



# 新聞稿 PRESS RELEASE

## Prof Andrew Terence Leonard Parkin Appointed as Professor of English

"We can't learn English just from grammar books. Students should be encouraged to study literature in mastering a language," said Prof Andrew Terence Leonard Parkin, the newly appointed Professor of English of the Chinese University of Hong Kong.

An active poet and literary critic, Prof Parkin has devoted himself for the past 20 years to teaching English in Britain, Hong Kong and Canada. With his special interest in modern drama and modern Irish literature, his on-going research projects include "Peter Nichols' Commercial Theatre" and "Yeats and Yves Bonnefoy".

According to Prof Parkin, literature is an expression of human activities in society. By studying literature, students will not only improve their writing style and vocabularies in English, but also develop a strong critical sense and mature mind. All these would be the key elements for students to pursue success in a career. This is why Prof Parkin always emphasizes the importance for students, especially for those who are not majors in English, to do some literature as well in their English courses.

In addition to encouraging literary studies, Prof Parkin fully approves of links between his department and other language departments of local and overseas universities for research on the influence of different cultures on Western literature. He also hopes to promote academic exchanges with Yokohama City University in Japan as well as universities in Canada and Australia.

Prof Parkin graduated from Pembroke College, Cambridge, U.K. with B.A. and M.A. degrees in 1961 and 1965 respectively. After teaching in secondary schools, he pursued further studies in drama at Bristol University and received his Ph.D degree in 1969.

In the 1960s, Prof Parkin held various teaching appointments in schools and adults education centres in the U.K. and Hong Kong. He took up the post of Assistant Professor in the Department of English of the University of British Columbia, Canada in 1970 and was promoted to Full Professor in 1988. He joined the Chinese University of Hong Kong in January this year.

Prof Parkin is the recipient of numerous academic and professional awards including the first prize for the Sonnet Competition in Canada in 1985 and the first prize for his Sonnet in Poetry Alberta Yearbook Competition in 1986. He is an Honorary Life Member of the Canadian Association for Irish Studies. Apart from English, he also reads French, Russian and some Latin.

A prolific writer, Prof Parkin has published extensively in his areas of specialization. His recent publications include Dancers in a Web, Dion Boucicault: Selected Plays and numerous articles, poems and some stories. His latest completed work, an edition of Yeats's play, The Herne's Egg will be published in June this year.

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March 19, 1991

Attachment: Photos of Prof Andrew Terence Leonard Parkin