



Dear JCC Community,

With the coming of the Lunar New Year of the Dragon there's been new growth on our farm with healthy calves being born throughout February. Our BVM one students rose to a New Year Outward Bound Challenge on a kayaking trip, learning skills that will be invaluable in their professional life such as leadership, resilience, generosity, trust and looking out for each other. A big thank you to JCC veterinarians and clinical educators Dr. Laurie Hippmann and Dr. Seems Tsang who accompanied them and joined in the full experience, kayaking and camping. Well done to all of you!

There have been several firsts over CNY – CityU ice-cream featured at the Lam Tsuen Wishing Bazaar and provided the opportunity for our President and two BVM students to meet Hong Kong's Chief Executive and the Minister for Home and Youth affairs Alice Mak. We also officially launched CityU ice-cream on campus on Valentine's Day – a hugely popular tasty treat. Whilst these events might seem detached from our core business of research and teaching, they in-fact provide a valuable opportunity to showcase the teaching and research initiatives at CityU farm. This week Adjunct Prof. Ioannis Magouris took our BVM students to Trappist Dairy to learn about milk processing and to experience first-hand our farm-to-table dairy production and the critical importance of food safety.

Another first that we will soon celebrate is the judging of the [JCC Excellence Awards](#). There is an award for Teaching Excellence, Service Excellence and Early Career Research Excellence. You can nominate a colleague or self-nominate, but be quick, the closing date for submission is 7th March 2024!

We've also had the pleasure of our first Distinguished Veterinary Professor (DVP), Professor Domenico Otranto, from the University of Aldo Moro, Bari, Italy visiting. His workshop on scientific manuscript writing was well-attended and received excellent feedback.

Please read on for all our departmental news.





Photos: Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine Year one students on an Outward Bound Leadership and Teamwork Camp enjoyed stunning weather over CNY.

Kind Regards,



Prof. Vanessa BARRS 5/F, Block 1, To Yuen Building
BVSc(hons) PhD MVetClinStud GradCertEd (Higher Ed)
FANZCVS (Feline Medicine) Kowloon, Hong Kong

Dean, Jockey Club College of Veterinary Medicine and Life Sciences Tel: (852) 3442 8825
BOCHK Chair Professor of Veterinary Medicine Fax: (852) 3442 0589
Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences
City University of Hong Kong

Adjunct Professor Website:
Department of Population Medicine and Diagnostic Sciences <https://www.cityu.edu.hk/vcs/staff/prof-vanessa-barrs.htm>
Cornell College of Veterinary Medicine
Cornell University

News From JCC and Our Departments

Neuroscience

Research



Dissociable roles of the auditory midbrain and cortex in processing the statistical features of natural sound textures

Fei Peng, Nicol S. Harper, Ambika Prasad Mishra, Ryszard Auksztulewicz, and Jan W.H. Schnupp

Fei Peng, Nicol S. Harper, Ambika Prasad Mishra, Ryszard Auksztulewicz, Jan W.H. Schnupp. (2024) Dissociable roles of the auditory midbrain and cortex in processing the statistical features of natural sound textures. J Neurosci e1115232023;

[Link to the article](#)

Events / Outreach

Neuroscience Seminar
2024

TERMINATION OF CONVULSION SEIZURES BY DESTABILIZING AND PERTURBING SEIZURE MEMORY ENGRAMS

by **Professor Zhuo HUANG**
Associate Professor, Department of Pharmacology,
School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Peking University,
China.

10:00am - 11:30am
5 February 2024
(Monday)

Prof. Zhuo HUANG, Associate Professor, Department of Pharmacology, School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Peking University, delivered a seminar entitled “Termination of Convulsion Seizures by Destabilizing and Perturbing Seizure Memory Engrams” on 5 February 2024.



Neuroscience Seminar
2024

NEUROBIOLOGY OF AFFECTIVE EMPATHY IN THE MOUSE

by **Professor Hee-Sup Shin**
Honorary Fellow, Center for Cognition and Sociality,
Institute for Basic Science, Republic of Korea.

10:00am - 11:30am
1 February 2024
(Thursday)

Prof. Hee-Sup SHIN, Honorary Fellow, Center for Cognition and Sociality, Institute for Basic Science, presented a seminar entitled “Neurobiology of Affective Empathy in the Mouse” on 1 February 2024.



Neuroscience Seminar
2024

3D SPATIAL TRACKING AND NAVIGATION BY ECHOLOCAATION IN BATS

by **Professor Cynthia MOSS**
Professor, Psychological and Brain Sciences,
Johns Hopkins University.

12:15pm - 1:45pm
19 January 2024
(Friday)

Prof. Cynthia MOSS, Professor, Psychological and Brain Sciences, Johns Hopkins University, delivered a seminar entitled “3D Spatial Tracking and Navigation by Echolocation in Bats” on 19 January 2024.



Neuroscience Seminar
2024

DENDRITIC SYNAPTIC INTEGRATION

by **Professor Stephen Williams**
Professor, Queensland Brain Institute,
The University of Queensland, Australia.

Prof. Stephen Williams, Professor, Queensland Brain Institute, The University of Queensland, presented a seminar entitled “Dendritic Synaptic Integration” on 15 January 2024.



Infectious Diseases and Public Health

Teaching

1. **Prof. Akos Kenez** completed the Cornell Veterinary Educators Academy Fellows Program. This six-month fellowship was focused on pedagogy and contemporary research in health professions education, including learning new approaches to teaching, assessment, and curriculum development.
2. **Prof. Linyan Li** - Recognition of Outstanding Teaching Performance in Semester A by the Office of the Provost and Deputy President (Course PH5101 Introduction to Health Economics and Outcomes Research)



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

1. **Prof. Patrick BUTAYE** - Discovery of major antigenic determinants of antibody responses to colonizing and infecting canine *Staphylococcus pseudintermedius*. American Kennel Club Canine Health Foundation (AKC-CHF). (2024-2026) US\$88,418.25. (Co-PI).
2. **Prof. Patrick BUTAYE** - Antimicrobial resistance in aquatic animals. (2024-2027). Ministry of public health Belgium. 275.000 €. (Co-PI)
3. **Prof. Patrick BUTAYE** - Watler S, Toka FN, Lardé H, Johnson A and Butaye P (2024) Epidemiology of *Salmonella enterica* subspecies *enterica* serotypes, isolated from imported, farmed and feral poultry in the Cayman Islands. *Front. Vet. Sci.* 11:1331916. doi: 10.3389/fvets.2024.1331916
4. Yang, Y., Liu, Q., Pan, C., Chen, J., Xu, B., **Liu, K.** *, Pan, J. *, Lagisz, M., Nakagawa, S. * (2024). Species sensitivities to artificial light at night: A phylogenetically controlled multilevel meta-analysis on melatonin suppression in wildlife. *Ecology Letters*. (accepted).
5. Wang, X., Li, X., Pu, A., Shun, H., Chen, C., Ai, L., Tan, Z., Zhang, J., **Liu, K.**, Gao, J., Ban, K., Yao, X. (2024). On-chip droplet analysis and cell spheroid screening by capillary wrapping enabled shape-adaptive ferrofluid transporters. *Lab on a chip*. (accepted).
6. Sun., Z., Ni, T., Yang, H., **Liu, K.**, Zhang, Y., Gu, T., Xu, W. * (2024). FLoRa+: Towards energy-efficient, reliable, beamforming-assisted, and secure over-the-air firmware update in LoRa networks. *Transactions on Sensor Networks*. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1145/3641548>

Service

1. **Prof. Patrick BUTAYE** is Member of the Biology and Medicine Panel (Joint Research Schemes) of the RGC.
2. Buttercups Sanctuary for Goats - <https://www.buttercups.org.uk/>, Trustees meeting held on 06/02/2024 attended by **Prof. Alan McElligott**.
3. **Prof. Surya PAUDEL** was invited to participate in the dissemination and engagement sessions of the UKRI-GCRF One Health Poultry Hub Final Hub Meeting on 9th February 2024.

Media

The media coverage for **Prof. Alan McElligott's** recent goat study.

Goats can distinguish happy from angry individuals by human voice alone –

[https://scholars.cityu.edu.hk/en/clippings/goats-can-distinguish-happy-from-angry-individuals-by-human-voice-alone\(14e543f0-184e-4eab-affa-83d1ccad0026\).html](https://scholars.cityu.edu.hk/en/clippings/goats-can-distinguish-happy-from-angry-individuals-by-human-voice-alone(14e543f0-184e-4eab-affa-83d1ccad0026).html), see some examples here.



Veterinary Clinical Sciences

Teaching

The Inter-Professional Education (IPE) clinical skills lab returned this week as part of course VM4112, once again bringing together the BVM and Advanced Diploma in Veterinary Nursing (ADV N) students.

During the 2-hour session, 4th year BVM and 2nd year ADV N students had the opportunity to learn new clinical skills collaboratively. The lab encouraged peer-to-peer learning, with students teaching a skill they've already mastered to the opposite cohort. This interactive session not only enhanced their understanding of other professionals' roles they'll interact with in the future, but also fostered their communication and teamwork skills. We extend our gratitude to Mrs Susanna Taylor for her initiative and coordination in ensuring the successful execution of this enriching lab!



Research

1. The manuscript entitled "Can cat caregivers reliably assess acute pain in cats using the Feline Grimace Scale? A large bilingual global survey" by Monteiro BP, Lee N and Steagall PV was the winner of the 2023 Journal of Feline Medicine and Surgery Resident Best Paper Award. The panel of judges from the Editorial Board evaluated all manuscripts according to the following criteria: benefit to cats, direct usefulness to practitioners, quality of science, originality and standard of writing. The manuscript was used by Dr. Monteiro as part of the residency requirements towards the American College of Animal Welfare.
2. Chan, S.C., McDermott, C.T., Wyre, N., 2024. Use of chemotherapy in Syrian hamsters (*Mesocricetus auratus*) with epitheliotropic T - cell lymphoma: Two cases (2021 – 2022). *Veterinary Record Case Reports*.. <https://doi.org/10.1002/vrc2.809>
3. McDermott, C.T., 2023. Sugar Glider Pediatrics. *Veterinary Clinics of North America: Exotic Animal Practice*.. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cvex.2023.11.006>

Biomedical Sciences

Education

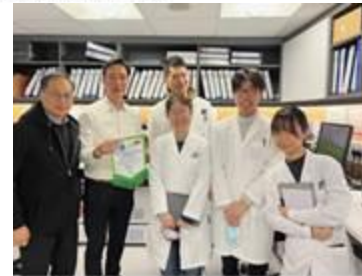
We have recently conducted clinical attachment progress visits to the host labs and BScBMS students attached to respective host labs including visit to Canossa Hospital (Diagnostix Pathology Laboratories Ltd.) on 24 Jan, followed by Tsuen Wan Adventist Hospital on January 31 and Hong Kong Adventist Hospital on February 8. The clinical attachment allowed students to immerse themselves in diagnostic pathology labs and hospital setting, gaining invaluable hands-on knowledge. Such experiences will greatly contribute to their professional growth and future careers in biomedical sciences.

Taking this opportunity, we would like to introduce Mr. Jacky Ng, our new Scientific Officer. With his rich expertise and experience, Mr. Ng will enhance our BScBMS programme initiatives, ensuring a conducive learning environment for students.



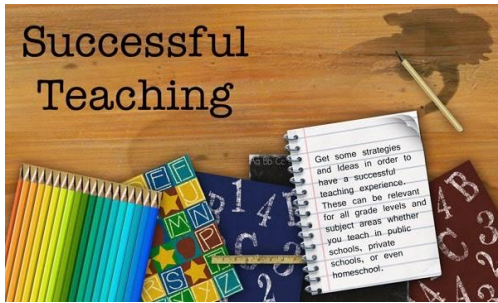
Canossa Hospital
(Diagnostix Pathology Laboratories Ltd.)

Tsuen Wan Adventist Hospital



Hong Kong Adventist Hospital

Awards



We are pleased to announce that **Prof. Chow Kwan Ting** has been recognized for her in Semester A, 2023/24 (BMS). The Office of the Provost and Deputy President has implemented a system to acknowledge teachers who achieve high scores on the Teaching and Learning Questionnaire (TLQ). Starting from Semester B, 2022/23, teachers in the top 5% with a minimum 35% response rate are eligible for this recognition.

Prof. Chow has met these criteria and received a letter of recognition for her exceptional teaching abilities. Her dedication and passion for teaching have profoundly impacted her students' learning experience. We extend our congratulations to Prof. Chow for her well-deserved recognition.

Events

Department of Biomedical Sciences and Department of Neuroscience successfully organized a **CRF Writing Workshop** on February 9, 2024. The workshop focused on the application of the Research Grants Council Collaborative Research Fund (RGC-CRF) and featured four distinguished speakers from School of Biomedical Sciences from HKU, Department of Surgery from CUHK, Department of Chemistry and Department of Neuroscience from CityU.

We expressed our gratitude to the speakers for their valuable contributions to the event's success. The workshop exemplified the commitment of the departments to promote collaborative research and support researchers in obtaining external funding.

A poster for the Collaborative Research Fund (CRF) Writing Workshop. The poster is titled "COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH FUND (CRF) WRITING WORKSHOP" and "Application of RGC-CRF". It lists the following speakers and topics:

- 09:45 - 09:50: Opening remarks by Prof. Yu Huang, Head (BMS)
- 09:55 - 10:15: Facilitator Prof. Xi-Yao, Professor, Department of Biomedical Sciences, City University of Hong Kong. Topic: "Integrative genome editing and protein engineering approaches to investigate the single-molecule dynamics and structures of microtubules in neuronal development and disease"
- 10:20 - 10:40: Prof. Jeff Nath Cahah II, PhD, Assistant Professor, School of Biomedical Sciences, The University of Hong Kong. Topic: "Experience sharing in CRF Grant Application"
- 10:45 - 11:05: Prof. Bin Niang, PhD, Associate Professor & Head, Division of Biomedical Informatics, Department of Surgery, The Chinese University of Hong Kong. Topic: "The unique challenges of applying a collaborative research grant proposal"
- 11:10 - 11:30: Prof. Kwok On LAI, PhD, Assistant Professor, Department of Neuroscience, City University of Hong Kong. Topic: "A.A."
- 11:45 - 11:50: Closing remarks by Prof. Juliang He, Head (NS)

The poster also includes the date and time: "FEBRUARY 9, 2024, 09:45 AM - 12:00 PM", the location: "ROOM B5-210, 5/F, YEUNG Tin Man Academic Building, CityU", and contact information: "bms.event@cityu.edu.hk". It is organized by the Department of Biomedical Sciences, City University of Hong Kong and the Department of Neuroscience, City University of Hong Kong.

Research Grants

Notable grants application deadlines upcoming:

1. [National Natural Science Foundation of China Research Grants \(via SRI\)](#)
[國家自然科學基金委員會資助項目](#)
Deadline: 29 February 2024
2. [National Natural Science Foundation of China Research Grants \(via CityU\)](#)
[國家自然科學基金委員會資助項目 \(青年、優青、傑青\)](#)
Deadline: 29 February 2024
3. [Green Tech Fund \(GTF\)](#)
Deadline: 13 March 2024
4. [Health and Medical Research Fund \(HMRF\)](#)
Deadline: 18 March 2024

For more information on Research Grants
[Research Grants and Contracts Office](#)

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI)

Events



Why Post-Graduate Students Matter in Science and Education

CityU

Career Progression? Workplaces Culture? Work-Life Balance? Research Fulfillment?

Stability and Support? Job Satisfaction? Mentoring and Teaching?

If these have ever crossed your mind as a post-grad in JCC – you aren't alone!

Dealing with research, academia, grants and teaching is challenging enough – but what makes it easier is understanding the people behind it. We all come with biases and complexities, as well as a rich diversity in thought, action and belief.

Whether you are a Masters student, a PhD researcher or a post-doc just starting out, these issues matter to you. Join us to understand inclusivity, biases, and to help create a more promising tomorrow.

Venue: TYB 1B G04
Date: 26th Feb 2024
Time: 15:00-16:30

SCAN TO REGISTER →

Session led by Mr. Richard Shah, communication coach and certified Human Factors Coach, who will facilitate and lead this 90 minute session

Workshop on Why Post-Graduate students matter in Science & Education

Date: 26 Feb 2024

Speaker: Richard Shah

Register: [Link](#)



Workshop on Promoting Culturally Inclusive Workplace

Date : 7 March 2024 (Thursday)
Time : 4 - 5 pm
Venue : Online via Zoom

Free Registration: <https://forms.gle/4BHLc53KB45H4b0>

Provided by Equal Opportunities Commission, HK
<https://www.eoc.org.hk/en>

Workshop on Promoting Culturally Inclusive Workplace

Date: 7 March 2024

Speaker: Equal Opportunities Commission, HK

Register: [Link](#)

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>