



新聞稿 PRESS RELEASE

TO NEWS EDITOR  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Eminent Pathologist elected Dean of Medicine of CUHK**

Prof. Joseph C.K. Lee, a renowned pathologist, has been elected Dean of the Faculty of Medicine of The Chinese University of Hong Kong for a term of three years with effect from July 1, 1996.

The Chairman of the Faculty's Department of Anatomical and Cellular Pathology, Prof. Lee is well-known for his contribution to research on precancerous changes in human nasopharynx, ferritin in transplantable hepatomas, structure of chromosomes and cytogenetics.

Prof. Lee joined the Faculty one year after its establishment in 1981 to become the Founding Chairman of the Department of Anatomical and Cellular Pathology. He had been Dean of the Faculty from 1986 to 1989, Associate Dean since 1992, and Acting Dean since February 1996.

"The Faculty of Medicine will continue to lead, innovate and serve in both teaching and research," said Prof. Lee, adding that efforts will be made to further strengthen exchange and cooperation with leading medical centres worldwide.

On the training of medical personnel, Prof Lee said Hong Kong is in need of experts in public health, disease prevention, health administration, health policy and economics. "In response to community needs, we have plans to expand the relevant programmes being offered by our Department of Community and Family Medicine," he said.

The department has, over the past decade, launched a series of diploma programmes on public health and related areas, such as epidemiology, family medicine, and occupational health and hygiene. A pioneering Master of Public Health Programme was started in January 1996 to meet the growing demands for public health specialists.

On research, Prof. Lee said the emphasis will be placed on the common diseases in Hong Kong such as liver cancer, nasopharyngeal cancer, hepatitis B infection and heart diseases.

"Modern technology holds the key to advances in the medical field and improvements to medical services, and we must all learn to harness it," Prof. Lee stressed.

The Faculty of Medicine has set up a task force on telemedicine -- which makes use of the global telecommunications network to pool together medical expertise worldwide.

Prof. Lee believes that telemedicine will have wide applications in future. "The frequent exchange and close cooperation engendered will have significant impact on the developments in the medical field. While there are many new developments, academic leadership is wanting.

The Faculty of Medicine at the Chinese University is poised to provide such leadership," he said.

Last year, Prof Lee had himself contributed to the treatment of a young girl suffering from a rare and deadly bacterial infection in Beijing through electronic mail. In a joint meeting with the Beijing Medical University in Hong Kong, the Chinese University conducted a telemedicine session using video-conferencing facilities with the Belfast University in Ireland last December. Experts in Hong Kong and Ireland took part in joint consultation on a Hong Kong patient with an uncommon skin disease.

In another development, the CUHK's Medical Library, which is situated at the Prince of Wales Hospital, has been designated an international MEDLARS centre of the US National Library of Medicine. Medical personnel and researchers in Hong Kong and neighbouring areas will have instant access to this largest medical library in the world through the Medical Literature Analysis and Retrieval System (MEDLARS), which will become fully operational later this year.

On the academic exchange front, Prof. Lee said efforts will be made to "deepen" the exchange with leading medical centres worldwide in a systematic way. The Faculty has, for instance, just concluded an agreement with the prestigious Peking Union Medical College to exchange medical personnel. A team of four from the Peking Union Medical College will soon arrive in Hong Kong for three to six months' training.

Born in Chungking, China, Prof. Lee, 58, received his M.B.,B.S. from the University of Hong Kong in 1964 and his Ph.D. in pathology from the University of Rochester, New York in 1970. He had been Associate Professor of Pathology and of Oncology, of the University of Rochester; Visiting Professor to the National Institutes of Health, Bethesda; and Research Fellow of the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology in Washington before joining CUHK.

He is Vice-President for Asia, of the International Academy of Pathology, and Honorary Professor of the Beijing Medical University, People's Liberation Army General Hospital in Beijing, Sun Yat Sen University of Medical Sciences, and Shantou University.

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Note to Editors:

A photo of Prof. Joseph Lee will be sent via the GIS press boxes. For press enquiries, please contact Mrs Shirley Kwok of the University's Information & PR Office at 2609-8897.