


More than a Lifelong Tie with HKU



Dr S C Fan 范叔欽 was Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences from 1981 to 1989. Joining the University as Senior Lecturer in Economics in 1969, becoming Senior Lecturer in Statistics, then Head of Statistics and Dean of Social Sciences, Dr Fan had served the University for 30 years before retirement. He passed away in 2003.

During his Deanship, the Faculty of Social Sciences introduced many important programmes that laid down a solid foundation, including: AdvSip(SocWk), BSW, BBA, MSocSc (Economics), MSocSc (Criminology), MSocSc (Applied Statistics), MPA, ... as well as established the Social Sciences Research Centre.

The Family of Dr Fan has generously donated over two million dollars to the Social Sciences Endowment Fund. In memory of Dr Fan, the donation is used to support an annual S C Fan Memorial Lecture. 

"In later years after his retirement, I would often see him walking across Spanish steps to the library and how regret I did not seize the chance to thank him as I should. It was nonetheless a great honour to have known him, as a student, a teacher and as a colleague."

Dr Geoffrey Blowers (*PhD 1976*)
Associate Dean of Social Sciences

"Although he was firm he was never bad tempered, he never raised his voice and always dealt with people diplomatically.... He was, I would say, the perfect gentleman."

Mr Henry Wai (*BA 1972; MA 1976*)
Registrar

"...wise, and considered in his judgement, a good friend and counsellor of students, generous in his personal relationships, willing to advise..."

Professor John Aitchison
Emeritus Professor

"For some years, my office was next to S C's and I found that he spoke mostly gently and he always kept spare umbrellas in his office for colleagues and students in case of rainy days."

Dr Shen Shir-ming (*BA 1977; PhD 1984*)
Deputy Director of SPACE,
former Dean of Social Sciences (1996 - 1999)