Everybody loves a smoke-free campus

It’s lunch time. You’re taking a leisurely stroll in the Chinese Garden. The birds are singing. The sun is warm. You breathe deep and relax. Bliss. Then a cloud of toxic tobacco smoke drifts past and your nose and lips catch it at the back of your throat. Has this ever happened to you?

Well, thankfully, campus puffers are an endangered species. Smoking is banned. Totally. According to new government laws starting 1 January 2007 that prohibit smoking in many public places, no-one can smoke anywhere at any time within the boundary of the University.

In preparation, the Facilities Management Office (FMO) is moving quickly and efficiently to ensure the message is received and understood by all.

"By clearly delivering the new regulations, we hope we don’t have to spend extra resources appointing extra security guards to monitor the ban," says Mr Tony Tung Chun-bung (left), facilities manager at FMO.

Training security officers to enforce the law is vital. The Tobacco Control Office, part of the Department of Health, will train our staff in December and give them detailed guidelines," says Ms Shirley Ng Hin-wai (right), a senior technician at FMO.

There are actually very few smokers on campus, and those that enjoy a quick cigarette, despite the health risk, currently congregate in the four designated smoking areas, located in the uncovered parts of campus. But from January 1, these spots will be strictly smoke-free.

"We’ll prepare no-smoking signs to let everyone know that you cannot smoke anywhere on campus, and send out emails to all staff and students as well," Mr Tung says.

So what to do if you spot someone breaking the regulations? "Please call security on 2788 8888. Security officers will ask the smoker to stop smoking immediately. However, if he or she fails to cooperate, the police might be called. The smoker’s personal information might be collected and passed to the Tobacco Control Office for further action," Mr Tung says.

The smoking ban will also affect the success of the No Plastic Bag Day campaign on 5 December, as well as other recycling initiatives are working together to make CityU a more environmentally-friendly place to live and work.

One anticipated problem could involve non-local students and staff who might not feel comfortable with the new law, or do not fully understand it. And smokers bemoaned by the new law might resort to lighting up in their rooms, creating a potential fire hazard.

"So some people have asked why don’t we keep the existing designated smoking areas," Mr Tung explains. "But that would defeat the purpose. These tobacco control measures promote an anti-smoking message and encourage people to quit.

"We want greater environmental awareness on campus so everyone can enjoy a smoke-free environment," Mr Tung says.

By Jo Kam
**People**

**光影流動 心靈創作**

**Movies on the mind**

Mr C Raj Kumar gives talks in Australia

12月1日，在澳洲墨爾本的莫納什大學Castan
人權法中心舉辦的人權研討會上，著名法律
學家兼教授古郎哲先生也发表了主題演說。古郎
哲先生是本年度澳洲Holding Redlich傑出客座學者講座人之一。12月23日
至12月31日，在當地學界，該獎項活動在上海盛大舉行，著名人權學者每年前往
Castan中心從事研究與教學。

Mr C Raj Kumar, an assistant professor in the School of Law, headlined a human rights conference on 1 December at the Castan Centre for Human Rights Law at Monash University in Melbourne in his capacity as Holding Redlich Distinguished Visiting Fellow, from 23 November to 3 December. This Fellowship allows high-profile human rights scholars to undertake research and teaching at the Castan Centre each year.

訪問教育發展處黃少群博士

**Short talk with Dr Crusher Wong (Education Development Office)**

黃少群博士

一、工作年資：十年

二、職務：教育發展處教育發展主任

三、校園小故事：最難忘的花園

四、個人理念：成功固然重要，但也要有機會學習更多的

五、興趣：電影、音樂、閱讀、製作旅遊主題短片

最喜歡的活動：在學校裡講故事、與學生互動

最快樂的時刻：在學校裡講故事

最想去的地方：復活節

How long at CityU?: 10 years.

Job: Education Development Officer.

Best place in campus?: Garden outside Cheng Yick-chi Building

Personal philosophy? The destination is important, but remember what you learn on the way.

Hobby?: Watching movies, listening to music, reading books, and building Gundam robots

Here?: The physicist Richard Feynman

Favourite inventions? Calculus, the transistor, the World Wide Web

Computer tip? Don’t use “Shift-Delete” unless you are 100% sure.

Happiest moment? Meeting my wife in CityU.

Place you want to see? Easter Island.
**Flying the flags for CityU**

This ceremony takes place every morning at 8 o’clock sharp, 365 days of the year. At 5.30pm, 365 days of the year, the flags are lowered with an equal degree of gravitas. Only in the event of tempestuous weather is this daily ritual cancelled.

“We take the ceremony very seriously and we follow a set of strict procedures which we try to carry out to perfection,” says Mr. Wong Kau-kwun, Director of the Facilities Management Office (FMO). “For instance, the flags should not make contact with the ground and we should not lower the flags after sunset.”

The ‘ceremonial’ feel is deliberate, a means of attracting attention and encouraging respect. In fact, Mr. Wong terms the ceremony a form of civic education. Such is the value afforded the daily service, the flags are replaced every four months to avoid wear and tear. And taking no risks, the flags are secured overnight in the security control room.

The flag ceremony is just one of the many duties that security officers carry out during a typical shift of the 24-hour duty roster. For instance, they act as ‘four guards’, investigate facilities that need repairing, patrol key entrance/exit locations, help organize University events such as orientation and open days, and oversee renovations.

A major task is checking IDs at entrance/exits points and at CityU facilities. “CityU enjoys a great location and amenities, so many people visit our campus,” Mr. Wong says. “Of course, while we welcome visitors, we check IDs to make sure that our colleagues and students get priority when using the space and the various facilities that the University has to offer.”

A more pressing role these days is acting as ‘environment ambassadors’, switching off air-conditioning and lights which have been carelessly left on in vacant classrooms and offices.

Like all these activities, the colourful flag ceremony helps improve the learning environment on campus. Check it (out) next time you are in the vicinity!

By Je Kam

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**School development**

CityU’s Campus development is in its seventh year of operations in 2009, with the long-term vision to create an integrated academic community and an innovative campus culture. The development plan is to focus on a number of key initiatives, such as enhancing the student experience, improving research facilities, and expanding the international outreach.

CityU is considering leasing off-campus sites to ease the short-term space shortage until the new buildings on campus are completed, between 2009 and 2012. Sites in nearby public housing estates, the Hong Kong Science Park in Sha Tin, the InnoCentre in Kowloon Tong, other commercial buildings, and disused schools in Shek Kip Mei have been touted. Relocating offices and other facilities to these sites will set up space for teaching and learning activities on campus, says Professor Richard Ho Yue-kwai, Vice-President (Undergraduate Education) and Chairman of the Accommodation Committee.

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**First time visit**

CityU is extending its outreach efforts to attract more international students and visitors. In this month, a delegation of principals, administrators and teachers from mainland secondary schools visited CityU to learn more about the University’s admission exercise. The visiting group of 41 delegates included representatives from different secondary schools across mainland China.

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實習計劃好當家
Taking charge of internship programmes

由於近年學生實習期間開始，城大科系及工程學院協作教育，中心副主任張愛玲介紹，2005年，學生參與度高，事前計劃包括實習機制，讓學生對實習有更高的滿意度。

學生在實習期間，會有導師和企業導師，一名導師和一名企業導師，這樣的安排可以讓學生更好地了解企業的運作方式，提高實習的效果。

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