

Dr. Billy Hau and Dr. Kenny Leung have graciously accepted the *Porcupine!* challenge. They will be expertly assisted by Ms. Rachel Wong and Ms. Laura Wong, who, over the years, have assembled, massaged and webbed-up *Porcupine!*, learning with us as we moved from hard to soft formats and completely into the electronic age. Rachel and Laura have been, and will continue to be, invaluable members of the *Porcupine!* team, and we are most grateful to them both for all their hard and patient work over the years. Thank you! Finally, a big ‘thank you’ to all who have contributed articles, letters, insights, comments and materials over the years. Please continue to support *Porcupine!*

*Over and out, Yvonne and Richard*



## News from DEB

Welcome back, to a new semester, a new academic year, a new Dean of Science, and some exciting postings for several of our ‘old’ colleagues. The Faculty of Science welcomes Professor Sun Kwok to HKU from the University of Calgary in Canada. Professor Kwok joined the Faculty in February, and is a renowned astronomer. We congratulate Dr. Andy Cornish for his move from DEB and SWIMS to WWF-HK in the important role of Director of Conservation, and Dr. Yixin Zhang, until very recently a Research Assistant Professor in DEB and our salamander expert, who has just started his new Faculty position at the State University of Texas at San Marco. Congratulations and good luck to both Andy and Yixin in these important moves. Dr. Yvonne Sadovy is now the Deputy Head of DEB with a special responsibility to work towards our integration into the new School of Biology. The School, which will unite the three biological departments under one umbrella, will become a reality on 1 July 2007. The current scheme for organization of the School (as approved by the University Senate) envisages that DEB will largely continue as a ‘Division of Ecology & Biodiversity’, along side two other Divisions. I am also pleased to announce my reappointment as Head of DEB.

In closing, I would like to take this opportunity to say goodbye and thank you to Richard Corlett and Yvonne Sadovy as co-editors of *Porcupine!* After presiding over 12 issues, both feel it is time to pass on the pen (or, increasingly, the PC) for others to shape the issues. Dr. Billy Hau and Dr. Kenny Leung have, generously, taken up the *Porcupine!* challenge.

**David Dudgeon**

## Feedback

Dear *Feedback*,

We refer to the book review on “A Field Guide to the Amphibians of Hong Kong” published in the latest issue of *Porcupine!* 33. We are pleased to see that our book has captured the attention of your reviewer and will make good use of his constructive comments in a future revision of the book. Nevertheless, we are deeply disappointed by the approach adopted which, to our concern, would prejudice fellow readers of *Porcupine!* against the field guide before they have the opportunity to read it. Wording and remarks such as “some hooligan at AFCD or Cosmos Books”, “migraine-inducing dog’s dinner”, “ghastly, clamorous jumble of overlapping amphibian photographs” and “recommend it to non-epileptics” are certainly out of place for a newsletter of the reputable Department of Ecology and Biodiversity of The University of Hong Kong.

We respect *Porcupine!* as a highly acclaimed newsletter which has a large readership in particular among fellow ecologists and nature enthusiasts in Hong Kong. However, we regret to see that a book review with such inappropriate wording is being published. We sincerely hope that any book reviews in *Porcupine!* in future could be done in a constructive and respectful manner.

Simon Chan, K.S. Cheung, C.Y. Ho, F.N.  
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(Herpetofauna Working Group, Agriculture,  
Fisheries and Conservation Department)

Michael Lau  
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Anthony Bogadek  
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Authors of “A Field Guide to the  
Amphibians of Hong Kong”

[**Editor’s note:** It should be noted that views expressed in all articles published in *Porcupine!* represent those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the views of the Department of Ecology & Biodiversity.]

Dear *Feedback*,

I refer to Graham Reels’s review of the ‘Field Guide to the Dragonflies of Hong Kong’ by Keith DP Wilson in *Porcupine!* 32: 20-21. Although Graham was, on the whole, complimentary about the book, for which I am grateful, he gave the impression that the book was largely a one-man production. The book, now in its second edition, was written in collaboration with Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation