A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed in Guangzhou on May 18, 2008, formally announced the beginning of and commitment to a meaningful partnership project on occupational health and safety (OHS) between Australian and Chinese institutions. The partners in this OHS collaboration include Australia’s Griffith University (GU), with support from Workplace Health and Safety Queensland (WHSQ), and China’s Guangdong Institute of Health Inspection (GIHI), and Guangdong Prevention and Treatment Center for Occupational Diseases (GPTCOH) with support from the Guangdong Provincial Health Bureau. Mr Huang Fei, the Deputy Director-General of the Guangdong Health Bureau, who was the witness to the MOU, expressed his strong support for the project and regarded it as highly significant for worker health and safety for China.
The project on enhancing occupational health and safety training in China has been awarded a grant from the Australia-China Foundation. The long-term vision for the project is to develop a sustainable and meaningful partnership to promote workplace health and safety through capacity building, collaborative research, and the sharing of relevant expertise and information. The immediate aim is to strengthen OHS training capacity in the Guangdong health workforce to enable them to deal with pressing occupational health challenges. Thus, while the MOU covers a range of OHS activities, the initial focus is on identifying training needs and the development of useful supportive material, especially the translation and adaptation of *Principles of Occupational Health and Hygiene*. (see PDF on Newsletter article)

Signing the MOU on May 18, 2008 in Guangzhou are Prof Huang Hanlin from Guangdong Prevention and Treatment Center for Occupational Diseases, Prof Ian O’Connor, Vice Chancellor of Griffith University, and Madam Deng Yenzheng, Guangdong Institute of Health Inspection. Mr Huang Fei (middle back row), the Deputy Director-General of the Guangdong Health Bureau was the witness to the MOU.

**The Australian Book on Principles of Occupational Health and Hygiene**

The Australian text *Principles of Occupational Health and Hygiene* is recognised by the Australian Institute of Occupational Hygienists (AIOH) and offers a systematic and comprehensive overview of occupational health hazards and hazardous environments applicable to a range of commonly encountered industrial and organisational settings. The book’s authors, leading industry professionals and educators, explain how to use occupational hygiene processes to identify key workplace hazards including chemical agents such as dusts, metals and gases, physical agents such as noise, radiation, temperature extremes, and microbiological agents. They also outline the procedures needed to assess the risk from such exposures and to control and manage those risks effectively. Chapters are illustrated with useful tables, diagrams, flowcharts and pictures, reflecting the combination of basic theory, factual health knowledge and the intensely practical nature of the interventions needed to manage hygiene hazards in the workplace. This textbook, rich in information and useful professional practices, has gained international recognition and is used in many postgraduate health and safety courses as an introduction for training professional hygienists.
Project Team:
The project leader and coordinator is Professor Cordia Chu, who in 1990 designed and founded the work and health degree program at Griffith University. That program has since produced many OHS professionals who serve government and industry bodies including the Queensland Division of Workplace Health and Safety with whom CEPH has developed a strong and continuous partnership in workplace health and safety training. Under her leadership, CEPH has formed a project team consisting of 17 members from Australia and Guangdong.

The project team consists of:
1. Project leader and two research and academic staff from CEPH to coordinate and oversee the project, facilitate partnership development, and host the workshop for needs identification and capacity building plan development;
2. 3 OHS experts from WHSQ to provide expert advice, proof reading and editorial comments on the book;
3. 5 translators from the Chinese Centre for Disease Control and Prevention undertaking a public health leadership program at GU; and
4. 6 experts from the GIHI and GPTCOH to provide feedback on the Chinese translation of the text and additional Chinese material and relevant laws and regulations, and identify OHS training needs for developing a capacity building plan.