

Dear JCC Community,

One down, one to go!

This was a gruelling first accreditation week, made all the more bearable by the friendly, experienced accreditation team from Australia and New Zealand, and by the group efforts of our fabulous team.

Thanks to all who participated in our first accreditation. You were on time, professional, dressed to impress and did us proud.

The process from here is that I will receive a report from the AVBC in the coming weeks, which will include our scorecard to be given to the veterinary schools accreditation committee for the final decision.

Next week we will hold a debriefing meeting early in the week to share, unofficially, our strengths on this accreditation, and things we can improve before the RCVS accreditation.

Please read below for all of our fabulous news from the JCC over the last few weeks. While some in the College have been involved in accreditation, there have been many other events and successes like the BMS Research Gala.



The AVBC accreditation team visited CityU farm and commended us on this new teaching facility.

The team comprised of Prof. Glen Coleman (right of cow), Dr Kenneth Lam, Prof. Sharanne Raidal, Dr. Rob Woodgate, Dr. Robert Johnson, Dr. Julie Strous (back row from left to right), Dr. Richard Squires, Prof Jenny Weston, Dr. Rowland Cobbold (front row, left to right)

For now, thank you again amazing team. Exhale and have a great weekend!

Kind regards



Dean



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

Research

- **Dr Kate Flay** and collaborators from Massey University and Qingdao Agricultural University were awarded \$25,000 NZD by the New Zealand-China Tripartite Partnership Fund for their project “Identification of molecular biomarkers of pain in red deer”.
- **Giuliano, A.**; Horta, R.S.; Vieira, R.A.M.; Hume, K.R.; Dobson, J. Repurposing Drugs in Small Animal Oncology. *Animals* 2023, 13, 139. <https://doi.org/10.3390/ani13010139>
- Five abstracts accepted for veterinary education conferences on clinical skills, inter-professional education and PBL, with teams from VCS, PH and JCC, including a third-year BVM student who worked in the skills lab last summer.
 1. **Kenéz A., MacKinnon, B. Rizzo, F., Schiff, P.J., Serrano, M.V., Li, C.M., Parkes, R.S.V.** *Effects of a digitally enhanced class environment on students’ learning experience in problem-based learning* ‘1st Vet Ed Asia’, Hokkaido, Japan, September 2023
 2. **Taylor, S.N., Kinnison, T., Parkes, R.S.V.** *Student views on inter-professional education during clinical skills teaching for veterinary and veterinary nurse students*, ‘1st Vet Ed Asia’, Hokkaido, Japan, September 2023
 3. **Flay, K., Taylor, S.N., Parkes, R.S.V., Fitch, G.L., Alonso Sousa, S.** *Development of a low fidelity sheep caesarian model for veterinary education* ‘1st Vet Ed Asia’, Hokkaido, Japan, September 2023
 4. **Alonso Sousa, S, Flay, K., Cheung, L.Y., Parkes, R., Taylor, S., Fitch, G.** *Developing a model for teaching equine closed castration technique in veterinary education*, International Symposium of the Veterinary Schools Council, Edinburgh, UK, July 2023
 5. **Flay, K., Cheung, L.Y., Parkes, R., Fitch, G., Alonso Sousa, S, Taylor, S.N.** *Developing models for teaching ram breeding soundness examinations in veterinary education*, International Symposium of the Veterinary Schools Council, Edinburgh, UK, July 2023

Service

- The World Small Animal Veterinary Association Certificate in Pain Management has been announced. You can find this information here: <https://www.canadianveterinarians.net/media/enliw5hf/wsava-certificate-in-pain-management-program-description.pdf>
Professor Paulo Steagall is one of the five members of the scientific committee who developed and put the programme together. He will be also delivering lectures as part of this programme. The certification has three modules: Understanding and assessing pain, preventing and treating pain and pain management in practice.
- **Dr Colin McDermott** gave a presentation on Amphibian Medicine and a career talk to the Cornell Zoo and Wildlife Society during his visit to the Cornell University on 9 May 2023.

Media

- **Dr Rebecca Parkes** was interviewed by TVB about the impact of hot weather on equine health, following an announcement from the Hong Kong Jockey Club that weekend meetings would shift to twilight racing in the summer months to protect horse welfare.

Infectious Diseases and Public Health

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

Website launch

- The Lantau buffalo project website <https://www.hkbuffaloresearch.org/> was launched on 10 May 2023.

Publications

- Genetic diversity of vector-borne pathogens in Ixodid ticks infesting dogs from Pakistan with notes on *Ehrlichia canis*, *Rickettsia raoultii*, and *Dirofilaria immitis* detection. (2023). Jehan Zeb, Baolin Song, Munsif Ali Khan, Haytham Senbill, Muhammad Umair Aziz, Sabir Hussain, Abdul Waris, Ala Lew-Tabor and **Olivier Andre Sparagano**. Parasites and Vectors (in Press)
- Huang, E., Mao, A., Hou, J., Wu, Y., Xu, W., Ceballos, M., Parsons, T., Hou, J., **Liu, K.*** (2023). Occlusion-resistant instance segmentation of piglets in farrowing pens using center clustering network. *Computers and Electronics in Agriculture*. (accepted)
- Gan, H., Guo, J, **Liu, K.**, Deng, X., Zhou, H., Wang, D., Chen, S., Norton, T. *, Xue, Y.* (2023). Automated analysis of piglet suckling behavior using deep learning-based action density estimation. *Computers and Electronics in Agriculture*, 210, 107877.

Conference Proceedings and Oral presentations (by students)

- Mao, A., Huang, E., Gan, H., **Liu, K.*** (2023). Robust animal activity recognition using wearable sensors: a knowledge distillation-based method toward data with low sampling rates. 2nd U.S. Precision Livestock Farming conference (USPLF2023), Knoxville, Tennessee, 21 - 24 May 2023.
- Gan, H., Mao, A., Huang, E., Ceballos, M., Parsons, T., **Liu, K.*** (2023). Occlusion-resistant locomotion analysis of piglets using Amodal instance segmentation. 2nd U.S. Precision Livestock Farming conference (USPLF2023), Knoxville, Tennessee, 21 - 24 May 2023.
- Sun., Z., Ni, T., Yang, H., **Liu, K.**, Zhang, Y., Gu, T., Xu, W. * (2023). Flora: Energy-efficient, reliable, and beamforming-assisted over-the-air firmware update in LoRa networks. 2023 IPSN, San Antonio, TX, USA, May 9-12, 2023.

Biomedical Sciences

Awards

- Dr. WU Yandi (PI: **Prof HUANG Yu**) has awarded **RGC Postdoctoral Fellowship Scheme (PDFS 2023/24)**.
- Ms Guopan Liu, PhD student of **Dr Liang ZHANG**, received a **Young Scientist Travel Award** of the 11th Asia Oceania Human Proteome Organization (AOHUPO) and 7th Asia Oceania Agricultural Proteomics Organization (AOAPO) Congress held on 10 May 2023 in Singapore.



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

New External Grants / Projects

- **Dr Terrence LAU** has received the new external grant from Food and Health Bureau of HKSAR for his ***Health and Medical Research Fund (HMRF)*** proposal.
- **Dr XIONG Wenjun** has recently been awarded the ***Innovation and Technology Fund (ITF)*** from Innovation and Technology Commission with her project commenced from 1 April 2023.
- **Prof HE Mingliang** has got a ***Contract Research*** recently, with the project commenced from 1 March 2023.

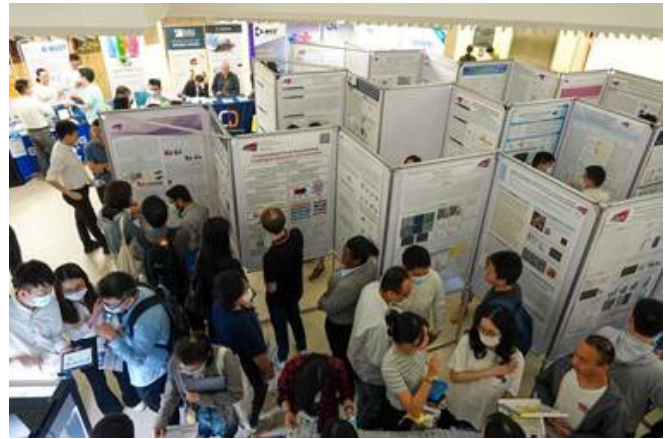
BMS Research Gala 2023

On 9 May 2023, the 5th BMS Research Gala took place with great success. The event brought together close to 200 participants, including faculty, researchers, PhD students, and industry professionals from our sponsor companies.

The event featured a variety of presentations, including 97 poster presentations and 13 oral presentations, covering a wide range of research topics in the field of biomedical sciences. The research presented was of very high quality, showcasing cutting-edge technologies and innovative approaches to solving some of the most pressing challenges in the field. In addition to the presentations, the event also featured exhibitions from 11 prominent company sponsors.

The BMS Research Gala was a great opportunity for researchers, students and industry professionals to network and exchange ideas, and to learn about the latest advances in biomedical sciences. The event was a testament to the importance of collaboration and innovation in this field, and it provided a platform for researchers and industry professionals to come together and work towards a common goal.

Thanks to our effort from the Organizing Committee including **Dr XIONG Wenjun (Chairperson)**, **Dr LAO Xiangqian**, **Dr MAK King Lun Kingston**, **Dr WANG Li**, **Dr YAO Xi** and **Dr ZHANG Jilin**.



Events / Outreach

Joint Symposium on Brain and Vision Health

- A Joint Symposium on Brain and Vision Health, co-organised by Department of Biomedical Sciences (BMS) of the City University of Hong Kong (CityU), Guangdong-HongKong-Macau Institute of CNS Regeneration (GHMCR) of Jinan University and Department of Neuroscience (NS), CityU, and supported by Hong Kong Institute for Advanced Study, CityU, which was held in a hybrid format on 11 May 2023, was a resounding success. Over 120 participants joined the joint symposium bringing together some of the brightest minds in the scientific community. Prof. Kwok-Fai So, a member of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, had been invited to give a keynote speech. 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 both BMS and NS faculty members including **Dr Wenjun XIONG**, **Dr KIM Jin Young** and **Dr Geoffrey LAU** for their sharing of their latest research and ideas at this symposium.



JUPAS Consultation Day 2023

- A JUPAS Consultation Day was held on 20 May 2023. During the event, Programme Leaders, **Dr Rebecca CHIN** and **Dr Gigi LO** gave presentations on BScBISI and BScBMS programme respectively, highlighting the unique features and benefits of each one. They also answered questions from the audience, providing valuable insights into the admission process and academic requirements. Lab tours were also conducted by our Technical Team members, giving students and parents a chance to see the university's state-of-the-art facilities and learn more about the research being conducted in various fields. One of the most popular features of the consultation day was the program consultation counter, which saw over 100 people seeking information of our programmes. The counter was staffed by our knowledgeable faculty members who provided information about the

programmes, admission requirements, and career prospects for graduates. Overall, the JUPAS consultation day was a success.



Neuroscience

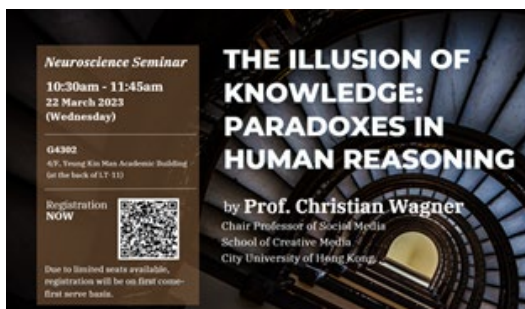
WELCOME
Professor Yung

Professor Wing Ho Yung recently joined the Department of Neuroscience as Chair Professor of Cognitive Neuroscience.

Professor Yung received his BSc and MPhil from The Chinese University of Hong Kong and DPhil from the University of Oxford. He was previously a Professor at the Chinese University of Hong Kong.

He is a renowned scholar in the field of neuroscience, with research interests in understanding mechanisms underlying motor control and learning, and exploring the neural circuits and plasticity mechanisms responsible for the expression of higher cognitive functions and behavioral flexibility. He has been serving in international neuroscience bodies including Governing Council Member of the International Brain Research Organization and Member of the International Brain Research Organization Asia-Pacific Regional Committee.

Read Professor Yung's bio [here](#).



- Professor Christian Wagner, Chair Professor in the School of Creative Media and a member of CityU's faculty for over 25 year, delivered an engaging seminar titled "The Illusion of Knowledge: Paradoxes in Human Reasoning" in March 2023.



- Dr. C. Savio Chan, Associate Professor of Neuroscience at the Feinberg School of Medicine of Northwestern University, to deliver a seminar entitled, "Neuronal Diversity in the Basal Ganglia and Motor Control" in February 2023.

Research Grants

Notable grants application deadlines upcoming:

1. [PROCORE-France/Hong Kong Joint Research Scheme](#)
Deadline: 9 June 2023
2. [Germany/Hong Kong Joint Research Scheme](#)
Deadline: 9 June 2023
3. [RGC grant proposal writing Webinar1](#)

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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