

In-focus

A quarterly newsletter of the PolyU Optometry Clinic
Department of Optometry and Radiography
The Hong Kong Polytechnic University



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First Formal Certification in Orthokeratology Practice

Interest in orthokeratology for myopia reduction and myopia control is increasing, particularly as there is new scientific evidence that the treatment works. Optometrists can rightly be proud of orthokeratology treatment. This technique was designed and now mostly used by optometrists. However, orthokeratology has to be used with care, and with increasing sophistication of the lenses and diagnostic tools, we believe that optometrists intending to use this procedure would benefit from formal training.



(Right) Dr. John Mountford

In June 2004, we developed and ran a comprehensive course in orthokeratology with the assistance of overseas experts and with input from local practitioners. The course led to a Certificate of Attainment in Orthokeratology Practice and consisted of lectures by overseas and local experts, laboratory and clinical practice sessions as well as manufacturers' workshops. A rigorous written and practical examination at the end assessed the candidate's knowledge and clinical skills in orthokeratology practice. Particular emphasis was placed on the management of risk factors in orthokeratology practice.



(From right) Dr. Andrew Siu, Dr. Pauline Cho, Prof. George Woo, Dr. Michael Collins, Prof. Maurice Yap

The following candidates obtained the Certificate of Attainment in Orthokeratology Practice:

Chan Chui Wa, Alice
Kwan Ka Ho, Lawrence
Chan Tin Yan, Rufina
Kwong Yee Man
Chan Tsz Wan
Lau Kwok Chun
Chiu Sin Fai, Roger
Ng Hou Yan
Chui Wan Sang
Ng Sheung Shun

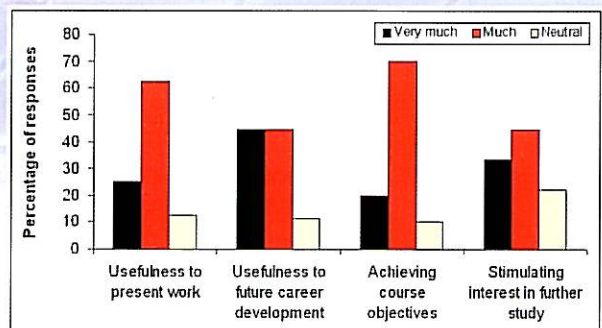
Chung Chin Wai
Ng Wing On, Henry
Chung Kuen Kwan
So Shim Chu
Fan Siu Keung
Sze Ching Yan
Fong Ka Fai
Wong Wai Hung
Ko Wai Sze

With regard to the learning outcomes from this course, this graph on the right shows the feedback from practitioners who have attended the course. As is usual practice in our quality assurance system, changes will be made to further improve the course for the coming year.

We will be offering this certificate course again next year. For further information, please visit our website (<http://www.polyu.edu.hk/%7Eor>).

Following this CE course, a Standard of Practice for Orthokeratology has been developed and this can be downloaded from our orthokeratology website (<http://www.polyu.edu.hk/or/Orthok>).

The course is attracting interest from around the world and we have received requests for information from optometrists residing in Singapore, Australia and USA.



Dr. Pauline Cho

Associate Professor
Department of Optometry and Radiography
The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

What's happening out there?

The Hong Kong Scene

Service at Sarah Roe School: A Report by Our Staff Optometrist, Mr. Lawrence Kwan

Vision is important in learning. Whereas healthy children can easily let caregivers know if their vision is blurred, children with developmental problems often have difficulty expressing themselves and consequently, many have the added disadvantage of uncorrected refractive errors.

In June 2004, a group of eight staff and seven students from PolyU-Optometry provided an eye examination service at the Jockey Club Sarah Roe School.



The School is a purpose built special school for English speaking children who have profound and multiple learning difficulties due to wide range of physically or mentally developmental challenges such as autism, Down's syndrome, epilepsy and cerebral palsy. The School has a total of eight classes and each class caters for 6 to 8 students. The multi disciplinary staff consists of experienced teachers, a speech therapist, an occupational therapist, a physiotherapist and a nurse. Each child has a specially designed curriculum.



In the two successive morning sessions, we examined 60 students. The majority of students were able to follow instructions and cooperated with patience. Class teachers and teaching assistants were on hand to help.

Refractive and binocular problems were commonly found in these students. We noted 28% of cases with significant uncorrected refractive errors and 22% of cases with strabismus. Individual reports and advices were given to parents for their information and follow-up action.

The purpose of teaching special needs children is to develop their abilities to the fullest so that they can take care of themselves and for some, contribute to the community. Our team was humbled by the courage and determination of these special students and we applaud the dedication of the staff at this very special school. As a profession, we must do more for children with special needs.

PolyU-Optometry signed Memorandum of Understanding with Tianjin Medical University Eye Center

The Department of Optometry and Radiography has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Tianjin Medical University Eye Center to strengthen research co-operation between both parties. The agreement also include student exchanges.

Tianjin Medical University Eye Center was established in 1989 and started an optometry programme in 1991. It is one of the pioneers in tertiary optometric education in China.

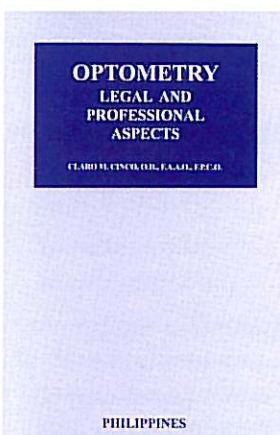
"In the coming year, there will be much traffic between Tianjin and Hong Kong as we plan to have a number of exchange visits of staff and students of our two Optometry programmes" said Prof. George Woo, Chair Professor of Optometry of PolyU.



(From left) Prof. Thomas Wong, Prof. Maurice Yap and Prof. Xiao-rong Li

Elsewhere in the World

"Optometry – Legal and Professional Aspects" by Dr. Claro M. Cinco



Dr. Claro M. Cinco is Dean Emeritus in Optometry, Cebu Doctors' College and Founding Chairman of the Council of Deans of Philippine Colleges of Optometry. Dr. Cinco is well qualified to write this book. He has extensive experience dealing with opto-political issues. Dr. Cinco is one of the most well known optometrists in Asia.

The publication and its free distribution is made possible through the kind sponsorship of following parties: Yip Hing Fai, Jeffrey, Antonio F. Josen, Vitaya Kritalukkul, George Woo, Maurice Yap and Essilab Philippines, Inc.

Our People

Conference Presenters

Dr. Carly Lam

The 10th International Myopia Conference was held in Cambridge from 19 to 22 July, a switch from the previous location of the metropolitan cities of Hong Kong and Guangzhou to the tranquil scholarly city of Cambridge.



Over 100 delegates attended this meeting, about a quarter of the number who attended the Hong Kong and Guangzhou meeting. A group of 13 researchers from PolyU-Optometry presented and chaired sessions at this conference. They presented work encompassing clinical, proteomic and

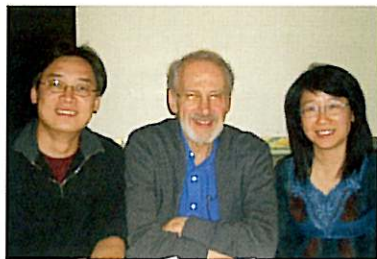


genomic aspects of myopia. The conference was a great opportunity to showcase the breadth and depth of the research conducted by our Centre for Myopia Research.

They were plenty of exciting new ideas presented at this conference. One new hypothesis is that the temporal aspects of defocus may play a role in myopia development. Peripheral refraction may also be an important parameter in myopia development.

The work of former Optometry colleagues received mention by a number of speakers. Our Emeritus Professor, Michel Millodot worked on small eye effect and accommodative function as well as peripheral refraction. These topics remain current in the field of myopia research. The Progressive Lens Study conducted by Jackson Leung, Brian Brown and Marion Edwards at PolyU opened up a new line of investigation which is being followed up in the United States and elsewhere in the world.

Michel is now residing in Cardiff and his Dictionary of Optometry and Visual Science is now in its sixth edition. Marion is enjoying her retirement life in a beautiful cottage in Devon. Both of them send their greetings to all in the Optometry profession in Hong Kong.



(From left) Dr. Chi-ho To, Prof. Michel Millodot and Dr. Carly Lam

Mr. Marco Kong

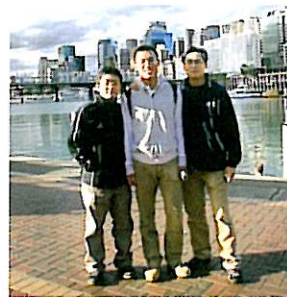
Dr To Chi-ho and I presented papers at the XVI International Congress of Eye Research (ICER) in Sydney, Australia.

Dr To Chi-ho

"Is there a Species Difference in the Ionic Mechanism of Aqueous Humour Formation?"

Dr To Chi-ho, Mr Thomas C Lam, Dr SCL Lo

"Proteomic Analysis and Differential Protein Expressions in Chick Retina"



(From left) Mr. Marco Kong, Dr. Chi-wai Do and Dr. Chi-ho To

Mr Marco CW Kong

"Effect of Cyclic-GMP-analog and Nitric Oxide (NO) Donors on the Chloride (Cl-) Secretion across the Porcine Ciliary Body Epithelium (CBE)"

In addition to sharing our latest work with others, we had a reunion with our old friend, Dr Do Chi-wai, who is our PhD graduate. Chi-wai is now a post-doc research fellow in the University of Pennsylvania, USA.

China Visit

Prof. George Woo

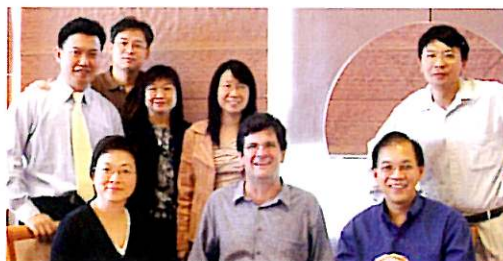


Tianjin Medical University in China was founded in 1951. It has had a Department of Ophthalmology since its inception. One of its senior leaders, Prof. Jia-qin Yuan, is a prominent Professor of Ophthalmology in China. She has always had a deep interest in Optometric

education. Earlier this year, the approval to establish the College of Optometry was given by the authorities thus enabling the integration of the existing programmes in Optometry and Optical Technology on campus. On 19 August 2004, the inauguration ceremony of the new College was held at the University's Eye Center. Prof. Xiao-rong Li was appointed as the Dean of the College and I was appointed as an Honorary Professor and Advisor of the College. Altogether there are eighteen faculty members responsible for various clinical and didactic subjects. A new degree programme in Optometry is being submitted to the Ministry of Education for approval and it is anticipated the programme will commence in 2005.

Academic Visitor

Prof. Barry Collin and Mr. Peter Hendicott visited us in October. Prof. Collin is our Honorary Professor of Optometry while Mr. Hendicott is our former academic staff.



Mr. Peter Hendicott (middle in the front) and our staff

News from.....

The Clinic

We welcome the following new staff:

Miss Bibianna Yu Sin-yin - Clinical Optometrist
Miss Ronnie Huang Yeung-chi - Clinical Optometrist
Miss Carol Wong Shuk-fong - Resident Optometrist
Miss Victoria Law Kwai-mei - Resident Optometrist
Mr. Chu Kai-cheung - Dispenser
Mr. Kwan Ho-yin - Dispenser
Miss Yonnie Cheung Man-sze - Customer Service Supervisor
Miss Bertha Ho Chui-ying - Customer Service Officer
Miss Katherine Yeung Hoi-ming - Customer Service Officer
Miss Desiree Yu Wing-ki - Customer Service Officer

Conferences/Seminars/ Workshops

Seminars

Our research personnel conduct regular seminars to let us know their latest findings.

5 October 2004 *Miss Wing Tang*
"Testing association between MYOC gene and myopia"

30 November 2004 *Mr Anderson Tam*
"Comparing the mfERG topography before and after cataract surgery"

14 December 2004 *Mr Marco Kong*
"Regulation of nitric oxide (NO) on the chloride (Cl-) secretion across the porcine ciliary body epithelium (CBE) via a cyclic GMP (cGMP) independent mechanism"

Students Corner

Exchange Student

Dr. Andrew Siu

In this summer of 2004, PolyU supported 16 optometry students to overseas universities and institutes for clinical placements:

Beijing Hospital, China

Chan Chun-yung Chris
Cheung Kei-ching Ken
Chim Lai-kwan Sally
Kwan Chi-keong Jason
Lo Yuk-kwan Darren
Wong Ka-man Carmen
Wong Sze-man Kat
Wan Kai-chun Kelvin

Queensland University of Technology, Australia

So Yuet-sheung Winnie
Tang Ying-yung Dawn



**Ms Jennifer Lo and
Ms Joyce Chan attended
clinical placements at PolyU.**

University of Waterloo, Canada

Ip Koon-ching Angel
Law Kwai-mei Victoria

Zhejiang 1st Affiliated Hospital, China

Ho Kin-ming Lawa
Yeung Yin-yan

Zhejiang 2nd Affiliated Hospital, China

Tsoi Leong-yuk Ronnie
Yan Wing-man Rae

Students from three overseas universities received their clinical externship training at our Clinic. They were Ms Jennifer Lo (Auckland), Ms Anna Chan (Melbourne) and Ms Joyce Chan (Waterloo). They spent between 3 to 5 weeks in Hong Kong.

These clinical placements are invaluable for our students. Apart from learning from other experts, our students also have the opportunity to make new friends in other countries and learn from other cultures.

PolyU Education Info Day 2004

Dr. Henry Chan

The PolyU runs an Info Day every year to provide an opportunity for secondary school students to learn more about the academic programmes on offer. Academic staff and students are on hand to answer queries at their exhibition booths. Over 3000 visitors came to exhibition and over 200 joined



Exhibition Booth

our Optometry information seminar this year. About 400 visitors toured our Optometry Clinic. Our students were very good ambassadors and did a very good job promoting our profession.



Info Seminar

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