

# FACULTY OF HUMANITIES NEWSLETTER

2012 ISSUE NO.2



THE HONG KONG  
POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY

香港理工大學

凝聚智慧 創建未來

USING QUALITY AND INNOVATION  
FOR THE BENEVOLENT

## Outreaching

- ELC Consultancy to the Community: Po Leung Kuk Language Programmes
- Supporting teaching through English at secondary schools

## Research & Scholarly Activities

- Successful Grants from the General Research Fund 2012/13
- Conference Keynote and Plenary Speeches
- Books Published, June-December 2012

## Events

- Common Orientation Programme
- PolyU Education Info Day
- 2nd Conference on Applying Putonghua and English Language Arts Hong Kong
- East Asia: Towards a Global Community with Cultural Diversity
- Guest Lecture on Chinese Sculpture and Studio Visit

## Faculty Updates

- Formation of Faculty Advisory Committee
- Inauguration of FHPAA
- Upcoming International/Regional Conferences
- The President's Awards for Excellent Performance/Achievement
- One Asia Foundation Scholarship

## Student Corner

- Students' Views: Doctor of Applied Language Sciences
- Students' Views: Broad Discipline of Language, Culture and Communication

## Viewpoints



## PolyU Offers Professional Master's Degree in Speech Therapy

The Master of Speech Therapy (MST) programme at The Hong Kong Polytechnic University is the first programme in Hong Kong to enable individuals to become speech therapists via a Master's degree programme.



## From Educator to Politician- Interview with Dr. Helena Wong

Dr. Helena Wong, Lecturer in the General Education Centre (GEC) at PolyU, was newly elected to the Legislative Council. On 6 November 2012, Dr. Paris Lau, Lecturer of GEC, interviewed her on her old and new roles as educator and politician. She also shared with us her views on general education in Hong Kong.

## Highlights



## 18th Congregation (Faculty of Humanities)

Prof. Chu Hung-lam Won a Grant from the Prestigious Fellowship Scheme for Humanities and Social Sciences 2012/13



## Endowed Professorship in Culture and Art

Hong Kong International Literary Festival comes to PolyU campus



FH CAR Subjects to be Offered in Semester 2, 2012-13

## PolyU Offers Professional Master's Degree in Speech Therapy



Speech Therapist at work with a kid.

### Characteristics

This programme plans to use a hybrid approach in which traditional lectures are used for foundation courses taught in the first year of the programme and the Problem Based Learning approach is used in the second year to enhance the integration of learning across courses and across theory and practice.

A vital part of the training for Speech Therapists involves supervised clinical practice. A Speech Therapy Unit has already been established on PolyU campus and it is a platform to serve both in-house teaching and research purposes through a service interface. For details, please refer to the Unit's website at url: <http://st.cbs.polyu.edu.hk/index.php/en/>. In addition to in-house placements at the Speech Therapy Unit, students will undertake external placement supervised by qualified and experienced speech therapists in a variety of settings in Hong Kong and the Chinese Mainland where speech therapists work and also

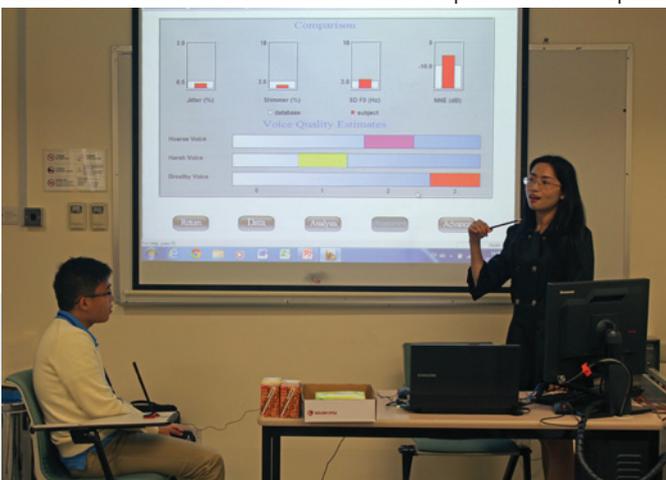
The Master of Speech Therapy (MST) programme at The Hong Kong Polytechnic University is the first programme in Hong Kong to enable individuals, who have obtained a Bachelor's degree, to become speech therapists via a Master's degree programme. The MST programme is a 90-credit, full-time, 2.5-year (5 semesters + 2 summer semesters), entry-level professional programme aiming to produce graduates who are able to practise as Speech Therapists in Hong Kong and the Chinese Mainland. The curriculum of MST is designed in a way that meets the regional standards for local and international professional recognition.



The signing of the Memorandum of Understanding with Tung Wah Group of Hospitals in March 2012.



The Speech Therapy Unit was one of the organisers of the "Awareness Week in Specific Learning Disability 2012".



Workshop on effective voice projection for professionals.

where students upon graduation will find work. Students will obtain supervised clinical experience across a wide range of communication and swallowing disorders affecting pediatric, adult and geriatric clients.

## Entrance Requirements

The programme was described by the validation panel as being proactive and visionary. Accordingly, the entrance requirement is equally demanding. Applicants must have a Bachelor's degree or equivalent from a recognised institution. Those who have a Bachelor's degree in linguistics, psychology, speech and language sciences, health-related disciplines are preferred, and relevant working experience will also be taken into account.

For English proficiency, applicants should satisfy one of the following requirements: A-Level English grade D or above OR TOEFL (minimum acceptable score for admission is 600 paper version, 250 computer version, 100 internet version) OR IELTS 7.0 or above. For Chinese proficiency, applicants should possess the minimal Chinese Language grade D or above or equivalent at HKCEE level.

As far as verbal communication is concerned, applicants should be able to communicate verbally in both Cantonese and English effectively. Fluency in Mandarin (Putonghua) is preferred.



Group treatment of Specific Learning Difficulties (SpLD)

## Programme Structure and Overview

- Five Foundation subjects in the fields of Biomedical and Rehabilitation Sciences, Behavioural and Social Sciences and Linguistics and Language Sciences
- Ten Professional subjects dealing with Communication Disorders, Audiology and Swallowing disorders and their assessment and treatment together with a final-year research project
- Nine Clinical Education subjects which include Clinical Practicum, Case Conference and Professional Ethics

All subjects are compulsory. The programme is structured to achieve a balanced combination of necessary academic and professional knowledge, skills and attitudes, including the attributes for all-roundness. The programme is also designed to meet international requirements on competencies for an entry-level professional programme in Speech Therapy in terms of coverage of contents and supervised clinical hours.

## Intended Outcomes

Developing a speech therapy programme at our University not only meets growing community needs but also enhances our University's leading role in educating language and allied health professionals in an application-oriented and Chinese and bilingual context. The offering of the MST programme is built on our University's success and excellence in providing education in linguistics, rehabilitation sciences and social sciences underpinned by relevant research and will increase our competitiveness in an interdisciplinary context. We look forward to the implementation of the programme in 2013-14.



Seminar on Developmental Dysgraphia (writing disorder).

## From Educator to Politician- *Interview with Dr. Helena Wong*

**D**r. Helena Wong, Lecturer in the General Education Centre (GEC) at PolyU, was newly elected to the Legislative Council. On 6 November 2012, Dr. Paris Lau, Lecturer of GEC, conducted an interview with her on her old and new roles of educator and politician. She also shared with us her views on general education in Hong Kong.

**P:** Dr. Paris Lau

**H:** Dr. Helena Wong



**P:** Helena, Congratulations on being successfully elected to be the Legislative Councillor of Hong Kong SAR recently. You've been teaching at the General Education Centre of The Hong Kong Polytechnic University for more than 12 years. What prompted you to make such a big decision to change from a University lecturer to a politician?

**H:** It is out of pure chance. I have been a member of the Democratic Party since its inception, but remained somewhat marginal to it for some years, until the political reform of 2010, when I was invited to participate in a meeting of the Democratic Party to decide upon whether we should join the 5 Constituencies Referendum Plan. Since the National People's Congress ruled out the possibility of universal suffrage in 2012, nor can we change the ratio of Legislative Council members between functional constituencies and direct election, I therefore, like 70% majority of the Party members, voted against the Plan. After that, the Democratic Party asked me to help set up a platform to press for the roadmap of achieving universal suffrage. I thought I could then apply my knowledge of political science and bear the civic responsibilities of an intellectual by devoting more time to promoting a democratic political system. Consequently, a new platform, the Alliance for Universal Suffrage, was launched and I became the co-convener of the Alliance. Since 2010, I have become more active and vocal on the frontline. Meanwhile the political environment of Hong Kong changed rapidly. In politics, one could stand firm in holding principles, and be willing to make compromise to achieve policy reforms and institutional changes. I gradually felt that the democratic movement in our society needed a more rational voice. While I have always enjoyed my work at the PolyU, I felt that it is my responsibility to address the needs of the wider society when the situation demands. I do hope that with this new shift of my career development, I can address the needs of the community and strengthen a positive force for democracy.

**P:** What are the major changes from an academic to a politician? How do you perceive the differences?

**H:** Becoming a politician creates both challenges and opportunities for me. On the one hand I believe that the concepts, theories and knowledge that I gained in studying politics is helpful to understand and perhaps help shape public policies; on the other hand, the real world of politics is far more complex than anything that I studied before. This kind of first-hand experience can definitely enrich and deepen my knowledge. For example, when I ran for the District Council election at Whampoa East in last November, it was really challenging as I had no previous experience before. In the course of the campaign, I learnt many new things and skills, such as how to form community networks, how to get to know the local people, understand their needs and problems, as well as finding effective ways to help solve their problems. As a scholar, I used to be more focused on the theoretical level of understanding. Now, I have to be more down to earth. This is a very challenging and exciting journey, it forces me to be more reflective on the relationship between theory and practice, between ideas/ideals and reality. I confess that so far I have learnt more than I have contributed.



Dr. Helena Wong at the Chamber of the Legislative Council Complex.

**P:** Can your academic background and teaching experiences contribute to your public service? Are there similarities between teaching university students and doing community service with the younger generation?

**H:** On 6 November 2011, I ran my first election campaign for the District Council. Though I failed, I gained the experience of electioneering. I knew more people, built up better social networks with local citizens and organised a team of young voluntary helpers. Some of them were my students. Over the past 12 months, I went through 3 elections. I gradually amassed a team of helpers from my own university and also from other universities. Some youngsters went through the experience with me from District Council election to Legislative Council election. After I have become a Legislative Councillor, they go on participating in my work. Some of them have decided to become community workers after their graduation. Therefore, I feel like I never leave the education sector. I am still nurturing the new generation of youthful leaders who will have vision, passion, knowledge and skills to serve the community and contribute to a just and democratic society. I am consciously working on that.

**P:** In the past, students listened to your lectures in the PolyU ivory tower. Do you still lecture on people when doing public service?

**H:** Playing the new role of Legislative Councillor, I have to listen to different voices. It is the highest form of art to decide where policies should go. Whatever my choice, there will be voices of disagreement. Some topics such as gender and women issues are familiar to me. Some are not. I have to gain a deeper understanding of various policy domains. In many fields such as environmental protection, animal rights, and private columbaria, I have to listen to different opinions ranging from specialists to the common people. Therefore now I change my role from speaker to listener. I am more like a student attending lectures. It helps to raise my horizon and expand my knowledge base.

**P:** Now you are moving from the university to the community. In this democratic process of self-transformation, how do you look back on your former role in general education? How can education or more specifically general education help to promote open and democratic thinking in the younger generation of Hong Kong?

**H:** General education or liberal education has the connotation of human liberation. It refers to the liberation of the human mind and the broadening of one's vision. For many years in the General Education Centre, we have been trying hard to help students to think from different perspectives. When we request students to read books or write research papers, we require them to read and think critically, try to consult multiple sources, and analyse an issue or problem from multiple perspectives. Not only should they show genuine concerns towards events happening in society, our nation and the world but also develop an in-depth understanding of the issues behind. More than that, they need actions and engagements. General education is more than the liberation of mind and thinking or the nourishment of aesthetic enjoyment and appreciation. Students should have an incentive to utilise the basic training of education to change policies and reform society, from self-nourishment towards the improvement of community, society and the world.



Dr. Helena Wong visited the ethnic minority groups and low-income families in To Kwa Wan with student volunteers.

**P:** In recent years, there have been hot debates on the differences between national education and civic education. Do you think that general education could provide a good platform for more rational discussions?

**H:** I think civic education is broader than national education. Among other things, general education should be able to support effective civic education. Without a broad spectrum of knowledge plus critical and creative thinking nourished from general education, how can one exercise one's civil rights? General education is the fertilizer to enable one to become a responsible and effective citizen. What is social justice? What is democracy? What are human rights? These core values are within the domain of general education.

**P:** Thanks a lot for today's interview. The General Education Centre of The Hong Kong Polytechnic University will host a symposium on citizenship education in April 2013. Let's have more discussions on general education and civic education then.



Guests joined the FHPAA members, the Faculty Dean and Faculty members in celebrating the memorable occasion.

## 18th Congregation

The 18th Congregation (Faculty of Humanities) and Faculty Student Awards Presentation Ceremony 2012 was held successfully at the Jockey Club Auditorium on 17 November 2012. There were more than 900 graduates from FH this year and many were present and received their conferment at this memorable occasion.

The Faculty Dean, Prof. Huang Chu-ren, gave the opening remarks and Prof. Chu Chi-yu, Professor of the Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies, extended his warmest congratulations to the graduates and encouraged them to play an active role in the society.

A reception was organised at Logo Square after the Congregation to celebrate the graduation of the FH graduates as well as the inauguration of the Faculty of Humanities Postgraduate Alumni Association of PolyU (FHPAA). Special guests from different sectors of the society, as well as representatives of other PolyU alumni associations, were invited to join this significant moment.

## Prof. Chu Hung-lam Won a Grant from the Prestigious Fellowship Scheme for Humanities and Social Sciences 2012/13

Prof. Chu Hung-lam, Chair Professor of the Department of Chinese Culture, won a grant of HK\$814,900 (June 2013 – May 2014), the highest amount among the 8 successful applications, from the Prestigious Fellowship Scheme for Humanities and Social Sciences Panel 2012/13 for his project entitled **“Rebuilding the textual basis for researching Ming dynasty Confucianism – the production of a critical edition of the source book *Mingru xuean*”**.

### Project Summary

This project aims to provide dependable support to the modern researcher on Ming Confucianism and intellectual history using as primary source Huang Zongxi's (1610-95) *Mingru xuean* (Cases of learning of Ming Confucians) that was published around 1680. Its research will also enable the scholar to better probe the ways and rationales of textual exploitation and manipulation in the production of source books in Confucian philosophy in the 17th-century world of learning. The project will produce (1) a critical edition of the *Mingru xuean* with modern punctuation, (2) an annotated reader of the *Mingru xuean*, (3) a research manual drawing on the research for the new edition of the *Mingru xuean*, and (4) a collection of original studies on the *Mingru xuean* conducted in recent times.



Prof. Chu Hung-lam, Chair Professor of the Department of Chinese Culture

## Endowed Professorship in Culture and Art



香港理工大學建校七十五周年晚宴  
PolyU 75th Anniversary Celebration Dinner  
13.11.2012

The Chief Executive, Mr CY Leung (2nd from left), accompanied by the President of PolyU, Prof. Timothy Tong (1st from left), and the Dean of the Faculty of Humanities, Prof. Huang Chu-ren (1st from right), presented a souvenir to Miss Cally Kwong Mei-wan, Donor of the Endowed Professorship in Culture and Art.

On the joyous occasion of the 75th Anniversary Gala Dinner, PolyU paid tribute to eight donors for their staunch support for the University through the establishment of eight Endowed Professorships in various academic disciplines. The Faculty of Humanities has been very fortunate to have received the Endowed Professorship in Culture and Art, which was contributed by Miss Cally Kwong Mei-wan (see right photo).



## Hong Kong International Literary Festival comes to PolyU campus

To promote literary arts among PolyU staff and students, PolyU has brought interesting literary events to the campus by joining the Hong Kong International Literary Festival in October.

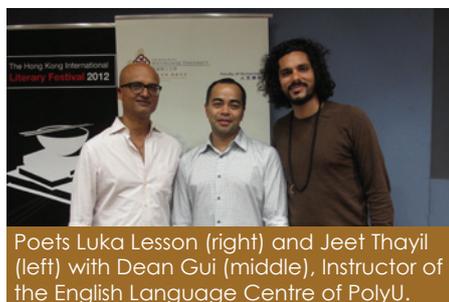
Supported by PolyU's Faculty of Humanities, the School of Hotel and Tourism Management and the Culture Promotion and Events Office, five unique and highly stimulating events were held on the PolyU campus from 5 to 13 October 2012, namely:

### Three Chefs Abroad (5 Oct)

A talk by three chefs/writers with different backgrounds – a Chinese based in New York, a Briton who speaks Chinese, and an American who learnt sushi-making.

### Hip Poetry in Action (8 Oct)

Two hip poets – Luka Lesson, current Australian Poetry Slam



Poets Luka Lesson (right) and Jeet Thayil (left) with Dean Gui (middle), Instructor of the English Language Centre of PolyU.

Champion, and Jeet Thayil who was educated in Jesuit schools in Hong Kong, New York and Bombay, put action into poetry.

### Creative Writing Workshop (10 Oct)

Award-winning Sri Lanka writer, Romesh Gunsekera, delivered to students an inspiring workshop on how to write a story, with interesting writing activities.



Sri Lanka writer Romesh Gunsekera (6th from left) with students at the Creative Writing Workshop.

### Murder in Old Peking (13 Oct)

Paul French, author of *Midnight in Peking*, talked to Nury Vittachi, a well-known author and also a

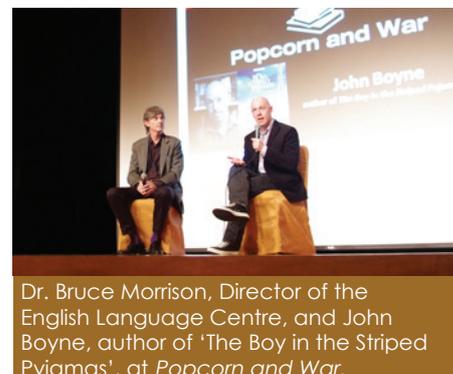


Paul French (2nd from left) and Nury Vittachi (2nd from right) at *Murder in Old Peking*.

Lecturer in PolyU, about writing. The story is a real-life murder mystery that took place in Peking (Beijing) in the thirties. Paul French shared with students important aspects of the book, including the research he conducted and the people he spoke to.

### Popcorn and War (13 Oct)

Participants watched the movie 'The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas' and during the dialogue with the author of the book, John Boyne, they were engaged in a thought-provoking discussion on war and racism.



Dr. Bruce Morrison, Director of the English Language Centre, and John Boyne, author of 'The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas', at *Popcorn and War*.

The above events received an overwhelmingly positive response from staff and students, and the participants found the performances inspiring and enjoyable.

## FH CAR Subjects to be Offered in Semester 2, 2012/13

The following list of FH Cluster Area Requirements (CAR) subjects are to be offered in the 2nd semester of the academic year 2012-13 (*Click on the subject titles to view the subject description*):

### Cluster Area Requirements (CAR)

#### Human Nature, Relations and Development (HRD)

Subject Code	Subject Title	Cluster Area
CBS1A11P	Cultural Identities and Representations	HRD
CBS1A01P	Fun with Language	HRD
ELC1A02	Multiethnic Identities and Lives	HRD
GEC1A03	Life and Death	HRD

#### Community, Organisation and Globalization (COG)

Subject Code	Subject Title	Cluster Area
ENGL2B03	Exploring Language in Social Life	COG

#### History, Culture and World Views (HCW)

Subject Code	Subject Title	Cluster Area
CBS2C10P	An Exploration of Chinese Characters and Scripts	HCW
CBS1C05P	Introduction to Cantonese Opera	HCW
CBS2C04P	Appreciation of the Four Great Classical Chinese Novels	HCW
CC1C07	Chinese Customs and Rituals	HCW
CC2C12P	Chinese Film and Society	HCW
CC2C13P	Chinese Folk and Popular Stories	HCW
CC2C05 & CC2C05P	Confucianism and Chinese Culture	HCW
CC1C04P	Contemporary Chinese History and Culture	HCW
CC2C23P	Court and Palace: Power and Intrigue in Imperial China	HCW
CC2C03P	Daily Life in Ancient China	HCW
CC2C21P	The Good Life and Chinese Art	HCW
ENGL1C06	Languages in a Globalising World	HCW
GEC1C31P	Ways of Chinese Wisdom	HCW

For the latest updates on the FH CAR subjects, please visit:

[http://www.polyu.edu.hk/ous/student\\_GUR\\_CAR\\_Subjects%20Offered\\_201213\\_sem2.html](http://www.polyu.edu.hk/ous/student_GUR_CAR_Subjects%20Offered_201213_sem2.html)

## ELC Consultancy to the Community: *Po Leung Kuk Language Programmes*

Project Leader/Coordinator: Andrew Mossman

Since 2004, the ELC has been the academic consultant for language programmes (both English and Putonghua) run for disadvantaged children both in Po Leung Kuk (PLK) residential care homes and children from needy families in the community. These charitable programmes are co-sponsored by PLK and the Foreign Correspondents' Club with support from corporate donors, in particular, JP Morgan, UBS and Bank of America/Merrill Lynch, and, more recently, Sprouts Foundation.

The programmes aim to stem the cycle of inter-generational poverty by providing children with additional support on top of their regular schooling to enhance their language skills essential for achieving their true potential. They are currently offered in three PLK language training centres (LTCs) in Causeway Bay, Lei Muk Shue and Tai Wai, which employ over 100 full-time and part-time teaching staff, for nearly 700 children from 2½ to 18 years old. An activity-based approach is employed to enhance interest and confidence in language learning. Classes are conducted in small groups of less than 12



Guests and organisers at the opening ceremony of the Tai Wai Centre.

students, and supported by teaching assistants.

The ELC provides consultancy services for these LTCs covering the various aspects of establishing and managing the centres and the programmes run by them, such as teaching venues and facilities, recruitment and training of teaching staff, curriculum design and development, and programme evaluation. Aside from the Project Leader/Coordinator, staff members who have participated in the project

include Alan Urmston, Bruce Morrison, John Jones and Linda Lin.

Motivated by the positive feedback from the centres' teachers and students, and stakeholders who have participated in the project, the ELC will continue to expand its support services for future LTCs.

A fourth PLK language training centre is now being planned for 2013 in the New Territories.



Andrew Mossman (right) from ELC, project leader/coordinator of ELC's consultancy service to the Po Leung Kuk's language training programmes, having a consultation session with Michelle McEwan (left), Director of Studies of the language training programmes.

## Supporting Teaching Through English at Secondary Schools

In the last two years the Department of English at PolyU has been actively supporting local teachers. We are currently running 4 separate courses for different groups of teachers in teaching through English. The courses focus on language in a range of subject areas – Technology, Art, PE and Science. In addition, we also run a general introductory course to academic English.

The courses help teachers to understand, recognise and work with academic English. Teaching through English refers to the language used to develop knowledge in the different subject areas. The language we use in science or maths or any other class is very different from everyday, conversational language. In these courses we focus on supporting teachers to:

- identify how language is used in different subject areas and how subject knowledge is constructed through English
- understand how language is arranged to represent what is going on; who or what is involved in that; and where, when and how it is done
- recognise the difference between commonsense, technical and abstract vocabulary
- understand connections within sentences, within paragraphs and across paragraphs
- be aware of how ideas are linked and how English can be cohesive
- identify how information is presented and flows smoothly in a text

We also focus on specific language features used in academic English, such as the function and construction of active and passive voice, and how writers incorporate persuasive and evaluative language to develop expressions of attitude and opinions in texts.



Dr. Gail Forey (top right) and Mr John Polias (top left) with the class.



# Outreaching

## The four courses currently being offered are:

### **Provision of Services for In-service Professional Development Programme: Short Course for Secondary School Teachers on Teaching the Key Learning Areas of Technology Education, Arts Education and Physical Education in the English Medium Quotation**

Funds awarded by Education Bureau, HKSAR Government

Amount: \$1,296,000 Date: Sept 2012 – Jan 2015

### **Professional development programme developing and offering courses for secondary school teachers on teaching Science Key Learning Area (KLA) in the English Medium Quotation**

Funds awarded by Education Bureau, HKSAR Government

Amount: \$1,287,000 Date: Sept 2012 – Jan 2015

### **In-service Professional Development Programme: Short Course on Raising Secondary School Teachers' Competence in Academic English for Teaching Non-language Subjects in the English Medium**

Funds awarded by Education Bureau, HKSAR Government

Amount: \$1,287,000 Date: March 2012 – Aug 2014

### **In-service Professional Development Programme: Short Course for Secondary School Teachers on Teaching the Key Learning Areas of Technology Education, Arts Education and Physical Education in the English Medium**

Funds awarded by Education Bureau, HKSAR Government

Amount: \$1,297,530 Date: Sept 2011 – Aug 2013

## The team

Dr. Gail Forey, Associate Professor at the Department of English, oversees the courses and is joined by John Polias, an Adjunct Assistant Professor again from the Department of English and Director of Lexis Education Ltd. John is the main course provider, and is an experienced educational consultant who has worked with teachers internationally and offered many successful courses focusing on pedagogy and teaching through English. We also have other key members in the team: Bette Li, an Educational Consultant, Eric Cheung, Research Associate of the Department of English, and Angela Tse, Instructor of the Department of English, who provide valuable insight, post-course support for the teachers and administrative support. Additional specialists from Key Learning Areas assist with subject specific knowledge and act as consultants for the courses. These consultants include Ng Siu-Kuen Robert, Associate P.E. Officer of PolyU, Siu King-chung, Associate Professor of School of Design and Clive Dawes, ICT Curriculum Leader at Kellett School. Together the team will be involved in the professional development of around 400 local teachers.

Dr. Gail Forey,  
Course Consultant



Mrs Bette Li,  
Course Instructor



Mr John Polias,  
Course Provider



## Successful Grants from the General Research Fund 2012/13

### World Chineses and Their Grammatical Variations: Empirical Studies based on Comparable Corpora (Grant amount: HK\$603,064)

The lexical variations among World Chineses (全球華語) are easily observed and often studied. Yet, the study of grammatical variations is rare and unsystematic. This project aims to study grammatical variations among Mainland, Taiwan, and Hong Kong Chinese based on a comparable-corpus-based approach. In this project, we adopt innovative statistical methods for automatic comparison and extraction of possible patterns of grammatical variations, offer explanatory generalizations, and make possible predictions for three sets of constructions anchored by verbs: light verb constructions, VO compounds, and aspectual markers. The project will be the first such comprehensive study of World Chineses and will shed light on and restrict possible variations.



Principal Investigator:  
Prof. Huang Chu-ren,  
Department of Chinese &  
Bilingual Studies



Principal Investigator:  
Dr. Kathryn Lowry,  
Department of Chinese  
Culture

### Editor-Author of Dictionaries and Fiction and a Singular Talent: Deng Zhimo (Grant amount: HK\$240,442)

Seventeenth-century writing manuals printed and reprinted letters and contracts and attest to popular demand for such books. Still little is known about readers or authors. The book I propose tells the story of an author of dictionaries, model letters, and footnotes. He devised ingenious strategies to build on success of other titles and promoted himself as a learned man, editing and annotating more than thirty books. The story of his peripatetic career, journeying between his native Jiangxi, Fujian publishers and branches in Nanjing reveals how an examination failure might create a place in the world of ideas.

### Meeting the challenges of English-medium higher education: The undergraduate experience of the new Hong Kong curriculum (Grant amount: HK\$ 604,630)

Research into the school-university transition indicates that the first year is a crucial stage in the process of socialisation into the undergraduate role and a highly sensitive touchstone for the quality of the entire student experience. This project focuses on the first-year experience of the new generation of students who entered higher education in September 2012. The project seeks to identify and understand the language-related challenges the first cohort of 4-year students experience when making the transition to English-medium university studies and, on the basis of this understanding, to propose practical measures to facilitate this process.



Principal Investigator:  
Dr. Stephen Evans,  
Department of English

## Conference Keynote and Plenary Speeches, May - December 2012

### **Prof. Winnie CHENG, Department of English**

Hospitality competence: Learning from ESP research methodologies and findings. 2012 ESP Seminar and Panel Discussion. Department of Applied English, National Kaohsiung University of Hospitality and Tourism, Kaohsiung, Taiwan, 8–9 November 2012.

A corpus-based genre study of About Us: Comparing corporations in Finland and Hong Kong. 2012 ESP Seminar and Panel Discussion. Department of Applied English, National Kaohsiung University of Hospitality and Tourism, Kaohsiung, Taiwan, 8–9 November 2012.

A comparative study of metaphors of emotion in financial analyst reports in Europe and Hong Kong. Language and Communication in the Workplace: An International Conference on the Use of Language for Communication in Different Professions. English Department, Faculty of Letters and Arts, Sebelas Maret University, Indonesia, 11–12 September 2012.

### **Prof. HUANG Chu-ren, Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies**

Let us bring Change and a more joyful future for us all. 52nd District Conference of Rotary International District 3450, Hong Kong, 19 May 2012.

Corpus-based Extraction of Chinese Grammatical Information. 7th International Conference and Workshops on Technology and Chinese Language Teaching in the 21st Century (TCLT7). Technology and Chinese Language Teaching in the 21st Century (TCLT), University of Hawai'i at Manoa & International Conference on Internet Chinese Education (ICICE), Honolulu, Hawaii, 27 May 2012.

Towards a Generative Lexicon Account of Chinese. The First Workshop on The Generative Lexicon for Asian Languages (GLAL 2012), 26<sup>th</sup> Pacific Asia Conference on Language, Information, and Computation (PACLIC 26). Universitas Indonesia, Bali, 7 November, 2012.

### **Dr. LI, Dechao, Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies**

“翻譯批評在香港——考察香港各大報刊雜誌中的翻譯評論 (1977—2007)” (Translation Criticism in the Broadsheets and Magazines in Hong Kong (1977-2007)). ‘首屆中國翻譯史高層論壇’ (The First High-level Forum on the Study of Translation History in China). School of Foreign Languages, Sichuan University (四川大學), Chengdu, China, 2 November 2012.

## Conference Keynote and Plenary Speeches, May - December 2012 (cont'd)

### **Dr. LI Lan, Department of English**

Bridging Outcome-based English Learning with Workplace Needs: a case study of English for Technical and Web-based Writing. The 2012 International Conference on Language Literature and Teaching. National Ching-Yi University of Technology, Taichung, Taiwan, 6–7 December 2012.

### **Dr. LIU Yi, Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies**

“漢語初學者陳述句、否定句起伏度的比較分析” (The comparative study of pitch in declarative and negative sentences produced by elementary Chinese learners). ‘中國對外漢語修辭研究會第六屆學術研討會’ (6th Conference of China Rhetoric Society in Chinese as a Foreign Language). Tianjin Foreign Studies University (天津外國語大學), Tianjin, China, 3–4 November, 2012.

### **Prof. Christian M.I.M. MATTHIESSEN, Department of English**

Analysing and interpreting works of verbal art as acts of meaning instantiating the meaning potential of language in context. 2nd Conference on Applying Putonghua and English Language Arts Hong Kong. The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong Kong, 2–3 October, 2012.

### **Dr. Jozsef SZAKOS, Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies**

Dreaming up a language art canon for teaching Putonghua to foreigners. 2nd Conference on Applying Putonghua and English Language Arts Hong Kong. The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong Kong, 2–3 October, 2012.

### **Dr. WU Dongying Doreen, Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies**

Competing and Hybridized Discourses in Chinese News Reporting. The 5th “Chinese Discourse Studies” Academic Colloquium. Zhejiang University & Hangzhou Normal University, Hangzhou, China, 19–21 October, 2012.



## Best Paper Award at PACLIC 26

The paper entitled **The Headedness of Mandarin Chinese Serial Verb Constructions: A Corpus-Based Study** presented by Dr. Jingxia Lin, Postdoctoral Fellow, Prof. Huang Chu-ren, Chair Professor, Dr. Huarui Zhang, Postdoctoral Fellow, and Hongzhi Xu, PhD student, of the Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies was awarded the Best Paper of the 26<sup>th</sup> Pacific Asia Conference on Language, Information, and Computation (PACLIC 26), Universitas Indonesia, Bali, November 8-10, 2012.

## Books Published, June - December 2012

[Back to Content](#)



**A Garden of One's Own**  
Editor: Tam King-fai  
(Department of Chinese Culture)  
Publisher: The Chinese University Press



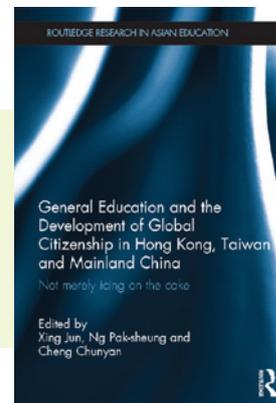
**中學普通話水平考試研究**  
作者: 陳瑞端、祝新華、劉文采、楊軍  
(中文及雙語學系)  
出版社: 香港中華書局



**明初宮廷雜劇研究**  
作者: 魏城璧 (中文及雙語學系)  
出版社: 明報出版社



**馮夢龍戲曲改編理論研究**  
作者: 魏城璧 (中文及雙語學系)  
出版社: 南京大學出版社



**General Education and the Development of Global Citizenship in Hong Kong, Taiwan and Mainland China - Not Merely Icing on the Cake**  
Editors: James Xing, Ng Pak-sheung (General Education Centre) & Cheng Chunyan (Beijing Language and Culture University)  
Publisher: Routledge



**企業傳訊新探: 語言·策略·實務**  
**New Trends in Corporate Communications – Language, Strategies and Practices**  
作者: 魏城璧、吳柏基 (中文及雙語學系)  
出版社: 南京大學出版社



**《明儒學案》選講**  
作者: 朱鴻林 (中國文化學系)  
出版社: 生活·讀書·新知三聯書店



## Common Orientation Programme

2012 marks a very special era in the academic structure in Hong Kong. The Faculty of Humanities welcomed the double cohort of undergraduate freshmen in the Common Orientation Programme on 11 September 2012 at The Chiang Chen Studio Theatre (see photo on top).

Joining us on that day were Prof. Timothy Tong (President of PolyU), the PolyU senior management team, Dean(FH) and over 20 academic colleagues from the FH. The event helped the freshmen to become familiar with the University and cultivate their interest in setting personal goals leading to a rewarding

university life. Mr Freddy Law, an FH alumnus in 2007 from ENGL, Founder and Director of Inter Cultural Education, was invited to deliver an encouraging and inspiring talk entitled "From Losing to Winning".

All students had a chance to visit



Mr Freddy Law, an FH alumnus in 2007 from ENGL.

the state-of-the-art FH language laboratories in the afternoon, followed by orientations organised by different programme curricular.

## PolyU Education Info Day

It's all about Humanities! The annual PolyU Education Info Day, held on 6 October 2012 this year, is one of the best opportunities to promote FH's undergraduate studies to external members of the community, including, most importantly, our prospective applicants.

All FH units showcased their achievements, programmes and facilities, as well as arranged info seminars, laboratory visits and many more activities on that day for visitors. Secondary students showed great interest in our programmes.



The senior management visited the FH booth on the PolyU Education Info Day.

## 2nd Conference on Applying Putonghua and English Language Arts Hong Kong

The Applying Putonghua and English Language Arts (2nd APELA) conference was held on 2-3 October 2012. The hosting Department of English was fortunate to have 46 papers given by speakers from over a dozen countries including Australia, the UK, Germany, Denmark, India, Thailand, Japan, the Philippines, Malaysia, Qatar and Iran. We were also greatly enlightened by five keynote speakers. Prof. Christian Matthiessen opened the conference by setting verbal art into the context of registeral cartography, identifying its great range and setting the agenda for future conferences in Language Arts. Prof. John Bateman from the University of Bremen offered a fascinating look at the relations of technical and semiotic elements

of film analysis. Prof. David Butt, Director of Macquarie University's Centre for Language in Social Life, spoke about the notion of semiotic distance when the work of Shakespeare was translated across cultural traditions. Prof. Carol Taylor Torsello, Padua University in Italy, analysed the complex discourse of Virginia Woolf's novel, *A Room of One's Own*. Dr. Jozsef Szakos from Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, outlined the place of the English canon in English literary studies, exploring the impact of canonicity in the emerging field of teaching Chinese as a foreign language.

Papers were given in all the Language Arts areas, including

literature, drama and popular culture, as well as supporting explorations of emerging areas including critical and creative thinking, ethics and civics, intercultural sensitivity and multiliteracies. We look forward to an interesting volume, to emerge from this lively and interesting conference. Over the short time APELA has been running, we have seen the need to broaden the number of Asian languages addressed to include all those using Language Arts as a language teaching and learning paradigm. Due to the intended launch of the new journal, *Language Arts and Linguistics* (LAL), at the end of 2013, the next conference will be called LAL3.

## East Asia: Towards a Global Community with Cultural Diversity

*A course funded by One Asia Foundation*

The East Asia: Towards a Global Community with Cultural Diversity (CBS1B03), a newly launched course that aims to introduce the major social and cultural phenomena in Japan, Korea, and China.

The course is composed of a series of guest lectures hosted by prominent scholars in the study of Asian culture, viz. Mr. Yoji Sato, Chairman of One Asia Foundation, Prof. Kazuko Sunaoka from Waseda University, Prof. Richard Emmert from Musashino University, Prof. Ki Shim Nam and Prof. Tongshik Ryu from Yonsei University, Prof. Kitamura Takanori from the Chinese University of Hong Kong, and four learning activities to help students understand and integrate different societies and cultures in East Asia.

The four supporting activities were a Japanese Tea Ceremony hosted by Japanese Tea Master Ms. Sachiko Saito and her students



Group photo of CBS staff with the Japanese Tea Master and her students taken on September 27, 2012.

from Chado Urasenke Tankokai Hong Kong Association, Japanese Traditional Dance workshop, a talk and demonstration on Japanese Noh Gaku, and a Korean musical performance to provide students with an opportunity to learn more about various cultures through multiple learning activities.

The activities were well received by the students and all the participants had a great time interacting with scholars and professionals in the lectures and activities.



Students tasting Japanese tea prepared by the Tea Master and her students.



Japanese traditional Dance Master is teaching students the gait of Japanese dance on 4 October, 2012.

## Guest Lecture on Chinese Sculpture and Studio Visit

Prof. Norman Wah Man Ko, Artist-in-Residence (16 February - 3 March 2012), was invited to participate in a GEC Guest Lecture on Chinese Sculpture to enhance students' cultural life at PolyU.

### Guest Lecture on Chinese Sculpture, 24 February 2012



Based on the photographs the speaker took in his travels in China and in other countries, the talk outlined the rich heritage of Chinese sculptures. Prof. Ko presented different Chinese sculptures, including the prehistoric terracotta objects, the bronze vessels of the early dynasties, the Terracotta Army of the first emperor of the Qin Dynasty, the Han sculptures, Buddhist sculptures and the tomb figures of the Tang Dynasty. He also introduced his own sculptures including "Vision" and "Soaring" on the PolyU campus.

### Studio Visit, 10 March 2012

During the studio visit, Prof. Ko introduced students to some of his finished and unfinished artworks in his studio, and demonstrated how an artist works. Students were excited to have a direct dialogue with the artist.



Students at Prof. Norman Ko's studio.

# Faculty Updates

## Formation of Faculty Advisory Committee

[Back to Content](#)

The Faculty Advisory Committee has been duly formed to provide a forum for academics, industry, the professions and the community to advise the Faculty on its future developments, and identify opportunities in research and education. The membership of the committee is as follows:

### Chair:

Prof. Christina SLADE, Vice-Chancellor of Bath Spa University, UK

### Convenor:

Prof. Chu-ren HUANG, Dean of Faculty of Humanities, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong Kong

### Members:

- Prof. Eva HAJIČOVÁ, Professor of Linguistics, Faculty of Mathematics and Physics, Charles University, Czech Republic; Fellow of the Learned Society of the Czech Republic
- Prof. M. A. K. HALLIDAY, Emeritus Professor of University of Sydney, Australia
- Dr. Louis CW NG, Assistant Director (Heritage & Museums) of Leisure and Cultural Services Department, HKSAR Government, Hong Kong
- Prof. Michael NYLAN, Professor of Department of History of University of California, Berkeley, USA
- Prof. William Shi-Yuan WANG, Wei Lun Research Professor of Department of Electronic Engineering, The Chinese University of Hong Kong; Academician of Academia Sinica, Taiwan

## Inauguration of FHPAA

The Faculty of Humanities Postgraduate Alumni Association of PolyU (FHPAA) has been duly formed. The membership of the Association is as follows:

- **Chairman:** Mr Frederick LO Ting Hung
- **Vice Chairman:** Mr Louis LO Sheung Yan
- **Secretary:** Mr LIU Jian
- **Treasurer:** Mr LI PENG
- **Executive Committee Member:** Ms Penny CHUI Siu Ling
- **Executive Committee Member:** Ms Mary YE Meng



Members of the FHPAA Executive Committee made a solemn vow to serve the Association at its inauguration.

Join  
FHPAA

To apply for membership, please visit the website:  
<http://www.polyu.edu.hk/fh/FHPAA/apply.htm>

## Upcoming International/Regional Conferences

# 2013

International/Regional conferences to be organised by departments and centres of the Faculty of Humanities from January to June 2013:

**23-24 May 2013**

**Greeting the New Age of ESP:  
Practice, Innovation, and Vision  
2013 International Conference  
on Applied Foreign Languages  
(Kaohsiung, Taiwan)**

Co-organisers:

Department of Applied English,  
National Kaohsiung University of  
Hospitality and Tourism  
Research Centre for Professional  
Communication in English, PolyU  
Website: <http://enews.kh.edu.tw/esp/>

Jan

Feb

Mar

Apr

May

Jun

**16 - 17 March 2013**

**Seventh Cross-the-Strait  
Conference on Contemporary  
Chinese**

Organiser: Department of Chinese &  
Bilingual Studies

**8 April 2013**

**Symposium on Citizenship  
Education**

Organiser: General Education Centre

**20 - 22 June 2013**

**Healthcare Communication  
Symposium and Roundtable**

Organiser: Department of English

## The President's Awards for Excellent Performance/Achievement

The following FH members have been awarded the President's Awards and Faculty/School Awards 2011/2012 respectively:

### The President's Award

**Category:** Team Award - Services (ELC)

**Recipients:**

- Dr. Julia Chen (ELC Associate Director & Senior Lecturer)
- Dr. Juliana Chau (ELC Lecturer)
- Ms Shari Lughmani (ELC Senior Lecturer)
- Dr. Svetlana Chigaeva (ELC Instructor)
- Miss Winnie Wu Oi-ying (ELC Instructor)
- Miss Emily Chan (ELC Clerk)
- Ms Marie Ng (ELC Assistant Technical Officer)

### Faculty/School Awards

**Category:** Individual Award - Teaching (FH)

**Recipient:** Dr. Gail Forey (ENGL Associate Professor)

**Category:** Individual Award - Research & Scholarly Activities (FH)

**Recipient:** Dr. Stephen Evans (ENGL Associate Professor)

## One Asia Foundation Scholarship

The One Asia Foundation generously donated JPY 600,000 to the One Asia Foundation Scholarship. The ten best students taking the subject 'East Asia: Towards a Global Community with Cultural Diversity' (CBS1B03), a course funded by the One Asia Foundation, this semester were nominated for the scholarship and each of them will receive HKD equivalent to JPY 60,000. The scholarship certificates will be presented by Mr. Nishizuka and Mr. Katsuta of the One Asia Foundation on 20 December 2012.



Mr Yoji Sato, Chairman of One Asia Foundation, gave a lecture in one of the classes of the subject 'East Asia: Towards a Global Community with Cultural Diversity'.

## Season's greetings



Merry Christmas and Happy 2013!

**FACULTY OF HUMANITIES**

culture language sciences

## Students' Views: Doctor of Applied Language Sciences

[Back to Content](#)

Students from the Doctor of Applied Language Sciences programme - the new professional doctorate programme offered by the Faculty of Humanities - were invited to share their views towards the programme.



(Edwin K. LUK from Hong Kong)

"Before the academic year commenced, I was worrying about the program. It did turn out to be challenging, very challenging indeed. I have never seen an easy task here. This is only the left-hand side of the equation. To balance it, we are always glad that we have helpful instructors offering inspirational guidance to us. Unlike most other world-class scholars, the Dean together with the faculty members are always present and are ready to help. The class itself is carefully mixed with experienced educators and successful professionals. The class co-creates a lively and supportive learning ambience in every meeting. This is a fulfilling learning experience."

"The DALs program has given me the opportunity to pursue a dream that I've had for 20 years of getting a doctorate. The unique scope and flexibility of the program allows me to follow my current course of research, providing the space and incentive to focus on fundamental issues in linguistics. The Department of Computing as well as the departments in the Faculty of Humanities have been wonderfully supportive in opportunities for me to share my current research in ontology. I've also been impressed by the warmth, kindness and diligence of my fellow DALs students, many of whom have immediately become close friends, and who make the studies all the more rewarding."

(Adam PEASE from USA)

(HE Yun from the Chinese Mainland)

"I like the DALs programme with its emphasis on linking research closely with our existing professional practice. The teachers are enthusiastic about providing us with a solid grounding in research methodology for our future research in language sciences. I also enjoy interacting with my classmates who come from different countries or different regions of "Cultural China". Our class is like a small "United Nations", and I get the opportunities to make new international friends. In class we learn from each other, and our collective wisdom is always greater than that any of us could hold alone. In short, it has been quite an enjoyable experience which can help me prepare better for the future, personally and professionally."

I am honoured to be one of the DALs students because I gain much from the programme. The courses co-organised from different departments of PolyU offer chances for DALs students to have a wide coverage of knowledge. Students can choose the strand that they would like to develop. The professors are so knowledgeable that their lectures are enlightening. They are really nice and friendly. They are always ready to provide us with support. Also, the sharing among classmates from different professions is really inspiring. What I am deeply impressed with is the arrangement of academic mentors for each DALs student and this enables DALs students to discuss their study path with their academic mentors concerned. This can indeed help me figure out what I am going to pursue in future.

(LAM Mei Yee, Maggie from Hong Kong)

<http://www.polyu.edu.hk/FH/DALS/>

**DALS**



## Students' Views: Broad Discipline of Language, Culture and Communication

[Back to Content](#)

Students from the Broad Discipline of Language, Culture and Communication (BDLCC) programme were invited to share their views towards the programme.

### Poon Sheung Kuen

The semester has been running for nearly two months. I like most of the lessons in BDLCC. We study *Kunqu* and we can write our own scripts, it is fun. Also, Dr. Yao Yao taught linguistics vividly. She is loved by most of the students in class.

There are some pre-assigned subjects which are not directly related to our core. An example is anthropology. This arrangement is pretty good as we can learn something in other domains. Yet, some students may find it hard to adapt, it depends. But I still enjoy it.

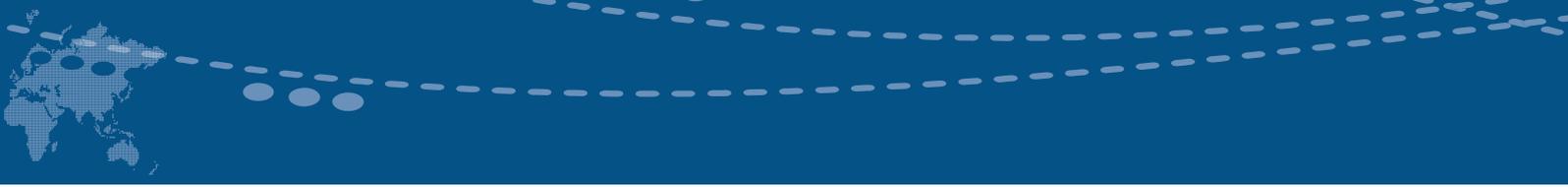
Talking about university life, it is very different from secondary school, of course. We have a high degree of freedom. I enjoy that we can grab learning opportunities through many ways, such as talks and sharing. I quite appreciate READ@PolyU, the librarian Wan Shan discussed with us different topics from *Tuesday with Morrie*, which is inspiring. This can also boost the reading atmosphere in the university.



### Tam Wing Hei

It's been about two months since I started studying the Broad Discipline of Language, Culture and Communication in PolyU. I think I have adapted to the new environment quite well! I've met some new friends and become familiar with the learning style as a university student. We are taught some basic knowledge of linguistic studies, including the foundations of scientific perspectives, cultural understanding and communication skills. I believe these different courses help me have a deeper insight into language and discover my true interest in it so that I can choose the suitable major next year. It's just the beginning of my 4-year university life. I hope I can keep finding more fun in it.

# BDLCC



## Links to departments and centres of the Faculty of Humanities

### Faculty of Humanities

<http://www.polyu.edu.hk/FH/>

### Department of Chinese Culture

<http://www.polyu.edu.hk/cc/>

### Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies

<http://www.cbs.polyu.edu.hk/>

### Department of English

<http://www.engl.polyu.edu.hk/>

### English Language Centre

<http://www.elc.polyu.edu.hk/>

### General Education Centre

<http://www.polyu.edu.hk/~gec/index.php>

## List of programmes offered

Doctor of Applied Language Sciences  
MA in Chinese Language and Literature  
MA in Chinese Linguistics  
MA in Japanese Studies for the Professions  
MA in Teaching Chinese as a Foreign Language  
MA in Translating and Interpreting  
MA in Chinese Culture  
MA in English for the Professions  
MA in English Language Arts  
MA in English Language Studies  
MA in English Language Teaching  
Broad Discipline of Language, Culture and Communication  
BA in Chinese and Bilingual Studies  
BA in Bilingual Studies  
BA in Translation and Interpreting Studies  
BA in English Studies for the Professions  
BA in English for Business and Professional Communication

## Upcoming events

<http://www.polyu.edu.hk/FH/News&Events.htm>



# Editorial Board

## Co-editors

Prof. Winnie CHENG  
(Department of English)

Dr. Paris LAU  
(General Education Centre)

## Members

Dr. Hazel CHIU  
(English Language Centre)

Dr. Cindy NGAI  
(Department of Chinese & Bilingual Studies)

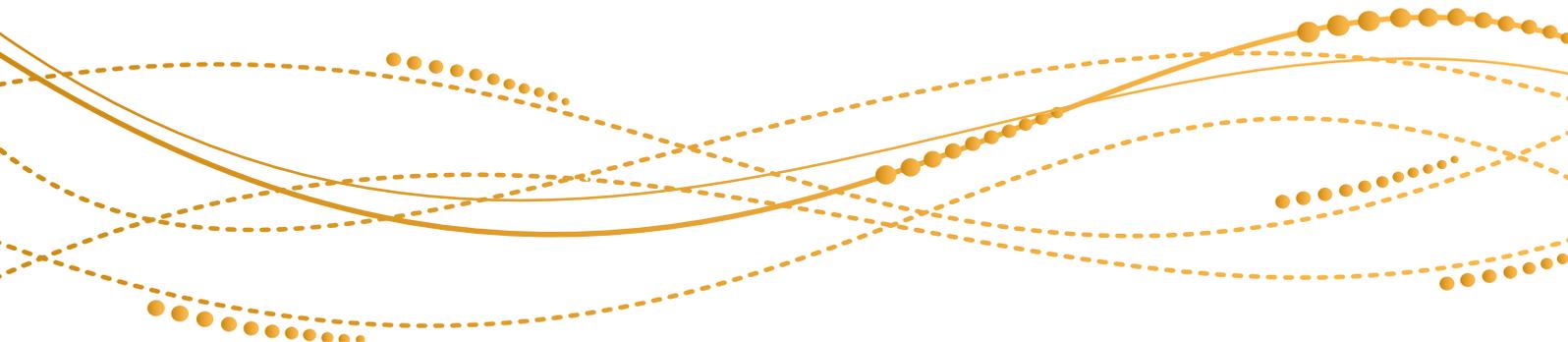
Dr. Nicholas SAMPSON  
(Department of English)

Dr. TAM King-fai  
(Department of Chinese Culture)

### DISCLAIMER:

The contents of this publication are general information for reference only. While the Faculty of Humanities (FH) makes all reasonable efforts to ensure that the information in this publication is correct and current, please note however that the content is naturally subject to change from time to time and FH accepts no liability or responsibility for any errors, omissions or misstatements in, or for any direct or indirect loss or damage arising from or in respect of any use or misuse of the information provided in this publication.

The views expressed are the sole responsibility of individual authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of FH. Individuals have sole responsibility for the content of their articles.



## Faculty of Humanities

Room GH801, 8/F, Wing GH,  
The Hong Kong Polytechnic University,  
Hung Hom, Kowloon, Hong Kong,

Tel: (852) 3400 8212  
Fax: (852) 2363 8955  
E-mail: [fh.enquiry@polyu.edu.hk](mailto:fh.enquiry@polyu.edu.hk)  
Website: <http://www.polyu.edu.hk/FH/>

Copyright © 2012 Faculty of Humanities,  
The Hong Kong Polytechnic University