

Academy to boost medical profession

THE Chief Secretary Sir David Ford has called on doctors to keep pace with developments in their chosen fields as the knowledge and skills they had acquired in medical school were rapidly being overtaken.

Officiating yesterday's "Walk for the Academy - Walk for Health" of the Hongkong Academy of Science at Tai Tam Country Park, Sir David said the academy would help doctors do that by providing locally-based post-graduate programmes in a range of medical specialities.

The walk was one of a series of events aimed at raising \$3 million to

build and run the Hongkong Academy of Medicine.

When built, it will be Hongkong's first and only independent institution with the authority to approve, assess and accredit all post-internship specialist medical training, including general practice and dental specialities.

At present, specialist training has to be completed overseas and accreditation depends on Royal Colleges in the UK and Australasia.

Opportunities for training in Western countries are becoming increasingly scarce.

Film celebrities and prominent public figures participated in the charity walk.

Cherie Chung Chor Hung, Miss Hongkong 1991 Amy Kwok and first runner-up of Miss Hongkong 1991 Valerie Chow, lent their support to the cause.

Also present were legislators Dr Leong Che-hung, Dr Lam Kui-chun, Dr Huang Chen-ya, Acting Secretary for Health and Welfare Dr Lee Shiu-hung and vice chancellor of the Chinese University of Hongkong Prof Charles Kao.