The Challenge of Innovation

~ Joshua Lee ~

As the newly appointed editor of Concord, I now have the pleasure and challenge to pen my very first editorial for our department’s biannual publication. First off, I would like to take this opportunity to thank my dear colleague, Prof Tommy Chow, for his tireless service to the department as the previous editor. On this note, it is immediately evident that Prof Chow has left me with enormously large shoes to fill as the new editor of Concord. Prof Chow has always impressed me with his insightful editorials commenting on the future of EE graduates, surveying the IT job market backed up by solid data, and offering timeless words of wisdom to our students and alumni that they will do well to take heed. Compared to Prof Chow, I bring with me just a modicum of experience to my new role with the deep acknowledgement that I have much to live up to.

For my first editorial, I thought it would be appropriate to touch on the topic inspired by this edition’s contribution to Focus: Innovation. On this note, I am highly grateful to my colleagues, Prof Henry Chung and Dr Leanne Chan, for their readiness to share about their recent breakthroughs in research that involved nothing short of an interdisciplinary collaboration. The problem they have been trying hard to crack is a very practical and important one: How do you transfer power reliably, efficiently and safely to an artificial eye without running wires into and out of the body? Their solution was not one borne out of an ivory tower. It targets complications arising from real life situations, like ensuring that power is continually being transmitted even when the patient’s head is being turned. Their innovation is just one of many examples of how problems rarely organize themselves neatly into categories and subjects. This example shows how a problem from ophthalmological tools demanded solutions that came from power electronics and electromagnetics.

I hope that after reading this edition’s Focus, it will become apparent to our readers that there clearly are evidences of technological innovation in Hong Kong. One might argue rather sadly that innovation may be limited, but honesty would compel us that it is there nonetheless. In addition, the process of identifying problems and then formulating solutions to address these problems reveals that the real complex problems we see today require skills and resources that cut across traditional subject boundaries. This fact is a strong rebuke to advocates who unquestionably equate university education with vocational training. This view expresses itself by assuming that the primary purpose of a university education is to prepare the student for particular jobs. This grand purpose manifests itself most tangibly by the presentation of the diploma or certificate as a stamp of assurance that the student is ready for the job. The danger of this sort of view lies in its failure to match up with modern reality. We can see this from differences in employment attitudes and patterns today with those in the past. In the past, the most prized employment paradigm was stability and lifelong employment. Today, the way one looks at certainty, stability and constancy has changed dramatically with the turn of the millennium. In contrast to classic examples of individuals rising through the ranks of the same company through long service, we see more and more examples of highly successful individuals who have moved between corporations (and even industries) in their climb to different roles of responsibility. More and more, diversity of experience and skill set is seen as an advantage. The situation is complicated by trends in which permanent employment opportunities are on the fall while short term contracts become more commonplace. In addition to paradigm changes regarding job loyalty and stability, the marketplace has been revolutionized by tumultuous changes that have created new jobs while also eliminating traditional jobs, or otherwise redefining existing jobs. Economists point the source of these changes to the market itself.
seeking to increase its productivity overall. How does a government ensure that it has enough resources to provide for its populace? It comes down to productivity and its growth. But how does a society sustain productivity to satisfy its populace? This is straightforward in the developing stages, typically achieved by orientating the economy towards cheap exports and attracting investment. But what happens as the economy grows and standards of living catch up with more developed societies, and the disparity in wages start to narrow? Building an economy on cheap exports and low cost manufacturing then becomes unsustainable and unprofitable. Growth is always dependent on innovation, except that in the early stages of development, a majority of the innovation has been imported rather than having to be created internally. Hong Kong, championing itself as Asia’s World City, faces the challenge of transforming itself from low cost exports to high value product innovation. The western European powers like Germany, France, Netherlands, Switzerland, Sweden, and Finland are fine examples of creating high value manufacturing.

In reality, what we see is the slow attrition of production industries locally as these capabilities are either outsourced or migrated to satellite sites across the border. Citing from the example of technology companies in the U.S. who outsourced their manufacturing capabilities phase by phase to factories overseas, they realized that they had just sold off their core competence and ability to compete eventually. The answer is to innovate and move up the value chain. This is the only way to maintain an advantage and survive in what has already become a highly globalized marketplace and supply chain. It does not take a genius to understand that coming up with high value innovative products will be much more expensive than copying. High value research and development also requires well-trained technology experts to take the lead. Prospects of careers in technology innovation should be highly attractive rather than be off-putting in order to attract and retain specialized talent. This probably would require strategic investments from government as well as partnerships to bring in global technology firms to invest and set up operations locally. One classic example is Taiwan and the setting up for its high tech science park. While admittedly Hong Kong has a global reputation for financial services, which undoubtedly plays an important role to the economy, would it not make sense to diversify the economy through technological innovation? How else would you harness the opportunities and challenges brought forth by the knowledge economy?

The new reality that we live in today is one that many would find a tough pill to swallow because instinctively we cling on to stability and certainty. Much of local education is oriented to provide both the student and parent with the false illusion of certainty. This includes the process of progressing through the education system where it appears that the chief driver is a firefighting mindset: deal with the task now and worry about what comes next later. The end product is what one hopes to be a decent transcript but with little interest for learning. Much of the private tuition industry, with some exceptions, simply capitalizes and perpetuates this distorted view. Even when it comes to choosing subjects, the same flight to security is evident. Given this climate dominated by the pressure to play it safe, it is understandable why students search for well-trodden paths that make the most sense in light of their education experience. Technology innovation has shown that jobs can be made obsolete faster than one would imagine in the new economy or redefined because old functions get outsourced and made obsolete. Innovation is not the enemy because it is the catalyst to growth. Individuals and societies at large need to keep being innovative or be made redundant in the new economy. There is no resting on past laurels and certainty. On this note, it never fails to fill me with sadness when students question the use of knowledge disseminated to them. I often wonder if these questions are borne out of a malaise of trying to get away with the least effort. I think this is yet again a manifestation of the firefighting mindset towards education. If only they could understand that every nugget of technical knowledge that I have passed on to them is an opportunity to apply their minds to deconstruct the abstract. Knowledge assimilation is not a destination we arrive at, but a process that we practice out continually. We get better at learning by practicing. We get better at solving problems by applying our
mental faculties.

For administrators, the question is how institutions and structures should be organized in order to encourage innovation. For educators like us, we need to ask ourselves how we are preparing our students to meet the challenges of the new marketplace that we live in today. For employers, it is evitable that they will be constantly asking how they are allocating resources to remain competitive through continual innovation.

Staff Achievements

Fellow of The World Academy of Sciences

Professor Ron CHEN Guanrong, Chair Professor of EE, has been elected Fellow of The World Academy of Sciences (TWAS) for the advancement of science in developing countries. The election is a recognition of Prof Chen’s outstanding contribution to science and its promotion in the developing world.

TWAS was founded in 1983 by a distinguished group of scientists from the developing world, under the leadership of Abdus Salam, the Pakistani physicist and Nobel Prize winner. The overarching mission of TWAS is to advance scientific excellence in developing countries. TWAS has some 1,150 elected Fellows from more than 90 countries and 15 of them are Nobel laureates.

Prof Henry Chung has been elected Fellow of The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers 2016

Prof Henry Chung, Professor of EE, has been elected Fellow of The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (FIEEE) 2016 for his outstanding contributions to power electronic converters for lighting. EE Department now boasts 15 IEEE Fellows.

Best Paper Award in the 2015 IEEE 4th Asia Pacific Conference on Antennas and Propagation

Prof K M LUK, Chair Professor of EE, and his PhD student, Mr LI Yujian, have received the Best Paper Award in the 2015 IEEE 4th Asia Pacific Conference on Antennas and Propagation for the paper entitled “A Transparent Water Dielectric Antenna”. There were 286 accepted papers, from which 7 papers were shortlisted to compete for this single award.

The Asia-Pacific Conference on Antennas and Propagation is an international forum for the exchange of information on the progress and recent advancements in the research and development of innovative antenna technology and radio wave propagation.
**Student Achievements**

**2015 IEEE AP-S Eugene F. Knott Memorial Pre-Doctoral Research Award**

Miss Wang Shiqi (ECE student, year 4), has won the 2015 Eugene F. Knott Memorial Pre-Doctoral Research Award presented by IEEE Antennas and Propagation Society (AP-S). Her winning project proposal is called “Design of Decorative Unidirectional Glass Antenna for WiFi Router” which was supervised by Prof K W Leung. AP-S awards up to six pre-doctoral scholarships each year to encourage students to pursue a career in the area of electromagnetics and our student is one of the recipients this year.

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**Silver Award of HKEIA Innovation & Technology Project Competition Award 2015**

Mr Mui Ka Tsun, ECE graduate in 2015, has won the Silver Award of HKEIA Innovation & Technology Project Competition Award 2015. His winning Final Year Project, supervised by Dr Andy Chan, is titled “Scalable Artistic LED Bar for Light Painting”.

Jointly organized by The Hong Kong Electronic Industries
Association (HKEIA) and Hong Kong Electronic Industries Association Education Foundation (HKEIAEF), the Award is designed to recognize and reward students with outstanding final year projects which demonstrate excellence in technology and innovation.

**Student Best Paper Award at the 2015 International Workshop on Electromagnetics: Applications and Student Innovation Competition**

PhD student, Miss Guo Lei, has been awarded the Student Best Paper Award at the 2015 International Workshop on Electromagnetics: Applications and Student Innovation Competition for her paper “Compact Omnidirectional Circularly Polarized Dielectric Resonator Antenna”, which was supervised by Prof K W Leung. The competition aims to provide an opportunity for students to present technical know-how and demonstrate outstanding research works related to electromagnetics applications to unfold personal charisma. There were 9 papers shortlisted to the final round and our student has been selected to be the Champion.

**HKIE Outstanding Paper Award for Young Engineers/Researchers 2015**

Two PhD students, Mr Fan Wing To and Mr Tung Chung Pui have been awarded the HKIE Outstanding Paper Award for Young Engineers/Researchers 2015 for their paper “An Integration of Series-pass Device into Switched-mode Power Converters for Input Harmonics Filtering”, which was supervised by Prof Henry Chung.

The Institution organizes this competition every year with the aim to encourage young engineers and researchers to publish their works and develop themselves professionally, as well as to promote engineering advancement among the younger generation.

**Young Scientist Awards at 2015 IEEE TENCON**

Two PhD students have received the Young Scientist Award at the 2015 IEEE TENCON. They are:

- **Mr LIN Wei**, supervised by Dr Steve Wong, for the paper “Emerging Reconfigurable Antenna Elements for Broadband Wireless Communication Systems”.

- **Miss ZHANG Jieqiong**, supervised by Prof Wong Hei, for the paper “XPS Study on the Effect of Thermal Annealing on the CeO$_2$/La$_2$O$_3$ Stacked Gate Dielectrics”.

Held annually since 1980, TENCON provides an important forum for researchers, engineers, professors and graduate students to network and to discuss new ideas/development in emerging areas of electrical and engineering, computers science and related fields.
This year, a total of 221 teams participated in the contest, of which 6 teams were from CityU, 195 teams from Colleges or Universities in Guangdong Province and 20 teams from National tertiary institutions. Each team had to solve a total of 12 programming problems in 5 hours using programming language C, C++ or Java. Teams were ranked according to the most problems solved within least total time.

EE Graduates Winning Champion Award in Student Project Competition 2014-15 organized by The Institute of Measurement and Control

Two EE 2014 graduates, Mr CHAN Hung Kit (CE) and Mr TUNG Chung Pui (CE), have won the Champion Award in the Student Project Competition 2014-15 organized by The Institute of Measurement and Control (Hong Kong Section). Their winning project is titled “Smartphone Controlled Quadcopter” which was supervised by Dr Ricky Lau.

Champion of HKIE Student Chapter Joint Institutes Competition 2014/15

Two EE students, Mr LAI Chun Tak and Mr YIM Man To (ECE, 2013 entering major), who teamed up with 3 students from the Department of Architecture and Civil Engineering, have won the Championship in the HKIE Student Chapter Joint Institutes Competition 2014/15. The winning project is about developing a system that can convert 80% of the thermal energy released by air-conditioners into electric energy.

Jointly organized by the Student Chapter of The Hong Kong Institute of Engineer (HKIE) and the HKIE divisions, the theme of the competition this year is “Green Living in Hong Kong”. It aims to inspire students to create innovative solutions with the application of the latest engineering technology to improve our living environment and create a sustainable world.

EE Graduates Winning Champion Award in Student Project Competition 2014-15 organized by The Institute of Measurement and Control

Third Prize in the 13th Guangdong Province Collegiate Programming Contest

Three EE students, namely TANG Tsz Wan (INFE, 2013 entering major), CHAN Wai San (INFE, 2012 entering major) and CHAN Ka Yi (INFE, 2012 entering major), formed a team and won the Third Prize in the 13th Guangdong Province Collegiate Programming Contest which was held in May 2015 and was jointly organized by the Computer Academy of Guangdong and Sun Yat-sen University. The team has been trained by Dr Taejoon Kim, Assistant Professor of EE, on their programming skills throughout the academic year 2014/15.
CityU-EE and RS Components Agreement Signing Ceremony

~ Idy Pang ~

A new strategic partnership between EE and RS Components Ltd. was confirmed at the agreement signing ceremony on 27 October 2015. Followed by a welcome address given by Prof Yan Hong, Dean of CSE, Prof K F Man, EE Head and Mr Eric Lee, Head of Regional Technical Marketing, Asia Pacific of RS signed the agreements, symbolizing the enthusiasm of RS in joining EE to nurture a new generation of electronic engineers in Asia. Under the agreement, RS provides internship opportunities, electronic engineering expertise as well as donation in grant and materials to support various types of student learning activities.

Engineers need not learn in exactly the way that their teachers did. EE announced the launch of innovative concept called “Home Lab”, which promotes a holistic approach of learning from theory and design through to production, at the ceremony. The “Home Lab” kit is a smart idea created by EE students on the RS internship programme using software and components from RS. As a new alternative to the traditional bulky sets of power meters in laboratories, this handy kit set allows students, as well as EE engineers, to carry out testing on the prototype of their primitive design at home or anywhere wherever a laptop computer installed with relevant software is being connected.

Prof K F Man and Mr Eric Lee
EE Congregation Reception 2015

~ Teresa Chow ~

The EE Congregation Reception 2015 was held on 17 November 2015. Some 900 graduates, parents and EE academics attended the Reception to share the joyful moments together. Programmes included buffet lunch, prize presentation and a slideshow prepared by graduates themselves to recall the sweet and sour memories they had during their studies in EE. Four graduates (both undergraduate and postgraduate) also shared their lively learning experiences when studying in CityU-EE.

Since 2014, the First Class Honours Award Prize was set up to recognize the academic achievement of graduates. Principals of secondary schools from which the awardees of First Class Honours Award Prizes graduated were invited to join the reception to witness and celebrate the happy moment with them. The programme ended joyfully by taking graduation group photos of all the cheering faces captured at that precious moment.
**Hong Kong Electronics Fair 2015**

~ Newman Lau ~

From 13 to 16 October, four projects from our Department of Electronic Engineering were successfully showcased at the Hong Kong Electronics Fair 2015 (Autumn Edition), organized by the Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC). Our projects on display in the Technology Exchange Zone of the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre (HKCEC) were, namely:

1. Electromigration & Thermomigration: Reliability of Microelectronics Interconnects by Prof Y C Chan;
2. Centre for Electronic Packaging and Assemblies, Failure Analysis and Reliability Engineering by Prof Y C Chan;
3. Localization Technique for Indoor Tracking by Dr K F Tsang; and
4. Alcoholic Driving Detection by Dr K F Tsang.

![Image of projects at Hong Kong Electronics Fair 2015]

**EE Summer Camp 2015**

~ Idy Pang ~

To facilitate more EE students to go for exchange to widen their horizons, EE launched the first cohort of Summer Exchange in 2014. While we are sending our students to our partner universities to spend a summer overseas, we are organizing our own 4-week summer camp on CityU campus for students of our partners.

As the second cohort, 60 students arrived at CityU-EE in the summer of 2015 in groups one to two days before the Summer Camp began on 10 July 2015. They were students of Chang Gung University, National Cheng Kung University, Nanjing University of Science and Technology, and University of Nottingham Ningbo China. If there had not been the outspread of MERS in Korea, we would have had students from Dankook University joining us as well.

Our summer camp comprised a variety of learning and leisure activities. Apart from laboratory workshop and academic talk, it was fully scheduled with company visits, guest talks, group projects, presentations and some fun-time activities throughout the 28 days. This full range of elements was supported by many technical officers of EE labs, Apps Lab, Dr Angus Wu, Mr K T Ng, Dr K L Chan, Dr Taejoon Kim and Dr Steve Wong, as well as some enthusiastic EE students who provided courtesy services of airport pick-up and escorts in local tours.

You could easily tell from their smiling faces how much they enjoyed the learning and cultural experience with us. What is more? Our EE students returning from our partner universities had a lot of fun and found their journey extraordinarily rewarding too!

![Image of students at EE Summer Camp 2015]
Workshops in EE Laboratories

First meeting upon arrival

Group Photo of 60 overseas students

Cyberport Visit

Local tours and leisure activities

Academic Talk
EE High Table Dinner 2015

~ Teresa Chow ~

The EE High Table Dinner, organized by EE Student Ambassadors, was held successfully on 28 October 2015 at the Staff Lounge of CityTop. The theme this year was “Stories of Success – Time Waits for No One, All In or Nothing”. Some 110 EE students, professors, alumni and renowned industrialists participated in the event. The chit-chat ambience around the tables was lively. Students were deeply amazed by the broad spectrum of R&D opportunities at Hong Kong Applied Science and Technology Research Institute (ASTRI), shared by Dr Jack Lau, Chief Marketing Officer of ASTRI. The lucky draw arranged at the end of the night was another climax of the dinner.

Please turn to Pg. 29 for student ambassadors’ sharing.
文學史漫話

陳關榮

题记：当年中学未完便被送去上山下乡，从广州市到了海南岛五指山区。住茅棚、点油灯、吃木薯、喝溪水，开荒植树过了整整七七年。期间每年被允许回城省亲一次。不甘于蹉跎岁月，每逢回家便到旧书店以斤论价买一堆弃书带到海岛闲读。幸好寻得《唐诗三百首》、王力《诗词格律十讲》和游国恩《中国文学史》等经典。在白日劳作之余，晚上油灯下翻几页古籍、念一首旧诗。如此日复日、年复年，读遍了手边几部文学著作和一大捆杂书。当时觉得文学史特别有趣，最近抽空把当年随手写下的零散笔注整理出来，作了些订正和增补，留作铭记。

中国文学起源於诗歌。「詩言志，歌詠言」。詩這種文體始於堯舜，以《詩經》为代表。《詩經》自西周起，不断由民间汇集和官方编撰，历时六百年，留下了今天的版本，共三百多篇。《詩經》分六義，即「風、雅、頌、賦、比、興」。文学主体为「風、雅、頌」，即詩的本身，其中「風」指《國風》，細分为十五國風，「雅」包括《大雅》和《小雅》，「頌」则有《周頌》、《魯頌》和《商頌》，而「賦、比、興」则是阐述写诗的技巧。

《詩經》之後，陸續出現了《老子》、《莊子》、《孟子》、《荀子》、《墨子》以及《呂氏春秋》，為先秦「諸子百家」的鼎盛時期。「諸子」指老子、莊子、孔子、孟子、荀子、墨子等學術和思想代表人物。「百家」指儒家、道家、墨家、法家、名家等文學和哲學代表流派。特別是老子的哲學思想為道家的本源宗旨。其《道德經》中的名句「道可道，非常道；名可名，非常名」字面上極為直白，意思卻深遠莫測。傳說中的道教學祖太上老君就是老子，據聯合國教科文組織統計，《道德經》是世界上除了《聖經》以外被譯成最多外國文字的名著。

像《詩經》一樣，戰國末至漢初出現的《楚辭》也是一本詩文集，共十六卷。顯著不同的是，前者中沒有出现著名的個人作家，後者卻成就了兩位偉大的文學家，就是《離騷》和《九歌》的作者屈原以及《神女賦》和《九辯》的作者宋玉。

文學發展之初大致經歷了「詩、辭、歌、賦」的階段。《詩經》的詩和《楚辭》的辭之後，出現了各種祭祀、競技和表演回唱的「歌辭」。漢代《樂府》中的歌辭達到了極高的境界。樂府本來是衙門之名，是採集民間詩歌的低微官府，但由他們整理出來的歌辭也統稱為「樂府」。

漢代《樂府》是繼《詩經》之後的民歌大彙集。它用通俗語言描寫真實生活，由雅言趨向正言，是詩史中五言詩體發展的重要階段。《漢書》中的「少壯不努力，老大徒傷悲」就十分通俗易懂。漢樂府中著名的《孔雀東南飛》則是文學史上第一部長篇敘事詩，與北朝的《木蘭詩》合稱「樂府雙璧」。後人把它們和唐末的秦婦吟」一起統稱「樂府三絕」。
結合的敘事文，在漢代盛行，故亦稱為漢賦。宋玉之後的漢賦名家當推司馬相如、楊雄和賈誼。司馬相如的代表作《子虛賦》構擬了兩個人物，就是楚國的「子虛」和齊國的「烏有」，彼此對話，巧配成賦。成語「子虛烏有」出自此典。司馬相如與卓文君的故事在他們家鄉四川廣為流傳，其文采風姿亦受司馬相如影響較深，他的《羽獵賦》和《長楊賦》是西漢末期最有名的作品。賈誼早有才名，二十一歲受漢文帝封為「博士」，室卑不為大中大夫，寫下的政論文《過秦論》、《論禁即疏》、《治安策》等在歷史上有很高地位。他後來被貶至長沙，途經湘江時寫下了《吊屈原賦》，流芳千古。他在長沙三年後又被徵召回京。賈誼三十三歲英年早逝，其文采風姿均深受後人讚頌。西漢時期司馬遷在《史記》中同時寫下了《屈原賈生列傳》，到後來東漢時期班固編撰的《漢書》中也有《賈誼傳》。

司馬遷的《史記》，原名《太史公書》。顧名思義是記錄歷史的，但其書中章句皆為絢爛散文，深沉雋永，不同凡響。《史記》是中國第一部傳紀通史，共計一百三十篇、五十多萬字，記述了從黃帝時期到漢武帝元狩元年期間長達三千多年歷史。它既是嚴格的史籍，又是極好的文學作品。司馬遷與司馬相如被譽為「文章西漢兩司馬」。

可是司馬遷本人經歷了一段慘烈殘酷的歷史。漢武帝在天漢二年派李陵出兵甘肅酒泉抗擊匈奴，但李陵彈盡糧絕後降敵。武帝為之震怒，群臣皆聲討，唯司馬遷為李陵求情。武帝遷怒，處罰司馬遷以宮刑。何等奇恥大辱!’何等奇恥大辱! 正如文王身陷囚室寫成《周易》、仲尼困厄編纂《春秋》、屈原放逐乃賦《離騷》、左丘失明仍作《國語》、孫臏臏足尚修兵法、韓非囚秦留下《說難》和《孤憤》，司馬遷以他刑餘之身，忍辱負重，秉承父願完成了一件天賦使命：寫成了《史記》。

現在重讀《史記》，「字字看來皆是血，十年辛苦不尋常」。1973年7月15日，我曾寫下七律一首，大體上都是回過這些逆境出雄才的故事：「曾嘲李白難行路，如今啟步到吾曹。拒用韓非留孤憤，稽疏屈原賦離騷。乞歸崔述空才智，哭返阮籍沒蓬篙。駿子龍文天下是，難得管樂遇桓昭。」

兩漢時期，詩的成就很高，當時詩的主體是五言，其最初成形可追溯到漢代的《漢書河間獻詠詩》和《古詩十九首》。漢獻帝劉協在位時年號「建安」，那個時代的詩文成就在文學史上熠熠生輝，被譽為「建安文學」。代表作家主要是曹氏父子（曹操、曹丕、曹植），建安七子（孔融、陳琳、王粲、徐幹、阮瑀、應瑩、劉桢）以及才女蔡琰（文姬）。

建安文學新局面的開創功於曹操，他是傑出的政治家、軍事家和大詩人。曹操起初是漢獻帝的丞相，後晉封為魏王。雖然身居高位，曹操的詩歌中多有描寫戰亂和民間疲苦的：比如《蒿裡行》中有名句「白骨露於野，千里無雞鳴」；《短歌行》中的「對酒當歌，人生幾何」以及《薤露歌》的「老態龍鍾，志在千里；烈士暮年，壯心不已」為人熟知。詩作死後，長子曹丕欲以繼位，他奪去二弟曹彰的兵權，逼四弟曹熊上吊，隨後為難三弟：他令曹植在七步之內作出一首詩來，不然便要處死。曹植七步之內果然成詩一首：「煮豆燃豆箕，豆在釜中泣：本自同根生，相煎何太急!」「建安七子」中之佼佼者是王粲，他也有「首諷責戰亂，同情民間疲苦的《七哀詩》，其中句子「出門無所見，白骨蔽平原」常常讓後人感歎良多。

蔡琰，字文姬，是東漢大文學家蔡邕的女兒。文姬初嫁頓衛仲道，後守寡，適匈奴入侵，被左賢王撫養，育有兩子。十二年後，曹操統一北方，用重金將蔡文姬贖回，將其嫁與董祀。蔡文姬擅長文學、音樂、書法，留下《悲憤詩》二首和著名作品《胡笳十八拍》，歷史上「文姬歸漢」的故事被反覆演繹，廣為流傳。

接下來的文學史延續到六朝。

六朝時代，即三國至隋朝的南方六個朝代（孫吳、東晉、南宋、南齊、南梁、南陳），均建都於今日南京（因而南京亦稱作「六朝古都」）。六朝承漢啟唐，文學昌盛，科技藝術也極其輝煌。東晉末期的詩人在詩歌中詠嘆自然風景，被譽為「建安文學」。代表作家主要是曹氏父子（曹操、曹丕、曹植），建安七子（孔融、陳琳、王粲、徐幹、阮瑀、應瑩、劉桢）以及才女蔡琰（文姬）。
之後，文學史來到了登峰造極的時代—唐。中國文學之冠是詩，而唐詩為詩品之最。唐朝歷時近三百年，後來清代康熙時期編撰的《全唐詩》共九百卷，近五萬首詩，作者兩千餘人，可謂洋洋大觀，不可一世。

初唐有四傑：王勃、楊炯、盧照鄰、駱賓王。其中王勃十九歲英年早逝，留下《滕王閣序》是宴會上即席而作的駢體詩序，被視為典範之作。他的詩句「海內存知己，天涯若比鄰」更為後人所熟悉。

唐朝鼎盛時期，有李白杜甫的詩、韓愈柳宗元的文、顔真卿柳公權的字、吳道子李龍眠的畫—正是「空前絕後，君欲何求？」「詩仙」李白和「詩聖」杜甫，同時開創了中國文學浪漫主義和現實主義的先河。李白出生和去世都比杜甫早十年左右，兩人在年輕時見過兩三次面，其時李白已是如日中天，杜甫還是初出茅廬。杜甫相當敬重「詩兄」李白，說他「筆落驚風雨，詩成泣鬼神」。

李白一生基本上是流浪者，過著縹緲不定的生活，「五岳尋仙不辭遠，一生好入名山游」。不清楚他從哪裡學來的寫詩本事，也沒有記錄說他參加過科舉考試。杜甫說他「天子呼來不上船，自稱臣是酒中仙」，他說自己「我本楚狂人，鳳歌笑孔丘」。可見李白算得上是一個天人或異人。

李白存世詩文千餘篇，代表作有《蜀道難》、《行路難》、《夢游天姥吟留別》、《將進酒》,另有《李太白集》傳世。他的作品浪漫奔放、意境新奇；他的詩句行雲流水、明快自然。他曾批評詩歌「自從建安來，綺麗不足珍」，自己則寫下了許多平民百姓都能朗朗上口的詩篇，如「床前明月光，疑是地上霜。舉頭望明月，低頭思故鄉」、「日照香爐生紫煙，遙看瀑布掛前川。飛流直下三千尺，疑是銀河落九天」、「朝辭白帝彩雲間，千里江陵一日還。兩岸猿聲啼不住，輕舟已過萬重山」。他還寫了不少仁民愛物的作品，曾以律詩贈別一位農夫：「李白乘舟將欲行，忽聞岸上踏歌聲。桃花潭水深千尺，不及汪倫送我情」，其情之深可以說是「無以倫比」。他雖漂泊無涯，卻樂觀有度，不開心的時候也瀟灑超脫：「抽刀斷水水更流，舉杯消愁愁更愁。人生在世不稱意，明朝散髮弄扁舟。」李白詩篇傳誦千年，眾多詩句已成經典，如「片辭貴白璧，一諾輕黃金」和「功名富貴若長在，漢水亦應西北流」。

杜甫小時候父親仕途失意，適逢戰亂，一家顛沛流離，飽嘗苦楚。杜甫初試進士不第，便去蕩游各地。他旅途歷盡艱辛，所見全是國破家亡、民生塗炭的慘痛景象。接著又逢安史之亂，他還被叛軍擒獲，押解長安。杜甫一生艱難曲折，晚年略為安定，便攜家遷蜀，但後又折返湖南，病死湘江。

杜甫留下一千多首各種文體的詩，著名的有《三吏》、《三別》、《兵車行》、《茅屋為秋風所破歌》、《麗人行》、《春望》。杜詩充分表達了對民間疾苦的同情和對當時殘酷社會的鞭撻，有名句「朱門酒肉臭，路有凍死骨」和「安得廣廈千萬間，大庇天下寒士俱歡顏，風雨不動安如山」。他的詩在藝術上以豐富多彩著稱：有豪情奔放的如「會當凌絕頂，一覽眾山小」；有鬱沉頓挫的如「出師未捷身先死，長使英雄淚滿襟」；有辭藻瑰麗的如「無邊落木萧蕭下，不盡長江滾滾來」；有平白質樸的如「白日放歌須縱酒，青春作伴好還鄉」。杜詩格律嚴謹、精煉和諧。他有幾首名詩，耀為我之鞭策：「讀書破萬卷，下筆如有神」、「為人性癖耽佳句，語不驚人死不休」、「文章千古事，得失寸心知」、「新詩改罷自長吟，頗學陰何苦用心」—陰鏗和何遜是南朝的兩位著名詩人。杜甫還開創了新樂府詩，後由元稹、白居易繼承。

盛唐期間許多著名詩人中，李白之後應數王維和孟浩然。

王維詩畫雙絕，人稱「詩中有畫，畫中有詩」。他是一位佛教徒，但年老後隱居的長安終南山，卻是道教之發祥地。王維有一個詩友祖詠，年輕時去長安應考，文題是「終南望餘雪」，要求寫一首六韻十二句的五言律詩。祖詠遠望終南山，深思良久，寫下了四句：「終南陰嶺秀，積雪浮雲端。林表明霽色，城中增暮寒。」然後就擱筆了，說「意盡」。考官很高興，給了他及格。事實上後人多認為該詩完整優雅、餘味雋永。我當然也很認同，在1974年1月1日寫下七律《寫作》，宣洩了一番感慨：「書貴風雅忌浮詞，出言有典免招疑。勿將短句強為賦，寧把長文寫作詩。如礙抒情當破格，若妨立意不循規。終南祖詠望餘雪，世俗當時未得知。」
賦，夜課書，問又課詩，不遑寢息矣，以至於口舌生瘡，手肘成胝」。據說他還經常先把詩稿念給老年人聽，覺得對方能聽明白了才拿去發表，因而他的很多好詩句都很平白，如「野火燒不盡，春風吹又生」。白居易出名的故事詩有《琵琶行》和《長恨歌》。

說到中唐時代的文學，不得不說韓愈。他被認為是中國文學史上最傑出的文豪，兼秉詩、文，傳揚孔孟，宣導古文，被後人尊為「百代文宗」，為「唐宋八大家」之首，著有《韓昌黎集》四十卷，《外集》十卷，以及名篇《師說》等。民間流傳的口語「蚍蜉撼大樹，可笑不自量」就是韓愈的詩句。

韓愈幼年命苦，三歲時父母去世後由兄長撫養，不幸兄長亦早卒，繼由家嫂照顧。韓愈少時苦讀，十三歲已能寫出一手好文章。但韓愈不是應試能手，三次應考進士、三次應考博學宏詞，全部落敗。他第四次投考進士時，碰上與上次同一道考題和同一個主考官，於是他便自認晦氣，繳交了同一份答卷，怏怏離場。誰知結果出來，他卻是名列榜首!韓愈的故事成為科舉歷史上一大佳話，也是笑話。

後來和韓愈齊名的是他的好友柳宗元。柳宗元是唐宋八大家之一，與韓愈並稱「韓柳」。他是山西河東人，故亦名柳河東，曾任職禮部員外郎，後來幾經貶謫，曾降職為永州司馬，寫下了訴說民間疾苦的《捕蛇者說》，最終到了柳州做刺史。所到之處，山水田園風光無限，讓柳宗元寫下了大量優美華麗的遊記，如《永州八記》。他一生留下詩文作品六百余篇，後來詩人劉禹錫為他撰有《河東先生集》。

所謂「唐宋八大家」指的是唐代的韓愈、柳宗元和宋代的歐陽修、王安石、曾鞏和三蘇(蘇洵和他的兩個兒子蘇軾、蘇轍)。

歐陽修自幼家境艱難，母親用荻草在沙堆上教他寫字，後來有了成語「畫荻教子」。歐陽修畢生的勤奮為後人津津樂道。一說他的學問出自「三上」—馬上、廁上、枕上—他從不浪費時間。二說他功成名就，但告老還鄉後還常常夜讀不已，妻子笑他是不是還怕老師責駡?回應說是怕將來被年輕人責駡。三說歐陽修任滁州太守時，一次遊琅琊山途中寫下了《醉翁亭記》草稿，起首說:「環滁四面皆山也，東有烏龍山，西有大豐山，南有花山，北有白米山,...」為了修改得更好，他讓助手把文稿掛在城門四周，廣泛徵詢意見。因為歐陽修是大文豪，一直沒有人敢發聲。後來一樵夫說，你的第一句我已經明白了，後面的東南西北太囉嗦。歐陽修欣然接納，還專門請蘇東坡抄了一份改好的《醉翁亭記》送給樵夫留念。據說歐陽修經常到那裡醉翁亭去，和眾民喝酒取樂，自稱「醉翁」，期間請大家為他的文稿提意見。「醉翁之意不在酒，在乎山水之間」，便出於此。

歐陽修培養了許多好學生，其中佼佼者有曾鞏和蘇軾、蘇轍兩兄弟，均在唐宋八大家之列。此處先記述北宋名家王安石，再回來說歐陽修的三位學生。

王安石集政治家、改革家、文學家於一身。他為官時政績顯赫，於嘉佑三年被封為度支判官，進京述职後呈遞了一份萬言書《上仁宗皇帝言事書》，系統地提出了變法主張，可是未獲接納。後來，王安石兩次被封宰相然後又兩次被罷黜，最後變法失敗。文學方面，王安石在詩、文、詞方面均有傑出成就。他一生潛研經學，著書立說，創有「荊公新學」，被譽為「通儒」。

歐陽修的高足曾鞏可能不為世人熟識。他資質聰慧，兄弟們說他「十二歲能文，語已驚人」、「生而警敏，不類童子」、「讀書數萬言，脫口輒誦」。曾鞏二十歲入大學，上書歐陽修並獻《時務策》。可是他不諳應試，屢考不第，直至入歐陽修門下，才登科進士第一。歐陽修對這位學生極為讚賞，說:「過吾門者百千人，獨于得生為喜。」

其實歐陽修最得意的門生是蘇軾和蘇轍兩兄弟，特別是蘇軾即蘇東坡，他才華橫溢，是文學家中之全才:古文、散文、詩詞、書畫，無一不能、無一不精。這裡單說蘇東坡的詞:「大江東去，浪淘盡，千古風流人物」和「但願人長久，千里共嬋娟」，都不讓人忍住。歐陽修對蘇東坡的詞也頗為讚賞，說:「過吾門者百千人，獨子得生為喜。」

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其實歐陽修最得意的門生是蘇軾和蘇轍兩兄弟，特別是蘇軾即蘇東坡，他才華橫溢，是文學家中之全才:古文、散文、詩詞、書畫，無一不能、無一不精。這裡單說蘇東坡的詞:「大江東去，浪淘盡，千古風流人物」和「但願人長久，千里共嬋娟」，都不讓人忍住。歐陽修對蘇東坡的詞也頗為讚賞，說:「過吾門者百千人，獨子得生為喜。」
吹角連營”和“想當年，金戈鐵馬，氣吞萬里如虎”實是迴腸盪氣，岳飛的“壯志饑餐胡虜肉，笑談渴飲匈奴血”更是慷慨悲壯。文天祥留下詩詞千多首，其中詩句“人生自古誰無死，留取丹心照汗青”氣貫長虹。

宋朝還有一大批婉約派詞人，包括歐陽修、晏殊、柳永、秦觀、李清照等，以及南唐後主李煜。女詞人李清照的詞句特別婉約柔美，譬如“花自飄零水自流，一種相思，兩處閒愁。此情無計可消除，才下眉頭，卻上心头”。只是沒有想到，她也會寫出氣勢磅礴的豪放詩句：“生當作人傑，死亦為鬼雄。至今思項羽，不肯過江東。”李煜是南唐最後一位國君，精書畫、通音律，尤以詞的成就最高。宋兵攻下金陵後把他押到汴京。那段日子他寫下了許多傷懷故國的詞句：“問君能有幾多愁，恰似一江春水向東流”、“獨自莫憑欄，無限江山，別時容易見時難”以及“春花秋月何時了，往事知多少。小樓昨夜又東風，故國不堪回首明月中”。宋太宗恨他這些詞句，命人在宴會上下藥，將他毒死。

我特別欣賞南宋詩人陸游，歷史上他留下詩詞數量最多，曾自詡“六十年間萬首詩”。陸游號放翁，浙江紹興人。他“年十二能詩文”，也曾習武練劍並讀兵書，苦學而仕進。中年更是耀馬揚戈，閱歷軍旅生涯，留下許多氣勢磅礴的抗金救國的詞句：“幾度秋風吳江岸，國仇未報壯士老，匣中歲寒心有誓”。“八百里分麾下炙，五十弦翻塞外聲”。陸游與唐婉悽美的愛情故事，特別是他們沈園偶遇留下的兩首詞《釵頭鳳》感動了不少後人。多年後陸游重游沈園，更寫下了令人斷腸的詩句：“夢斷香消四十年，沈園柳老不吹綿。此身行作稽山土，猶吊遺蹤一泫然。”陸游的一些名句如“山重水複疑無路，柳暗花明又一村”、“何方可化身千億，一樹梅花一放翁”、“人才衰靡方當慮，士氣崢嶸莫可非”，全都清麗流暢，膾炙人口。陸游一生中幾經宦海沉浮，曾因力主抗金而被貶逐：“胡未滅，鬓先秋，淚空流。此生誰料，心在天山，身老滄洲!”他最終退隱山陰二十年，八十五歲離世前留下《示兒》一絕：“死去原知萬事空，但悲不見九州同。王師北定中原日，家祭毋忘告乃翁。”1969年8月18日，我寫了一首七律緬懷陸游：“千古風流處放翁，世紀壯華報國身。賢良竟亦成遺客，詩賦何以扭乾坤。夢斷關河有回輪，不拘一格降人才。”
名人轶事

美國的萊特兄弟（Wilbur Wright，1867—1912和Orville Wright，1871—1948）被認為是現代飛機事業的起始人，他們在1903年設計制造並實地試驗了固定翼、帶引擎、受人控的「萊特飛行者—號」（Wright Flyer-I）飛機。

這是一對善于思索又刻苦用功的兄弟，但非常不善于交際。在一次宴會上，酒過三巡之後，主持人請萊特哥哥作個演說。

「這一定是弄錯了吧？」大萊特感到不好意思：「講話嘛，是弟弟的事」。

主持人於是轉向弟弟，小萊特回應說：「謝謝各位，也謝謝哥哥，他剛才已經演講過了」。

再三推讓後，主持人還是請小萊特講一句話作結。小萊特勉強地站了起來，對大家說：

「我知道鳥類中會說話的只有鸚鵡，而鸚鵡是飛不高的。」

於是宴會在一片笑聲和掌聲中結束。

GRC ©
Retinitis pigmentosa (RP) is affecting approximately 1.5 million worldwide\(^1\). In a study conducted in Northern China, the number is estimated at 325,000\(^2\). This inherited disease causes photoreceptor cells to degenerate, leading to total or near-total blindness. While for RP progression can be delayed through nutrition, there is yet no treatment to regain eyesight for RP patients.

The best hope right now for patients who are blind from retinal degenerative disease is the visual prosthesis. The Argus II Retinal Prosthesis System, manufactured by Second Sight Medical Products and the Alpha IMS, manufactured by Retinal Implant AG in Germany, received the European CE mark in 2011 and 2013 respectively. The Argus II system was approved as a “humanitarian use device” under the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in the United States.

In the Argus II system, images are picked up by a video camera on a pair of glasses. A video processing unit, worn on the belt, transforms video signals into electronic data, transmitted wirelessly to the microelectrode array, which stimulates the cells of the retina to produce patterns of light. Unlike Argus, the Alpha IMS does not require an external eyeglass-mounted camera. However, it also uses a wireless power transmission to power up the chip, which moves with the eye. The chip contains microelectrodes which transforms the light signals to electrical signals. The electrical signals are amplified then stimulate retinal cells to induce visual perceptions. Both the Argus II and the Alpha IMS require the wireless power transmission technology.

“The problem with the previous technology is that any misalignment between the transmitting coils in the glasses and the receiving coils in the users’ eye diminishes the power transfer efficiency,” said Professor Chung.

“Avoiding misalignment is a challenge because the orientation and distance between the glasses and the eyeballs may change when the user is going about his or her daily life. The lack of efficiency consumes more power from the portable battery and shortens its operating hours,” he said.

**Professor Henry Chung Shu-hung, Dr Leanne Chan Lai-hang**, Assistant Professor, and their team have found a way to improve the power transfer efficiency of “bionic eyes”, which also reduces the users’ exposure to radiation, and extends the life of the portable battery. The innovation is the development of a new coil structure and a matching circuit that can maximise the power transfer efficiency under misalignment.

In the current system of “bionic eyes”, the transmitting and receiving coils are one-dimensional and are placed in parallel for power transfer (**Figure 1, top**). In contrast, the new receiving coil set has a multi-dimensional structure and the improved matching network design can maximise the power transfer efficiency under misalignment (**Figure 1, bottom**).
Compared with current technology, this new architecture can also allow for an increase in lateral misalignment of 50% and an expansion of the transmitting angle of over 200%, which means that the efficiency of the power transfer can be maintained at a relatively higher level even if there is a greater lateral and angular misalignment. Another benefit is that battery life can be extended and the battery itself made smaller.

Currently, the camera is mounted on eyeglasses to capture the images (Figure 2a). New technology is underway to replace the head-mounted camera with an intraocular camera (Figure 2b) to provide natural image acquisition using eye movement.

**Figure 1**  Power transfer efficiency and misalignment. Top, single parallel receiving dimensional coil; Bottom, two-dimensional receiving coil.

**Figure 2a** Camera is mounted in eyeglasses

**Figure 2b** Intraocular camera will replace the extraocular camera with the advancement of technology
This new technology may also be used in other biomedical implants. Implantable spinal-cord stimulator (SCS) is a typical application that can take advantage of wireless power transfer technology. SCS is a device that generates an electrical current to treat patients suffering from chronically neuropathic pain. Figure 3 illustrates the location of the implanted SCS device. The new coil architecture could be used to attain better magnetic coupling under misaligned conditions in this application.

Reference:
1 Foundation Fighting Blindness (http://www.blindness.org/retinitis-pigmentosa)
Industrial Placement Scheme

My internship in Telefield

KWAN Yuen Wing
2015 Graduate
BENG3-ECE

Last year, I decided to join the Industrial Placement Scheme (IPS), which includes three phases (Industrial Project, Summer Placement and the Final Year Project), in Telefield International (Holdings) Ltd.

During the training period, I commenced with a comparatively easier project, Thermoelectric Cooling with Temperature Control. It was extremely useful to improve my technical skills on circuit design and to build up some basic knowledge on thermoelectric cooling system.

I started my 3-month summer internship, in which I was assigned to further improve my design of a health-care application. I started by writing an MCU program as well as drawing schematic diagram and designing the PCB layout for the circuit. Apart from this project, I was also assigned to do some testing on company products and mobile applications so as to check the product performance.

Based on the experience I gained during my internship, I have decided to use Product Development of Therapy Pad for Health-care Purpose as my final year project. I have implemented some extra features, such as LCD display, timer, buzzer notification, mode or temperature selection by buttons and switch, etc. in order to make the product more user-friendly. In addition, I have conducted a lot of experiments to evaluate the performance of the device and some clinical experiments to prove the effectiveness of cold and hot therapy respectively.

This IPS scheme has provided me a lot of opportunities to transfer what I have observed to my own knowledge in my study. Furthermore, it has helped to improve my problem solving, analytical and communication skills. Through this project, I have gained practical experience, which will better prepare me for my future career. I would like to thank my nice and friendly colleagues and supervisor for their guidance and for sharing their experience with me. Therefore, I highly recommend this scheme to other students.

Exchange Study Programme

Exchange Experience in Aalto University, Finland

CHEUNG Cheng Ian, Anita
BENG3-INFE, Yr 4

My Pre-departure Checklist
- Application for student visa
- Insurance
- Application for pre-approval credit transfer (major/GE courses)
- Learning agreement/ Proposed study programme
- Flight ticket
- Luggage
- Check the weather/ bus routes
- Contact your tutors for picking you up on the arrival day

Just Arrived...

January 1, 2015 – My first day in Helsinki

After 11 hours of flying away from home, I eventually arrived at my exchange designation - Helsinki, Finland.

- In the company of other exchange students from CityU
- Feel curious and excited about everything
- Weather is super cold. First time experiencing snowing
- Daytime is short from 9am to 3pm in winter
- Visited my host institution/ apartment/ tutors
Orientation
I joined the orientation offered by the host institution few days after I arrived. It was useful for me to:

- Interact with the exchange students and make friends with them
- Get to know more about the host institution/ departments, what clubs/activities you can join during the semester, and the annual big events in the university/ country

My First Class
The learning and teaching styles are totally different compared to CityU as I took almost all the master courses which were taught in English. The master courses are more project-oriented. They require you to study lots of reading materials and there is no examination. I had to spend most of the time on self-study and group projects. The learning atmosphere was good and all the foreign students were attentive in lectures. They were active in answering questions. The interaction between the teachers and students was strong.

People I Met
In the first two months, I usually made friends with the exchange students from European countries since most of the activities were organized for the non-local students. Fortunately, I started to meet a lot of local students in the third month since there were some local events starting from March such as “sisit” and “wappu”. After getting to know the local students better, I got to know more about the local traditional culture. For example, my Finnish friend invited me home for the traditional Easter dinner and cooked dishes that I had never tried before. The 4-hour fancy and formal Easter dinner was an absolutely memorable night for me.

Out of Classroom
They have different and diverse extracurricular activities like what we have in CityU. I joined student trips to St. Petersburg, Lapland and Stockholm for sight-seeing. Unfortunately, most of the internship opportunities were left for the local students since they prefer candidates who speak Finnish.

Goodbye
It is always hard to say Goodbye. I would never ever forget all the memorable days.

Home Sweet Home
This was a golden opportunity to gain a better understanding of foreign cultures, I had the chance to grow when confronting challenges outside of my familiar support network and comfort zone. The difficulties associated with everyday life during a semester abroad truly taught countless life lessons that I had never learnt before.

Sharing
Everything was worthwhile in this past 6 months. The exchange gave me opportunities to:

- Meet lots of friends from around the world
- Learn to be more independent
- Make my own decisions
- Experience culture shock
- Know more about myself

Overall Rating
5 (5 being the most satisfied)
My Valuable Exchange Experience in University of Maryland, College Park, US

YAO Xuewen
BENG4-INFE, Yr 4

My Blog
Welcome to be an exchange student in the east coast of USA where you can meet new friends, travel to New York in five hours and enjoy the snow in winter…

Just Arrived…
Jan 20, 2015

I landed at Washington Dulles Airport in Virginia. The sky was so blue and the weather seemed promising. Struggling with my huge luggage, I took a bus to downtown DC and changed to the underground to the University of Maryland (UMD). It was so cold in Maryland. Shivering in my coat, I finally managed to get to my living place with the help of an UMD student. The Residence assistant was kind and helpful, and I settled down without much difficulty. The first day was tough, but the warmth from people there raised the temperature.

Orientation
I joined nearly all the orientation sessions offered by UMD, which turned out to be extremely worthy. There were different events at the orientation and they covered nearly all aspects, most of which seemed to be trivial at first, like adjusting to American culture and US classroom culture. However, they proved their usefulness later. What is more, international students met each other at the orientation, so it was the best time to make friends who were also excited about coming to America and with whom I could plan the trip during Spring Break.

My Place
Well, I applied for a double room but UMD offered me a single room. The room was large enough for me to live, but the heater did not work well, so it was quite freezing inside. And the worst thing about that was it was hard for me to get out of my bed in the morning. The room was equipped with a bed, a desk, a chair, a closet and a cabinet. And there was one huge bathroom on each floor. I felt quite safe in my room for the security of the whole building was guaranteed by an electronic system and I needed an actual key to get into my room.

My First Class
Teaching style was the same as the one at CityU, so there was nothing spectacular to talk about. But I have to say the coursework was much more intense at Maryland. Two lectures per week with no tutorials means that I had to listen more carefully and read reference books, for if I did not catch up in one lecture, I would fall behind soon. The professors there were nice and ready to answer any questions I had and they were considerate. If some students asked him or her to extend the deadline of assignments, the professor usually granted it.

People I Met
Local students I met there were kind and warm-hearted. They helped me when I had problems with lectures and they shared past papers with me so that I could have focuses in my revision. American students were hardworking and eager to ask questions and challenge professors – this also means they were actively participating. Studying side by side with them gave me a completely different experience, which was very audacious and bold.

International students I hung out with were always ready to embrace new experiences. They enlarged their contact with American culture to the maximum and got the real taste of Uncle Sam. Being together with them helped me adjust to American culture.

Out of Classroom
It is widely known that Americans fancy basketball games, so students can always watch university basketball games at UMD for free. And the host university particularly organized some activities for exchange students, like tours to New York, Baltimore and Annapolis.

There were volunteer and internship opportunities for exchange students. UMD holds activities every now and then, like the UMD Day and invites students to become volunteers. I had a friend from the Netherlands learning physics at UMD and she got an internship from her professor for her excellence in class.
Money
I did not have issues with money during my whole stay there. That was probably because I paid for the rent and dining plan beforehand by credit card, so I only needed to worry about transportation and some other fees. I did not travel a lot due to the terrible weather in winter and I did not do much shopping for I had little space left in my suitcase. So, my finance was totally under control and I had cash left when I said goodbye to the US.

Goodbye
It was so hard for me to say goodbye to all the friends when I left, for I knew I would not be able to see most of them for quite a long time. I made friends with international students, so after that exchange semester, everyone would scatter around the globe. I was upset for some time, but with the help of modern technology, I was still able to talk to them and read their updates. The most rewarding part of my exchange experience was the good time I spent with my friends there and that memory is irreplaceable. The most challenging part was getting into the social circle of westerners at first for westerners tended to make friends with their own kind.

Home Sweet Home
After the exchange period, I moved to London for my internship, so I did not return home until the end of August. Seven months in the western world has changed me a lot. I speak my mind more often and seldom care about “saving face”; which is the culture in China. And I have become more independent after living on my own. I felt so grateful when my mom prepared a meal for me because I finally know the hardship of cooking every day. For studies, I think I will never put off till tomorrow what I can finish today.

Sharing
University of Maryland, College Park is a very good university and you will enjoy your stay there, but do not choose too many courses. 4 major courses for the whole semester are enough if you are a junior, because the coursework is heavy. Try Ultra-mobile if you want to buy a sim card, which offers deals for calling Asian countries. And do not be shy. Live your life to the optimum!

Overall Rating
4 (5 being the most satisfied)
**Oversea Internship Scheme**

**OIS Experience at University of Saskatchewan, Canada**

LIU Xinhong  
BENG4-INFE, Yr 3

I really enjoyed the two and a half months’ stay in Canada — a slower-paced life, more green spaces, and a lower living cost. It is a great place to live. This OIS trip was worthwhile; I made some friends, I went sightseeing, and I learnt a lot.

Everything went well, and I gained lots of valuable experience there. I read publications on topics I was going to explore, I discussed with colleagues and I consulted my supervisor frequently. I believe my problem solving skills have been improved tremendously, which is essential for being a researcher in future. I found my learning of FPGA and image processing particularly rewarding as FPGA involves some hardware concepts, and image processing is a key technology bridging reality and image captures for machine learning. Though sometimes I worked during weekends, I enjoyed those working days.

Travelling around was memorable too. In June, my buddies and I went from Calgary to Banff National Park and Jasper National Park. The beauty of natural scenes along the road was stunning. On the way back to Saskatoon, we spent a wonderful night in Edmonton. In July, we flew to Toronto on Canada Day, when people from different places gather at the sea side to have a great party with music, dancing and fireworks. Then we moved on to Ottawa by Greyhound (train), and then to Montreal, where French is more popular than English.

Living abroad for 10 weeks was not much of a challenge for me though we needed to pay attention to lots of minor things like when and where we should place the black or blue rubbish bin outside the house. The traffic rules are nice compared to the ones in Mainland China, and people are more patient. In Canada, I would walk for more than 10 minutes to get to a coffee shop and then walk back home very often. I did not have the kind of patience to do so in Hong Kong.

Unfortunately I did not have much time to further immerse myself in the local community. I hope I will be able to visit Canada again or even settle with my entire family in Canada one day since it is indeed a suitable place to enjoy a more relaxing life.
My OIS experience in UK

FENG Mohan
BENG4-ECE, Yr 3

I stayed in Liverpool, the United Kingdom for two and a half months during the OIS period. With the help of our mentors in Liverpool John Moores University (LJMU) and Delphi Company, I learned many technical skills from the project I did and improved my communication skills through meeting people of different cultural background.

The project I worked on in LJMU is about through-life monitoring of flip-chip solder joints on printed circuit boards. The project was in a preliminary stage, thus our jobs consisted of the following aspects: Firstly, we spent about five weeks to learn some basic knowledge related to the project. Then, I practiced using the Sonoscan machine, a tool to conduct the Acoustic Micro Imaging inspection through ultrasound wave as a preparation for a later stage. Thirdly, I did research on features that could be extracted from the image obtained by AMI scanning for further analysis.

I have acquired several important skills through the internship, including how to extract core information from reading journal papers efficiently, how to operate a new machine through studying the manual from understanding its principles to trouble-shooting, how to make more effective presentations naturally. After two months’ training, I have better language and communication skills. In particular, I got more used to different accents of English because people working with me came from different parts of England and places all over the world. Besides I have realized that time management is the most important thing after all. By speeding up the process without sacrificing quality, I could achieve much more than I thought.

The experience was more than just learning research and technical skills. More importantly, the ability to live independently will be helpful to my future career and life. I really appreciate this valuable overseas internship experience, and it has definitely changed me by overcoming my weaknesses.
My OIS Experience at Liverpool John Moores University (LJMU), United Kingdom

CHAN Chun Chung
BENG3-ECE, Yr 3

It was a golden opportunity for me to have an overseas internship experience in Liverpool John Moores University (LJMU), United Kingdom. I worked for the General Engineering Research Institute (GERI) of the university for 11 weeks during summer with another 6 CityU students. We were divided into 3 teams to work on different research projects. We were assigned to 2 supervisors, one from LJMU and the other from Delphi, an electronic company working on a co-operative project with GERI. Our project, Prognostics and through-life reliability prediction of electronic systems, focused on life-monitoring of solder joints through ultrasound scanning.

During the internship, we held weekly meetings with our supervisors and made two formal presentations in the university at the end. We were invited to the Research week of the Faculty of Technology and Environment to look at some poster presentations and attend conferences about the latest technology development. We also paid a visit to Delphi to learn about validation testing, which was insightful.

Our project focused on the ultrasonic scanning of PCB boards using the Sonoscan machine, which costs over 10,000 British pounds. Thanks to their trust in us, we got plenty of opportunities to use the machine in the lab and acquired many ultrasound scanning techniques. We worked together with some PhD students studying there, exchanged our ideas and learned from each other.

It is quite interesting to work with people of different nationalities in a pleasant multi-cultural environment. I have built friendships with colleagues from mainland China, Malaysia, India and Africa. I grasped every chance to talk with them to improve my communication skills. Everyone in the office was approachable and helpful. Besides, it was also very relaxing working there. Most people leave the office on time, and they seldom work overtime. They spend time on doing leisure activities instead of working long hours. Drinking beer after work is a popular culture there. Sometimes our supervisors took us to a bar and gave us a treat of drinks, and we chatted happily for the rest of the afternoon.

Liverpool is a beautiful port city in England having relatively cool summers and mild winters. The weather is far more comfortable when compared to Hong Kong. Although there are quite a lot rainy days, the temperature is moderate. People there are polite and nice. Streets are tidy and clean. Their parks are large with many open spaces. I lived in a single-ensuite room of a private accommodation, which is about 20 minutes’ walk from the university. Since eating out is quite expensive, I usually cooked dinner by myself. It was a difficult task to me at the beginning due to a lack of experience. However, when I kept trying, I gained more confidence.

It was no doubt a unique cross-cultural learning experience. I felt excited during the whole internship period. I have broadened my horizon and learnt more about myself. My communication skills, problem-solving skills and learning attitudes have also been improved. Besides, I have got some hands-on experience in engineering work and some ideas about research jobs, which may benefit my future career. I have really gained a lot from this tour.
What I gained from OIS Experience at University of York, UK

XU Jian
BENG4-ECE, Yr 3

As a student that enjoys challenges, I was excited to participate in this valuable program. Last summer, I was allocated to the Department of Electronics, University of York, UK for an internship.

The first time my classmates and I stepped into the office, everyone there gave us a warm welcome and then briefly explained the background of our project. It took us a whole week to gain some fundamental knowledge; the actual time of starting experiments occurred in the third week. Very soon we made a breakthrough in spintronics materials. An exchange bias appeared when we combined Mn$_2$V$_4$Si with CoFe, which proved that Mn$_2$V$_4$Si was antiferromagnetic for the first time. This discovery astonished us, compelling us to find out more from the spintronic material. However, the lucky fairy had left when we tried to verify a larger phenomenon. The whole process was a cycle of struggling with calibrating the equipment, modifying the parameters and repeating the measurements. Every week we made a tiny step forward until in the last week of our internship our sample showed the best quality ever, and we were glad to be able to include it in a formal presentation. One week after we finished our internship, my mentor confirmed the results. I realized that research is actually a combination of theory, fact and patience.

I enjoyed living in Britain a lot. Every evening I cooked dinner together with my colleagues and shared Chinese food with flatmates from other countries, making every evening an enjoyable gathering with lots of sharing.

Every weekend we paid a visit to other places in UK. We hanged out on Oxford Street to have a taste of luxury and fashion. In the British Museum, antique items exhibited tell stories about their resplendent history in silence. The Big Ben and the Buckingham Palace are standing in the center of London, looking after this international city.

We got to Edinburgh Castle to gaze at the mountains that were far away. Cannons on every corner of the defensive wall guard the castle and tell visitors of bravery when fighting enemies. York, where I worked, is a beautiful and historical city. People there are eager to share its past with you, reminding me of my historical hometown in China. In China we have more cities with longer history than Edinburgh’s, but all of them are modernized without leaving any traits of its origin. In Edinburgh, you may feel that you have traveled back to the middle century, except when the electronic devices in shops remind you it is 2015.

I have found my passion for research. With the help of our mentor and supervisor, we successfully finished our project with great satisfaction and exciting results. I have decided to pursue a PhD degree if possible. Besides, making so many foreign friends has made many beautiful memories that I will treasure very much. I really feel thankful for CityU and my home department for providing me such a great chance to work abroad and to help us find our direction for the future.
**Student Ambassador Scheme**

**A Wonderful MC Experience at High Table Dinner 2015**

WONG Chun Kit, Hugo  
BENG2-ECE, Yr 3

Being one of the members organizing the High Table Dinner and through cooperation with my teammates, I have learnt a lot. Thanks to the support of our EE department, and all the EE Student Ambassadors, the dinner has been a wonderful experience in my university life.

The most impressive experience was being an MC for the first time. I believed it was a good attempt. During the dinner, one guest shared his story of public speaking with me. He mentioned that one is usually nervous when speaking on the stage. We might feel scared and worried about making any mistakes. We spent time doing rehearsals and the performance was expected to be alright. The main concern rested with how one could handle the pressure when speaking in front of the public to perform well. Earning public speaking experience is thus very important. After the first try, I will not be trapped by our fear any more. I am grateful for having an opportunity to be the event MC.

The theme of High Table Dinner this year was “How do we strive for success?” Through the MC experience, I got a taste of success. I started practicing with my MC partner one month before the event. We were delighted to see ourselves improve with each practice. We improved our fluency in speaking, and learned to make natural gestures or eye contact. To be honest, if I did not have enough rehearsals, the mistakes that I made would be out of my expectation. The process might be torturing, but the more we prepared, the less mistakes we make. We have to be confident in ourselves. If at first you do not succeed, try again. Do not hesitate and never give up. You will finally accomplish your goal.

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**EE High Table Dinner 2015 – A Sweet Memory**

LI Johnman  
BENG2-INFE, Yr 3

I am glad that I had been selected to be the Student Ambassador in charge of the EE High Table Dinner 2015. I would like to thank the EE department and all Student Ambassadors for supporting this event. With their help, we invited many renowned guests to join us in the evening and came up with many helpful suggestions, an eye-catching theme, attractive promotion, professional technical support, etc..

This is my first time organizing an event and this is a big event hosted by the EE department. Fortunately, I had experienced supervisors and a powerful team to back me up. This was a priceless experience to me. Before, I only learned how to manage a project theoretically without hands-on experience. So I overlooked some details when preparing the action plan or managing the budget. With the support from my teammates, problems arising from overlooking certain tasks were resolved smoothly.

As a person in charge, one challenge was to call for meetings. We all busy with various academic and extra-curricular activities. We were busy most of the time, even during the summer break. Arranging a meeting was much more difficult than expected. Yet, given a good team spirit among all of us, we did not mind having meetings in the holidays or Skype meetings at night.

After the event, I had a better grasp of time management. I also
understood that no plan is perfect for things or situations might keep changing. What is more important is to have buffers for handling unexpected circumstances when managing resources.

Finally, we may say that the High Table Dinner is a milestone for all EE Student Ambassadors.

Promoting the Fun Side of Electronic Engineering to Secondary School Students

KWAN Tak Kai, Tackie
BENG2-ECE; Yr 3

The Electronic Engineering Summer Training Workshop was successfully held on 6th July 2015. This workshop aimed to arouse the interests of secondary school students on the operation of elementary electronic components through hands-on experience of making their own LED microcontrollers or the wireless remote control cars. The self-made products could be taken home. Surprisingly more students were interested in making the wireless remote control cars than making the LED microcontrollers. This workshop was completely free of charge and definitely served as a great opportunity for the students to have a glimpse of the electronic engineering world.

After the workshop, I was happy that the programme ran smoothly. I found that most students were really enthusiastic about electronic products. Even if they did not know how to combine all those parts together, they would actively ask their friends or tutors to get the works done. They also tried hard to fix the problems if they found there was something wrong with an assembly part. In fact this was something I really appreciated, as such an attitude is really important for an engineering student.

The workshop would not have been successful without the efficient collaboration and help provided by my groupmates. A lot of adjustments were made at the preparation stages in order to have a work plan that best suited the needs of the students. I am grateful to see that many students are so keen about electronics/engineering. I hope that we can involve more secondary school students to join our activities in the future, letting more students discover the interesting and fun side of electronic engineering.

EE Summer Training Workshop – A Window to Explore Electronic Engineering

LIU Junjie, Jack
BENG4-ECE, Yr 3

It was a great honor to organize and participate in the Electronic Engineering Summer Training Workshop 2015. As a member of the EE Department and EE Student Ambassadors, I sincerely hope that more and more secondary school students will develop their interest in engineering and be engaged in it.

Whenever talking about engineering stuff, students in Hong Kong may hold the prejudice that engineering is quite difficult and intolerably boring. Engineering is usually not students’ top priority for pursuing a university degree. However, as the saying goes, the only thing we have to fear is fear itself. The EE Summer Training Workshop offered the opportunity to show secondary school students the reality of engineering and to experience the enjoyment of being an engineer.
In the summer of 2015, we joined the EE summer exchange program and went to the Chang Gung University (CGU) in Taiwan for six weeks. In the program, we participated in lessons of a variety of topics, company visits and outdoor activities with students of CGU and Nanjing University of Science and Technology (NUST). We had a totally different learning experience as compared to what we have had in CityU.

Our journey began with some problems of adjusting to the university’s life there. First, most of the weekdays were fully scheduled with lessons from 9am till 6pm, which was much longer than that in CityU. Second, there was an extremely long staircase, which was a terrible thing to face every day. Whenever we went to classrooms from our dormitory or vice versa, we had to climb over that nearly-300-step staircase. Moreover, since CGU is an environment-friendly university, their air-conditioning is tuned downed deliberately. Their suggested temperature is 27 - 28 Degree Celsius, which is higher than Hong Kong’s 25 Degree Celsius.

However, learning in CGU was a precious experience. It was our first time to get in touch with the topic of materials and chemistry, arduino, sense of hearing as well as engineering on motion sensing. The most unforgettable lesson was about using a very tiny camera to look at the eardrum by ourselves. It was embarrassing when we put the camera into the ear and when the camera showed the ear dirt on the screen. This lesson was very interesting though.

Besides, through company visits, we realize that Taiwan’s hardware industry has been better developed than their software industry. Also, it was the first time for us to see and understand the process of producing motherboards and chips. This experience made us understand the technology and difficulties of producing the hardware like RAM, CPU and motherboards.
The culture and life in Taiwan was attractive and relaxing. We tried lots of delicious food like beef noodles, hotpot, BBQ and street snacks. It was hilarious to find that most of them cost only one-fourth of the price in Hong Kong. We were therefore totally satisfied with the Taiwanese food, which are both tasty and cheap.

Last but not least, we would like to thank the EE Department for giving us this opportunity to go for an exchange during summer. Through this exchange, we have made lots of new friends, the hard-working and active NJUST students as well as the enthusiastic CGU students, and we are still keeping in contact. We are thankful for their enthusiasm and the great efforts of CGU students and teachers. We had a perfect summer.

All in all, it is beyond question that this exchange experience is the most unforgettable and interesting university life I have ever had. If you find your university life too boring in Hong Kong, we highly recommend you to join the EE summer exchange.
在交換的日子裏感受臺灣 —— 記國立成功大學的暑期交流項目

田永強
BENG4-INFE, Yr-2

習慣了城大的小而美，一到台南的國立成功大學（簡稱成大），我就有點不適應成大的大而廣。成大有五個校區，教學樓數不盡數，炎熱的天氣走下來總會出一身的汗。不過成大的廣也帶來了很多便利，男生宿舍旁就有完整的足球場和跑道，再遠一點是網球場、排球場和籃球場。校園裏總能看到各種活動，廣闊的校園無疑給這些活動帶來了便利。

在台南成大，JAVA和Verilog是我們上的兩門課程。兩門課程各有千秋，Verilog的教授年紀大一點，上課總喜歡提問我們，讓我們先自己想出一個答案，以此激勵我們獨立思考。JAVA的教授比較年輕，上課之餘，總是一個個問我們有什麼問題，然後幫我們解決。總的來說，我覺得Verilog的內容比較難，寫程式碼不會有語法自動糾正，而且debug需要對照波形圖來看，不是那麼直接，比較考驗思維的嚴謹和全盤的控制。JAVA由於我在城大已經上過相同的課程，感覺並不算困難，但是我覺得內容的深度和廣度要比城大學的的更難一點。

我們每週大概會有四天是滿課，上下午都有三個小時的課程。其他時間大都是自由活動或者集體的出行參觀。一個月下來，我覺得兩岸三地都有自己的特色。大陸有高速的發展速度，但有時政策會跟不上實際情況。香港人普遍有嚴謹的敬業精神和工作態度，但是快節奏的生活節奏，較高的物價和狹小的居住面積帶來的壓力很大。臺灣的消費水準不高，而且景色秀美，難能可貴的保留了很多歷史的遺跡，無論是鄭成功時期的廟宇，還是日據時期的建築，都得到完善的保存和修繕。但是臺灣的發達程度可能要低於香港和大陸的一線都市。在我們生活的台南，總是很難找到公車，很多當地人也是用機車出行，很少會使用公共交通。而且台南的一些公共設施總感覺有些破舊，成大對面的臺南火車站就像是上世紀的建築，不過這大概就是臺灣特色吧。

臺灣另一個給我留下深刻印象的就是臺灣人的熱情好客。無論是辦理青遊卡的工作人員，還是幫助我們辦理入住的成大學長，都極其的有耐心，對我們提出的問題有問必答。一個月的時間裏，總有熱情的店員幫我找到我們要找的東西，貼心的民宿老闆幫我們規劃第二天的行程，見多識廣的導遊帶我們去不同的或許只有當地人知道但真的值得一遊的東西。他們的熱情與真誠，不是因為自己的職業而熱情真誠，而是真真切切的發自內心。

我很榮幸能参加這次由城大電子工程系組織的暑期交換計劃。作為一個內地生，能在香港讀本科，又能在暑假期間去臺灣參加短期交流活動，同時體驗兩岸三地的風土人情，感受不同的學術氛圍，這種獨一無二的體驗，帶給我永生難忘的記憶。
掌握會計金融知識，絕對不怕起步遲

Interviewee: Mr. LAU Sheung Chi, Simon, BEngCE 2007 graduate, Accountant, System & Development, Cathay Pacific

Interviewer: LU Junwen, BENG4-ECE, Yr 3, EE Student Ambassador

今次有幸訪問到的是2007年畢業，任職國泰航空公司Accountant – System & Development的劉尚智師兄(Simon Lau)。劉尚智師兄的事業發展路向的確給予我們不少啟發，特別對於打算在商業領域發展的EE同學們。我跟一些同學溝通的時候發現，他們均擔心香港是一個國際金融中心，單有EE的電子知識技巧，而沒有一定的會計金融知識，似乎會影響自己的就業競爭力及前景。

與不少同學的背景一樣，在畢業前劉尚智師兄的會計金融知識都是一張白紙，但他現在對有關會計系統的工作卻應付自如，成功的秘密並不特別，靠的是自我進修及在工作中的經驗累積。據師兄所說，他是在畢業兩年後開始報讀會計課程並參加有關資格考試，加上工作中不斷累積經驗及請教有經驗的同事，終能掌握一定的會計及金融知識。此外，師兄亦在訪問中鼓勵一些與他一樣有志在金融行業發展的EE學生不必擔心自己會計知識的不足。他說其實大部分公司都沒有期望新同事剛進入公司便完全掌握所有東西，他們卻喜歡願意問、願意學的同事。他認為只要不斷進修，不斷累積經驗，總會成功。因此，同學們大可以放心，絕對不怕起步遲。

此外，當問到劉尚智師兄有什麼其他意見給予我們這些師弟時，劉尚智師兄特別提到履歷表的重要性。據師兄的經驗總結，關鍵在於履歷表上學習經驗與能力的多元化。他解釋：“在見工時，若你的成績不算突出，履歷表便要盡多元化來吸引雇主。”因此，師兄特別鼓勵大家去參加學校的交流生活動及把握各種實習的機會，因為這些活動能夠擴闊同學們的眼光，而實習讓同學有機會去應用學過的課堂知識，這會大大加深雇主對你的印象。他解釋說：“履歷是你給予公司的第一印象，好的履歷會令你獲得一個面試機會。因此除了內容上你要有“料”，如何鋪排展現你的優點亦是一個學問。”而師兄特別建議同學們去尋求學校的職業導向協助，“我在三年級時開始找工作，當時感到彷徨，幸虧學校有提供幫助工作的全方位協助，從一份履歷開始，他們會協助你了解自己的優勢，並如何在履歷中展現它出來，從而提高你的競爭力。”

最後，師兄鼓勵大家享受大學生活，捉緊機會去多一些，經歷多一些，並且及早為自己的未來打算及準備。我在此亦祝師兄在他的職業崗位上繼續發展，不斷進步突破。

Alumni’s Sharing

掌握會計金融知識，絕對不怕起步遲

Interviewee: Mr. LAU Sheung Chi, Simon, BEngCE 2007 graduate, Accountant, System & Development, Cathay Pacific

Interviewer: LU Junwen, BENG4-ECE, Yr 3, EE Student Ambassador

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EE where I was Inspired and given Insights to my Career—
Always Set Goals and Stick to Them

Interviewee: Ms WONG Shuk Ting, Zero, BEngCE 2007 Graduate, Senior Business Analyst, M+R Forwarding (HK) Ltd.

Interviewer: LING Tze Yan, BENG2-ECE, Yr 3, EE Student Ambassador

I met Miss Zero WONG, Shuk Ting in a technology seminar for CityU-EE alumni, and it was my honour to interview her.

After graduation from CityU, Zero got her first job – an in-house programmer responsible for writing and managing computer programmes for internal departments. After understanding the general operation system of a particular department as well as that of the entire company, she was required to communicate with software vendors to establish suitable systems and do relevant system testing. Three to four years later, she aimed for career advancement and so she decided to find her challenge in another company, which is where she is working and has been promoted for four times. Being a Senior Business Analyst, she is currently responsible for providing customized solutions to clients in the logistics field.

During her years in CityU, Zero experienced different ups and downs. She even got an “F” in a computer programming course in the first year. Without learning anything similar in high school, the course was quite a challenge for her. However, her belief was “where there is a will, there is a way”. She finally passed the course in her second try, which was the result of her additional hard work, persistence and peer encouragement. She felt grateful for the chance to be inspired during the learning process in EE. “The EE programme in CityU gave me insights to my career direction,” said Zero.

Zero pointed out that when fresh graduates just enter the workplace to begin their career path, many of them may not be able to adapt to the identity change immediately. Fortunately, the internship scheme offered by CityU and EE provided an opportunity for students to gain first-hand experience of working in industry. In her opinion, this does help students have an easier transition period, which is very important.

I asked if there was any teacher in EE she liked most. “Dr. Ricky Lau is the one that impresses me most. Somehow my attitude of working has been swayed a bit by his passion and attitude towards teaching,” Zero recalled, “Until now, my friends and I often have gatherings with Dr. Lau”. Indeed, a good teacher is able to inspire and influence students.

In addition, she encourages the current students not to give up and they should try to set clear goals. No matter in study or career development, she believes that perseverance is the key to success. “Never be shy to ask questions when you do not understand,” she suggests to current students. Her rationale is that we should not be afraid of failure; instead we should have the courage to overcome difficulties. This belief is truly applicable in any situation throughout life. To her, having a clear career goal and continuous learning are equally important. She has finished a part-time masters degree in Global Supply Chain Management in order to support and achieve her further career goal.

Meanwhile, Zero is sharing fundamental knowledge of basic information and technology in her leisure time; she has created a website to post articles to pass on her knowledge about network technology. I really appreciate her thoughts and efforts to share knowledge of her profession beyond her job. From my point of view, Miss Zero Wong is a real achiever.
**** Mathematical Amusement (No. 31) ****

Number sense for your lifestyle

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L+E+A+D+E+R+S+H+I+P = 12+5+1+4+5+18+19+8+9+16 = 97 %

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H+A+R+D+W+O+R+K = 8+1+18+4+23+15+18+11 = 98 %

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A+T+T+I+T+U+D+E = 1+20+20+9+20+21+4+5 = 100 %

GRC 😊