MA IN RELIGION

Chinese Adventist Seminary in collaboration with the Seminary, Andrews University, will offer Andrews University’s MA in Religion program and the first two classes have been scheduled in January-February, 2017. Classes will be held in weekday evenings and Sundays. Each course will be completed in one week from Sunday to Sunday. The two courses are Pentateuch by the Seminary Dean, Dr. Jiri Moskala, and The Book of Hebrews by Dr. Felix Cortez, the MA in Rel. Program Director. The 38-semester credit MA Rel. is an academic program that requires a thesis/project and it will take three to four years of part-time to complete.

Dr. Jiri Moskala  
Professor of Old Testament Exegesis and Theology  
Seminary Dean

Dr. Felix Cortez  
Associate Professor of New Testament  
Director, MA (Religion) Program and Seminary Affiliations and Extensions

NEWS & EVENTS

September
7 Opening Ceremony_Chalap
23-25 Alumni Homecoming Weekend

October
7-9 Spiritual Retreats for student leaders
10 Vegetarian Festival
14 Environmental Day
17-21 Fall Gospel Week

November
9 Mission Emphasis Day_Chalap
13 Education Fair for Non-Chinese Speaking Community
23 Culture Day_Chalap

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By Dr. Daniel Cheung, President

After living for the past 38 years in the United States, I find that September gives me mixed feelings. I loved the chilly, fresh air and beautiful scenery during autumn in the northern United States. However, September also made me realize that the coming of long, cold winter was imminent. Now that I am in Hong Kong, September brings me joy and happiness. I am happy to see the hot, steamy weather gradually being replaced with cool, drier weather. I also enjoy watching students moving back to campus and getting ready for a new school year. Students are the main source of energy for our campus, so having them back on campus again is like having a new set of batteries that energizes every department of our college.

I praise God that the student enrollments for both Hong Kong Adventist College and Hong Kong Adventist Academy have increased by around 30%, meaning that altogether we have nearly 250 students for this coming school year. These students, along with 100 staff and faculty, are filling our facility, making us realize our need to have more classrooms and offices. This urgent need demands our immediate attention if our schools are to continue to grow at such a rapid pace.

Although we have these pressing needs for new facilities, we have made some improvements on campus:

- The new office for Chinese Adventist Seminary (CAS) is finished. Since CAS was established in 2013, the staff and faculty of CAS have never had an office that they could call home and have moved to various temporary offices in the past three years. Although the physical size of this new office is smaller than the previous ones, the staff and faculty of CAS enjoy having this newly remodeled, permanent office that they can finally call their own.

- With the financial support of Hong Kong Adventist College Foundation Board, we have upgraded our volleyball court, which, in addition to our already renewed soccer and basketball courts, enable our students to have safe and attractive places on which to enjoy playing sports.

- The little white house, which stood vacant and abandoned for many years, has been completely remodeled and converted into a small two-bedroom apartment and will see use again.

I would like to invite you to come to visit our campus to see the changes that we have made, to realize the potential we have for a larger institution, and to experience the excitement of our schools in person. Remember that, if you have time to stay for lunch, I’ll buy.
By Priscilla Wong, Chair, Department of Psychology

The Counseling Service under the Department of Psychology was first established in 2013. With the funding from the Hong Kong Adventist College Foundation, Room 116 at the Administration Building was renovated and becomes the new counseling center. The center accommodates the needs of the students and the community, but also serves as a training field for our psychology students. We have held more than 400 sessions in this counseling center since its opening. A positive message prepared by one of the desk monitors is posted at the center on a weekly basis. Stop by to be inspired.

This year, the Psychology Club constitutes to the diversity at the College. In addition to the local Chinese, we have students from other ethnic origins, e.g. Beninese, Filipinos, Indian, Malaysian, Pakistani and Nepalese. This provides ample opportunities for the group to have firsthand experiences in observing human behaviors in a culturally diversified environment; more importantly, we need to practice patience and respect as we work together as a team to learn, to serve and to grow.

By Charlene Pak, Chair, Department of Health

Dementia is the condition of impaired cognitive function, which is one of the major causes of disability and dependency among older people. It interferes with activities of daily living and social life. It affects not only the people who have it, but also their caregivers and families. Worldwide, there are 47.5 million people who have dementia and 7.7 million new cases every year. In Hong Kong, it is estimated that by 2050 the population of those over 80 will peak and at least a third of them will have the problem of dementia. Currently, up to 80,000 people have dementia in Hong Kong. Although there is no treatment currently available to cure dementia or reverse the disease progression, according to WHO, various management and interventions aim on the early diagnosis, optimizing physical, psychological, behavioural, and cognitive well-being, and reduction of the risk factors for vascular disease.

In view of the aging population in Hong Kong, it is important to raise the awareness of the public about the nature of the disease process and offer the support and help to improve the lives of people with dementia and their caregivers and family. Therefore, the Health Department of the Hong Kong Adventist College together with Hong Kong Adventist Hospital conducted a seminar on Understanding Dementia and Positive Aging in Hong Kong Central Library on May 22, 2016. The total attendance was about 280 people. After the seminar, a series of Dementia Workshop with a multi-disciplinary team like geriatrician, psychologist, occupational therapist, chaplain, dietician, and exercise instructor, was conducted in June and July this year to train the family members, caregivers, our church members, and the professional from the elderly centres. May we use this as a channel to reach out to the people in our community.

We pray that we will have enough resources to continue to train more church members, caregivers, and family members to serve the elderly population in the future.

Reference:

Yu, R; Chan, PF; McGhee, SM; Cheung, WL; Chan, KC; Cheung, SH; Woo, J. Dementia Trends: Impact of the Ageing Population & Societal Implications for Hong Kong. The Hong Kong Jockey Club 2010.
By Dr. Daniel Chuah, Chair, Department of Religion

“One interest will prevail, one subject will swallow up every other—Christ our righteousness.” (EGW, “Be Zealous and Repent,” Review and Herald, Dec. 23, 1890).

Daniel Chuah is my name and I am very glad to return to the College and be the Head of the Religion Department beginning from September 1, 2016.

I came across the statement mentioned above sometime ago and it has reminded me of my privilege, as a child of God, to make this my personal life goal. Further it serves well also that as a group, as one of the Bible teachers, it is our privilege to uphold this as the value and goal for our Religion Department.

In all our training programs, researches, practicum, presentations, preaching, teaching, personal and public evangelism, Christ our righteousness is the interest and the subject. In all our worships and devotions, worships and evangelism, personal relationship and social functions, Christ our righteousness is the interest and the subject.

For this new school year, the faculty and the students of the Religion Department will participate in the following:

1. Actively involve in at least one ministry per semester at the local church.
2. Actively participate in at least one workshop or seminar per semester.
3. Actively participate in one mission trip per year.
4. Actively involve in giving Bible study to at least one person per semester.

The Religion Department has made this theme the foremost of its emphases for the coming year and we are expecting to experience the life changing events both in our lives and others because of the loveliness of Jesus.