

THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

Knowledge Exchange Seminar Series

Play as Prevention: Gamified Positive Psychology for Healthy Gaming Development

Biography of Speaker



Professor Cecilia Cheng
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Professor Cecilia Cheng is Eugene Chuang Professor in Social and Development Psychology at the University of Hong Kong, specializing in areas including social, personality, health, applied, cross-cultural, and cyber-psychology. She is an elected Fellow of the Association for Psychological Science (APS) and serves as the Director-at-Large of the International Council of Psychologists (ICP). Professor Cheng has received several notable accolades, including the Fulbright Senior Scholar Award, Cambridge Hughes Hall Fellowship, ICP Early Career Research Award, and Humanities and Social Sciences Prestigious Fellowship from the Research Grants Council (RGC). She is recognized among Stanford University's World's Top 2% Scientists and honoured as one of Clarivate's Top 1% Scientists globally.

Professor Cheng has served as an Associate Editor for the Journal of Personality and Social Psychology (Personality Processes and Individual Differences section), a flagship journal in the social psychology field, and an Associate Editor of Health Psychology Review, a flagship

journal in the clinical psychology field. Currently, she holds the position of Senior Editor for Social Science and Medicine (Health Psychology Office) and also serves as a Consulting Editor for esteemed journals such as Psychological Bulletin and the British Journal of Social Psychology. She is also an Editor of the second edition of the SAGE Handbook of Health Psychology. During her tenure at the University of Hong Kong, she held the position of Associate Dean (Postgraduate Education) at the Faculty of Social Sciences and currently serves as the Associate Dean (Personal Development) at the Graduate School.

Professor Cheng's research team is dedicated to improving the mental and physical wellness of the Hong Kong population. Her work applies theoretical frameworks from personality and social psychology to address real-life pressing issues such as AI and society, gaming disorder, cyberbullying and school bullying, information technology addiction, digital citizenship, positive education, stress and coping, psychosomatic disorders, emotional disorders, and health-risk behaviours. Her team regularly organizes workshops, courses, and lectures to raise public awareness about mental and physical well-being.