A new network for cultures

The vitality and richness of three cultures will be linked in a new educational program that for the first time will bring together students from Hong Kong, mainland China and the United States.

The Tufts Institute for Leadership and International Perspectives, which also will link senior corporate and government leaders, was inaugurated December 10 in Hong Kong at a reception at Victoria House, the residence of Anson Chan, H'95, Hong Kong's chief secretary for administration.

Chan and Professor Sir Harry Fang, a longtime adviser to Tufts, have accepted appointments as honorary directors of the Tufts Institute.

The program will establish a network of international leaders in business, government, communications and the health-care industry who will share ideas and form partnerships. These executives, government officials and media representatives also will serve as mentors to a corps of outstanding senior undergraduates from Hong Kong, mainland China and the United States.

Three overseers appointed

Tufts has appointed a new chair of the Arts and Sciences Board of Overseers. Rick Hauck, A'62, is president and CEO of AXA Space in Bethesda, MD, a leading underwriter of space insurance. He joined AXA Space in 1990 after completing a 28-year Navy career as a combat pilot, test pilot and astronaut. During his 11 years as a NASA astronaut, he was co-pilot of a 1983 Challenger mission, commander of the first space salvage mission in history aboard Discovery in 1984, and commander of Discovery for the first space shuttle mission after the Challenger tragedy. He received a master's in nuclear engineering from MIT and recently was the recipient of both the Tufts Presidential Medal and the Tufts Light on the Hill Award.

Overseers provide assistance and guidance to the university's president and Board of Trustees. Other recent appointments include:

Dr. Lisbeth Tarlow Bernstein, associate director of the Kathryn W. and Shelby Cullom Davis Center for Russian Studies at Harvard University, to the Board of Overseers to the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University. Bernstein holds both a master's of arts degree in law and diplomacy and a doctorate from the Fletcher School. Her focus was on Soviet foreign policy decisionmaking under Gorbachev, using as a case study the dispute between Russia and Japan over the Kuril Islands. She was a Seward Fellow under Fletcher's North Pacific Program and assisted John Curtis Perry, Henry Willard Denson Professor of Japanese Diplomacy at Fletcher, with research for his book Facing West: Americans and the Opening of the Pacific (1994). Bernstein earned her undergraduate degree from Smith College and also holds a master's degree in Russian studies from Harvard University's Graduate School of Arts & Sciences.

Dana Messina, E'83, to the Board of Overseers to the College of Engineering. Messina is CEO of Kirkland Messina, a Los Angeles-based investment firm and chief executive officer of Utilimaster Corp., the leading domestic manufacturer of vans and truck bodies for the package delivery, one-way truck rental, baking snack delivery and linen/uniform rental markets. He is also CEO of Steinway Musical Instruments Inc., the largest manufacturer of musical instruments in the United States. Before founding Kirkland Messina in 1994 with
Kyle Kirkland, Messina was a senior vice president at Drexel Burnham Lambert. Prior to embarking on a career in investment banking, he was an engineer at Combustion Engineering. He holds an M.A. from Harvard Business School.

COLLEGE LIFE

Educating for diversity

The Arts & Sciences administration, by combining and enhancing two existing positions, has established a new office to promote diversity on campus and serve as a resource for issues involving race, ethnicity, gender and sexual orientation.

Mel Bernstein, vice president for arts, sciences and technology, created the Office of Diversity Education and Development largely in response to the central recommendation of the Task Force on Race, a panel Tufts President John DiBiaggio and Bernstein established in 1996. The task force's report contains more than 50 recommendations aimed at ensuring that all students feel valued and welcome at Tufts.

The task force's year-long study found that students and faculty have a wide range of perceptions about the racial climate on campus, with many white students failing to see any difficulties for students of color, while many students of color told the task force they often feel isolated, marginalized and uncomfortable.

Record-setting applications

Undergraduate admissions has been busy this year with more than 12,350 applications for the first-year class. Applications represent all 50 states and 88 foreign countries and surpassed last year's record of 12,291. Those who identified Tufts as their first choice by applying Early Decision have more than doubled since 1995, with a record number applying again this year.

ALUMNI

Successful run for the Rhodes

Bryan Graham, A97, a member of the Tufts cross-country and track and field teams from 1993-97, is one of 32 student-athletes in the United States to be awarded a 1998 Rhodes Scholarship, which he will use to pursue studies in economics at Oxford.

Bryan Graham, A97, running cross-country for Tufts

Graham, who graduated summa cum laude last May with a degree in quantitative economics, is Tufts' first Rhodes Scholar in more than a decade. He was a member of the 1996 cross country team that ran to a seventh-place finish at the NCAA Division III National Championship Race in Rock Island, Ill. Last winter, he won the 3,000 meters at the ECAC

Badi Foster has been appointed director of the Lincoln Filene Center for Citizenship and Public Affairs. He also has been named the Lincoln Filene Professor in the College of Arts and Sciences. Foster, who succeeds Robert M. Hollister, now dean of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, served as president and CEO of Transport America and senior vice president of the University Hospitals of Cleveland. He was founding president of Aetna Life and Casualty's award-winning Institute for Corporate Education and chair of the National Institute of Literacy. Prior to his corporate career he spent a decade at Harvard University, where he was director of the Graduate School of Education's field experience program, chair of the Hispanic Study Group, assistant director of the Kennedy Institute of Politics, a visiting professor of Afro-American Studies and lecturer in education. He earned a Ph.D. from Princeton in 1974 and is the recipient of a number of academic honors, including Woodrow Wilson and Fulbright fellowships.

Dr. Linda Ross, associate dean for clinical programs and hospital director at Tufts School of Veterinary Medicine, has been elected a Distinguished Practitioner by the National Academy of Practice in Veterinary Medicine.

Dr. Floyd Atkins, associate professor of medicine and assistant dean for student affairs, was awarded the Distinguished Service Award by the Massachusetts affiliate of the American Heart Association. Atkins, chief of cardiology at Lemuel Shattuck Hospital, chairs the affiliate's Strategy 2000 Project on providing cardiovascular information to the general public.

Dan Lord, A98, tri-captain of the football team, was the 53rd recipient of the Gridiron Club of Greater Boston's Nils V. "Swede" Nelson Sportsmanship Award. A child development major, Lord is a member of the Somerville Big Brother Program and volunteers with the Leonard Carmichael Society. A talented artist, he was also awarded a Boston Globe Art Award. He was one of 22 players in the country named to the American Football Coaches Association's Good Works Team for his dedication to community service. On the field he twice earned the team's Arthur F. Harrison Award as Most Valuable Defensive Back.
Division III Championships, helping the Jumbos to an unexpected victory in the meet.

Graham, currently in Australia on a Fulbright Scholarship, received the Daniel Ounijan and Charles Bludhorn Prizes for Economics. He was Phi Beta Kappa as a senior, when he also received 1 of 10 Senior Awards from the Tufts University Alumni Association. Last year he was a finalist for the Walter Byars Scholarship, one of the top awards given by the N CAA.

RESEARCH

Skin and stress

Scientists at the School of Medicine have identified a hormone that appears to play a major role in how eczema, psoriasis and possibly other skin disorders spread under stress. The discovery, published in the January issue of the journal Endocrinology, eventually may lead to a new way to treat eczema and psoriasis—painful, stubborn and embarrassing skin disorders that affect more than 30 million people in the United States, according to Dr. Theoharis C. Theoharides, professor of pharmacology and experimental therapeutics and professor of medicine.

A Future for the Past

University Archives in Tisch Library is quickly evolving to meet the needs of the next century, thanks to University Archivist Greg Colati and Archives Assistant Sheri Kelley. They arrived at Tufts this past fall and quickly went to work becoming familiar with nearly 150 years of materials and photographs and donated collections. Their progress so far includes launching a website and organizing some 1,800 linear feet of materials to better serve growing numbers of scholars, graduates and staff. “Our goal is to create a systematic means of documenting the history of the institution,” says Colati, who previously streamlined Bowdoin College’s archives. “If we do this well, archives will be part of the everyday consciousness of people who work at Tufts and who went to Tufts.” They also hope to enrich the archives by gathering more Tufts materials, from old course catalogs, books and photographs to ephemeral documents such as postcards, student publications and concert programs. You can help the archives grow by contacting Colati at (617) 627-3737, via e-mail at gcolati@emerald.tufts.edu, or checking out the wish list on the archives webpage, www.library.tufts.edu/archives.