School-based Management: Research and Development (ED93004) ∠ CHENG Yin Cheong
- 1995-96 Education Quality in Hong Kong Secondary Schools: Indicators and Organizational Determinants (CU94201) ∠ CHENG Yin Cheong

- 1995-96 Education and Development in South China: A Study of the Manpower System and Relevance of Education for the Development of the Non-State Economic Sector (Part of the project "Education and Development in South China") (CU94218)
- 1995-96 Education and Development in South China: A Study of the Manpower System and Relevance of Education II (from the Perspective of Studies and Employees) (CU95217)
 - ∠ CHUNG Stephen Yue Ping LO Leslie Nai Kwai ● MAK Chiu Ling Grace ● XIAO Jin ● WONG Hin Wah (Curriculum & Instruction)
- 1995-96 A Study on Parental Conceptions of Quality Education in Contemporary Chinese Communities (CU95210)
 - ✓ MAN Si Wai LAU Kwok Keung
 CHAN Kin Keung* LEE Shui Chuen
- 1995-96 Hong Kong Electorate in 1995 General Election: A Survey of Voting Behaviour of Hong Kong Electorate (CU94215)
 - TSANG Wing Kwong

 CHAN Joseph Man (Journalism & Communication)
 LEUNG Sai-Wing*
 LOUIE Kin Sheun*

- 1995-96 Principalship Dilemmas in Restructuring Schools in Hong Kong: An Initial Investigation of Coping Strategies and Comparison with Overseas Principals (ED95022)

- ✓ WALKER Allan DIMMOCK Clive ● HO Kwok Keung ● O'DONOGHUE Thomas*
- 1995-96 Images of the Principalship: Preservice Teachers' Expectations of School Leaders (ED95061)
- 1995-96 School-based Training Packages for SMI Schools (ED95063)

RESEARCH OUTPUTS AND PUBLICATIONS

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- <P953427> Xiao, Jin; M.C. Tsang and Y.P. Chung. ed. High Technology, Production, Efficiency and Reforms in Education: Critical Issues in Education Decision-Making and Management. 368 pgs. Beijing, China: People's Daily Press, 1995.
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- <P962004> Xiao, Jin. Economic Reforms and Development: An Experience of Shenzhen Special Economic Zone, China. (Research Report to Research Grants Council). 28 pgs. Hong Kong, 1996.12.11.
- <P962005> Xiao, Jin. Educational Expansion in Shenzhen: An Experience in a Rapidly Growing Special Economic Zone, China. Paper presented at UNESCO Asia-Pacific Programme of Educational Innovation for Development Conference on Re-engineering Education for Change. 35 pgs. Bangkok, Thailand, 1996.12.
- <P962013> Mak, Grace C.L. and Leslie N.K. Lo. "Education". Shanghai: Transformation and Modernization Under China's Open Policy ed. by Y.M. Yeung and Sung Yun-Wing. pp.375-398. Hong Kong: The Chinese University Press, 1996.
- <P962353> Chung, Yue-Ping and Xiao Jin. Determinants of the Development of Vocational and Technical Education in a Market Economy and a Socialist Market-Oriented Economy: A Study of Vocational/Technical Education in Hong Kong and Shenzhen. Submitted to Social Science and Education Panel. 60 pgs. Hong Kong, 1996.
- <P962663> Cheung, Wing Ming and Cheng Yin Cheong. "Teacher Self Learning Theory: Individual and Group Level Conceptions". Paper presented in the International Conference on Basic Education. 27 pgs. Hong Kong, 1996.
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- <P962668> 鄭燕祥. <學校功能的多元性:學校效能研究的新方向>. 《教育研究學報》 第11卷 第2期, 頁 174-184. 香港, 1996.11.
- <P962669> 伍國雄、鄭燕祥、<學校組織變革研究:方法學上的考慮>. 《教育研究學報》 第11卷 第2 期,頁 165-174. 香港, 1996.11.
- <P962670> Cheng, Yin Cheong. "Multiplicity of School Functions in the New Century: The Shift of Paradigm in School Effectiveness Research". Paper presented at the Conference jointly organized by Educational Research Association, Singapore and Australian Association for Research in Education. 26 pgs. Singapore, 1996.11.
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- <P962683> Cheung, Wing Ming and Yin Cheong Cheng. "Teacher Self Management: Implications for Teacher Development". Paper presented at the European Conference on Educational Research. 21 pgs. Seville, Spain, 1996.09.
- <P962684> Tam, Wai Ming; Yin Cheong Cheng and Wing Ming Cheung. "A Re-Engineering Framework for Total Home-School Partnership". Paper presented at the European Conference on Educational Research. 28 pgs. Seville, Spain, 1996.09.
- <P962685> Tsui, Kwok Tung and Yin Cheong Cheng. "A Framework of Total Teacher Effectiveness for Research". Paper presented at the European Conference on Educational Research. 35 pgs. Sevilla, Spain, 1996.09.
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- <P962688> Tam, Wai-Ming and Yin-Cheong Cheng. "Management of Education Quality: Multi-Model and Multi-Frame Approach". Paper presented at the 13th Annual Conference of Hong Kong Education Research Association. 20 pgs. Hong Kong, 1996.11.
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- <P962692> Cheng, Yin Cheong. "A Multi-Level and Multi-Indicator Framework for Monitoring Education Quality in Primary Schools". Paper presented at the 1996 International Seminar on School Effectiveness and Classroom Processes at the Primary Stage, organized by National Council of Educational Research and Training. 27 pgs. New Delhi, India, 1996.07.
- <P962693> Cheung, Wing Ming; Yin Cheong Cheng and Wai Ming Tam. "A Conceptual Model for Implementing and Managing Parental Involvement in School Education". Paper presented at the 8th Regional/International Conference of the Commonwealth Council on Educational Administration (CCEA). 26 pgs. Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 1996.08.
- <P962694> Cheng, Yin Cheong and Kwok Hung Ng. "Management of School-Based Change: A Matrix Approach". Paper presented at the 8th Regional/International Conference of the Commonwealth Council on Educational Administration(CCEA). 27 pgs. Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 1996.08.
- <P962695> Cheng, Yin Cheong and Bong Yiu Yuen. "Strategic Leadership in School: Multi-Functions for Strategic Management". Paper presented at the 8th Regional/International Conference of the Commonwealth Council on Educational Administration (CCEA). 24 pgs. Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 1996.08.20.
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- <P970717> Cheng, Yin Cheong and Allan Walker. "Multi-Functions of School-Based Teacher Education". International Journal of Educational Management vol.11 no.2, pp.80-88. UK, 1997.04.
- <P970718> Yin Cheong Cheng. "The Transformational Leadership for School Effectiveness and Development in the New Century". Paper presented at the International Symposium on Quality and Training of Primary and Secondary Principals Towards the 21st Century, organized by State Education Commission of the People's Republic of China and supported by the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization. 1997.01.
- <P970719> Tsui, Kwok Tung and Cheng Yin Cheong. "A Multi-level and Multi-perspective Framework of Teacher Effectiveness". Paper presented at the International Congress for School Effectiveness and Improvement. 28 pgs. Memphis, USA, 1997.01.
- <P970720> Tsui, Kwok Tung and Yin Cheong Cheng. "School Organizational Health and Teacher Commitment: A Multi-Level Analysis". Paper presented at the International Congress for School Effectiveness and Improvement. 23 pgs. Memphis, USA, 1997.01.
- <P970721> Cheung, Wing Ming and Yin Cheong Cheng. "Multi-Level Self Management in School as Related to School Performance: A Multi-Level Analysis". Paper presented at the International Congress of School Effectiveness and Improvement. 29 pgs. Memphis, USA, 1997.01.
- <P970722> Cheng, Yin Cheong and Wing Ming Cheung. "Multi-Models of Education Quality and Multi-Levels of Self Management in School". Paper presented at the International Congress for School Effectiveness and Improvement. 28 pgs. Memphis, USA, 1997.01.
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- <P970724> Cheng, Yin Cheong. "A Framework of Indicators of Education Quality in Hong Kong Primary Schools: Development and Application". Paper presented at the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Education Forum on School-Based Indicators of Effectiveness. 44 pgs. Quilin, China, 1997.04.
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- <P970727> Cheng, Yin Cheong. "A New Direction for Educational Reforms in the 21st Century: Hong Kong and International Contexts". Paper presented at the Symposium on the Latest Initiatives for School Effectiveness and Educational Quality in Hong Kong, organized by the International Congress of School Effectiveness and Improvement. 43 pgs. Memphis, USA, 1997.01.

see also <IA97003>, <P962239>

Assessing Adult Cognitive Functioning Using a **Chinese Vocabulary Test**

- CHAN David Wai Ock LEE Betty H. C.*
- □ 1 February 1997
- CUHK Research Committee Funding

The vocabulary test has often been regarded as the single best measure of intellectual functioning. The measure can also be used to assess age-related cognitive changes in normal adults, and premorbid and post-injury cognitive functioning in individuals suffering head injuries. Based on these consideration, Hong Kong is in dire need of a reliable and valid vocabulary test for effective educational and psychological service delivery. The present proposed study aims at fulfilling this need. The results of this study will provide some initial normative data and data on the psychometric properties of a Chinese vocabulary test which has been developed and refined in previous studies. Evaluation of this vocabulary test as a subtest of the WAIS-R will also be examined.

(ED96008)

Assessment of Primary School Mathematics **Learning Targets**

- IP Ming Ho
- □ 1 November 1995
- ✤ Faculty of Education, CUHK One-time Support, CUHK

In the Target Oriented Curriculum (TOC) reform, it is paramount that sets of assessment tools for summative evaluation are available for teachers adopting the TOC. In this project the researchers will borrow the experience of similar reform in other countries and will make use of the latest assessment methodologies (e.g. item response theory) to construct, validate and develop group-administered paper-and-pencil tests for the primary school mathematics curriculum. Furthermore, the feasibility applying current educational assessment of methodology (e.g. performance tasks) and techniques in Hong Kong will be explored. (ED95066)

Assessment of Primary School Chinese Learning **Objectives**

- Instruction) ● NI Yujing ● LIN Wen Ying
- I January 1997
- Language Fund, Hong Kong

The provision of the necessary support and resources to assess students' attainment of the learning targets is crucial for the success of the Target Oriented Curriculum (TOC) reform. In this project the researchers will borrow the experience of similar reform in other countries to develop learning targets, exemplars, performance tests, and other groupadministered paper-and-pencil tests for the primary school curriculum. Furthermore, the feasibility of applying current educational assessment methodology in Hong Kong will be explored. Specifically the researchers will develop a set of Chinese achievement tests aimed at Primary 3 and 6 students, who are at the Key Stages 1 and 2 of the TOC. It is anticipated that the present academic research will ultimately lead to the setting up of an item bank and an educational evaluation research and service centre in Hong Kong. The benefits of such evaluation centres to academic research and to the community at large have been well demonstrated in the United States, United Kingdom, Australia and other developed countries. (ED96034)

A Psychometric Evaluation of China's Putonghua Level Exam: Toward the Development of a **Psychometrically Sound and Efficient Putonghua** Assessment in Hong Kong

- □ 1 February 1997
- CUHK Research Committee Funding

The proposed research has two goals, an immediate goal and an ultimate goal. The ultimate goal is to develop an efficient putonghua assessment in Hong Kong. As a first step toward the development of Hong Kong's own putonghua assessment, the proposed study has the immediate goal of evaluating the efficiency of China's current putonghua exam procedures. Being the only exam of its kind, China's putonghua exam provides a prototype to the development of Hong Kong's putonghua assessment. However, China's putonghua exam is a product of knowledge (putonghua) alone. content Its development has not been based on psychometric research and evaluation. The proposed study will conduct a psychometric evaluation of China's putonghua exam so that the ultimate development of Hong Kong's putonghua assessment which will be modeled after China's current exam shall have sound psychometric properties. (ED96009)

Cross-cultural Investigation of Cognitive Α Development in the Field of Secondary School Science

- ✓ HEYWORTH Rex Malcolm
- □ 1 September 1996

✤ CUHK Departmental Funding

This study takes a topic from senior secondary school chemistry that is taught in different countries in the asian region. Using both qualitative and quantitative methods, the study first identifies students as experts and novices in the topic then investigates differences in conceptual understanding of the topic. This is followed by a comparison of the strategies used by students for solving problems and the relation of these problem-solving strategies to conceptual knowledge. From the findings, mental models of the topic will be derived to explain and to predict students' performance, to simulate the changes from a novice to an expert problem solver in the topic, and to suggest recommendations for instruction. (ED96025)

Certificate Programmes in School Discipline/Student Guidance/School Counselling and Guidance (1996-97)

- 🗷 LAM Man Ping
- □ 1 September 1996
- Education Department, Hong Kong Government

Commissioned by the Education Department, the Hong Kong Institute of Educational Research offers three training courses for secondary school teachers on school discipline, student guidance, and school counselling and guidance respectively. The length of training ranges from 30 to 34 three-hours meetings, with three workshops / field visits and practicum with supervision. These three courses will run for a year between September 1996 to June 1997. (ED96002)

The Career Development of High School Students in Hong Kong

- LEUNG Seung Ming
- □ 1 November 1996
- CUHK Research Committee Funding

This study will examine the career development of high school students in Forms three, five, and seven. The major purposes are to examine (1) the career development of high school students (example variables examined: vocational identity, readiness in making vocational decision, vocational knowledge, status of vocational decision-making, knowledge about the connection between education and vocation); (2) the career interests of high school students based on a standardized interest assessment instrument; and (3) the counseling and guidance needs of high school students (example variables: perceived needs, need for information, need for help on self-exploration). This study is based conceptually on the career development theories of Super (1990) and Holland (1985), two career development theories that have been extensively researched. Theoretically, this study will shed light on the validity of theories for high school students in Hong Kong. Practically, this study will provide valuable information on the career counseling, guidance, and educational needs of high school students. (ED96020)

An Examination of the Validity of the Strong Interests and Skills Confidence Inventory among University Students in Hong Kong

- ∠ LEUNG Seung Ming
- 1 March 1997
- CUHK Research Committee Funding

This proposed research study is designed to examine the validity of the Strong Interest and Skills Confidence Inventory (hereafter refer to as the Strong) among university students in Hong Kong. The Strong is the most popular career assessment instrument in North America, and a new edition of this instrument was released recently. With the increasing need for career counseling and guidance among university students in Hong Kong, the Strong can be a useful tool for university counselors and student affairs staffs. However, no existing research studies have been conducted to examine the validity of the Strong among Chinese. This study will provide valuable data to help determine how this instrument can be used in a cross-cultural setting such as Hong Kong. It is hoped that this research study will contribute to the identification and development of a standardized career assessment instruments to help university students understand their career interests and skills. (ED96010)

Negative Priming Effects as a Function of Task Demand and Practice

- 🖉 SHIU Ling Po
- □ 1 September 1996
- CUHK Research Committee Funding

The researchers recently reported that when subjects are asked to make incongruent naming response to words or pictures (e.g., say "car" to BIKE), their response is delayed if the response for the current trial was the name of the stimulus presented on the preceding trial, compared to an unrelated control (Shiu & Kornblum, 1996, in press). These "negative priming" effects suggest that the tendency to produce the (congruent) name of the stimulus is automatically activated and then inhibited. To further develop this new paradigm as a tool for investigating automatic response activation and the inhibitory function of selective attention, two studies are proposed. The first study compares negative priming effects in a naming task with those in a categorization task. In the second study, the development of negative priming effects as a function of practice will be investigated. (ED96021)

An Empirical Study on the Construction of Aesthetic Experience: The Gestalt Approach

- 🗷 WONG Wan Chi
- □ 1 September 1995
- United College Endowment Fund, CUHK

The present study aims to investigate the construction of aesthetic experience from the gestalt perspective as revitalized by Rudolf Arnheim (1966, 1969/1974a, 1974b, 1952, 1986, 1992a, 1992b). Subjects will comprise children and adolescents. Given a set of materials including different elements, the subjects will be invited to construct a visual pattern that they regard as beautiful. In the semistructured interviews that follows, the subjects will be encouraged to communicate the meaning of their constructed pattern. Specifically, three key probing questions will be raised among others:

(1) Why do you feel that the constructed artistic work is beautiful?

(2) What are your associations with this piece of constructed work?

(3) In what ways are your personal experiences related to the aforementioned associations?

All interview sessions and all accomplished artistic products will be recorded. The content of transcribed materials and the form of the developed photos will be analyzed with the assessment of inter-rater reliability. Purpose of the research lies in exploring the significance of visual arts in relation to human thinking and passion. Principles of the gestalt psychology refined by Rudolf Arnheim will be examined empirically. In providing clues to the understanding of unique human experiences and their underlying psychological forces, results of the research will throw lights on the subject areas of aesthetic education and art therapy. (ED96014)

Modes of Historical View among Young Citizens in Hong Kong

- 🗷 WONG Wan Chi
- □ 1 September 1996
- United College Endowment Fund, CUHK

Nietzsche's original thesis concerning the service and disservice of history to life is subject to empirical scrutiny in the present study. To Nietzsche, healthiness and vitality in human life necessitate both the historical and ahistorical standpoints, and also depend on a balance among the monumental, antiquarian and critical modes of historical view. Utilizing the conceptual apparatuses of Nietzsche, a questionnaire was administered among the young citizens in Hong Kong (N=643) before the city returned to Chinese sovereignty on 1st July, 1997. Through specific item-design of the questionnaire, the relations among different modes of historical view, quantitative state of memories and striving attitude in life were explored. A positive striving attitude for personal and for collective causes was found to be significantly related to the extracted Factor one (reflecting monumental and antiquarian views on personal history, family history and Chinese cultural tradition). For all sorts of personal and collective memories, the group which scored one standard deviation below means (reflecting a state of frequent remembering) also scored significantly higher on Factor one. Results of the study have witnessed important divergence from Nietzsche's thesis. Regarding the complex subject matter of history and life, empirical research extended to other regions and populations should be implemented before any conclusive remark can be made. (ED96032)

Gender Roles in Hong Kong, China and America: Cross-Cultural and Cross-Gender Comparisons

- 🗷 ZHANG Lei
- □ 1 January 1997
- CUHK Research Committee Funding

The study seeks to examine attitudes toward gender roles among 400 college students each, in Hong Kong, the People's Republic of China, and America. Opinions on educational and vocational opportunities, allocation of household chores, child care issues, financial decision-making, public conduct and the use of language, and dating and sexual behavior within each culture will be obtained by a survey. Participants will assess their own attitudes and their perceptions of the attitudes of their peers of the same and opposite sex from their respective cultures. Comparisons on the above attitudes and behaviors will be made across cultures and genders, to enable better understanding and communication among the three cultures and across genders. (ED96019)

A Generalizability Theory Based Model of Intrajudge Inconsistency and Comparisons Among the Angoff, Nedelsky, and Revised Nedelsky Standard-Setting Methods

- □ 1 January 1997
- CUHK Mainline Research Scheme

The study intends (1) to develop a g-theory-based model to evaluate intrajudge inconsistency; (2) to redesign and modify the popular Nedelsky standardsetting method so that it yields continuous rather than categorical decisions to better fit the Chinese problem solving style; (3) to conduct an empirical comparison among the Angoff, Nedelsky, and the revised Nedelsky methods and make conclusive recommendations as to which method should be adopted in Hong Kong; (4) to conduct workshops for interested Hong Kong professionals on standardsetting and other testing issues; and (5) to continue to develop experiences and human resources for the establishment of a Hong Kong testing centre. The researcher will visit the University of Twente National Institute of Educational and the Measurement in the Netherlands to conduct the research, to study IRT with Dr. van der Linden, and, most importantly, to acquire hands-on experience on test construction and IRT-based item assembling ConTEST is an IRT-based using ConTEST. programming algorithm developed by van der Linden

to select test items that meet specified constraints. It can be used with any item bank. (ED96026)

Please refer to previous issues of *Research Projects Summary* for more details of the following ongoing research at the department:

- Edition Title/Investigators
- 1993-94 Education Quality Research Programme (ED93012)
 - Yin Cheong (Educational Administration & Policy)

 TSANG Wing Kwong (Educational Administration & Policy)
 MAN Si Wai (Educational Administration & Policy) • LAU Kwok Keung (Educational Administration & Policy) • LEE Shui Chuen (Educational Administration & MAK Se Yuen Policy) • (Curriculum & Instruction) . WONG Ngai Ying (Curriculum & Instruction) • SIU Lai Ping Teresa (Curriculum & Instruction) • HO Koon (Curriculum Man & Instruction) • CHOW Hon Kwong

(Curriculum & Instruction) ● CHEN Wen Ning*

Ping Chung

RESEARCH OUTPUTS AND PUBLICATIONS

<P953262> 侯傑泰.<信度與度向性:高 alpha 量表不一定是單度向>. 《教育學報》 第 23 卷 第 1 期,頁 135-146. 香港, 1995.

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The Go! Sport Programme: A Three Years Performance Review

- □ 1 October 1996
- Hong Kong Sports Development Board

To effect a position audit and performance review on the total Go! Sport Programme thereby providing a factual platform upon which recommendations may be made for its continued expansion and success.

The research project will focus specifically on the EasySport and SportCaptain components of the Go! Sport programme and will identify:

(1) service delivery efficiency (operational management)

(2) service delivery and marketing effectiveness (achievement of objectives)

(3) client, end-user and public awareness and perception of the programmes' objectives and operations

(4) participants expectations and motivations for participation

The achievement of the foregoing objectives will enable the further development of a market segmentation matrix, strategic objectives, action plan and strategies for the Go! Sport programme. (ED96004)

Specialist Teachers' Evaluation of Hong Kong Certificate of Education Examination in Physical Education

- □ 1 November 1996
- CUHK Research Committee Funding

The Hong Kong Certificate of Education Examination in Physical Education (HKCEE P.E.) programme was introduced in 1991. During the first five years, the participation of secondary schools in this examination as well as the average examination result have not been satisfactory. This fact may reflect that there are some problems, or certain defects which come from the design of the assessment as well as the syllabus HKCEE P.E. programme. The objectives of this study are to analyze those problems or defects by discovering through the experience of the physical education teachers, their opinions.

There are three phases to the research. The first phase will use questionnaire to collect the data from all secondary school head P.E. teachers (about 450) in Hong Kong. Finally, a structured interview will be conducted with approximately 40 P.E. teachers who have been teaching the HKCEE P.E. programme. (ED96022)

A Study of the Relationship of Teacher Behaviours to Student Physical Activity Levels in Shanghai, Taiwan, and Hong Kong Schools

- MA Sau Ching Amy
- □ 1 April 1997
- CUHK Research Committee Funding

The purpose of this study is to examine teacher behaviours and student physical activity level time and to analyze the relationship between these two variables in the junior high school physical education setting. The subjects in this study will be forty-eight physical education teachers and their classes among the districts of Shanghai, Taiwan and Hong Kong. Each physical education teacher and their students will be videotaped in four separate classes. Interval recording procedures are employed with the Arizona State University Observation Instrument (ASUOI) to collect teacher behaviour data. The Academic Learning Time - Physical Education (ALTPE) is used to collect data on student physical activity levels. While there are many factors that can affect student physical activity levels. While there are many factors that can affect student physical activity levels (i.e. class size, types of activity, facilities and equipment, skill levels of students), the type and frequency of teaching behaviours undoubtedly impacts on the amount of time that students are appropriately motor engaged. Therefore, two logical variables in the teaching/learning process that warrant study area the behaviours exhibited by teachers and the amount of time that students are motorically engaged in appropriate physical education activities. (ED96011)

Biomechanical and Physiological Responses to Carrying School Bags by School Children - A Pilot Study

- 🗷 HONG Youlian
- □ 1 February 1997
- CUHK Research Committee Funding

The issue of school students carrying heavy schoolbag is highly concerned by the community of Hong Kong and other countries. However, information about the physical stress in children caused by carrying heavy school bags are limited. In this study, 15 male students of 10-12 year for age will be recruited to serve as subjects. Subjects walk on a treadmill with a speed of 1.1m/s for 20 minutes in four conditions: without schoolbag and with schoolbag of backpack type with 10%, 15% and 20% body weight. During treadmill walking, heart rate and

recorded. Electromyography signals will be Movement kinematics will be measured through two dimensional video filming and motion analysis. The 4 x 10m shuttle run will be tested after each treadmill walking. The data will then be statistically analyzed by using the one-way and two-way analysis of variance (ANOVA) with repeated measures design. It is expected that the results will provide a clear picture on the change in muscle performance, working status of cardiovascular systems, mobility, and gait characteristics related to the weight carried. The effects of carrying different weight of schoolbags on biomechanical and physiological responses in children will be determined, and this would contribute to the knowledge of pediatric exercise science. Information generated from this study will also be useful for health and educational professionals to issue guidelines for weights of schoolbags. (ED96012)

Badminton Tactic Analysis in International Competition

- □ 12 May 1997
- Hong Kong Sports Development Board

In the recent years, the standard of badminton players in Hong Kong has been improving, both in their skills and physical fitness. Nevertheless, strategy analysis of badminton players is still an empty page in Hong Kong. Actually, it had already been used as reference material for training of national team players in many strong countries, such as: China, Indonesia, Malaysia, England and Denmark.

In this study, the strategy and tactics used by Hong Kong and international badminton players in international competition will be analyzed by using notation methods. Through this analysis, we can obtain many useful information, for example: the up-to-date playing pattern employed by outstanding international players; what are the differences comparing the international players with Hong Kong national players, so as to improve their playing pattern; read the weaknesses of the opponents and to design effective tactics to play against them; and to find out the weaknesses of an individual player, then appropriate training plan can be designed to improve his/her weaknesses.

(ED96013)

Eating Behaviours of Rhythmic Gymnasts

- 🗷 JOHNS David
- □ 1 June 1996
- CUHK Conference Grant

In this study the sociological and philosophical concept of the sport ethic has been utilized to explain the meaning of extreme and overconforming athlete behaviors which manifest themselves as athletic preparation. To this end, this study discloses, through the life history of a rhythmic gymnast, how the meanings and values of what it means to be an athlete were transmitted through the day-to-day discourse of athlete practice. By focusing on the dietary preoccupations of gymnasts involved in international competition, it was possible to demonstrate how modern sport preparation is not only distorted but also paradoxical, serving to push the body beyond its limits while insisting on its preservation.

(ED95065)

Evaluating Mental Preparation of Track and Field National Team Athletes at the Atlanta Olympic Games

- 🗷 JOHNS David
- □ 1 July 1996
- CUHK Overseas Research Grant

This purpose of this study was to discover whether specific sports could be considered as a possible variable in how athletes use psychological skills and to determine how they perceived the affect of these psychological skills on the outcome of critical events in their careers. Four women and six men were interviewed face to face prior to the 1996 Olympic Games and three of the women and four of the men were interviewed by telephone two weeks after their performance at the games. The transcribed text was systematically analyzed using a deductive analysis from which raw data themes, higher order themes and dimensions were inductively drawn. It was discovered that track and field athletes in this study were more familiar with the biological functioning of their body than they were with the effects of psychological factors but they more frequently attributed dispositional rather than situational factors to both positive and negative outcomes. (ED96036)

Pre-competitive Mental Skills of Olympic Athletes

- 🗷 JOHNS David
- □ 15 July 1996
- ✤ CUHK Research Committee Funding

This grant proposal is aimed at completing a project which was partially funded by The Chinese University of Hong Kong from a special grant for overseas research. The aim of the project was to investigate the mental preparation of high performance athletes with a view to isolating the most valuable strategies which athletes utilize in their preparation. The research to this end was accomplished with 10 Olympic athletes who consented to pre and post Olympic games interviews, First, in-depth structured interviews were conducted in face-to-face meetings with the athletes before their competition. At the end of the interview arrangements were made to conduct a telephone interview when the athlete arrived home from his/her game's experience. The result was that a large amount of qualitative data was recorded and awaited transcription. What this proposal requested was the cost of transcription and organization of the data into categories which were essential in order to make sense of the data. (ED96024)

A Study of Hong Kong Children's Dietary and Physical Activity Behaviours

- ✓ JOHNS David HA Sau Ching Amy
- □ 1 September 1996
- CUHK Research Committee Funding

Members of the public health community and physical educators have recently suggested that the concerns over children's health is due in large measure to the lack of regular exercise combined with poor eating habits. The existing levels of physical activity offered in schools and the amount of active behaviours pursued by children out of school suggest that children do not receive sufficient exercise to positively affect their health. This study examined the behaviours of young children between 5-8 by using a system known as BEACHES (Behaviours of Eating and Activity for Children's Health Evaluation System) to assess the level of activity and the degree to which children's health was affected by their eating habits. Using 8 trained research assistants, 40 children in Hong Kong were assessed on a regular schedule over a period of eight weeks in their home surroundings and in the school setting.

(ED96003)

A Replication of the BEACHES Study

- □ 1 September 1996
- CUHK Research Committee Funding

A direct observation system known as The Behaviors of Eating and Activity for Children's Health Evaluation System (BEACHES) (McKenzie, Sallis Nader, Patterson, Elder, Berry, Rupp, Atkins, Buono, Nelson, 1991) was adopted to investigate the behaviors associated with activity and eating in Hong Kong children between the ages of 6 and 8. Forty children from middle income districts in the Hong Kong area were the subjects used in this study which lasted from 9/1996 to 1/1997. Where possible, the study followed the methods used by the researchers who developed the instrument for BEACHES.

While the instrument was effective in measuring the activity of young children, it did not collect useful data on the dietary behaviors of the children. Nevertheless, the study revealed that Hong Kong children spent over 60% of their school recess time standing or sitting while 74% of the observed time at home was spent passively. These findings follow the trends of modern urban societies in that the intensity of physical activity is insufficient to serve as a beneficial behavior leading to improved fitness. (ED96035)

Preliminary Indicators of Activity Behaviours of Young Hong Kong Children Aged 4-8

- ✗ JOHNS David
- □ 1 September 1996
- CUHK Conference Grant

The purpose of this paper is to illustrate that in Hong Kong there are several socially constructed factors which have influenced the extent of opportunity for young people to participate in a regular and effective physical education program. This paper forms the first part of a study, presently being conducted, on the eating and dietary habits of young children in Hong Kong. A review of research related to the effects of activity and diet on the health of children from a world view and from local research conducted in the territory and Southern China is presented. The reported findings demonstrate that due to social and political changes, children's health is changing as Western influences on lifestyle, diet and exercise become apparent. The paper also demonstrates that population density, lack of playground space, poor school physical education facilities are possible factors which will inhibit adequate physical education experiences for young children. (ED96037)

Study of Hong Kong Children's Dietary and Physical Activity Behaviours

- □ 1 October 1996
- Health Services Research Fund, Hospital Authority

The results of this study provide a clear picture of the lifestyle constraints and their effect on the individual child. The researchers have grounds for concern about the low levels of activity which this study demonstrated. While low levels of physical activity at home are to be expected, school recess periods provide opportunity, particularly among young children, for spontaneous participation in play. However, the low activity levels recorded for this age group suggest that children in densely populated urban areas like Hong Kong may not be forming attitudes which lead to active behaviours. The researchers fear that children are gradually being socialized out of vigorous self motivated and self directed physical activity and into a lifestyle of passivity. (ED96005)

Measuring Physical Activity Levels During Primary and Secondary School Physical Education Classes

- ✓ JOHNS David HA Sau Ching Amy
- □ 1 April 1997
- CUHK Research Committee Funding

Evidence now demonstrates that engagement in light, moderate and vigorous physical activity has substantial benefits which merit its promotion as an objective for disease prevention. The purpose of this study was to evaluate the levels of physical activity that are experienced by Hong Kong primary and secondary school students in classes conducted by student teachers during their teaching practices. An integrated system for coding direct observations of physical activity behaviours known as SOFIT has already been developed by McKenzie, Sallis and Nader (1991a) and was utilized in this study to evaluate the levels of physical activity in a teaching practice setting. (ED96023)

Social-psychological Determinants of School Children's Sport Participation

- 🗷 LAU Wing Chung
- I January 1997
- ✤ Faculty of Education, CUHK

Sport for children has become an important issue in contemporary society. Sports has been considered as one of the major elements which can have an important psychological and sociological impact on children (Brustad, 1992). Much research is underway to better understand the major determinants which influence children's decision to participate in sport. Much of the interest has focused on either psychological or sociological aspects. Little research has been directed to a more holistic approach to this topic. Since the participation of children in sports is a complicated social issue, the decision or motives determining participation in sport are likely to be multidimensional. Thus, it might give us a more complete picture if psychological, sociological and physiological factors are considered at the same time. The purpose of this study, therefore, is to develop a causal model of sport participation of children aged 12 to 15 years old. This paper is the first study of a 4-year longitudinal study. Follow-up and comparative studies will be conducted in next few years, therefore the developmental changes of children's participation in sport can be documented. (ED96031)

Please refer to previous issues of *Research Projects Summary* for more details of the following ongoing research at the department:

- Edition Title/Investigators

- 1995-96 The Comprehensive Diagnostic Analysis and Training Programme Development of Hong Kong Disabled Elite Sprint and Long Jump Athletes (ED95005)
 - ∠ HONG Youlian ROBINSON Paul David ● SO Raymond* ● LI Wei Ping* ● PUN Kin Lui*

1995-96 Effects of Tai Chi Quan Exercise on Balance, Flexibility, Muscle Contractile Characteristics and Cardiopulmonary Fitness in Elderly (ED95055)

RESEARCH OUTPUTS AND PUBLICATIONS

- <P962454> 郭靜如、洪友廉. <太極拳運動對改善老年人運動功能作用初探>. 《天津體育學院學報》 第11卷第4期,頁14-17.中國,1996.
- <P962837> Hong, You-Lian and Kai-Ming Chan. "Comparison of Health-Related Physical Fitness of School Children Between Hong Kong and China". Paper presented in the 1997 International Sports Medicine Congress on Sports and Children. Hong Kong, 1996.
- <P962839> Hong, Youlian; Thomas Chi-Ming Chang and Daniel Wan-Ka Chan. "A Comparison of the Game Strategies Employed by National and International Squash Players in Competitive Situation by Notational Analysis". *Journal of Human Movement Studies* vol.31, pp.89-104. UK, 1996.
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- <P970871> Hong, Y.; P.D. Robinson and W.K. Chan. "Profile of Playing Pattern in Female Squash Players in International Competition". *Medicine and Science in Sports & Exercise* vol.29 no.5, p.284. USA, 1997.
- <P970872> Wong, Aaron S.K. and Y. Hong. "Walking Pattern Analysis of Primary School Children During Load Carriages on Treadmill". *Medicine and Science in Sports & Exercise* vol.29 no.5, p.85. USA, 1997.

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