



## Faculty of Dentistry students row HKU to victory

Two HKU Faculty of Dentistry students, Chris YH Chan (BDS III) and Dr Ian Anderson (MOrth, year 2), helped The University of Hong Kong beat the Chinese University of Hong Kong on 22 September 2008 in the main boat race of the 22nd Intersarsity Rowing Championships—Hong Kong’s equivalent of the annual Oxford and Cambridge Boat Race.

Held at the Shing Mun River, Shatin, the men’s intersarsity coxed-eight race covered a distance of 3 km—1 km more than an Olympic regatta. By edging to victory by just 2 seconds, with a time of 10 minutes 22.67 seconds, the HKU men’s eight crew reversed HKU’s unlucky string of seven consecutive losses.

“We hung on until the finish line despite the pain,” says Chris, who rowed in position 3. “All the training paid off in the end, and we’re proud to have played a part in HKU’s history.”

Ian, who hails from Sheffield, UK, and rowed in position 7, agrees: “To train for 3 hours every day for 4 months wasn’t easy. But to represent HKU and win was a real honour and I’ll definitely treasure the experience.”

When not in training, the crew deepened its rapport with an East-meets-West flavour. “We got to know each other really well, which helped strengthen our teamwork, and I learnt about Chinese food and culture along the way,” says Ian. About his most memorable moment: “I couldn’t play mahjong, so we played cards instead but I still lost,” says Ian. The forfeit: eating chicken’s testicles.



*Taste of victory: The winning HKU men’s eight crew at the Intersarsity Rowing Championships included two Faculty of Dentistry students: Chris YH Chan and Ian Anderson [3rd and 7th from L].*



Media contact:

Ms Melody Tang, Communications and Development Officer; Tel: 2859 0210;

E-mail: [meltang@hkucc.hku.hk](mailto:meltang@hkucc.hku.hk)

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