



**Faculty of  
Education**

## RESEARCH OUTPUTS AND PUBLICATIONS

<P983330> 列志佳、黃毅英. <本港中學教師對運用數學史於數學教育之調查研究>. 《課程論壇》第 8 期, 頁 50-65. 香港, 1998.11.

see also <P990103>, <P990722>

## RESEARCH PROJECTS

### **The Simplex Structure of Teachers' Stages of Concern About Implementing a New Curriculum**

✉ CHEUNG Sin Pui

☐ 1 October 1998

❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding

Identifying teacher concerns is essential for successful curriculum implementation. Hall et al. (1977) have postulated that teacher concerns about implementing an innovation is a developmental construct which comprises seven stages of concern (SoC): awareness, informational, personal, management, consequence, collaboration, and refocusing. These seven SoC are assumed to form a simplex structure; that is, correlations among the seven SoC in a correlation matrix are expected to decrease as one moves away from the main diagonal. Hall et al. developed a 35-item Stages of Concern Questionnaire (SoCQ) to measure teachers' SoC, but the simplex structure of SoCQ responses has not been convincingly supported by research. The present project is designed to validate the simplex structure of the SoC hierarchy through the use of a Chinese version of SoCQ and structural equation modeling.

Because teachers' concerns about implementing Hong Kong Target Oriented Curriculum (TOC) have not been systematically investigated, TOC will be used as the context for this research project. About 1,500 TOC teachers will be invited to answer the Chinese SoCQ. Using the LISREL program, confirmatory factor analysis of teacher responses will be conducted to examine whether the 35 items can measure seven distinct SoC, and regression coefficients will be computed to check whether the seven SoC form a simplex factor structure. Hence, the project will contribute to new knowledge in two ways: to test the applicability of a Chinese version of the SoCQ in Hong Kong, and to validate the hypothesized simplex structure of SoC through structural equation modeling.

(ED98005)

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### **Development and Validation of an Instrument for Measuring Teachers' Meta-Orientation to Science Curriculum**

✉ CHEUNG Sin Pui • NG Pun Hon\*

☐ 1 March 1999

❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding

Curriculum orientations are beliefs about what a school curriculum should achieve and how teaching, learning and assessment should occur. There are five major orientations to design science curricula: academic rationalist, cognitive processes, social reconstruction-relevance, humanistic, and

technological. However, most science curriculum developers do not fall neatly into one of the above sharply defined curriculum orientations. The challenge for science curriculum developers is to integrate those five orientations and to establish an appropriate balance among them.

Although science curriculum developers have continued to work towards an integration of the individual curriculum orientations, their efforts at reforming science curriculum will have little impact on classroom teaching and learning if teachers' beliefs about the design of science curriculum are not congruent with those of curriculum developers. Thus, developing an instrument with good psychometric properties is critically important for science education because the inventory can empirically identify the major curriculum orientations held by science teachers.

Research by Cheung (1998) confirmed that the apparently conflicting curriculum orientations are actually subsumed under a meta-orientation construct. A Curriculum Orientation Inventory was designed, which consisted of four scales to measure the four curriculum orientations (i.e., academic, humanistic, social reconstructionist, and technological) proposed by McNeil (1996). The inventory, however, was not tailor-made for sciences. The purposes of this research project are to develop a new Curriculum Orientation Inventory for measuring teachers' meta-orientations to science curriculum and to validate the inventory by hierarchical confirmatory factor analysis of teacher responses.

(ED98033)

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### **Young Writer Website**

✉ HO Man Koon

☐ 1 October 1998

❖ Faculty of Education and Hong Kong Institute of Educational Research

This Young Writer Website is a new interactive website aiming at improving students' Chinese writing skills, as well as being a rich resource of teaching materials for teachers. The website is organized by the Faculty of Education of The Chinese University of Hong Kong, and maintained by Professor Ho Man-koon of the Faculty.

The design of this website is based on cognitive psychological theories of language teaching and learning. Of special emphases are the training of general thinking skills, interaction between the writer and the reader, and collaborative writing. It has been proven that such training can effectively and significantly raise students' standard of writing as well as their interest and motivation. We also have one section designed especially for teachers. In this section, besides having databases containing instructional materials for teachers to use, we also include update research findings and theories on

language instruction to inform teachers of the latest development in the field. There are strategies and theories on teaching reading, writing, speaking and listening, e.g., raising students' ability in appreciating prose (Strong, 1996), training students ability to restructuring paragraphs (Goldman, et al., 1995); giving students prose and articles and have them write summaries (Gammage, et al., 1993), training of using vocabulary (Tompkins, 1997), paragraphing (Bauman, 1998); training on reading aloud (Markell & Deno, 1997), and collaborative activities (Almanza, 1997).

(ED98034)

### **To Examine the Effectiveness of Using Putonghua as Medium of Instruction in Chinese Language Teaching**

✉ HO Wai Kit • ZHANG Rui\* • CHEUNG Shiu Yip\* • HUI Yiu Chi\* • CHIU Lam Shing\* • CHEUNG Kwok Chung\* • LAM Kin Ping\* • TAM Shing Chu\*

☐ 1 July 1998

❖ Language Fund

The aim of the research is to examine the effectiveness of using Putonghua as medium of instruction in Chinese language teaching. The study will cover the following aspects:

- (1) to explore the impact of using Putonghua as medium of instruction in Chinese language teaching on students' proficiency in Chinese;
- (2) to examine the strategies adopted by schools when using Putonghua as medium of instruction; and
- (3) to evaluate the effectiveness of using Putonghua as medium of instruction in Chinese language teaching, and to identify factors that affecting the development of students' proficiency in Chinese language.

The research seeks to present a thorough evaluation of the effectiveness of Putonghua as medium of instruction in Chinese language teaching and to summarise schools' experience in their actual practice of such policy. It is hoped that the result of the research can provide relevant reference to schools, and all role-bearers in teachers' training, curriculum development and language teaching.

(ED98003)

### **The Implementation of Information Technology in Secondary Schools in Hong Kong**

✉ LAM Chi Chung • LEE Fong Lok

☐ 1 November 1998

❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding

Developing information technology in education is a major policy of the Hong Kong Government.

Experiences of past curriculum innovation in the local context suggest that the implementation of this new initiative would face many problems. At this early stage of change, it would be better that problems can be revealed so that any deficiencies can be corrected. The present study tries to reveal factors related to the implementation of information technology in schools so that problems raised from the implementation can be surfaced and remedied. As educational researchers have discovered that teachers' knowledge and beliefs of the change have significant impact on curriculum change, a major area of this study will be on delving teachers' role in the curriculum change.

The study comprises two phases. Teachers and IT coordinators in six secondary schools will be interviewed to explore the level and the problems of implementation with special emphasis on teachers' knowledge and beliefs. Based on the findings of these case studies, questionnaire survey will be generated for a survey of 100 secondary schools. Results collected are then analyzed and suggestions on how IT should be implemented will be made accordingly.

(ED98006)

### **Accelerated Schools for Quality Education**

✉ LEE Chi Kin John • CHUNG Yue Ping Stephen (Educational Administration & Policy) • LO Nai Kwai Leslie (Educational Administration & Policy) • WONG Hin Wah • WALKER Allan David (Educational Administration & Policy) • LEUNG Seung Ming (Educational Psychology) • PANG Sun Keung Nicholas (Educational Administration & Policy) • HO Sui Chu (Educational Administration & Policy) • XIAO Jin (Educational Administration & Policy) • SZE Man Man Paul • CHIU Chi Shing

☐ 13 July 1998

❖ Quality Education Fund

This project aims at helping fifty primary and secondary schools in Hong Kong to become Accelerated Schools where the whole community attempts to push education a step further and provide quality education for all students. The Accelerated Schools Project rests upon three cardinal principles, namely Unity of Purpose, Empowerment with Responsibility, and Building on Strengths. The first principle maintains that all members of the school community share a dream for the school and work together towards a consensual set of goals that will be conducive to powerful learning for students. The second principle suggests that every member of the school community is empowered to participate in a shared-decision-making process, to share in the responsibility for implementing these decisions, and to be held accountable for outcomes of these decisions. The last principle asserts that in creating

an accelerated school, the school community recognises and utilises the knowledge, talents, and resources of every member of the school community. A combination of quantitative "pre-post" and "treatment-control" comparative design and qualitative case study methodology will be employed to study the longitudinal effect of the Accelerated Schools process on school change and students' learning outcomes. Parallel with the research aspect, the team members will organise some school development activities for the "core" group members and the staff of the HKASP schools, to facilitate changes and to realise the principles and procedures of the project, through workshop sessions and consultancy services.

(ED98021)

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### **A Knowledge-based Multimedia Learning System for Primary School Students**

✉ LEE Fong Lok

☐ 1 November 1998

❖ Research Grants Council

The aim of the project is to investigate the possibility of developing a knowledge-based multimedia learning system that can give individualized remediation to primary school students. The system tries to incorporate students' errors and teachers' knowledge of how to correct the errors by using artificial intelligence techniques, so that students' errors can be better diagnosed and remedied. The technique also enables the system to accept the input of complex mathematical expressions instead of just accepting simple answers which is commonly found in traditional computer-assisted learning systems. Audio and video effects will be used whenever appropriate, either to motivate the students or to clarify misconceptions. Initially the system focuses on helping students to perform numerical manipulation, but it is hoped that other mathematics topics can be included in the near future.

(CU98196)

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### **English Language Critical Literature Review – First and / or Second Language as a Medium of Instruction**

✉ MAN Yee Fun Evelyn • LIN Angel\*

☐ 1 January 1999

❖ Language Fund

The issue of medium of instruction in Hong Kong schools has aroused great social and educational debates. Various opinions have been voiced in the discussions. However, a systematic and comprehensive critical analysis of the research literature, both overseas and local, has to date not been conducted. This project will provide a valuable

knowledge base from which to draw implications for the local context. Conditions under which successful practices elsewhere might be applicable in the local context are identified and informed decisions on language planning, policy and practice can then be made. This project will

- (1) identify and critically examine the theories, concepts and models relevant to an understanding of using the first and/or second language as a medium of instruction in schools;
- (2) identify and critically examine practical studies and empirical research on the use of the first and/or second language as the medium of instruction;
- (3) identify and critically examine the best current practices in the world on using students' first and/or second language as a medium of instruction, giving special consideration to the experiences of countries reverting from using a 2<sup>nd</sup> language to using the mother tongue as a medium; and
- (4) identify the conditions under which successful practices elsewhere might be applicable in the local context to assist language planners, policy-makers and school practitioners to make informed decisions about the language(s) of instruction in schools to raise language standards in HK.

(ED98038)

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### **Teacher's Conception of Mathematics and Mathematics Teaching in Mainland China and Hong Kong**

✉ WONG Ngai Ying • LAM Chi Chung • WONG Ka Ming Patrick# • MA Yun Peng\*

☐ 1 October 1998

❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding

The conception of mathematics and their belief on mathematics teaching among primary and secondary mathematics school teachers in Mainland China and Hong Kong will be collected and investigated utilising both quantitative and qualitative methods with instruments developed in recent years. These data will be compared with those collected on students and the similarities and differences among teachers from these regions will also be compared. Teachers' conception of mathematics and their beliefs on mathematics teaching will be further investigated under the perspective of curriculum implementation and teacher education. The research has timely significance when the mathematics curricula in these regions are under reform.

(ED98007)

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### **Interpretations of Hong Kong History in Junior Secondary School: A Study of Teachers' and Students' Conception**

- ✉ YEUNG Sau Chu Alison
- ☐ 1 October 1998
- ❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding

An unprecedented curricular endeavour for school history is the inclusion of Hong Kong history into both junior secondary history and Chinese history in the academic year of 1998-99. In order to throw light on the on-going curricular reform on and the pedagogy of history subjects, teachers' conception and students' interpretations of Hong Kong history will be studied. This research will employ both quantitative and qualitative methods, namely: content analysis of the official document of the two new syllabuses and various editions of new textbooks, questionnaire surveys for history teachers and their students, follow-up semi-structured interviews, and lesson observations. Research findings will have significant contributions to curricular reform and teacher education. (ED98008)

#### **A Contrastive Study of Difficult Characters' Pronunciation in Mandarin and Cantonese**

- ✉ YU Nae Wing
- ☐ 1 March 1999
- ❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding

Hong Kong recent Cantonese pronunciation dictionaries are merely around ten thousand words, It is considered to be inadequate for today's educational purposes and mass media. For those words not collected commonly used dictionaries such as "Ci Hai" and "Ci Yuen" will indicate their Mandarin pronunciation, thus increasing the confusion found in the problems of Cantonese pronunciation. This research aims at solving problems of pronunciation arising from the above phono-menon, targeting mainly at words difficult to pronounce and words with different pronun-ciation. In order to determine whether the current pronunciation of a word is correct or not, the track of its phonological development and changes will be observed first. Whether it can be fitted sensibly in the track is important. If the outcome is negative, the prevailing social aspect will then be considered. (AL98020)

**Please refer to previous issues of this publication for more details of the following ongoing research at the department:**

#### Edition      Title/Investigators

1995-96      Research on Teaching of Chinese Culture in Chinese Language Teaching (ED95060)  
 ✉ CHOW Hon Kwong

1997-98      中國近代及現代教育社團研究  
 Research on Educational Communities in Modern and Contemporary China (ED97017)  
 ✉ 周漢光 CHOW Hon Kwong • ZHOU Hong Yu\*

1997-98      Consultancy Study on Setting Benchmarks for English Language Teachers (Phase II) - Finalising Syllabus, Specifications, Scales and Descriptors (ED97027)  
 ✉ CONIAM David John • FALVEY Peter\*

1997-98      Establishing the Relationship between Language Proficiency and Word Frequency in English (ED97003)  
 ✉ CONIAM David John

1997-98      Consultancy Study on Setting Benchmarks for English Language Teachers (Phase IIa) - Pre-Piloting and Validation of New Assessment Tasks (ED97028)  
 ✉ CONIAM David John • FALVEY Peter\*

1997-98      Consultancy Study on Setting Benchmarks for English Language Teachers (Phase IIb) - Creation of Exemplar Material and Pilot Test Material (ED97029)  
 ✉ CONIAM David John • FALVEY Peter\*

1995-96      The Status and Needs Assessment of Environmental Education in Primary Schools (ED95015)  
 ✉ LEE Chi Kin John • WONG Hin Wah

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

1997-98      Curriculum Design and Implementation of Environmental Education in Hong Kong Pre-Schools (ED97018)  
 ✉ LEE Chi Kin John

1997-98      An Evaluation of the 9-year Compulsory Education of Hong Kong (2nd Phase): Curriculum, Teachers' Knowledge, Learning Process and Their Relationship with Student Learning Difficulties (CU97224)  
 ✉ WONG Hin Wah • LEE Chi Kin John • NI Yujing (Educational

	Psychology) ● HAU Kit Tai (Educational Psychology) ● HUI Kwok Fai* ● FOK Ping Kwan* ● POON Lai Man*	1997-98	Analysis of the Various Sectors on their Views on the Mathematics Curriculum (ED97015)
1997-98	Learning Styles and Difficulties Encountered in Mathematics Learning among Hong Kong Students (ED97004)		⚡ WONG Ngai Ying ● LAM Chi Chung ● WONG Ka Ming Patrick# ● LEUNG Koon Shing Frederick* ● MOK Ah Chee, Ida*
	⚡ WONG Ngai Ying ● LAM Chi Chung ● WONG Ka Ming Patrick#		

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- <P981064> **Wong, Ngai-Ying.** "Mathematics Curriculum Reform: The Hong Kong Experience". *Proceedings of the 1st International Commission on Mathematical Instruction East Asia Regional Conference of Mathematics Education-1* vol.2, pp.89-102. Korea, 1998.08.
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**see also** <P983330>, <P983537>, <P990556>, <P990559>

## RESEARCH PROJECTS

### **Categorisation of Qualities of Educated Persons Through the Inquiry into the Chinese Qualitative Terminology Employed by Secondary School Teachers in Their Student Appraisal: A Pilot Study**

✉ CHENG Hon Man Roger

☐ 1 March 1999

❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding

The key issue of this proposed research project lies in a theoretically inquired systematisation, i.e. categorisation, of qualities of educated persons, which are to be empirically informed by how (some) secondary school teachers employ the Chinese qualitative terminology in appraising their students through a pilot collection of and preliminary study on relevant qualitative data. Thus, the key problem is: in such appraisal of qualities of students by teachers, what criteria of educateness are involved and hence what conceptions of educated persons are reflected? Its outcome is expected to confirm the 'qualitarian' hypothesis that desirable human qualities forms the criterion of educatedness and hence conceptions of educated persons reflect preferred lists of human qualities, which seem to be culturally-laden. This forms a pilot test of a theoretical thesis that underlying the Chinese qualitative terminology employed by secondary schools teachers in their student appraisal lies a systematic categorisation of human qualities, namely a matrix constituted by three dichotomies, namely

- (1) 'qualities of human power' vs 'qualities of human heart',
- (2) minimal achievements (skills and excellences) vs maximal achievements (attitudes and virtues) in the actualization of human qualities, and
- (3) human qualities ranged from general to special (or particular).

Thus, it is an initial stage of a larger-scale research project on comparative studies on the Chinese and English qualitative terminologies employed by primary, secondary and tertiary teachers in student appraisal in Hong Kong and in other Chinese societies, aiming at building up forms of publication so that student appraisal by teachers at different levels could have a better knowledge-based and a higher intersubjectivity.

(ED98032)

### **Making Home-School Collaboration Work: In Search of Success Indicators and Practices**

✉ HO Sui Chu • TSOI Lai Yuen Sum, Susanna\*

☐ 1 December 1998

❖ Quality Education Fund

Promotion of parental involvement in children's education has become a major concern for policy makers and educators in current educational reform in Western Countries. With the impetus of the School Management Initiative (SMI) and Education Commission Report No.7 (ECR7) in Hong Kong, one might expect that parents would have greater involvement in their children's education in local context. Recent home school studies in Hong Kong have confirmed that parents are willing to participate in their children's education regardless of their social origin (Shen, 1994; Ho, 1998). Yet little has been done to explore successful home school collaboration (HSC) practices and their implication for parent education, teacher training, and school restructuring.

The primary goal of this project is to explore how to make home school collaboration (HSC) plays its part in improving quality of school education and enhancing the overall development of students. To accomplish this goal, we have three major objectives:

- (1) To develop a set of reliable and valid quality indicators for assessing home-school collaboration practices and their effectiveness in the local context.
- (2) To engage a selective group of primary schools in designing a variety of improved and innovative home-school collaboration programs according to the need and desire of the school community (students, parents, teachers, principals and other community members).
- (3) To tailor make training programs and consultant services that help these schools to implement and evaluate the effectiveness of different models, approaches, and skills in mobilizing parents as resources for enhancing educational quality.

(ED98022)

### **A Cost-Benefit Analysis of the Effects of Using 'Educational Vouchers' in the Financing of Primary and Secondary Schools in Hong Kong on Educational Efficiency and Equity**

✉ HUNG Fan Sing

☐ 1 October 1998

❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding

Since the introduction of 9-year free and compulsory education in Hong Kong in 1981, the government has been continuously expanding the number of primary and secondary schools in Hong Kong with public funds. In the mid 1990s, the public schools sector-including the government schools and government-subsidized schools-accounts for about 90% of the total student enrollment respectively in both the primary and secondary education. However, this high proportion of public schools in the education system has been criticized as being lack of improvement in school quality, lack of initiative in schools, lack of choice for the society, lack of catering school differences in background and



performance, and lack of competition among schools. To remedy these, a concept of 'educational vouchers', in which public funds allocated to schools are given directly to parents in the form of a voucher instead of paid to schools, has been constantly under debate and consideration. This study aims to investigate the probable effects of using 'educational vouchers' in the financing of primary and secondary education in Hong Kong on educational efficiency and equity in Hong Kong. In this study, a cost-benefit analysis will be employed to estimate the probable effects from the social and private points of views respectively. It is hoped this study will help provide a theoretical understanding of alternative scenarios of the implementation of 'educational voucher' in Hong Kong's education, and also will facilitate policy studies in education particularly related to incentive and performance in schools, outcomes and quality of education, and governance of education. (SS98011)

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**Study of the Learning Experiences of First & Second Year Science & Engineering Students in China**

- ✉ LO Nai Kwai Leslie • MAK Chiu Ling Grace
- ☐ 1 October 1998
- ❖ The World Bank

The proposed study attempts (1) to understand the state of learning and teaching of first & second year science and engineering university students in China, and (2) to identify the strengths in approaches to learning and teaching in science and engineering as well as areas which need improvement, and make recommendations for further enhancement. (ED98036)

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**Hong Kong Voters in the 1998 Legislative Council Election: A Survey of the Voting Behavior in the HKSAR**

- ✉ TSANG Wing Kwong • LEUNG Sai-Wing\* • SHUM Kwok Cheung (Hong Kong Institute of Asia-Pacific Studies)
- ☐ 1 August 1998
- ❖ Research Grants Council

This is the third consecutive study carried out by this research team to survey the voting behavior of Hong Kong voters. In our studies of the 1991 and 1995 Legislative Council elections, we have revealed a number of salient features of Hong Kong voters. In respect to their political participation pattern, we have revealed that Hong Kong voters can best be characterized as disorganized but attentive spectators. In respect to political attitude and opinion, Hong Kong voters can be depicted as skeptical, distrustful and dissenting voters. As a result, the electoral

choices made by Hong Kong voters can be characterized as votes of dissent. In the coming 1998 Legislative Council election, we continue our survey on Hong Kong voters' political participation, political attitude and most importantly voting behavior. As we did in the last two studies, a randomly selected sample of registered voters will be surveyed with structured questionnaires in face-to-face interviews. We would like to see how the aforementioned features of Hong Kong voters have evolved since the establishment of the SAR (Special Administrative Region) Government and how the no-through-train transitions separately arranged by the Hong Kong and Chinese governments have affected the Hong Kong voters' political attitude and voting behavior. Most importantly, we aim to build up a longitudinal data base to monitor Hong Kong voters' political orientation and voting behavior. (CU98199)

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**A Classified Bibliography of Research on Hong Kong Education (1983-1997)**

- ✉ TSE Kwan Choi
- ☐ 1 November 1998
- ❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding

The proliferation of research and publications about Hong Kong education over the last decade warrants a systematic collection and a review of the state of the art. In 1991, Professor Chung Yue-ping and his colleagues at the Faculty of Education of the Chinese University of Hong Kong have published an annotated bibliography of research on Hong Kong education covering the period between 1946 and 1982. However, there has been no similar valuable work covering the post-1982 period available since then. Also, even with the available CD ROM like ERIC, its coverage is limited to research output written in English and it is not sensitive to the needs of local community. This project thus aims to fill in this vacuum by collecting and compiling a classified bibliography of research on Hong Kong education covering the period between 1983 and 1997. By so doing, it could serve as a helpful aid to the researchers and practitioners in the educational sector. A bibliography, in terms of its important functions of gathering and disseminating information, is essential to teaching and research. Both educational researchers and practitioners could greatly benefit from a classified bibliography in locating relevant research materials and findings about Hong Kong education, and hence to enhance the quality of research. Also, the public could be better informed of the state of the art through this classified bibliography.

The first phase of this project has been finished and so far I have collected over 10,000 items relating to Hong Kong education. The next step for this project

is to update, classify and index the items, and to compile a bibliography accordingly.  
(ED98010)

**Development of a Cross-Cultural Framework and Accompanying Instrumentation for Comparative Analysis in Educational Administration**

- ✉ WALKER Allan David • DIMMOCK Clive • PANG Sun Keung Nicholas
- 1 September 1998
- ❖ Research Grants Council

This study constitutes the second phase of an ongoing project to develop and apply a cross-cultural framework for the comparative study of school administration, organisation and curriculum. The project is underpinned by the aim to generate a valid and reliable model which recognises societal as well as organisational culture as an important and hitherto neglected element in understanding the configuration of schools and schooling in different societies. It is important to make valid comparison between schools in different societies for many reasons, including improved practices which may result, as well as the avoidance of failure with regard to the implementation of policies imported from overseas societies which make no allowance for cultural transposition. Thus far, scholars have largely focused on structural-functionalist perspectives rather than cultural approaches when attempting comparison between schools. The first phase of the project, now completed, was based on extensive literature review and the researchers' own research. It identified key dimensions of school curricula, organisation and administration as well as dimensions of culture, with the result that a cross-cultural framework has now been developed. This second phase aims at developing quantitative and qualitative instruments to reflect each of the dimensions of the framework, field testing the model and instruments by collecting empirical data in a selection of schools in Hong Kong (Hong Kong) and Mainland China and finally, refining the model and instruments ready for widescale application.  
(CU98327)

**Please refer to previous issues of this publication for more details of the following ongoing research at the department:**

<u>Edition</u>	<u>Title/Investigators</u>
1997-98	Expected Rate of Return, Ability to Pay and Willingness to Pay in the Finance of University Education (CU97235)

	✉ CHUNG Yue Ping Stephen • MIN Weifang* • GONG Fang*
1997-98	The Effect of Parental Involvement on Students' Learning: What Works and How (ED97020) ✉ HO Sui Chu • KWONG Wai Leung (Curriculum & Instruction)#
1996-97	Organizational Values and Cultures of Primary Schools in Hong Kong (ED96007) ✉ PANG Sun Keung Nicholas
1997-98	Managerial Practices and Organizational Cultures of Schools in Shanghai (ED97021) ✉ PANG Sun Keung Nicholas • WU Chi Hung*
1995-96	Policy and Development of Hong Kong Primary Educational System: An Interpretative Study (ED95047) ✉ TSANG Wing Kwong • MAK Chiu Ling Grace
1997-98	A Comparative Study of Political Education in Four Chinese Societies: Mainland China, Taiwan, Hong Kong and Macau (SS97023) ✉ TSE Kwan Choi
1997-98	Views from Hong Kong: A Cross-Cultural, Comparative Perspective of How Principals Manage the School Reform Process in the UK and Hong Kong (ED97005) ✉ WALKER Allan David • DIMMOCK Clive
1997-98	Alternative Training Paths for Human Resource Development: A Reverse Tracer Study of Manufacture and Service Sectors in Shanghai, China (CU97210) ✉ XIAO Jin • LO Nai Kwai Leslie
1997-98	1998 Pilot Study for Education and Work: The Efficacy of Schooling in Human Resource Development in Three Regions in China (ED97022) ✉ XIAO Jin • LO Nai Kwai Leslie • CHUNG Yue Ping Stephen • LEE Chi Kin John (Curriculum & Instruction) • WONG Hin Wah (Curriculum & Instruction)

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see also <P982032>, <P990103>, <P990724>, <P991717>

## RESEARCH PROJECTS

### **Developing Comprehensive Gifted Programmes and Activities: The “Gifted and Talented” Approach for Enhancing Quality Education**

- ✉ CHAN Wai Ock David • CHEUNG Ping Chung  
• TAY Pui Wan
- 1 October 1998
- ❖ Quality Education Fund

Comprehensive training programs for gifted and talented students will be organized in two phases:

- (1) university-based training (UBT), and
- (2) school-based training (SBT).

In UBT, selected students will attend a series of training workshops on creativity and leadership skills. This part of the training aims at equipping students with knowledge and skills that will enable them to become successful student leaders at schools.

SBT will commence as a continuation of UBT. Through implementing programs and activities, such as extracurricular talent development and peer support programs, participating students will have the opportunity to practice what they have learnt in UBT workshops, as well as to pass their skills and knowledge on to other normal achieving schoolmates. Alongside training programs for students, training workshops will also be organized for teachers to equip them to adopt the “gifted and talented” approach in teaching both gifted and normal achieving students in the regular classroom. (ED98020)

### **The Development and Psychometric Evaluation of a National Standardized Putonghua Test**

- ✉ CHANG Lei • CHANG Hua Hua# • HAU Kit Tai
- 1 October 1998
- ❖ Research Grants Council

The purpose of the proposed research is to develop and psychometrically evaluate a standardized Putonghua test to be officially used in Hong Kong and in other parts of China. The project will be conducted in collaboration with the Chinese State Language Commission which is in charge of all Putonghua testing and licensing in China. Using audio-video taping rather than live assessors, the proposed group-administered test will be more efficient and economical than China's existing individually-administered assessor oriented test. Item response theory (IRT) with partially correct (polytomus) scoring and differential item functioning (DIF) will be used to identify item bias and to select the best items. Generalizability (G) theory will determine the optimal combination of numbers of examiners/raters and items. In order that the testing

time for each examinee is not too long, matrix sampling is used in test development so that each examinee is given only some components of the whole test. Different psychometric properties of the test will be evaluated. (CU98047)

### **How do Students Work Together? Analyzing Cognitive and Social Interactions**

- ✉ CHIU Ming Ming
- 1 October 1998
- ❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding

How do researchers evaluate the quality of people's collaborations? Researchers have shown many potential beneficial outcomes, but no one has systematically specified the processes in group work. In this pilot study, researcher will develop a systematic framework for analyzing group work and extend his analysis of two groups of students to forty groups (4 students in each group). In particular, researcher introduces frameworks for social interactions and for individual actions. He hypothesizes that the dimensions of “problem knowledge distribution” (no one knows, some know, and everyone knows) and “degree of cooperation” (independent or collaborative) distinguish six important social interactions (piecemeal guessing, joint construction, lecture, guided construction, accepted demonstration, and automatic joint solution). Furthermore, he suggests that the three dimensions of “evaluation of the previous action” (supportive, critical, unresponsive), “knowledge content” (contribution, repetition, null), and “interactive form” (command, question, statement) distinguish 27 important individual actions. Furthermore, he proposes that each type of social interaction consists of particular patterns of individual actions. Through fine-grained conversation analyses and general regression analyses of previously collected videotape data, researcher will examine these students' cognitive and social processes through these frameworks. He plans to show that these frameworks can effectively evaluate group work processes in the moment along multiple criteria simultaneously. If so, these analyses can provide guidelines to help teachers (and possibly in the business world, supervisors) decide “when” to intervene during group work. (ED98012)

### **Setting Chinese and English Standard for Primary and Secondary School Students in Hong Kong**

- ✉ HAU Kit Tai • CHANG Lei • NI Yujing
- 26 February 1999
- ❖ Education Department, Hong Kong Government

The present research attempts to describe the standard of Hong Kong primary and junior secondary school students. Specifically, using a standard educational measurement procedure, expert judges are asked to set the academic standard of Primary (P.) 3, 6 and Secondary (S.) 1, 3 Chinese and English. Then, with the available data of a representative sample of Hong Kong students in the standardised tests (HKAT), we will be able to tell the percentage of P. 3, 6 and S. 1, 3 students that have met our expected

- (1) average standard,
  - (2) minimum competence of the respective educational level.
- (ED98035)

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**Teacher Burnout: Its Relationships with Teacher Self-Concept, Occupational Stress and Purpose in Life**

- ✉ LAU Siu Ying Patrick
- ☐ 1 March 1999
- ❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding

This study is a survey investigating the relationships among teacher burnout, teacher self-concept, occupational stress and purpose in life of Hong Kong secondary school teachers. Anonymous self-administered questionnaires will be sent to 850 secondary school teachers with an envelop for returning. Chinese version of the Maslach burnout Inventory (Maslach, Jackson, and Leiter, 1996; Mo, 1991), Teacher Occupational Stress Questionnaire (Lau, 1998), Teacher Self-Concept Inventory (Lau, 1998), and the Chinese version of Purpose in Life Questionnaire (Crumbaugh, 1968, Shek, 1986, 1988) will be used. The psychometric properties of the instruments will be examined. The interrelationships amongst different groups of variables (i.e. demographic variables, burnout, self-concept, occupational stress and purpose in life) will also be explored. Results from this study may have significant implications for:

- (1) teacher trainers to improve teacher training programs,
- (2) school administrators to make better planning inside the school to reduce stress-inducing factors, and
- (3) policy makers to consider ways to improve the teaching environment.

(SS98031)

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**Detecting Transitions in the Development of Class-Inclusion Understanding**

- ✉ NI Yujing
- ☐ 1 May 1999
- ❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding

Developmental transitions and stages are the most puzzling phenomenon and concepts. The difficulty was the lack of empirical criteria for assessing transitions and stages. Such formalization and testing has become possible due to the recent availability of the tools for dynamical systems modeling. The purpose of this proposed study is to apply the tool, catastrophe theory, to investigate developmental transitions in children's acquisition of class inclusion relations.

Previous studies suggested that classification by membership and by inclusion represent different levels of knowing about class inclusion relations. It is further hypothesized that these two levels of understanding may follow different acquisition patterns. A simple continuous model is expected for the acquisition of classification by membership whereas a discontinuous model is assumed for the acquisition of classification by inclusion. These predictions will be tested in the study of time series design. Results of this proposed study will not only contribute to our knowledge about the nature of developmental changes in class inclusion understanding but to help explicate the concept of transition or stage in cognitive development. (SS98032)

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**Inhibition of Thought and Action**

- ✉ SHIU Ling Po • KORNBLUM Sylvan\* • CHAN Tin Cheung (Psychology)
- ☐ 1 December 1998
- ❖ Research Grants Council

An increasing number of theories posits that the ability to inhibit inappropriate thought and action is crucial for success in many cognitive tasks. It has also been suggested that the cognitive deficits found in some people (e.g., old adults, hyperactive children, frontal-lobe patients, schizophrenics) may be attributed to inadequate inhibitory mechanisms. However, it is yet to be determined what kinds of tasks *unequivocally* indicate the operation of such inhibitory mechanisms. Those tasks that have often been used to derive measures of inhibitory function yield performance measures that are not significantly correlated with one another (Kramer et al., 1994). Our proposed studies are an attempt to develop tasks that unequivocally involve inhibition. Earlier, we found that when subjects were asked to make incongruent naming responses to words or pictures (e.g., say "bike" to CAR), their response time was longer if the correct response for the current trial was the name of the stimulus presented on the preceding prime trial, compared to a control condition (Shiu & Kornblum, 1996a, 1996b). These effects imply that the natural name of the prime stimulus is automatically activated and then inhibited. Hence, they are strong evidence for the existence of a cognitive mechanism that inhibits inappropriate



responses. On this basis, we propose to investigate the relationship of our new task with other tasks that are believed to involve response inhibition. We would also extend our new task to investigate inhibition of inappropriate meanings that are activated when reading ambiguous words (e.g., BANK). (CU98191)

**為閱讀障礙兒童設計中文輔導教材**

**Developing Curriculum Materials for a Remedial Program in Chinese for Dyslexic Children**

✉ 鄭佩芸 TAY Pui Wan • LAM Chi Chin Catherine\*

□ 1 November 1998

❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding

閱讀障礙是指學習者在辨識及理解文字的歷程中出現顯著的困難。在美國，閱讀障礙被列為特殊教育的最主要類別，幾佔全體特殊需要學童比率之一半。新近的研究證顯示，漢字閱讀亦有閱讀障礙的個案出現，而且比例並不低於其他文字系統。在香港，教育署現時雖有製定評估及測試特殊學習困難的方案，但在輔導教學方面，未能因應閱讀障礙學童的特殊困難而設計適切的教材。有見及此，本研究的目的是希望根據有關漢字構字的特質、中文閱讀障礙的研究結果、並按照本港學童的學習環境，設計一套能夠針對他們的學習困難的中文輔導教材。

綜合各項有關中文閱讀障礙的研究結果顯示，學童的口語能力、認字解碼能力、斷詞能力等均與中文閱讀能力有密切的關係。而為本港的學童來說，口語與書面語的轉譯亦是掌握閱讀能力的關鍵。因此，本研究的教材設計將圍繞上述的重點來發展。教材設計初步完成後，會交給資深教師評閱及提供意見，並會對閱讀障礙學童進行個別的試驗教學，再根據試驗教學的成果進行修訂。(ED98011)

**Please refer to previous issues of this publication for more details of the following ongoing research at the department:**

Edition      Title/Investigators

1993-94      Education Quality Research Programme (ED93012)  
 ✉ CHAN Wai Ock David • CHENG 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 & Policy)# • MAK Se Yuen (Curriculum & Instruction) • WONG Ngai Ying (Curriculum & Instruction) • SIU Lai Ping Teresa (Curriculum & Instruction) • HO Man Koon (Curriculum & Instruction) • CHOW Hon Kwong (Curriculum & Instruction) • CHEN Wen Ning\*

1996-97      Assessing Adult Cognitive Functioning Using a Chinese Vocabulary Test (ED96008)

✉ CHAN Wai Ock David • LEE Betty H. C.\*

1997-98      Educational and Emotional Needs of Gifted and Talented Students in Hong Kong (CU97219)

✉ CHAN Wai Ock David • CHEUNG Ping Chung • TAY Pui Wan • YEUNG Pik Wah Patricia (Faculty Office of Education)

1996-97      Gender Roles in Hong Kong, China and America: Cross-Cultural and Cross-Gender Comparisons (ED96019)

✉ CHANG Lei

1996-97      A Generalizability Theory Based Model of Intrajudge Inconsistency and Comparisons Among the Angoff, Nedelsky, and Revised Nedelsky Standard-Setting Methods (ED96026)

✉ CHANG Lei • VAN DER LINDEN Wim J.\*

1997-98      East, West, Capitalism, Socialism, and Patriarchy: Exploring Cultural and Political Influences on Sexism(SS97009)

✉ CHANG Lei

1997-98      Identity Saliency and Self-Regulation in Enacting and Expressing Gender Related Attitudes (SS97004)

✉ CHANG Lei • DEANX Kay\*

1996-97      Assessment of Primary School Chinese Learning Objectives (ED96034)

✉ HAU Kit Tai • HO Man Koon (Curriculum & Instruction) • NI Yujing • LIN Wen Ying#

1995-96      The Design of an Instrument for the Evaluation of Classroom Teaching in Science Subjects (ED95064)

✉ HEYWORTH Rex Malcolm

1996-97	A Cross-cultural Investigation of Cognitive Development in the Field of Secondary School Science (ED96025) ✍ HEYWORTH Rex Malcolm	1997-98	Inhibition of Inappropriate Responses (ED97008) ✍ SHIU Ling Po
1996-97	The Career Development of High School Students in Hong Kong (ED96020) ✍ LEUNG Seung Ming	1997-98	The Development of Reading Self-Concepts in Children: A Cross-cultural Validation Study (ED97007) ✍ TAY Pui Wan • CHAPMAN James W.*
1996-97	An Examination of the Validity of the Strong Interests and Skills Confidence Inventory among University Students in Hong Kong (ED96010) ✍ LEUNG Seung Ming	1997-98	Development of Phonological Awareness and Its Relations to English Reading and Spelling Competence in Primary School Children (ED97032) ✍ TAY Pui Wan • SHIU Ling Po
1997-98	Representational Fluency and Principled Understanding of Fractions (ED97023) ✍ NI Yujing	1997-98	Implicit Theories of Intelligence and Intuition (ED97009) ✍ WONG Wan Chi
1996-97	Negative Priming Effects as a Function of Task Demand and Practice (ED96021) ✍ SHIU Ling Po		

## RESEARCH OUTPUTS AND PUBLICATIONS

- <P981931> **Leung, S. Alvin.** "Vocational Identity and Career Choice Congruence of Gifted and Talented High School Students". *Counselling Psychology Quarterly* vol.11 no.3, pp.343-353. UK, 1998.09.01.
- <P982668> **Leung, S. Alvin; Li Guo and Man Ping Lam.** "Development of Counseling Psychology in Universities in China". Paper presented in the 106 Annual Convention of the American Psychological Association. San Francisco, USA, 1998.08.16.
- <P983392> **Leung, S. Alvin and Chan M. Raymond.** "Training Hong Kong Primary School Counsellors for the Twenty-First Century: A Proposed Model". *Asian Journal of Counselling* vol.V no.1&2, pp.47-60. Hong Kong, 1998.09.01.
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- <P983518> **Heyworth, Rex M.** "Quantitative Problem Solving in Science: Cognitive Factors and Directions for Practice". *Education Journal* vol.26 no.1, pp.13-29. Hong Kong, 1998.
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- <P984476> **李曉東、張炳松.** <成就動機與自我調控學習>. 《教育研究》 第 8 期, 頁 62-66. 中國北京, 1998.

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- <P990613> **Marsh, Herbert W. and Kit-Tai Hau.** "Confirmatory Factor Analysis: Strategies for Small Sample Sizes". *Statistical Strategies for Small Sample Research* ed. by R.H. Hoyle pp.251-284. Thousands Oaks, CA: Sage, 1999.
- <P990614> 侯傑泰、成子娟、馬殊赫伯特。〈驗證性因素分析：問卷題數及小樣本應用策略〉。《心理科學》第 31 卷 第 1 期, 頁 76-83. 中國, 1999.01.
- <P990615> **Ho, Irene T.; Farideh Salili; John B. Biggs and Hau Kit-Tai.** "The Relationship Among Causal Attributions Learning Strategies and Level of Achievement: A Hong Kong Chinese Study". *Asia Pacific Journal of Education* vol.19 no.1, pp.44-58. 1999.
- <P990822> **Farideh Salili and Kit Tai Hau.** "Teachers' Evaluative Feedback and Its Relationship with Students' Perception of Ability and Effort: An Analysis of the Effects of Culture and Context on Students' Perceptions". *Asia Pacific Journal of Education* vol.19 no.2, pp.60-71. 1999.
- <P990854> **Cheng, Pui-Wan.** "Cognition, Metacognition, and Metacognitive Theory: A Critical Analysis". *The Korean Journal of Thinking & Problem Solving* vol.9 no.1, pp.85-103. Seoul, Korea, 1999.04.
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- <P991691> **Gutierrez, Kris D.; Patricia Baquedano-Lopez; Hector H. Alvarez and Ming Ming Chiu.** "Building a Culture of Collaboration through Hybrid Language Practices". *Theory into Practice* vol.38 no.2, pp.87-93. Ohio, USA, 1999.

see also <P984480>

## RESEARCH PROJECTS

### Teaching and Learning Profiles in Secondary School Physical Education

✉ CHAN Wan Ka Daniel • HONG Youlian •  
CHAN Kong Hei\* • CHAN Choi Ha\*

☐ 1 September 1998

❖ Quality Education Fund

The aims of the project are (1) to develop a computer programme for practical skills assessment of physical education (PE), (2) to develop the test battery for three selected core physical activities, volleyball, basketball and badminton, in the PE syllabus, and (3) to develop a teaching and learning handbooks (Chinese version) for the secondary school PE subject.

This profiles will benefit both the teaching and learning process in the secondary school Physical Education. This project involved 20 sample schools. (ED98023)

### Qualitative Measures of Teaching Performance and Student Achievement in Physical Education

✉ HA Sau Ching Amy • RINK Judith E.\* • CHAN Wan Ka Daniel

☐ 1 November 1998

❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding

The intent of this study is to examine the relationship between the Qualitative Measures of Teaching Performance Scale (QMTPS, Rink & Werner, 1989) and teacher effectiveness in producing student achievement in Hong Kong junior secondary school. The QMTPS focuses primarily on variables related to teacher clarity and task presentation. Task presentation skills including the elements of clarity of instruction, effective use of demonstrations, and providing accurate and appropriate mechanical information were deemed necessary for effective instruction. Further, the degree to which students respond to the task presentation and the congruency of student response to the task have been identified as an element of research investigation in physical education (Gusthart & Springings, 1989). Although QMTPS has been used in several studies (Gusthart, Kelly, & Rink, 1997; Gusthart, Kelly, & Graham, 1994; Gusthart & Springings, 1989), Gusthart, et. al. (1997) suggested that related research in different settings, with different contents should be added in order to determine the validity of the instrument in different teaching environments. In the current study, twenty secondary school physical education teachers will be asked to teach basketball shooting and dribbling over eight lessons as part of their normal curriculum. Students (N=900; 450 boys and 450 girls) will be pre- and post-tested on the shooting and

dribbling using the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education and Recreation basketball tests. All lessons will be videotaped and coded using the QMTPS instrument. (ED98013)

### Changes of muscle Stress and Locomotion Biomechanics of Children Walking on Treadmill with Load Carriage

✉ HONG Youlian

☐ 1 October 1998

❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding

Researchers' research proposal "The effects of carrying school bags on biomechanical and physiological responses in children" submitted to the Ermarked Grant 1998-1999 was rated as "fundable but not funded". The major concern of the reviewers lies in "How much of an effect will fatigue have on the kinematics and electromyography (EMG) parameters during the prolonged walking of children carrying school bags". From their literature review, no publications supplied relevant information. The purposes of this study are to explore the changes of locomotion biomechanics and muscle stress of children during their prolonged walking when carrying different weight of school bags, and to provide a reliable method for EMG data collection. It is hoped that the outcomes of this study will strengthen researchers' position in successful re-application of the Ermarked Grant 1999-2000.

15 male students of 12 years of age will be recruited to serve as subjects. Subjects walk on a treadmill with a speed of 1.1m/s for 30 minutes in four conditions: without schoolbags and with schoolbags of the backpack type which are 10%, 15% and 20% of their body weight. Before treadmill walking, different types of electrodes and different sampling rate of EMG signal collection will be compared to provide a reliable method for EMG data collection. During treadmill walking, electromyography signals of eight muscles located on the back and the dominant leg will be recorded using surface electrodes. Movement kinematics will be measured through two dimensional video filming and motion analysis. The EMG and locomotion kinematics data will then be statistically analyzed by using the Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) to provide a clear picture of the changes in muscle stress and locomotion biomechanics with different weight of school bags and different walking duration in children. (ED98014)

### The Playing Pattern of Taekwondo Competition Game - A Pilot Study

✉ HONG Youlian

☐ 1 March 1999

❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding

The objectives of this study are to investigate the tactic and strategy used in Taekwondo competition games and to compare the playing pattern of Asia and Hong Kong elite Taekwondo athletes in competition. The ultimate target of this study is to improve the competition standard of Hong Kong elite Taekwondo athletes by enhancing their ability to employ pertinent game tactic and strategy in competitive situations. The 4<sup>th</sup> Asia Cities Gold Cup Taekwondo Invitation Championships, which will be held in February 1999, and the Hong Kong Open Competitions, which will be held in July 1999, will be video filmed. The filmed videotapes will be frame-to-frame played and the information of the playing pattern will be recorded. The playing pattern to be considered include kicking frequency in each round, types of kicking used, frequency of using different kicking techniques, frequency of attack and defense kicking, frequency of the winning, losing, effective and ineffective attack and defense kicking. A descriptive statistics will be performed to obtain the profile of the tactic and strategy used in Taekwondo competition game. The difference between Asia and Hong Kong will be identified by using a comparative statistics. (ED98030)

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**Impact of Perception and Knowledge of Physical Activity on Physical Activity Level: A Cross-Cultural Comparison Between American and Hong Kong Adults**

- ✉ HUI Sai Chuen • MORROW James Jr.\*  
☐ 1 October 1998  
❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding

American has been perceived by people of Hong Kong to be a more physically active population in general. In contrast, the Chinese adults in Hong Kong are characterized by sedentary lifestyle. A pilot study (n=290) carried out by the investigator found that 63% of Hong Kong adults are completely inactive physically as compared to 31% in the USA. About 32% of American adults are engaged in daily physical activity sufficient for a health benefit (Morrow, 1998) but only 21% in Hong Kong (Hui, 1998). These differences may due to the different perception and knowledge on physical activity. Especially when there are educational programmes on physical activity being disseminated through the mass media in the USA, and none of the similar programme is found in Hong Kong. Therefore, the purpose of this study is to investigate the current physical activity level, as well as the perception and knowledge on physical activity of Hong Kong adults through a citywide survey, and to compare the findings with those reported for American. A citywide telephone and face-to-face survey which is

modified from the "National Survey of the Perception and Practice on Physical Activity" (Morrow, 1997) will be used. Approximately 500 adults age above 18 in Hong Kong will be randomly selected as respondents. Questions on current physical activity level, perception on the health benefits and optimal level of physical activity to achieve health benefits will be asked in the survey. The results of this study will be useful for educators and policy makers in Hong Kong to plan health promotion programmes and health policy. (ED98015)

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**Validation of Fitness Prediction Models in Hong Kong Children: The 1-Mile Walk Test and Body Fat Assessment**

- ✉ HUI Sai Chuen • WONG Heung Sang Stephen • WONG Wing Kin Gary (Paediatrics)  
☐ 1 March 1999  
❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding

Aerobic fitness and body composition are two major physical fitness measurements for athletes as well as for general population. It is also reported that maintaining optimal levels of aerobic fitness and body composition are important to prevent all cause mortality and morbidity in general population. Although there are a number of field testing methods using prediction models, like the 1-mile walk test for aerobic fitness and the bioelectrical impedance analysis (BIA) method for body composition, which are easily administered and require submaximal effort of subjects, these prediction models were mostly developed from western countries which are not valid for Chinese population, nor for children. Therefore, the purpose of this study is to cross-validate the existing prediction models of aerobic fitness (1-mile walk) and body composition (BIA) using Chinese children subjects. Subjects will be 50 boys and 50 girls, age from 8 to 12 years old, who volunteer to participate in this study. Subjects will perform the 1-mile track walk, and a maximal graded treadmill test for aerobic fitness, and the BIA test and hydrostatic weighing for body composition. Aerobic fitness predicted from walking will be correlated with the standard obtained from graded treadmill test, while the body fat obtained from BIA will be correlated with the standard obtained from hydrostatic weighing. The cross-validated equations will be useful in schools and other health promotion bodies for the promotion of aerobic fitness and weight control. (ED98029)

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**Raising Activity Levels as a Health Risk Reduction Intervention in Hong Kong Children**

- ✉ JOHNS David Paul • HA Sau Ching Amy • MACFARLANE Duncan\*  
☐ 1 August 1998

❖ Health Care & Promotion Fund, Hospital Authority

The primary objective of this research project is to measure the effectiveness of an explicitly designed programme of health promotion which will be introduced within the Hong Kong physical education curriculum. The design and setting involves baseline, mid-term and post intervention measures which will be taken from 2 PE classes at 10 control schools and 10 experimental schools in Hong Kong. The subjects for this study will be 11 and 12 year old children and their teachers who will be selected from the group of physical education teachers who are attending the Chinese University of Hong Kong as part time students in the Department of Physical Education and Sport Science. The teachers will use PAL (Programme for Active Living) as an intervention which will augment, not replace, the existing PE programme and will last for 6 months. The teachers will be trained, assisted and closely monitored throughout the intervention in order to ensure that the innovations leading to health behaviour changes are uniformly implemented. A wide range of measure will be obtained by means of a Youth Risk Survey, A direct observation using ALT-PE instrument, Heart monitors and Motion sensors in order to evaluate the effectiveness of the curriculum intervention. (ED98002)

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**A Postmodern Perspective and Analysis of Athletic Preparation**

- ✉ JOHNS David Paul  
☐ 1 October 1998  
❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding

The purpose of this project is to analyze the dietary practices of elite athletes in order to understand the concept of overconformity and the behaviours of athletes who subscribe to such a concept. Ten elite level athletes from gymnastics, middle distance running, wrestling and synchronized swimming were interviewed and their responses were recorded. The transcription and analysis (for which support is specifically requested) of the qualitative data generated from the interviews will provide an greater understanding of the behaviours demonstrated in athletic preparation which exceed the norms of society. (ED98016)

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**An Exploratory Study into the Role of Physical Education in a Hong Kong School**

- ✉ JOHNS David Paul • DIMMOCK Clive (Educational Administration & Policy)  
☐ 1 March 1999  
❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding

The purpose of this research is to explore the constraints of implementing the school curriculum by analysing how educational policy translates into everyday practices. This research will improve the understanding of how non academic courses are accepted as part of the core curriculum and will assist in defining the role of physical education and sport in modern education.

This study involves the collection of data by studying one school as a single case. Field work involving direct observation, interviews and document collection will form the basis for the collection of qualitative data which can be systematically analysed. The analysis will enable the researchers to formulate a tentative theory which will be grounded in the data generated. This theory will then be applied to the school settings and will provide the data for a report and the basis and direction for further research. (ED98028)

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**Testing the Validity of Sport Identity as a Predictor for Youth Sport Participation**

- ✉ LAU Wing Chung • JOHNS David Paul  
☐ 1 October 1998  
❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding

The purpose of this study is to measure the validity of the variable sport identity to explore its use as a predictor of youth sport participation. The key variables in this study are sport identity, goal orientations, motivation orientations, and perceived competence. The sample comprises of 500 school children aged from 12 to 13 in Hong Kong. Pretested questionnaires such as TEOSQ (Duda & Nicholls, 1992), SRQ (Ryan & Connell, 1989), PSPP and PIP (Fox & Corbin, 1987), and AIMS (Brewer, Raalte & Linder, 1993) will be used to measure the four variables in order to assess their relative utility for predicting children's intentions in sport participation. It is hypothesized that sport identity will be the strongest predictor for participation intention of children in sport. A structuring modeling statistical package (EQS) will be used in order to construct a psychological model and the interrelationship between these psychological variables will be tested. (ED98017)

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**Fat to Fit: Weight Loss Program for Obese Children in Hong Kong**

- ✉ LAU Wing Chung • WONG Wing Kin Gary (Paediatrics) • HUI Sai Chuen • YUEN Pak Yan (Physical Education Unit) • LIU Kin Wah\*  
☐ 1 October 1998  
❖ Health Care & Promotion Fund, Hospital Authority

Numerous evidences revealed that extreme levels of overweight impose detrimental health consequences. Obesity has been shown to be positively related to morbidity and mortality (Pi-Sunyer, 1993). Unfortunately, it has been reported that the incidence of childhood obesity in Hong Kong is increasing. The 1993 Hong Kong Growth Survey reported that 10 to 13% of children age 6 to 18 years old had weight over 120% median weight for height using the local references (Leung, 1995). The cause for childhood obesity has been attributed to improper diet and sedentary lifestyle. The purpose of this proposal is to suggest the implementation of a well-planned weight loss intervention program for the obese children in Hong Kong. Key elements will be a combination of exercise and diet in this intervention program. It is hoped that in addition to the medical treatment and advice on diet from pediatrician, this intervention program will greatly improve the body weight and body fat of obese children. Moreover, it is our intention to develop an effective intervention program that can achieve obesity prevention through educational and physical training. (ED98025)

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**Effect of Drink Flavor on Fluid Balance and Thermoregulation in Boys and Girls Exercising in the Heat**

- ✉ WONG Heung Sang Stephen • JOHNS David Paul • LEUNG Chi Bon (Medicine & Therapeutics) • SHI Xiaocai\*
- 1 December 1998
- ❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding

The fluid and electrolyte requirements of adults during prolonged exercise in the heat have been extensively studied in the past decade. However, little attention has been paid to the requirements of children, even though children's thermoregulation systems are less effective than adults'. Therefore, the aims of the proposed project are to: (1) examine the effects of drink flavor on voluntary drinking and hydration status between boys and girls exercising intermittently at ~30°C and ~70% relative humidity; (2) investigate the rehydration and thermoregulatory responses in children during voluntary drinking. Fifteen boys and 15 girls (10-12 yr) performed three 3-h identical sessions (four 20-min jogging bouts at 50% maximal oxygen uptake followed by 25-min recovery). One of three drinks will be assigned to each trial in a Latin-square sequence: unflavored water, grape-flavored water, and orange-flavored water. Drinking will be *ad libitum*. The practical significance of the answers to these questions is readily appreciated by those physical education teachers, sports scientists and coaches, who are involved in the preparation for, and the participation in, physical activities under hot and humid climate in which health maintenance and safety are primarily

determined by effective fluid replacement. The information generated from this study would also be useful to those medical and health professionals who are practicing in tropical and subtropical environments like Hong Kong in which dehydration is a common health problem. (ED98018)

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**Reliability of a 4-Hour Rehydration-Recovery Protocol in Trained Male Runners**

- ✉ WONG Heung Sang Stephen • WILLIAMS Clyde\*
- 1 March 1999
- ❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding

In Sports and Exercise Science, methods to evaluate aerobic and anaerobic power of athletes have been studied extensively, but so far only scarce literature is available on the reliability of endurance performance tests, let alone the endurance performance measure after recovery from exercise. Meanwhile, there appears to be an increasing demand to evaluate the effects of nutrition, ergogenic aids, drugs or training programmes on endurance performance. A quick review through some recent literature shows that no uniform "endurance performance test" exists, but a wide variety of different exercise protocols is used. The majority of those studies investigating the post-exercise recovery period have focused on the influences of CHO ingestion on muscle glycogen resynthesis and the optimal composition of rehydration fluids. Yet, few have examined the effects of the resulting glycogen and hydration levels on the return of functional capacity. It is mainly because of the lack of a standard and reliable measure on the subsequent endurance performance. Therefore, the purpose of the proposed project is to examine the reliability of a 4-hour rehydration-recovery test under carefully controlled conditions. (ED98027)

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**Please refer to previous issues of this publication for more details of the following ongoing research at the department:**

<u>Edition</u>	<u>Title/Investigators</u>
1997-98	Test Battery for the Motor Skills Squash: Implications for Assessing and Coaching (ED97030) ✉ CHAN Wan Ka Daniel • HONG Youlian • CHOI Yuk Kwan*
1996-97	A Study of the Relationship of Teacher Behaviours to Student Physical Activity Levels in Shanghai, Taiwan, and Hong Kong Schools (ED96011) ✉ HA Sau Ching Amy

- 1997-98 Analysis of Hong Kong Student's Academic Learning Time in Physical Education (ALT-PE) and Heart Rate Intensity among Three Instructional Models (ED97010)  
 ✎ HA Sau Ching Amy • JOHNS David Paul
- 1997-98 A Study on Changes of Muscle Functional Ability with Aging in the Elderly in Hong Kong (ED97024)  
 ✎ HONG Youlian • JOHNS David Paul • HA Sau Ching Amy
- 1997-98 Biomechanical Analysis of Taekwondo Kicking Technique, Performance and Training Effects (ED97031)  
 ✎ HONG Youlian • LEUNG Hing Kam\* • LUK Tze Chung#
- 1996-97 Eating Behaviours of Rhythmic Gymnasts (ED95065)
- 1997-98 The Effects of Nutrition on Endurance Running Performance in Woman (ED97011)  
 ✎ WONG Heung Sang Stephen • ARUMANAYAGAM Manoharan (Chemical Pathology) • LEUNG Chi Bon (Medicine & Therapeutics)
- 1997-98 Effects of Rehydration on Recovery from Prolonged Running and Subsequent Exercise Performance (ED97025)  
 ✎ WONG Heung Sang Stephen • WILLIAMS Clyde\* • HONG Youlian • HA Sau Ching Amy • ARUMANAYAGAM Manoharan (Chemical Pathology) • LEUNG Chi Bon\*

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