



**Faculty of
Education**

RESEARCH OUTPUTS AND PUBLICATIONS

- <P000910> 盤淑嫻、鄧素琴。〈追溯兒童性侵犯個案專訪〉。《報告提交護苗基金》 香港: 香港中文大學出版社, 2000.
- <P002223> **Lam, Wing Po and Lee Chi Kin John.** "Protecting the Wilderness : Need to Go Beyond Intrinsic Values and Rights?". Paper presented in the Values Education and Citizenship Education in the New Century International Conference, organized by Dept. of Educational Administration and Policy, Hong Kong Institute of Education Research, CUHK. Hong Kong, 2000.06.
- <P993088> 高慕蓮、李子建。〈用行動研究法幫助中文教師進行寫作教學反思的個案研究〉。論文發表於一九九九國際語文教育研討會, 主辦機構為香港中文大學、香港大學、香港教育學院。香港, 1999.12.
- <P993089> 高慕蓮、郭懿芬、李子建、許守仁。〈以單元課程重組中國語文學習經驗的個案研究〉。論文發表於一九九九國際語文教育研討會, 主辦機構為香港中文大學、香港大學、香港教育學院。香港, 1999.12.

see also <P991716>, <P993081>

RESEARCH PROJECTS

Developing a Model of Teacher Concerns About School-based Assessment

- ✍ CHEUNG Sin Pui
- ☐ 1 November 1999
- ❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

Identifying teachers' concerns is important for successful educational change because the information can be used to design appropriate interventions so that the process of change can be facilitated. Hall, George and Rutherford (1977) proposed that teacher concern is a developmental construct, consisting of seven sequential stages: (0) Awareness, (1) Informational, (2) Personal, (3) Management, (4) Consequence, (5) Collaboration, and (6) Refocusing. They also assumed that the intercorrelations among the seven Stages of Concern (SoC) constructs form a simplex structure.

However, a recent study by Cheung et al. (1999) revealed that Hall's 7-stage simplex model did not fit real teacher data. They proposed that the seven SoC constructs should be reconceptualized to form five SoC variables: (0) Awareness, (1) Informational/Personal, (2) Management, (3) Consequence/Collaboration, and (4) Refocusing. However, Cheung et al. (1999) emphasized that the Awareness stage is still abnormal; it has relatively little influence on the Informational/Personal stage. They suggested that either the Awareness stage is irrelevant to the concerns Theory or there are some missing constructs between the first two SoC constructs.

The proposed research builds upon the work done by Cheung et al. (1999). The purpose of the research is to refine the 5-stage simplex model proposed by Cheung et al., using school-based assessment as the context for research. The concerns of Hong Kong teachers regarding school-based assessment as a component of the public examination system will be collected by an open-ended survey and analyzed using the Stages of Concern Theory as a conceptual framework.

(ED99012)

Establishing Benchmarks for Upper Secondary School Teachers of English

- ✍ CONIAM David John • FALVEY Peter*
- ☐ 1 October 1999
- ❖ Advisory Committee on Teacher Education and Qualifications (ACTEQ)

The tests which were prepared and administered for the Pilot Benchmark Assessment (English) administered appear to have worked generally quite

well for Lower Secondary. The data obtained from the need to be further examined, in order to set benchmarks for Upper secondary teachers of English. This principally involves a detailed examination of the data already collected, interpretation of that data, drafting of recommendations and the writing of the report.

The researcher do not anticipate at this stage that any further data collection will be needed or further tests will need to be administered.

(ED99039)

Creation of Constructs Specifications, Exemplar Tasks and the Piloting of the English Language Benchmark New Re-writing Task

- ✍ CONIAM David John • FALVEY Peter*
- ☐ 1 October 1999
- ❖ Advisory Committee on Teacher Education and Qualifications (ACTEQ)

This project is an extension of the Re-Writing Task which formed part of the Pilot Benchmark Assessment (English) administered to approximately 320 serving English language teachers in Hong Kong. The original Re-Writing Task proved itself to be a test of high validity in that it was perceived by English language teachers to reflect one facet of the work undertaken by them as English language teachers, namely rewriting student compositions. As an assessment instrument, the task also successfully discriminated between English language teachers of different proficiency.

While the task proved itself to be essentially reliable, it needs a degree of further work to ensure its robustness. The aim of the current project is therefore to refine the constructs and specifications for the Re-writing Task. This will first involve the creation of new sub-tasks. These sub-tasks will then be moderated, piloted, analyzed and interpreted so that decisions can be made as to the efficacy of the Re-Writing Task.

(ED99040)

Establishing Benchmarks for Primary School Teachers of English

- ✍ CONIAM David John • FALVEY Peter*
- ☐ 1 October 1999
- ❖ Advisory Committee on Teacher Education and Qualifications (ACTEQ)

The tests which were prepared and administered for the Pilot Benchmark Assessment (English) appear to have worked well for Lower Secondary. The primary cohort was a small sample, however. From their results and reactions to the tests, it appears that they have responded in a manner dissimilar to that of the

Lower Secondary cohort. The current project will therefore investigate the following:

Part 1 - Classroom Language Assessment:

This will involve assessors working independently to assess approximately 50 videos of Primary school teachers of English in order to:

(1) apply the CLA scales established for Lower Secondary teachers in the PBAE and determine how well they work; (2) highlight areas which may require modifications to existing descriptors and perhaps scales; (3) produce reports which will describe areas of congruence and contrast to enable the consultants to make recommendations to ACTEQ

Part 2 - Writing:

This investigation will involve the participation of a number of The Hong Kong Institute of Education final year English majors and a number of Primary school teachers and two independent Writing Test assessors. The Primary school teachers will attempt the two tasks from the PBAE and, in addition, modified tasks, created by the consultants, which better reflect the teacher expository writing and student rewriting tasks of primary school teachers. It should then be possible to compare the performance of these primary school teachers on the PBAE tests and tests which have greater relevance and face validity.

Part 3 - Speaking:

This investigation will involve the participation of 50 of The Hong Kong Institute of Education Primary English Majors, 30 Primary school teachers and independent Speaking Test assessors. The Primary school teachers will attempt the full range of tasks from the PBAE Speaking Test, and in addition, modified tasks which better reflect the Speaking tasks demanded of Primary school teachers. It should thus be possible to compare the performance of these Primary school teachers on the PBAE tests and tests which have greater relevance and face validity.

(ED99041)

The Development of Secondary Students' English Language Abilities in Listening and Grammar in English Medium of Instruction Schools in Hong Kong: A Longitudinal Study

- ✉ CONIAM David John
- ☐ 1 April 2000
- ❖ Language Fund, HKSAR Government

This project proposes to examine the issue of Hong Kong students' English language proficiency from a development perspective, with particular reference to the development of listening skills. The impetus for the proposed project emerge from two factors: the researcher's work on the current Language Fund project (a longitudinal study (Coniam, 1996-1999) into Hong Kong secondary schools students' grammatical development); and the Government's recently-announced Medium of Instruction initiative.

The aim of the project would therefore be to take the common scale for English language across the first three years of secondary school developed from the present Language Fund project (finishing in the summer of 1999), and to link this to listening skills tests. These two instruments will then be used to determine how students' English language abilities in EMI (English Medium of Instruction) schools develop as compared with students in CMI (Chinese Medium of Instruction) schools.

(ED99001)

Identifying Exemplar Teachers for the English Language Benchmarking Initiative

- ✉ CONIAM David John • FALVEY Peter*
- ☐ 1 April 2000
- ❖ Education & Manpower Bureau, HKSAR Government

Towards the end of March 2000, Education & Manpower Bureau (EMB) and Education Department (ED) will conduct a publicity / public relations exercise to familiarise those concerned with the contents of the English language benchmarking initiative. Concerned parties here will be the teachers who will be assessed as well as principals, ED officials, the Professional Teachers' Union and tertiary institutions whose trainee teachers will be graduating in future years from the institutions.

In order to make the content of the English Language Benchmarking Initiative more accessible, EMB and ED require a set of video exemplars; that is, teachers who have been videoed teaching English in live classrooms and participating in the English Language Benchmark Speaking Test.

The purpose of the current project is therefore to firstly identify teachers at the respective benchmark levels of AT THE BENCHMARK and ABOVE THE BENCHMARK. Having identified exemplar teachers at these benchmark levels, short video segments will need to be identified and extracted which exemplify the different benchmark scales for Classroom Language Assessment and the Speaking Test.

(ED99043)

Caring and Sharing for Society: Express Appreciation Express

- ✉ HO Man Koon • AU Pui Kuen*
- ☐ 1 September 1999
- ❖ Quality Education Fund, HKSAR Government

Aim: (1) To develop "independent thinking", "critical thinking" and "creative thinking" skills in students; and (2) To improve students' writing skills.

Target Group: Form Six students (about 4 to 8 schools, each with one experimental and one control class).

Time: September 1, 1999 to September 30, 2000.

Content: In this project, students need to write, in every one or two weeks, a letter to thank someone who has helped them, to show their concern and to encourage someone who is faced with problems or met with setbacks, to commend someone on the good deeds they have done, or to make different kinds of suggestions to the proper authorities. By doing this, it is hoped that students will learn to develop the habit of caring about society, while at the same time improving the quality of their learning through combining language learning, civic and moral education, and practicing what they have learnt in real life.

(ED99005)

第二次寫作過程研究

Research on the Second Writing Process

✉ 何萬貫 HO Man Koon

□ 20 October 1999

❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

一篇作文的寫作過程共有兩次。第一次寫作過程始於學生見到作文題目，止於作文完稿的繳交。第二次寫作過程始於收到教師派回的作文（教師已批改），止於學生再修訂作文後。本研究課題擬主要探討在「第二次寫作過程」中，在教師的提示下（刺激項：教師批語），學生在「審定階段」、「診斷階段」及「操作階段」中之表現。在有提示下，學生需要重新診斷有關寫作問題，然後才能作出修改的決定。

本研究嘗試將學生在「第一次寫作過程」之後所進行一系列的修改作文的認知活動，建構成為一「第二次寫作過程」的認知模式。

本研究以中六英文科寫作成績高及低的同學（各選 2 人）為研究對象。利用晤談及 think-aloud 來搜集研究資料。

(ED99013)

Exploring Urban Geography – A Computer Assisted Learning Package for Hong Kong Students

✉ LAM Chi Chung • FUNG Tung (Dept of Geography) • TO Ka Yan*

□ 1 August 1999

❖ Quality Education Fund, HKSAR Government

This project aims at developing a computer-assisted learning package to help teachers and students enhance the quality of teaching and learning of geography through the use of information technology.

The package will comprise 2 modules -- urban problems (a virtual field trip activity designed for secondary school students) and urban planning (an interactive planning simulation exercise with the help of a simplified GIS-like environment for sixth formers). The multimedia CD-ROM will be accompanied by a set of user manuals, worksheets and reference materials for students and teachers. Both an English and a Chinese version will be developed for the first module. This will be the first locally developed self-learning, student-centred, interactive computer software and is an attempt to fill the gap of acute shortage of quality software which fits the geography curriculum and the language medium used in the majority of schools in Hong Kong. All secondary and sixth form students taking geography (estimated at 280,000) and all geography teachers will benefit from the finished product in learning and teaching urban geography. It is also hoped that the user-friendliness and flexibility of the package will encourage teachers to apply information technology in their teaching and the experience of developing tailor-made software for Hong Kong will be useful to all subject specialists and school teachers. (ED99004)

Capacity Building for Environmental Education in Primary & Middle Schools Through the Production of Interactive Teaching Materials

✉ LEE Chi Kin John

□ 15 July 1999

❖ United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

Under the sponsorship of United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Chinese authorities have developed a set of interactive teaching materials for teaching environmental education in primary and secondary schools. This is a consultancy project to offer advice on the review and trial of revised primary education materials in one hundred primary schools in China. Another objective of this project is to assess whether the review and trial in these schools of the revised primary education materials have successfully introduced the concept of interactive teaching and learning about the environment. (ED99006)

Study on the Effectiveness of Public-Sector Secondary Schools

✉ LEE Chi Kin John • WONG Hin Wah • CHUNG Yue Ping Stephen (Dept of Educational Administration & Policy) • LO Nai Kwai Leslie (Dept of Educational Administration & Policy) • TSANG Wing Kwong (Dept of Educational Administration & Policy) • DIMMOCK Clive (Dept of Educational

Administration & Policy)# • WALKER Allan David (Dept of Educational Administration & Policy) • PANG Sun Keung Nicholas (Dept of Educational Administration & Policy) • CHEUNG Wai Chun (Faculty Office of Education) • MA Hing Tong (Faculty Office of Education) • TANG Yiu Nam (Faculty Office of Education) • KO Mo Lin Regina (Faculty Office of Education) • LEE Lai Mui (Faculty Office of Education)# • LAI Man Hong (Dept of Educational Administration & Policy)

□ 16 July 1999

❖ Education Department, Hong Kong SAR Government

This is an in-depth case study research in six selected secondary schools in Hong Kong for Phase II of the Study on the Effectiveness of Public-sector Secondary Schools undertaken by the Education Department. The objectives of the research are:

- (1) to identify the characteristics of the effective secondary schools;
- (2) to examine critically the process leading to the acquisition of the characteristics of the effective secondary schools;
- (3) to formulate a local model of school effectiveness where possible;
- (4) to find out the roles of different players such as the Government, sponsoring bodies and schools including principals, middle managers, teachers and parents in facilitating the enhancement of school effectiveness; and
- (5) to make recommendations, based on the findings of the study, on how school effectiveness can be enhanced.

The study consists of general surveys and interviews for analysing school's strengths and weaknesses as well as school processes, general observation for understanding school culture and school processes, a focus on curriculum management in these case study schools and stakeholder analysis.
(ED99007)

The Role of Schooling on Human Resource Development in Three Regions in China

✉ LEE Chi Kin John • WONG Hin Wah • XIAO Jin (Dept of Educational Administration & Policy) • LO Nai Kwai Leslie (Dept of Educational Administration & Policy) • CHUNG Yue Ping Stephen (Dept of Educational Administration & Policy) • LAI Man Hong (Dept of Educational Administration & Policy) • CHAN Wing Shing*

□ 1 November 1999

❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

The researchers proposed study is a collaborative effort with the State Centre for Education Development Research, Beijing, and it will investigate issues that are examined in a State Education Commission key research project. The findings will contribute to their understanding of the relevance of education to human resource requirements and development in a developing economy where planners are often concerned with issues such as low efficiency, building self-sustaining capacity, inequality and disparity, phenomena which often historically have accompanied economic growth. Moreover, the findings will provide important implications for reforming the school curriculum to nurture students to acquire knowledge, skills and attitudes that make them adaptable to the varying demands of the changing workplace. This study will also address the critical issue of lifelong learning in a changing society (Gross, 1982).
(ED99014)

Enhancing the Integration of the Newly Arrived Children (NAC) from Mainland China in Mainstream Schools in Hong Kong Through a "Setting-off" Curriculum Research and Development Project

✉ LEE Chi Kin John • HUNG Fan Sing (Dept of Educational Administration & Policy) • WONG Hin Wah • CHUI Ching Ying • HA Sau Ching Amy (Dept of Sports Science & Physical Education) • CHIU Chi Shing • KO Mo Lin Regina (Faculty Office of Education) • MA Hing Tong (Faculty Office of Education) • CHEUNG Wai Chun (Faculty Office of Education) • LI Yuk Yung Charlotte (Faculty Office of Education) • TSUI Hei Lai (Faculty Office of Education)

□ 15 March 2000

❖ Po Leung Kuk Camoes Tan Siu Lin Primary School, & Asbury Methodist Primary School

This is a curriculum research & development project in which a curriculum is proposed to meet the learning needs of Newly Arrived Children (NAC) from mainland China, covering such areas as Chinese Language (including traditional Chinese characters), Mathematics, General Studies, learning skills/study skills and cultural subjects. Curriculum design and evaluation will cover the following aspects:

- (1) analysis of NAC students' background and needs;
- (2) curriculum development responding to the specific school contexts and students' needs; and
- (3) on-going evaluation of the curriculum.

Research methods will be a combination of quantitative and qualitative methods. This project is expected to yield useful research findings and practical implications for the future development of "setting-off" curriculum for NAC from Mainland China to help them integrate in the local education

system in Hong Kong. This project also involves the provision of consultancy for the adaptation & implementation of the "setting-off" curriculum. (ED99038)

Capacity Building for Environmental Education in Primary and Middle School Through the Production of Interactive Teaching Materials (Follow-up Study)

- ✉ LEE Chi Kin John
- 20 April 2000
- ❖ United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

This is a follow-up advisory work to the previous Project "Capacity Building for Environmental Education in Primary and Middle School Through the Production of Interactive Teaching Materials" in Beijing. Under the direction of the Co-ordinating Agency and in close collaboration with the project staff, the researcher undertakes the duties as follows:

- (1) Offers advice to the national consultant in China on the process of final review and proof reading of the final draft of the teaching and learning materials produced under the project;
- (2) Undertakes a mission to Beijing to facilitate the consultation with the national consultant;
- (3) Assesses whether the teaching and learning materials are coherent in style, content and in the language used, and advise on the elements in need of final refinement before printing; and
- (4) Submits a brief report after the consultation and the mission on the work accomplished, including any comment and suggest for future improvements of the materials.

(ED99057)

Development and Research Project on 'Motivation and Model of Learning Among Primary School Pupils in the Subjects of Chinese Language, English Language and Mathematics'

- ✉ WONG Hin Wah • CHUI Ching Ying • YEUNG Chi Kwan • SZE Man Man Paul • MAN Yee Fun Evelyn • LEUNG Shuk Kwan Susan • LEE Chi Kin John
- 28 June 2000
- ❖ Education Department, Hong Kong SAR Government

The objective of the study is to identify a range of effective strategies for pupils of different characteristics, needs and interests in two participating schools which are CUHKFAA Thomas Cheung School and LKWFS Wong Yiu Nam Primary School. These two schools, besides providing a platform for the study, should play the role of active partners with us and experts of Curriculum

Development Institute (CDI) in developing, trying out and evaluating the strategies in coping with individual differences among primary school pupils. The aim of this endeavor is to minimize individual differences of the students involved in the study in terms of motivation in learning, academic and aesthetic performance, social and physical ability, communication skills, etc. The conception, approaches and strategies which will be employed to work with the teachers and principals are:

- (1) motivation strategies;
- (2) conceptions of curriculum; and
- (3) specific strategies teachers and principals are encouraged to change their teaching orientation in nurturing their students from performance goal orientation to mastery goal orientation.

The study will use TARGET framework proposed by Epstein (1989) and has been used locally by Lin & Wong (1999). Besides, teachers have to re-conceptualize their idea of the nature of curriculum from selective to universal. Other specific strategies such as cross level subject setting, curriculum integration and resource-based learning, etc. could be used to address the issue. The proposed approaches and strategies will be implemented in the subjects of English Language, Chinese Language and Mathematics respectively. The stakeholders of this project, i.e. the primary schools, the investigators of the consultant, and the staff of CDI should work together as partners in order to solve the problems of individual differences in primary schools.

(ED99061)

Courses for Secondary School Mathematics Teachers and a Study on Higher Order Thinking Skills

- ✉ WONG Ngai Ying
- 28 December 1999
- ❖ Education Department, Hong Kong SAR Government

The research focuses on reviewing the current state of the problem-solving environment in the mathematics classroom, to investigate if the tasks given out to students are conducive to higher order thinking.

- (1) To study the variation of mathematical problems according to the levels and ability of students by analysing the tasks given to secondary school students.
- (2) To study the variation of strategies used by students according to the types of problems and the abilities and levels of students.

(ED99030)

Enhancing of Students' Mathematics Problem Solving Ability by the Systematic Introduction of Variations: Development of a Framework for Analysing Students' Responses to Open-ended Questions

- ✉ WONG Ngai Ying • LAM Chi Chung
 □ 1 March 2000
 ❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

The research aims at broadening students' conceptions of mathematics and mathematics learning by introducing more variation to the mathematics problems they encounter in day-to-day learning. By doing so, the students will also master a greater variety of approaches to tackling mathematical problems enabling them to solve mathematical problems more flexibly, creatively and efficiently. This will serve as an exemplar of how to enhance mathematical problem solving abilities and other high order skills in classroom teaching. Such an exemplar will have great significance since the project can be easily generalised to other topics and grade levels and will indicate a new direction of improving mathematics learning and teaching. Much preparatory work is needed and validated methodology to tab students' conception of mathematics is already at hand through previous studies of a research team headed by the applicant. What remains is the development of open-ended mathematical problems and their scoring rubrics. This is the aim of the present research. (ED99044)

Curriculum Integration of Chinese History and World History in Hong Kong Junior Secondary Schools: A Comparative Approach

- ✉ YEUNG Sau Chu Alison
 □ 1 October 1999
 ❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

This action research on an innovative program to integrate Hong Kong junior secondary curriculum of Chinese history and world history will examine three components of curriculum integration, that is, significance, coherence and relevance. Based on the existing curriculum of Chinese history and world history, a comparative framework of an integrated curriculum has been developed and will be implemented in four secondary schools during this academic year of 1999-2000. A new direction of history education will be explored through the implementation of this experimental program and solid empirical research through in-depth interviews with teachers and students, classroom observation, questionnaire survey and focus group interviews. (ED99015)

由部首檢字引論中國文字的結構及派生方法

The Structure of Radical in Chinese Word Families

- ✉ 余迺永 YU Nae Wing
 □ 1 March 2000
 ❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

部首檢字仍是現行最多人使用及最易理解，而又比較切合中國文字結構的檢字方法。傳統的部首檢字法共有部首 216 個。這些成為部首的字，需要有涵蓋性廣及標誌性強兩個特質，以便能盡量歸納有關的屬字及容易檢索，故大多選擇古文字根或一般形聲字的形旁用作部首。中國文字在隸定為楷書之前，由商周時代的甲骨文及鐘鼎文開始，至小篆為一變，小篆至隸書為二變。書寫的方法既使字形的結體由圓而方；又因字形的重整，許多本來視而可識的文字組成部分經已面目全非。不是研究古文字的人，對許多部首的字義和讀音自然難以掌握，甚至無法確知若干文字的歸屬，本計劃正為解決此一教學及進修中國語文的障礙而工作。 (AL99031)

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>
1998-99	Development and Validation of an Instrument for Measuring Teachers' Meta-Orientation to Science Curriculum (ED98033) ✉ CHEUNG Sin Pui • NG Pun Hon*
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*
1998-99	Young Writer Website (ED98034) ✉ HO Man Koon
1998-99	To Examine the Effectiveness of Using Putonghua as Medium of Instruction in Chinese Language Teaching (ED98003) ✉ HO Wai Kit • ZHANG Rui* • CHEUNG Shiu Yip* • HUI Yiu Chi* • CHIU Lam Shing* • CHEUNG Kwok Chung* • LAM Kin Ping* • TAM Shing Chu*
1998-99	The Implementation of Information Technology in Secondary Schools in Hong Kong (ED98006) ✉ LAM Chi Chung • LEE Fong Lok

- 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
- 1998-99 Accelerated Schools for Quality Education (ED98021)
 ✍ LEE Chi Kin John • CHUNG Yue Ping Stephen (Dept of Educational Administration & Policy) • LO Nai Kwai Leslie (Dept of Educational Administration & Policy) • WONG Hin Wah • WALKER Allan David (Dept of Educational Administration & Policy) • LEUNG Seung Ming (Dept of Educational Psychology) • PANG Sun Keung Nicholas (Dept of Educational Administration & Policy) • HO Sui Chu (Dept of Educational Administration & Policy) • XIAO Jin (Dept of Educational Administration & Policy) • SZE Man Man Paul • CHIU Chi Shing
- 1998-99 A Knowledge-based Multimedia Learning System for Primary School Students (CU98196)
 ✍ LEE Fong Lok
- 1998-99 English Language Critical Literature Review – First and / or Second Language as a Medium of Instruction (ED98038)
 ✍ MAN Yee Fun Evelyn • LIN Angel*
- 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 (Dept of Educational Psychology) • HAU Kit Tai (Dept of Educational Psychology) • HUI Kwok Fai* • FOK Ping Kwan* • POON Lai Man*
- 1998-99 Teacher's Conception of Mathematics and Mathematics Teaching in Mainland China and Hong Kong (ED98007)
 ✍ WONG Ngai Ying • LAM Chi Chung • WONG Ka Ming Patrick* • MA Yun Peng*
- 1998-99 A Contrastive Study of Difficult Characters' Pronunciation in Mandarin and Cantonese (AL98020)
 ✍ YU Nae Wing

RESEARCH OUTPUTS AND PUBLICATIONS

- <P000482> **Coniam, David and Peter Falvey.** "Establishing English Language Benchmarks for Teachers of English Language in Forms Secondary 4 to Secondary 7". p.32. Hong Kong, 2000.01.
- <P000483> **Coniam, David; Peter Falvey; Bodycott; Vernon Crew and Paul Sze Man-Man.** "Establishing English Language Benchmarks for Primary Teachers of English Language. A Report Submitted to ACTEQ". 73 pgs. Hong Kong, 2000.01.
- <P000484> **Falvey, Peter and David Coniam.** "Language Benchmarks for Lower-Secondary Teachers of English: Findings and Emerging Issues". *Issues in English Language Benchmarking* 7 pgs. Hong Kong, 2000.01.
- <P000485> **Falvey, Peter and David Coniam.** "Feasibility Study for Establishing English Language Writing Benchmarks for Primary and Secondary Teachers of English Language. A Report Submitted to ACTEQ". 95 pgs. Hong Kong, 2000.01.
- <P000500> **Cheung, Sin Pui Derek.** "Measuring Teachers' Meta-Orientations to Curriculum: Application of Hierarchical Confirmatory Factor Analysis". *The Journal of Experimental Education* vol.68 no.2, pp.149-165. USA, 2000.

- <P000539> **Lee, John Chi-Kin.** "Environmental Knowledge, Attitudes and Behaviours: Cross-Cultural Views". *The Child's World: Triggers for Learning* ed. by Margaret Robertson and Rod Gerber. pp.294-314. Melbourne, Australia: Australian Council for Educational Research Ltd., 2000.02.
- <P000540> **Lee, John C.K.; Paul Sze and Cecilia K.W. Chun.** "Teachers' Selection of TOC English Textbooks". Paper presented in the Basic Conference on Reform of Basic Education, organized by Faculty of Education, Hong Kong Institute of Educational Research, CUHK and Hong Kong Primary Education Research Association. Hong Kong, 2000.05.01.
- <P000541> **Lee, John Chi-Kin.** "Teacher Receptivity to Curriculum Change in the Implementation Stage: The Case of Environmental Education in Hong Kong". *J. Curriculum Studies* vol.32 no.1, pp.95-115. 2000.02.
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RESEARCH PROJECTS

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

- ✉ CHENG Hon Man Roger
- 1 November 1999
- ❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

What qualities are most desirable to be possessed by teachers as exemplars of the educated, from their own perspectives reflected in their self-appraisals? 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 themselves (as exemplars of the educated) 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 educatedness 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 self 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 vs maximal achievements in the actualization of human qualities; and
- (3) human qualities ranged from general to special (or particular).

Thus, it constitutes an initial stage of a larger research agenda: comparative studies on the Chinese and English qualitative terminologies employed by primary, secondary and tertiary teachers in their self-appraisal in Hong Kong and in other Chinese societies, aiming at generating insights in need by the theory and practice of teacher education and development, and thereby providing a underlying framework of a better knowledge-based intersubjectivity for systematic levels of teacher appraisals in primary, secondary to higher education. (ED99016)

Parental Roles in Students' Learning of Mathematics: A Cross-cultural Comparison

- ✉ HO Sui Chu • WONG Ngai Ying (Dept of Curriculum & Instruction)
- 1 October 1999
- ❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

The importance of parent beliefs and involvement in children's education has been well-documented in current literature and home school studies. With the impetus generated from decentralization policy and the School Based Management Reform in Hong Kong, one might expect that parents would take a more important role in their children's education. Previous research revealed the parental involvement is a multi-dimensional construct. With the help of a well-established instrument, called *Parental Involvement Questionnaire* (PIQ), it was found that parental support is a strong antecedent to mathematics achievement. Among the five dimensions of parental roles, the effects of *motivator*, *resource provider* and *monitor* on students' academic achievement were most salient in the United States. Despite the great amount of work done in the area, there were relative fewer studies focusing on parental roles on mathematics learning in Confucian Heritage Cultural (CHC) regions. While the scenario with CHC parents may be different, the investigation of it could shed light on home-school collaboration so that parents can be made a valuable asset to student learning. Building on the previous knowledge, this study will investigate: (1) The nature of different roles of parents in children's education; (2) The essential factors affecting different kinds of parental roles; (3) The contribution of different kinds of parental roles on students' mathematics attitude and achievement.

This project will survey a sample of middle grade students and their parents from various socioeconomic backgrounds. The study is part of an international study for a cross-cultural comparison. The results of the present study will be important for constructing reliable measures in the further longitudinal study of the impact of different types of parental roles in local *secondary schools*, and therefore form an important basis for further inquiry in the conduct of large scale international comparison. (ED99018)

Enhancing Problem Solving Skills to Improve School Performance

- ✉ LAM Yee Lay Jack
- 1 August 1999
- ❖ Quality Education Fund, HKSAR Government

The project intends to arm educators with improved problem-solving skills to better prepare them for the challenges. Specifically, the project hopes to arouse school principals' awareness in terms of different

types and nature of problems that arise from different sectors of school administration. They need to realize the significance of progressing from a reactive mode of dealing with problems and crisis to a proactive stance. They need to shift gears from the passive problem management to strategic management. They need to harness various resources both within and without the school to hammer out a more comprehensive set of remedial strategies. They need to develop a more in-depth vision in analyzing layers of underlying causes and prioritize their plans of actions.

An increasing amount of research findings suggests that, even when principals are acquainted with new knowledge and skills, they may still be hampered by existing school structure to fully capitalize their new learning and improve school operation. To this extent, another set of objectives of this project is to assist principals in the reorganization of their schools and to help them develop and train team leadership in the management of problems.
(ED99002)

Chinese One-child Family

- ✍ LAM Yee Lay Jack
- ☐ 1 September 1999
- ❖ Berkshine Reference Works

The project updates the one child policy that is being implemented in China. The focus is to assess the social, psychological & personality impact such a policy has upon Chinese students of all grades & levels.
(ED99042)

External Environmental Changes and School Organizational Learning: A Pilot Cross-Cultural Comparison

- ✍ LAM Yee Lay Jack
- ☐ 1 October 1999
- ❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

The objective of this research is to chart a relatively unexplored domain: the relationship between environmental changes and schools' organizational learning. In response to the accelerated change in the political, economic, social and cultural sectors of society, educational reforms, initiated by governments in many parts of the world, call for major realignment of school systems and reorientation of educators. Existing empirical evidence suggests that in face of external changes, individual educators' coping strategies are not deficient in innovativeness nor are they carelessly executed. On the other hand, they are primarily role-specific and self-centered in a loosely coupled system

as education. Inevitably, these uncoordinated reactions to external pressure engender much internal tension and dissension.

Alternative to the fragmented and highly politicized approach is a concerted response pattern cemented painstakingly over time from individuals and groups that transfer their learning and acquired wisdom into the school's organizational repertoire. Through the institutionalization of individual and team learning and the dissemination of results to the entire organization, school organizations may achieve rationalization of responses to external threats and stabilization of the political realignment within the organization.

Organizational learning processes, as responses to the environmental constraints, are nurtured by ideal internal school conditions, notably in terms of transformational leadership, collaborative school culture and decentralized structure. Precisely how each of these conditions promote organizational learning in different contextual situations, and how they niche together to provide the optimal circumstances for organizational learning to take root remain the focal points of investigation for this project.
(ED99019)

Critical Internal School Factors that Affect Organizational Learning

- ✍ LAM Yee Lay Jack • PANG Sun Keung Nicholas
- ☐ 1 March 2000
- ❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

The objective of this research is to detect the magnitude of importance of school internal factors -- transformational leadership, school culture and structure that affect organizational learning. Current literature suggests that these are important internal condition that enhance a school's ability to self-renew and adapt to new external changes. However, it is silent on the relative importance of these factors to the process of institutional learning. Neither do we know about their intricate interrelationship. Through the data gathering of 27 schools' principals, middle-management, and other teaching staff, important data can be generated to provide some tentative answers to the key questions that remain unexplored in the current research.
(ED99045)

A Review of Quality Education Reforms in Hong Kong: Progress and Limitations

- ✍ TSE Kwan Choi
- ☐ 15 March 2000

❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

The 1980s saw the development in Britain and elsewhere of a new concern for quality in public and social services. A concern about the quality of school education is an international trend and many developed countries have been studying ways and carrying out reforms to improve school education. In Hong Kong, as in many other countries, a concern for quality also had its roots in managerialism and the philosophy of new public management. The principal goal of this project is to examine in what ways Hong Kong's primary and secondary educational institutions are affected by the tidal force of managerialism and marketization. By means of intensive case studies and documentary analysis, the present study attempts to offer a more comprehensive picture of what measures and mechanisms concerning quality education have been adopted. It is expected that this study will provide suggestions which will be valuable both for the Hong Kong government and relevant consultative bodies as they reflects on the future development of Hong Kong education. (ED99046)

The Representation of Citizenship in Chinese Societies: A Comparative Study of Social Subjects at Primary Level in Mainland China, Taiwan, Hong Kong & Macau

- ✍ TSE Kwan Choi
 □ 15 March 2000
 ❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

In view of the growing concern over civic education in Chinese societies in the recent years as well as the significance of citizenship education to the formation of political culture, this study aims to compare the formal curricular of their primary schools. To specify, this comparative study aims to study the representation of citizenship in four Chinese societies, namely, Mainland China, Taiwan, Hong Kong and Macau, in the following aspects:

- (1) To examine the social, historical and institutional contexts for citizenship education curricular in these four societies;
- (2) To investigate the current objectives, contents of the formal citizenship education curricular at primary levels in each society;
- (3) To compare the commonalities and differences in the syllabuses and textbooks in terms of the very nature of citizenship to be represented and transmitted.

The research design will be composed of mainly literature review and documentary analysis. The present study, as a continuation of Tse's recent studies of political education across Chinese societies (Tse 1997a, 1997b, 1999a, 1999b), is complementary

to the case studies conducted before. So it is a further step of this line of enquiry and could serve to fill in this gap in the field of comparative education. Furthermore, this study can contribute to theoretical advances in both the studies of curriculum development and the role of education in political development and political socialization. Also, it is hoped that the present study will shed light on practical matters about curriculum development. (ED99047)

Developing a Hong Kong Principal's Leadership Profile

- ✍ WALKER Allan David
 □ 1 November 1999
 ❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

Recent policy initiatives taken by the Hong Kong SAR Government seek to improve the quality of school education and to recognise the key role played by the school principal in that process. Major role changes for principals are foreshadowed which signal the need for Hong Kong principals to have a contextually relevant development guide grounded in the field of educational leadership. No such guide or profile currently exists. This proposal seeks funding to validate a Hong Kong Principals' Leadership Development Profile. Data will be collected through broad consultation with practising principals and other educators. The profile will provide a deeper understanding of the shape of school leadership in Hong Kong and a practical, personal professional development tool for principals. (ED99017)

Preliminary Analysis of Firm Data Collected Through "1998 Pilot Study for Education and Work: The Efficacy of Schooling in Human Resource Development in Three Regions in China"

- ✍ XIAO Jin
 □ 1 November 1999
 ❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

This study seeks to understand the interface of education/training provisional systems with workplace requirements in the process of development in the context of transforming the planned economy to a socialist market economy. This study examines the following areas:

- (1) the roles of formal education, on-the-job training, and adult education in attaining an employee's current job competence status;
- (2) the effectiveness of different types of pre-job education, especially the upper-secondary

general versus and vocational education, and OJT and AE in addressing job skills requirements;

- (3) the process of introducing new production technology and training practices into the workplace;
- (4) the basic skill requirements and quality traits of employees in a changing economy; and
- (5) environment formed by institutions and government policies for skill acquisition and productive activities.

The study, which will be coordinated with current efforts of the State Centre of Research of Educational Development, a key PRC think tank, will be conducted in three regions in China, namely, the fast-growing regions of Jiangsu and Guangdong; the underdeveloped regions of Yunnan and Shanxi; and Hubei and Hebei, which are regions in the middle stage of development. With data collected with pilot study, this study will concentrate on the firms' data analysis.

(ED99020)

Study on the Effectiveness of Public-Sector Secondary Schools

✍ CHUNG Yue Ping Stephen • LO Nai Kwai Leslie • LEE Chi Kin John (Curriculum & Instruction) • WONG Hin Wah (Curriculum & Instruction) • TSANG Wing Kwong (Dept of Educational Administration & Policy) • DIMMOCK Clive (Dept of Educational Administration & Policy)# • WALKER Allan David (Dept of Educational Administration & Policy) • PANG Sun Keung Nicholas (Dept of Educational Administration & Policy) • CHEUNG Wai Chun (Faculty Office of Education) • MA Hing Tong (Faculty Office of Education) • TANG Yiu Nam (Faculty Office of Education) • KO Mo Lin Regina (Faculty Office of Education) • LEE Lai Mui (Faculty Office of Education)# • LAI Man Hong (Dept of Educational Administration & Policy)

□ 16 July 1999

- ❖ Education Department, Hong Kong SAR Government

Please refer to page 96 for details of the project. (ED99007)

Enhancing the Integration of the Newly Arrived Children (NAC) from Mainland China in Mainstream Schools in Hong Kong Through a "Setting-off" Curriculum Research and Development Project

✍ HUNG Fan Sing • LEE Chi Kin John (Curriculum & Instruction) • WONG Hin Wah • CHUI Ching Ying • HA Sau Ching Amy (Dept of Sports Science & Physical Education) • CHIU

Chi Shing • KO Mo Lin Regina (Faculty Office of Education) • MA Hing Tong (Faculty Office of Education) • CHEUNG Wai Chun (Faculty Office of Education) • LI Yuk Yung Charlotte (Faculty Office of Education) • TSUI Hei Lai (Faculty Office of Education)

□ 15 March 2000

- ❖ Po Leung Kuk Camoes Tan Siu Lin Primary School, & Asbury Methodist Primary School

Please refer to page 97 for details of the project. (ED99038)

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>
1998-99	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 (ED98032) ✍ CHENG Hon Man Roger
1998-99	Making Home-School Collaboration Work: In Search of Success Indicators and Practices (ED98022) ✍ HO Sui Chu • TSOI Lai Yuen Sum, Susanna*
1998-99	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 (SS98011) ✍ HUNG Fan Sing
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*
1998-99	Hong Kong Voters in the 1998 Legislative Council Election: A Survey of the Voting Behavior in the HKSAR (CU98199) ✍ TSANG Wing Kwong • LEUNG Sai-Wing* • SHUM Kwok Cheung (Hong Kong Institute of Asia-Pacific Studies)

- 1998-99 A Classified Bibliography of Research on Hong Kong Education (1983-1997) (ED98010)
 ✎ TSE Kwan Choi ✎ WALKER Allan David • DIMMOCK Clive# • PANG Sun Keung Nicholas
- 1998-99 Development of a Cross-Cultural Framework and Accompanying Instrumentation for Comparative Analysis in Educational Administration (CU98327)
- 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

RESEARCH OUTPUTS AND PUBLICATIONS

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- <P000679> **Pang, Nicholas Sun-Keung.** "The New Roles of School Managers in Hong Kong in the New Millennium". Paper presented in the 4th International Conference on Education, organized by the Educational Managers Training College and the Ministry of Education and Training 2000.05.
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see also <P000712>, <P001561>, <P992273>, <P993085>

RESEARCH PROJECTS

Development of an Instrument to Assess the Emotional Adjustment of Gifted Students

- ✉ CHAN Wai Ock David
- ☐ 1 March 2000
- ❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

This study aims to develop a psychometric instrument to assess the types, nature and severity of emotional and adjustment problems of gifted and talented students in Hong Kong. It is believed that when emotional and adjustment problems of gifted students are validly and reliably assessed with the developed instrument, services can be appropriately designed and provided to meet the counseling needs of these students.

Rigorous procedures for constructing psychometrically reliable and valid assessment instruments will be followed. An initial pool of items will first be written and refined following focused discussion with teachers experienced in teaching gifted students. The refined version will then be administered to samples of gifted and talented students for item analysis, reliability analysis, and item factor analysis, and for subsequent cross-replication. The final version of the scale will be tested with gifted and nongifted or normal achieving students.

(ED99048)

Correlates of Bullying and Victimization Among Primary School Children in Hong Kong and China

- ✉ CHANG Lei
- ☐ 1 January 2000
- ❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

The project is an investigation of the behavioral and social-cognitive correlates of bullying in primary school children in Hong Kong and China. Although there is a growing body of literature on victimization in school peer groups, much of the work in this area has focused on children in western countries. Conclusions drawn from this work may not generalize to the social and cultural environments of Chinese schools. Child attributes that predict particular outcomes in European-American peer groups could have different implications in peer groups in Hong Kong and China.

One objective of the research is to develop etiological models that are relevant for Hong Kong children. In developing such models, the existing theories and research developed on western children will be used as a frame of references, whereas close attention will

be paid to the overall cultural as well as the specific school and family characteristics associated with the Hong Kong children. Another objective is to compare behavior problems and the related correlates of peer victimization between Hong Kong and China. Existing literature on only children will be used to draw such comparisons. A third objective is to compare the Chinese data with an existing data set collected in Thailand.
(ED99021)

Aggression, Withdrawal, and Communication Styles of Middle School Students in Hong Kong

- ✉ CHANG Lei
- ☐ 1 March 2000
- ❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

The purpose of the study is to (1) classify different types of withdrawn and aggressive behaviors in Hong Kong middle school children so that such a profile can be used to guide future intervention efforts beyond the period of the study; (2) identify behavioral correlates of these social-emotional problems and use them as indicators to monitor peer relationships and social interactions in schools; and (3) examine the verbal communication styles of the middle school children with special attention to the identified aggressive and socially withdrawn students.
(ED99049)

Social-emotional and Parental Indicators of Withdrawn and Aggressive Behaviors in Primary School Children

- ✉ CHANG Lei • DODGE Kenneth* • SCHWATZ David*
- ☐ 1 May 2000
- ❖ CUHK Mainline Research Scheme

Childhood peer relationship is an important predictor of mental health outcome (e.g., Coie, & Dodge, 1990). Both cross-sectional (e.g., Kupersmidt, Coie, & Dodge, 1990) and longitudinal (e.g., Parker & Asher, 1987) data suggest that children who are rejected by their peers are at heightened risk for a wide range of mental health problems (Patterson, Kupersmidt, & Griesler, 1990). Children consistently having difficulties in peer relationship seem to manifest two broad categories of behaviors -- social withdrawal and aggression. Both withdrawn and aggressive children are identified as rejected by peer nomination data (e.g., Rubin, Hymel, & Rowden, 1989) and suffer from internalizing and externalizing psychological symptoms (Patterson et al., 1990).

The purpose of the study is to (1) classify different types of withdrawn and aggressive behaviors in Hong Kong elementary school children, particularly boys,

(2) identify behavioral as well as etiological correlates of these social-emotional problems, and (3) compare the Hong Kong data with data which are being collected in the United States by the collaborators of the project.
(ED99029)

The Psychosocial Development and Achievement Motivation of Gifted and Nongifted Children in Hong Kong

- ✉ CHEUNG Ping Chung • LAU Sing*
- ☐ 1 December 1999
- ❖ Research Grants Council (Earmarked Grants)

A 2-year longitudinal study of the psychosocial development and achievement motivation of gifted and nongifted school children in Hong Kong is proposed. Psychological tests on self-concept, depression, anxiety, and achievement motivation will be administered to all the subjects (120 gifted and 120 nongifted students) in Year 1 and Year 2. A subsample (30 gifted and 30 nongifted students) will be recruited for extensive interviews in Year 1 and Year 2. Besides the selected students, their parents and class teachers will also be interviewed. The psychosocial development of gifted and nongifted students will be explored and compared by analysing the longitudinal data. Interview protocols will be coded and analysed to determine the extent to which the family and the school have an impact on the psychosocial development and achievement motivation of school children in Hong Kong.
(CU99139)

Politeness Effects During Group Problem Solving

- ✉ CHIU Ming Ming
- ☐ 1 November 1999
- ❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

During group problem solving, politeness is expected to affect solution score, perceived leadership and student evaluations. In contrast to past studies that only use questionnaire data, this study also analyzes actual student problem solving behaviors during class. Eighty high school students complete a status questionnaire. Then, they work in-groups on an algebra problem during class (resulting in 1000's of turns of talk). Their group work is videotaped and transcribed. Lastly, they completed a leadership questionnaire. The data analysis occurs at three levels: group, individual, and turn-taking. At the turntaking level, this study introduces a new method for analyzing large data sets of group processes. The researcher expects higher academic grade, higher peer status, more correct turns, and greater politeness of criticisms to increase solution score. She also

expects higher mathematical status, higher peer status and greater percentage of group's words to increase perceived leadership. However, she expects greater politeness of criticisms to reduce perceived leadership. Finally, she expects past agreement, academic grade, academic status and politeness to bias student evaluations toward agreement after accounting for the correctness of the student idea. Thus, this study will make a theoretical contribution of showing politeness effects and make a methodological contribution of showing how to analyze large data sets at the detailed level of conversation turns.
(ED99022)

Feasibility of Web-based Computerized Adaptive Tests (CAT) on Primary School Mathematics

- ✉ HAU Kit Tai • KAN Wing Kay (Dept of Computer Science and Engineering) • WEN Jianbing • KONG Chit Kwong* • CHANG Hua Hua* • CHENG Zi Jian*
- ☐ 1 January 2000
- ❖ Education Department, Hong Kong SAR Government

This research serves as a pilot study in preparation of the large scale launching of computerized adaptive testing (CAT) for Hong Kong students. It is believed that CAT enhances teaching and learning by providing a very cost-efficient, yet informative and diagnostic feedback mechanism on students' mathematics learning. In brief, the researchers will make use of an existing item bank of primary school mathematics to study the feasibility of implementing CAT for Hong Kong students. They will examine the logistics on the provision of the web-based testing program, the format and content of reporting, and students' and teachers' attitude towards such mode of assessment. The results of this research will provide valuable information on the eventual large scale implementation of the CAT project.
(ED99032)

Setting Mathematics Standard for Primary and Secondary School Students in Hong Kong

- ✉ HAU Kit Tai • CHANG Lei* • WEN Jianbing • KONG Chit Kwong* • CHENG Zi Jian*
- ☐ 1 January 2000
- ❖ Education Department, Hong Kong SAR 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 Mathematics. Then,

with the available data of a representative sample of Hong Kong students in the standardised tests (Hong Kong Attainment Test), 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. Noteworthy, in contrast to the previous study on Chinese and English minimum competence where the standard at the beginning of S. 1 was studied, in this research, the minimum competence at the End of S. 1 will be examined.
(ED99036)

Exploring the Metacognitive Thinking and Learning Skills of Gifted Learners

- ✉ TAY Pui Wan • CHAN Wai Ock David • CHEUNG Ping Chung
- ☐ 1 March 2000
- ❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

The important role of higher-order thinking processes in cognitive development and academic learning has been emphasized by many researchers of different disciplines (e.g., Adey & Shayer, 1994; Paris & Winograd, 1990). With respect to the gifted field, there is increasing attention to the hypothesis that metacognitive and higher-order thinking skills is the essential component of giftedness (Cheng, 1993; Shore & Kanevsky, 1993). This project aims to study the thinking and learning processes of gifted students in Hong Kong. First, with a set of more inclusive criteria for identifying giftedness and talents, the researchers aim to select a target group of gifted and talented youths who are intellectually bright, creative, and motivated in task commitment. Second, the researchers aim to examine their thinking and learning processes via questionnaires, in-depth individual interviews, and protocol analysis of problem-solving processes. The findings will provide valuable and practical information for the design and development of gifted programs. Students with gifts and talents will have more understanding about their own thinking and abilities. Moreover, the findings will also enable educators in the gifted field to develop more appropriate programs to meet gifted learners' special needs.
(ED99050)

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

Edition Title/Investigators

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)

1998-99 Developing Comprehensive Gifted Programmes and Activities: The "Gifted and Talented" Approach for Enhancing Quality Education (ED98020)
✉ CHAN Wai Ock David • CHEUNG Ping Chung • TAY Pui Wan

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

1998-99 The Development and Psychometric Evaluation of a National Standardized Putonghua Test (CU98047)
✉ CHANG Lei • HAU Kit Tai

1998-99 How do Students Work Together? Analyzing Cognitive and Social Interactions (ED98012)
✉ CHIU Ming Ming

1996-97 Assessment of Primary School Chinese Learning Objectives (ED96034)
✉ HAU Kit Tai • HO Man Koon (Dept of Curriculum & Instruction) • NI Yujing • LIN Wen Ying#

1998-99 Setting Chinese and English Standard for Primary and Secondary School Students in Hong Kong (ED98035)
✉ HAU Kit Tai • CHANG Lei • NI Yujing

1998-99 Teacher Burnout: Its Relationships with Teacher Self-Concept, Occupational Stress and Purpose in Life (SS98031)
✉ LAU Siu Ying Patrick

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

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| <p>1998-99 Detecting Transitions in the Development of Class-Inclusion Understanding (SS98032)
 ㄟ NI Yujing</p> <p>1998-99 Inhibition of Thought and Action (CU98191)
 ㄟ SHIU Ling Po • KORNBLUM Sylvan* • CHAN Tin Cheung (Dept of Psychology)</p> <p>1997-98 The Development of Reading Self-Concepts in Children: A Cross-cultural Validation Study (ED97007)
 ㄟ TAY Pui Wan • CHAPMAN James W.*</p> | <p>1997-98 Development of Phonological Awareness and Its Relations to English Reading and Spelling Competence in Primary School Children (ED97032)
 ㄟ TAY Pui Wan • SHIU Ling Po</p> <p>1998-99 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 (ED98011)
 ㄟ 鄭佩芸 TAY Pui Wan • LAM Chi Chin Catherine*</p> |
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RESEARCH OUTPUTS AND PUBLICATIONS

- <P002324> **Leung, Chi-Keung; Chang Hua-Hua and Hau Kit-Tai.** "Solving Complex Constraints in a-Stratified Adaptive Testing Design". Paper presented in the National Council on Measurement in Education Annual Meeting. New Orleans, USA, 2000.04.
- <P002325> **Hau, Kit-Tai; Marsh Herbert W.; Kong Chit-Kwong and Poon Chung-Shing.** "Late Immersion and Language of Instruction (English vs. Chinese) in Hong Kong High Schools: Achievement Growth in Language and Nonlanguage Subjects". Paper presented in the American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting. New Orleans, USA, 2000.04.
- <P002326> **Leung, Chi-Keung; Chang Hua-Hua and Hau Kit-Tai.** "Content Balancing in a Stratified Computerized Adaptive Testing Design". Paper presented in the American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting. New Orleans, USA, 2000.04.
- <P002327> **Marsh, Herbert W.; Kong Chit-Kwong and Hau Kit-Tai.** "Big-Fish-Little-Pond Effects on Academic Self-Concept: Counter Balancing Contrast and Reflected Glory Effects in Hong Kong High Schools". Paper presented in the American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting. New Orleans, USA, 2000.04.
- <P002328> **Hau, Kit-Tai; Kong Chit-Kwong; Marsh Herbert W. and Cheng Zi-Juan.** "Chinese Students' Self-Concept: Multidimensionality, Big-Fish-Little-Pond Effects and Casual Ordering". Paper presented in the American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting. New Orleans, USA, 2000.04.
- <P002544> **Cheng, Zi-Juan; Hau Kit-Tai; Wen Jian-Bing and Kong Chit-Kwong.** "Chinese Students' Implicit Theories of Intelligence and Other Personal Attributes: Cross Domain Generality and Age-Related Differences". Paper presented in the American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting. New Orleans, USA, 2000.04.
- <P006165> **CHIU Ming Ming.** "Evaluating group problem solving processes: Social interactions and individual actions". Paper presented in the Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association. New Orleans, LA, United States of America: American Educational Research Association, 2000.04.
- <P007639> **CHIU Ming Ming.** "Addition, Subtraction, Multiplication, And Division of Fractions: Combining Intuitive Understanding With Efficient Computation By Cutting Food". *EduMath* vol.10, pp.20-34. Hong Kong SAR: Hong Kong Association for Mathematics Education, 2000.06.

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- <P008432> **CHIU Ming Ming.** "Metaphorical reasoning: Origins, uses, development and interactions in mathematics". *Education Journal* vol.28 no.1, pp.13-46. Hong Kong SAR: CU Press, 2000.06.
- <P009429> **CHIU Ming Ming.** "Group Problem Solving Processes: Social Interactions And Individual Actions". *Journal For The Theory Of Social Behavior* vol.30 no.1, pp.27-50. Boston, MA, United States of America: Blackwell, 2000.03.
- <P009869> **CHIU Ming Ming.** "Teacher Effects On Student Motivation During Cooperative Learning: Activity Level, Intervention, and Case Study Analyses". *Educational Research Journal* vol.14 no.2, pp.229-252. Hong Kong SAR: Hong Kong Institute of Educational Research and the Chinese University Press, 1999.12.
- <P969655> **CHIU Ming Ming.** "Exploring The Origins, Uses And Interactions Of Student Intuitions". *Journal For Research In Mathematics Education* vol.27 no.4, pp.478-504. Reston, VA, United States of America: National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, 1996.07.
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see also <P998233>

RESEARCH PROJECTS

Investigation on Health-related Physical Fitness of School Children in Hong Kong

- ✉ CHAN Chin Ming Roy • HONG Youlian • HA Sau Ching Amy • HUI Sai Chuen • WONG Heung Sang Stephen
- ☐ 1 November 1999
- ❖ Research Grants Council (Earmarked Grants)

In Hong Kong, the last large school survey on physical fitness of children was conducted in 1981 jointly by the Chinese University of Hong Kong and the University of Michigan. The questions of how fit youth and children in Hong Kong are, and how their fitness characteristics have changed in the last 15 years remain unknown or uncertain. Children are the future of our society. Children's development, health, and performance reflected by health-related physical fitness affect the quality of life of the future population. Regular assessment of health-related fitness for youth and children has become a part of the routine work of physical educators, sports scientists, and medical scientists in modern society.

The objectives of this project are:

- (1) To measure the health-related physical fitness of youth and children in Hong Kong so as to provide an accurate and scientific benchmark for all future research studies and programs in the field of physical education, sport and youth health. Concepts and implementations of new PE curriculum have to have a benchmark to measure its effectiveness through time.
- (2) To update the testing items so that a new battery with emphasis on the validity of the test items and the need for safety of the participants will be addressed.
- (3) Comparison will also be made of the physical fitness of youth and children in Hong Kong with their counterparts in China Inland, Taiwan and Singapore.
- (4) Institutes in Hong Kong such as the Education Department, the Hong Kong Award for Young People, and the Hong Kong Fitness Association all have been testing children with protocols that are slightly different from each other. Contacts have already been made with these Institutions with the premise of unifying the testing battery. Preliminary support was given by some institutions already.

A representative sample of school children in Hong Kong aged 9 to 18, both male and female will be selected. The test battery contains items that were selected after careful review of the most current literatures to ensure validity and safety. Only health related testing items are included. The items included Backsaver sit-and-reach test, cadence sit-up test, one-mile run/walk, skinfold measure (triceps and

calf), and push-up test. Demographic data of age, gender, height and weight will also be included.

Effort will be made to contact countries with similar and related backgrounds in Hong Kong to hold similar testing on youth and children. It is believed that long term observation on changes in these health related data can provide valuable insights on how and why policies, curriculum, diet, living standards etc. in different countries affected these data.

It is expected that the results of this investigation will provide useful information for the government, schools, families and related organizations in their endeavor to further improve the health and fitness of youth and children in Hong Kong.

(CU99131)

Self-efficacy Test of Physical Ability for Hong Kong Secondary School Student

- ✉ CHAN Wan Ka Daniel
- ☐ 1 August 1998
- ❖ United Board for Christian Higher Education in Asia Research Grant

There is little known about students' self-efficacy of physical ability in Asia. The purpose of this study is to adapt and modify Graham's (1999) questionnaire of 'Test of Self-efficacy' to develop and conduct a self-efficacy test for Hong Kong secondary school students.

(ED98979)

Reliability Test on Swimming Check Lists Assessment Form: Implications for Teaching and Coaching

- ✉ CHAN Wan Ka Daniel
- ☐ 1 October 1999
- ❖ United Board for Christian Higher Education in Asia Faculty Research Gr.

The objectives of this study are to develop an objective evaluation system for swimming performance and evaluate the reliability of observation checklist assessment form for swimming performance.

(ED99062)

Authentic Assessment: The Implications of the Observational Checklists and Scoring Rubric in School Physical Education Programme

- ✉ CHAN Wan Ka Daniel • HONG Youlian • Carroll Robert*
- ☐ 1 March 2000
- ❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

There is little existing research relating to the process of assessment and evaluation in the Hong Kong secondary school physical education curriculum. Chan and David (1998) found that students' attitude, attendance and learning behaviour were usually involved in the assessment. Although the skill test is the major content of school physical education assessment, the result is a grading or scoring which is related to students' skill performance. These kinds of assessment results cannot reflect the motor skills that students have learned in the physical education programme. Accountability and assessment are two terms we cannot ignore in school education. The trends of authentic assessment adopt a qualitative analysis approach to evaluate students' skills learning in the PE programme. This approach uses observational checklists and scoring rubric in teaching and assessment and provides a clear list of what students have learned in the programme and in the teaching process. This study examines the implications of the observational checklist and scoring rubric for assessing and teaching in Hong Kong primary and secondary schools. (ED99052)

The Jump Rope for Heart Project: An Education Programme for Hong Kong School Children

- ✉ HA Sau Ching Amy • WONG Heung Sang Stephen • CHAN Wan Ka Daniel
- ☐ 1 September 1999
- ❖ Quality Education Fund, HKSAR Government

The primary objectives of this project are twofold: First, to enrich the learning experiences of the Hong Kong school children in health and physical education through a comprehensive rope-jumping programme. Second, to promote and maintain cardiovascular health among the Hong Kong school children through the active participation in rope-jumping activities. The target population for this project will be student of ten primary schools (P.4-P.6) and ten junior secondary schools (S.1-S.3) in the territories. About 2500 male and female students aged 9-14 will be included. The project will be implemented between September 1999 and March 2001. Under this project, an educational package including video series and handbooks on nutrition, exercise, and fitness will be developed in assisting school physical educators to promote a healthy lifestyle to their students. In addition, a dietary and fitness portfolio will also be designed for the school children and their parents in order to enrich their knowledge of being healthy and active. In order to assess the effectiveness of the proposed project, the applicants will:

- (1) interview with school principal, teachers, students and their parents about their view on the product;

- (2) survey school children's lifestyle before and after the programme;
- (3) assess children's fitness levels before and after the programme; and
- (4) monitor students' activity level during their physical education classes.

By inserting this project into the present physical education curriculum, physical educators will find necessary philosophy, strategies, and pedagogical models to incorporate health and fitness education into a well-balanced school physical education curriculum. All in all, it is most important to develop a comprehensive and quality physical education programme which integrates appropriate physical activities, concepts, and value leading to healthy lives throughout a child's experiences in the home, school and community. (ED99037)

Value Orientations of Physical Education Teachers Among Hong Kong, Shanghai and Taiwan

- ✉ HA Sau Ching Amy • KEH Nyit Chin* • XU Ben Li*
- ☐ 30 November 1999
- ❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

The purpose of this research is to examine and compare physical educators' value orientations for curricular decision making among Hong Kong, Taiwan, and Shanghai school settings. The revised Value Orientation Inventory (Jewett, Bain & Ennis, 1995) will be used to collect data from three hundred physical educators of these territories. Value orientations describe educational belief systems that influence curricular decision-making. They form the rationales that determine, in part, how practical educational decision are made (Eisner, 1992). Decisions include what content to teach, how to teach it, and the extent to which the content will be learned by students. Although physical educators have ideal or preferred sets of goals or objectives for their students, they often need to modify their expectation based on constraints or limitations within the educational context. While many of these studies were conducted to better understand different settings of teaching and learning (Ennis, 1992; Ennis, 1994; Ennis & Chen, 1995; Ennis, Mueller, & Hopper, 1990; Ennis, Ross, & Chen, 1992; Keh & Jwo, 1998), few of these studies have addressed in Asian schools. Thus, the purpose of this study is to examine in order to understand how physical education teachers in Hong Kong, Taiwan, and Shanghai perceived their personal value orientations and how much of these beliefs are reflected and influenced their physical education programs. (ED99023)

Improved Individualization Through Program Modifications for Hong Kong Junior Secondary School Physical Education

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

☐ 1 June 2000

❖ CUHK Mainline Research Scheme

In sport and physical education, children are often viewed as miniature adults in physical education classes. They are expected to perform the same motor skills with the same athletic equipment as adults. This focus conflicts with the curricular paradigms which stress developmental appropriateness. Developmental appropriateness often is misunderstood as an issue limited to elementary physical education. Students continue to develop emotionally, socially, and physiologically throughout their school careers. The study aims to examine the effects of game and equipment modifications on local junior secondary students' self-efficacy, motor-appropriate time and physical activity levels. The target population for this project will be 300 secondary students in Hong Kong, including secondary 1-3 (i.e. 11-14 age group). It is expected that the results of this investigation will provide concrete ideas, relevant to the local situations, to which policy makers or program planners could refer in designing pertinent curricula and sports equipment for secondary students to meet their needs at developmentally appropriate levels. (ED99031)

The Effects of Carrying School Bags on Biomechanical and Physiological Responses in Children

✉ HONG Youlian • WONG Aaron Shun Ki* • LI Jing Xian*

☐ 1 October 1999

❖ Research Grants Council (Earmarked Grants)

Four groups aged 6, 8, 10 and 12 years, with each group 25 male primary school students, will be randomly selected to serve as subjects. The mean speed at which each group of subjects walk in four different work load conditions (without schoolbags and with back pack schoolbags which are 10%, 15% and 20% of their body weights) on an athletics track will be used to determine the treadmill walking speed at each work load. During the 20-minute treadmill walking, expired air, heart rates and electromyography signals will be recorded and analyzed. Movement kinematics will be measured through two dimensional video filming and motion analysis. Blood pressure will be measured before walking and at 3 and 5 minutes immediately after walking. The data will then be statistically analyzed

by using the Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) with repeated measure design. It is expected that the results will provide a clear picture of the change of the energy expenditure, exercise intensity, muscle performance, working status of cardiorespiratory systems, and gait characteristics related to the weight carried for the respective age group children. The effects of carrying different weights of schoolbags on biomechanical and physiological responses in children will be determined, and this will 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 the carrying weights of schoolbags by primary school children. (CU99122)

Biomechanical Analysis of Fin Swimming and Training Effects

✉ HONG Youlian • TSE Marcus* • LUK Tze Chung

☐ 1 November 1999

❖ Hong Kong Sports Development Board Research Grant

The purpose of this study is to investigate the fin swimming technique, performance and training effects of the Hong Kong elite fin swimmers. A biomechanical analysis of fin swimming technique and performance will first take place to provide a baseline information of Hong Kong elite fin swimmers who serve as the subjects of this study. Isokinetic training program will then be arranged to the subjects. Pretest and posttest sessions will be arranged to examine the effectiveness of the isokinetic training. For each test session, under water video filming of 50m apnea fin swimming and isokinetic muscle peak torque will be measured. The recorded films will be analyzed on the advanced motion analysis system to provide the critical biomechanical parameters, such as the velocity of the center of gravity (C.G.) of the total body, stroke length, and stroke frequency and fin amplitude. The peak torque and average power of some involved muscle groups including quadriceps, hamstrings, abdominal muscle and erector spine muscle will be measured by Cybex NORM. (ED99011)

Effects of Lifting Weight on Low Back Muscle Loading During Manual Lifting

✉ HONG Youlian

☐ 1 November 1999

❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

Objectives:

The growth of technology in the industrialized country increased the productivity. These advantages of mechanical, electrical, and electronic control mechanism did not reduce the occurrence of occupational low back pain. The high costs on workers compensation for injury and disability caused public concerns.

Due to the extensive studies, the foreign manual lifting guidelines have been adopted in the ergonomics assessment in Hong Kong. Unfortunately, the guidelines could not be fully followed as there were differences in capacities between the Chinese and Caucasian.

The objectives of this study are to quantify the low back muscle loading during manual lifting of different weights in Hong Kong and to develop guidelines for manual lifting in Hong Kong Chinese people according to the low back muscle loading during manual lifting of different weights.

Long-term Significance:

Lifting activity is one of the important activities in the manual material handling. Although the concepts of good workplace design and risk assessment are always applied, the well-trained personnel should learn how to co-activate the muscles to reduce the back injury. This study is to compare the biomechanical responses to different lifting methods, so as to help the occupational health practitioner or the occupational hygienist to organize the training program.

(ED99024)

Fitness Prediction Model for Hong Kong Children

✉ HUI Sai Chuen • WONG Heung Sang Stephen • WONG Wing Kin Gary (Dept of Paediatrics) • LAU Wing Chung

☐ 1 September 1999

❖ Hong Kong Sports Development Board Research Grant

One-mile walk test and BIA assessment are two practical field measurements for physical fitness. These two tests are getting more popular in schools and other sports promotion activities for evaluating aerobic fitness and body fat levels because they are highly valid and practical. More importantly, the walking mode is particularly more suitable for children as compared to running or cycling, and the BIA test is fast and convenient. However, the equations derived from these two tests have not been cross validated in Hong Kong children. The need for cross-validation of the equations in these two tests becomes apparent. Therefore, the purpose of the present study is to cross-validate the 1-mile walk equation and BIA equation for the prediction of aerobic capacity and % body fat in Hong Kong children. Approximately 100 boys and girls aged between 8 to 12 will be recruited as subjects. Subjects will be tested on 1-mile track walk,

skinfolds measurement, and BIA measurement. Moreover, subjects will be given criterion measures for aerobic capacity and %fat, which will be the maximal treadmill-walking test and the hydrostatics-weighing test, respectively. Regression equations developed from previous researchers will be used to estimate the aerobic capacity and %fat of Chinese children and will be compared to those measured aerobic capacity and %fat from the present study. The predictive validity and accuracy will be determined from the multiple regression models as well as the standard errors of estimates.

(ED99010)

Validity of Rockport Walk Test and Bio-electrical Impedance Analysis for Evaluation of Fitness in Hong Kong Children Age 8 to 12

✉ HUI Sai Chuen • WONG Heung Sang Stephen • WONG Wing Kin Gary (Dept of Paediatrics)

☐ 1 November 1999

❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

Rockport walk test and bioelectrical impedance analysis (BIA) are two common fitness assessment methods to evaluate aerobic fitness and body composition respectively. However, these prediction models were developed from western countries which may not be valid for the Chinese population, particularly Chinese children. Sixty Hong Kong children were tested in a pilot study and found that there is a need to modify these two prediction models. Therefore, the purpose of this study is to further examine the existing prediction models (the Rockport walk and the BIA) using another 100 Chinese children subjects. Subjects will be Hong Kong Chinese children aged from 8 to 12, 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 measured from hydrostatics weighing. The crossvalidated equations will be useful in schools and other health promotion bodies for the promotion of aerobic fitness and weight control.

(ED99025)

Evaluation of Cadence Curl-up Test in Measuring Abdominal Muscle Endurance

✉ HUI Sai Chuen

☐ 1 March 2000

❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

Abdominal muscle endurance is one of the most important physical fitness components for athletes as well as for general population. Not only is abdominal muscle endurance important in a number of sports like gymnastics, track & fields, rowing ...etc, it is also essential to prevent low back injury and to maintain proper body posture. For years the one-minute sit-up test has been adopted widely as a practical field test for evaluating abdominal muscle endurance. However, recent studies suggested that the 1 minute sit-up test is probably a power test rather than an endurance test because of the requirement of rapid movement (Jette et al., 1984; Quinney, Smith & Wenger, 1984). For this reason, a cadence curl-up test, namely Georgia Tech Curl-up test or GT Curl-up (GTCU) was proposed which requires participants to perform steady curl-up motion continuously in a rhythm of 25 repetition per minute (Sparling, Millard-Stafford, & Snow, 1997). The investigators of the GTCU argued that the GTCU demonstrated logical validity because it requires participants to perform abdominal curl-up in a steady motion until exhaustion, which is unlike the traditional one-min speedy sit-up test. To perform the GTCU, a 12" to 14" high bench and a metronome (to control the rhythm) are required. Zhu (1998) argued that the GTCU is not practical at all because it requires more preparation and equipment, and is difficult for mass testing. Zhu (1998) also commented that most participants appeared to have difficulty in following the pre-determined cadence. Therefore, the purpose of this study is to examine the effectiveness of the use of cadence in curl up test. It is also the intention of the investigator to propose a modified GTCU which requires NO cadence as long as the movement is performed continuously, and therefore resolves the concerns raised by Zhu (1998). To develop a practical and valid field test for measuring abdominal muscle endurance is important because it is one of the major fitness assessment elements in most of the physical fitness batteries. (ED99053)

Physical Activity, Physical Fitness and Heart Disease Risk Factors

- ✉ HUI Sai Chuen • THOMAS Neil G (Dept of Medicine & Therapeutics) • TOMLINSON Brian (Dept of Medicine & Therapeutics)
- ☐ 1 May 2000
- ❖ Hong Kong Sports Development Board Research Grant

Due to the increased incidence of sudden death during exercise in Hong Kong middle-age Chinese, an understanding of the relationship between physical activity, physical fitness, and coronary heart disease (CHD) risk factors is important. In the US, tremendous research has been conducted to explore ways to lower CHD risk factors. It has been

documented that both physical activity and physical fitness levels are independent factors to lower CHD risk (Blair et al., 1989; US Department of Health and Human Services, 1996). However, these trends have not been documented in Chinese society. It is not clear if the relationship between physical activity, physical fitness, and CHD found in the US population holds true in Hong Kong, even with distinct differences in activity levels. One of the purpose in this project is to document current findings in the relationship between physical activity, and health, particularly studies related to Chinese population. Moreover, sudden death incidences evoke people in Hong Kong to question about the safety of participating in physical activity, particularly for middle-age citizens. On the other hand, it is suspected that sudden death during exercise is solely related to hinder heart disease. Thus, there is a need to investigate the relationship between physical activity, physical fitness, and coronary heart disease risk factors in middle-age citizens. Therefore, the major purpose of this study is to investigate the relationship between physical activity, physical fitness, and CHD risk factors in Hong Kong middle-age Chinese adults. Secondly, the recommended levels of physical activity and/or physical fitness to lower CHD risk factors in Hong Kong middle-age Chinese will be examined. Physical activity levels will be determined from a citywide telephone survey. Then respondents will be recruited to participate in a submaximal treadmill test to determine physical fitness. In addition, blood samples will be collected from respondents to measure CHD risk factors. The inter-correlation between physical activity, physical fitness, and CHD risk factors will be computed. (ED99059)

Psychosocial and Socio-environmental Correlates of Sport Participation in Secondary School-age Children

- ✉ LAU Wing Chung
- ☐ 1 November 1999
- ❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

The purpose of this study is to identify key psychosocial and socio-environmental variables influencing sport participation of children and producing a preliminary model to direct a more detailed longitudinal study of sport participation development. A sample of children from intact classes will be selected from a secondary school in Hong Kong, which included both boys and girls ranging in age from 12-13 years old. Instruments employed were a series of questionnaires including Task and Ego Orientation in Sport Questionnaire (Duda & Nicholls, 1989), Self-Regulation Questionnaire (Ryan & Connell, 1989), Sport

Competence Subscale from Physical Self-Perception Profile and Perceived Importance Profile (Fox, 1990), Athletic Identity Measurement Scale (Brewer, 1993) and four self-developed questionnaires. The dependent variable sport participation was measured by three sport recall tables regarding the type, frequency and time spent in sports in a typical week and the week just before the questionnaire was distributed.
(ED99026)

Health Tutoring Intervention on Overweight School Children: A Family Monitoring Approach

- ✉ LAU Wing Chung
- ☐ 1 March 2000
- ❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

Numerous evidence 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 aged 6 to 18 years old had weight over 120% median weight for height using the local references (Leung, 1995). The situation is even worse in last two years according to the finding of Guldan (1998). The cause for childhood obesity has been attributed to improper diet and sedentary lifestyle. Therefore, the purpose of this study is to implement an individualized behavioral change program for the obese children in Hong Kong. Key focus will be put on the family education and parental support related to the above factors. It is expected that the tailor-made approach will enhance and strengthen the motivation of changing children's sedentary lifestyle. Theoretically, through this study, the psychological and environmental barriers will be explored and the research team attempts to tackle those existing problems. A family monitoring approach regarding childhood obesity will then be developed for the future. Practically, it will help reduce the body fat of obese participants, followed by improvement of self-image and confidence. Moreover, it is the researchers' intention to develop an effective intervention program that can achieve obesity prevention through a family monitoring approach.
(ED99054)

Nutritional Knowledge and Attitudes of Athletes and Coaches

- ✉ WONG Heung Sang Stephen • HA Sau Ching Amy • SHI Xiaocai* • XU Beuli* • LU Yanuzhen*
- ☐ 1 September 1999

- ❖ Hong Kong Sports Development Board Research Grant

Preliminary findings from a pilot study assessing the nutritional knowledge and attitudes of coaches and athletes in Shanghai revealed that the knowledge of those subjects regarding fluid and carbohydrate replacement during training and exercise was rather insufficient (Wong and Ha, 1998). The results also suggested that there was a lack of awareness about scientifically based information that improper nutrition will hamper exercise performance. This is in spite of the fact that all respondents were national coaches and athletes participating in the 8th All China Games. Coach and athlete education have been systemically promoted in Hong Kong, Beijing, and Shanghai which are recognised as the most advanced and modern cities in Mainland China. In order to verify the findings of the pilot study and to assess the nutritional knowledge in coaches and athletes of those cities, it would be beneficial to undertake a comparative study in the particular area. Therefore, the aims of this project are twofold, (1) to determine the nutritional information resources used by coaches and athletes in Hong Kong, Beijing, and Shanghai; (2) to examine the knowledge and attitudes of the coaches and athletes of these cities regarding training diets, dehydration and rehydration, and the value of nutrition education. Questionnaires will be directly given to qualified coaches and athletes of different sports in the three cities. Subjects will be asked to respond to questions designed to test their knowledge on nutrition issues and fluid replacement. The information generated from the project would also be useful to those medical and health professionals who are dealing with malnutrition among athletes of whom improper dietary habits are a common health problem.
(ED99009)

Fluid Balance During Exercise in Children: Effect of Drink Preferences and Rehydration

- ✉ WONG Heung Sang Stephen • Xiaocai SHI# • David Paul JOHNS • LEUNG Chi Bon*
- ☐ 1 November 1999
- ❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

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 thermoregulatory systems are less effective than adults' are. 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 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 in Hong Kong, 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. (ED99027)

Influence of Glycemic Index Meals on Recovery and Subsequent Exercise Capacity

- ✉ WONG Heung Sang Stephen
- ☐ 1 March 2000
- ❖ CUHK Research Committee Funding (Direct Grants)

Fatigue during prolonged submaximal exercise is associated with the depletion of endogenous carbohydrate (CHO) stores (Bergstrom et al., 1967). Rapid restoration of muscle glycogen after exercise is of importance for optimal substrate provision during subsequent bouts of exercise (Costill and Speaks, 1973). Carbohydrate-electrolyte solution is useful for the recovery process because it can serve the twin aims of providing a source of CHO to replenish the body's limited stores and supply water and electrolytes to achieve rehydration during the recovery process (Gonzalez-Alonso et al., 1992). However, ingestion of large amounts of CHO in the form of CHO-electrolyte solution, during a short-term recovery, has been shown to result in disturbances in fat and CHO metabolism which prevent an improvement in endurance capacity during subsequent exercise. Therefore, the purpose of the project is to examine the effect of high and low glycemic index foods on short-term recovery and subsequent running capacity. (ED99055)

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*

1998-99	Teaching and Learning Profiles in Secondary School Physical Education (ED98023) ✉ CHAN Wan Ka Daniel • HONG Youlian • CHAN Kong Hei* • CHAN Choi Ha*
1998-99	Raising Activity Levels as a Health Risk Reduction Intervention in Hong Kong Children (ED98002) ✉ David Paul JOHNS • HA Sau Ching Amy • MACFARLANE Duncan*
1998-99	An Exploratory Study into the Role of Physical Education in a Hong Kong School (ED98028) ✉ David Paul JOHNS • DIMMOCK Clive (Dept of Educational Administration & Policy)#
1998-99	Qualitative Measures of Teaching Performance and Student Achievement in Physical Education (ED98013) ✉ HA Sau Ching Amy • RINK Judith E.* • CHAN Wan Ka Daniel
1997-98	Biomechanical Analysis of Taekwondo Kicking Technique, Performance and Training Effects (ED97031) ✉ HONG Youlian • LEUNG Hing Kam* • LUK Tze Chung#
1998-99	Changes of muscle Stress and Locomotion Biomechanics of Children Walking on Treadmill with Load Carriage (ED98014) ✉ HONG Youlian
1998-99	The Playing Pattern of Taekwondo Competition Game - A Pilot Study (ED98030) ✉ HONG Youlian
1998-99	Impact of Perception and Knowledge of Physical Activity on Physical Activity Level: A Cross-Cultural Comparison Between American and Hong Kong Adults (ED98015) ✉ HUI Sai Chuen • MORROW James Jr.*
1998-99	Validation of Fitness Prediction Models in Hong Kong Children: The 1-Mile Walk Test and Body Fat Assessment (ED98029) ✉ HUI Sai Chuen • WONG Heung Sang Stephen • WONG Wing Kin Gary (Dept of Paediatrics)

- 1998-99 Testing the Validity of Sport Identity as a Predictor for Youth Sport Participation (ED98017)
 ✎ LAU Wing Chung • David Paul JOHNS
- 1998-99 Fat to Fit: Weight Loss Program for Obese Children in Hong Kong (ED98025)
 ✎ LAU Wing Chung • WONG Wing Kin Gary (Dept of Paediatrics) • HUI Sai Chuen • YUEN Pak Yan (Physical Education Unit) • LIU Kin Wah*
- 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 (Dept of Chemical Pathology)# • LEUNG Chi Bon*
- 1998-99 Effect of Drink Flavor on Fluid Balance and Thermoregulation in Boys and Girls Exercising in the Heat (ED98018)
 ✎ WONG Heung Sang Stephen • David Paul JOHNS • LEUNG Chi Bon (Dept of Medicine & Therapeutics) • SHI Xiaocai*
- 1998-99 Reliability of a 4-Hour Rehydration-Recovery Protocol in Trained Male Runners (ED98027)
 ✎ WONG Heung Sang Stephen • WILLIAMS Clyde*

RESEARCH OUTPUTS AND PUBLICATIONS

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