
Editor's Foreword

This is the first issue of the Bulletin from the new Editorial Board for the year 2001/02. Let me take this opportunity to thank the outgoing Editor, Dr. Alan Wan for his excellent work during his tenure. Dr. Wan's time and commitment, as well as his contributions to the Editorial Board will be missed. In addition, I would like to welcome Dr. Chan Wai Sum to the team. Along with the rest of the Editorial Board, we will continue to provide you with the Bulletin every three months, with news, interviews, book reviews and other interesting articles.

In this issue, our President in the President's Forum gives an update on the work of the Society.

We have conducted an interview with Professor Howell Tong, who recently won the National Natural Science Prize. He explained to us what the prize was and how he won the prize. You have a chance to read

a poem ever published by Prof. Tong in the interview report.

Dr. Darius Chan writes an interesting article on the condom usage among female sex workers in Hong Kong.

Ms. Cecilia Chan provides a report on the Statistical Project Competition for Secondary School Students.

We hope that you find the Bulletin interesting and informative. If you have any comments or suggestions, please feel free to contact any members of the Editorial Board. We welcome any suggestions to make the Bulletin success.

P S Chan

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Condom Use among Female Sex Workers in Hong Kong: Some Statistics for Consideration

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Background

Given that unprotected sexual intercourse is one major mode of HIV transmission, use of condom is now regarded as one of the most effective ways to minimise the transmission of HIV and other STDs. How to design effective intervention campaigns and education programs promoting condom use have become one of the most important tasks for health-educators and policy-makers across the world, and Hong Kong is no exception (Hong Kong Advisory Council on AIDS, 1994; Brown & Xenos, 1994). However, it is difficult to develop any effective intervention programs to prevent the spread of the AIDS epidemic when so little is known about the sexual behaviour pattern of the Hong Kong people in general, and those practising “high risk” behavior in particular.

According to the Hong Kong Advisory Council on AIDS (1994), female sex workers (FSW) can be considered as a “high risk” group because they have sexual contacts with multiple partners on a regular basis. To compound the situation, many of FSW here also use drugs and are with low

socio-economic background, which predispose them to HIV transmission. As projected by many researchers on AIDS (e.g., Chin, 1995), HIV transmission among heterosexual high risk groups, such as STD patients and FSW, will become one major mode of spread in the more developed Asian countries and cities such as Hong Kong. Thus, research on examining condom use practice by FSW is of critical importance for designing effective intervention programs in order to contain the spread of the virus in this region.

In this article, I will first review the few empirical studies on the condom use practice among FSW in Hong Kong. And then I will propose some directions for future research in this area.

Condom Use among Female Sex Workers in Hong Kong

In terms of systematic research, there are basically two major types of quantitative studies examining condom use behavior among FSW. The first type refers to surveys targeting FSW attending Government Social Hygiene Clinics (SHC), and the second line of research refers to those examining FSW

recruited in their own work environment, usually with the involvement of some non-government organizations.

A. Prevalence (see Table 1)

- ❖ According to Wong et al.'s (1994) survey of 190 and 172 FSW attending SHC in 1993 and 1994 respectively, about 38% (in 1993) and 43% (in 1994) of them reported that they always used condoms with their paying clients. When it came to their non-paying partners, only about 18% (in 1993) and 19% (in 1994) always used condoms.
- ❖ A subsequent SHC study conducted at the end of 1997 by Chow (1999) reports that about 61% of the 68 FSW interviewed always used condoms during commercial sex.
- ❖ Another study by Foy (1996) comparing 132 FSW attending SHC with those recruited in nightclubs ($n=45$) reveals that about 51% of these respondents always used condoms at work. When it came to private relationships, only 13% of them always used condoms. In this sample, 88% were local or Mainland Chinese, about 7% Thais and Filipino, and the rest from other countries, with a mean age of 36 years old. About 57% were drug users.

Apart from surveys targeting SHC

attendees, a second line of research recruited FSW from other sources:

- ❖ In collaboration with AFRO, Chan et al. (1999) interviewed 109 active FSW who were mainly street-walkers or worked in villas in 1997. About 80% of them were local or Mainland Chinese, and 20% Thais, with a mean age of 38 years old. About 45% were drug users. Survey results indicate that about 54% of the FSW always used condoms at work. And only 8% always used condoms with their steady partners. Interestingly, about 41% carried condoms with them and could show the condoms to the interviewers.
- ❖ In the Zi Teng (2000) survey, 58 FSW who were mainly street-walkers or worked in one-woman brothels were interviewed in 1999. Their results suggest that 90% of the FSW interviewed would use condoms during work, unless requested by their clients to not use condoms. Over 70% said that they will not engage in unprotected sex even when clients insist that they do not use condoms, only 20% said that they would make decisions depending on the situation. Very few indicated that they would have unprotected sex if requested by clients.

B. Factors Associated with Condom Use (See Table 2)

In addition to examining the prevalence of condom use behavior, some studies attempt to investigate the major factors associated with it.

- ❖ According to Foy (1996), perceived AIDS risk and perceived ability to negotiate safer sex seem to be two important factors related to more frequent condom use at work. The most common reason for not using condoms at work is “pressure from client” (79%), and that for not using condoms in private is “my partner strongly objects to using condoms” (59%) or “my relationship is monogamous, so there is no need to use condoms” (59%).
- ❖ Consistent with Foy (1996), Chan et al. (1999) found that perceived ability to get clients to use condoms (termed “perceived control”) and perceived AIDS risk were the most important factors associated with condom use with clients. Their subsequent analysis suggests that demographic factors such as age (negative association), number of years in this profession (negative association), the average price the respondents charged per transaction (positive association), and drug use habit (negative association) were all related to their level of perceived control with respect to condom use. Thus, FSW who are older, have been engaged in the business for a longer period of time, charge a smaller amount per transaction, and are drug users (in

other words, those who possess less bargaining power) tend to have a lower level of perceived control in getting their clients to use condoms. As a result, they are also less likely to use condoms with their clients. In addition, perceived control and significant others’ pressure (e.g., expectation of close friends, peers, etc.) were the two important factors associated with condom use with steady partners.

Directions for Future Research

This brief review of research on condom use among FSW in Hong Kong indicates that there are only a handful of empirical studies. Needless to say, more systematic research is in demand. As for future research, there are a number of issues that require particular attention.

A. Samples of Respondents

- ❖ While it is encouraging to see that more and more research on FSW has been conducted in the past few years, the sample of respondents examined has been limited to mainly those attending SHC and street-walkers. Little is known about other types of FSW such as those working in massage parlors, one-woman brothels, and karaoke bars/nightclubs. It is conceivable that FSW working in different settings possess very different

characteristics (e.g., those working in karaoke bars are generally younger than street-walkers). Specific research on each of these types of FSW is necessary before one can have a more complete understanding of FSW in Hong Kong.

- ❖ One should also look into another major change in the composition of FSW over the past few years, namely, the influx of female travelers who provide sex services during their stay in Hong Kong. From an intervention perspective, this trend is particularly disturbing because we simply do not know much about their sexual practices and health status. Their length of stay is relatively short. They may not be aware of the types of health services available to them, and they may also be reluctant to use any public health services because of their illegal practice as travelers.

B. Research Focus

- ❖ The above review also reveals that, when examining condom use behavior, many of the above studies asked general questions such as how often one would use condoms when having sex with paying partners. It is suggested that more refined questions (e.g., condom use when performing oral sex, vaginal sex, and anal sex) should be asked in future research in order to have a better understanding of their condom use practice.

- ❖ Most of the studies on FSW focus on their sexual practices (e.g., condom use behavior). Very little is known about other aspects of their job. For instance, exploitation by their pimps or occasional harassment by the police, if happened, could all have an impact on their financial condition. From an intervention perspective, FSW who are in a poorer economic condition typically have less bargaining power with clients, and thus may be more likely to accept sex without condoms at work. Future research should also look into these relevant issues.

Concluding Remark

This article offers a brief review of studies on the condom use practice among FSW in Hong Kong. It is apparent that more research effort is needed. It is also interesting to note that one crucial component that is missing in the above review is the research focusing on FSW's clients and steady partners. Again, empirical research in this area is very limited. From an AIDS intervention perspective, this is certainly another major research area that deserves more attention.

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Table 1: Condom Use Practice among Female Sex Workers (FSW) in Hong Kong

Source of Information	Participants	Condom Use with Clients	Condom Use with Steady/“Non-paying” Partners
Wong (1994)	FSW attending Social Hygiene Clinics N = 190 (in 1993) N = 172 (in 1994)	Always/Every Time: 38% (in 1993) 43% (in 1994) Never: 11% (in 1993) 4% (in 1994)	Always/Every Time: 18% (in 1993) 19% (in 1994) Never: 52% (in 1993) 41% (in 1994)
Foy (1996)	FSW attending Social Hygiene Clinics (n = 132) Night Club PR (n = 45)	Always/Every Time: 51% Never: 4.2%	Always/Every Time: 13% Never: 49% (n = 122)
Chow (1999)	FSW attending Social Hygiene Clinics (N = 68)	Always/Every Time: 61% Never: 4.5%	Not Applicable
Chan & AFRO (1999)	Street-walkers (N = 109)	Always/Every Time: 54% Almost Never/Never: 8%	Always/Every Time: 8% Never: 64% (n = 64)
Zi Teng (2000)	Street-walkers/One-woman Brothels (N = 58)	Yes: 90% Depends: 20%	Not Applicable

Table 2: Factors associated with Condom Use/Non-use

Source of Information	Condom Use/Non-use with Clients	Condom Use/Non-use with Steady/“Non-paying” Partners
Foy (1996)	- Pressure from clients (79%)	- “My partner strongly objects to using condom” (59%) - “MY relationship is monogamous, so there is no need to use condoms” (59%)
Chan & AFRO (1999)	- Perceived ability to get clients to use condoms - Perceived AIDS risk	- Perceived ability to get clients to use condoms - Pressure from significant others

A Conversation with Prof. Howell Tong

P.S. Chan

The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Prof. Howell Tong, Chair Professor of Statistics and Dean of the Graduate School at the University of Hong Kong, has been awarded a Year-2000 National Natural Science Prize (Class II).

The National Natural Science Prize (NNSP) is the highest award in the area of natural science research in China. It is established to encourage and promote the foundations and applications of basic science.

There were a total of 188 research nominations across China for the 2000 National Natural Science Prize. After vigorous assessment, only 15 nominations, including Prof. Tong's, were given the Class II prize; no Class I prize was awarded this year. In fact, Prof. Tong is the only statistician ever awarded the Class II prize in the history of the NNSP and the only recipient from the Hong Kong SAR this time. There was only one other solo prize winner from Hong Kong in the past and that was in 1990.

- Chan P.S.
- ◆ Prof. Tong

□ *Prof. Tong, I would like to thank you for sparing time for this interview. First of all, you have just won the prestigious Natural Science Award. Congratulation! Of course you are known to most members but for the benefit of some new members, would you please tell us your educational background?*

◆ Briefly I received my

matriculation and tertiary education in Britain.

□ *Can you tell us your career path?*

◆ I think my story is not uninteresting. I studied Pure Mathematics at first. After graduation, I chose Algebra as my research field. So I went to Queen Mary College in the University of London for

further study. The QMC (now re-named QMWC with Adrian Smith as its new Principal; I preferred the old name but not for the obvious reason) was very strong in Algebra and called the "Hot House" of Algebra. My then supervisor, the late Professor Kurt Hirsch, suggested to me that I should learn some Lebesgue integration to complete my education. You see, he knew that I had not taken any course on Lebesgue integration during my undergraduate study (remember it was in the 1960s!). And so I decided to follow his advice. At that moment, colleges within the University of London combined forces and offered a common postgraduate programme in Pure Mathematics. A student from any college within the University of London was free to take courses offered by any other colleges. Unfortunately (but fortunately as it turned out later for me), there was no course on Lebesgue integration offered in London for that year; there was, however, a measure-theoretic probability course offered at the Imperial College. Therefore I went there to take that course. [Sir David Cox was the Professor of Statistics at Imperial College but I was not

aware of this as my interest was in Algebra at the time.] The famous probabilist, G.E.H. Reuter, gave the lectures. He was such an excellent teacher that my interest in Probability was greatly aroused. By that time, members of my family were joining my father and myself in Britain. In order to help my father, I curtailed my full-time study and found a post as a lecturer in a polytechnic (now a university). While giving lectures on basic mathematics and statistics, I found myself getting more and more interested in Probability. I started to read books on the subject, such as *Stochastic Processes* by D.R. Cox, *Stationary Random Functions* by a Russian called Akiva Yaglom and others. [By sheer coincidence, I met Akiva Yaglom many years later in Uzbekistan of the former Soviet Union! On our walk up the Tien Shan mountain (on the then Soviet side), I thanked him for introducing me to time series analysis with his wonderful book. He was quite touched. Actually, we became very good friends ever since. When I published my book on *Nonlinear Time Series* (Oxford University Press), I was so glad that I

could repay him by giving him a copy, duly signed and hand-delivered by another former Soviet statistician.] Returning to my own story, as I began to read journals, I suddenly discovered that Maurice Priestley, who was my teacher in the final year of my undergraduate study at the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology, was actually an expert in time series. I decided to return to UMIST to do an M.Sc. degree in Statistics, working as a demonstrator at the same time (this was the first but not the last time that I took a pay-cut by changing jobs!). Near the end of my M.Sc. course, Maurice asked me if I liked Manchester. Like a fool, I gave him an honest but negative answer by pointing out the lack of concert halls (only one), theatres (only a couple), good restaurants and so on. I had not realised that Maurice Priestley was a very patriotic Mancunian. I really put my foot in it! So, he decided to punish me by keeping me in Manchester for another fourteen years. I was offered a post of Assistant Lecturer right after I obtained my M.Sc. degree and promoted to

a lectureship within a few months later. I submitted my doctoral thesis as a teaching member of staff; this meant that I had to lock up my thesis for a year or two before I was permitted, under the regulations of the Victorian University of Manchester (note the word Victorian), to submit it. Strangely, I was not worried that some other researchers might discover what I had found before my submission. Perhaps it was because I knew nobody else was interested in what I was doing. The main part of the thesis was actually presented to the Royal Statistical Society as a read paper organized by its Research Section. [I would encourage Hong Kong statisticians to adopt this most effective way of disseminating their research results.] I was promoted to a Senior Lectureship several years later. In 1981, the Chinese University of Hong Kong planned to establish the Department of Statistics. I was visiting Prof. Hua Lo Geng in China not long before the Chinese University of Hong Kong offered me the Professorship of Statistics. Due to a sudden shortfall of funding, the appointment was deferred and as

a result I came to take up the founding Chair Professor of Statistics in 1982. Three years later, there was a vacancy at the University of Kent in the UK and Prof. David Cox encouraged me to apply. I successfully secured the post against very formidable candidates, who shall remain nameless. It was a tough decision for me to make. Should I go back to Britain or should I stay in Hong Kong? You know, up to that time, there had never been a Chinese Professor of Statistics in Britain. In fact, this remains the situation up to now. After much agonising, I finally decided to go back, which meant another pay-cut! It turned out that I stayed at Kent for fourteen years till I took up the distinguished visiting professorship from the University of Hong Kong in 1997.

□ *Many members know that you are an expert in non-linear time series. Is the award given to you in recognition of your work in this area?*

◆ I suppose you could say that. The National Natural Science Award is the highest scientific award in China, especially

since 1999 when the Chinese Government consolidated all scientific awards into just this one. It is an encouragement for Chinese scientists to conduct world-class research. As you said, the award was in recognition of my work on non-linear time series analysis. As a matter of fact, my first book on the topic, *Threshold Models in Non-linear Time Series*, was published by Springer Verlag in 1983 when I was working at the Chinese University of Hong Kong. Based on this book (really a set of lecture notes), I wrote another book *Non-Linear Time Series: A dynamical system approach*, which was published by the Oxford University Press. For the award, I had to complete a lot of forms and describe what I had done and more importantly what others thought I had done. Then the work was reviewed by external experts from one committee and then from another. The whole process somehow seemed to be endless. Luckily it came to the end.

□ *Sometimes it is very difficult to find a research topic. May I ask you how one should go about choosing a suitable research*

topic?

- ◆ This problem is related to one's philosophy. I can tell you the experiences of some famous statisticians. For instance, in the case of the Japanese statistician, Akaike, progress was very slow in the first ten years of his research career. He spent a lot of time with the engineers in order to familiarize himself with their practical problems. Eventually he produced very fruitful research because the theories he developed were highly relevant to the engineers' practical concerns. Another example is Sir David Cox. His work was also linked with important practical problems. I am sure everybody in statistics knows what I mean by the Cox's Model. He might have posed this or a closely related problem at first to one of his students. He knew that this was a very important problem. He spent a lot of time on it himself and finally he solved the problem himself. As a researcher, one should aim at "Big" problems. Of course, to keep the grey cells ticking, it is also essential to work with "small" problems as daily exercise.

Another 'tip' is to keep abreast with international developments. That is why we should attend international conferences selectively. We have to be aware of what other people are working on not so much to jump on any bandwagon but rather to avoid re-inventing other people's wheels..

Finally, I'd like to say a few words about mathematics. Good statistics and good mathematics are two different things. Of course, it is definitely an advantage to have a good mathematical background. However, we don't always need high level mathematics to conduct high level statistical research. For example, when Akaike introduced the minimum FPE (a precursor of AIC) estimator for the order of an autoregressive model, he knew that it was inconsistent. He gave a sketchy argument without bothering to spell out all the detail. Later, Shibata produced a rigorous proof of the result after he learned the problem from Akaike. [Actually I was the referee of Shibata's paper! He has always thanked me for the fast return.] As another

example, the mathematics that Sir David Cox uses is often within our reach. In fact, it is not often that I have found hard mathematics essential for a piece of good statistical research. As I said in my inaugural lecture at the CUHK, Statistics is not a branch of Mathematics. I still hold this belief. Although Statistics and Mathematics are related like brothers, they are two distinct subjects, each with its own mission.

□ *You have spent a lot of time on statistics. Do you have any hobbies in your spare time?*

◆ I love Chinese culture, e.g. Chinese philosophy, Chinese history, Chinese poetry and so on. Sometimes I amuse myself with writing Chinese poems but of course they have never been published!

□ *Can you show our members one of your pieces please?*

◆ I once wrote a poem to Prof. An Hong Zhi of the Chinese Academy of Science, Beijing, on a copy of my OUP book. I was at Kent, UK, and wanted to give the book to him as a gift. At the time, one of his students, Dr. Cheng

Bing, came to the UK as a visiting fellow funded by the Sino-British scholarship. He and I did some collaborative research during his time in the UK, which led to a joint paper. I was very happy with this paper, which is now a standard technique in non-linear time series analysis. I asked Bing to take the autographed book with the following verse back to his teacher, An, during one of his home-visits. I have reason to believe that the latter, who writes good poetry in the classical style, approved of it. Perhaps, it could be classified as 'acceptable subject to major revision'! Well, here it is. Come to think of it, this will be the first time I get a poem published!

高足送我 劣作還你

餘項雖大 何分此彼

I also love the writings of Lao Tsu. I think he was the greatest among all ancient Chinese philosophers. In fact, I am sure he understood science much better than Confucius and

others. He definitely understood agricultural science, military science and probably hydrology. I admire his work so much that I have even quoted his words in my OUP book at the beginning of each chapter. My other hobby is travelling. My family shares the enjoyment. We like to experience the culture, understand the history and enjoy the scenery of different countries.

- *Thank you again for sharing with us your experiences.*
- ◆ Thank you.

A brief book reviews on Professor Tong's book, Non-Linear Time Series: A dynamical system approach (Oxford University Press, 1990):

The era of non-linear time series is here. Thus the time is right for a comprehensive book which takes the reader from the conventional linear to current non-linear time series. This is such a book. Statistical readers will probably find its account of dynamical system theory particularly useful. The transference of these ideas into the time series domain of the author. No time series specialist can be without this book. ' ---A.J. Lawrance of the University of Birmingham in Short Book Reviews of the International Statistical Institute (April 1991, vol. 11, no. 1, p.7).

'The book gives an up-to-date account of the nonlinear time series models. It is not easy to present such models within a unified theory, since special models need different mathematical tools. The author succeeds in giving all important information about the most popular nonlinear models including references to

original papers. The analysis of real data is very convincing. This valuable book can be recommended to general applied statistics as well as specialists in time series analysis,' ---Jrir Andel of the Charles University of Prague in Mathematical Reviews (1992, vol. 92, p.375).

'Howell Tong comes to the job well-prepared indeed: He has published extensively on the statistics of threshold models and bilinear processes as well as on stability problems of non-linear stochastic difference equations, to name but a few of the subjects. He also draws on his acquaintance within Chinese work on dynamical systems, some of it new to Western readers. Tong's Book is a very personal, very insightful and enjoyable essay introducing us into some aspects of the non-linear world. In particular, there lies very much practical experience behind the author's views on the different statistical models, some of which are

discussed at great length. The book deserves a place on the shelf of anyone interested in these non-linear phenomena from a probabilistic and statistical point of view.' ---G. Hognas of Abo, Sweden, in Metrika (1994, vol. 41, p.65-66).

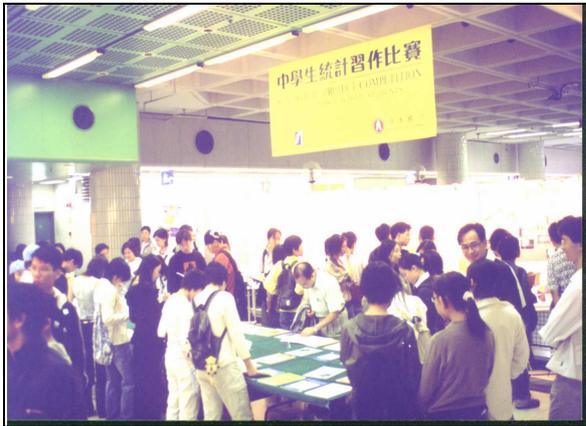
'The involvement of statisticians in the field of chaos is relatively recent, but rapidly growing. Howell Tong's book (Tong, 1990) did much to make statisticians aware of the field.' --- Richard L. Smith of University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, USA, in his discussion of the above paper by Berliner. (same vol. P. 109).

2000/01 Statistical Project Competition for Secondary School Students

Cecilia Chan
Organizing Committee of
2000/01 Statistical Project Competition

With the joint effort from interested members of the Society and contributions from patrons and sponsor, the 2000/01 round of the Statistical Project Competition has successfully been concluded.

The project was launched in late 2000 through a series of promotional and publicity activities. Amongst them, the briefing seminars and exhibition of past winning entries, held in November 2000, was well attended by over 700 students and teachers from secondary schools.



The opportunity was well taken by parties concerned: members of the Organizing Committee briefed students of the competition and shared with them the gist of statistical analyses; participants sought advices from past

winning teams in different schools; and secondary school students and teachers exchanged views with academics from universities and government statisticians.

By the deadline of 15th February 2001, we received a total of 174 entry projects for the Competition, 103 for senior session and 71 for junior session. Since individual projects were compiled by groups of 4 – 6 students, a record high of 785 students from 51 secondary schools participated in the project. The themes of projects covered a wide spectrum of social and economic phenomena in Hong Kong.

The adjudication panel, formed under the leadership of Dr. S.K. Tse of the City University of Hong Kong, comprised more than 30 academics from tertiary institutions and government statisticians. The panel scrutinized the project reports according to a set of criteria through various meetings and discussions. The more distinguished teams were then invited for an interview with the panel before concluding the results. Comments from the panel were recorded and subsequently provided to individual groups of participants after the competition.

The presentation ceremony of the Competition was held on 7th April 2001 at the City University of Hong Kong. All students of winning teams and representatives from almost all participating schools attended the ceremony to mark the event. Honourable patrons and sponsor of the project hosted the ceremony and delivered enlightening speeches to the audience. Winners of the best multi-media prize, a newly introduced award in the year, of the Junior Session and the first prize of the Senior Session presented their winning projects and shared their experience at the ceremony. Apart from cash prizes, trophies and statistical publications for the winning teams, all participants were awarded a pen-cum-calculator and certificate of merit as souvenirs and appreciation of their participation.

Opportunity is taken to, on behalf of the Organizing Committee, express our gratitude to Mr. Matthew K.C. Cheung, Director of Education, Mr. Frederick W.H. Ho, Commissioner for Census and Statistics, Mr. Moses M.C Cheng, Chairman of Committee on the Promotion of Civic Education and Dr. the Honourable Eric K.C. Li for their valuable

support in being the patrons of the Competition; to the Hang Seng Bank for being our sole sponsor and officiating guests of the ceremony; and to the enthusiastic support from interested members, academics and colleagues in the government. The project would not have been a success without their joint effort and support.

The Statistical Project Competition aims at promoting a sense of civic awareness of students and the proper use of statistics. The Project provides a good opportunity for youngsters to learn to better use figures in understanding our community and to present them in a group work project. I have no doubt in believing that the coming rounds of the project will continuously be well-supported by secondary schools.



News

Progress on Establishing a Local Examination and Accreditation System for the Statistical Profession

While substantial progress has been made through correspondence between the Royal Statistical Society (RSS) and Hong Kong Statistical Society (HKSS), Mr. Ivor Goddard, Executive Secretary of the RSS visited Hong Kong during 4-8 June 2001 to meet representatives of HKSS. The financial business plan and the agreement on handing over the RSS examination held in Hong Kong to the HKSS were fully discussed.

The HKSS has reached agreement with the RSS that as from the May 2002 round, the HKSS examination will replace the RSS examination.

An Extra-ordinary General Meeting of HKSS is scheduled to be conducted in mid-September to brief members about details of the agreement. Members will also be requested to endorse necessary amendments to the Articles of Association of the HKSS at the meeting in view of the above development.

Appointment

Department of Statistics, The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Dr. WONG Hoi-ying from the University of Science and Technology of Hong Kong joined the Risk Management Programme of the department in August 2001.