

RGC Ref. No.: UGC/FDS14/H12/14 _____ (please insert ref. above)
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**RESEARCH GRANTS COUNCIL  
COMPETITIVE RESEARCH FUNDING SCHEMES FOR  
THE LOCAL SELF-FINANCING DEGREE SECTOR**

**FACULTY DEVELOPMENT SCHEME (FDS)**

**Completion Report**  
*(for completed projects only)*

<p><b><u>Submission Deadlines:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Auditor's report with unspent balance, if any: within <b>six</b> months of the approved project completion date.</li> <li>2. Completion report: within <b>12</b> months of the approved project completion date.</li> </ol>
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**Part A: The Project and Investigator(s)**

**1. Project Title**

A Philosophical Investigation of the Interaction between Emotion and Mood

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**2. Investigator(s) And Academic Department(s) / Unit(s) Involved**

Research Team	Name / Post	Unit / Department / Institution
Principal Investigator	Wong Muk Yan/Assistant Professor	Department of Social Science/ Hang Seng Management College
Co-Investigator(s)		
Others		

**3. Project Duration**

	Original	Revised	Date of RGC / Institution Approval <i>(must be quoted)</i>
Project Start Date	1 Oct 2014		
Project Completion Date	30 Sep 2016	31 Mar 2017	13 Sep 2016
Duration <i>(in month)</i>	24 months	30 months	13 Sep 2016
Deadline for Submission of Completion Report	30 Sep 2017	31 Mar 2018	13 Sep 2016

## **Part B: The Final Report**

### **5. Project Objectives**

#### 5.1 Objectives as per original application

- I. To construct a comprehensive philosophical argument explaining why emotions and moods should be regarded as two distinct mental systems in terms of their distinct evolutionary functions.
- II. To develop a conceptual framework for the possible interaction between emotion and mood in light of the latest philosophical, psychological, and neurological research.
- III. To understand how the reciprocal strengthening tendency of emotions and moods may affect the quality and meaning of our lives.
- IV. To explore the possibility of developing new methods to control emotions and mood disorders with regard to the current cognitive and biological therapies and in light of the mood-emotion loop.
- V. Two research papers are expected to be published in international journals. A book manuscript is expected to be completed and published by a local or international publisher.

#### 5.2 Revised objectives

Date of approval from the RGC: \_\_\_\_\_

Reasons for the change: \_\_\_\_\_

- 1.
- 2.
3. ....

#### 5.3 Realisation of the objectives

*(Maximum 1 page; please state how and to what extent the project objectives have been achieved; give reasons for under-achievements and outline attempts to overcome problems, if any)*

The relationship between emotion and mood was investigated, which resulted in the publication of a paper “The Mood-Emotion Loop” in the *Philosophical Studies*. (Volume 173, 2016, Issue 11, pp 3061–3080). The nature, elicitors, intentional contents, corresponding responses and significance of love, anger, sadness,

jealousy, fear, disgust, shame, guilt, fago, amae, joy, and happiness have been studied and reviewed in the perspective of philosophy, psychology, and biology. A book manuscript of around 200,000 words was written and accepted for publication by the Chinese University Press.

#### 5.4 Summary of objectives addressed to date

<b>Objectives</b> <i>(as per 5.1/5.2 above)</i>	<b>Addressed</b> <i>(please tick)</i>	<b>Percentage Achieved</b> <i>(please estimate)</i>
1. To construct a comprehensive philosophical argument explaining why emotions and moods should be regarded as two distinct mental systems in terms of their distinct evolutionary functions.	✓	100%
2. To develop a conceptual framework for the possible interaction between emotion and mood in light of the latest philosophical, psychological, and neurological research.	✓	100%
3. To understand how the reciprocal strengthening tendency of emotions and moods may affect the quality and meaning of our lives	✓	100%
4. To explore the possibility of developing new methods to control emotions and mood disorders with regard to the current cognitive and biological therapies and in light of the mood-emotion loop.	✓	100%
5. Two research papers are expected to be published in international journals. A book manuscript is expected to be completed and published by a local or international publisher.	✓	100%

## 6. Research Outcome

### 6.1 Major findings and research outcome (Maximum 1 page; please make reference to Part C where necessary)

Based on the theory of the mechanisms of emotion and mood I review and develop, I formulate the *mood-emotion loop* to explain how an emotion and a mood may affect each other. Specifically, one is more likely to be in a specific emotion when one is in specific mood if the cognitive biases generated by the mood affect the appraisals of adaptational encounters in the process of the emotion in a way such that a specific adaptational encounter is more likely to be represented. On the other hand, one is more likely to be in a specific mood when one is in a specific emotion if the appraisals and physiological responses associated with the emotion change one's energy levels or one's perceived energy demand of environment in a way such that the monitoring of which may lead to the arousal of a specific mood.

### 6.2 Potential for further development of the research and the proposed course of action (Maximum half a page)

The model of the mood–emotion loop that I develop may use to explain and solve the puzzle of musical emotion. Specifically, music may arouse garden-variety emotions because the bodily responses aroused by music may trigger moods that facilitate the arousal of these emotions through their influences on our cognition, reasoning style/speed, attention, and memory. The musical emotion, which is relatively weak initially, may become increasingly stronger through the continuous interaction between the mechanisms of emotion and mood, and eventually feel as if a genuine emotional experience. This project is expected to shed light on philosophy of mind and philosophy of music. A application for FDS grant is submitted for this project in 2018.

## 7. Layman's Summary

*(Describe in layman's language the nature, significance and value of the research project, in no more than 200 words)*

This project reformulates the conceptual relationship between emotions and moods in light of recent research in philosophy, cognitive psychology, and neuroscience. The conceptual framework of Mood-Emotion Loop is formulated to explain the interaction between the mechanisms of emotion and mood. Being an interdisciplinary study of a novel and underdeveloped topic in philosophy of mind research, this project shed light on many philosophical questions derived from the classic mind-body problem. It also contributes to emotion research in cognitive psychology by developing a new model of the interaction between emotions and moods and suggests experiments for testing the model. Finally, this project is of particular interest to scholars of aesthetics because of the close relationship between artistic and emotional experience. For instance, it may help us understand how different art forms, such as music and films, arouse specific moods and emotions in audiences

## Part C: Research Output

### 8. Peer-Reviewed Journal Publication(s) Arising Directly From This Research Project

*(Please attach a copy of the publication and/or the letter of acceptance if not yet submitted in the previous progress report(s). All listed publications must acknowledge RGC's funding support by quoting the specific grant reference.)*

The Latest Status of Publications				Author(s) (denote the corresponding author with an asterisk*)	Title and Journal / Book (with the volume, pages and other necessary publishing details specified)	Submitted to RGC (indicate the year ending of the relevant progress report)	Attached to this Report (Yes or No)	Acknowledged the Support of RGC (Yes or No)	Accessible from the institutional repository (Yes or No)
Year of Publication	Year of Acceptance (For paper accepted but not yet published)	Under Review	Under Preparation (optional)						
	2018			Wong Muk Yan	情動於中，中大出版社	No	Yes	Yes (Proof cannot be provided yet as it is not yet published)	Yes
2017					The Ideal Love: Platonic or Frommian? (Dialogue and Universalis)	2016	Yes	Yes	Yes

					m, Vol. 4, pp 137-146)				
2016				Wong Muk Yan	“The Mood-Emo tion Loop”, <i>Philosophic al Studies</i> , (Volume 173, 2016, Issue 11, pp 3061–3080)	2016	Yes	Yes	Yes

**9. Recognized International Conference(s) In Which Paper(s) Related To This Research Project Was / Were Delivered**

*(Please attach a copy of each conference abstract)*

Month / Year / Place	Title	Conference Name	Submitted to RGC <i>(indicate the year ending of the relevant progress report)</i>	Attached to this Report <i>(Yes or No)</i>	Acknowledged the Support of RGC <i>(Yes or No)</i>	Accessible from the institutional repository <i>(Yes or No)</i>
July/2015/ Edinburgh	Grief meets Jealousy	The second annual conference of the European Philosophical Society for the Study of Emotions	2015	Yes	Yes	Yes
July/2016/ Warsaw	Frommian Love in the Movie HER	XI World Congress of the International Society for Universal Dialogue (ISUD)	No	Yes	Yes	Yes

**10. Whether Research Experience And New Knowledge Has Been Transferred / Has Contributed To Teaching And Learning**

*(Please elaborate)*

The knowledge I developed in this project is used for my teaching of the module GEN2025  
“Understanding Emotions: A Scientific Approach”

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**11. Student(s) Trained**

*(Please attach a copy of the title page of the thesis)*

<b>Name</b>	<b>Degree Registered for</b>	<b>Date of Registration</b>	<b>Date of Thesis Submission / Graduation</b>
NA			

**12. Other Impact**

*(e.g. award of patents or prizes, collaboration with other research institutions, technology transfer, teaching enhancement, etc.)*

NA

**13. Public Access Of Completion Report**

*(Please specify the information, if any, that cannot be provided for public access and give the reasons.)*

<b>Information that Cannot Be Provided for Public Access</b>	<b>Reasons</b>
NA	

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**FACULTY DEVELOPMENT SCHEME (FDS)**

**Completion Report - Attachment**

*(for completed projects only)*

**RGC Ref. No.:** UGC/FDS14/H12/14

**Principal Investigator:** Wong Muk Yan

**Project Title:** A Philosophical Investigation of the Interaction between Emotion and Mood

**Statistics on Research Outputs**

	Peer-reviewed Journal Publications	Conference Papers	Scholarly Books, Monographs and Chapters	Patents Awarded	Other Research Outputs (Please specify)
No. of outputs arising directly from this research project [or conference]	2	2	1		