

For immediate release
16 March 1999

"RACE" EXHIBITION WILL PREMIERE AT HKUST

"All of us are related; each of us is unique" is the title of the thought-provoking exhibition on the idea of "race" as a misleading way of conceptualizing human diversity. The exhibition will open at the University Library Gallery at the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology on Friday, 19 March.

The exhibition consists of 18 panels and a 30-minute film entitled "Six Billion Races". Produced originally in French by a team of biological anthropologists in the University of Geneva, the exhibition was first staged in Paris in 1992, then in Geneva in 1994. Marshall Segall, Professor Emeritus of Social and Political Psychology at Syracuse University in the U.S. has prepared English versions of the panels and the film. Sponsored by the HKUST Library, the exhibition will stage its Asian premiere at HKUST.

A core theme of the exhibition is that there are no biological barriers between the nearly 6 billion human beings that today inhabit the earth. It emphasizes how recent research on human diversity leads to the conclusion that we all have the same ancestors and that the genetic diversity of contemporary human populations reflects the paths followed by our ancestors in the course of human migrations over the past 100,000 years. The exhibition asserts that, in a world in which intergroup hostility has long been based on erroneous beliefs in biologically determined characteristics of so-called "races", our habitual way of thinking about how we relate to each other needs seriously to be re-examined.

In conjunction with the official opening of the exhibition on 23 March, the School of Humanities and Social Science at HKUST will conduct a forum on "race and racism" from 4pm-5:30pm in Chow Tak Sin Lecture Theater. Prof Marshall Segall will open the forum with a lecture entitled "If there's no such thing as 'race', why do we still have racism?" This will be followed by a panel discussion of local academics and political figures, including Ms Christine Loh of the Citizens Party and Hong Kong Against Race Discrimination, Mr Mak Hoi Wah of City University and Movement Against Discrimination, and Dr Barry Sautman of the Division of Social Science at HKUST.

Title of exhibition:	"All of us are related; each of us is unique"
Date:	19 March-16 April 1999
Venue:	University Library Gallery, HKUST Clear Water Bay, Kowloon
Opening Reception:	Tuesday, 23 March, 3:30pm;
Lecture & Panel Discussion:	Tuesday, 23 March, 4-5:30pm
Venue:	Chow Tak Sin Lecture Theater (LTG), HKUST

Further information is available from Dr. Kimberly Chang, Division of Social Science, HKUST, email: sokchang@ust.hk.

Note to Editors:

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