

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES NEWSLETTER 2020 ISSUE NO.1



THE HONG KONG
POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY
香港理工大學

VIEWPOINTS



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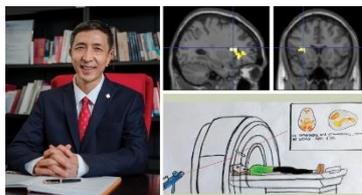
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HKCPD's Podcast about Online Teaching: an Inter-institutional Podcast by HKU, HKUST and PolyU

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HKLO
香港佬 香港腦
語言學奧林匹克

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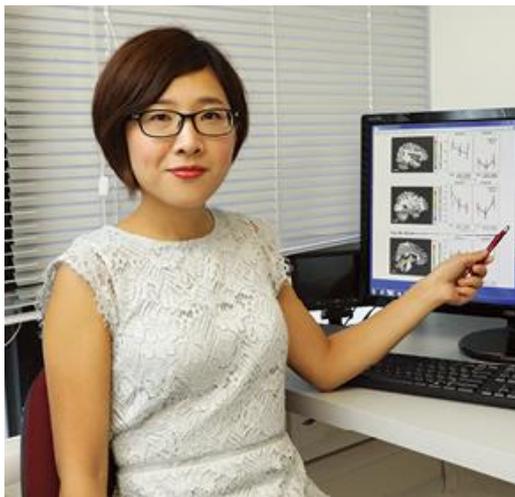
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Viewpoints

Neurocognitive Mechanisms of Typical and Atypical Language Development



The research team led by Dr Caicai Zhang of CBS (on left) aims at generating findings that can benefit children with language disorders and having significant public health and economic consequences.

A research team headed by Dr Caicai Zhang of the Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies was recently awarded the Project of Strategic Importance Scheme by PolyU to study the neurocognitive mechanisms of typical and atypical speech, language and reading development in the Chinese (Hong Kong Cantonese) population. This project is a synergistic collaboration between the Research Centre for Language, Cognition, and Neuroscience (RCLCN) and the Speech Therapy Unit (STU), and includes several speech-language pathologists and cognitive neuroscientists in CBS at PolyU (Dr Mehdi Bakhtiar, Dr Angel Wing Shan Chan, Dr Dustin Kai Yan Lau, Dr Man Tak Leung, Dr Min Ney Wong and Prof. William Shi Yuan Wang) and an international collaborator (Dr Michael Ullman).

Given the personal, societal, and economic importance of language and literacy, it is beyond question that atypical speech, language, and reading development, as is found in developmental stuttering, developmental language disorder (DLD), and developmental dyslexia, have profound negative impacts on society and the economy. Though previous work has made progress in clarifying the behavioural symptoms of these disorders and, to a more limited degree, their neural bases, their underlying neurocognitive mechanisms remain controversial, and are poorly studied outside of the Indo-European language populations. The project addresses these issues by identifying key neurocognitive underpinnings of typical and atypical speech/language/reading development in the Chinese population. Outcomes of the project will advance scientific knowledge of the role of fundamental learning and memory circuitries in typical and atypical speech/language/reading development. The project also has clinical implications, with the potential to discover novel cognitive and neural indices for the diagnosis of these language disorders, and to improve the efficacy of current interventions by incorporating novel treatment methods according to the outcomes of the project. In the long run, the project will generate findings that are beneficial for the welfare of children with language disorders, and have significant public health and economic consequences.

Viewpoints

IdiomsTube: Youtubing Your Way to Better English



There are many idiomatic expressions in English. Examples such as “bread and butter”, “cooking on gas” and “every Tom, Dick, and Harry” encode rich cultural information and are well known within native English-speaking communities. However, for learners of English, these expressions have also been described as the last hurdle to nativelike proficiency because they are challenging to even the very advanced.

Dr Phoebe Lin of the Department of English has recently created *IdiomsTube* (www.idiomstube.com), a first-of-its-kind app for English users of all ages and proficiency levels, with the aim of helping learners expand their vocabulary by watching English videos on YouTube. Although it was only launched in November 2018, *IdiomsTube* has attracted over 7,300 users and about 2,000 subscribers to its [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) pages.



“It’s a great app and useful for me and my students which hopefully will help us a lot on learning vocabs and idioms as well as speaking and listening.”

- a teacher from National University, Laos

Framework of China’s Standards of English Language Ability

Why did you set out to develop *IdiomsTube*?

Watching YouTube videos is part of the daily routine of almost all young learners worldwide. These independent learners who watch YouTube to improve their English need our support as they are confronted by two major obstacles: choice overload and the lack of guidance and instruction. I think language technologies can be applied creatively to solve these practical problems.

What does *IdiomTube* have to offer users?

IdiomsTube is a web-based English vocabulary-building app that incorporates elements of modern technology including text mining, gamification, recommendation systems and automatic speech recognition. Supported by a large database of 50,000 noteworthy idiomatic expressions, the app can transform any English-captioned YouTube video into an English learning resource in seconds. Users can learn at their own pace and are offered instant feedback on their performance by completing various automatically generated learning tasks.



The column “An-Idiom-A-Day” is distributed through Facebook and Instagram with 20-second videos.

How is *IdiomsTube* different from other self-learning tools?

IdiomsTube is unique in several ways. First, it is more than just a platform. It is a technology developed to automatically guide English learning from any captioned videos on YouTube. It is not merely a platform for disseminating exercises on videos pre-selected by human English teachers and thus the coverage of *IdiomsTube* is unlimited and unprecedented. Second, *IdiomsTube* is the first-ever computer-assisted language learning app that teaches English idiomatic expressions in context. Other self-learning tools either focus on the learning of single-word vocabulary items or the learning of English idiomatic expressions out of context. Third, *IdiomsTube* delivers personalised language learning through tracking individuals’ learning progress. So, an expression found to have been mastered by the learner will not be covered again in the tasks. Fourth, *IdiomsTube* offers a system for teachers to monitor their students’ learning. So it is designed to support classroom-based as well as independent English learning.

What’s next for *IdiomsTube*?

We have been collaborating with some local tertiary institutions, such as the PolyU Hong Kong Community College, and secondary schools to facilitate their self-learning initiatives. We are now researching the learning habits and performance of our users with the aim to provide more insights to benefit English language education in Hong Kong.

Want to see how good you are at idiomatic expressions? Try our quiz now at <https://forms.gle/GCqfWRstbJ47jfwD8>

Highlights

HKCPD's Podcast about Online Teaching: an Inter-institutional Podcast by HKU, HKUST and PolyU

PolyU's representative on HKCPD: ELC's Adam Forrester

As coronavirus spread and all teaching moved online in universities across Hong Kong, teachers grappled with technologies like Zoom and scrambled to digitise their classrooms. It was this that provided the impetus for “Teachers’ Lift” (TL for short) – a teacher-initiated and teacher-produced inter-institutional podcast designed to provide a comfortable space to chat about teaching, which was made possible through a collaborative effort between teachers from The University of Hong Kong, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, and The Hong Kong Polytechnic University. With teachers’ questions and concerns as well as the need to bounce off ideas about new ways of teaching and learning in mind, TL has taken the form of an informal, unrehearsed, impromptu dialogue between the show hosts and practitioners in the field (e.g. teachers, instructional designers, researchers, and directors of programmes and centres).

Since TL aired its first show in early March 2020, it has produced and released 16 episodes on a wide range of topics including student engagement in online classrooms, building communities of practice, production of video lectures, experiential learning, online assessment and academic conduct, and language teaching. TL hopes to build and sustain a community of practice, and enable the sharing of best practices among university teachers in Hong Kong. It also aims to create opportunities for academic staff to engage in meaningful professional development at various levels.

To subscribe and listen to TL, visit <https://hkcpdhub.hku.hk/podcasts/>



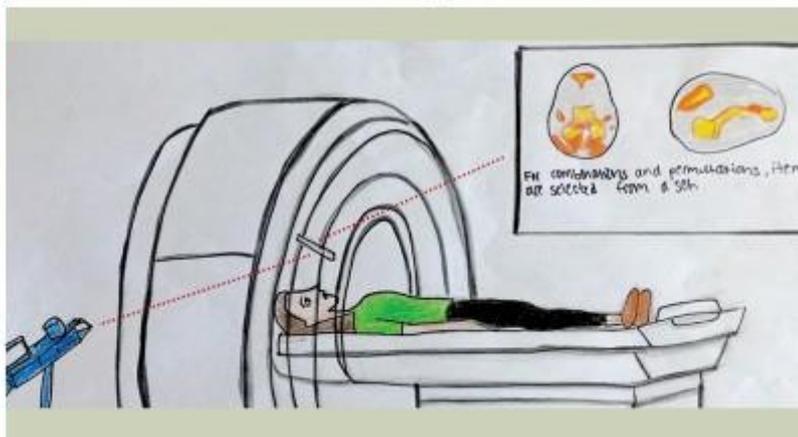
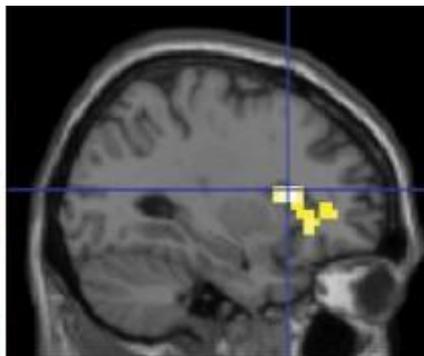
“Teacher’s Lift” is HKCPD (The Hong Kong Continuing Professional Development) Hub’s inter-institutional podcast designed to provide a comfortable space to chat about teaching.

Highlights

Neuroscience Paper Ranked among Top 100 by Scientific Reports 2019

Have you ever wondered what is actually going on inside your brain when you read a text? Did you know your brain would work differently when you read expository texts? In a research article recently published by *Scientific Reports*, our Faculty Dean Prof. Li Ping and his team shared their research findings on the reading brain in scientific text comprehension as well as the effects of e-device usage on learning. *Scientific Reports* published more than 1,710 neuroscience articles in 2019 and the paper is one of the top 100 downloaded papers.

More about the research: https://www.polyu.edu.hk/fh/en-us/newsletter_details/view/97/



Highlights

Linguistics Paper Selected as Editors' Choice by *Lingua*

The paper "Directionality of linguistic synesthesia in Mandarin: A corpus-based study" written by Dr Zhao Qingqing (CBS PhD graduate), Prof. Huang Chu-Ren(CBS) and Prof. Kathleen Ahrens(ENGL) has been selected by *Lingua* as one of its Editors' Choice articles of 2020. Selected by the Editors as noteworthy and likely to be of high interest to the community, the study suggests that both neuro-biological basis and human experiences provide the basis of linguistic synaesthesia.

More about the study: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0024384119304930>



Highlights

Postdoctoral Fellow and PhD Student Awarded RGC Fellowships

Congratulations to Dr Rachel Kan on receiving the RGC Postdoctoral Fellowship to take up an appointment as postdoctoral fellow in the Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies. During the 3-year fellowship period, Dr Kan will carry out a research project aiming to improve the differentiation of bilingual ethnic minority children in Hong Kong with and without language disorders.

We would also like to congratulate Mr John Ganaah, a PhD student in the Department of English, who has been awarded the Hong Kong PhD Fellowship. Established by RGC in 2009, the PhD Fellowship scheme aims at attracting the best and brightest students in the world to pursue their PhD studies at Hong Kong's universities.

Highlights

2nd Hong Kong Linguistics Olympiad (2020)

HKLO

香港佬 香港腦

語言學奧林匹克

The International Linguistics Olympiad competition is one of the 13 official International Science Olympiads. HKLO has already been officially accredited by IOL.

The 2nd Hong Kong Linguistics Olympiad (2020) was held online on 14 June 2020. The competition was attended by 28 secondary school students (11 students were awarded prizes and others received certificate of participation) that are all trained by the Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies and the Department of English. The [Hong Kong Linguistics Olympiad \(HKLO\)](#) team will prepare for the 2nd Asia Pacific Linguistics Olympiad to be held in September 2020.

Earlier in January this year, Amber Chan from the HKLO team won bronze medal in the 2nd Online Olympiad in Linguistics. The Online Olympiad in Linguistics took place from 24 to 27 January 2020 offering more than 10 languages, including Chinese and English, for over 500 secondary school students from 32 countries/regions. A total of six students from the HKLO team, jointly trained by the Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies and the Department of English, participated in the competition.

For details of the competition, please visit the Online Olympiad in Linguistics website: <https://onling.org>

Stay tuned for further updates from the HKLO: <https://polyu.hk/amuVS>

Outreaching

FH Becomes a Member of the East Asia Humanities Forum

The Faculty of Humanities signed a joint agreement to become the 6th member university of the East Asia Humanities Forum (EAHF). Other member universities include Hanyang University (Korea), Nankai University (the Chinese mainland), National Taiwan University (Taiwan), Tsinghua University (the Chinese mainland), and Waseda University (Japan). Member universities take turns to host the annual EAFH international conference.

The primary purpose of the EAHF forum is to foster inter-institutional partnership through sustainable networking efforts and to explore areas of research collaboration within the broadly defined field of humanities. This is an invaluable opportunity for FH to extend our influence to some of the finest universities in East Asia. The Faculty will also be able to showcase our strengths in various sub-fields of humanities to international scholars. PolyU is expected to be the host university of EAHF-16 in 2024.



The East Asia Humanities Forum (EAHF)-11 was held at Hanyang University in Korea during 18-19 October 2019.



(Left) On behalf of the Dean(FH), Prof. David C.S. Li (2nd from right), Head of the Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies, represents PolyU and FH to sign the agreement.



(Right) Prof. William Wang(CBS) delivers a presentation on “Diversity & Unity in East Asia: Languages & Peoples” at EAHF-11.

Outreaching

STU Delivers Services Online

Students of CBS' Service-Learning (SL) subject *CBS3S01 Service-Learning through Helping Primary Students with Specific Reading Difficulties* have been using the "Accelerating Reading Ability" (ARA) programme to help primary schoolchildren master reading strategies since 2014/15. ARA is a face-to-face intervention programme developed by the Speech Therapy Unit but due to the outbreak of COVID-19, students sought to deliver their services online.

Students of the SL subject ran Zoom/Skype telepractice sessions for the schoolchildren and their parents and delivered Chinese reading strategies training using a combination of training slides and online games. "We are thrilled to see that primary children take on the training well," Dr Janet Ng, the subject teacher of CBS3S01 noted, "progress on Chinese reading skills has been observed after a few sessions, which appears to be comparable to face-to-face delivery."



PowerPoint slides and online games are offered for students to learn different reading strategies more interestingly.

Outreaching

Students Spread Love amid the Pandemic

Five former members of the Global Leadership and Civic Engagement programme of PolyU, including a student from CBS, Minju Kim, worked with the NGO Christian Concern for the Homeless Association (CCHA) to help the needy. Sourcing surgical masks all over the world through their own networks, the students prepared 150 anti-epidemic packs containing masks, self-made hand sanitiser and tissues for distribution. Over 800 additional masks were sent directly to CCHA. The students' kindness and dedication to serve the community is greatly appreciated.



The students prepare surgical masks, self-made hand sanitiser and tissues for sending to the needy.

Research & Scholarly Activities

Conference Keynote, Plenary and Featured Speeches

JAN – JUN 2020

Dr Roxana FUNG, Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies

One country, two systems: The linguistic differences between Hong Kong Cantonese and Guangzhou Cantonese. The 5th Workshop on Innovations in Cantonese Linguistics. Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures, The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio State, USA, 18-19 April 2020.

Prof. Hans J. LADEGAARD, Department of English

What does it mean to be internationalised? Educating 'Self' and 'Other' in cross-cultural activity groups. International Conference on TESL and Applied Linguistics (<https://sites.google.com/view/2020etra/home>). Ming Chuan University, Taipei, Taiwan, 29-30 May 2020.

Prof. LI Ping, Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies

Neurocognitive Approaches to Lexical Semantic Representations in First and Second Languages. The 21st Chinese Lexical Semantics Workshop (<https://clsw2020.lt.cityu.edu.hk/>). City University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong, 28-30 May 2020.

Dr Dennis TAY, Department of English

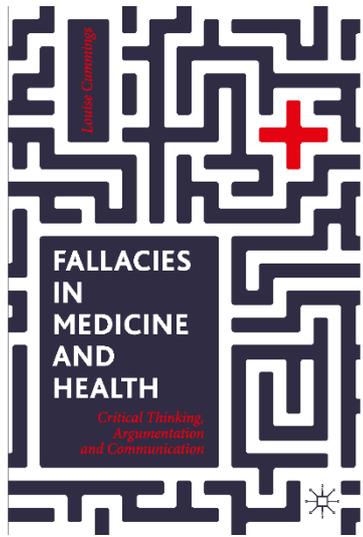
Verbal-visual metaphors and affective arousal in psychological counseling: Experimental and quantitative approaches. 5th International Conference of Semiosis Research Centre (ICSRC). Seoul, Korea, 29 June-3 July 2020.

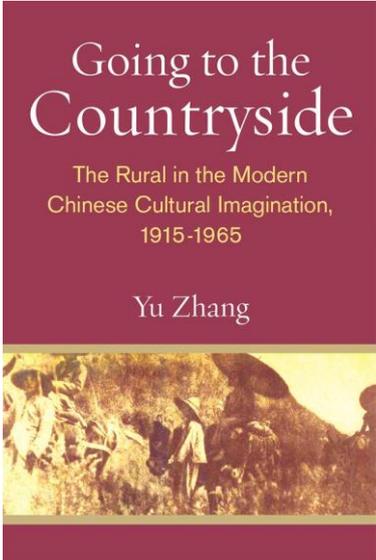
(The presentation can be watched at: <http://conference.semiosis.co.kr/plenary-session/dennis-tay/presentation/>)

Research & Scholarly Activities

Books Published

JAN– JUN 2020

Book title:	Fallacies in Medicine and Health: Critical Thinking, Argumentation and Communication	
Author(s)/Editor(s):	Louise CUMMINGS	
Department:	Department of English	
Publisher:	Palgrave Macmillan	
Year of Publication:	2020	
ISBN:	978-3-030-28513-5	

Book title:	Going to the Countryside: The Rural in the Modern Chinese Cultural Imagination, 1915-1965	
Author(s)/Editor(s):	Yu ZHANG	
Department:	Department of Chinese Culture	
Publisher:	Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press	
Year of Publication:	2020	
ISBN:	0472074431	

For details, please visit the Publish & Flourish website: <http://www.polyu.edu.hk/fh/P&F/>.

Research & Scholarly Activities

External Grants Obtained by FH Staff

JAN – JUN 2019

Public Policy Research Grant

Project Title: Hashtag Activism in Hong Kong Protests
Principal Investigator: Dr Aditi BHATIA, ENGL
Funding Awarded: HKD285,171.25

Research Grants Council (RGC) – General Research Fund (GRF)

Project Title: Gesture processing in foreign language learners: A study to assess the correlation in language proficiency and gesture-speech processing mechanisms at different stages of language learning
Principal Investigator: Dr Renia LOPEZ, ENGL
Funding Awarded: HKD666,500

Project Title: Is the mismatch negativity really sensitive to abstract linguistic representations?
Principal Investigator: Dr Stephen POLITZER-AHLES, CBS
Funding Awarded: HKD700,500

Project Title: Metaphor, Gender, and Persuasion: Influencing judgments through source domain manipulation
Principal Investigator: Prof. Kathleen AHRENS, ENGL
Funding Awarded: HKD526,655

Project Title: Modelling Chinese Writing-to-Dictation – A big data study
Principal Investigator: Dr LAU Kai Yan, CBS
Funding Awarded: HKD478,200

Project Title: Revisiting Nonword Repetition as a diagnostic tool in Cantonese-speaking children with Developmental Language Disorder
Principal Investigator: Dr CHAN Wing-shan Angel, CBS
Funding Awarded: HKD662,500

Project Title: Second Language Learning in VR: The Perception-Action Connection
Principal Investigator: Prof. LI Ping, CBS
Funding Awarded: HKD631,500

Project Title: The Heirs of Peach Spring: Daoist Frameworks for Chinese Village Culture
Principal Investigator: Dr Mark MEULENBELD, CC
Funding Awarded: HKD510,000

Project Title: The third modality of face-to-face communication? Centuries-old 'silent conversation' through Sinitic brushtalk (筆談), and script and lexical borrowing within the Sinographic cosmopolis
Principal Investigator: Prof. LI David Chor-shing, CBS
Funding Awarded: HKD423,600

Project Title: Translation or Mediation Universals? A Corpus-based Multidimensional Analysis of Learner Translation with Professional Translation and Non-native Language Variety
Principal Investigator: Dr LIU Kanglong, CBS
Funding Awarded: HKD388,000

Research Grants Council (RGC) – Humanities and Social Sciences Prestigious Fellowship Scheme (HSSPFS)

Project Title: Migration and Ethnicity in War and Revolution: The Chinese in Northern Vietnam since 1885
Principal Investigator: Prof. HAN Xiaorong, CC
Funding Awarded: HKD404,000

Research & Scholarly Activities

CBS Capstone Research Published in International Journal

Based on the capstone thesis of BACBS student Wong Sam Yin (Sammi) and expanded by Dr Sicong Dong (Postdoctoral Fellow of CBS), a paper on variations of haplology in Hong Kong, the Chinese mainland and Taiwan Mandarin was recently published in the international journal *Lexicography: Journal of ASIALEX*. The paper explains how frequency, tone sandhi and syllabicity affect haplology in Hong Kong Cantonese, Putonghua and Taiwan Mandarin.

Question	Non-haplology (%)		Haplology (%)	
	HK	TW	HK	TW
1. 博物館館藏 vs 博物館藏 'museum collection'	88.6	87.9	11.4	12.1
2. 東區區議會 vs 東區議會 'Eastern District Council' [東區區公所 vs 東區公所 'East District Office']	88.6	84.8	11.4	15.2
3. 教會會友 vs 教會友 'church member'	85.7	90.9	14.3	9.1
4. 田徑隊隊長 vs 田徑隊長 'track team captain'	85.7	81.8	14.3	18.2
5. 學生會會長 vs 學生會長 'president of students' union'	85.7	54.5	14.3	45.5
6. 兆康站站長 vs 兆康站長 'Siu Hong Station manager' [瀧溪站站長 vs 瀧溪站長 'Longxi Station manager']	82.9	87.9	17.1	12.1
7. 教育局局長 vs 教育局長 'Secretary of Education Bureau'	82.9	63.6	17.1	36.4
8. 數學科科長 vs 數學科長 'maths subject monitor'	71.4	75.8	28.6	24.2
9. 玩具廠廠長 vs 玩具廠長 'toy factory director'	68.6	75.8	31.4	24.2
10. 鑽石山站站長 vs 鑽石山站長 'Diamond Hill Station manager' [新左營站站長 vs 新左營站長 'Xinzuoying Station manager']	65.7	66.7	34.3	33.3

Part of the survey results regarding the use of haplology and non-haplology forms in Hong Kong Cantonese and Taiwan Mandarin. From: *Haplology and lexical entries: a study based on cross-linguistic data from Sinitic languages*

Full article: <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s40607-020-00062-1#citeas>

A related paper on this topic that Sammi was involved in researching was also published in *Chinese Linguistics* (漢語學報), a leading linguistics journal in China.

Full article:

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/339676721_A_comparative_study_on_haplology_of_Putonghua_and_Taiwan_Mandarin_liangantongyinshanxianxiangduibianjiu

Research & Scholarly Activities

IRCAHC Researchers Discuss Collective Trauma and Recovery during Uncertain Times in THE Blog

The research team at our International Research Centre for the Advancement of Health Communication (IRCAHC) has contributed an article to Times Higher Education (THE) to discuss concepts including collective trauma which can help us to begin thinking about how strained or damaged community connections can be repaired once a time of crisis has passed.

Full article: <https://www.timeshighereducation.com/blog/what-we-can-learn-collective-trauma-these-uncertain-times>



PROFESSIONAL JOBS EVENTS RANKINGS STU

What we can learn from the collective trauma of these uncertain times

Analysing how Hong Kong Polytechnic University's community dealt with the disruption of mass protests and now the coronavirus lockdown can aid in its recovery, say five health communication researchers

March 17, 2020

By [Margo Turnbull](#), [Bernadette Watson](#), [Ying Jin](#), [Alexandra Sanderson](#) and [Beatrice Lok](#)

Twitter: [@MargOTurnbull](#) and [@ircahc](#)



It's been more than a century since the French sociologist Emile Durkheim began exploring the idea of coherence within societies and communities that were evolving beyond traditional religious and social structures. As we move into the second decade of the 21st century and face waves of global social unrest – and now the



Events

Workshop Series Organised by CLC

Dates of the event: 7, 17, 22 and 28 April 2020

Organised by: Chinese Language Centre

CLC organised several on-line seminars and workshops in April to enhance students' Chinese proficiency. The workshops organised are as follows:

1. Chinese Essay Writing Workshop on 7 April 2020 by Ms Choi Yuk Ling
This workshop was about how to write Chinese essays efficiently and effectively. Frequently asked questions and common mistakes in writing Chinese essays were also discussed in the workshop.
2. Job Application Letter Workshop on 17 April 2020 by Dr Tsang Wai Sin
This workshop guided students to write an eye-catching job application letter and prepare the strategy to shoot for their goals.
3. Tone Sandhi in Mandarin Chinese on 22 April 2020 by Dr Yang Sabrina
This workshop gave participants an overview of tone sandhi (tone change) in Mandarin Chinese in different situations.
4. Cantonese Pronunciation (Using IPA) Workshop on 28 April 2020 by Dr Chau Joan
This workshop gave participants an outline of Cantonese pronunciation by using IPA system. Useful websites and self-learning ways of studying Cantonese pronunciation were also provided.

More useful seminars and workshops will be organised to further polish students' Chinese language and Chinese proficiency in the near future.



CLC organises different seminars and workshops for students to enhance their knowledge and usage of the Chinese language.

Events

Joint Online Seminars by RCPCE and ENGL

Dates of the event: 21 April and 11 May 2020

Organised by: The Research Centre for Professional Communication in English and Department of English

The Research Centre for Professional Communication in English (RCPCE), in conjunction with the Department of English, has begun hosting on-line academic talks this semester and expect to continue this initiative in the long-term. Prof. Kathleen Ahrens, Director of RCPCE, kicked off the first talk on 21 April with a talk entitled "Source Domain Verification for Conceptual Metaphor Analysis". Dr Dennis Tay, member of RCPCE, gave the second talk on "Spinning the discourse roulette: addressing poverty of data with Monte Carlo simulations" on 11 May. Both talks had over one hundred people registered from all over the world and in the Q&A portions, they heard from researchers in Australia, Hong Kong, and the Netherlands.

If you are a faculty member in FH and would like to give an academic talk on a topic related to RCPCE (broadly construed) in this new format, please contact Prof. Ahrens (kathleen.ahrens@polyu.edu.hk).



Prof. Kathleen Ahrens (left) and Dr Dennis Tay (right) give online talks jointly hosted by RCPCE and ENGL on 21 April and 11 May.

Faculty Updates

People

External Appointment

The Hong Kong Academy of the Humanities

Prof. LI Ping, Dean(FH) and Prof. Chan Shui Duen(CBS) have been elected to the Academy as Fellows.

Institute of Linguistics, Academia Sinica Advisory Committee

Prof. Huang Chu-Ren(CBS) has been appointed as a member of the Institute of Linguistics, Academia Sinica advisory committee, for the period of 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2022.

Appointment

We are pleased to welcome the following academic/teaching staff members who took up new full-time positions between 1 January 2020 and 30 June 2020:

Department of English

Dr Lauren Rebecca CLARK, Instructor

Chinese Language Centre

Dr LIU Lu, Instructor

Retirement

We would like to give our heartiest thanks to the following academic and teaching staff members who retired between 1 January 2020 and 30 June 2020 for their invaluable contributions to the Faculty. We wish them good health and happy days in their retirement!

Chinese Language Centre

Ms LAU Man Choi, Teaching Fellow

Ms YU Jing, Language Instructor

English Language Centre

Mr CHU King Shan Sunny, Language Instructor

Faculty Updates

FH QS 2020 Rankings

PolyU Linguistics, the discipline in which a large number of FH staff members are engaged, is ranked 8^{th*} in Asia and 45th worldwide in the 2020 Quacquarelli Symonds University Rankings. The discipline has consistently been ranked among the world's top 50 for 8 years. PolyU's Arts and Humanities is ranked 18^{th*} in Asia and 120th in the world.

Quacquarelli Symonds University Rankings by Subject ranks universities in individual subject areas based on academic reputation, employer reputation and research impact.



**By regional filtering of Quacquarelli Symonds World University Rankings by Subject 2020.*

**By regional filtering of Quacquarelli Symonds World University Rankings by Subject 2020.*

Faculty Updates

Transfer of Subjects under GEC to Other Academic Departments

In view of the expanded scope of general education curriculum, the Senior Management has reviewed the roles and functions of the General Education Centre (GEC) and decided that the subjects offered by GEC be incorporated into other academic departments with effect from 1 July 2020. Teaching/academic staff members of GEC will be transferred to different academic departments to ensure a best fit of academic expertise between the staff members, subjects and the receiving departments. The Cluster Area Requirements (CAR) subjects will continue to be offered and be hosted by the departments to which the staff members are transferred. In connection with this, consequential staff transfers will also take effect from 1 July 2020.

The Faculty would like to extend its heartfelt gratitude to GEC and its staff for their services and contributions over the past years.

Faculty Updates

Decease of Colleague Mr Hui Him Man

Deep condolences from CLC colleagues to hear of the passing away of a fellow colleague, Mr Hui Him Man, on 8 May 2020.

Him Man was our 1996 CBS graduate in MA in Chinese Linguistics. He had joined the Chinese Language Centre as Language Instructor since April 1998. Over the past twenty-two years, Him Man contributed a lot to course designs, teaching delivery, administration and research projects in the Chinese Language Centre. He was one of the key persons to contribute to the examination related duties as well as the CW (Chinese Writing) components of the undergraduate studies.

Him Man was indeed a very responsible, hard-working and nice person. We would not ever forget his helpfulness behind his sincere and smiley face. We express our sympathy to his family in this time of sadness and offer them our best wishes.

RIP

Faculty Updates

27th FHSA

The 27th Faculty of Humanities Students' Association (FHSA) was formed through election earlier this year. Members of the cabinet, [Hoverlang](#), are as follows:

- LAU Lai Ping Kitty (President)
- CHOW Alessandra Lura (External Vice President)
- LIU Ho Hei Chris (Internal Vice President)
- CHAN Man Wai Emily (Financial Secretary)
- WONG Wing Sum Suki (General Secretary)
- CHAN Chi Wah Stella (Promotion Secretary)
- LAU Sze Ming Roy (Promotion Secretary)
- WONG Tsz Tung Idy (Public Relation Secretary)
- TSANG Yau Mei Kimi (Welfare Secretary)



Student Corner

Student Writers Gautham Gopinath's and Mike Li's Experience of Publishing in ELC's *Inscribe*

Written by Chrissy Burns, Adam Barker

PolyU undergraduates engage in extensive writing to demonstrate their knowledge, express their ideas, and learn from the writing process itself. ELC courses and CAR EWR (English Writing Requirement) subjects in particular, help develop students' writing skills through assignments in a variety of genres. *Inscribe: A Journal of Undergraduate Writing in Asia*, an online journal published annually by the ELC, features outstanding student works which showcase these learning achievements.

Issue 5 of the e-journal was launched in October 2019. Let's catch up with two student authors to see how they were impacted by their publishing experience, and what's next for them.

Gautham Gopinath, (BSc(Hons) in Engineering Physics)



With my interest in climate change and its impacts on society, I chose the CAR subject *GEC1B12 International Relations and Global Issues* in order to investigate these issues further with academic research. When my term paper *Climate Change: Investigating the Hurdles to Action* was accepted for publication in *Inscribe*, I had the chance to extend its original scope to encompass the moral questions raised by global warming. I realised that assigning responsibility for climate change was a question of the kind of values we would like to promote in society. This led me to explore the philosophical ideals of egalitarianism, prioritarianism, and sufficientarianism. Writing the paper kindled my interest in moral philosophy, and I subsequently took a bio-ethics course at a University of Cambridge summer programme.

The published paper serves as a constant reminder to keep my interests diverse. As a physics student, it's quite easy to lose oneself in intricate physics formulae and neglect subjects outside the realm of science. By publishing in *Inscribe*, I was able to enjoy the process of writing, and develop a better appreciation for language in general. During the summer holidays, I plan to explore writing and moral philosophy in greater details, starting with the works of Michael Sandel, the renowned Harvard professor. All the while, I will also prepare for GRE tests as I look to ramp up my portfolio for my Physics graduate school application!

More about his article: <https://elc.polyu.edu.hk/inscribe/?p=1349>

LI Zuchen (Mike), (BBA(Hons) in International Shipping and Transport Logistics)



I wrote the feature article *Tasty Meal or Man's Best Friend?* for *ELC2011 Advanced English Reading and Writing Skills* in semester two of my first year. Exploring this controversial topic, the consumption of dog meat, improved my critical thinking skills. I researched and analysed various perspectives on the issue, weighed the evidence objectively, and arrived at my own conclusion. This process was vastly different from previous educational experiences involving rote memorisation. Editing and publishing my article taught me more about expressing my ideas clearly and persuasively.

Since then, I gained some hands-on experience in logistics at a summer internship and have been focused on my programme courses, applying my analytical skills to the business sector for project reports. Problems with global supply chain management and the importance of e-commerce have become apparent during this global pandemic. I'm interested in how 5G technologies will affect supply management, and how the supply chain and logistics industry can help China to develop and compete in the future. I'd like to continue my studies in Supply Chain Management after graduation, and am considering an academic career focused on research in this area.

More about his article: <https://elc.polyu.edu.hk/inscribe/?p=1369>

Student Corner

CLC Reading Club

The Reading Club under CLC, Cangwu Literary Activity Group (蒼梧文學社), organised two interesting and creative activities for different students to participate between February and April:

1. Cangwu's *Micro Love Letters* starting from Valentine's Day 2020 to Early March 2020

THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY
香港理工大學

中國語文教育中心
CHINESE LANGUAGE CENTRE

微情書

究竟何時才能傳達到彼此的心裏
說不出口的話語
究竟能包含多麼濃郁的愛意
三言兩語裏

微情對象：香港理工大學同學
微情日期：即日起至3月7日
投稿方式：
將微情書（篇幅以三至九行為宜）
連同姓名、學名（如有）、學生編號、
修讀課程、修讀年級以及聯絡電郵，
投稿至：
1. 蒼梧文學社Instagram
2. 蒼梧文學社微信公眾號後台
3. 蒼梧文學社郵箱：
cangwuliterature@gmail.com
優秀作品將按Instagram點讚數及
微信公眾號推送票數選出，得獎者可
獲精美禮品一份。

關注我們
WeChat Instagram

This was a creative writing competition which encouraged students to show off their talents and express their affection by writing love letters from 3 to 9 lines. Receiving abundant creative and romantic love letters, the competition was successfully completed.

2. Cangwu's *Arts Sharing* in April 2020

THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY
香港理工大學

中國語文教育中心
CHINESE LANGUAGE CENTRE

文藝作品
鑒賞小組

文學的滄海
引領思想碰撞
藝術的音符
奏響靈魂共鳴

參與對象：香港理工大學同學
活動時間：2020年4月20日至24日
活動形式：參與活動的同學隨機分為若干個
四人小組，圍繞「第三人稱」這一主題討論，
並發表感想。
活動流程：文學社每日提供文藝作品（涵蓋
不同的藝術表達形式，如文學作品、音樂、
電影等），以觸發靈感、激發思路。文學社
隨後負責整理討論重點，分享大家的意見。
活動結束後，各組可以提交感想，文學社
將送出紀念品。
掃描二維碼報名：
關注我們：
WeChat Instagram

Small groups were formed to discuss the “third-person narrative voice” in selected literary and artistic works in different aspects. Their creative and in-depth opinions were summarised and shared on social platforms.

Student Corner

Scholarships Received by FH Students

CMB Wing Lung Bank Scholarship

LAM Wai Yan Vivian, BA(Hons) English Studies for the Professions (BAESP)

Commercial Radio 50th Anniversary Scholarship

CHU Pik Sheung, BA(Hons) Chinese and Bilingual Studies (BACBS)
CHUNG Hau Lam, BA(Hons) Chinese and Bilingual Studies (BACBS)
WAN Chi Lam, BA(Hons) Language and Speech Sciences (BALSS)

HKSAR Government Scholarship

LAW Queenie, BA(Hons) English Studies for the Professions (BAESP)
TAM Sin Ting Toby, BA(Hons) English Studies for the Professions (BAESP)
WAN Chi Lam, BA(Hons) Language and Speech Sciences (BALSS)

HKSAR Government Scholarship Fund - Reaching Out Award

TAN Cai Ee, BA(Hons) Chinese and Bilingual Studies (BACBS)

HKSAR Government Scholarship Fund - Talent Development Scholarship

LEE Man Nga, BA(Hons) Chinese and Bilingual Studies (BACBS)
LEUNG Yuet Yee, Broad Discipline of Language, Culture and Communication (BDLCC)

HSBC Hong Kong Scholarship

WAN Chi Lam, BA(Hons) Language and Speech Sciences (BALSS)

Kai Chong Tong Scholarship

TSUI Ting Wai, BA(Hons) English Studies for the Professions (BAESP)

King's Flair Group Scholarship for Outstanding PolyU Student Athletes

LO Ying Chiu, BA(Hons) Chinese and Bilingual Studies (BACBS)

Miss Lau Yuen Ling Scholarship

PAN Tung-le, BA(Hons) Chinese and Bilingual Studies (BACBS)

President Emeritus Professor Poon Chung-kwong Scholarship

CHUNG Hau Lam, BA(Hons) Chinese and Bilingual Studies (BACBS)

The D. H. Chen Foundation Scholarship

HO Hiu Man, BA(Hons) Chinese and Bilingual Studies (BACBS)

The Hong Kong Polytechnic University Entry Scholarship (Academic)

ABDRASHOVA Aiman, BA(Hons) English Studies for the Professions (BAESP)

The Hong Kong Polytechnic University Scholarship

LIU Linlin, BA(Hons) Chinese and Bilingual Studies (BACBS)

PolyU - University Fellows Association Scholarship for Outstanding PolyU Student Athletes

LO Ying Chiu, BA(Hons) Chinese and Bilingual Studies (BACBS)
NG Lee Kwun, BA(Hons) English Studies for the Professions (BAESP)

HKCC Scholarship for PolyU Articulation

CHEUNG Wun, BA(Hons) Chinese and Bilingual Studies (BACBS)
LAU Pui Han, BA(Hons) Language and Speech Sciences (BALSS)
SUN Wai Kan, BA(Hons) in Bilingual Interdisciplinary Chinese Studies (BABICS)

Humanities Doctoral Scholarship

WANG Xiaoyu, Doctor of Applied Language Sciences (DALs)

Humanities Undergraduate Scholarship

ANG Xuan, BA(Hons) Chinese and Bilingual Studies (BACBS)

CBS Distinguished Postgraduate Scholarship

LU WENZE, Master of Arts in Bilingual Corporate Communication (MABCC)
WU Baimei, Master of Arts in Translating and Interpreting (MATI)
YU Songping, Master of Arts in Chinese Linguistics (MACL)
ZHAO Man, Master of Arts in Teaching Chinese as a Foreign Language (MATCFL)

CBS Postgraduate Scholarship

CHEN Yin Wei, Master of Arts in Translating and Interpreting (MATI)
JEON Hae Min, Master of Arts in Teaching Chinese as a Foreign Language (MATCFL)

Scholarship for Chinese Language and Literature

SO Shu Yuen, BA(Hons) Chinese and Bilingual Studies (BACBS)

Scholarship for Prospective English Teachers

CHUNG Tsz Shan Christie, BA(Hons) English Studies for the Professions (BAESP)
LI Nga Ting, BA(Hons) English Studies for the Professions (BAESP)
RAHIMOV Ismatullo, Broad Discipline of Language, Culture and Communication (BDLCC)

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