

Prof. GANG LI

A personal statement detailing your contributions and services to the Faculty as well as your achievements and efforts in enhancing the international visibility of our Faculty since your last promotion (April 2009).

Contribution and Services to the Faculty

1. Administrative and leadership roles in the “Stem Cell and Regeneration Theme” development at School of Biomedical Sciences, CUHK Medical Faculty (04/2009-07/2014)

I have been appointed as Chief of Stem Cell and Regeneration (SCR) Program, School of BS from 2009.06-2011.07 and then Deputy Chief from 2011.08-2014.07. I was jointly appointed as Professor (Non-clinical) by School of Biomedical Sciences (SBS) and Orthopaedics and Traumatology (ORT) from 2010.11 to 2013.05 (for 2.5 years). During the period of 2009-2011, I was actively involved in the establishment of the newly formed theme of Stem Cell and Regeneration Program at SBS. I have been involved in the recruitment new staff members of Prof. Wan Chao, Prof. Kingston Mark, Prof. Feng Bo for SBS SCR theme. I have contributed to the establishment of CUHK Centre for Stem Cell and Regeneration in 2010. I also assisted SBS director Prof Chan Wai-Yee for establishing international links such as drafting MOUs and proposals for international and national research collaboration programs with Zhejiang University, China; University of Pittsburg, USA; Shenzhen University, School of Medicine. All of these collaborating MOU have been endorsed by CUHK and agreements have been duly signed. When I served as Chief of Stem Cell and Regeneration at SBS during 2009.06-2011.09, I have organized regular (monthly) research seminars of SCR theme in SBS with more than 20 invited speakers were given talks.

2. Involved in designing and managing the GMP human stem cell culture laboratory at LiKS Institute, PWH and actively involved in clinical trials developments (2009-present).

Since my employment at CUHK in April 2009, I have actively promote the research and clinical applications of stem cells in CUHK medical faculty. One of the contribution I made for the faculty was to actively involve in the plan, development and management of GMP (Good Manufacturer Practice) stem cell culture facility at LiKS Institute of Health Sciences at Prince of Wales Campus under the leadership of Prof. Dennis Lo. I have been appointed a PI in Stem Cells and Regeneration program at LiKS Institute since April 2009. Since the opening of GMP stem cell culture facility, I have been an active user of the facility. I have involved in 5 clinical trial projects using human stem cells as PI or Co-I. In 2015, we have

initiated a clinical trial using human autologous bone marrow stem cells for the treatment of hand joint osteoarthritis, which is the first human stem cell therapy trial conducted in Hong Kong.

3. Served as a member of Steering Committee on Research Activities of the CUHK Shenzhen Research Institute (CUHK-SZRI) from 2010 to 2013 and Deputy Director, CUHK-ACC Space Medicine Centre on Health Maintenance of Musculoskeletal System, CUHK Shenzhen Research Institute (since 01/2012).

CUHK has strategically planned the development of CUHK-SRI and all of us know the importance of being part of China's economy growth and benefit from it. Since 2010, I have served as a member of Steering Committee on Research Activities of the CUHK Shenzhen Research Institute (CUHK-SZRI), and contributed to the planning of development at CUHK-SZRI. I have been appointed as Deputy Director, CUHK-ACC (Astronaut Centre of China) Space Medicine Centre on Health Maintenance of Musculoskeletal System, CUHK Shenzhen Research Institute since 01/2012. In 2013 August, I have accompanied PVC Prof. Joseph Sung to visit the China Astronaut Centre in Beijing and we have duly signed cooperation agreement and established the formal collaboration through opening CUHK-ACC (Astronaut Centre of China) Space Medicine Centre at CUHK SZRI site and also CUHK ORT site. I have been contributing to the development of the research platform for CUHK-ACC (Astronaut Centre of China) Space Medicine Centre at CUHK-SZRI and I have successfully obtained research funding (such as NSFC, Shenzhen City Research Funding, etc.) of approx. RMB 3.0 million at SZRI since 2010.

4. Member of Animal Ethical Committee (2014.07-2016.07) , CUHK

I have been served as a member of animal ethical committee since July 2014 and helped to review about 20 ethical applications across the whole university for AECC. This is an important duty to ensure the animal ethical regulations are properly endorsed in our university, and it involves quite substantial time commitment.

Achievements and Efforts in Enhancing the International Visibility of Our Faculty

- **Collaborations with international and national institutions**

Since my appointment at CUHK in 2009, I have helped establishing collaborations with numerous international and mainland institutions. In particular, I have established formal research collaborations with the followings: Shanghai Jiaotong University (Ninth Hospital, Prof. Dai Ke-Rong's group; and 6th Hospital, Prof. Cai Yimin's group); Beijing (301 Hospital, Prof. Tang Peifu and Prof. Fu Xiaobin's groups); Xian (4MMU, Prof. Pei Guo-Xian's group) and Shenzhen (SZU Medical School, Prof. Zhou

Guang-Qian's group); Stanford University (Prof. Stuart Goodman's group, Department of Orthopaedics and Traumatology); Yangming University School of Medicine (Prof. Oscar Lee, Yangming University Stem Cell Research Centre); I have collaboration with Prof. Sun Dong's lab of Department of Mechanical and Biomedical Engineering, City University of Hong Kong, and in 2015 we have received a RGC-NSFC joint grant, which I am a Co-I. Prof Li has a collaborative research Project with Prof. Sun Bo of Dental School, Bristol University, UK, and has jointly published 2 paper since 2014. I have a jointly research project with Prof. Liu Jinyu of Jilin University, China, and we have published one joint paper in 2015. I have ongoing research collaboration with Prof. Cui Liao of Guangdong Medical College, China on Chinese herb medicine, and we have published 4-5 joint papers in since 2013. I have a joint research project with Shenyang Pharm Company Ltd, China to study the use of Superantigen™ on musculoskeletal regeneration and received a donation of HK\$800,000 from the company in 2014 to support these research for a duration of 3 years. Since 2009, I have obtained total 7 contract research projects from Amgen USA; Eli Lilly Company, USA, Cell Engineering Ltd Hong Kong and Shenyang Xiehe Pharma Company, with total industry contract research and donation fund over HK\$ 9 million (for details see Full CV).

- **International Meetings attended and organized since 2009**

I have been invited to give keynote speeches and lectures at various national and international conferences and meetings for more than 70 times (more than 10 times a year) since my appointment in 2009 (for details please see my full CV submitted).

I was the Chairman of organizing committee of the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th CUHK International Symposium on Stem Cell Biology and Regenerative Medicine (2011-2015, yearly event at CUHK), with total of over 120 invited speakers from USA, Europe, Japan, Australia, Singapore, Taiwan as well as mainland institutions were invited to come to CUHK to attend our international meeting since 2011. In particular the 3rd CUHK International Symposium on Stem Cell Biology and Regenerative Medicine (2013) was received sponsor from Croucher Foundation and we have established International Musculoskeletal Research Network at our meeting, with more than 12 universities including Stanford, Utrecht, Pittsburg, Karolinska Institute, etc. The 4th CUHK International Symposium on Stem Cell Biology and Regenerative Medicine (17-18 Nov 2014) was a highlight, Prof. Shinya Yamanaka, Director of Center for iPS Cell Research and Application, Kyoto University; Nobel Laureate in Physiology or Medicine 2012; Shaw Laureate in Life Science and Medicine 2008; was our guest speaker and gave a Lui Dr. Lui Che Woo distinguished professor public lecture entitled: "New Era of Medicine with iPS Cells". There were over 500 people from all over Hong Kong attended the public lecture. For details, please see

attached summary report of 3rd and 4th CUHK International Symposium on Stem Cell Biology and Regenerative Medicine (*details please see summary reports as Appendix 1 and Appendix 2*).

The CUHK International Symposium on Stem Cell Biology and Regenerative Medicine, organized by myself in the past 5 years was a very successful event and served as a good show-case to promote the research work related to stem cells and regeneration of Faculty of Medicine, CUHK as a whole and significantly enhanced our international visibility.

I have also successfully organized a high-level national meeting in 2015, entitled “Mainland, Taiwan, Hong Kong and Macau Forum on Tissue Regeneration Innovation and Translation (Chinese Academy of Engineering Forum) 海峽兩岸及香港、澳門地區創傷修復(癒合)與組織再生創新成果及轉化應用論壇”, 13-14 November 2015, Shenzhen, China, with 7 academicians of CAE and over 20 invited speakers from USA, Australia, Europe and over 300 people including our VC Prof. Joseph Sung attended the meeting; the two meetings received overwhelmingly good feedbacks (*see attached summary report, Appendix 3*).

I will continue to organize the 6th CUHK International Symposium on Stem Cell Biology and Regenerative Medicine and the Forum of Chinese Academicians on Regenerative Medicine, 12-14 November 2016 in CUHK, and this meeting has been shortlisted for support by Crouch Foundation Conference grant in December 2015.

I, together with Prof Richard Oreffo of Southampton University, UK have jointly applied a Croucher Sumer Course on “Stem cell biology and regenerative medicine” in 2015 and we have just learnt that this application is successful, with a total funding of HK\$1.8 million to run the Croucher Summer course in 2016, 2018 and 2020 for 3 times; with the support we are going to invite 10 high-level speakers from prestigious universities such as Stanford, Harvard, Oxford, Cambridge, etc. and 30 international students from all over the world to CUHK to attend the summer course, which will be another good showcase to promote our international visibility !

I have been participated in the organization of the following international events that promoted/promotes international visibility of CUHK Faculty of Medicine since his appointment in CUHK (2009):

February 2010 Member of Organizing Committee and Workshop organizer: “Tendon cell differentiation”, International Symposium on ligaments and tendons-X, February 5-6, 2010, Hong Kong.

- June 2010 Member of Organizing Committee and Workshop organizer ; The 4th International Symposium on Orthopaedic Translational Research and Technical Advance (ORT), 26-28 June, 2010, Shanghai, China.
- October 2010 Member of Organizing Committee; Second International Chinese Hard Tissue Workshop on Bone Histomorphometry and Imaging. 25-27 October, 2010, Dongguan, China.
- October 2010 Workshop organizer: “Quantitative Assessment of fracture healing”. 7th Combined Meeting of the Orthopaedic Research Societies. 16-20 October, 2010. Kyoto, Japan.
- April 2011 Member of Organizing Committee Member ; The 3rd Chinese Ilizarov Techniques and Bone Reconstruction symposium; Hangzhou, 8-10 April 2011.
- June 2011 Member of Organizing Committee; 5th Shanghai International Congress on Orthopaedic Advanced Techniques and Clinical Translational Research, 18-19 June 2011, Shanghai, China.
- December 2011 Member of Organizing Committee; The 6th International Congress of Chinese Orthopaedic Association (COA), 1-4 December 2011. Beijing International Convention Centre, Beijing, China.
- December 2011 Chairman of the Organizing Committee; The 1st International Symposium of Stem Cell Biology and Regenerative Medicine, 6 December 2011. Prince of Wales Hospital, Hong Kong.
- November 2012 Chairman of the Organizing Committee; The 2nd International Symposium of Stem Cell Biology and Regenerative Medicine, 19 November 2012, CUHKSZRI and 20 November 2012, Prince of Wales Hospital, Hong Kong.
- November 2013 Chairman of the Organizing Committee; The 3rd International Symposium of Stem Cell Biology and Regenerative Medicine, 13-14 November 2013, Prince of Wales Hospital, Hong Kong.
- November 2014 Chairman of the Organizing Committee; The 4th International Symposium of Stem Cell Biology and Regenerative Medicine, 17-18 November 2013, Prince of Wales Hospital, Hong Kong.
- May 2015 NYMU-CUHK Forum on Cell Therapy Applications in Regenerative Medicine, 30 April -1 May 2015, Taipei, Taiwan.
- 12 Nov 2015 Co-Chairman of the Organizing Committee; The 5th International Symposium of Stem Cell Biology and Regenerative Medicine, 12 November 2015, Prince of Wales Hospital, Hong Kong.
- 13 Nov 2015 组委会主席，“海峡两岸及香港，澳门地区创伤修复（愈合）与组织再生创新成果及转化应用论坛（暨中国工程院院士论坛），2015年11月13-14日，香港中文大学深圳研究院，深圳。

- **Service at National and International Societies and Organizations and Visit to overseas Institution and Universities to enhance international visibility of CUHK Faculty of Medicine**

I have been served in the following national and international Societies and Organizations since his appointment as a Professor at CUHK (from April 2009-):

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| 06/2010-present | Member of Bio-incubator program panel, Hong Kong Science Park. |
| 2012-present | Council member, Chinese Orthopaedic Research Society, Chinese Orthopaedic Association 中國骨科醫學會基礎醫學組委員 |
| 01/2013-present | Member of Gene Therapy and Stem Cell Research Task Force, HA Headquarter on Clinical Research Ethics Committee (HAREC), Hong Kong |
| 2013-2017 | Council Member, Tissue Engineering and Regenerative Medicine Division, Chinese Association of Biomedical Engineering 中國生物醫學工程學會組織工程與再生醫學分會 理事會委員 |
| 2014-present | Member, Division of Orthopaedic Research, Chinese Association of Orthopaedic Surgeons |
| 2014-present | General Secretary, Division of Limb Deformity Correction and Reconstruction, Chinese Association of Orthopaedic Surgeons |
| 2014-Present | Council member, Orthopaedic Committee, Chinese Association of Combined Traditional and Western Medicine (中国中西医结合学会, 第7届骨伤科专业委员会委员) |
| 2015-09-present | Chairman of China Branch, International Limb Lengthening and Reconstruction Societies (ILLRS) and Association from Study and Application of the Methods of Ilizarov (ASAMI) |
| 2015-09-present | Standing Committee Member, The First Committee of Orthopaedic Research Society, SICOT China Chapter (SICOT 中国部骨科基础学会第一届委员会常务委员) |
| 2015-12-2019-11 | Vice Chairman, Orthopaedic Committee of Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macau, Association of Biomedical Engineering of Guangdong Province (广东省生物医学工程学会粤港澳骨科专业委员会 副主任委员) |

I have also actively participated the internationalization programs offered by OAL, CUHK or Faculty of Medicine, CUHK and other Hong Kong professional organization(s). For instance, the following are the international exchange activities that I have engaged over the last 3 years, with the efforts and intention of enhancing international visibility of CUHK Faculty of Medicine:

- Short-term Faculty Exchange Programme 2013-2014, visit to University of Bristol (September 2013): The objectives of the proposed visit are to: (1) exchange the information of research on biomaterials at University of Bristol and stem cells at CUHK; (2) identify possible areas of research collaborations; (3) discuss detailed experimental plan in terms of materials designs and sample preparations for bone defect repair studies; (4) deliver lectures and seminars to research staff, postgraduate and undergraduate students during the visit; (5) draw up action plans including future staff and student exchange visits, joint publications and grant applications. As a result of the visit, I have established research collaboration with Prof Su Bo and we have published jointly 2 papers already since.
- SH Ho Visiting Professorship to visit Stanford University, USA (April 2014): Under the support of SH Ho Visiting Professorship Exchange Programme, Faculty of Medicine, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, I have spent 1 month (4 weeks) time to visit the department of orthopaedic surgery, School of Medicine, The University of Stanford, during 7 April to 4 May 2014. During the 4 weeks visit, I have stayed in the department of orthopaedic surgery, and attended many laboratory meetings, seminars and I have talked various research staff (postdoctoral researchers, postgraduate students and clinician scientists), and had a close interactions and deeper understanding of the research work being carried out at Stanford university. I also gave one departmental lecture and one lecture for the Grand Round talk organized by the Orthopaedic surgery department for the School of Medicine (*for details please see summary report of Appendix 4*).
- CUHK the International Partnerships Development Programme Award, to visit University of Oxford (December 2104). I have spent 1 week visiting the Nuffield Department of Orthopaedics, Rheumatology and Musculoskeletal Sciences (NDORMS), University of Oxford, during 14-21 December 2014 (<http://www.ndorms.ox.ac.uk>). The NDORMS is an academic department within the Medical Sciences Division of the University of Oxford. The Department is a rapidly growing

community of orthopaedic surgeons, rheumatologists and scientists all working in the field of musculoskeletal disorders. Musculoskeletal Sciences have been designated as one of the research priorities of the Medical Sciences Division and in the 2008 UK Research Assessment Exercise, NDORMS was rated as 4*, the top grade. I have visited the laborites and talked to various people in NDORMS, gave a lecture and established some research collaborations with a few professors in Oxford University (*for details please see the post-visit summary report as Appendix 5*).

- HKOA Traveling Scholarship to attend “International Limb Lengthening Reconstruction Society Congress Miami 2015, 4-7, November 2015.” The “International Limb Lengthening Reconstruction Society Congress Miami 2015” was held successfully in Miami Loews Miami Beach Hotel, from 4-7 November 2015. This year the meeting was a combined meeting of ILLRS (International Limb Lengthening and Reconstruction Society); LLRS (American Limb Lengthening and Reconstruction Society) and ASAMI-BR (Association of Study Applications of Methods of ILizarov-Bone Reconstruction), and the meeting chairman was Dr. Dror Paley, MD. I have attended the whole meeting with the support from HKOA traveling scholarship, and I have given 3 talks at 3 different workshops during the meeting, which were all well received (*for details please see summary report as Appendix 6*)
- HKOA-COA Traveling Scholarship Meeting to attend “The 10th International Congress of Chinese Orthopaedic Association (COA2015), Nov. 18-22, 2015, Chongqing, China.” The “The 10th International Congress of Chinese Orthopaedic Association (COA2015)” was held successfully in Chongqing Yuelai Convention Centre, 18-22 November 2015. This year the meeting has attracted more than 18,000 attendants with more than 300 invited speakers and guests from all over the world. The meeting chairman was Prof. Tian Wei from Beijing Jishutan Hospital. I have attended the whole meeting with the support from HKOA traveling scholarship, and I have chaired two scientific sections at the meeting and being a judge at the Young Scholar’s Research Award Paper (*for details please see summary report as Appendix 7*).

Prepared and submitted by:

Prof. Gang Li

ORT, CUHK

1 January 2016



Appendices

- **Appendix 1:** Summary report of 3rd CUHK International Symposium of Stem Cell Biology and Regenerative medicine, 2013.
- **Appendix 2:** Summary report of 4th CUHK International Symposium of Stem Cell Biology and Regenerative medicine, 2014.
- **Appendix 3:** Summary report for”海峡两岸及香港，澳门地区创伤修复（愈合）与组织再生创新成果及转化应用论坛（暨中国工程院院士论坛），2015年11月13-14日，香港中文大学深圳研究院，深圳”
- **Appendix 4:** Summary report for SH Ho Visiting Professorship to visit Stanford University, USA (April 2014).
- **Appendix 5:** Summary report for CUHK the International Partnerships Development Programme Award, to visit University of Oxford (December 2104).
- **Appendix 6:** Summary report for HKOA Traveling Scholarship to attend “International Limb Lengthening Reconstruction Society Congress Miami 2015, 4-7, November 2015.”
- **Appendix 7:** Summary report for HKOA-COA Traveling Scholarship Meeting to attend “The 10th International Congress of Chinese Orthopaedic Association (COA2015), Nov. 18-22, 2015, Chongqing, China.”

Summary Report

3rd CUHK International Symposium on Stem Cell Biology and Regenerative Medicine

The 3rd CUHK International Symposium on Stem Cell Biology and Regenerative Medicine has been successfully held at The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Postgraduate Education Centre, Prince of Wales Hospital on 11-12 November 2013. The symposium was co-sponsored by Department of Orthopaedics and Traumatology, CUHK; Stem Cells and Regeneration Theme, School of Biomedical Sciences, CUHK; The Stem Cells and Regeneration Center, CUHK; SMART program, Institute of Innovative Medicine, CUHK; Key Laboratory for Regenerative Medicine (Jinan University-CUHK), Ministry of Education, PR China. There were 37 invited speakers from USA: Stanford University; University of Pittsburg; Brown University Medical School; Johns Hopkins University; University of Alabama at Birmingham; Europe: Karolinska Institute, Sweden; AO Research Institute Davos, Switzerland and Utrecht University, The Netherlands; National University of Singapore, Singapore; University of Western Australia, Australia; the mainland institutions include: Zhejiang University; Shanghai Jiaotong University; Jilin University; Jinan University; Shenzhen University Medical School and Guangdong Medical College; Hong Kong local universities include: University of Hong Kong; Hong Kong University of Science and Technology and Hong Kong Baptist University. There were 12 colleagues from School of Biomedical Sciences; School of Mechanical Engineering; Department of Orthopaedics and Traumatology; Department of O&B as guest speakers. There were over 300 people attended the meeting.



The first day of the meeting started with state of the art lectures on iPS technology given by Prof. Tim Towns from University of Alabama; followed by thought provoking talks given by Prof. Xu Cao of John Hopkins University and Prof. Gang Li of ORT-CUHK. The opening ceremony was

attended by Prof. Fanny Cheung, PVC, CUHK; Prof. Francis Chan, the Dean of Faculty of Medicine, CUHK; Prof. Chan Wai-Yee, Director of School of Biomedical Sciences; Prof. Kai-Ming Chan, Director of SMART Program, IIM-CUHK; Prof. Jack Cheng, Chairman of ORT-CUHK, and Prof. Cai Dong-Qing, Co-Director of Key Laboratory for Regenerative Medicine (Jinan University-CUHK), Ministry of Education, all of them addressed the audiences warmly at the opening ceremony. All the participants agree to join the Musculoskeletal Regeneration Network led by CUHK.



Following the ceremony, we had our keynote speaker Prof. Rocky Tuan to address the audience with the title “New frontiers of skeletal regeneration: stem cells, extracellular matrix and biomaterial scaffolds”, and the talk was well received with attendance of over 300 people.

The 2nd day of the symposium continued in the Postgraduate Education Centre, Prince of Wales Hospital. The program has two parallel sections on two main themes: musculoskeletal regeneration and general technological advancement of stem cell biology. Over 200 people attended with more than 40 invited speakers from USA, Australia, Sweden, Singapore, mainland China, UST, HKU, Baptist University and CUHK gave stimulating talks. The highlight of the 2nd day was the free paper section, where 8 free papers mostly from CUHK postgraduate students, after intense competition, the 6 judges have selected two first prize papers to Ms. Liu Yang and Ms. Y Shu, from Department of Orthopaedics and Traumatology and School of Biomedical Sciences, CUHK, respectively.

The symposium was successfully concluded after 2 days intense scientific discussions and exchanges, and the organizing committee has received overwhelming good feedbacks from many participants and faculty speakers. This symposium has now become a regional icon for stem cell biology and regenerative medicine in Hong Kong and China. The 4th CUHK International Symposium on Stem Cell Biology and Regenerative Medicine will be held on 17-18 November 2014, in Hong Kong, with guest of speaker Prof. Shinya Yamanaka, the 2012 Nobel Prize winner in Physiology or Medicine.

Prof. Li Gang, Department of Orthopaedics and Traumatology, CUHK

Summary Report

4th CUHK International Symposium on Stem Cell Biology and Regenerative Medicine

17-18 November 2014

The 4th CUHK International Symposium on Stem Cell Biology and Regenerative Medicine has been successfully held at The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Postgraduate Education Centre, Prince of Wales Hospital on 17-18 November 2014. The symposium was co-sponsored by Smart Program, Institute of Innovative Medicine, CUHK; Department of Orthopaedics and Traumatology, CUHK; Stem Cells and Regeneration Theme, School of Biomedical Sciences, CUHK; The Stem Cells and Regeneration Center, CUHK; and Key Laboratory for Regenerative Medicine (Jinan University-CUHK), Ministry of Education, PR China. There were 35 invited speakers from USA: Stanford University; University of Pittsburg; Brown University Medical School; University of Alabama at Birmingham; Europe: Karolinska Institute, Sweden; AO Research Institute Davos, Switzerland and Utrecht University, The Netherlands; and The Kyoto University, Japan. The mainland institutions include: Zhejiang University; Shanghai Jiaotong University; Jilin University; Jinan University; Hong Kong local universities include: University of Hong Kong; Hong Kong University of Science and Technology and The Chinese University of Hong Kong. Prof. Shinya Yamanaka, Director of Center for iPS Cell Research and Application, Kyoto University; Nobel Laureate in Physiology or Medicine 2012; Shaw Laureate in Life Science and Medicine 2008; gave a Lui Dr. Lui Che Woo distinguished professor public lecture entitled: “New Era of Medicine with iPS Cells”. There were over 300 people attended the public lecture.

The symposium was successfully concluded after 2 days intense scientific discussions and exchanges, and the organizing committee has received overwhelming good feedbacks from many participants and faculty speakers. The 5th CUHK International Symposium on Stem Cell Biology and Regenerative Medicine will be held on 15-16 November 2015, in Hong Kong.

Prof. Li Gang

Department of Orthopaedics and Traumatology / School of Biomedical Sciences, CUHK

4th CUHK International Symposium on Stem Cell Biology & Regenerative Medicine

17-18 November 2014, Hong Kong



4th CUHK International Symposium on Stem Cell Biology and Regenerative Medicine

cum

Dr. Lui Che Woo Distinguished Professor Public Lecture

17-18 November 2014

Organizers



Sponsors





Prof. Wai-Yee Chan and Prof. Gang Li with Prof. Prof. Shinya Yamanaka, Director of Center for iPS Cell Research and Application, Kyoto University; Nobel Laureate in Physiology or Medicine 2012 at the 4th CUHK International Symposium on Stem Cell Biology and Regenerative Medicine, 17-18 Nov, 2014.

海峽兩岸及香港，澳門地區創傷修復（癒合）與組織再生創新成果 及轉化應用論壇（暨中國工程院院士論壇）圓滿成功

再生醫學是在21世紀現代醫學的重要進步。胚胎，成體幹細胞，和生物材料的發現使受損組織有可能再生；再生療法已被證實治癒許多過去難以治療的疾病，如嚴重骨損傷，燒傷，失明，心臟病，帕金森氏病和多種退行性疾病。為了加強兩岸三地在組織修復與再生領域的合作，發現共同關注的研究熱點，促進開展更深入的合作研究及技術推廣。由中國工程院、解放軍總醫院、香港中文大學共同主辦的舉辦的“海峽兩岸及香港，澳門地區創傷修復（癒合）與組織再生創新成果及轉化應用論壇（暨中國工程院院士論壇）在2015年11月13日-14日在香港中文大學深圳研究院隆重召開。

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本次論壇的議題包括再生和轉化醫學，這兩個目前熱門的話題。大會齊聚了再生領域的大師和專家。其中有七位院士樊代明、王正國、張興棟、付小兵、夏照帆、沈祖堯、蘇國輝參加；除了國內再生醫學領域的專家外，還有來自臺灣、澳門、新加坡、澳大利亞、美國的專家和學者。因此本次論壇是一次再生醫學領域的學術盛會，促進海峽兩岸及香港，澳門地區創傷修復（癒合）與組織再生領域的合作和交流合作，為再生醫學的發展帶來深遠的影響。

在過去幾年中，香港中文大學不斷擴大其在再生醫學領域的研究潛力和能力。自2011年起，我們已經成功舉辦了5屆香港中文大學國際再生醫學和幹細胞生物學的研討會，大力促進了再生醫學在香港和區域內的發展。本次論壇將為再生醫學架起一座連接海峽兩岸以及港澳臺四地的橋樑，極大的促進珠江三角洲地區以致全國範圍的創傷修復與組織再生領域的發展。參加本次論壇的由來自全國各地，廣東省和深圳市的學生，科研工作者和臨床醫生300人次，論壇取得圓滿成功，收到參加論壇的院士，嘉賓和參加者的一致好評。在此我們對支援大會的各個主辦單位，承辦單位和支援贊助單位深表謝意！

2016年第6屆香港中文大學幹細胞與再生醫學國際研討會將於2016年11月12-13日在香港中文大學舉行，我們明年再會！

大會組織委員會主席

李剛 教授
付小兵 院士

2015年12月1日

以下附上若干大會的花絮和合影照片，以供欣賞！

海峡两岸及香港、澳门地区创伤修复(愈合)与组织再生 创新成果及转化应用论坛

2015年11月13-14日 中国深圳
香港中文大学深圳研究院



海峡两岸及香港、澳门地区创伤修复(愈合)与组织再生 创新成果及转化应用论坛

2015年11月13-14日 中国深圳
香港中文大学深圳研究院



海峡两岸及香港、澳门地区创伤修复(愈合)与组织再生 创新成果及转化应用论坛

2015年11月13-14日 中国深圳
香港中文大学深圳研究院



海峡两岸及香港、澳门地区创伤修复(愈合)与组织再生 创新成果及转化应用论坛

2015年11月13-14日 中国深圳
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**SH Ho Visiting Professorship Exchange Programme
Faculty of Medicine, The Chinese University of Hong Kong
Stanford University**

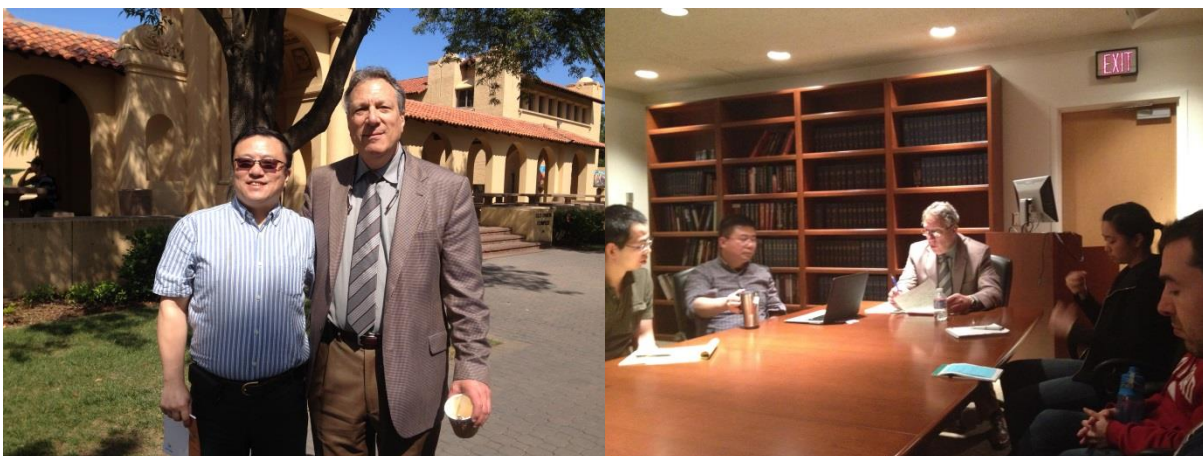
Report Following the Visit

Under the support of SH Ho Visiting Professorship Exchange Programme, Faculty of Medicine, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, I have spent 1 month (4 weeks) time to visit the department of orthopaedic surgery, School of Medicine, The University of Stanford, during 7 April to 4 May 2014.

During the 4 weeks visit, I have stayed in the department of orthopaedic surgery, and attended many laboratory meetings, seminars and I have talked various research staff (postdoctoral researchers, postgraduate students and clinician scientists), and had a close interactions and deeper understanding of the research work being carried out at Stanford university. I also gave one departmental lecture and one lecture for the Grand Round talk organized by the Orthopaedic surgery department for the School of Medicine.



Prof. Li Gang arrived Department of Orthopaedic Surgery and appointed as Visiting Professor at School of Medicine, Stanford University Medical Center, University of Stanford, from 7 April to 4 May 2014.



Prof. Stuart Goodman, Robert L. and Mary Ellenburg Professor of Surgery, Professor, Department of Orthopaedic Surgery greeted Prof. Li Gang at Stanford and Prof. Li Gang attend Prof. Goodman's weekly team meeting.

回复: **Dr. Gang Li's Lecture**

2014年4月29日12:23

Dr Li,

You are scheduled to lecture at Orthopaedic Grand Rounds tomorrow, April 30th, **8:00AM**. Lectures are held in the Li Ka Shing Learning Center, first floor, room LK120. This building is adjacent to the Edwards Building. We allow one hour for your lecture, so you can talk for 45 minutes and take questions for 15 minutes.

There is a computer at the podium, which you can load your talk onto. Our lectures actually start **at 6:30 AM**, you are welcome to come and listen to all

Distraction Histogenesis: From Biology to Novel Applications

Prof. Gang Li, MBBS, Ph.D.

Professor of Orthopaedics and Traumatology

The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Prince of Wales Hospital, Hong Kong

Wednesday, April 9th, 2014

12:10-1:10 pm, LKSC 130

Lunch will be ready by 12:05pm



Prof. Li Gang has delivered two lectures at Stanford University during his visit. One lecture entitled: Distraction histogenesis: From biology to novel applications; and the other lecture entitled: Circulating mesenchymal stem cells and their clinical implications. The two lectures were all well received, each with more than 100 people attended. I have used the lecture opportunities to promote CUHK Medical Faculty and also the SH Ho Visiting Professorship Exchange Programme between the Faculty of Medicine, The Chinese University of Hong Kong and School of Medicine, Stanford University.

I have stayed with Prof. Peter Yang's laboratory for 4 weeks, and during this period, I attend weekly meetings of Prof. Peter Yang, Prof. Stuart Goodman and Prof. Fan Yang. I also spent time to talk to all of these professors and their postdoctoral research fellows and PhD students, to have a thorough understanding of the research work currently undertaking in the department.

The research interest of Prof. Peter Yang's research program is designing and developing bio-inspired biomaterial platform technologies for bone regeneration, orthopedic implant devices, and cancer treatment. Their research lies at the interfaces of fundamental material science, biology,

and clinical applications at the macro-, micro-and nano-scale level, where basic understanding of biology inspires the development of novel biomaterials for medical applications. He has been working on optimization of calcium phosphate and other bioactive scaffolds for bone regeneration and evaluated tissue engineered bones in mouse, rat, rabbit, dog, and mini-pig models. His group recently focuses on integrating microengineering and functionally graded scaffolds as a platform technology for large size, weight-bearing osteogenesis, rapid vascularization and anti-infection. His group also developed and published an injectable chitosan based hydrogel delivery system for human and mouse embryonic/bone marrow stem cells, growth factors and drugs for bone repair, infection control and cancer treatment.

Fan Yang is currently an Assistant Professor at Stanford University in the Departments of Bioengineering and Orthopaedic Surgery. Her research seeks to understand how microenvironmental cues regulate stem cell fate, and to develop novel biomaterials and stem cell-based therapeutics for tissue engineering and regenerative medicine. Examples of applications include therapies for musculoskeletal diseases, cardiovascular diseases and cancer.

Prof. Stuart Goodman is a long term friend and support of mine and we share many common research interests, who visited Hong Kong twice during 2012 and 2013. He was invited speaker at the 2nd and 3rd CUHK International symposium of stem cell biology and regenerative medicine (SCRM 2012 and 2013). Prof. William Maloney is also a friend of the ORT department and he is the invited speaker of 3rd CUHK International Symposium of SCRM in 2013. I have known Prof. Peter Yang in 2011 and since then I have invited him to be a speaker at our 2nd CUHK International Symposium of SCRM in 2012. Prof. Fan Yang visited us and became an invited speaker of 3rd CUHK International Symposium of SCRM in 2013. During the 3rd CUHK International Symposium of SCRM in 2013, we have formed a Musculoskeletal Regeneration Research Network (MRN) including more than 10 participating universities worldwide such as Karolinska Institute, Utrecht University, and Stanford University with the endorsement of VC Prof. Joseph Sung, PVC Prof, Fanny Cheung, and Dean of Medical Faculty, Prof. Francis Chan. The main purpose of the MRN is to promote research and collaboration in musculoskeletal areas in CUHK (through the platform of Sport Medicine and Regenerative Technology, SMART, Lui Che Woo Institute of Innovative Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, CUHK) with the leading international institutions. A delegation from Stanford University consisting of Prof. Stuart Goodman, Prof. William Maloney and Prof. Fan Yang has expressed their willingness to consolidate the collaboration between the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, Stanford University and the ORT department, CUHK. In 2014, we are going to organize the 4th CUHK International Symposium of SCRM, November 17-18, 2014. We have invited Prof. Stuart Goodman and Prof. Nidhi Bhutani, PhD, Assistant Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery, Stanford University Schools of Medicine to be our guest of speakers, and both of them all accepted our invitation.

During my visit, the following research collaboration projects are identified and proposed:

1. Stem cells systemic recruitment and homing in musculoskeletal regeneration

Acute and chronic inflammation, and musculoskeletal tissue organogenesis, repair and regeneration initiate the mobilization and migration of cells from distant sites. These events are orchestrated by cells of the monocyte/macrophage lineage through the local production and release of pro- and anti-inflammatory cytokines and other factors, as well chemotactic cytokines

(chemokines). Prof. Stuart Goodman's team has found that the gradients of chemokines generate local signaling mechanisms that cause adhesion and diapedesis of inflammatory and reparative cells to the injury site to begin the processes of destruction and phagocytosis of dead cells and debris, cellular repopulation, new matrix production, and reconstitution of host tissue. If these events fail to resolve the acute inflammatory reaction, chronic inflammation or fibrosis are the end result. The latter outcomes produce functionally deficient tissue. While in CUHK, our research team is focus on the circulating stem cells released during tissue repair and regeneration and we have identified several novel genes that may contribute to the processes of stem cells mobilization and recruitment. In which I have many common research interests with prof. Stuart Goodman. During the visit, Prof. Goodman and I decided to collaborate on one project of stem cells recruitments and homing mechanisms during musculoskeletal regeneration.

2. Novel Biomaterials fabrication and applications in musculoskeletal regeneration

Tissue engineering (TE) in regenerative medicine has been proposed to fabricate engineered tissues and organs to restore and improve the functions of diseased or traumatized tissues through the principles of life science and engineering. Cells, signals (or growth factors), and scaffolds (or microenvironment or extracellular matrix) are generally referred to as three key components of TE. Significant advances had been made in TE in the past two decades, however, limited clinical successes had been seen. Three grand challenges of TE are identified as limited cell sources, non-functional vascularization and inappropriate microenvironment. Prof. Peter Yang in Stanford University has developed bio-inspired strategy and aim to (1) integrate micro-fabrication (bottom-up) with scaffolding (top-down) approaches to re-vascularize engineered cortical and cancellous bones at a large scale, and (2) to achieve temporally and spatially controlled signals that regulate tissue regeneration, leading to a functional tissue regeneration with biomimetic complexity and enhanced functionality. During my visit, I have identified one project to collaborate with Prof. Peter Yang's group to test the biomaterials in distraction osteogenesis animal models.

Prof. Fan Yang in Stanford University is a world leading expert on 3D hydrogels for culturing cells. However, most hydrogels are associated with poor flexibility when subject to cyclic loading, which limit their applications for engineering load-bearing tissues such as cartilage and bone. Furthermore, few hydrogels developed-to-date allow independent tuning of niche cues such as biochemical, mechanical and topographical cues. Prof. Fan Yang has developed a novel method for fabricating micro-ribbon-shaped hydrogels as building blocks with decoupled biochemical and mechanical properties, which can crosslink into 3D macro-porous scaffolds with high flexibility in a cell-friendly manner. This method allows direct cell encapsulation, and result highly flexible scaffolds that mimic the mechanical properties of load-bearing tissues such as cartilage. Such biomaterials platforms could provide facilitate the analyses of how the interactive niche signaling influences cell fate in 3D. During my visit, I talk to Prof. Fan Yang and she agrees to share the techniques for fabricating micro-ribbon-shaped hydrogels, and to test her novel biomaterials in our pre-clinical animals of bone or cartilage repair.

Outcome of my visit

- 1. We will start 3 joint/collaborative research projects between PIs of the two departments.** As mentioned above, during my visit, I have identified 3 projects that we can start immediately as collaborative research projects, in that both sides will work and contribute using each other's

expertise. It is likely we could start one project with Prof. Peter Yang; one project with Prof. Fan Yang and one project with Prof. Stuart Goodman.

2. **A joint publication with Stanford University group.** I have talked to Prof. Stuart Goodman about writing a view paper together on the circulating MSCs during musculoskeletal regeneration, and he has agreed to do it with me in 2014. I hope that we can finish this project and have at least one joint review paper published before end of 2014.
3. **To prepare and sign a MOU between Stanford Orthopaedic Surgery Department and CUHK-ORT for research collaborations and personnel exchanges.** I have discussed this issue with Prof. William Maloney, the Chairman of Stanford Orthopaedic Surgery Department and Prof. Jack Cheng, Chairman of CUHK-ORT. Both of them are very keen to sign a detailed MOU for close partnership and research collaborations under the collaborative agreements already signed by the two institutions. I have sent the draft MOU to Prof. Stuart Goodman and we are trying to get the MOU signed during their visit in November 2014.

In summary, I am very grateful for the generous support provided by SH Ho Foundation. My visit to Stanford University sponsored by the SH Ho Visiting Professorship Exchange Programme was successful. I have learnt many new ideas from Stanford during my visit, made new friends there, and identified a few collaborative projects that we will follow up. This visit serves as a start of a long term friendship and research collaboration between the two departments and institutions.



A lunch (before my trip to visit Stanford University) meeting with the Prof. TF Fok, PVC, CUHK (fist left, 2nd raw); Myself (2nd left, 2nd raw); Dr. Tzu-leung Ho, Governor, The S.H. Ho Foundation Limited (3rd left, 2nd raw) and Prof. Francis K.L. Chan, Dean, Faculty of Medicine, CUHK (4th left, 2nd raw) and other representatives from S, H. Ho foundation and CUHK Medical Faculty, showed strong support and care from both S. H. Ho foundation and CUHK Medical Faculty.

Prof. Li, Gang

Date: 25 July 2014

Post-Visit Summary Report

CUHK International Partnership Development Programme 2014-15

Visit to University of Oxford

Prof. Gang Li, OTR, CUHK

I have spent 1 week visiting the Nuffield Department of Orthopaedics, Rheumatology and Musculoskeletal Sciences (NDORMS), University of Oxford, during 14-21 December 2014 (<http://www.ndorms.ox.ac.uk>). The NDORMS is an academic department within the Medical Sciences Division of the University of Oxford. The Department is a rapidly growing community of orthopaedic surgeons, rheumatologists and scientists all working in the field of musculoskeletal disorders. Musculoskeletal Sciences have been designated as one of the research priorities of the Medical Sciences Division and in the 2008 UK Research Assessment Exercise, NDORMS was rated as 4*, the top grade.

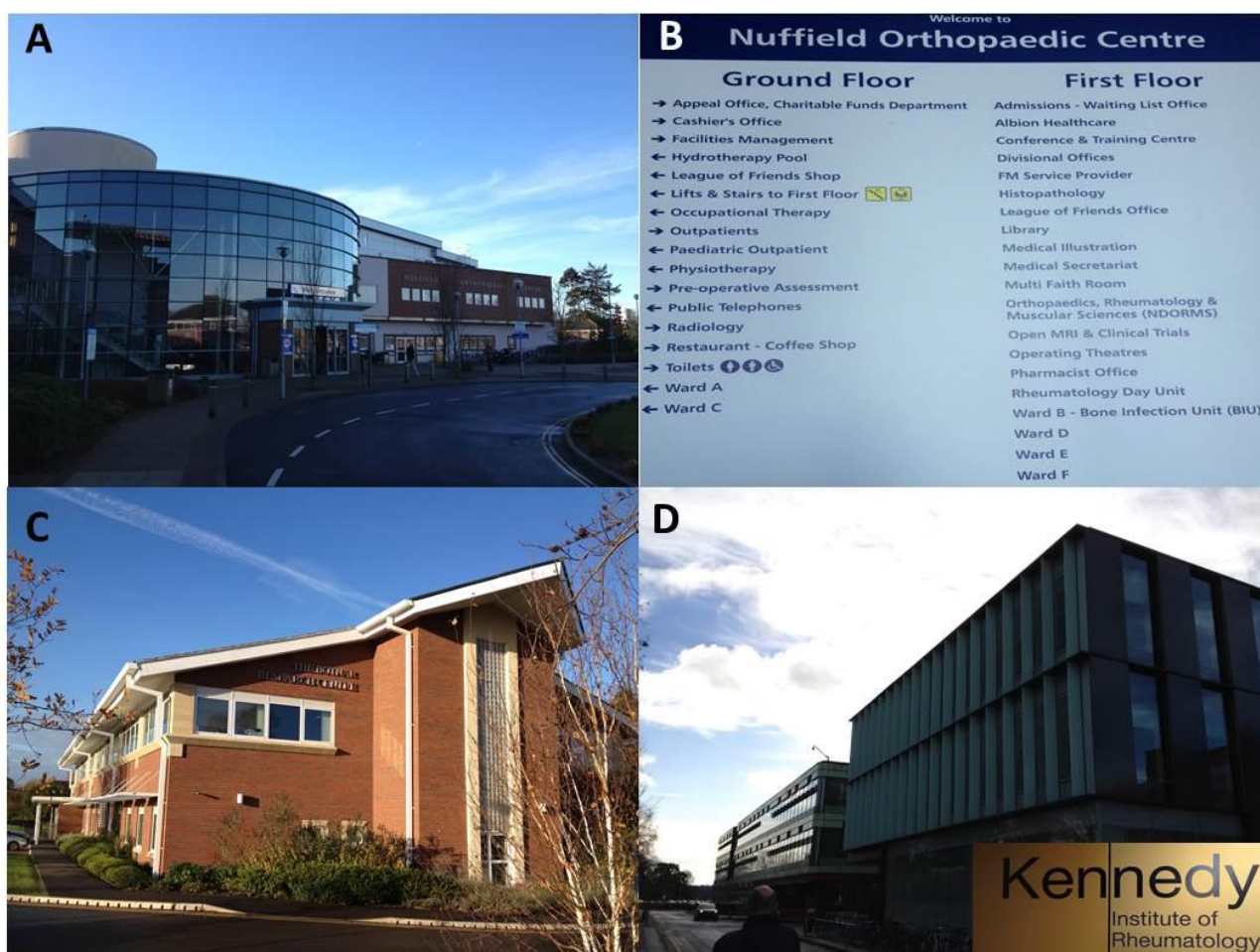


Fig. 1. A. The Nuffield Orthopaedic Center (NHS Trust), where the NDORMS is localized. B. The departments in the Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre. C. The Botnar Research Centre for Musculoskeletal Research inside Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre, Oxford. D. The Kennedy Institute of Rheumatology is a part of NDORMS, and is localized in the Churchill hospital (old road) campus, close to Botnar Research Centre.

The research work of the department takes place in the the Botnar Research Centre (and other locations on the NOC site) and the Kennedy Institute of Rheumatology, on the Old Road Campus of the University. It is also supported by the the NIHR Oxford Musculoskeletal Biomedical Research Unit. The co-location with NHS services puts the department in an excellent position with basic researchers working alongside clinicians. This substantially improves research capacity, improving access for researchers to patients, and facilitating the interaction between clinicians and basic scientists that is essential for successful medical research. The department makes a significant contribution to the teaching of orthopaedic surgery and trauma to clinical students as well as to postgraduate teaching in orthopaedics and rheumatology. There is also a substantial teaching activity related to the postgraduate education of DPhil students based in the department. The undergraduate teaching is organised in the department's offices and teaching facilities in the John Radcliffe Hospital, and the Director of Graduate studies is based in the Botnar Research Centre.

I arrived on Sunday 14 December 2014 in Oxford, and started my visit on Monday 15 December 2014 in the NDORMS, University of Oxford for 1 week. I have been greeted by Prof. Andy Carr, the head of NDORMS, and he showed me around the department at both Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre Headington and the Churchill Hospital campus, and introduced me to several researchers at the Botnar Research Centre.



Fig. 2. A. Prof. Andy Carr, the head of NDOMRS has greeted me in person. B. Prof. Nick Athanasou, a very good friend of mine met me after 10 years not seeing each other ! C. Dr. James Edwards discussed his research with me. D. I met Ms. Louise West again, the senior technician in the Pathology lab, whom I knew since 1993 when I was a PhD student at the department, and we were so happy to see each other again!

I have then visited the Botnar Research Centre and talked to the following people: (1) Prof. Nick Athanasou, Professor of Musculoskeletal Pathology; Prof. Athanasou is a world-leading bone pathologist specialized in rare/congenital bone diseases and bone metabolic diseases; we have discussed the research in musculoskeletal rare diseases and the potential collaboration. 2) Dr. Pirerre-Alexi Mouthuy, Senior Postdoctoral Fellowship, who is specialized on tendon biomaterial materials and tissue engineering research; we have discussed the potential collaboration using his novel tendon biomaterials in our tendon animal model combined with our tendon stem cells. (3) Dr. Zhangfeng Cui, Professor in Tissue Engineering and Director of Oxford University Tissue Engineering Centre; Prof. Cui is a member of Royal Society of Engineers and is a leading expert in tissue engineering research in the UK; I have visited him and his research laboratories; we have discussed the possibilities of collaborating on tissue engineering product development in Hong Kong, as Prof. Cui is planning to set up a company in Hong Kong Science Park and he will visit me in CUHK to discuss the collaboration details next time he visit Hong Kong.

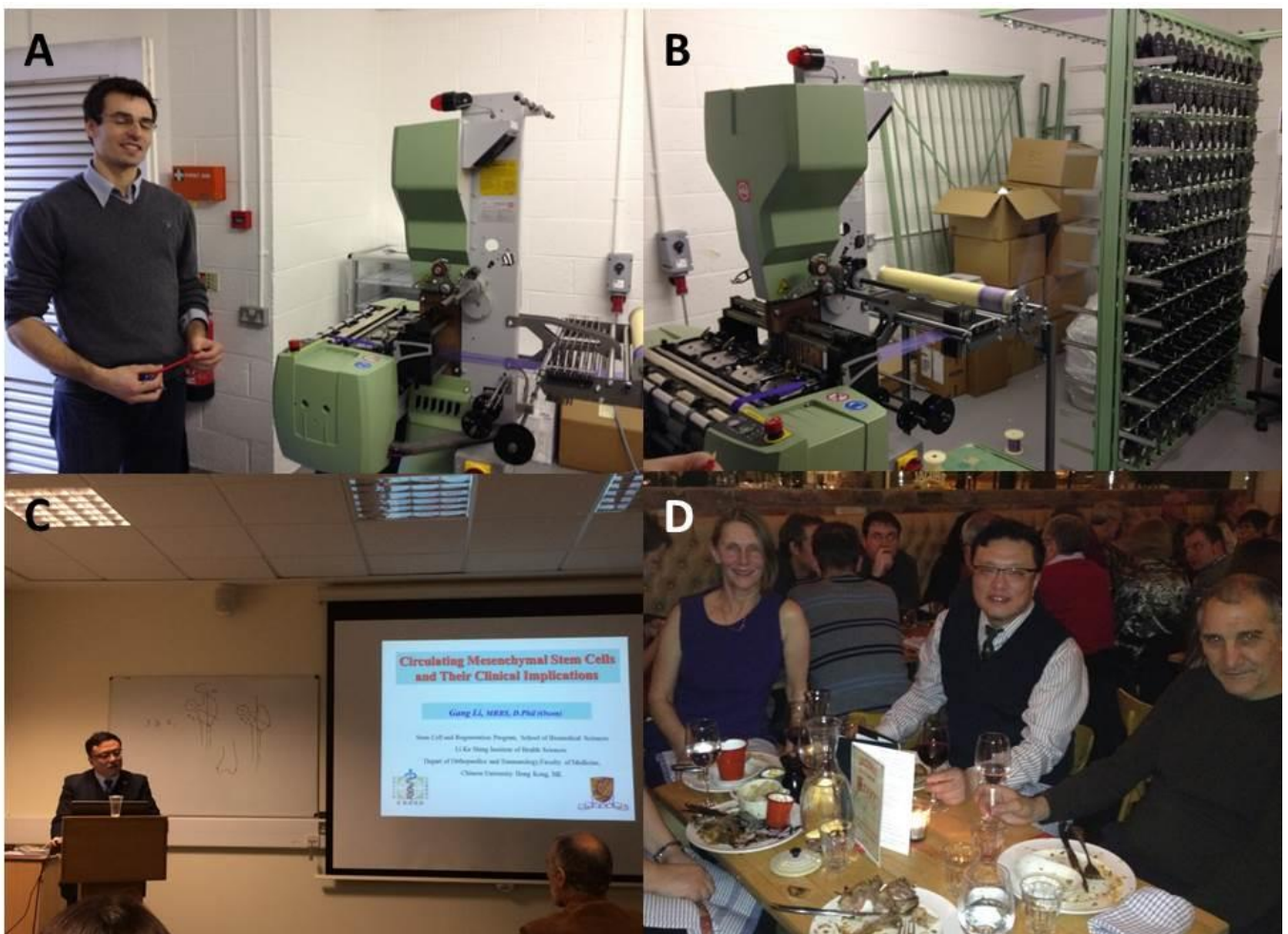


Fig. 3. A. Dr. Pirerre-Alexi Mouthuy showed me the (B) weaving machine to make the artificial tendon like biomaterials. C. I have given a lecturer at the Botnar Research Institute, University of Oxford on 16 December 2014, it was well attended and received. D. Farewell dinner with Prof. Nick Athanasou and his wife to conclude my visit at NDORMS, University of Oxford on 20 December 2014.

(4) I have talked to Dr. Stephanie Dakin, a senior MRC research fellowship, who is researching on tendon degeneration changes and its relation to inflammation; she is a veterinary surgeon and has experiences in treating horse tendinopathy using tendon derived stem cells. We have discussed the possibility of collaborating in researching tendinopathy mechanisms and effective managements. (5) I have talked to Dr. James Edwards, who is a senior Arthritis UK research fellowship and who is an expert on musculoskeletal aging and anti-aging research; we have discussed the use of stem cells as a mean of anti-aging, and agrees to keep in touch to see if we can have an exchange student to work on a project together. (6) I also talked to Prof. Claire Edwards, Assistant Professor in bone oncology, and she is interested in cancer stem cells and we talked about the use of MSCs as anti-cancer gene therapy vehicle.

I have also given a lecturer entitled “Circulating mesenchymal stem cells and their clinical implications” at the Botnar Research Institute and I introduced CUHK and CUHK medical Faculty as well as ORT department at CUHK, and asked for potential collaboration with the interested partners at NDORMS. My talk was well received and several people expressed their interests for visiting us or collaborating with us for research project or student exchanges.

The visit was very fruitful and I am delighted to come back to the department after 17 years since I left (completed my PhD study) in 1998. I have learnt the new developments in the NDORMS and identified a few collaborative projects that we will consolidate. Namely we will collaborate on testing the novel tendon biomaterials produced in NDORMS in our tendon repair animal model (with prof. Andy Carr and Dr. Pirerre-Alexi Mouthuy) ; to share the bone specimens of rare bone diseases (with Prof. Nick Athanasou) and to collaborating on translational research on tissue engineering products with Prof. Cui Zhangfeng’s group in University of Oxford Tissue Engineering Centre. In addition, we also agree that we will seek funding support for a joint CUHK-University of Oxford symposium on musculoskeletal research and exchange PhD student/research assistant for short period to share the platforms and expertise of both sides in very near future. It is hoped that through the initial contact during this visit, we will consolidate and initiate a few research collaborative projects, to generate joint publication or grant applications with University of Oxford, and we hope to develop the partnership between ORT-CUHK and NDORMS-Oxford to benefit both sides.

Prof. Gang Li

ORT, CUHK

12 January 2015

HKOA Traveling Scholarship Meeting Report -- *“International Limb Lengthening Reconstruction Society Congress Miami 2015, 4-7, November 2015.”*

Prof. Gang Li, Dept. of Orthopaedics and Traumatology, The Chinese University of Hong Kong

The “International Limb Lengthening Reconstruction Society Congress Miami 2015” was held successfully in Miami Loews Miami Beach Hotel, from 4-7 November 2015. This year the meeting was a combined meeting of ILLRS (International Limb Lengthening and Reconstruction Society); LLRS (American Limb Lengthening and Reconstruction Society) and ASAMI-BR (Association of Study Applications of Methods of Ilizarov-Bone Reconstruction), and the meeting chairman was Dr. Dror Paley, MD. I have attended the whole meeting with the support from HKOA traveling scholarship.

The meeting was well attended by over 700 delegates from all over the world and there were more than 30 delegates from PR China, including myself from Hong Kong. The meeting started at 4 November with packed meeting programs for 4 days, including plenary sessions; workshops, free paper sections, workshops and demonstrations. During the meeting, I have given 3 talks at 3 different workshops: workshop(#33): Ilizarov Technology in China, I talked about: “Distraction histogenesis and regenerative medicine”; workshop (#44): Enhancement of osteogenesis and bone formation using bone growth factors and stem cells including biomaterials, I talked “The use of rhBMP-2 and TP508 in augmenting bone consolidation in distraction osteogenesis”; workshop (#43) Research Methods to enhance bone formation in distraction osteogenesis, I talked “Combined use of biomaterial with distraction osteogenesis shortened the bone lengthening and consolidation time”. All these talks were well received and I have met many old friends in the field of limb lengthening and reconstruction research.

I have also learnt a lot of new ideas and in particular the current new trends of limb lengthening using fully implantable intramedullary lengthener and we shall pay more attention for this development in our future studies.

Attached are two photos of mine at the meeting:



Left: Prof. Li at talk in 2015 ILLRS Miami Meeting; Right: Prof. Li (5 at right) with the meeting Chairman Dr. Dror Paley (middle) and colleagues from Korea after the workshop.

The meeting was thoroughly enjoyable, it was a very good learning opportunity for me to learn new ideas and also show our own research outputs. I am very grateful for the generous support from HKOA to sponsor partially my traveling and meeting expense, which made my attendance to the 2015 ILLRS Miami Meeting possible. I sincerely think for HKOA!!

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Gang Li'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Prof. Gang Li, MBBS, DPhil (Oxon)

Department of Orthopaedics and Traumatology, CUHK

Associate Member of HKOA since 2009

Dated: 17 November 2015

HKOA-COA Traveling Scholarship Meeting Report -- “The 10th International Congress of Chinese Orthopaedic Association (COA2015), Nov. 18-22, 2015, Chongqing, China.”

Prof. Gang Li, Dept. of Orthopaedics and Traumatology, The Chinese University of Hong Kong

The “The 10th International Congress of Chinese Orthopaedic Association (COA2015)” was held successfully in Chongqing Yuelai Convention Centre, 18-22 November 2015. This year the meeting has attracted more than 18,000 attendants with more than 300 invited speakers and guests from all over the world. The meeting chairman was Prof. Tian Wei from Beijing Jishutan Hospital. I have attended the whole meeting with the support from HKOA traveling scholarship.

The meeting was well attended by over 20,000 delegates (18,000 paid registration plus 2,000 plus exhibitors) from all over the word and all over China. There were more than 50 delegates including myself from Hong Kong. The meeting started at 18 November with packed meeting programs for 4 days, including plenary sessions; workshops, free paper sections and demonstrations. During the meeting, I have being moderator at 2 basic research sections: 18 Nov., 14:10-15:20, Room 203, 2F, YLICC; and 20 Nov., 08:00-09:25 Room 203, 2F, YLICC. In addition I have also acted as a commentator and judge for best research paper awards on 18 and 19 Nov. All the basic research sections I have chaired were well attended and I have met many old friends in the field of orthopaedic research from mainland and other parts of the world.

I have also learnt a lot of new ideas and in particularly the current new trends of orthopaedic research in mainland. I noticed that in the recent 2 years the quality of basic orthopaedic research in mainland has improved rapidly, so many talented young doctors and researchers have shown their great potentials to compete with the rest of the world in the field of orthopaedic research. We in Hong Kong shall pay attention for this development and have a sense of urgency to further improve the quality and novelty of in our studies and research in Hong Kong to keep up our competitiveness.

Attached are a few photos of mine taken at the COA 2015 meeting:



Left: Prof. Li at COA 2015 meeting venue, Chongqing Yuelai Convention Centre. Middle: Prof Li has met with his friend Dr. Dror Paley (USA) and Dr. Kevin Testsworth (Australia) at the COA 2015 meeting; Right: Prof. Li met with Prof. Zhao Jinmin (赵劲民), The chairman of Guangxi province orthopaedic association.

The meeting was thoroughly enjoyable, it was a very good learning opportunity for me to learn new ideas and also show our own research outputs, as well as meeting up with so many old and new friends. I am very grateful for the generous support from HKOA to sponsor my traveling and meeting expense, which made my attendance to the 2015 COA meeting possible. I sincerely think for HKOA!!

Yours sincerely

Prof. Gang Li, MBBS, DPhil (Oxon)

Department of Orthopaedics and Traumatology, CUHK

Associate Member of HKOA since 2009

Dated: 26 November 2015