About Sun Yat-sen University

Sun Yat-sen University (SYSU) was located in Guangzhou City, Guangdong Province, an area neighboring Hong Kong and Macao, which is at the forefront of China’s reform and opening up. The university was founded in 1924 by Dr. Sun Yat-sen (also called Sun Zhongshan), a great democratic revolutionary leader of the 20th century. In its first 80 years, SYSU has grown into a prestigious university, ranks in Top 10 in China and at the top in South China.

Sun Yat-sen University is a comprehensive multi-disciplinary university, including the humanities, social sciences, natural sciences, technical sciences, medical sciences, pharmacology, and management science. Nowadays, the university has developed into a major center for culture and academic excellence in South China. There are more than 80,000 current students and 12,550 faculties in the university, among which there are more than 25,000 professors. It has developed over 20 national laboratories or research bases, and more than 70 state or provincial key research institutes.

Until today, numerous celebrated specialists and scholars from SYSU have achieved much in their later careers for both China and the rest of the world. Edified by the spirit of Sun Yat-sen’s motto of, “Studying extensively, enquiring accurately, reflecting carefully, discriminating clearly, and practicing earnestly,” our scholars from one generation to another continue to work hard in exploring at the cutting edge of research in the fields of science and technology. Our dedicated professors and lecturers by example have, with energy and resolve, taught students academically and nurtured them morally, so that many thousands upon thousands of students are making positive contributions in their own careers to social development and human progress.

Sun Yat-sen University is a prestigious university with a glorious and proud past, and it will surely add further laurels to its already high achievements in the future.

About Sun Yat-sen Center for Migrant Health Policy

China has been undergoing industrialization and urbanization over the last few decades. This process has brought more and more people to cities from rural areas. By the end of 2008, peasant workers who form the majority of migrants number 230 million. In China, Guangdong has the largest number of migrants who mainly work in the Pearl River Delta, which accounts for one-third of the local residents of Guangdong. To ensure access of every citizen to accessible, appropriate, and cost-effective health services, China has embarked on ambitious national health
reforms. In this situation, CMB approved grants to SYSU to establish and develop Sun Yat-sen Center for Migrant Health Policy (CMHP), after assessing the researches on migrant health with strict criteria. The center’s goal is to explore the problems of migrant population in China with an international perspective and global intelligence. We are committed to promoting researches on migrants’ public health, concerning with the disadvantaged, and improving the equity and accessibility of medical care service for migrant health. In a short term, the center will concentrate on health care needs and utilization of medical services for migrant population, and medical security and aid system.

With the substantial support of both CMB and SYSU, the center has first organized its advisory and academic committee, consisting of scholars of international well-known universities or institutes, such as Harvard University, Johns Hopkins University, University of Washington, United Nation Research Institute, Bielefeld University, Free University of Berlin, Chinese University of Hong Kong, Peking University, and Ministry of Health of China and so on. Moreover, we now have more than 25 scholars of different disciplines in our research team, including public health, government, management, anthropology and sociology, finance, mental health, etc.

To fulfill our aspiration, we are trying our best to make contribution to improving public health for Chinese migration, through multidisciplinary and international researches, using advanced research methods. To this point, the center held an international academic conference on November 13 2009, having more than 40 scholars attending the conference, including those from CMB, SYSU, Johns Hopkins University, Bielefeld University, and Chinese University of Hong Kong, etc. Attendees were having a heated discussion on the topics of the center’s construction plan, research areas and projects, and cooperative mechanism. The conference came to a close with success, and became the milestone and guide light of the center’s development. As we said “To hear all, and to be heard by all”, the center is planning another international conference at the end of this year, to hear more suggestion and to seek more collaboration. Furthermore, the center printed its first brochure, built up the official website (www.cmhp-sysu.com), and regularly holds meetings to discuss the latest development of the center. With help of the brochure and website, we hope the center’s work will attract more attention.

At present, the center is working on the Report on Current Status of Public Health for Migrants in China. The report is going to ground the further researches in a thorough knowledge of the past, and it will probably be finished in this May. To seek more help and cooperation, the center would like to get in touch with more scholars and institutes, exchange the vision or conduct collaborative researches with them, so as to help improve the health researches for migrant population. Apart from the Report, the
center now also focuses on the database and research base construction, which will be a vital part of our researches. We are in hope that our database and research base will contribute to the relevant global researches.

Thanks to the support of CMB and SYSU, the center is progressing steadily and smoothly. Trustees of CMB are very interested in our center, and they not only approved grants for its founding and development, but also offer us many opportunities for personnel training and capacity development. For example, some young scholars have successfully applied for CMB Faculty Development programme and getting themselves well trained. Dr. Roman XU, CMB Beijing Office director, has discussed with our directors about the center’s development for many times, and we were told that the center is encouraged to apply for an extra grant for capacity construction. With all these support and opportunities, we hope the center will grow into a prestigious research institute in the field of public health policy.