A tribute to long-serving colleagues

A long-term service award ceremony was held by the Human Resources Office on 31 October to thank 180 colleagues for their contributions to the University during their 10, 15 or 20 years of dedicated service.

Professor Richard Ho Yan-khi, Acting President of the University, expressed appreciation for their outstanding contributions. He thanked staff who had completed 10 years of service for supporting the University in overcoming financial difficulties and he was grateful to colleagues with 15-year service for working hard to upgrade the status of the institute to a university. For colleagues who had served 20 years, Professor Ho extended sincere gratitude to them in providing relentless support to the University during hard times. He wished all staff could continue their service and support the University to meet the challenges presented by local education reform in 2012.

One of the 33 staff members receiving the 20-year service award, Dr Orville Leverne Clubb, Associate Professor at the Department of Computer Science, said, “I have been in Hong Kong for 30 years. During those years, I have seen many challenges in the territory and experienced various difficult times with the University, including the outbreak of SARS. We got through them and overcame the difficulties one-by-one. I wish each of us continues to work happily hand-in-hand as a team and help and care for each other.”

Dr Chan Yan-chong, Associate Professor at the Department of Management Sciences, who is renowned in the financial sector, also received a 20-year service award. He made an interesting analogy in his speech. “CityU is an outstanding blue chip. I would recommend all colleagues hold it for the long term.” When he came from Singapore to Hong Kong 20 years ago, he had no intention of staying any longer than 10 years. He felt the University provided him a very good working environment with many outstanding students who assisted him in his research. He would like to continue his service at CityU.

Ms Chan Sin-fung and Ms Hui Suet-ying, both working at Run Run Shaw Library, received 15-year service awards. They became friends soon after they joined CityU, and worked together at the library for 15 years. While major renovation work is now underway, they have witnessed the library’s prolonged improvement over the years of their service. They both wish to continue their work and make contributions to an even better service at the newly-renovated library.

Having served CityU for 10 years, Dr Anna Kwan Sin-fung, Senior Education Development Officer at the Education Development Office, felt her work was full of challenges and opportunities. “CityU is a young university, so there is a lot of opportunities for me to apply my knowledge and skills.”

By Zoey Tsang
學生的終身學長
Students' lifelong mentor

文/謝天恩

「學生的終身學長」一詞，出現在許多校園中，這gün校長不僅是學校教育體系的一個重要組成部分，更是學生們成長過程中不可或缺的指導者和朋友。本文將通過對一名學生終身學長的介紹，探討他對學生發展的影響。

文博士在筆者心目中的形象，始終是華語世界中傑出的學者之一。他在教育、研究和行政管理等方面都取得了卓越的成就。他的智慧、毅力和熱情深深地影響了許多學者和學員。

在教育方面，文博士著重於哲學、文學和語言學的領域，他的研究成果廣泛應用於學校教育中，特別是對於學生的閱讀理解和論文寫作能力的培養，他提出了許多獨到的觀點和方法。他的課堂教學風格深受學生歡迎，他不僅教授知識，還注重培養學生的思維能力和批判性思考能力。

在研究領域，文博士從未停止探索新知，他積極參與國際學術交流，不斷提出新的理論和觀點，對學術界產生了重要的影響。他的著作被廣泛引用，成了許多學者研究的基礎。

在行政管理方面，文博士以其卓越的領導才能和開明的態度，成功地領導了學校的發展。他的決策和行動總是站在學生的利益之上，他關注學生的需求，不斷改善學校的教學環境和學習資源。

文博士的事業並未止於校園，他還積極參與社區服務，透過舉辦講座、研討會等活動，將學術知識普及到更廣泛的人群中。他的這種對學生的關懷和對社會的貢獻，使他在學者和學生心中樹立了良好的形象。

文博士的教學精神和學者風範，對學生發展產生了積極的影響，他的指導和影響，將長期影響著學生們的學業和生活。我們應該學習他的人格魅力和學術成就，為我們的學術之路和人生道路提供無盡的動力和啟示。

資料來源：
1. 文博士的專著《華語世界中的語言學》。
2. 文博士的教學手稿和講義資料。
3. 文博士的學術論文和研究報告。
4. 文博士的教學活動和社區服務資料。
貔貅銅像重現光采

 Staff nurture unique guardian angels back to former glory

Chinese Unicorn, this mythical animal, Pí Xiú, is believed to wield magic powers to ward off evil spirits, hence the other commonly known name Pí Xiú in Chinese. They are also widely regarded as auspicious creatures that possess the magical ability to draw in wealth from all directions.

These two bronze statues were erected in 1990. After witnessing the growth of the University for the past 17 years as "guardian angels", the two bronze statues were given a facelift and re-opened in mid-October, coinciding with the record attendance at the University Information Day.

Eric is delighted to see that his observation and suggestion was recognised by the University management. Renovation started in August and took a couple of months. Now the two majestic animals are repaired, cleansed, waxed and open to the public – ever ready to offer their services to the people who have shown concern and care for them.
When scheduling class timetables, all that is required is to fill in the necessary information in advance in order to be the lucky recipient of a timetable that meets your requirements. But have you ever paused to consider just how your timetable is compiled behind the scenes?

A seemingly simple timetable actually requires a lot of work involving many departments. It is coordinated and processed by Mr. Fok Chi-yung and Ms. Cecilia Lok, and their colleagues at the Academic Regulations and Records Office. To process and produce a timetable catering for about 27,000 teachers and students, they need to deal with a tremendous volume of data, including the choice of courses and curriculum requirements set by different departments. They will try to accommodate the different needs of teachers and students while at the same time ensuring there is no class clash for students.

Mr. Fok said they would use special computer software to process the large volume of data collected from all the departments and faculties. However, they would often need to make manual adjustments. “When setting timetables, we need to take into account many factors,” he said. “We wish to use the university resources as effectively as possible to suit the course requirements of different departments.”

He pointed out that they would fully consider the needs of students and teachers when scheduling timetables. “Our principle is to have only six hours of class time as a maximum in a day, and there should be a break after four hours of classes. We aim to have a timetable that is reasonable for everybody.”

Processing so much data with so many constraints requires the cooperation of teachers and students from various departments. Ms. Lok said they often received different timetabling requests, which sometimes involved much effort and inventiveness to satisfy the demands. “As long as the request is reasonable, we will try to accommodate it with a fair arrangement that has the least impact on other people.”

By Ellen Chan

**Spotlight**

井然有序的課堂生活—從編制時間表說起

Putting University Life in Order Through Timetable Scheduling

學生和老師在安排課堂時間表時，只管在預先在相關辦公室覓求所需資料或要求，便可得到一分合自己要求的時間表，但大家可有想過，手上的時間表是如何編制出來的呢？

原來，這種龐大而又複雜的工作是由教務處的考勤主任和課程單位主任以及其他教育處同事負貴處理的。他們需要處理大量的資料，例如學生所選的課程名稱，選課學分等，為全院約27,000名師生編制編練時間表，編制時間表時，他們既要盡量滿足教職員和同

學的不同要求，同時又需顧及學生的課業，避免出現重疊的情況，大學的空間有限，課堂需求又十分大，合理編制時間表便是一項艱巨的挑戰。

*From left: Fok Chi-yung and Ms. Cecilia Lok

**Promotions/Transfers/Others**

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