



Chairs Exhibition

"A work of art is always simultaneously a technical achievement."

– Walter Gropius

A cardboard chair is a simple manifestation of this statement.

The Chairs exhibition was held on June 11, 2001 at K K Leung Building, featuring over 20 cardboard paper Chairs designed and produced by Year-One Architecture students. Over 100 students, staff and guests joined the officiating guests, Ms Joyshan Lam, Managing Director, Hong Kong Economic Journal, Ms Ada Wong, Member, Culture and Heritage Commission, Vice-Chancellor Professor Ian Davies, Professor R Frewer, Head of the Department of Architecture and Dr T Kvan, Dean, Faculty of Architecture on a rainy day to open the exhibition with a champagne reception.

While Ms Joyshan Lam shared her poem on Chairs, Ms Ada Wong contrasted how her loved one died while taking a nap in an armchair with another kind of chair, which was to be used for execution of US prisoner, Timothy McVeigh in the evening on the same day. She concluded her speech by appealing to the future designers of chairs, "to come up with new designs of chairs, in particular chairs for the classroom and the office, so that we can all be masters of our own chairs."

The ceremony was happily ended by a lucky draw. The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Davies, drew the lucky winner who could pick any Chair to bring home as a gift.

web.hku.hk/~hku90/chairs.htm

Ms Ada Wong sitting safely and comfortably on one of the paper chairs.



中醫藥國際研討會

港大中醫藥學院於四月間，在王廣武講堂舉行龐鼎元中醫藥國際研討會，為廿一世紀的中醫藥發展帶來新的景象。

是次研討會邀請了各界人士到場主講及參與，包括政府官員、中醫藥產業界及教育界等人士，參加者近三百人，是中醫藥界的一大盛事。

這次研討會令香港中醫藥學得到肯定，並介紹了港大中醫藥學院最新的研究成果。



Ms Joyshan Lam sharing her poem of "Chairs" (see below).

Cherish your chair

*Do not judge me by my fleshless arms,
They will cradle your body, like a nest.
Do not judge me by my shapeless legs,
They will steady you and give you rest.*

*I know I'm just a piece of furniture,
Not as sexy as phallic architecture.
But my spirit is built on the pillars of the forest,
And my bones are carved with the love of an artist.*

*Look on me as your comfort and your anchor,
Somewhere to go when you are sad or tired.
Regard me as your slave and your lover,
Someone you can sit on, any way you desire.*

*I am sturdy and reliable, yet not so square as a table.
Why not sit and make yourself comfortable?
Do not be prejudiced, a 'chair' is just a label.
Sit quite still, and I will show you of what I'm capable.*

*Share with me, my throne, my life,
And forget all the cruelty in human affairs.
Why put up with all the angst and the strife,
When all can be well between women and chairs?*

*Why did Virginia Woolf need a Chair of her own?
Why was Forster lucky? Because a chair came
with his room?
Why did Gertrude Stein write, A chair is a chair
is a chair?
And why was Tennyson so worried, about a chair,
idle chair?*

*Women love so hesitatingly,
Because love eternal stays so fleetingly.
With me you need not have a care,
For a one-night stand is physically impossible
for a chair.*

*So love me then, don't be a prude,
Answer my plea, your own vow declare!
There's no need to pity me for being a chair,
For as Oscar Wilde prophetically understood,
There's only one thing in the world worse than
being a chair,
And that is NOT being a chair.*

New Council Chairman

The University is pleased to announce that the Chancellor has appointed Dr Victor K K Fung (馮國經博士) as the next Chairman of the Council (校務委員會), with effect on September 1, 2001.

Dr Fung who has been a member of Council of the University of Hong Kong since 1997 and since 1996 an honorary professor in the University's School of Business, is Chairman of the Airport Authority of Hong Kong and is a past Chairman of the Hong Kong Trade Development Council.

In September 1985, Dr the Hon T L Yang (楊鐵樑博士) was appointed Chairman of the Council of the University. His term of appointment formally ended last year, but Dr Yang graciously agreed to continue as Chairman for a further 12 months to assist the University at what was then a difficult time. "Dr Yang's Council Chairmanship over the last 16 years has seen the University in the charge of 4 different Vice-Chancellors and its evolution into a comprehensive, research-led university of international stature," said Vice-Chancellor Professor Ian Davies.



Employment Situation of HKU Graduates

HKU Careers Education and Placement Centre conducted the annual employment survey in late November 2000. Among the 2,748 graduates of year 2000, 94% of them responded to the survey. The result was released recently.

It found that the average salary of HKU graduates of the year 2000 is HK\$15,448 per month, making these graduates probably the highest income-earners among counterparts of local institutions. If those studying medicine and nursing are excluded, the salary is HK\$13,349, representing an increase of 7.6% over that of the Class of 1999.

"Commerce and Industry" remains the largest employment sector for new graduates, accounting for 66% of the cohort, followed by Community, Social & Personal Services (20%), Education (9.4%) and the Civil Service (4.8%).