

Dear JCC Community,

“Not finance. Not strategy. Not technology. It is **teamwork** that remains the ultimate competitive advantage, both because it is so powerful and so rare.”

Recent activities in our College are testament to this. But, as illustrated by our strategic planning day (SPD) yesterday we know our competitive advantage can only improve because many staff in the four departments only met each other for the first time in the SPD yesterday. Improved interdisciplinary collaboration was a strong and recurrent theme – the whole is greater than the sum of its parts. This has been demonstrated in international benchmarking of researcher's publications in their own teams and when they collaborate with researchers in other groups, especially internationally – the impact of the latter is almost always higher (higher citations, wider dissemination).



The SPD was the first conjoint brainstorming session for all four departments to give input into the JCC's 2024-2029 strategic plan. Thanks to all who engaged in the process. Your voices have been heard and will continue to feed into our ongoing JCC plans.

As you will see from the Departments' news below, we have already started some of the things discussed at yesterday's sessions. For example, this week the JCC held the second session of a successful community outreach to secondary school principals for the BVM programme.

It's also great to see the level of engagement of staff in all departments in hosting events such as conferences and webinars. Congratulations also to all who celebrated success in publications and research awards this week .

With the holidays around the corner I hope you take some time to wind down and enjoy time with family and friends, where ever you may are.

Kind regards

Vanessa Barrs

Acting Dean

*Patrick Lencioni



Jockey Club College of Veterinary
Medicine and Life Sciences

香港城市大學
City University of Hong Kong
in collaboration with Cornell University



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News From Our Departments

Veterinary Clinical Sciences

Teaching



- Under close direction and supervision by the clinical instructors, the BVM Year 4 students performed cat spay surgeries in the past two weeks at the CityU Veterinary Medical Centre (VMC). These procedures involve many transferable surgical and anaesthetic skills preparing our students for their basic competences in surgery. We thank the **spay surgery team** for their enormous efforts associated with the coordination and operation of this substantial practical.
- The BVM Year 5 students completed their final presentations for their VM4401 Research Projects on March 24, 2023. This is the culmination of their efforts on research projects with faculty supervisors over the past year. They all did an excellent job and we are looking forward to seeing their work published!

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

Publications

- Annie Malo, Alice J Cheng, H el ene LM Ruel, Beatriz P Monteiro, Nathanael Lutevele, Sabrine Marangoni, Marta Garbin, Ryota Watanabe, and **Paulo V Steagall**. Randomised, prospective, blinded, clinical trial of opioid-free injectable anaesthesia with or without multimodal analgesia in kittens undergoing ovariohysterectomy. *Journal of Feline Medicine and Surgery*. 2023;25(3). doi:[10.1177/1098612X231158582](https://doi.org/10.1177/1098612X231158582)

Media & Service

- **Dr Angel Almendros** was invited for an interview at the RTHK.HK Ration 3 AM567 Programme 'Backchat' on March 17, 2023 to discuss the recent poisoning incidents of dogs at Cyberport park: <https://www.rthk.hk/radio/radio3/programme/backchat/episode/871678>.



- **Dr Gareth Fitch** was invited by the CityU Veterinary Medicine Society to give a career talk to the BVM students on March 21, 2023.



- On the 21st and 29th of March 2023, multiple faculty members from VCS and PH, together with our Provost, Acting Dean, guest visitor Prof Caroline Yancey and our Admissions Tutor **Dr Stefan Hobi**, gave some interesting talks about our BVM Programme, the historic collaboration with Cornell University, admissions policies and personal experiences to various HK school principals. The sessions included a side visit to our clinical skills lab and the dairy farm. These events were very successful, and will hopefully attract many interested local students in the near future. We would like to thank all involved colleagues including Dr Howard Wong and the cattle farm team for their amazing contribution.

CAHW



- Co-hosted by **Dr Alan McElligott** and **Dr Colin McDermott**, the Parrot Welfare and Behavior Symposium was successfully held on 18-19 March, 2023. Our invited guest speakers (Dr. Irene Pepperberg and Dr. Jan Hooimeijer) gave a day of lectures on Saturday, and morning workshops on Sunday. We had a great turnout of veterinary students, local veterinarians, veterinary nurses, and other animal health professionals. Special thanks to Dr Howard Wong and the JCC team for their organization.

- **Dr Sara Platto** from the College of Life Sciences of Jiangnan University (Wuhan, China) gave a talk on Pet Welfare on March 28, 2023 and presented her study results carried out during the 2020-2021 period in China, reflecting how companion animals might have affected the lives of their owners during the lockdown, and how the restrictions could have positively or negatively influenced the quality of life of the dogs and cats. Please contact us at centre.ahw@cityu.edu.hk if you would like to revisit the recording.

Infectious Diseases and Public Health

Service

Conference Presentations:

- **Dr. Yun Young Go** presented a poster at the 36th International Conference on Antiviral Research (ICAR) 13-17 March 2023, Lyon, France. **Go Y.Y.**, S. Nam, H.G. Na, E. H. Oh, E. Jung, Y. H. Lee, E. J. Jeong, Y. Ou, B. Zhou, S. Ahn, J. S. Shin, S. B. Han. Discovery and synthesis of 1,2,4-oxadiazole derivatives as novel inhibitors of Zika virus infection.

- **Dr. Yun Young Go** gave an invited talk entitled “Molecular Diagnosis of Dengue: Current and Future Perspectives” at the Genomic approaches in Understanding Vector-Borne Parasites Workshop, 22-24 March, 2023, Peradeniya, Sri Lanka

Biomedical Sciences

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

Research publications:

- Lu, L., Zi, H., Zhou, J., Huang, J., Deng, Z., Tang, Z., Li, L., Shi, X., **Lo, Pui Chi Gigi**, Lovell, J. F., Deng, D., Wan, C. & Jin, H., 15 Mar 2023, Engineered Microparticles for Treatment of Murine Brain Metastasis by Reprogramming Tumor Microenvironment and Inhibiting MAPK Pathway. In: *Advanced Science*. 10, 8, 2206212.
- Fu, X., Wu, J., Li, J., Ding, J., Cui, S., Wang, X., Wang, Y., Liu, H., **Deng, Xin.**, Liu, D. & Li, W., 15 Mar 2023, Heavy-metal resistant bio-hybrid with biogenic ferrous sulfide nanoparticles: pH-regulated self-assembly and wastewater treatment application. In: *Journal of Hazardous Materials*. 446, 130667.
- Chen, J., Zeng, Y., Lau, A. K., Guo, C., Wei, X., Lin, C., Huang, B., **Lao, Xiangqian**, Chronic exposure to ambient PM2.5/NO2 and respiratory health in school children: A prospective cohort study in Hong Kong. 1 Mar 2023, In: *Ecotoxicology and Environmental Safety*. 252, 114558.
- Hou, C., Cao, C., Ma, R., Ai, L., Hu, Z., **Huang, Yu & Yao Xi**, 1 Mar 2023, Press-N-Go On-Skin Sensor with High Interfacial Toughness for Continuous Healthcare Monitoring. In: *ACS Applied Materials and Interfaces*. 15, 8, p. 11379–11387.

Awards

- **Dr CHENG Chak Kwong**, a postdoctoral fellow in [Prof. HUANG Yu’s laboratory](#) in the Department of Biomedical Sciences, received the HK Tech 300 Seed Fund (HK\$100,000) at HK Tech 300 Seed Fund Cheque Presentation Ceremony held on 15 March 2023 for initiation of his startup project – developing an artificial intelligence (AI)-based strategy to predict biological ages and disease risks of individuals based on their body fluids, thus facilitating the translation of scientific findings into actual practice. [HK Tech 300](#) is a large-scale flagship innovation and entrepreneurship programme organised by City University of Hong Kong (CityU) for aspiring entrepreneurs among CityU students, alumni, and research staff to launch start-ups and to ignite their entrepreneurship journey. The main goal of the programme is to create 300 start-ups in three years, providing educational and growth opportunities for CityU members.



Events / Outreach

- Prof HUANG Yu, Head (BMS) is invited to give an online talk on “Understanding Vascular Endothelium in Health and Disease” held on 1 April 2023, organized by Chinese Society for Metabolic Biology which aims to promote academic exchanges and discuss major research projects in the field of metabolism, enhance the international influence of China’s metabolism field and promote overall development.

 中国生物物理学会代谢生物学分会
Chinese Society for Metabolic Biology

代谢鸿论 第174讲
Metabolic H-Talk No. 174

“Understanding Vascular Endothelium in Health and D


Prof. HUANG Yu
黄聿教授

Chair Professor,
Head of Dept. of
Biomedical Science,
City University of
Hong Kong

Prof. HUANG Yu graduated with a BSc from Fudan University Medical College and received his PhD from University of Cambridge. He is currently the Chair Professor of Biomedical Sciences and Vascular Medicine at City University of Hong Kong.

He was the former President of Asian Society for Vascular Biology (2018) and the former Vice-President for Chinese Society of Vascular Medicine (2015-2021). He is currently the Vice-President for Section of International Society for Heart Research and the Vice President of the Chinese Association for Physiological Sciences. He is the member of the Committee of Experts on National Center for Cardiovascular Disease and the elected Fellow of the International Society for Heart Research. He received the Inaugural Hong Kong Research Grants Council – Senior Research Award. He also serves as the associate editor for Circulation Research.

The research focus of Prof. Huang's team is to elucidate cellular events in initiation and progression of endothelial cell dysfunction in hypertension, diabetes, and atherosclerosis, to uncover novel mechanisms of vascular pathogenesis, and to develop novel therapeutic strategies in animal models of cardio-metabolic disorders. He has co-authored over 100 reviewed publications in SCI-indexed journals including Nature, Nature Metabolism, Circulation Research, European Heart Journal, PNAS, Hypertension, ATVB, Stroke with 31453 Google scholar citation (h-index 92).

 郑克业 Kenneth CHENG The Hong Kong Polytechnic University Host	 朱玉燕 Yuyan ZHU The Hong Kong Polytechnic University Host	 黄永德 Jack WONG The Chinese University of Hong Kong Panelist	 吕翠兰 Kathy LUI The Chinese University of Hong Kong Panelist	 郑慧珊 Anna CHEANG University of Macau Panelist	 张杨 Yang ZHANG Sun Yat-Sen University Panelist
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Time: 1st April 2023 9:00 AM (Beijing Time)
Zoom ID: 602 684 9358 (password: 382791)
Bilibili link: <https://live.bilibili.com/27324781>

Life Metabolism 中国生



Neuroscience

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

- Dr. Jessica LIU, Assistant Professor, was invited as a chairman and poster presentation of "Generation of dorsal spinal GABAergic neurons from human urine cells by direct reprogramming for the treatment of central neuropathic pain" in the Cold Spring Harbor Asia conference on Human Development - from Embryos to Stem Cell Models in Japan on Mar 5, 2023.

Research Grants

Notable grants application deadlines upcoming:

1. [RGC grant proposal writing Webinar1](#)
2. [Professional Services Advancement Support Scheme \(PASS\)](#)

Deadline: 23 May 2023

For more information on Research Grants

[Research Grants and Contracts Office](#)

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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