

# Pathology Genes Run in

## A Pioneering Pathologist

Professor Hou Pao-chang 侯寶璋 was Chair of Pathology at HKU between 1948 and 1960.

His principal research interest lay in the area of hepatobiliary diseases and he was well known for his work on the relationship between the Chinese liver fluke, *Clonorchis sinensis* and cancer of the bile ducts.

As The University of Hong Kong struggled to rehabilitate itself after the second world war, Hou took up the responsibility of guiding the Department of Pathology into the modern era of scientific investigation. During his headship, a new pathology building was constructed at Queen Mary Hospital in 1958, integrating teaching, research and clinical services.

Hou was a disciplinarian. He was deeply concerned about the learning attitude of students and believed strongly that a good pathologist has to be inquisitive and thorough, even to the degree of being obsessive.

After retiring from HKU, Hou was invited to be Vice-President of the Chinese Medical College 中國醫科大學, a post he held until his passing in 1967.

“The family is so multi-talented, and they have excelled not only in Pathology but in the arts, in history...”

Professor Lee Sum-ping 李心平  
(MBBS 1970; MD 1982)  
Dean, Li Ka Shing Faculty of Medicine

Hou Pao-chang's family.



Professor Hou Pao-chang and staff members of the Department of Pathology.



# Hou Pao-chang's Family

## A True Patriot

Professor Hou Jiancun 侯健存, the second son of Hou Pao-chang, studied at HKU medical school in 1949 and became a demonstrator in the Department of Pathology. In 1952, he returned to China as a researcher at the Central Institute of Health 中央衛生研究院, the predecessor of the Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences 中國醫學科學院, and became Chair of Pathology at Peking Union Medical College 中國協和醫科大學 in 1985.

He has dedicated his life's work to the greater good of China by fostering the development of medical science and building bridges between Western science and Chinese traditions.

He is also one of the founders of the HKU Alumni Association of Chinese Mainland.



Professor Hou Jiancun 侯健存 and his wife in Beijing.



Professor Laurence Hou and his family with the authors of the newly published book "Hou Pao-chang's Family" 《侯寶璋家族史》, Professor Liu Shu-yong 劉蜀永 (2<sup>nd</sup> left) and Dr Lau Chi-pang 劉智鵬 (BA 1984; MPhil 1987) (3<sup>rd</sup> right).

## A Passionate Son

The pathology gene also runs in Professor Hou's fourth son, Professor Laurence Hou Lee-tsun 侯勵存 (MBBS 1956). Laurence received his PhD from the University of Leeds in 1965 and was conferred the Honorary Degree of LLD by the University of Aberdeen in 1997. He is now the Regius Permanent Lecturer at the University of Aberdeen, the Head of Histopathology and Cytology Division at the Hong Kong Sanatorium & Hospital, and Honorary Professor of the Department of Pathology at HKU.

In 2007, forty years after his father's passing, Laurence launched the "Hou Pao-Chang Medical Memorial Fund" 侯寶璋醫學紀念基金 to support teaching and research in the Department of Pathology, HKU.



Four students of Professor Hou Pao-chang shared their memories of their most adored teacher at the book launch on July 20, 2009. From left: Professor Sir David Todd 達安輝 (MBBS 1952; MD 1958; Hon DSc 1992), Professor Rosie Young 楊紫芝 (MBBS 1953; MD 1959; Hon DSc 1995), Professor Lee Kin-hung 李健鴻 (MBBS 1958; MD 1971), Dr the Hon Edward Leong Che-hung 梁智鴻 (MBBS 1962; Hon DSc 2006), Chairman of HKU Council, and the moderator Professor S P Chow 周肇平 (MBBS 1968; MS 1988), Pro-Vice-Chancellor, HKU.