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Two graduates of the Department of Applied Social Studies at City University of Hong Kong (CityU), Ms Fermi Wong Wai-fun and Ms Debby Wong Pui-ling, received the Outstanding Social Worker Award and Junior Social Worker Award respectively at the 18th Outstanding Social Worker Award organised by the Hong Kong Social Worker Association.

Fermi Wong, recipient of the Outstanding Social Worker Award and a graduate of CityU with a diploma and bachelor's degree in Social Work, has served in the social work sector for 13 years. In 2001, together with her friends, she founded Hong Kong Unison, where she is currently the Campaign Director, to provide services and advocate policy reform for ethnic minority residents in Hong Kong. During the first three years of Hong Kong Unison, she served as a full-time voluntary social worker. To urge the government to amend those parts of its policies containing elements of racial discrimination, she twice made presentations with representatives of human rights organisations to the United Nations in Geneva. Subsequently, amendments to the relevant parts of the law were endorsed by the Legislative Council in July last year. Her understanding of ethnic minorities and contribution to the cause earned her appointment in 2002 as a member of the Committee on the Promotion of Racial Harmony to offer advice to the government on ethnic issues. She was also conferred a Chief Executive's Commendation for Community Service in 2005.

## Alumni recognised for outstanding social work

"I have learned from my CityU teachers professional community work skills and a steadfast pursuance of social justice. CityU's education has had a great impact on me, encouraging me to uphold the core values of social work despite the difficulties that may be encountered during the implementation process," said Fermi.

Debby Wong, recipient of the Junior Social Worker Award, started her work at Caritas Hong Kong Youth and Community Service upon graduation in 2003. Her clients are those ignored by society, such as young people with drug abuse problems. In order to serve those most at risk, Debby would visit night clubs and discos twice a week to provide outreach services. Although she was rejected in the beginning, her perseverance, firm beliefs and sincerity

finally won her recognition. Now those youngsters are motivated to seek health checks and have joined her rehabilitation group.

Debby said CityU's courses made her even more determined for a career in social work. "Our teachers arranged class activities such as role-play to make us apply what we had learnt," she said. "Besides internships, they would also encourage us to organise voluntary social services. It helped me understand that a social worker not only helps others but can also draw inspiration from those being helped."

Both Fermi and Debby used to be students of Dr Kam Ping-kwong, Associate Professor at the Department of Applied Social Studies. Dr Kam was glad to see them score

great achievements in the social work sector and make contributions to society. "As I see it, outstanding social workers don't have to accomplish grand projects, but they must have the courage to take up challenges as well as commitment to helping the underprivileged. Fermi and Debby have both done well," said Dr Kam.

The Outstanding Social Worker Award was set up by the Hong Kong Social Worker Association in 1991 to recognise excellent performance by hardworking professionals and to encourage young social workers. By gauging the performance, achievements, work attitude and experience of the candidates, the panel each time selects two outstanding social workers and two junior social workers with less than five years of service.

Fermi Wong 王惠芬



# 校友獲選優秀社工

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香港城市大學（城大）應用社會科學系畢業生王惠芬及王珮玲在香港社會工作人員協會主辦的「第18屆優秀社工選舉」中，分別獲頒優秀社工獎及新秀社工獎。

奪得優秀社工獎的王惠芬現任香港融樂會倡議總監，曾在城大先後修讀社會工作文憑課程及學位課程，從事社會工作迄今已13年。她在2001年與朋友創立香港融樂會，為香港少數族裔市民提供服務，並向政府提出政策倡議。該會創立後最初三年中，她以全職義務社工身份提供服務。為了促請政府修正某些有種族歧視色彩的政策，她兩次偕同人權團體代表前往日內瓦，向聯合國機構陳述香港的情況，終於促成相關條例在去年7月獲立法會通過。她對少數族裔市民了解深入且貢獻良多，2002年獲委任為促進種族和諧委員會委員，就種族關係向政府提供意見，並在2005年獲頒行政長官社區服務獎狀。

「我的社區工作手法、對社會公義的執着，是從城大老師身上學會的。城大的培育對我影響很大，使我明白：社工事務儘

管艱辛，但社會工作的核心價值仍須堅守，」王惠芬說。

獲頒新秀社工獎的王珮玲2003年畢業，隨即投身於香港明愛青少年及社區服務。她選擇的服務對象都是被社會忽略的群體，包括濫藥青年。為了接觸他們，她堅持每星期兩晚通宵達旦在的士高提供外展服務。從最初遭人拒絕，直到今天可以勸服濫藥青年接受體檢並加入她組織的康復小組，都是她堅持信念、以關懷之心觸動他人的成果。

王珮玲表示，城大的課程加強了她當社工的決心。她說：「在課堂上，老師經常藉助角色扮演等活動讓我們實踐所學理論。除了實習外，老師也鼓勵我們籌辦義務社區活動。這些經歷使我體會到做社工不只可幫助人，還能從受助人身上得到很大啟發。」

兩名得獎人都是應用社會科學系副教授甘炳光博士的學生。看到學生畢業後貢獻社

會，在社工界表現出色，老師深感欣慰。「我認為，出色的社工不一定要做出轟轟烈烈的服務成績，或是有超群出眾的計劃，而要不畏艱辛，抱有堅持獻身服務弱勢社群的精神、信念與理想，這些王惠芬和王珮玲都做到了，」甘博士說。

優秀社工選舉由香港社會工作人員協會在1991年創設，旨在表揚成績優秀及默默耕耘的專業社工，並鼓勵社工界新人。評審團根據參選人從事社會工作專業的表現、成就、態度和經驗，以及其他貢獻，每屆選出兩名「優秀社工」及兩名年資五年以下的「新秀社工」，予以表彰。

## Media coverage 媒體報導：

### Newspapers 報章

24-1-2009 *Sing Tao Daily* 《星島日報》，  
*Ta Kung Pao* 《大公報》

### Website 網頁

23-1-2009 *CityU NewsCentre* 《城大新聞網》

Fermi Wong (2nd from left), Debby Wong (3rd from left) and their former teachers from the Department of Applied Social Studies, Dr Alice Chong Ming-lin (1st from left) and Dr Kam Ping-kwong. 王惠芬(左二)、王珮玲(左三)及曾經教過她們社工科目的應用社會科學系副教授莊明蓮博士(左一)及甘炳光博士。

