

18 January 2016 (2015/16 - Issue 9)

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PE Scholar Developed Simple Raised Arm Walking Exercise to Improve Smartphone Addicts' Health

Inappropriate posture is adopted by 98% of smartphone users when using their phone which may cause different levels of spinal displacement, but a simple-step raised arm walking exercise may help improve the problem, according to a research conducted by Dr. Lobo Louie... ([More](#))

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SOWK Visits to University of Calgary and Springfield College

Visit to University of Calgary, Canada

An official visit was conducted by the Department of Social Work (SOWK) to the Faculty of Social Work, University of Calgary, Canada from 26 to 27 November 2015 with the delegation led by Prof. Petrus Ng, Head, and members included Dr. Hung Suet Lin, Shirley, Associate Head, and Dr. Fung Kwok Kin, Programme Director of Master of Social Work Programme (MSW).

During the visit, meetings with the senior management and academic colleagues were held to discuss the arrangements for academic exchange initiatives for the MSW students, the planning on the Double Master Degree on International and Community Development to be implemented in 2018-19, and to explore collaboration of research endeavor between staff of the two universities. A task force on the Double Master Degree was set up with Dr. Lorne Jacques representing the Faculty of Social Work, University of Calgary and Dr. Fung Kwok Kin representing SOWK. At present, the summer academic exchange for the TPGs (MSW and Master of Social Sciences in Youth Counselling) students is under preparation by Dr. Lorne Jacques with the assistance of Dr. Hung Mei on the side of University of Calgary. The visit of Prof. Christine Walsh to SOWK in the coming spring is also working out. During the visit, agency visits for exploration of fieldwork placements were also conducted. The Immigrant Services Calgary which provides immigrant settlement services and employment support for new immigrants, the Carya which specialises in children and family as well as elderly services, and the Woodshome, which excels in providing one-session-therapy to needy individuals were visited. Initial commitment to provide social work placement opportunities for students was solicited from the former two organisations.



Visit to Springfield College, USA

Prof. Petrus Ng, Dr. Hung Suet Lin, Shirley and Dr. Fung Kwok Kin visited the School of Social Work at the Springfield College, USA from 30 November to 4 December 2015 which has resulted in very rich academic exchanges. Dr. Hung and Dr. Fung delivered a keynote speech on changes of community development services in China. They also attended classes to give feedback to master



degree students of various years and post-master-programme. Sharing sessions with the International Office, academic faculty, members of the School Advisory Board, and representative from Social Work Student Union were also conducted. Meetings with individual faculties including Dr. Joyce Taylor and Dr. Efrosini Kokaliari were arranged. There were visits to four social service organisations delivering outpatient services, employment support services, child protection services and community-based mental health services. Opportunities for social work fieldwork and academic exchange of faculties and students between the two institutions were initially explored. The financial sponsorship from Prof. Frank Fu, Associate Vice-President of HKBU which has made the visit feasible was acknowledged by both institutions. The next round of the exchange is to have Dr. Efrosini Kokaliari and one student from Springfield College visiting SOWK Department in March 2016.



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3rd Young Scholars' Conference on China Studies (14-15 December 2015)

The China Studies Programme in conjunction with the Advanced Institute for Contemporary China Studies and the Institute of Creativity of HKBU organised the 3rd Young Scholars' Conference on China Studies from 14 to 15 December 2015. More than 60 young scholars from around the world were given the opportunity to explore global perspectives on China Studies.

A total of 23 panels were held during the two-day conference with topics covering tradition as a source of inspiration, prospects and challenges facing the Chinese economy, conceptualising China in modern Chinese literature, China business and management, China and the world from the maritime perspective, China's diplomacy and international relations, transport and logistics development in China etc. Renowned scholars, Prof. Li Qiang of Tsinghua University and Prof. Carolyn Cartier of the University of Technology Sydney, were invited to deliver the keynote speeches. Their topics were "The Urbanization of Mainland China" and "Research Design for China Studies: Transcending Differences in the International Academy" respectively.



China's diplomacy and international relations, transport and logistics development in China etc. Renowned scholars, Prof. Li Qiang of Tsinghua University and Prof. Carolyn Cartier of the University of Technology Sydney, were invited to deliver the keynote speeches. Their topics were "The Urbanization of Mainland China" and "Research Design for China Studies: Transcending Differences in the International Academy" respectively.

An Outstanding Paper Award was introduced at the Conference to recognise research papers of high quality, originality and significance. In addition, a specially designed Professional Development Workshop for Research Postgraduate Students was organised for all conference participants.

Renowned scholars were invited to share their experience in the workshop on various areas, including teaching strategies, research design, network building and research funding application.

The conference was co-organised by the School of Humanities, School of Social Sciences and Institute of Education of Tsinghua University, Institute of Taiwanese History, Academia Sincia, Taipei, Max Webber Foundation, Central Washington University, Asia-Pacific Cluster for Chinese Entrepreneurial Studies, the University of Queensland, Australia, Asper School of Business, University of Manitoba, Canada.

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AESC Seminar on the 13th Five-Year Plan on Energy Development and Shared Collaborative Research Experiences (17 December 2015)



The Asian Energy Studies Centre (AESC) held a full day of events, featuring a public seminar and an internal research meeting between scholars from the Energy Research Institute of the National Development and Reform Commission (ERI) and AESC research fellows on 17 December 2015. These events strengthened AESC's role as a hub for sustainable energy research on the Asian region, with emphasis on China's emerging practices and developments in coming years and decades.

Public Seminar

Prof. Dai Yande, Deputy Director of ERI and Research Professor, spoke on the "13th Five-Year Plan on Energy Development: Challenges and Prospects" at Seminar No. 4 of the Energy Research Seminar Series. More than 30 people from utility companies, consultancy firms, non-governmental organizations, businesses, and academia attended this seminar.



Prof. Dai argued that the monumental challenges China currently faces such as the degradation of land, air, and water, will fundamentally need to be solved through low-carbon energy development. The 13th Five-Year Plan in Energy Development would set targets that will eventually facilitate China's transition to sustainable development towards 2050, and begin to address the forecasted increases in energy demand, while at the same time drastically reduce energy intensity and spur economy growth.

Internal Research Meeting

Scholars from ERI and AESC's research fellows showcased their respective research projects and discussed potential opportunities for future collaboration on sustainable energy research. Potential projects would be further developed into proposal applications to be submitted in early to mid-2016. This meeting and potential partnership is a major development in AESC and HKBU's research networks in sustainable energy research in China and on the Asia region.

To learn more about AESC, please visit <http://aesc.hkbu.edu.hk/>.

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PE Scholar Developed Simple Raised Arm Walking Exercise to Improve Smartphone Addicts' Health



Inappropriate posture is adopted by 98% of smartphone users when using their phone which may cause different levels of spinal displacement, but a simple-step raised arm walking exercise may help improve the problem, according to a research conducted by Dr. Lobo Louie, Associate Professor of the Physical Education Department.

Acknowledging the ubiquity of smartphones and their effect on people's health, Dr. Louie and his team have conducted a study entitled "Raised Arm Walking Exercise Programme for Smartphone Addicts". The study observed the posture of 4,621 smartphone users and found that 98% of them adopt an inappropriate posture. To ease the problem, the team designed a raised arm walking exercise and found that many participants have made noticeable improvements to their health after taking part in the exercise programme.

From October to December 2015, with support from HKBU 60th anniversary health promotion funding, the team conducted an observation-based posture assessment of people using smartphones when standing or sitting and holding the phone with left hand, right hand or both hands in various public areas, including MTR platforms and carriages as well as restaurants. They noted that only 2% of observed individuals maintained good posture when using a smartphone while most users' degree of neck tilt was found to be over 30 degrees, with higher degrees of neck tilt found in people who were sitting down and holding the smartphone with both hands.

Dr. Louie, quoting a US research result, said that an average human head weighs about 10 to 12 pounds. As the head tilts forward the forces on the neck surges to 27 pounds at 15 degrees, and 60 pounds at 60 degrees. Tilting

the head for a prolonged period may cause different levels of displacement of the spine.

To help improve the situation, the team designed a raised arm walking exercise that aims to strengthen muscle, improve equilibrium, enhance cardiovascular function and improve joint flexibility – areas that typically need improvement in people who use smartphones or tablets for prolonged periods.

The team invited 98 volunteers to take part in a 30-minute raised arm walking exercise twice a week for five weeks. Analysis of pre-assessment and post-assessment data showed that many participants have made improvements to their health, such as better balance control, increased shoulder strength, less muscle fatigue in the neck, back and leg areas, and improved standing posture, after completing the five-week exercise programme. Greater flexibility and a decrease in waist and hip circumference were found more significantly among female participants while lower blood pressure, lower resting heart rate and better cardiovascular endurance were found among male participants.



Dr. Louie said: “Raising our arms when walking can improve health because it can build muscle strength and provides more support to hold the smartphones. In addition, this type of stretching exercises can help to relieve muscle tension.” To relieve adverse health effects, he suggested people to avoid prolonged usage of smartphones or tablets, and to do enough stretching exercises and get sufficient rest.

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Staff Activities

Geography

Prof. TANG Wing Shing

- presented a paper entitled “Spatial Administrative Hierarch: A Correlative Thinking Interpretation” at the “2015 Administrative Divisions Symposium”, East China Normal University and University of Technology Sydney, Shanghai, PRC, 19-20 September 2015.
- (with M. K.C. Yip) presented a paper entitled “The Everyday Life Practices of Residents in High-density Sham Shui Po District and the Unchallenged Hegemony of the Land (Re)development Regime” at the Fifth International Workshop on Constructing the East Asian Inclusive City Network “The Practice and Vision of Inclusive City”, Taipei, Taiwan, 24-25 September 2015.
- presented a paper entitled “Industrial and Land Issues at the Pearl River Delta: Beyond Urban-rural Divide and Market-state Duality” at the International Workshop on “Impacts of Industrialisation on Community: Lessons from China and India, and Practices in Viet Nam”, Thu Dau Mot University, University of Economics and Law and Resarch Institute for Development, Thu Dau Mot City, Binh Duong, Vietnam, 10 November 2015.
- organised an International Workshop on “High-density Development and Social Justice” at HKBU, 3-5 December 2015 and presented the following papers with J. W-Y. Lee:
 - “Everyday Life of Residents in High-density Sham Shui Po, Hong Kong”
 - “Hegemonic’ Land Development and the Production of the High-density Sham Shui Po District”.
- presented a paper entitled “Relating Area Studies and Geography to China: A Bridge Too Far?” at the Symposium on “Geography and Area Studies”, National University of Singapore, Singapore, 10-11 December 2015.

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Staff Publications

Geography

Prof. TANG Wing Shing

- (2015) "Creative Industries, Public Engagement and Urban Redevelopment in Hong Kong: Cultural Regeneration as Another Dose of Isotopia?", *Cities*. (published online on 1 October 2015)

Government and International Studies

Dr. Krzysztof SLIWINSKI, Associate Professor

- (2016) "Moving Beyond the European Union's Weakness as a Cyber-security Agent", in Smith, M. A. (ed.), *European Security. Critical Concepts in Military, Strategic and Security Studies*, Routledge, 468-486. (published online in 2014, *Contemporary Security Policy*, 35:3).

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STUDENT CORNER

Student Activities

"Opportunities" Competition for SOSC 45th Anniversary Celebration

To celebrate the 45th Anniversary of the Faculty of Social Sciences in 2016, our alumni are invited to participate in the "Opportunities" Competition which aims to inspire our current and next generation of social science students to recognize the tremendous opportunities you have to shape the society, and the world around us.

Theme: What opportunities will your profession have to shape our society of 2061?

Category:

- Video
- Essay

Prizes (each category):

- Winner : \$7,000 cash prize
- 1st Runner-up : \$5,000 cash prize
- 2nd Runner-up : \$3,000 cash prize

Eligibility: Alumni of the Social Sciences Faculty with Degree/Diploma in 2015 or before

Deadline: 5:00pm, 16 March 2016 (Wednesday)

For details and online application, please visit our website at <http://sosc.hkbu.edu.hk/>.

45th Anniversary 社會科學院
FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

"Opportunities" Competition

What opportunities will your profession have to shape our society of 2061?

✦ Eligibility
Alumni of the Social Sciences Faculty with Degree/Diploma in 2015 or before (including current students only if they are also alumni).

✦ Category
1. Essay
2. Video

✦ Prizes (Each Category)
Winner : \$7,000 cash
1st Runner-up : \$5,000 cash
2nd Runner-up : \$3,000 cash

Submission Deadline
16 March 2016 (5:00pm)

Details & Online Application
<http://sosc.hkbu.edu.hk>

Tel: 34115020 (Ms Sally Lee) Email: lee_sw@hkbu.edu.hk

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SOWK Study Visit to Taiwan

With the kind assistance of Teacher Chang Foundation and Department of Social work of National Taiwan University (NTU), a study visit focused on studying the experience of social work and counselling in Taiwan was organised by Social Work Practice and Mental Health Center (SWPMHC), Department of Social Work, HKBU from 9 to 12 December 2015 with the delegation led by Dr. Susan Su, Associate Director of SWPMHC, and 12 members including current postgraduate students from Master of Social Work, Master of



Social Science in Youth Counselling, and Master of Social Science in Social Work Programmes respectively.

On 9 December 2015, meeting with the senior managers of Teacher Chang Foundation and an academic sharing were held to share the experience about the indigenouness of social work and counselling both in Taiwan and Hong Kong. On 10 December 2015, after meeting with Prof. Chen Yu-Wen, Head of Social Work Department of NTU and Prof. Lin Wan-I, one lecture on introducing the systematic institutionalisation of school social work in Taiwan was delivered by Prof. Lin. Through the lecture, a whole picture of school social work system in Taiwan was sketched to the students. To make a better understanding on school social work system in Taiwan, one sharing session was conducted by Taiwan Association of School Social Work on 11 December 2015, the collaborative working team from New Taipei City Education Department, with the members including school social workers, professional counselors and guidance teachers, shared their innovative working experience and the students felt very inspiring by the collaborative working mechanism. Moreover, during the visit, some agencies related to youth service, such as the Garden of Hope Foundation, Taiwan Institution of Psychotherapy and Good Shepherd Foundation West Taipei Youth Service Center were also visited.



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OPPORTUNITIES AND DEADLINES

NSFC/RGC Joint Research Scheme 2016/17 (NEW)

The RGC is inviting applications for the NSFC/RGC Joint Research Scheme (JRS) for 2016-17. The Scheme will award a maximum of \$1.25M (exclusive of on-costs) to projects with duration of four years.

Interested applicants please study carefully the "[Invitation for Applications](#)", in particular the "**Eligibility**" section, mounted on the RGC website. Please note that **applicant with an on-going NSFC/RGC JRS project or NSFC Mainland project (in the capacity of PI / Co-I) is NOT allowed to submit new application** unless both collaborative partners have submitted their completion reports of last approved projects to the RGC and the NSFC before 4 February 2016.

1. The preliminary proposal for research grants should:

- a. be prepared according to the [Template for Preliminary Proposal for Research Grants](#);
- b. comply with the requirements set out in paragraphs 10-15 "How to Apply" of the [invitation circular](#). Please note that FULL NAMES (in English and Traditional Chinese) of both the Hong Kong and the Mainland Teams should be provided; and all the Chinese information provided in the proposals and the critical data are in Traditional Chinese.
- c. include a copy of the application submitted to the NSFC by the Mainland Partners; and
- d. include the [GS Internal Project Checklist](#)
- e. include 3 signed hard copies and a soft copy [limited to 2Mb] of preliminary proposal to the RGC

Please note that starting from the 2016/17, JRS will provide up to two conference grants for supporting conferences to be held in Hong Kong. The Hong Kong PI applying for the conference grants should meet the eligibility requirement for the RGC Early Career Scheme and should collaborate with a Mainland Co-organiser who meet the NSFC's requirement as "young scientist". Interested applicants please study carefully the "[Invitation for Applications](#)", in particular the "**Eligibility**" section, mounted on the RGC website. Please note

that (PI) of an on-going NSFC/RGC JRS conference project is not allowed to submit a new application unless the Hong Kong PI has submitted the completion report of the last approved conference project to the RGC before before 4 February 2016. Nevertheless, he / she could participate in a new NSFC/RGC JRS conference proposal if not in the capacity as a PI. Each PI can only submit one conference proposal in each exercise.

2. The conference grants should:

- a. be prepared according to the "[Template for Conference Proposal](#)";
- b. comply with the requirements set out in paragraphs 29-32 "How to Apply" of the [invitation circular](#). Please note that FULL NAMES (in English and Traditional Chinese) of both the Hong Kong and the Mainland Teams should be provided; and all the Chinese information provided in the proposals and the critical data are in **Traditional Chinese**.
- c. include a half-page summary by each guest speaker (3 hard copies & a soft copy [limited to 2Mb])
- d. include one A-4 page (with a maximum of 400 words) curriculum vitae (CV) for each guest speaker (3 hard copies & a soft copy [limited to 2Mb])

**On or before 20
January 2016**

Final deadline to the Faculty (i.e. no need for copy editing on writing style)

For enquiries, please contact Ms Natalie Wong (ext. 2229) or Ms Grace Wu (ext. 7614), Graduate School (GS).

Meanwhile, should academics be interested to obtain information on current internal/external funding opportunities, you are most welcome to visit the [Graduate School website](#) by clicking to clicking to "Staff" -> "Research Grants".

- [GS Internal Project Checklist](#)
- [Invitation for Applications](#)
- [Template for Preliminary Proposal for Research Grants](#)
- [Template for Conference Proposal](#)

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S.K. Yee Medical Foundation - Donations and Grants for 2016 (NEW)

The S.K. Yee Medical Foundation is inviting grant applications for 2016. Please visit the [Foundation website](#) for the details of the scheme.

The following files relating to the scheme are hyperlinked:

1. [Guidelines for Applicants](#) and [Application Form](#)
2. Application for Human/Animal Research Ethics & Safety Clearance (submit via [BUniPort](#))
3. [Internal Project Checklist](#)

Please note the following:

1. University's administrative overhead cost (i.e. 15% of the total grant requested) should be included in the budget
2. The supporting documents should be submitted under Section B14 of the Application Form
3. For patient- or service- related applications, which had previously been submitted to Research Grants Council (RGC) and were regarded as fundable but not funded (i.e. given a score of 3.5 by the RGC), or to the Health and Medical Research Fund (HMRF) of the Research Fund Secretariat, Food and Health Bureau, PIs are required to provide comments made by RGC and/or HMRF as supporting documents.

4. To complete Section C, the Graduate School will make appropriate arrangements with the Research Committee and the Finance Office
5. If more than one application are received, the Chairman of Research Committee will prioritize and coordinate the submission

The following documents should be sent to the Faculty Office by **25 January 2016**:

1. [Internal Project Checklist](#)
2. Application Form, 1 hard copy (two-sided) plus supporting documents (i.e. C.V., vendors' quotations etc)

For enquiries, please contact Mr. Derek Ip (ext. 7941).

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Knowledge Transfer Partnership Seed Fund (NEW)

Knowledge Transfer Partnership (KTP) Seed Fund set up by the Knowledge Transfer Office (KTO) since 2010 aims to support proactive and collaborative projects that transfer good ideas, skill, know-how and research findings from HKBU to external partners including associations and NGOs. This transfer empowers not only the external partners, but also individual participants of the projects. It involves collaboration between HKBU academics (e.g. professors and researchers), the external partners (including associations and NGOs) and the respective community being served. The ultimate goal is to achieve far-reaching and significant research impact in the community.

Each year, up to 10 - 12 KTP projects are approved and the maximum funding for each project is HK\$100,000. To encourage interdisciplinary KTP activities, the maximum funding for interdisciplinary project is HK\$120,000. The exact amount is based on the final marks given by the Knowledge Transfer Committee (KTC).

For more information, please visit KTO's website or click [here](#). To read examples of successful KTP projects, please click [here](#).

Important Note: The KTP Seed Fund is now open for application **until 29 February 2016**. Staff are encouraged to submit the drafted application proposals earlier before the deadline to allow ample time for advice and revision. Past figures show that early submitted applications have higher success rate.

If you have any questions, please contact Dr. Mike Ng (ext. 8074/ mikeng@hkbu.edu.hk) or Miss Anna Chan (ext. 8003/ annachan@hkbu.edu.hk).

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Strategic Development Fund Proposals

The 44th meeting of the Strategic Development Fund (SDF) Allocation Sub-committee is scheduled to be held in December 2015. The deadline for submission of proposals to the Faculty Office is **27 January 2016**. The matching ratio should be 50% from SDF and 50% from respective Departments.

Please use the [proposal template](#) for preparing the proposal and complete the forms as appropriate.

[Form A](#) / [Form B](#) / [Form C and D](#)

For other requirements for the proposals and the ways for submission, please refer to the updated [SDF Guidelines](#) and [SDF Conditions for Allocation & Use of Funds](#).

The proposal should be initiated by the Dean (for academic departments) or the Head (for non-teaching offices), and assessed by the President or Vice-President who oversees the Faculty whether the proposal is consistent with the guidelines in the perspective of the overall development strategies and priorities of the units under their control.

Only proposals recommended by the President or one of the Vice-Presidents (usually the one who oversees the Faculty) shall be submitted to the Sub-committee for consideration. Hence, **the proposal deadline refers to the submissions which already bear the recommendations of the President /Vice-Presidents.**

It would be much appreciated if the complete and signed proposals could reach the Office of the Vice-President (Research and Development) by **1 February 2016** .

For enquiries, please contact Ms. Kathy Hui, Secretary, SDF Allocation Sub-committee (ext. 5302/kathyhui@hkbu.edu.hk).

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UG Summer Research Programme

The Undergraduate Summer Research Programme (UGSRP) will continue in 2015/16. UGSRP intends to create research experiences for undergraduate students. It supports undergraduate students to actively participate in ongoing research programmes or in research projects specifically designed for them during the summer vacation. The research projects shall NOT be related to the students' final year project. Students on UGSRP will receive a stipend of \$6,000-\$8,000 for a period of 6-8 weeks respectively, to be matched by the Research Committee (RC) and the PI/Department at a 3:1 ratio. Any additional expenses related to the appointment will have to be borne by the respective Department/PI. The Faculty's deadline should be **14 March 2016**.

Any amount not committed by 30 June 2016 shall be returned to the RC.

For 2015/16, the distribution is as follows:

Units	Matching Fund by RC	Matching by Department/PI
ARTS	\$60,000	\$20,000
AVA	\$18,000	\$6,000
BUS	\$60,000	\$20,000
COMM	\$24,000	\$8,000
SCI	\$60,000	\$20,000
SCM	\$18,000	\$6,000
SOSC	\$60,000	\$20,000
Total	\$300,000	\$100,000

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Digital Scholarship Grant

The University Library now invites submissions for the new Digital Scholarship Grant that is sponsored by the Research Committee. The grant is to support collaborative projects with an aim to share valuable scholarly sources or research data academics creates or gathers throughout their research activities with the community.

Submission Deadlines: 31 March 2016 (Proposals received after the first deadline will be considered in the next round.)

The Library will provide project advice, offer technical support, and supply an open platform for dissemination and preservation of the scholarly sources/research data.

- Funding limit: \$100,000 per project
- Eligible Principle Investigators: full-time HKBU academics at the rank of Research Assistant Professor or above
- Assessment: Submissions are evaluated by a panel comprising of library professionals and representatives from the Graduate School

For eligibility and requirements, as well as detailed application procedures please see <http://digital.lib.hkbu.edu.hk/digital/scholarship.php> or contact the Library's Digital Media Services section at libms@hkbu.edu.hk.

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Matching Scheme for Travelling Grant for Junior Academics 2015/16

The Matching Scheme for Travelling Grant for Junior Academics will be continued in 2015/16. The Scheme aims to

support junior academics to participate in summer/winter attachment in leading/reputable institutions to undertake research work. It would support the air fare at a maximum matching of 80%, capped at a ceiling of \$18,000 per application. [The matching ratio is RC (80%) : Department (10%) : Faculty (10%).] The remainder of the expenses should be matched by the respective Faculty/School/AVA. Deans are encouraged to recommend and support eligible colleagues to make the most of this opportunity.

FO will transfer the allocation below to the respective Dean/Director's offices and assign the respective Dean/Director as the budget controller. Should there be any unused funding by 31 August 2016, it will be returned to the RC accordingly.

Faculty/School/AVA	Allocation (\$)
ARTS	32,000
AVA	24,000
BUS	24,000
COMM	24,000
SCI	32,000
SCM	32,000
SOSC	32,000
Total	200,000

Application deadline: **11 April 2016** (Summer 2016)

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European Commission / Research Grants Council Collaboration Scheme 2016/17

The European Commission (EC) and the Research Grants Council (RGC) are inviting applications for the EC/RGC Collaboration Scheme. Aiming to foster European-Hong Kong collaboration in academic research, the Scheme supports researchers in UGC-funded institutions to participate in joint research projects under the framework of the Horizon 2020.

Specifically, the RGC funding will support the following two types of proposals:

- Research project proposals - in science disciplines (biology and medicine, engineering and physical sciences only) up to HK\$3 million (exclusive of on-costs)
- Exchange proposals - in all disciplines up to HK\$0.5 million (exclusive of on-costs)

Eligibility and Requirements:

- Full-time academic staff at grade A-I (RAP or above) fulfilling the RGC [GRF eligibility requirements](#);
- A partner in a successful proposal submitted in response to the 2016-2017 Horizon 2020;
- Each application should only include one Hong Kong Principal Investigator (PI); and
- Each applicant can only enter one application in the capacity of the Hong Kong PI.

Application Procedures:

- Phase 1 - Nov 2015 to Jan 2016 Horizon 2020 application:** Prepare the 2016-2017 Horizon 2020 applications with European collaborators and submit applications to EC via the online [Participant Portal](#) according to the [EC's calls](#) issued on 14 October 2015.

Horizon 2020 is divided into 3 pillars, namely Excellent Science, Industrial Leadership and Societal Challenges. It offers a large variety of funding opportunities for research and innovation activities through calls for proposals that are set out in the Horizon 2020 [work programme](#). Most of the European Union (EU) funded projects are collaborative projects with at least 3 organizations from different [EU Member States or Associated countries](#). Applicant must be a partner in a successful 2016-2017 Horizon 2020 proposal in order to be eligible for the EC/RGC collaboration scheme at a later stage.

It usually takes around 5 months for proposal evaluation after close of application deadline. There is different deadline for each call and you are advised to check it carefully.

- Phase 2 - May to June 2016 EC/RGC scheme application if staff members have secured a Horizon 2020 project:** Result announcement on the first batch of calls for 2016-2017 Horizon 2020 proposals. If

the proposal is supported by the EC, applicant shall proceed to prepare a proposal to the RGC. Please read carefully the [Explanatory Notes \(EC/RGC 2\)](#) before completing and submitting an application. The complete set of application should include the following documents and be sent to the Faculty Office:

- (a) completed [Project Checklist](#);
- (b) completed EC/RGC Collaboration Scheme 2016/17 [Application Form](#);
- (c) completed [Summary of Proposal](#) approved by the EC;
- (d) EC's official notification of the grant acquisition; and
- (e) a hard copy and a soft copy (size up to 5MB) of items (b), (c), (d) above and all supporting documents in pdf file format.

The Faculty will provide support to applicants for copy editing (HK\$2,500 per proposal) and/or advice on writing style, if necessary. In this connection, there are 2 deadlines for submitting your application to the Faculty Office.

On or before 18 May 2016	For those requiring copy editing and/or advice on writing style (other than the Dean)
On or before 1 June 2016	Final deadline to the Faculty (i.e. no need for copy editing on writing style)

The Faculty's support for copy editing and advice on writing style should be initiated by applicants on a voluntary basis. If you require this assistance, please contact Ms. Dilys Pang, Faculty Office (ext.7135; dppang@hkbu.edu.hk).

Subject to the availability of funding, the RGC may call for second round of applications for EC/RGC collaboration scheme and details will be announced in due course if any.

For other enquiries, please contact Mr. Derek Ip, Graduate School (GS) at ext. 7941.

IMPORTANT: If an applicant departs from the University during the application period, the affiliated Department is required to inform GS about his/her departure. GS will follow up with the funding body accordingly.

- [Important Notes](#)

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Start Up Grants for Newly Recruited Academics

The Start-up Fund for newly recruited junior academics (at the academic rank of Professor to Research Assistant Professor) will be continued in 2015/16. The Start-up Fund is in the amount of \$100,000 (for non-Chinese Medicine and non-Science disciplines) or \$120,000 (for Chinese Medicine and Science disciplines) for academics to kick start their research. It is meant to support research activities and may also be used to pay off research-related expenses. Colleagues are reminded to observe the FO's financial regulations and procedures prior to making any purchases/requisition.

To facilitate the disbursement of the start-up fund, Graduate School (GS) shall obtain the necessary data from PERS in October 2015, February 2016 and April 2016 for FO to open a project account for eligible colleagues. All eligible colleagues shall receive a notification directly from the Research Committee (RC).

Please note that eligible colleagues are required to submit a report on their research deliverables one year after receiving the start-up fund. The reports should be duly endorsed by the Head of Department and the Dean prior to submission to the RC via the GS.

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Small Grants Proposals

The United Board for Christian Higher Education in Asia (UB) is calling for the following scheme. Please refer to their [website](#) for details.

1. Small Grants Proposals ([Guidelines for Proposals](#))

- a small, short-term project requesting US\$ 5,000 or less
- project period up to 12 months
- structure of the proposal is the same as Institutional Grants Proposals, although somewhat simplified.
- **accept applications all year round**

Applicants will need to send their applications(s) (in both hard and soft copy formats) and the [Checklist](#) to the Faculty Office by the above deadlines. For enquiries, please contact Mr. Derek Ip (ext. 7941), Graduate School.

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※ For Students

Graduate Scholarship at the University of Oxford

The Hong Kong Jockey Club Scholarships – Graduate Scholarship at the University of Oxford is now open for application!

In a major strategic move forward to nurturing Hong Kong's most promising people, the Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust has launched this brand-new scholarship scheme from the 2016-17 cohort onwards.

Under the scheme, up to 3 Hong Kong citizens will receive full scholarship each year to pursue any full-time graduate degree programme at the University of Oxford for up to 3 years. Being a full scholarship, the award will cover course fees, college fees and a grant for living expenses of up to US\$ 100,000 a year per Scholar.

This is a life-changing opportunity for aspiring Hong Kong citizens who can demonstrate outstanding intellect, character, leadership and commitment to service. To find out more and for application procedures, please refer to the [flyer](#) on the Scholarship or visit the [Oxford website](#).

Deadline: To be considered for this scholarship, application should be submitted for graduate study at the University of Oxford by the relevant January deadline (**22 January 2016**, depending on the chosen course).

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Social Sciences Undergraduate Scholarships 2015-16

In recognition of the outstanding performance of our undergraduate students, the Faculty invites eligible students to apply one of the following merit-based scholarships:

1. Social Sciences Scholarship for Community Action 社會科學院獎學金 (社會服務) worth HK\$4,000 to award an undergraduate student of the Faculty of Social Sciences for the best example of community action.
2. Social Sciences Scholarship for Global Exchange 社會科學院獎學金 (國際交流) worth up to a maximum of HK\$4,000 to award an outstanding undergraduate student of the Faculty of Social Sciences (with a cumulative GPA score of 3.0 or above) participating in the Student Exchange Programme for one semester to one full year.

The Faculty will also select undergraduate students who have excellent academic performance during their first year of study for the "Social Sciences Scholarship for Academic Excellence" 社會科學院獎學金 (學術優異). Students will receive an amount of HK\$4,000 for this award. The Faculty will inform the awardees directly and no application will be required.

More information on the eligibility and application method for the above scholarships is available at <http://sosc.hkbu.edu.hk/en/ugs>.

Interested students please submit the completed application form together with relevant supporting documents to the Faculty Office of Social Sciences (AAB1325, Level 13, Academic and Administration Building, Baptist University Road Campus) in person or by email to soscugs@project.hkbu.edu.hk no later than **5:00pm, 25 January 2016**. Please mark "Application for Scholarship" on your envelop or put this as your email subject. Late or incomplete application will not be considered.

For enquiries, please contact soscugs@project.hkbu.edu.hk or call 3411 7118.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Date & Time	Conference/Activity	Department/ Centre	Venue
21 January 2016	45 th Anniversary Kick-off Ceremony	Faculty of Social Sciences	AAB1312, Academic and Administration Building
21 January 2016 16:00	3H Color Run 2016 (tentatively from 16:00 to 18:00) and 2016 New Year Gathering (after AAB Run)		3/F, Academic and Administration Building
26 January 2016 11:30-13:20	Prof. Chang Chuen Memorial Public Lecture Series (Poster) 章群教授紀念公開學術講座 - 宋代史學史 筭記：解讀宋神宗《資治通鑒序》	History	AAB606, Academic & Administration Building, HKBU
27 January 2016 9:30-10:30	Geography Research Postgraduate Seminars: "Analysis of the Care Practices of Chinese Marriage Migrant Women" <i>Speaker: Miss GAO Fan, Elaine, PhD student, Department of Geography, HKBU</i>	Geography	AAB1218, Academic & Administration Building, HKBU
31 January 2016 14:30-17:00	「生活、敘事、點點滴滴」SEN 家長人生故事分享會 (Poster)	Centre for Youth Research and Practice	Mr. and Mrs. Lau Chor Tak Multi-purpose Hall, 2/F Madam Kwok Chung Bo Fun Sports and Cultural Centre, HKBU
February-May 2016	Introductory Course for Narrative Therapy 2016 (Details)	Social Work	HKBU

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❖ For the next issue, the submission deadline is **26 January 2016**. ❖

Articles received may be edited or rejected by the Faculty Office for purpose of clarity and space.

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