Generosity brings tree to maturity

Zoey Tsang

The familiar logo of the Staff Giving Club (SGC), with its sturdy tree standing alone on a prairie, is an apt metaphor for its contribution to the University. Like a young tree, CityU has been growing thanks in part to the dedication and generosity of staff since the official establishment of SGC in 2005. The contributions made to the University by departments and staff members have recently been recognised by the Development and Alumni Relations Office, which is responsible for coordinating the activities of SGC.

Based upon results released by the office, the Highest Average Departmental Staff Donation Award for 2008 went, for the second consecutive year, to the Office of Deputy President. Professor David Tong Shuk-yin, Deputy President, gratefully thanked his colleagues for their support and understanding of the University’s developmental needs and extensive resources required for educating students into professionals. “The donations offered by colleagues provide great support to the University achieving its goal of becoming a world-class institute,” he said.

The Top Departmental Staff Donation Award was won by the Department of Asian and International Studies.

The Best Participation Award was shared by two winners, the Development and Alumni Relations Office and the Internal Audit Office. Ms Kathy Chan Yin-ling, Director of the Development and Alumni Relations Office, thanked her colleagues not only for their generous donations but also their concerted effort in promoting the Staff Giving Club over the past three years. “SGC has not only generated extra resources for the University,” she said, “but also disseminated a whole-hearted caring culture among colleagues. I hope this culture can continue to thrive.”

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A Note from the Editor

Changes at CityU, Changes at Linkage

Our President has promised change. Here at Linkage, we too are changing, as part of our constant search for ways to better serve the university community. This issue features a new layout and design that we think will make the publication more attractive to the eye and smoother to read. It will also allow us to broaden and vary our story content. We’ve gone from two colours to four, added four more pages and separated the Chinese- and English-language versions into distinct, self-contained sections.

As you know, the Communications Office, which publishes Linkage, not only works with the Hong Kong media to promote the University’s achievements but also manages various publications to keep the staff and faculty members abreast of what is happening on campus. So as part of our changes at Linkage, we’re starting a periodic column, STAFF CORNER. It’ll be a forum for staff and faculty members to share their personal experiences and ideas with each other. Through the forum, we’ll all be able to better appreciate the great variety and vibrancy of the University and its people – and even get some tips on where to go for that special meal or hike.

We’d love to receive your contribution to STAFF CORNER. Among other things, we’d like to hear about your:

- favourite restaurants, places, sights or outings in Hong Kong;
- recommendations on novel ways to spend the weekend;
- most enjoyable out-of-town trip;
- unusual skills, hobbies or interests;
- most memorable experiences at the University;
- ideas about how to improve the University environment or the surrounding neighbourhood;
- accounts of particular people at the University who have impressed you with their service or knowledge and skills.

Contributions on any other topics are welcome; the floor is yours.

Please write up to 200 words on your topic, and maybe attach a photo (or two) to illustrate it. Or just send a photo with a brief description. Please include your contact information in case we need to get in touch with you. You may send to us by campus mail, or to como@cityu.edu.hk. And if you have any reactions or suggestions regarding our revamped Linkage, we’d welcome that as well.

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Ms Libby Chow Ming-chu, Director of the Internal Audit Office, indicated that colleagues understood their donations would bring in a corresponding contribution to the University through the government’s Matching Grant Scheme. She believed the appointment of an SGC Ambassador to each department helped colleagues better understand the functions of SGC.

Among the 31 ambassadors on campus, Ms Terry Wong Yuet-wa of the Development and Alumni Relations Office and Ms Hovey Chui Kit-chun of the Internal Audit Office, were presented with the Outstanding Ambassador Award.

So, what were the tactics they deployed to encourage colleagues to make contributions? Terry said she would encourage colleagues to do so in causal conversations rather than through hard selling, “it is not the amount that matters but the enthusiasm to participate.”

Hovey said many colleagues voluntarily responded to her call. She was confident that the sense of solidarity that prompted people to donate would continue on campus.
A new face on campus who feels at home

Professor (Chair) Yang Yeong-bin, a scholar from Taiwan in the Department of Building and Construction, may be new on campus this semester, but he feels more at home than most other faculty members at the start of their CityU careers.

He has met University President Professor Way Kuo, who also is from Taiwan and a scholar of engineering, several times at international conferences. And he graduated from the same Department of Civil Engineering at National Taiwan University as the former CityU president, Professor H K Chang.

“There must be something particularly special about CityU that attracted the two eminent scholars to come all the way from overseas to take up the presidency here,” Professor Yang says.

Professor Yang got his bachelor’s and master’s degrees in Civil Engineering from National Taiwan University, then a PhD in Structural Engineering from Cornell University in the United States. In 1984, he returned to National Taiwan University to teach, and later became a distinguished professor and head of the Department of Civil Engineering. He is the first Taiwanese scholar to be honoured as a Fellow of the Austrian Academy of Sciences.

Professor Yang says that besides his sense of fellowship with its presidents, he is attracted to what he calls the youthful vitality of CityU. “In my first contacts with CityU, I already had the sense it was an efficient and productive institution,” he says. He is attracted to Hong Kong by what he calls its sophisticated legal, financial and labour systems and infrastructure. It is also convenient to travel from Hong Kong to mainland China, Taiwan and Southeast Asia to cooperate with universities there, he says.

Professor Yang, who is 54, says that while he works from 8am to 11pm every day, his life is not all work and no play.

Every two to three days, he jogs five kilometres on a treadmill at the university gym. He enjoys reading, not only the science and engineering books he needs for work, but also literature and other humanities titles, which he says are important for cultivating one’s “spiritual self”. He likes the natural scenery of Hong Kong and has gone hiking near North Point and savoured the seafood in Sai Kung.

And although he lives in a city known as a food paradise, Professor Yang likes to cook at home in order to relax. He says he actually knows “nothing” about cooking, but gets pointers from his wife during their online chats. His wife stays behind in Taiwan to take care of their son, who is a student.
Sculpture draws upon CityU’s collective memories

Jo Kam

Walking through the University Concourse, it is difficult to miss the large red sculpture installation suspended from the ceiling. This special artwork was created by encasing with wax items of personal memorabilia relating to the University and donated by staff, alumni and students. Installed by the Student Development Services to welcome new students, the sculpture will remain on permanent display on the campus.

During an interview on her way to a sculpture workshop in Ap Lei Chau, Dr Ruth Yee Wing-yu, Associate Director of the Student Development Services and initiator and coordinator of the sculpture production, discussed the project’s evolution.

“The biggest challenge was the race against time, as we had only one month to collect all the memorabilia. Fortunately there was an overwhelming response to our call and we received more than 400 items. It was gratifying to have the sculpture successfully created on time,” said Dr Yee.

“A collective memory with individual representation” is the phrase used by Dr Yee to describe the artwork. “I hope the sculpture can elicit the message that, while respecting the unique characteristics of each individual, we can unite as a whole to shine separately and collectively.”

Dr Yee donated three items, namely a maple leaf-like clock that had hung on the wall of her office for many years, a feather fan for performing Chinese dance and an abacus used by her daughter when studying mathematics as a youngster. “The clock symbolises my working at CityU for more than 20 years, and I hope everyone can cherish their time serving the University,” Dr Yee said. “The fan expresses my wish for everyone to shine by virtue of their talents, while the abacus represents my desire to pass on traditional Chinese culture from generation to generation.”

Dr Yee said the sculpture meant a lot to all donors, as their items embodied their memories of CityU. By donating the items, she said, people could not only review their own memories, but also get to know themselves from a new perspective.
A decade of change for Chinese Civilisation Centre

Sharon Ng

As this year marks the 10th anniversary of the Chinese Civilisation Centre, you may wonder what has changed for the centre over the past decade. Ms Winnie Lee Kwai-fong, Executive Officer of the centre, has witnessed its growth from its infancy and shared her memories of its development.

Winnie is one of the founding members of the centre. Long before the official launch, she was responsible, as a senior research assistant, for putting in place preparations for the centre’s establishment before Professor Cheng Pei-kai travelled from the US and assumed the directorship.

Winnie recalls that in the lead-up to the launch there were only two staff members – Professor Cheng and herself. In its early years there were only five teachers, in addition to Dr Ma Ka-fai, Assistant Director, and Ms Grace Tam Ka-po, Professor Cheng’s secretary. They were all accommodated in a temporary office in To Yuen Building due to space constraints at that time.

Over the years, the centre has undergone a radical physical transformation, blossoming into an impressive office resplendent in Chinese design elements. The transition was the work of artist Mr Li Hua, who developed the layout and changed the original setting of two restaurants into the Chinese-style office.

Seeing the centre grow into a unit with more than 40 staff, Winnie said with pride, “It’s difficult to describe my happiness at observing the present-day accomplishments of the centre, after it developed from scratch with the enthusiastic support and recognition of various parties.” With a wonderful work environment, clear teaching objectives and pleasant work relationships with colleagues, she is glad to still be one of the centre’s staff members.
1 June – 31 July 2008
2008年6月1日至7月31日

New Arrival 到任
Senior Staff 高級職員

Department of Applied Social Studies
應用社會科學系
- Yeung, Dannii, Yuen-lan, 楊婉麗, Assistant Professor
  PhD, The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Department of Biology and Chemistry
生物及化學系
- Yu, Richard, Man-kit, 余文健, Lecturer
  PhD, City University of Hong Kong

Department of Chinese, Translation and Linguistics
中文、翻譯及語言學系
- Chan, Clara, Ho-yan, 陳可欣, Assistant Professor
  PhD, University of Queensland, Australia
- Linder, Birgit, 彭吉蓉, Assistant Professor
  PhD, University of Wisconsin, Madison, USA

Department of Computer Science
電腦科學系
- Lai, Donny, Chi-fai, 賴志輝, Instructor I
  MAppFin, University of Western Sydney, Australia

Department of Information Systems
資訊系統學系
- Schneider, Christoph, Assistant Professor
  PhD, Washington State University, USA
- Tan, Chuan-hoo, Assistant Professor
  PhD, National University of Singapore

Department of Marketing
市場營銷學系
- Dong, Maggie, Chuoyan, 杜婉燕, Assistant Professor
  PhD, University of Hong Kong
- Zeng, Xiaohua, 曾小華, Assistant Professor
  PhD, University of British Columbia, Canada

Department of Public and Social Administration
公共及社會行政學系
- Ho, Pui-ling, 何佩玲, Instructor I
  MSc, Hong Kong Polytechnic University

Student Development Services
學生發展處
- Law, Wai-yi, 呂偉怡, Counsellor
  MCouns, University of New England, Australia

General Staff 其他職級
Faculty of Science and Engineering
科學及工程學院
- Sun, Hoi-yi, 辛凱怡, Executive Officer II

School of Creative Media
創意媒體學院
- Shiu, Ka-kei, 邵家儀, Clerical Officer II

Department of Biology and Chemistry
生物及化學系
- Chau, Ka-wai, 周家偉, Junior Technician

Department of Information Systems
資訊系統學系
- Chow, Lung-fei, 周龍飛, Assistant Computer Officer

Department of Public and Social Administration
公共及社會行政學系
- Lo, Wincci, Wing-chee, 蘿雅芝, Executive Officer II

School of Continuing and Professional Education
專業進修學院
- Lee, Anna, Yee-man, 利綺雯, Programme Officer II
- Yau, Chun-yu, 丘震宇, Clerical Officer II
- Kok, Siu-ying, 郭素盈, Clerical Assistant
- Cheung, Hin-fai, 張健輝, Office Assistant
- Chow, Joyce, King-yen, 周靜欣, Office Assistant
- Leung, Ho-yin, 梁浩賢, Office Assistant

English Language Centre
英語中心
- Lai, Chiu-ying, 賴翠儀, Clerical Officer II
- Wong, Nicole, Kit-man, 黃潔雯, Clerical Assistant

Centre for Applied Computing and Interactive Media
互動媒體與電算應用中心
- Jark, Ka-leung, 郭家良, Assistant Computer Officer

Admissions Office
招生處
- Leong, Wei-ping, 梁慧萍, Executive Officer I

Council Secretariat
校董會秘書處
- Chan, Jo, Sin-fung, 陳少鳳, Clerical Officer II

Development and Alumni Relations Office
發展及校友聯絡處
- Chau, Man-kit, 周敏杰, Development Officer II
- Ng, Pui-shan, 吳佩珊, Development Officer II

Facilities Management Office
物業及設施管理處
- Ng, Kit-kee, 伍健怡, Technician

Finance Office
財務處
- Suen, Anthony, Lup-kuen, 孫德權, Executive Officer I
- Lau, Ka-kee, 劉嘉儀, Clerical Officer II

Human Resources Office
人力資源處
- Ho, Queenie, 郭雁鈴, 何嘉怡, Clerical Officer II
- Ho, Ho-tung, 何達彤, Clerical Officer II
- Lai, Siu-ling, 蕭少玲, Clerical Officer II

Library 邱逸夫圖書館
- Ho, Winnie, 何婉芝, Information Technology Officer II
- Fung, Chung-wai, 冯仲巍, Computer Technician II

Research Grants Office
研究资助處
- Cheng, Elly, Yuen-tik, 鄭婉怡, Executive Officer II

Student Development Services
學生發展處
- Yue, Rebecca, Lok-man, 楊洛民, Executive Officer I

Transfer/Promotion 調升及其他
Faculty of Business
商學院
- Chan, Adams, Ka-sing, 陳家成, Computer Officer to Systems Manager

Faculty of Science and Engineering
科學及工程學院
- Man, Denise, Lai-fan, 文麗芬, Executive Officer I to Supervisory Executive Officer

Department of Accountancy
會計學系
- Choi, Hwee-sien, 蔡慧賢, Instructor II to Instructor I
- Kwan, Hoi-yin, 關欣華, Office Assistant to Clerical Officer II

Department of Applied Social Studies
應用社會科學系
- Kwok, Sylvia, Yuk-ching Lai, 郭淑琼, Lecturer [DSS] to Assistant Professor

Department of Building and Construction
建築系
- Chan, Ricky, Wing-ki, 陳穎熙, Instructor II to Instructor I
- Tang, Patrick, Wai-ching, 汤偉程, Instructor II to Instructor I
Department of Public and Social Administration
公共及社會行政學系
- Vyas, Lina, Instructor I to Lecturer
- School of Continuing and Professional Education
專業進修學院
- Lai, Serina, Lan-heung, 顏麗華, Principal Lecturer [LS] to Principal Lecturer
- Sik, Oswald, Tsun-pui, 蔣兆培, Principal Lecturer [CM] to Principal Lecturer
- Tam, Nicholas, Pui-ho, 謝浩恩, Principal Lecturer [CM] to Principal Lecturer
- Chan, Rosa, Wai-yin, 鄭慧賢, Senior Lecturer [DSS] to Senior Lecturer
- Cheung, Ruby, Kwok-chu Chan, 張鍾國, Senior Lecturer [CM] to Senior Lecturer
- Chiu, Herbert, Kow-tai, 趙大, Senior Lecturer [DSS] to Senior Lecturer
- Corrigan, Paul Clinton, Senior Lecturer [LS] to Senior Lecturer
- Fok, Shiu-yue, 霍耀怡, Senior Lecturer [DSS] to Senior Lecturer
- Fung, Wai-wah, 馮偉華, Senior Lecturer [CM] to Senior Lecturer
- Ho, Albert, Chun-kwong, 何振廣, Senior Lecturer [CM] to Senior Lecturer
- Ho, Holly, Lai-fong, 何麗芳, Senior Lecturer [CM] to Senior Lecturer
- Ho, Ron, Yu-wai, 何耀偉, Senior Lecturer [CM] to Senior Lecturer
- Ip, Cassandra, Ying-har, 葉彭碧, Senior Lecturer [CM] to Senior Lecturer
- Ip, Bonny, Yan-mun Yin, 葉敏仁, Senior Lecturer [CM] to Senior Lecturer
- Lam, Aileen, Lai-yam Chan, 林敏麗, Senior Lecturer [LS] to Senior Lecturer
- Lam, Terry, Kwok-keung, 林國強, Senior Lecturer [CM] to Senior Lecturer
- Li, Stephen, Chun-yue, 李振宇, Senior Lecturer [CM] to Senior Lecturer
- Li, Ivan, Si-wai, 李思偉, Senior Lecturer [CM] to Senior Lecturer
- Liu, Kin-cheung, 廖健章, Senior Lecturer [CM] to Senior Lecturer
- Lo, Chi-ning, 鄧碧華, Senior Lecturer [CM] to Senior Lecturer
- Mak, David, Lai-woon, 梁偉達, Senior Lecturer [LS] to Senior Lecturer
- Wong, Fu-wing, 梁富光, Senior Lecturer [LS] to Senior Lecturer
- Wong, Kelston, Hung-wan, 黃鴻智, Senior Lecturer [CM] to Senior Lecturer
- Wong, Patrick, Pak-keung, 梁柏強, Senior Lecturer [DSS] to Senior Lecturer
- Yue, Kwok-keung, 余國強, Senior Lecturer [CM] to Senior Lecturer
- Chan, Paul, Po-ka, 陳保家, Lecturer [CM] to Lecturer
- Chan, Yu-wing, 陳淑儀, Lecturer [DCO] to Lecturer
- Chau, Chi-cheung, 周子昌, Lecturer [DSS] to Lecturer
- Cheung, Eleanor, Tsz-king, 張紫君, Lecturer [CM] to Lecture
- Cheung, Bryan, Wing-chung, 張穎中, Lecturer [DSS] to Lecturer
- Cheung, Yuk-yin Lin, 林卓玉, Lecturer [CM] to Lecturer
- Chou, Josephine, Wai-chiu Ng, 曹伍慧, Lecturer [LS] to Lecturer
- Chu, Si-yuk Leung, 朱舜小玉, Lecturer [DSS] to Lecturer
- Fung, Kwok-kin, 梁國堅, Lecturer [DSS] to Lecturer
- Ho, Keung-sing, 何強星, Lecturer [DSS] to Lecturer
- Hui, Riemann, Fai-ki, 許輝麟, Lecturer [DSS] to Lecturer
- Hung, Billy, Ying-ho, 洪美豪, Lecturer [DSS] to Lecturer
- Ip, Irene, Kwok-chun, 李御珍, Lecturer [LS] to Lecturer
- Kwan, Wai-hong, 謝偉康, Lecturer [DSS] to Lecturer
- Kwok, Winnie, Yuen-ling, 關婉玲, Lecturer [CM] to Lecturer
- Lai, Siu-man, 黎耀民, Lecturer [DSS] to Lecturer
- Lam, Yu-on, 林育安, Lecturer [CM] to Lecturer
- Lau, Albert, Hon-chuen, 劉漢全, Lecturer [DSS] to Lecturer
- Lau, Kin-hung, 劉健河, Lecturer [DSS] to Lecturer
- Lau, Wai-lam, 劉衛林, Lecturer [LS] to Lecturer
- Lau, Rina, Yuk-kwan Ng, 劉鈺安, Lecturer [LS] to Lecturer
- Law, Vicky, Yuen-mei, 鄭婉儀, Lecturer [LS] to Lecturer
- Lee, Henry, Koon-nam, 李冠南, Lecturer [CM] to Lecturer
- Leung, Christine, Lai-wa Lok, 梁思慧, Lecturer [CM] to Lecturer
- Li, Chi-ning, 李碧華, Lecturer [LS] to Lecturer
- Li, Titania, Ka-wing, 李嘉華, Lecturer [CM] to Lecturer

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