香港中文大學 THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

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To Editor
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"Moving with the Sun"

24-Hour Global Telemedicine Conference Links China to the World

To mark the resumption of Chinese sovereignty of Hong Kong, the Faculty of Medicine of **The Chinese University of Hong Kong** (CUHK) is organizing a 24-hour Global Telemedicine Conference, "Moving with the Sun", linking China, through Hong Kong, to the the world. Medical centres of excellence in Hong Kong, China and around the world will join a live interactive platform for the improvement of medical care. The thousands attending this Hong Kong Conference will not be present in Hong Kong but rather residing throughout the world.

The conference, held at the Prince of Wales Hospital, Shatin, capitalizes on the role that Hong Kong has fulfilled in the past and will continue to perform in the years to come. The Faculty of Medicine, CUHK will link itself and Beijing with 15 prestigious medical institutions in Europe, North America, Africa, Australia, Asia. Each hour a centre will broadcast a synopsis of itself and its telemedicine expertise. As well, clinical demonstrations and telemedicine applications at CUHK will be broadcast to the world. Beijing's participants are two of its leading hospitals - the Beijing Hospital and the People's Liberation Army General Hospital. Each will present its latest developments and activities in telemedicine as well.

"This conference is an important event in establishing telemedicine as a means of improving the quality of health care and health education, not only in Hong Kong but also in support of health care developments in China. Both the Faculty of Medicine and Faculty of Engineering are involved in developing the Chinese University as a major platform for telemedicine for improving and expanding health care services in the next century," said Professor Joseph C K Lee, Dean, Faculty of Medicine, CUHK.

Telemedicine provides health care at a distance based on recent technological advancements. Present patterns and standards of health care delivery to and in under-

serviced regions in many countries are being radically changed. Telemedicine was first introduced to Hong Kong by a Telemedicine Task Force which included expertise both from the Faculties of Medicine and Engineering of the Chinese University. A conference "Chinese Telemedicine 96" linking Beijing, London and Hong Kong was organized by the Task Force in November 1996.

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