



Dear JCC Community,

Another fortnight has flown by in the busy JCC calendar. I do hope you will take a moment to read the departmental news and celebrate our recent successes in teaching, research and service. Our students, teachers and researchers are making inspirational contributions to the College, to the University and to the wider Community. Take a moment to read about these successes that include:

- A University Wide Teaching Award for the Clinical Skills Team in the Department of VCS, led by Dr. Rebecca Parkes
- Our first [BVM student publication](#) arising from the Research Project Unit from Toby Cha, supervised by Dr. Jeanine Sandy and Dr. Omid Nekouei from the Departments of VCS and PH
- Identification of a cancer protein that promotes metastases by Prof. Michael Yang's team in the Department of BMS

I would also like to congratulate and thank all of you who are involved in the many outreach activities reported below, lifting the profile of the JCC and showcasing the quality of our research and education.

Finally, there are several upcoming events I would like to draw your attention to. The **strategic planning day** is on the 30th March. All departmental faculty have been invited plus our BVM CE/SOs. The success of this brainstorming day is contingent on your engagement. If you haven't yet RSVP'd please do so now to shirley.chu@cityu.edu.hk. If you have to skip a session due to a lecture/teaching activity please let Shirley know.

If you haven't yet registered for the JCC Research Seminar on the [Complex effects of Social Behaviour on Infectious Disease](#), this is one not to be missed and will be held immediately before the strategic planning day, online via zoom. Finally, don't forget to register for the JCC seminar on [Diversity, Equity and Inclusion](#) which will be on March 29th at 4pm.

Have a great week ahead,

Acting Dean



News From Our Departments

Veterinary Clinical Sciences

Award

- We are delighted to share that our **Veterinary Clinical Skills Team** has been selected as one of the three **CityU Teaching Excellence Awards (TEA)** recipients for 2022/23 for '*Tech-to-Vet: Clinical Skills for Tomorrow's Vets*' among 23 nominations.
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Big congratulations to the team represented by Dr Rebecca Parkes as team leader, and Professor Vanessa Barrs, Dr Gareth Fitch, Dr Kate Flay and Mrs Susanna Taylor as team members. We are all very proud of you and everything you have been doing for our students.

Special thanks to all Clinical Educators, Scientific Officers and the Technical Team led by Tom Chan whom are always supporting us with our mission and are an integral part of the team.

Teaching



- Earlier last week, the Year 4 students had their first ever surgery exposure lab newly created to support students before they conduct their first solo surgery. The practical took place at the SPCA with **Professors Paulo Steagall and Angel Almendros, and Drs. Laurie Hippman, Patricia Poon and Vivian Chow.** The team neutered 10 cats from the SPCA welfare program with hands-on opportunities. A big thanks to the SPCA team for this collaboration!



- Our new Holstein Friesian teaching model has arrived the Clinical Skills Lab. She towers over our Hereford model, and had to take a jaunt across campus to find a lift large about to get her to the Clinical Skills Lab on 7/F! She will be used to teach handling, milk testing & calving in the BVM programme.

Research (included new awards, new publications, new **successful** external grants, etc.)

Publications

- Supervised by **Dr Jeanine Sandy** and **Dr Omid Nekouei**, the research project completed by student CHU Ka To in his Year 5 studies is recently accepted and published:
Chu K-T, Nekouei O, Sandy JR. Histopathological Grading, Clinical Staging and CD 31 Expression of Canine Splenic Hemangiosarcoma. Veterinary Sciences. 2023; 10(3):190. <https://doi.org/10.3390/vetsci10030190>.
- Lee LM, Gasper D, Szabo Z, **Tse M**, Hawkins S, Steinberg H, Kiupel M. Clinical, pathologic, and immunohistochemical features of pituitary tumors in 4 chinchillas. Vet Pathol. 2023 Mar 4:3009858231158077. doi: 10.1177/03009858231158077. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 36869824. <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/36869824/>

Service

- Organized by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD), Dr Pawel Beczkowski joined the panel of experts to discuss “Responsible Antibiotics Use in Small Animals – Practical and Prudent Approaches” on March 9, 2023.



Others

- Professor Paulo Steagall's** former PhD student Ryota Watanabe of the Université de Montréal has been recommended for the *Governor General's Academic Medal of Canada 2023* for his thesis entitled “Characterization of oral pain in cats after dental extractions in a multidisciplinary approach”.

Infectious Diseases and Public Health

Research (included new awards, new publications, new **successful** external grants, etc.)

- Li F**, Li X, Cheng CC, Bujdoš D, Tollenaar S, Simpson DJ, Tasseva G, Perez-Muñoz ME, Frese S, Gänzle MG, Walter J, & Zheng J. A phylogenomic analysis of *Limosilactobacillus reuteri* reveals ancient and stable evolutionary relationships with rodents and birds and zoonotic transmission to humans. *BMC Biology* 2023, 21(1):53. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12915-023-01541-1>
- Go YY**, Hazard NW, Balasuriya UBR, Chapman AM, Fitton NS, **Kenéz Á** and Andrews FM (2023) Clinical evaluation of the Immulite® 1000 chemiluminescent immunoassay for measurement of equine serum insulin. *Front. Vet. Sci.* 10:1018230. doi: 10.3389/fvets.2023.1018230

Service



- Professor Olivier Sparagano** was invited by the Department of Public and International Affairs (PIA) to be on the Expert Panel for their Workshop on Social Determinants of Health on March 9th.



- Dr. Ming Wai Kit** has been elected as a Deputy Convener of the Health Information Promotion Working Group in the Healthy City Executive Committee of the Yau Tsim Mong District, HKSAR 2023.

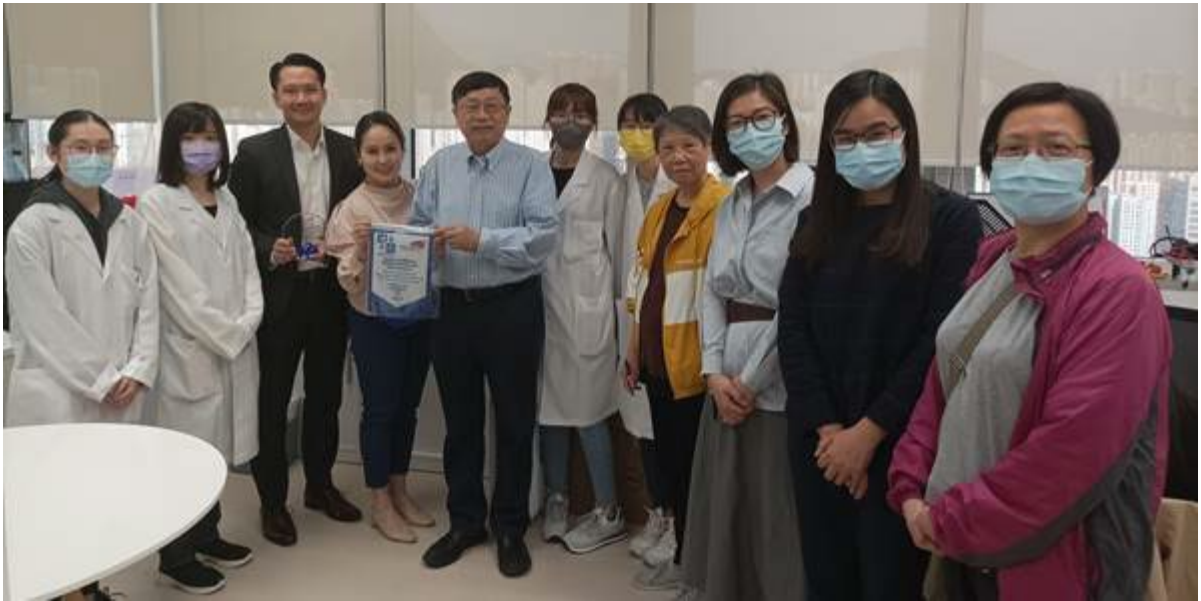
Media

- **Professor Olivier Sparagano** has been appointed Associate Chief Editor for the journal *One Health and Implementation Research* (OHIR).

Biomedical Sciences

Teaching (e.g. awards)

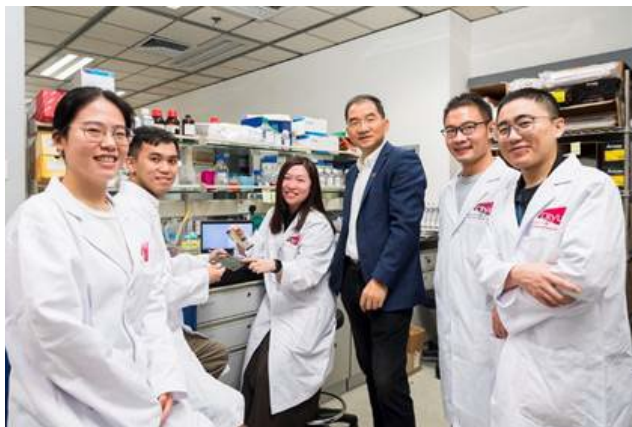
- **Prof. Yu Huang**, Head of Department and our Clinical Attachment Coordinators (**Dr Jackie Pon** and Ms Fannie Tsang) recently paid a visit to Quality HealthCare Medical Group (one of our host labs) and our Year-4 BSc in Biomedical Sciences students undergoing clinical attachment. During the clinical visit, they met with the clinical staff and observe the operations of the lab and facilitates. Prof Huang and Coordinators were impressed with the level of professionalism and dedication exhibited by our students and interacted with our students, and the students expressed their gratitude for the clinical opportunity and the support they received from the professional and experiences laboratory staff. Overall, the visit was exciting and fruitful and highlighted the positive relationship between our department and the host lab, and and we look forward to continued collaboration in the future.



Research (included new awards, new publications, new **successful** external grants, etc.)

- **Prof Michael Yang** (corresponding author) and his team of researchers and research students identified a protein that promotes cancer metastasis, providing a new potential treatment target, the findings were published in the leading peer-reviewed cancer-related scientific journal *Molecular Cancer*, under the title "*Lysyl hydroxylase LH1 promotes confined migration and metastasis of cancer cells by stabilizing Septin2 to enhance actin network*".

Link: <https://www.cityu.edu.hk/research/stories/2023/03/09/cityu-researchers-identify-protein-promotes-cancer-metastasis-providing-new-potential-treatment-target>



Research publications:

- Zhang, Y., Huang, H., Kong, Y., Xu, C., Dai, L., Geng, X., Deng, Y., Wang, Y., Liu, Y., Meng, C., Zhang, X., Li, J., Qin, J., Feng, B., **Mak, King Lun Kingston, Wang Li, Huang, Yu.**, Wang, W., Lan, H., Yang, B., Lu, H. A. J. & Xia, Y., Mar 2023, Kidney tubular transcription co-activator, Yes-associated protein 1 (YAP), controls the expression of collecting duct aquaporins and water homeostasis. In: *Kidney International*. 103, 3, p. 501-513 13 p.
- Huang, R., Liu, J., Wan, T. K., Siriwantha, D., Woo, Y. M. P., Vodencarevic, A., Wong, C., **Chan, K.H. Katie**, Mar 2023. Stroke Mortality Prediction Based on Ensemble Learning and the Combination of Structured and Textual Data. In: *Computers in Biology and Medicine*. 155, 106176.
- He, L., Shi, H., Zhang, G., Peng, Y., Ghosh, A., Zhang, M., Hu, X., Liu, C., Shao, Y., Wang, S., Chen, L., Sun, W., Su, J., Chen, X., **Zhang Liang**, Chan, Y., Pei, D., Tortorella, M., Guo, Y., Yan, H. & He, J., 22 Feb 2023, A Novel CCK Receptor GPR173 Mediates Potentiation of GABAergic Inhibition. (Online published) In: *Journal of Neuroscience*.
- Lee, S., Chung, C. T., Chou, O. H. I., Lee, T. T. L., Radford, D., Jeevaratnam, K., Wong, W. T., **Cheng, Shuk Han**, Mok, N. S., Liu, T. & Tse, G., Feb 2023. Attendance-related Healthcare Resource Utilisation and Costs in Patients With Brugada Syndrome in Hong Kong: A Retrospective Cohort Study In: *Current Problems in Cardiology*. 48, 2, 101513.
- Bo, Y. C., Yu, T., Guo, C., Lin, C. C., Yang, H. T., Chang, L. Y., Thomas, G. N., Tam, T., Lau, A. K. H. & **Lao, Xiangqian**, Feb 2023, Cardiovascular Mortality, Habitual Exercise, and Particulate Matter 2.5 Exposure: A Longitudinal Cohort Study. In: *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*. 64, 2, p. 250-258 9 p.
- Chen, H., Peng, J., Wang, T., Wen, J., Chen, S., **Huang, Yu.** & Zhang, Y., Feb 2023, Counter-regulatory renin-angiotensin system in hypertension: Review and update in the era of COVID-19 pandemic. In: *Biochemical Pharmacology*. 208, 115370.
- Bo, Y., Yu, T., Guo, C., Chang, L. Y., Huang, J., Wong, M. C., Tam, T., & **Lao, Xiangqian**, Feb 2023, Isolated systolic or diastolic hypertension and mortality risk in young adults using the 2017 American College of Cardiology/American Heart Association blood pressure guideline: a longitudinal cohort study. In: *Journal of Hypertension*. 41, 2, p. 271-279 9 p.
- Zhou, J., Lee, S., Liu, Y., Chan, J. S. K., Li, G., Wong, W. T., Jeevaratnam, K., **Cheng, Shuk Han**, Liu, T., Tse, G. & Zhang, Q., Feb 2023, Predicting Stroke and Mortality in Mitral Regurgitation: A Machine Learning Approach. In: *Current Problems in Cardiology*. 48, 2, 101464.

Events / Outreach

- A Joint Symposium in Frontiers of Biomedical Sciences and Technologies, organised by BMS/CityU of Hong Kong (CityU) and Faculty of Medicine, Universiti Malaya, which was held virtually on 2 March 2023, was a resounding success. Around 130 participants joined the joint symposium bringing together some of the brightest minds in the scientific community. The speakers presented their latest research findings and shared their perspectives on current scientific challenges, and discussed potential solutions to these challenges. Thanks to the efforts from our BMS faculty members including **Dr Ming Chan**, **Dr Gigi Lo** and **Dr Kwan Chow** for their sharing of their latest research and ideas at this symposium.

Joint Symposium in Frontiers in Biomedical Sciences and Technologies

CityU

Faculty of Medicine (FOM), Universiti Malaya & City University of Hong Kong, HKSAR

2nd March 2023 (Thursday), 2-5pm MYT

TIME	PROGRAM	SPEAKERS
14:00 - 14:05 PM	Welcome Note	Prof. Dr. Eason Au-Ok Head of Department, Pharmacology, FOM, UM
Session Chair: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sharmistha New Murgai (FOM, UM)		
14:05 - 14:25 PM	Engineering Ecosomes in Next Generation Nanomedicine	Dr. Fariha Nuzair Muhammad Farooq (UM)
14:25 - 14:30 PM	G.S.A.	
14:30 - 14:50 PM	Histone Mutations in Cancer	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Chan Kai Ming (CityU)
14:50 - 14:55 PM	G.S.A.	
14:55 - 15:15 PM	Anticholinergic Neurotoxicities for Targeted Anticancer Therapy	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Kwan Lok Yuen (UM)
15:15 - 15:20 PM	G.S.A.	
Session Chair: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Chan Kai Ming (CityU)		
15:20 - 15:40 PM	Development of Highly Toxicity-Resistant, Evolving Self-Assembled Nanoparticles for Personalized Evaluation of Hepatic Tumor	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Gigi Lo (CityU)
15:40 - 15:45 PM	G.S.A.	
15:45 - 16:05 PM	Exploring The Role of Anemia in Colorectal Cancer	Dr. Annette Joseph (UM)
16:05 - 16:10 PM	G.S.A.	
16:10 - 16:30 PM	Immune Modulation Mechanisms Within the Tumor Microenvironment	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Cheuk-Kwan Tang (CityU)
16:30 - 16:35 PM	G.S.A.	
16:35 - 16:45 PM	Closing Remarks	Prof. Dr. Heung Yu Head of Department, Biomedical Science, CityU

Please Visit the Link to join The Symposium:
<https://zoom.us/j/92370468076>

- **Dr Kwan Chow** had participated in a university fair at St Paul's School (Lam Tin) on 24 Feb 2023 for promotion and outreach purpose. Dr Chow shared her experience as biomedical sciences professor and talked about our undergraduate programmes, opportunities and importance on biomedical and biological sciences in today's world. The event was well attended by many secondary school students, and we are proud to have faculty members like Dr Chow who is committed to sharing her knowledge and expertise with the wider community.



Research Grants

Notable grants application deadlines upcoming:

1. [Professional Services Advancement Support Scheme \(PASS\)](#)
Deadline: 23 May 2023

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI)

Upcoming DEI Events

- Click on the events tab on our DEI website for the full list of events
<https://www.cityu.edu.hk/jcc/about-us/diversity-equity-and-inclusion>

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