香港中文大學 THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

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TO NEWS EDITOR FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SEPTEMBER 17, 1995

Chinese University Offers Pioneering Master of Public Health Programme

The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) is to offer in January, 1996 a Master of Public Health Programme to meet the growing demands for public health specialists in Hong Kong.

This two-year part time programme is the first and only of its kind offered in Hong Kong.

Prof Lee Shiu Hung, Chairman of Department of Community and Family Medicine, CUHK, said this structured programme reflects the University's commitment to excellence by focusing on the theoretical and practical aspects of public health, in both the global and local settings.

The emphasis of public health in Hong Kong has shifted from environmental hygiene and sanitation to prevention of chronic illnesses, as well as communicable diseases, and promotion of health and community-based health care involving the community such as care for the elderly. This requires specialists with a broad knowledge on the principles and practice of public health and that is what the Programme targets to train, he explained.

Prof Lee added the Department has been offering Diploma Programmes in Epidemiology, Applied Statistics, Occupational Health and Family Medicine for nearly ten years. These programmes have been over-subscribed in recent years and many participants, as well as graduates from local medical and paramedical university programmes have expressed the wish for further studies leading to a master degree of public health.

This programme is recognized by Hong Kong College of Community Medicine as part of a training programme for community medicine. Besides attending the training programme, trainees must pass the College Fellowship Examination and satisfy the requirements for in-service training. The Hong Kong College of Community Medicine is one of the founding colleges of the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine.

At present, trainees have to go to Singapore, the United Kingdom or the United States for training in the different specialties in the Public Health area. There are less than a hundred Fellows of the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine (Community Medicine) in Hong Kong.

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Graduates of the Programme will acquire the expertise to practise as consultants in public health, health and nurse administrators, academic public health specialists and clinicians with a public health interest.

Postgraduate teaching and supervision of theses will be shared by academic staff in the Department. External specialist lecturers from Faculty of Medicine, CUHK, as well as other faculties and experts from Department of Health, Hospital Authority and other local or overseas distinguished tertiary institutions will also be invited to join the teaching faculty, Prof Lee said.

The University is now inviting applications for admission to the Programme and the deadline for application is 16th October, 1995. Applicants are required to hold a Bachelor degree in Medicine or an approved health related field, and those holding approved Diploma and having demonstrated their ability in research or practice in public health may be considered for admission.

A seminar will be held on 3rd October, 1995 at 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm in Seminar Room, 4th Floor, Lek Yuen Health Centre, Shatin, to provide more details about the programme. For information on the seminar or the programme, please contact Department of Community & Family Medicine at Tel:2692 8784.

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For press enquiries, please contact Ms Cheung Man-yi of the Chinese University's Information & PR Office at 2609 8896 or 1168822 A/C 6633.