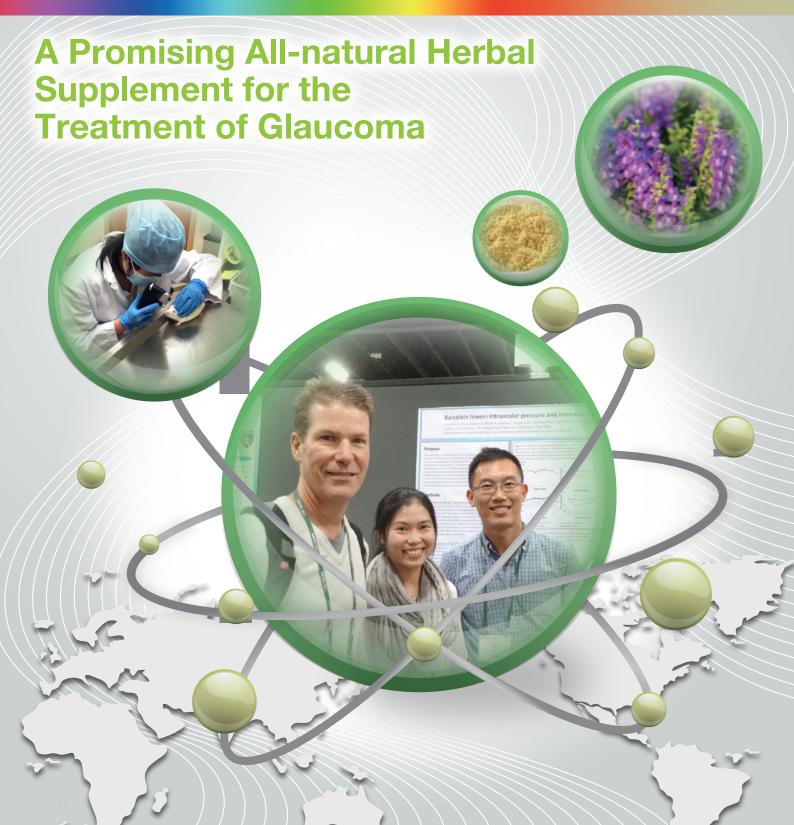




In-focus A newsletter of the School of Optometry

Vol. 16 | Issue 2 | 2015



A PROMISING ALL-NATURAL HERBAL SUPPLEMENT FOR THE TREATMENT OF GLAUCOMA



Glaucoma is a severe, age-related eye disease, affecting millions of people of different ethnic groups globally. It is commonly known as "silent thief of sight" as it is often associated with gradual, painless and permanent vision loss. Until now, glaucoma remains incurable despite interventions that reduce eye pressures [i.e. intraocular pressure (IOP)]. Clinically, lowering IOP is the only method documented to be effective in slowing glaucomatous vision loss. As IOP reflects a fluid flow pressure achieved between an inflow from aqueous humour production and an outflow aqueous humour drainage, most of the clinically-available anti-glaucoma drugs lower IOP by either decreasing the inflow rate or increasing the outflow rate. However, there are a number of shortcomings in existing medications. Firstly, many anti-glaucoma drugs have considerable contraindications and unwanted side effects. Secondly, the efficacy of these medications may reduce over time due to drug resistance. Thirdly, some glaucomatous patients tend to be less responsive or even unresponsive to these medications. All these factors

inevitably drop patient compliance as well as treatment outcomes. Therefore, a novel anti-glaucoma drug with potent and long-lasting IOP-lowering action as well as fewer side effects would be highly desirable and valuable.

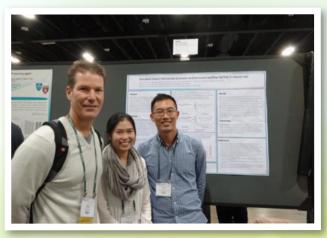
My research effort has been trying to explore more natural ingredients that can be used as an ocular hypotensive agent. Baicalein (5,6,7-trihydroxyflavone) is a natural flavonoid derived from the root of *Scutellaria Baicalensis* (黃芩). It is frequently found in plant life and foods, and has been commonly used in traditional Chinese medicine. The therapeutic applications of baicalein are known to be associated with its anti-oxidative, anti-inflammatory, and anti-tumour properties. It has been suggested that baicalein may have potential therapeutic significance against various sight-threatening eye diseases including cataracts, age-related macular degeneration, diabetic retinopathy, and glaucoma.

In laboratory studies, baicalein has been shown to modulate intestinal chloride transport, raising the possibility that it may alter chloride secretion across ciliary epithelium, which has been recognized to be a major driving force for aqueous humour production. In collaboration with Prof. To Chi-ho, Head of the School of Optometry, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University and Prof. Mortimer M. Civan, Emeritus Professor of Department of Physiology of University of Pennsylvania, we have previously demonstrated that baicalein inhibits net chloride and fluid transport across isolated ciliary body/epithelium preparations, potentially reducing IOP by decreasing the rate of aqueous humour production.

As supported by RGC General Research Fund (GRF), in collaboration with Prof. W. Daniel Stamer, Joseph A.C. Wadsworth Professor of Ophthalmology, Duke University, we have recently demonstrated that topical administration of 10 mM baicalein significantly lowers IOP within 6 hours post-treatment in normotensive mice in vivo. The maximum IOP-lowering effect is found to be 1.5 and 2.2 mmHg under daytime and night-time, respectively. In parallel with these findings, a concentration-dependent increase in conventional outflow facility by baicalein is observed in freshly enucleated mouse eyes. In paired preparations, 1 and 10 µM baicalein significantly enhance the outflow facility in treated eyes by 38% and 89%, respectively, as compared to control eyes. These results strongly suggest that, in addition to the previously described inhibitory effects on aqueous humour secretion, baicalein is shown to facilitate conventional outflow facility, leading to IOP reduction.

These results point to the fact that baicalein, a commonly known herbal supplement, may have dual inhibitory actions on IOP, namely through its effects on aqueous humour formation (reduction) and aqueous humour drainage (facilitation). Our result was presented and selected as a hot topic by The Association for Research in

Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO) 2015. Enhancing conventional outflow facility may offer promising advantages that are important to the normal functioning of vision including 1) clearing debris from our eyes; 2) preventing IOP build-up due to fluid flow blockage; and 3) improving fluid circulation at the trabecular outflow pathway. In addition, our results suggest that the naturally-derived baicalein seems to be an excellent potential candidate for glaucoma therapy because 1) there is no first-line clinically-available anti-glaucoma agent directly targeting the trabecular meshwork pathway; and 2) the conventional trabecular meshwork pathway is the major



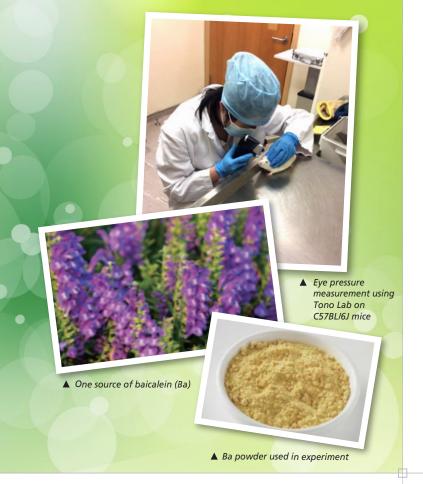
▲ (From left to right) Prof. W. Daniel Stamer, Miss Li Hoi-lam and Dr Do chi-wai at ARVO 2015.

drainage route of aqueous humour, thereby improving the efficacy of glaucoma therapy when it is combined with existing medications.

Our current research efforts aim to unravel the precise mechanistic actions by which baicalein increases trabecular outflow facility. This information is fundamental to the understanding of aqueous humour dynamics and sheds light on the development of better pharmacological anti-glaucoma agents that can be well-tolerated by patients.



Dr Do Chi-waiAssociate Professor and Associate Head
School of Optometry



WHAT'S HAPPENING OUT THERE?

School Wins Highest Growth Department Award

On 6 March 2015, the School received the "Highest Growth Department Award" at PolyU Technology and Consultancy Company Limited (PTeC)'s Outstanding Professional Services Awards Presentation Ceremony as it was the highest ranking department in terms of the absolute growth in total revenues and the percentage growth compared to the previous fiscal year.

At the same award presentation ceremony, Prof. Pauline Cho and her team were presented with 2 consultancy project awards: the "Most Valued Project Award" and the "Highest International Consultancy Award".

The awards recognize the School's significant contributions in providing professional consultancy and technology transfer services to both public



Prof. To Chi-ho, Head of the School, receiving the "Highest Growth Department Award" from Prof. Philip Chan, Deputy President and Provost of PolyU.





Prof. George Woo Receives WCO Distinguished Service Award

Prof. George Woo, Emeritus Professor and Visiting Chair Professor of Optometry of the School, received the Distinguished Service Award by the Governing Board of the World Council of Optometry (WCO) in Medellin, Colombia on 13 August 2015.

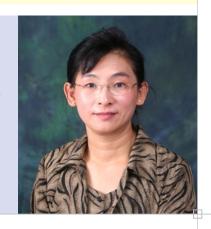
The Distinguished Service Award is the highest honour of WCO bestowed on optometrists who have made significant contribution over time to achieve its vision and mission. This prestigious award recognizes Prof. Woo's tremendous contribution to international optometric development over the years.

◆ Prof. George Woo receiving the WCO Distinguished Service Award from Dr Susan Cooper, President of WCO on 13 August 2015.

Prof. Pauline Cho Wins J. Lloyd Hewett Award

Prof. Pauline Cho and her co-authors received the J. Lloyd Hewett Award on 24 August 2015 for their paper entitled "Cytotoxicity and effects on metabolism of contact lens care solutions on human corneal epithelium cells" which was published in Clinical and Experimental Optometry in 2012.

The award was established by the editorial board of the journal in 1980 in honour of J. Lloyd Hewett who served as its editor from 1962 to 1979. Every year, it recognizes the best paper published in the journal in the previous three years.



WHAT'S HAPPENING OUT THERE?

The 15th International Myopia Conference

The 15th International Myopia Conference (IMC), hosted by Wenzhou Medical University in Zhejiang, China from 23 to 27 September 2015, attracted more than 250 delegates from different continents. Our school's myopia team (including Prof. To Chi-ho, Prof. Pauline Cho, Dr Do Chi-wai, Dr Kee Chea-su, Dr Thomas Lam, Dr Rachel Chun, Dr Patrick Kao and Dr Jeffrey Leung) gave a total of ten presentations (4 oral presentations and 6 poster presentations) and Prof. To moderated one session focused on cutting-edge technology in myopia research. The topics covered by our team varied from novel proteomic approaches to the treatment effects of orthokeratology in Hong Kong children. Environmental factors, in particular outdoor lighting and spectral composition of light, generated heat for discussion during this conference. The next IMC will be held in Birmingham, United Kingdom in 2017.





Hong Kong Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences Research Meeting

The School, as a host, was glad to have many eye researchers from The University of Hong Kong (HKU) and The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) joining the Hong Kong Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences Research Meeting on 3 October 2015. The CUHK, the HKU and PolyU teams in turn presented research topics from basic science to clinical studies covering myopia, age-related macular degeneration (AMD), glaucoma, and neuroprotection. The meeting was concluded with the fine dining accompanied by fruitful discussions in different research areas at Hotel ICON.

List of participants:

CUHK Team	HKU Team	PolyU Team	Others:
 - Prof. Pang Chi-pui Calvin - Dr Marten Brelen - Dr Kelvin Chong - Dr Chu Kai-on - Dr Shisong Rong 	- Prof. Jimmy Lai - Prof. So Kwok-fai - Dr Catherine Chiu - Dr Bonnie Choy - Dr Alex Ng - Dr Kendrick Shih - Dr Jennifer Shum	- Prof. George Woo - Prof. Maurice Yap - Prof. To Chi-ho - Dr Do Chi-wai - Dr Andrew Lam - Dr Henry Chan - Dr Dennis Tse	- Dr Tommy Chan (Hong Kong Eye Hospital) - Dr George Cheng (Hong Kong Laser Eye Centre)

The 20th Asia Pacific Optometric Congress

Organized by the Asia Pacific Council of Optometry and co-organized by the Association of Malaysian Optometrists and The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, the 20th Asia Pacific Optometric Congress (APOC) was held between 9 and 11 October 2015 at The Gardens Hotel in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia with over 330 delegates from 22 countries. Five invited distinguished scholars from the United States and the United Kingdom delivered insightful presentations on topics related to diabetic retinopathy, visual impairment, corneal oxygen, ocular inflammation and the role of optometrists in primary eye care. Dr Larry Ng delivered a mini-lecture on "Subtle ocular surface changes associated with specialty contact lens wear" and Prof. George Woo and Dr Lily Chan had a poster presentation on "A pilot study on bilberry extract supplements for symptomatic dry eyes". The 3-day congress with the theme "Optometry: Advancing Eye Health" consisted of 3 mini-lectures, 2 industry sessions, and 1 symposium. A total of 33 scientific papers and 55 posters were presented at the congress.





The 13TH Hong Kong Optometric Conference: on Anterior Ocular Disorders and Dry Eye Syndro

第13屆香港視光學會議:眼前部病變及乾眼症新知

WHAT'S HAPPENING OUT THERE?

The 13th Hong Kong Optometric Conference

The 13th Hong Kong Optometric Conference, themed "Update on Anterior Ocular Disorders and Dry Eye Syndrome", was held between 5 and 6 November 2015 at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre. Same as previous years, the conference was organized by the Hong Kong Trade Development Council, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University and The Hong Kong Optometric Association (HKOA).

Prof. To Chi-ho, Head of the School and Mr Alex Yim, President of HKOA delivered the welcoming remarks to kick off the ceremony.

Afterwards, Prof. Sophia Chan, JP, Under Secretary for Food and Health, Government of the HKSAR, was invited to give the opening remarks. Dr Allen Cheong, Associate Professor of the School and Dr Fan Chi-shing, Director of HKOA were the moderators of the first and second day of the conference respectively.

Six honourable speakers shared their valuable views with the participants: Dr Milton Hom (the United States), Mr Jimmy Tse (Hong Kong), Prof. Fredrik Källmark (Sweden), Prof. James Wolffsohn (the United Kingdom), Mr John Mountford (Australia), and Ms Peggy Cheung (Hong Kong). Their topics of presentation ranged from the causes of dry eye, ocular anterior research to contact lenses.



Prof. Carly Lam and Prof. Bernard Gilmartin, Former Editor-in-Chief of OPO and Professor in Aston University. The award was named after him.

Prof. Carly Lam Wins Bernard Gilmartin OPO Award

Prof. Carly Lam and her co-authors won The Bernard Gilmartin OPO Award for their paper entitled "Prevalence of myopia among Hong Kong Chinese school children: changes over two decades", which was published in Ophthalmic and Physiological Optics (OPO) in January 2012. Prof. Lam attended the award presentation ceremony held in Central Hall, Westminster, London on 10 November 2015.

The Bernard Gilmartin OPO Award, one of the Research Excellence Awards presented by The College of Optometrists annually, honours the most highly regarded paper published in the field of ophthalmic and physiological optics in the preceding five years.

(*Photo credit: The College of Optometrists, UK)

New Site for Clinical Placement

With the help from Dr George Cheng and Dr Ho Kai-kit, our final year students have started their clinical placement in a small group of two at the Eye Centre of St. Paul's Hospital. Dr Cheng, Dr Ho and Dr Ching Chin-pang teach our students the skills and share knowledge of ocular disease management with them.



The first day of rotation. Dr Andrew Lam, Associate Professor and Associate Head of the School (2nd left) with private ophthalmologists (from left to right) Dr George Cheng, Dr Ho Kai-kit and Dr China Chin-pana.

Recognition of our Optometry Programme

The Optometry Council of Australia and New Zealand's (OCANZ) examination eligibility committee has agreed to put The Hong Kong Polytechnic University on the list for automatic eligibility into the OCANZ Competency in Optometry Examination. All our undergraduates from 1994 onwards are eligible to sit for this examination. The committee has also included our programme for entry to their Assessment of Competence in Therapeutics (ACOT) examination which allows our undergraduates from 2009 onwards to sit for this examination in order to practise ocular therapeutics in Australia and New Zealand.

More information can be found at the OCANZ website: http://www.ocanz.org.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT SCHOOL

PolyU Admission Strategies for JUPAS Applicants

PolyU Admission Strategies for JUPAS Applicants was held successfully on 16 May 2015. Dr Andrew Lam, Associate Professor and Associate Head, and Dr Patrick Ting, Clinical Associate of the School, provided the latest information on our programme such as entrance requirements and career prospects to JUPAS applicants in the info seminars. Visitors were also invited to join the consultation session and guided clinic visit, during which they were able to seek useful advice from and interact with our academic staff and current students.



The 11th Eye Research Day

The School held the 11th Eye Research Day at Hotel ICON on 13 June 2015 and had the honour to have Prof. Algis Vingrys of The University of Melbourne delivering the keynote speech. The event provided an excellent platform for over 70 researchers, scholars and postgraduate students from the School, The University of Hong Kong, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Zhongshan Ophthalmic Center of Sun Yat-sen University, Zhejiang University and Sichuan University to exchange views on their latest research and ideas in ophthalmology, optometry and vision research.



Research Retreat





The School organized the Research Retreat on 18 June 2015 at the Hong Kong Sky City Marriott Hotel. A total of 11 academic staff and 4 clinical and research staff participated in the event. In the morning, Prof. Maurice Yap, Dean of Faculty of Health and Social Sciences (FHSS) and Prof. To Chi-ho, Head of the School, conducted a sharing session with participants. The team had a discussion on the impact and the future plan of Research Assessment Exercise (RAE). The programme team conducted sharing on research interests, analyses, and challenges in the 2 presentation sessions. Prof. To shared methods for building impactful stories through research, service, and teaching. A discussion was conducted after the presentation on topics like controlling peripheral defocus in Ortho-K treatment, proteomics and Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) treatment.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT SCHOOL?



PolyU Summer Programme 2015

A fun-filled programme was organized for high school students on 6 July 2015 as part of PolyU's Summer Programme 2015. Prof. Daniel Shek, Associate Vice President (Undergraduate Programme) of PolyU, delivered a welcome speech to the students at the opening ceremony.

Dr Andrew Lam, Associate Professor and Associate Head of the School, introduced the health care discipline and our programme to the students. Dr Lam and Dr Allen Cheong, Associate Professor of the School, then demonstrated some simple vision tests to them. The programme ended by a guided visit to the optometry clinic through which the students had more understanding on the role of optometrists in primary eye care.

2015 Orthokeratology Continuing Education Course

The 2015 Orthokeratology Continuing Education Course (OKCE), jointly organized by the School and The Hong Kong Academy of Orthokeratology (HKAOK), commenced on 24 August 2015 with 40 candidates enrolled. A total of 6 multinational companies participated in providing product seminars and workshops, namely Paragon Vision Sciences (the United States), Medmont International Pty Ltd (Australia), NKL Contactlenzen (Holland), Precilens (France), Euclid System Corp (the United States), and



Oculus (Hong Kong). This is a distance/blended learning CE course but it also includes a few lectures provided by Dr Vincent Ng, Dr Larry Ng, Prof. Pauline Cho, and two overseas speakers, Prof. James Wolffsohn of The Aston University and Dr Stephen Vincent of The Queensland University of Technology.

Lab sessions are provided by Associate Consultant Optometrists and Senior Clinical Associate of the School and Fellows of HKAOK. This OKCE course will continue until January 2016.

PolyU Education Info Day 2015

The annual PolyU Education Info Day was successfully held on 10 October 2015 with over 6,000 visitors and prospective students attended the booth of the School. All 3 info seminars and guided visits were well received by the visitors. The event provided potential applicants with an excellent opportunity to obtain first-hand information on studying at the School and

interact with our academic staff, clinical staff and students.





WHAT'S HAPPENING AT SCHOOL?

21st PolyU Congregation

The 21st PolyU Congregation (Faculty of Health and Social Sciences) was held at the Jockey Club Auditorium from 27 October to 28 October 2015. 39 undergraduates and 26 postgraduates were conferred with their degrees on 28 October 2015. We extend our warmest congratulations to all our new graduates, including the now Dr Lee Tsui-tsui, Dr Cheung King-wah, Angela, Dr Xiao Jingru, Dr Wong Yin-zhi, Dr Chan Ka-yin and Dr Chu Chin-hung, Geoffrey.

Besides, the following students have been selected to be named on the Dean's Honours List 2014/15.





Dean's Honours List 2014/15

Full Award Title	Name of Student	
Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Optometry	Miss Cheung Hoi-ngaMiss Cui Sitong	Mr Tang Kwong-yauMiss Wang Zhaoran
Master of Science in Optometry	Miss Chan Man-sinMr Cheung Man-heiMr Tse Sung-hei, Jimmy	Miss Wong Chun-kiMiss Yee Man-chi

Donations to the School

Date	Donor	Purpose	Amount
April 2015	Mr Tsui Siu-hong	To support the community service learning project of the School	1,000 pieces of spectacle frames (worth HK\$25,000)
May 2015	Asia Eye Care Limited	To establish "PolyVision Scholarship for the Best Year 3 Student in BSc (Hons) in Optometry"	HK\$30,000
July 2015	Dr Victor Woo	To support Dr Thomas Lam's project entitled "Quantitative proteomics analysis of aqueous humour (AH) in response to Selective Laser Trabeculoplasty (SLT) using next generation mass spectrometry"	HK\$99,500
	Mr Tong Chan-ho	To support student development of the School	HK\$800
	China Care Fund	To support project expenses of Qinghai/Guizhou vision screening activity in January 2015	HK\$14,745
	Hong Kong Civic Association	To support expenses of a vision screening activity in June 2015	HK\$2,000
August 2015	Topcon Beijing (H.K.) Ltd.	To support student development of the School	19 sets of Topcon Binocular Indirect Ophthalmoscope ID-10 (worth HK\$304,000)
November 2015	CRYOLIFE Company Ltd.	To store laboratory reagents and chemicals	1 Sanyo Pharmaceutical Refrigerator and 1 Liquid Nitrogen Freezer (worth HK\$90,000)

OUR PEOPLE

Retirement of Ms Linda Liu

The School held a farewell dinner and a farewell party to Ms Linda Liu, Executive Officer, on 11 May 2015 and

16 June 2015 respectively. She retired from her work on 26 June 2015 after years of dedicated service at the School.





Departure of Mr Roger Chiu

The School organized a farewell lunch for Mr Roger Chiu, Instructor, on 29 July 2015 in appreciation of his loyal service to the School.

Appointments/Promotions



Prof. Maurice Yap Appointed as Justice of the Peace

Prof. Maurice Yap, Dean of Faculty of Health and Social Sciences (FHSS), K.B. Woo Family Professor in Optometry and Chair Professor of Optometry at the School, was appointed by the Chief Executive of Hong Kong SAR as a Justice of the Peace (JP) with effect from 1 July 2015.



Dr Dennis Tse was appointed as Research Assistant Professor on 1 December 2014.



Dr Do Chi-wai was appointed as Associate Head (Research and Development) on 1 February 2015.



Dr Allen Cheong was promoted to Associate Professor with effect from 1 July 2015.



Mr Jimmy Tse was promoted to Senior Optometrist with effect from 12 August 2015.

OUR PEOPLE

Honorary and Adjunct Appointments of the School

Honorary Professors

Re-appointment

- Prof. Liu Yizhi
- Director
- Zhongshan Ophthalmic Center
- Sun Yat-sen University

New appointment

- Prof. Wu Miao-sin, Samuel
- Camille and Raymond Hankamer Chair in Ophthalmology
- Baylor College of Medicine

Adjunct Professors

Re-appointments

- Prof. Hu Jinsheng
- Chinese Medicine Consultant
- Tung Wah Eastern Hospital The Hong Kong Polytechnic University Wilson T S Wang Chinese
- Medicine Clinical Research and Services Centre (ERSC)
- Prof. Yeung Wing-sang, Joseph
- Private Ophthalmologist

Prof. Liu Longqian

Professor and Head
Department of Ophthalmology
West China School of Medicine

West China School of Medicine Sichuan University

Dr Chiu Lee-lee, Lily

Consultant (Commissioning Team) Hong Kong Children's Hospital Strategy & Planning Division Hospital Authority

New appointments

- Prof. Lam Man-kit, Dominic
- Founder and Chairman
- World Eye Organization

Prof. Han Wei

Professor

Department of Ophthalmology The First Affiliated Hospital Zhejiang University

Visitors to the School

Departmental Academic Advisor

Prof. Algis Vingrys

Professor

Department of Optometry and Vision Sciences

Melbourne School of Health Sciences The University of Melbourne, Australia

Academic Visitors

Dr Larry Abel

Associate Professor

Department of Optometry and Vision Sciences

Melbourne School of Health Sciences

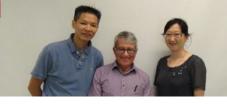
The University of Melbourne, Australia

15 to 20 August 2015

Dr Oscar Candia

10 September to 1 October 2015

Professor and Vice Chair of Department of Ophthalmology Professor of Physiology and Biophysics The Mount Sinai School of Medicine, USA



10 to 12 June 2015



27 October 2015

OUR PEOPLE

12 to 15 October 2015

Prof. Barry Weissman Professor of Optometry Southern California College of Optometry Marshall B. Ketchum University, USA

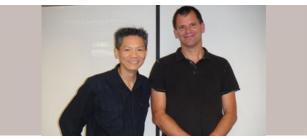


Prof. Tang Xin President Tianjin Eye Hospital, China



2 to 3 November 2015

Prof. Austin Roorda
Professor of Vision Science and Optometry
School of Optometry
University of California, Berkeley, USA



2 to 3 November 2015

Prof. Fredrik Källmark

Associate Professor Department of Clinical Neuroscience Karolinska Institute, Sweden

Mr John Mountford

Private Practice Optometrist, Australia

Checute for Myopia Research School of metry

9 to 18 November 2015

Prof. Wu Miao-sin, Samuel

Camille and Raymond Hankamer Chair in Ophthalmology Baylor College of Medicine, USA

3 December 2015

Dr Kelala Wufuer 克拉拉•吾甫爾副院長 Vice-Rector

Urumqi Eye and ENT Hospital, China



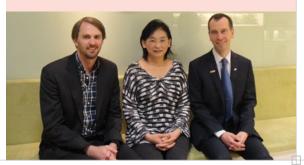
26 to 27 November 2015

Dr Stephen Vincent

Senior Lecturer
School of Optometry and Vision Science
Queensland University of Technology, Australia

Prof. James Wolffsohn

Deputy Executive Dean School of Life and Health Sciences Aston University, UK



OUR PEOPLE

Secondary / Tertiary School Visits

22 April 2015

STFA Leung Kau Kui College

Visitors : 60 F.5 & F.6 students Speakers : Dr Patrick Ting and

Dr Allen Cheong

Activity : Talk on Optometry programme



13 May 2015

Shatin Methodist College

Visitors : 30 F.5 students Speaker : Dr Patrick Ting

Activity: Talk on Optometry programme



20 May 2015

Department of Special Education and Counseling,

HKIEd

Visitors : 28 teachers

Speakers: Dr Allen Cheong and Mr Peter Pang

Activity : Talk on children with visual

impairments and clinic visit



4 June 2015

IAO Counsellor Day

Visitors : 27 counsellors from 24 overseas

secondary schools

Speaker: Dr Andrew Lam

Activity: Talk on Optometry programme and

pre-clinical lab visit



6 July 2015

PolyU Summer Programme

Visitors : 26 F.5 students Speaker : Dr Andrew Lam

Activity: Talk on Optometry programme and

pre-clinical lab visit



OUR PEOPLE

11 September 2015

Marymount Secondary School

Visitors: 70 F.5 students Speaker: Dr Thomas Lam

Activity: Talk on Optometry programme



30 September 2015

Pui Ching Middle School

Visitors: 30 F.5 students Speaker: Dr Patrick Ting

Activity: Talk on Optometry programme



Fellow of the British Contact Lens Association

Miss Gigi Yee was admitted as a Fellow of the British Contact Lens Association on 30 May 2015. Congratulations!

Memorandum of Understanding

- The School has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Kwai Tsing Safe Community and Healthy City Association for collaboration in Signature Project Scheme at Kwai Tsing District from 1 January 2015 to 31 December 2017.
- The School has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Hong Kong Trade Development Council for the organization of The 13th Hong Kong Optometric Conference on 5 and 6 November 2015.
- 3. The School has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with College of Optometry and Ophthalmology, Tianjin Medical University for collaboration on academic, research and student exchange activities from 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2018.



4. The School has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Tianjin Eye Hospital for academic and research collaboration from 31 October 2015 to 30 October 2018.



Optometry Residency Programme

Mr Horace Wong and Miss Liture Lee completed 2-year Optometry Senior Residency in July 2015.

Research Funding

RGC General Research Fund (GRF) 2015-2016

Principal Investigator	Co-Investigator	Project Title	Funding Awarded
Prof. To Chi-ho	Dr Do Chi-wai Prof. Dan Stamer (Duke University, USA)	The Effects of Myopia on Outflow Facility of Guine a Pig Eyes	НК\$697,553
Dr Andrew Lam	Prof. David Lam (The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology) Prof. Pauline Cho	Corneal Stiffness and Tangent Modulus to predict the Rate of Corneal Curvature Change in Corneal Reshaping Therapy	HK\$652,316
Dr Thomas Lam	Prof. To Chi-ho Dr Lei Zhou (Singapore National Eye Centre)	A Comprehensive Retinal Proteome and Phosphoproteome Analysis in Lens-induced Myopia in Mammalian Guinea Pig (Cavia Porcellus) using a Next Generation Hybrid TripleTOF Mass Spectrometer with SWATH Acquisition	HK\$969,500

Health and Medical Research Fund (HMRF) 2015

Principal Investigator	Co-Investigator	Project Title	Funding Awarded
Dr Allen Cheong	Dr Cheung Sing-hang (Department of Psychology, The University of Hong Kong) Dr Chong Ngai-hang, Victor (Department of Ophthalmology, University of Oxford) Dr Wong Siu-wo, Anthony (School of Nursing, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University) Dr Wong Yat-hin, Ian (Department of Ophthalmology, The University of Hong Kong)	Effectiveness of Perceptual Learning in Reading Rehabilitation for Patients with Diabetic Macular Oedema - Randomised Controlled Trial	HK\$968,776

Conference Presentations

Presenter	Conference	Title of Presentation
Dr Henry Chan	The 30th Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology Congress 2015 (China) 1 April 2015	Protective effect of Lycium Barbarum on retinal function after optic nerve damage
Prof. George Woo	Global Optometry Conference 2015 (Korea) 22-23 April 2015	An Introduction to World Council of Optometry and Asia Pacific Council of Optometry
Dr Andrew Lam	The Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology annual meeting (USA) 3-7 May 2015	Central and peripheral rebound tonometry in myopic LASIK without and with corneal collagen crosslinking
Dr Dennis Tse	The Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology annual meeting (USA) 3-7 May 2015	Retinal microglial activation in a mouse model of Sanfilippo Syndrome

Presenter	Conference	Title of Presentation
Dr Rachel Chun, Dr Thomas Lam and Prof. To Chi-ho	The Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology annual meeting (USA) 3-7 May 2015	The effect of combination of white and monochromatic light on eye growth of normal chicks
Dr Thomas Lam and Prof. To Chi-ho	The Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology annual meeting (USA) 3-7 May 2015	Therapeutic effects of Fenofibrate on lens-induced myopia chicken model
Prof. To Chi-ho	The Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology annual meeting (USA) 3-7 May 2015	Effects of the relative strength of the more positive-powered component in dual focus lenses on emmetropization in rhesus monkeys
Dr Do Chi-wai and Dr Thomas Lam	The Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology annual meeting (USA) 3-7 May 2015	Baicalein lowers intraocular pressure and increases outflow facility in mouse eye
Dr Do Chi-wai	The Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology annual meeting (USA) 3-7 May 2015	Glutathione attenuates the nitric oxide-induced retinal lipid and protein changes
Mr Jeffrey Leung and Dr Kee Chea-su	The Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology annual meeting (USA) 3-7 May 2015	The retinal thickness and anterior/ posterior ocular biometry in Chinese myopic eyes with and without high astigmatism
Dr Kee Chea-su	The Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology annual meeting (USA) 3-7 May 2015	Form-deprived highly myopic chick eyes have lower than normal corneal stiffness
Mr Chin Man-pan, Dr Henry Chan and Dr Allen Cheong	The Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology annual meeting (USA) 3-7 May 2015	Compensatory eye growth responded to the imposed defocus is influenced by spatial content in chick
Ms Daisy Leung	European Academy of Optometry and Optics Annual Conference (Hungary) 14-17 May 2015	Reading epilepsy induced accommodation dysfunction
Miss Gigi Yee	2015 BCLA Clinical Conference & Exhibition (UK) 29-31 May 2015	Using mini-scleral lens in Steven Johnson Syndrome
Miss Katy Lam and Mr Jimmy Tse	2015 BCLA Clinical Conference & Exhibition (UK) 29-31 May 2015	From corneal to scleral - scleral lens fitting in monocular keratoconus patients: a case series
Prof. Carly Lam and Dr Wing Tang	2015 BCLA Clinical Conference & Exhibition (UK) 29-31 May 2015	The proportion of myopic defocus of Defocused Incorporated Soft Contact (DISC) lens on retarding myopic progression
Prof. Pauline Cho	2015 BCLA Clinical Conference & Exhibition (UK) 29-31 May 2015	A retrospective study on the effect of long term orthokeratology (ortho-k) on ocular biometry
Prof. Pauline Cho	2015 BCLA Clinical Conference & Exhibition (UK) 29-31 May 2015	Orthokeratology Treatments
Dr Larry Ng	2015 BCLA Clinical Conference & Exhibition (UK) 29-31 May 2015	Corneal physiological changes after short-term scleral lens wear
Dr Henry Chan and Ms Christie Lam	The 53rd Symposium of International Society for Clinical Electrophysiology of Vision (ISCEV) (Slovenia) 23-27 June 2015	Characteristics of global flash mfERG in patients with retinitis pigmentosa

Presenter	Conference	Title of Presentation
Dr Henry Chan	The 53rd Symposium of International Society for Clinical Electrophysiology of Vision (ISCEV) (Slovenia) 23-27 June 2015	Weakened foveal function causing higher myopic progression in children
Prof. George Woo	Tianjin- Hong Kong Ophthalmology Symposium (China) 25-28 June 2015	Determination of refractive errors with an instant vision assessment device
Ms Angela Cheng	Tianjin- Hong Kong Ophthalmology Symposium (China) 25-28 June 2015	The potential role of Cyclic 3', 5'- Adenosine Monophosphate in regulating aqueous humour secretion
Prof. Pauline Cho	Tianjin International Ophthalmology Symposium (China) 25-28 June 2015	Orthokeratology for Myopic Control
Dr Jeffrey Leung	Macular Carotenoids Conference 2015 (UK) 8-10 July 2015	The effects of anti-blue light lenses on visual and biological function
Prof. Pauline Cho	3rd European Academy of Orthokeratology (EurOK) Meeting (Hungary) 10-12 July 2015	What after ortho-k discontinuation?
Prof. Pauline Cho	3rd European Academy of Orthokeratology (EurOK) Meeting (Hungary) 10-12 July 2015	Safety in ortho-k
Dr Kee Chea-su	2015 ZEISS International Myopia Symposium (China) 23 September 2015	Astigmatism: does it involve in myopia development.
Dr Thomas Lam	The 15th International Myopia Conference (China) 23-27 September 2015	Application of SWATH-based next generation proteomics (NGP) in studying eye growth: opportunities and challenges
Dr Thomas Lam	The 15th International Myopia Conference (China) 23-27 September 2015	Changes in retinal proteome in lens induced myopic chicks by novel SWATH analysis
Dr Thomas Lam	The 15th International Myopia Conference (China) 23-27 September 2015	Establishing a comprehensive retinal protein profiling of guinea pig for myopia research using novel SWATH based proteomics
Dr Rachel Chun, Dr Thomas Lam and Prof. To Chi-ho	The 15th International Myopia Conference (China) '23-27 September 2015	Short-term choroidal response to optical defocus in Chinese school children
Prof. Pauline Cho	The 15th International Myopia Conference (China) 23-27 September 2015	Effect of discontinuation of orthokeratology lens wear on axial elongation in children - DOEE - I
Prof. Pauline Cho	The 15th International Myopia Conference (China) 23-27 September 2015	Parents' knowledge and perspective of optical methods for myopia control in children
Mr Patrick Kao	The 15th International Myopia Conference (China) 23-27 September 2015	Pathway analysis of genome-wide association study (GWAS) for myopia in a Chinese population
Dr Kee Chea-su and Dr Jeffrey Leung	The 15th International Myopia Conference (China) 23-27 September 2015	Interactions of ocular aberrations in Chinese adults with emmetropia and myopia

Presenter	Conference	Title of Presentation
Dr Kee Chea-su	The 15th International Myopia Conference (China) 23-27 September 2015	A chicken genomics resource for mapping myopia susceptibility genes: The Hong Kong UGC Chick Myopia Project
Ms Rita Sum and Dr Andrew Lam	East Meets West Symposium 2015 (Hong Kong) 3-4 October 2015	Visual status and random plasma glucose level of Hong Kong taxi drivers
Dr Lydia Yu	European Association for Vision and Eye Research (EVER) 2015 Congress (France) 7-10 October 2015	The protective effect of anti-blue lens against photo-induced cell death
Prof. Carly Lam	European Association for Vision and Eye Research (EVER) 2015 Congress (France) 7-10 October 2015	The Defocus Incorporated Soft Contact (DISC) lens
Dr Vincent Ng	Academy 2015 New Orleans (USA) 7-10 October 2015	Factors associated with macular pigment optical density in young and healthy myopic Hong Kong Chinese
Ms Ronnie Huang	Academy 2015 New Orleans (USA) 7-10 October 2015	Nature and nurture in sports vision development
Dr Allen Cheong	Academy 2015 New Orleans (USA) 7-10 October 2015	Dynamic grating acuity in community dwelling older adults
Dr Allen Cheong	Academy 2015 New Orleans (USA) 7-10 October 2015	Effects of eye movements on postural sway in community dwelling older adults
Prof. George Woo and Dr Lily Chan	The 20th Asia Pacific Optometric Congress (Malaysia) 9-11 October 2015	A pilot study on bilbery extract supplements for symptomatic dry eyes
Prof. George Woo and Dr Lily Chan	The 7th International Vision Rehabilitation Forum (China) 15 October 2015	Aspects of low vision care
Dr Thomas Lam	The 9th TMUEH International Eye Meeting (China) 16-18 October 2015	Advancing eye research using target free proteomics approach
Prof. George Woo and Ms Rita Sum	The 9th TMUEH International Eye Meeting (China) 16-18 October 2015	Aspects of hospital based optometric services in Hong Kong
Ms Rita Sum	IAGG Asia/ Oceania 2015 Congress (Thailand) 19-22 October 2015	A community-based eye care service for elderly in Hong Kong- a new government-supported initiative
Prof. George Woo and Dr Desmond Cheng	The 4th Chinese Summit on Myopia Control in conjunction with the 5th China Optometry Education Forum (China) 23-25 October 2015	Randomized trial of bifocal and prismatic bifocal spectacles on myopia progression in children: three-year results
Prof. George Woo	The 4th Chinese Summit on Myopia Control in conjunction with the 5th China Optometry Education Forum (China) 23-25 October 2015	Development of Optometry education

New Papers

Ashby RS, Zeng G, Leotta AJ, **Tse DYY**, McFadden SA. (2014). Egr-1 mRNA Expression is a Marker for the Direction of Mammalian Ocular Growth. Invest Ophthalmol and Vis Sci, 55(9): 5911-21.

Chin MP, Chu PH, Cheong AMY, Chan HHL. (2015). Human electroretinal responses to grating patterns and defocus changes by global flash multifocal electroretinogram. PLoS One, 10(4): e0123480.

Chin MP, Siong KH, Chan KH, Do CW, Chan HHL, Cheong AMY. (2015). Prevalence of visual impairment and refractive errors among different ethnic groups in schoolchildren in Turpan, China. Ophthalmic & Physiological Optics: the journal of the British College of Ophthalmic Opticians, 35(3): 263-70.

Chu CH, Kee CS. (2015). Effects of optically imposed astigmatism on early eye growth in chicks. PLoS One, 10(2): e0117729.

Gangwani RA, Lee JW, Mo HY, **Sum RWM**, Kwong AS, Wang JH, Tsui WW, Chan JC, Lai JS. (2015). The Correlation of Retinal Nerve Fiber Layer Thickness With Blood Pressure in a Chinese Hypertensive Population. Medicine, 94(23): e947.

Ho WC, Tang MM, Fu CW, Leung KY, Pang PC, **Cheong AMY.** (2015). Relationship between Vision and Visual Perception in Hong Kong Preschoolers. Optometry and Vision Science: official publication of the American Academy of Optometry, 92(5): 623-31.

Khan AK, **Tse DYY**, Vander-Heijden M, Shah P, Nusbaum D, Yang, Z, Wu SM, Frankfort BJ. (2015). Mild, Prolonged elevation of intraocular pressure results in retinal ganglion cell loss and abnormal retinal function in mice. Exp Eye Res, 130: 29-37.

Leung TW, Lam AKC, Kee CS. (2015). Ocular Aberrations and Corneal Shape in Adults with and without Astigmatism. Optom Vis Sci, 92(5): 604-14.

Li HY, **Chan HHL, Chu PH,** Chang RC, So KF. (2015). Secondary Degeneration after Partial Optic Nerve Injury and Possible Neuroprotective Effects of Lycium Barbarum (Wolfberry). Chapter 10 in Lycium Barbarum and Human Health. Edited by Chang RC and So KF. Springer. Netherlands, 135-151.

Li HY, Ruan YW, Kau PW, Chiu K, Chang RC, **Chan HH**, So KF. (2015). Effect of Lycium barbarum (Wolfberry) on Alleviating Axonal Degeneration After Partial Optic Nerve Transection. Cell Transplant, 24(3): 403-17.

Li SKL, Banerjee J, Jang C, Sehgal A, Stone RA, Civan MM. (2015). Temperature Oscillations Drive Cycles in the Activity of MMP-2,9 Secreted by a Human Trabecular Meshwork Cell Line. Invest Ophthalmol Vis Sci, 5;56(2): 1396-405.

Li T, Tian L, Wang L, **Hon Y, Lam AKC, Huang Y,** Wang Y, Zheng Y. (2015). Correction on the distortion of Scheimpflug imaging for dynamic central corneal thickness. J Biomed Opt, 20: 056006.

Shi GS, Boost M, **Cho P**. (2015). Prevalence of antiseptic-resistance genes in staphylococci isolated from orthokeratology lens and spectacle wearers in Hong Kong. Invest Opthalmol Vis Sci, 56: 3069-74.

Siong KH, Kwan MM, Lord SR, Lam AK, Tsang WW, **Cheong AMY.** (2015). Fall risk in Chinese community-dwelling older adults: A physiological profile assessment study. Geriatrics & Gerontology International. DOI: 10.1111/ggi.12463.

Siu AW, Shan WS, **Li KK, Lam HY**, Fung MY, Li KK, **To CH, Do CW.** (2015). Glutathione attenuates nitric oxide-induced retinal lipid and protein changes. Ophthalmic Physiol Opt. 35(2): 135-46.

Woo GC, Chan LLY. (2015). Paediatric Low Vision: Rehabilitation Model and Devices. Chapter 11 in Paediatric Vision Care: Current Practice and Future Challenges. Edited by Chen A-H and Leat SJ. McGraw-Hill. Singapore, 203-222.

Zuo B, Liu Q, McFadden S, **Tse DYY, Chun RKM, To CH.** (2015). Study of Guinea Pig Refractive Status and Ocular Length during the Early Recovery from Lens-induced Myopia. Zhonghua Yan Ke Za Zhi, 51(6): 455-7.

Upcoming Conferences / Seminars / Workshops

	Details	Date & Venue
Conferences	The 10th Asia Cornea & Contact Lens Conference	28 and 29 April 2016 Crown Plaza Hong Kong Kowloon East, Hong Kong http://www.acclc2016.org.

Lee Ka-wing – My follow-up story after receiving the Innovation and Technology Scholarship Award Scheme in 2014*

I was honoured to be one of the awardees of the Innovation and Technology Scholarship Award Scheme in 2014. Upon receiving the award, I have participated in an overseas attachment programme, a local internship and a service project.

I completed 2 interactive courses at Harvard University during my overseas attachment in the summer. One course was related to stem cells and the other was about game theory. I enjoyed the fruitful discussions with peers during classes which fostered our creative thinking. The leisure time was also a highlight there – I met people from all over the world and we had a splendid time together.

For the local internship programme, I was assigned to the Automation Service Division of the Hong Kong Productivity Council. My main duty was to perform desktop research and functional tests as well as draft reports for various projects. I was so fortunate to have the chance learning from experienced colleagues and mentors there as they were very helpful and willing to offer guidance.

In addition, like most of the awardees, I ran workshops at the Inno Carnival 2014, which aimed to raise public interest in science and to provide interesting family activities to the attendees.

I really appreciate the excellent opportunity given to me by the Innovation and Technology Scholarship Award Scheme. Not only did it provide financial support, but also encouraged students to explore the world. I am so grateful to gain valuable insights through cultural exchanges. This experience has definitely prepared me well for the challenges ahead, and I certainly recommend this scheme to other students.



Student Award Ceremony 2014-2015

The School hosted its Student Award Ceremony on 25 August 2015 to recognize our undergraduates' outstanding academic achievements in the past academic year. At the ceremony, Prof. To Chi-ho, Head of the School, extended his warm congratulations to the awardees and sincere appreciation to the professional associations and companies which offered scholarships and travelling grants to our students. Their continued support is vital for our students to pursue excellence in their studies.



Award / Scholarship	Awardee
PolyVision Scholarship for the Best Year 3 Student in BSc (Hons) in Optometry	Miss Kiu Ling-yau Mr Lam Chung-wing Miss Lo Wai-ying
Hoya Excellent in Ophthalmic Optics and Dispensing Scholarship	Miss Chan Cheuk-yin Miss Mak Ka-yan
FreshKon Award	Mr Leung Chi-wing Miss Mak Ka-yan
Greg Wu Best Business Plan Award for Practice Management	Mr Tang Kwong-yau
Hong Kong Optical Manufacturers Association Scholarship for the Best Year 2 Student in BSc (Hons) in Optometry	Miss Ma Yuen-wuen, Jessica
Hong Kong Optical Manufacturers Association Scholarship for the Best Year 3 Student in BSc (Hons) in Optometry	Mr Lau Chun-hong
Essilor Ophthalmic Optics and Dispensing Scholarship	Miss Cheng Wing-lam
Skyview Optical Travelling Scholarship for Overseas Student Exchange Programme	Miss Chan Yu-yan
The Hong Kong Association of Private Practice Optometrists Best Community Project Award	Miss Chan Chui-ting Miss Chan Yu-yan Miss Choi Mei-ting
The Hong Kong Association of Private Practice Optometrists Community Service Award	Miss Kiu Ling-yau
Johnson & Johnson Vision Care Scholarship for Overseas Student Exchange Programme	Miss Kiu Ling-yau Miss Lo Wai-ying
The Hong Kong Society of Professional Optometrists Prize for the Best Year 1 Student in BSc (Hons) in Optometry	Miss Cui Yingkun
The Hong Kong Society of Professional Optometrists Academic Excellence Award for the Year 4 Student in BSc (Hons) in Optometry	Miss Wang Zhaoran
The Hong Kong Society of Professional Optometrists Best Student Optometrist Award	Miss Cheng Wing-lam
School of Optometry Scholarship for the Best Year 3 Student in BSc (Hons) in Optometry	Miss Kiu Ling-yau





White Coat Ceremony

The School organized its first White Coat Ceremony on 27 August 2015 to highlight the symbolic importance of the white coat for a clinician. The ceremony was attended by faculty members and DSE Year 4 students of the School. Prof. George Woo, Emeritus Professor and Visiting Chair Professor of Optometry of the School, delivered an insightful speech to the students, who will start their clinical training in the coming academic year. Prof. To Chi-ho, Head of the School, presented a white coat to each student clinician. After taking the optometric oath and the group photos, the academic advisors shared their valuable clinical experience with their tutees.











The 22nd Optometry Departmental Society (OPTDS) Executive Committee

The 22nd Optometry Departmental Society (OPTDS) Executive Committee, Eye-Dear (神龍視), commenced its term of office on 1 March 2015. Eye-Dear strives to adopt innovative ideas promoting unity and love among members of OPTDS. To achieve the goals, it will organize various activities, thus providing a platform to facilitate exchange of ideas in a harmonious, creative and caring atmosphere.

OPTDS organized an orientation camp from 27 to 29 August 2015 in Pak Sha Wan Tam Wah Ching Sea Activity Centre with the aim of welcoming the optometry freshmen to their new family. The participants had a great time playing a series of group games and enjoying different activities such as singing around a campfire and dancing.



(From left to right, back row)
Welfare Secretary: Li Hing-yi, Lena
Sports Secretary: Kwok Lai-yin, Tony
President: Yiu Chi-fung, Andy
Internal Secretary: Cheung Ka-piu, Alan
(From left to right, middle row)
External Secretary: Wong Kin-yan, Kin Kin
General Secretary: Tai Ka-yee, Shirley
Internal Vice-President: Ko Pang, Kenny
(From left to right, front row)
Promotion Secretary: Au Sook-jin, Janet
External Vice-President: Au Hei-ching, Amanda
Financial Secretary: Kwok Shan-shan, Kathy

Inbound Exchange Students

Exchange Period	Inbound Institute	Student Name	
19 January - 17 April 2015	Sichuan University	 Miss Liu Fengyang Miss Shao Yusu Mr Wang Lei Mr Xu Lixing	
23 March - 14 May 2015	Zhongshan Ophthalmic Center	 Miss Lin Xiying Miss Liu Yanlin Mr Zou Xuyuan	
27 April - 19 June 2015	University of Waterloo	 Miss Cheng Tsz-yan Mr Ng Ka-lun, Alan Mr Wan Nok-ken	w 科视 sci
22 June - 31 July 2015	University of Melbourne	 Mr Nguyen Tan Dat, Andrew Miss Tran Thi-lai 	At or cerops
7-25 September 2015	Queensland University of Technology	 Miss Li Hui Miss Katherine Liu Miss Nguyen Minh Hong Miss Tong Shu-ki, Sukey 	

Miss Vienna Lam

Ms Allison Ng

EDITORAL BOARD: Prof. George Woo Dr Andrew Lam