

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES NEWSLETTER

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THE HONG KONG
POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY
香港理工大學

VIEWPOINTS



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Dr Caicai Zhang has been awarded the '2016 Rising Star' by the Association for Psychological Science (APS) in recognition of her outstanding work on the neural activities underlying...

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Internationalisation Underway: Faculty of Humanities



In line with The Hong Kong Polytechnic University's initiative of internationalisation, the Faculty of Humanities (FH) is committed to creating a global environment conducive to the development of increasingly diverse students and faculty communities. To present their views on internationalisation in FH, the Faculty Dean and Heads of FH Departments and Centres have been invited to discuss the subject from different perspectives.

Faculty Dean Prof. Chu Hung-lam stresses the importance of internationalisation in an increasingly global knowledge economy. Being responsible for shaping and delivering the curriculum which emphasises the convergence of language, culture and science, as well as carrying out research in related areas, the Faculty and its constituent Departments play a critical role in achieving a more internationalised campus. With its focus on multilingualism, multiculturalism and intercultural communication and understanding, the Faculty has been making efforts to promote internationalisation in a number of areas.

Internationalisation as a positive, culturally dynamic influence, as suggested by Dr Bruce Morrison, Director of the English Language Centre, needs to be seen through a pedagogical and socially developmental lens focusing on the University, its students, its staff and its curriculum. With regard to the staff body, the Faculty academic staff members come from a number of overseas cultures and are increasingly globally mobile with involvement in teaching, research and service in various places outside Hong Kong. In terms of our curriculum, the introduction of a wide range of Cluster Area Requirements (general education) subjects focusing on different cultures and world views is an example of how FH is very much at the centre of the University's attempt to provide a broader and more international education for PolyU students, particularly when compared to the profession-focused, more Hong Kong-centric curriculum of the previous millennium.

The Service-Learning (SL) subjects offered by FH Departments also provide opportunities for students to experience a more international education. Dr Yu Kam Por, Director of the General Education Centre, points out that not only do SL subjects such as "Social Poverty in Developing Countries" enable students to develop an enhanced understanding of and empathy for the underprivileged groups they serve, but they also provide opportunities for PolyU students to exchange and collaborate with other students and the host communities.

To elevate the Faculty's global outreach and its international standing, strategic partnerships have been built with overseas universities and professional associations. Prof. David C. S. Li, Head of the Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies, remarks that FH strives to provide students with international exposure through study abroad, academic exchange, and internship opportunities. To nurture our students' all-round development, global outlook, social and national responsibility, cultural appreciation, and biliterate and trilingual abilities, we have established partnerships with numerous universities globally. Various forms of student mobility overseas are made possible by our strong links with transnational industry partners.

Challenges and difficulties inevitably arise in the process of internationalisation. Dr Tam King-fai, former Head of the Department of Chinese Culture (Dr Tam retired in July 2017), shares that in the study of Chinese culture, part of the scepticism towards internationalisation springs from a long-standing belief that Chinese culture is so unique that, unless one is brought up in it, it is impossible even to begin to understand it. To fight against such a pervasive belief, the Department of Chinese Culture undertakes bilingual education seriously. Classes are taught in Chinese and English,

with readings that capture the best of scholarship produced internationally. Our teachers are trained in different parts of the world and their academic and research activities reach across national and cultural boundaries. We also seize other opportunities to expose our students to the value of internationalisation, such as hosting world-renowned scholars for semester-long visits and sending our students overseas on short-term study trips.

With recent research questioning some of the alleged benefits of internationalisation, the discussion shifts to another important question: How can FH achieve a truly more linguistically and culturally diversified study and work environment? More often than not, internationalisation has been reduced to a numbers game: whoever has more non-local staff and students is more internationalised. Prof. Hans J. Ladegaard, Head of Department of English, notes that internationalisation should be about learning, developing and acquiring what Mike Byram has called intercultural citizenship¹. Prof. Ladegaard shares this vision of encouraging local and non-local students and staff to engage in real dialogue through which we learn and develop; dialogue that makes us more tolerant and open-minded.

The perspectives presented by the Faculty Dean and Heads of FH Departments and Centres delineate the many shapes and forms of internationalisation: from mobility/exchange schemes for academic staff and students, international recruitment and an internationalised curriculum, to international partnerships with industry and the integration of local and non-local students and staff. The Faculty does not merely see internationalisation as a strategic instrument for development or enhancement; inter-cultural and inter-personal competence, together with world knowledge – important elements of internationalisation – have always been part of a humanities education and are at the core Faculty's values. FH will continue to support the University's initiatives and move forward in the coming years.

Read the full articles on internationalisation written by the Heads of FH Departments and Centres here:
https://www.polyu.edu.hk/fh/FHNewsletter171_Internationalisation.pdf

Note

1) Michael Byram (2008) *From Foreign Language Education to Education for Intercultural Citizenship*. Clevedon: Multilingual Matters.

Viewpoints

Dr Zhang Caicai Nominated as ‘APS Rising Star’

Dr Caicai Zhang has been awarded the ‘2016 Rising Star’ by the Association for Psychological Science (APS) in recognition of her outstanding work on the neural activities underlying the processing of lexical tones, and its relationship to music. The APS Rising Star designation recognises outstanding psychological scientists in the earliest stages of their research career post-PhD whose innovative work has already advanced the field and signals great potential for their continued contributions.

Dr Zhang’s research work is rooted in the new frontier of brain research. Her work is multi-disciplinary, bringing together linguistics, psychology and neuroscience to understand the neurobiology of language. Her work is centred on the Chinese language, not only because Chinese is relatively poorly understood, but also because Chinese has unique features that shape the brain of Chinese speakers. One unique feature is the complex tone system – Chinese has tones, whereas English and some other languages do not. She has used lexical tone as a window to probe into the complex neural processes that support the production and perception of Chinese, and as a way to understand the Chinese brain.



She uses behavioural and neuroimaging methods such as electroencephalography (EEG) and functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) to investigate the neural activities sub-serving the perception and production of lexical tones in normal and disordered populations. She is currently doing three major lines of research: (1) the relationship of language and music, from the perspective of how congenital amusia, an innate musical disorder, affects behavioural performance and neural activities in lexical tone production and tone perception; (2) speaker variability in speech signals and the neural mechanisms of how listeners accommodate speaker variability in speech perception; (3) neural mechanisms (phonological computation vs. lexical access) of the encoding of Tone 3 sandhi in Mandarin in speech production.

She has published 15 peer-reviewed articles in high-impact journals, including *NeuroImage*, *Brain and Language*, *Neuropsychologia*, *Journal of Neurolinguistics*, *Journal of Speech, Language, and Hearing Research*, *Journal of the Acoustical Society of America*, and *Journal of Chinese Linguistics*, and 3 book chapters in academic books published by world-class publishers such as Oxford University Press. She has been awarded the CUHK Young Scholars Thesis Award, in recognition of the outstanding quality of her PhD thesis. She has successfully secured several external competitive grants. She is the PI of an Early Career Scheme Grant project (ECS: 25603916) and a National Natural Science Foundation of China Grant project (NSFC: 11504400); and the Co-I of a General Research Fund Grant project (GRF: 14408914).

Highlights

Strengthening Ties with Malaysia, Taiwan and Europe

Faculty of Humanities (FH) has striven for building connections with various counterparts in the world to enhance the international, intercultural and global dimension of our students' learning experience, research activities and services. A number of outreaching activities were organised from January to June 2017.

Building on the closer relationship developed in recent years, FH had the honour to have YB Senator Datuk Chong Sin Woon, Deputy Minister of Education, Ministry of Education Malaysia visited the Faculty on 23 February 2017. Later in March, Prof. Chu Hung-lam, Dean (FH), led a delegation to Malaysia and paid visits to five local high schools.

In June, as invited by Chong Hwa Independent High School Kuala Lumpur in Malaysia, the Dean gave a talk on Chinese culture to the students and teachers there. Also speaking at another event themed "One Belt One Road" as invited by Malaysian organisations Gabungan Persatuan Perkembangan Budaya & Ekonomi Malaysia (馬來西亞文化暨經濟促進會) and Hokkien Association Klang (巴生福建會館), Prof. Chu gave a talk on "The Cultural Mission and Social Responsibility of Overseas Chinese".

Efforts to promote the Faculty's undergraduate programmes also included another delegation to Taichung and Tainan areas in May 2017. The delegation then visited the College of Liberal Arts of National Cheng Kung University in Taiwan in June 2017.



(Left) Prof. Chu Hung-lam shares his views on Chinese culture with the Chinese and History teachers in Chong Hwa Independent School, Kuala Lumpur.



(Right) Prof. Yuhneu Chen, College Dean and Professor of History, College of Liberal Arts of National Cheng Kung University and Prof. Chu Hung-lam.

Another delegation was led by Prof. Chu to Freie University Berlin (FUB) and University of Vienna from 1 March to 6 March 2017. The Dean delivered a keynote speech entitled "One Scholar's Passage to Confucian Classics Learning and Ming History Study" at the International Roundtable Workshop (The Relevance of Classics Today) at FUB with over 30 distinguished scholars attended the event.

From 22 to 26 May 2017, Prof. Chu led another team of colleagues to Estonia, Czech Republic and Poland. FH was able to introduce the Faculty and its postgraduate programmes, as well as conduct fruitful academic discussions with students and staff members at a number of universities in these countries.



(Left) Faculty Dean Prof. Chu Hung-lam leads a delegation including Dr Yum Kam Por (GEC Director) (1st from left) and Dr Jack Chun (Associate Director of GEC) (2nd from left) to the Free University of Berlin.

(Right) From left to right: Prof. Barbara Michalak-Pikulska, Head of the Oriental Studies Department (JU), Prof. Winnie Cheng, Associate Dean of FH and Professor of Department of English, Prof. Chan Shui-duen, Professor of Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies, Prof. Chu Hung-lam, Dean (FH), Prof. Elżbieta Górka, Dean of Faculty of Philology (JU), Dr Władysław Witalisz, Dean of Studies, Faculty of Philology (JU), Prof. Ewa Zajdler, Head of the Chinese Department (JU)

Highlights

Deputy Minister of Education of Malaysia Visits FH

YB Senator Datuk Chong Sin Woon, Deputy Minister of Education of Malaysia, and his delegation were warmly received by the Faculty during their visit in late February 2017. Datuk met with PolyU Senior Management, shared and exchanged experience and perspectives with Faculty members. He also delivered a talk on “What makes the uniqueness of education in Malaysia”.



(Left) From left to right: Prof. Chu Hung-lam, Dean(FH); Prof. Timothy W. Tong, PolyU President; YB Senator Datuk Chong Sin Woon; Prof. Angelina Yuen, Vice President (Student and Global Affairs) and Prof. Maurice Yap, Dean (FHSS).

(Right) Faculty members meet with Datuk.



(Left) Prof. Chu Hung-lam, Faculty Dean, presents a souvenir to YB Senator Datuk Chong Sin Woon.

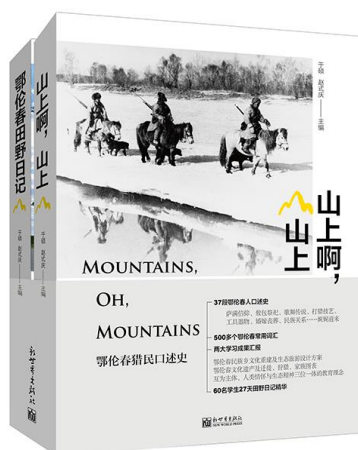
(Right) Datuk (6th from right) and Consul-General of Malaysia to Hong Kong and Macau (5th from left) together with Prof. Chu Hung-lam (6th from left) and guests from the Malaysian community in Hong Kong.



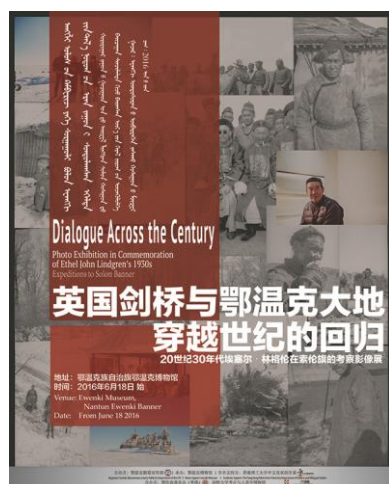
Highlights

CBS2S02: A Special Subject, a Unique Book and a Groundbreaking Exhibition

In partnership with Tsinghua University, the Service-Learning (SL) subject CBS2S02 “Preserving Culture Heritage for Ethnic Minorities” has been awarded the “Ten Thousand People’s Scheme” (萬人計劃) under the Ministry of Education. Conducted by Dr Yu Shuo and Mr Hing Chao in Inner Mongolia since 2014, 100 students from the SL subject have interviewed Orochen and Ewenki elders in remote villages. The rich oral history collected provides important first-hand materials and knowledge for further historic, linguistic and anthropologic research on northern peoples in China and Russia.



With the information collected by teachers and students from the SL subject, a bilingual book *Mountains, Oh Mountains – Oral History of the Orochen Hunters* (《山上啊，山上! — 鄂倫春獵民口述史》) was produced. Together with its second volume *Students Orochen Field Diary* (《鄂倫春田野日記》), these books have been nominated for the National Publication Fund (國家出版基金). The National Publication Fund was established in 2007 and is the third special fund set up by China following the National Natural Science Foundation and the National Social Science Foundation.



Photos taken by teachers and students during their SL fieldwork were on display in the “Dialogue Across the Century: Photo Exhibition in Commemoration of Ethel John Lindgren’s 1930s Expeditions to Solon Banner” earlier last year. The Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies provided academic support to this exhibition organised by the Ewenki Autonomous Publicity Department, the Orochen Foundation (Hong Kong) and the Cambridge University Museum of Archeology and Anthropology. It was hoped that the exhibition would revitalise and preserve the collective memory of the community.

Outreaching

PLACE Camp 2017

PolyU Language and Culture Exploration (PLACE) Camp organised by the Faculty was held from 18 to 21 July 2017. It attracted a total of 102 students from Hong Kong and other parts of the world including Korea, Macau, Malaysia, Mongolia and Taiwan. PLACE Camp provided participating secondary/high school students an opportunity to experience university life at the Faculty of Humanities. Participants took part in a variety of activities and lectures and learnt useful hands-on skills and knowledge about language, culture and communication in a real university environment – experiencing what it is like to be an FH student.



Learn more about what happened at PLACE on our facebook <https://www.facebook.com/hkpolyu.humanities>.

Outreaching

ELC Teachers in the Mood for Volunteering

Followers of the Newsletter will have seen updates about the ELC's longest running Outreach Programme in the community supporting Po Leung Kuk's (PLK) Language Programmes for both children in residential care and from low income families. We are now in our 13th year, no that is not a typo, and it just gets better.

We are now in our fourth year of conducting summer observations and feedback to PLK teachers with a whopping twenty-five teachers from the ELC volunteering to help raise the standard of teaching by providing support to over fifty teachers this summer.

Michelle McEwan the Academic Director of the PLK Language Programmes is full of praise stating that "this helps us to improve the teaching and makes the classes more fun." She also points out that "feedback is very important for our donors to hear as it gives them independent evidence that their money is well invested."

Teachers that volunteer often reflect on their own teaching during this process but the greatest benefit is the feeling of satisfaction that we are making a difference to those more needy than ourselves.

Andrew Mossman
Academic Consultant
PLK Language Programmes



Outreaching

Refugee Project in Germany and Hong Kong by BACBS and BAESP Students

With the support of PolyU Global Student Fund which encourages students to initiate projects in teams with students from overseas tertiary education institutions and become global citizens, coupled with the aim to foster students' intercultural communication and enhance leadership qualities, some enthusiastic students from the BA(Hons) in Chinese and Bilingual Studies (BACBS) programme and BA (Hons) in English Studies for the Professions (BAESP) programme joined hands with local German students from Deggendorf Institute of Technology this year and started a project targeting refugees in Germany and Hong Kong respectively. The two teams regularly made video calls to share about the ideas of upcoming events, as well as reported the results of the events held and shared the difficulties encountered throughout the project so as to learn from each other's effort.

Aiming to enhance cultural understanding, offer local students opportunities to gain insights into refugees' lives and help refugees integrate into the local community, this project was executed in Germany in the form of cultural workshops, excursions and a long-term buddy program between local German students and refugees. The project was also implemented in Hong Kong. Partnered with Christian Action, four events, namely an interactive workshop, a cultural outing, a walk tour to understand an ordinary Hong Kong refugee's daily life and a football game with refugees were successfully held in Hong Kong.

"This project is amazing and meaningful – not only have we successfully raised the awareness of the issue of Hong Kong refugees among our student participants, but we have also provided a platform for refugees to get involved with the local community" — CBS student Hung Yuen Ki (project member)

(Project team) Adviser: Ms Cotton Chan Yee Kwan Valentina

Leader: Christine Chang Yu-Ting

Members: Lu Yuanqing, Jover Patricia Garcia, Luo Jin, Hung Yuen Ki and Zhang Kunyuan



(Left) Project team members from both BACBS and BAESP.



(Right) A fun afternoon with Hong Kong refugees football team!



(Left) Cultural workshops were held to enhance cultural understanding among individuals and provide a platform for Syrian refugees to share their personal experiences with students.



(Right) Everyone had a blast hiking in the Black Forest in Germany!

Research & Scholarly Activities

Conference Keynote, Plenary & Featured Speeches

JAN - JUN 2017

Prof. Kathleen AHRENS, Department of English

The Conceptualisation of Democracy in Hong Kong Policy Addresses. The third VEIP (Varieties of English in the Indo-Pacific) Workshop. Department of Linguistics, Macquarie University, State of New South Wales, Australia, 16-17 February 2017.

Prof. Winnie CHENG, Department of English

Professional communication studies: Student assessment. 15th Annual TESOL International Conference. TESOL Asia, Pampanga, Philippines, 7-9 April 2017.

Editorial stances of commercial and government news: The 2017 Hong Kong Chief Executive election. Meaning, Context & Cognition. Department of English Language and Applied Linguistics, University of Łódź, Lodz, Poland, 20-22 April 2017.

Prof. CHU Hung-lam, Department of Chinese Culture

Inspirations and Lessons: One Scholar's Passage to Confucian Classics Learning and Ming History Study. The Relevances of the Classics Today. Ernst-Reuter- Gesellschaft der Freunde, Förderer und Ehemaligen der Freien Universität, Freie Universität Berlin, Germany, 1-3 March 2017.

Prof. HUANG Chu-Ren, Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies

Chinese Language in Action, in Context, and in Vivo. 第十屆海峽兩岸現代漢語問題學術研討會. Faculty of Arts and Humanities, University of Macau, Macau, 10-11 April 2017.

What Language Tells Us about Cognition: A few things you may not know about Chinese. 2nd Dual Language Symposium. Chinese International School, Braemar Hill, Hong Kong, 28 April 2017.

From Character to Text, from Language to Culture: The versatility of corpus-based, knowledge-driven approaches. 光華講壇. The Research Centre for Monsoon Asian Languages and Culture, School of Foreign Languages for Business, the Southwestern University of Finance and Economics (西南財經大學經貿外語學院季風亞洲語言文化研究中心), Chengdu, Sichuan, 16 May 2017.

Endurant and Perdurant: Ontological Necessity of Linguistic Description. The 18th Chinese Lexical Semantics Workshop (CLSW2017). Leshan Normal University, Leshan, Sichuan China, 18-20 May 2017.

What You Need to Know about Chinese for Chinese Language Processing. Noah's Ark Lab Huawei Tech and Computer Science, Shatin, Hong Kong, 7 June 2017. What You Need to Know about Chinese for Chinese Language. CLUNCH (Computational Linguistics and Lunch). Linguistics Departments, University of Pennsylvania (UPENN), Pennsylvania, United States, 28 June 2017.

Language Resources from the LLT Group at the Hong Kong Polytechnic University: From phonological neighbourhood to semantic relata, from grammar to emotion. LDC (Linguistic Data Consortium) Institute session. LDC Institute, University of Pennsylvania (UPENN), Pennsylvania, United States, 29 June 2017.

Prof. David C. S. LI, Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies

Teaching academic writing in Hong Kong: The case of Testing the Monosyllabic Salience Hypothesis (MSH) in Cantonese: A comparative study of monosyllabic words (MEWs) in Cantonese, Japanese and Korean. The Third International Conference on Linguistics and Language Studies (ICLLS) 2017. The Open University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong, 29-30 June 2017.

Dr Masumi MATSUMOTO, Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies

A Report on the Language Learning Environment for Minor in Japanese Students at The Hong Kong Polytechnic University. The International Symposium: A Clear and Present Multi-layered Language Environment. Hokkaido University, Research Faculty of Media and communication, Hokkaido University, Sapporo, Japan, 24 June 2017.

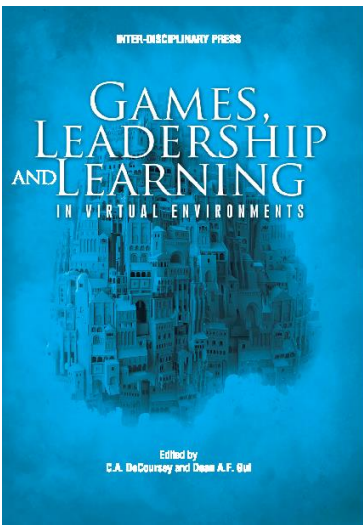
Dr POLITZER-AHLES Stephen, Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies

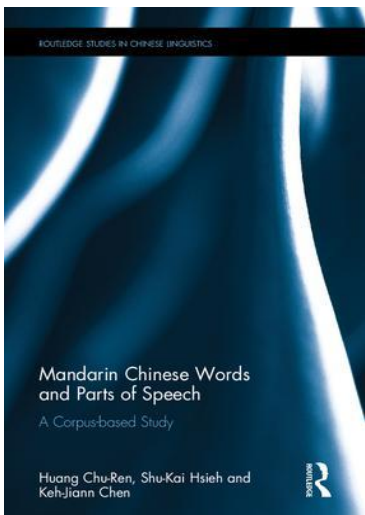
Challenges in linking electrophysiological data to the theory of scalar implicatures. Revising Formal Semantic and Pragmatic Theories from a Neurocognitive Perspective. XPrag.de and University of Bochum. Bochum, Germany, 19-20 June 2017.

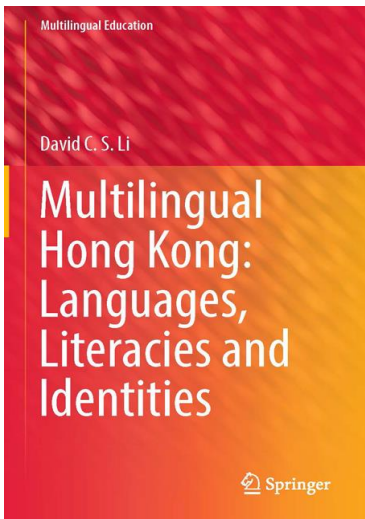
Research & Scholarly Activities

Books Published

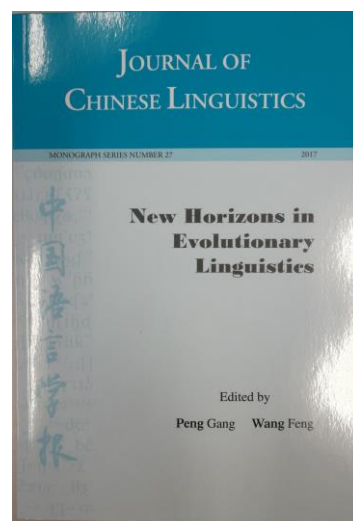
JAN - JUN 2017

Book title:	Games, Leadership and Learning in Virtual Environments	
Author(s)/Editor(s):	DECOURSEY, Christina and <u>GUI, Dean A. F.</u> (eds.)	
Department:	English Language Centre 英語教學中心	
Publisher:	Inter-Disciplinary Press, Oxford, UK.	
Year of Publication:	2016	
ISBN:	978-1-84888-451-9	

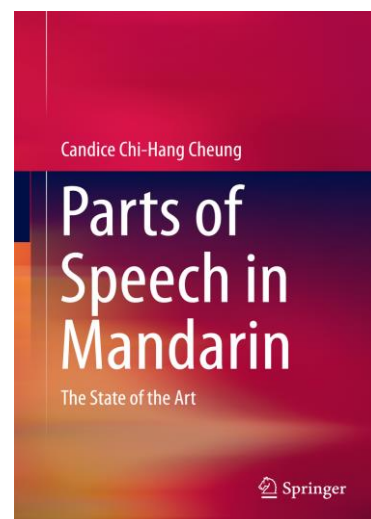
Book title:	Mandarin Chinese Words and Parts of Speech: A Corpus-based Study	
Author(s)/Editor(s):	<u>HUANG Chu-Ren</u> , Shu-Kai Hsieh and Keh-Jiann Chen	
Department:	Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies 中文及雙語學系	
Publisher:	Routledge	
Year of Publication:	2017	
ISBN:	978-1138949447	

Book title:	Multilingual Hong Kong: Languages, Literacies and Identities	
Author(s)/Editor(s):	LI David C.S.	
Department:	Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies 中文及雙語學系	
Publisher:	Springer	
Year of Publication:	2017	
ISBN:	978-3-319-44195-5	

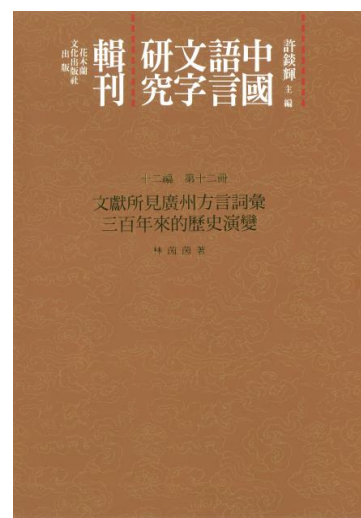
Book title:	New Horizons in Evolutionary Linguistics
Author(s)/Editor(s):	<u>PENG Gang</u> and WANG Feng
Department:	Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies 中文及雙語學系
Publisher:	The Chinese University Press
Year of Publication:	2017
ISSN:	2409-2878



Book title:	Parts of Speech in Mandarin: The State of the Art
Author(s)/Editor(s):	CHEUNG Candice Chi-Hang
Department:	Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies 中文及雙語學系
Publisher:	Springer
Year of Publication:	2016
ISBN:	978-981-10-0398-1



Book title:	文獻所見廣州方言詞彙三百年來的歷史演變 (中國語言文字研究輯刊 第十二冊)
Author(s)/Editor(s):	LAM Yan Yan 林茵茵
Department:	Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies 中文及雙語學系
Publisher:	新北市：花木蘭文化出版社
Year of Publication:	2017
ISBN:	978-986-404-986-8



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 2017

Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation for International Scholarly Exchange

Project Title:	From Synaesthesia to Cross-cultural Representation of Cognition: A Lexical Semantic Study of Translated Buddhist Texts
Principal Investigator:	Prof. HUANG Chu-Ren, CBS
Funding Awarded:	NTD2,000,000

Quality Education Fund

Project Title:	Enhancing Students' Multi-Level Processing Competency of Multi-Source Information in Integrated Language Tasks in Secondary Schools
Principal Investigator:	Dr ZHU Xinhua, CBS
Funding Awarded:	HKD2,668,000

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

Project Title:	The Role of Metaphors in Reasoning
Principal Investigator:	Prof. Kathleen AHRENS, ENGL
Funding Awarded:	HKD639,360

Project Title:	Asymmetries in Cantonese Children's Comprehension and Production of Relative Clauses: Structure, Typology and Processing
Principal Investigator:	Dr CHAN Wing-Shan Angel, CBS
Funding Awarded:	HKD359,600

Project Title:	Dealing with criticisms: A genre-based approach to analysing hotel management's responses to negative online reviews
Principal Investigator:	Dr HO Chung Kwong, ENGL
Funding Awarded:	HKD580,025

Project Title:	Investigating the effects of speech rate and word knowledge on L2 listening comprehension
Principal Investigator:	Dr LIN Ming Sum Phoebe, ENGL
Funding Awarded:	HKD487,500

Project Title:	War as a Necessary Evil — Violence and Warfare in Early Medieval China
Principal Investigator:	Dr TSE Wai Kit Wicky, CC
Funding Awarded:	HKD226,600

Research Grants Council (RGC) – Early Career Scheme (ECS)

Project Title: Mahayana Antinomianism in Sixteenth-Seventeenth Century China: From a Tiantai Perspective
Principal Investigator: Dr CHEN Lang, CC
Funding Awarded: HKD302,000

Project Title: Mental representations of Chinese tones: abstract vs. episodic accounts
Principal Investigator: Dr POLITZER-AHLES Stephen, CBS
Funding Awarded: HKD742,856

Project Title: Gender, Performance and Drama: A study of Female Theater in Beijing, 1911-1937
1911-1937 年間北京地區女劇研究—從性別、表演及文本的角度切入
Principal Investigator: Dr WU Wan-Yi, CC
Funding Awarded: HKD252,218

The Lord Wilson Heritage Trust (Hong Kong)

Project Title: Database construction of the 19th century (1860-1899) Cantonese Christian Writings in Hong Kong
Principal Investigator: Dr LEUNG Wai-mun, CBS
Funding Awarded: HKD253,460

Translations of German Books into Other Languages, Goethe-Institut, Germany

Project Title: Translation of Über das Neue by Boris Groys into Chinese
Principal Investigator: Dr PAN Lu, CC
Funding Awarded: EUR1,000

Research & Scholarly Activities

Research Interests of New Academic Staff Members



Department of English

Prof. Kathleen AHRENS, Professor

Prof. Kathleen Ahrens' research interests are in the areas of cognitive linguistics, psycholinguistics, corpus linguistics, critical metaphor analysis, and language and politics. Her research outputs have been published in a number of international journals (e.g. *Text & Talk*, *Discourse and Society*, *Metaphor & Symbol*), as well as in book chapters (e.g. Routledge, John Benjamins, OUP, CUP) and she has an edited book published by Palgrave-MacMillan titled *Politics, Gender and Conceptual Metaphors*. She is also interested in exploring the stylistic issues in children's and young adult literature. She served as the Director of the International Writers' Workshop at Hong Kong Baptist University (HKBU) from 2012-2017 and has served as the International Regional Advisor Chairperson & Board Member of the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators since 2008. She is Fellow and Vice President of Hong Kong Academy of Humanities.

Prior to joining PolyU in 2017, Prof. Ahrens worked as Professor and Head of Language Centre at HKBU and prior to that she was a Professor in the Graduate Institute of Linguistics and the Department of Foreign Languages and Literature at National Taiwan University.

Prof. Kathleen Ahrens received a BA in Oriental Languages and Literature from University of Massachusetts at Amherst, an MA in Chinese Language and Literature from National Taiwan University, and an additional MA and a PhD in Linguistics from the University of California at San Diego.



Department of Chinese Culture

Dr SCHOENBERGER Kevin Conrad, Jr., Assistant Professor

Dr Schoenberger graduated in 2013 with a PhD in pre-modern Chinese literature from Yale University. Since then, he has worked as a researcher and teacher at Harvard University and the University of the South. His research focuses on musical and prosodic aspects of traditional Chinese poetry and performance from a cognitive perspective. He has published peer-reviewed articles on related topics in English and Chinese and is currently completing a manuscript on musicality in late imperial Chinese drama.

Dr Schoenberger has also participated in a number of collaborative and interdisciplinary efforts. Funded by the American Council of Learned Societies and the Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation, he is currently writing a book on the life and work of a late-Ming artist, Xu Wei in collaboration with other senior scholars of literature, history and art history. He has also presented his work in English and Chinese at international conferences and workshops at the University of California, Los Angeles and Suzhou University.

Methodologically, Dr Schoenberger focuses on using new techniques of cognitive science and digital humanities to offer quantitative evidence for arguments about Chinese poetry and drama's aesthetic effects.

For details of new appointees, please visit http://www.polyu.edu.hk/cpa/new_appointees/.

Research & Scholarly Activities

Prof. Chan Shui-duen Awarded 'Highest Growth Consultant'

Prof. Chan Shui-duen from CBS won the 'Highest Growth Consultant' award at the Outstanding Professional Services Awards 2016 presentation ceremony held on 14 February 2017. Organised by the PolyU Technology and Consultancy Company Limited (PTeC), the awards honour individual staff, project teams and departments for their achievements in consultancy and licensing services. Prof. Chan, as winner of 'The Highest Growth Consultant' award, is the highest rank individual in terms of the i) absolute growth in income earned and ii) percentage of growth compared to the previous financial year.

PTeC is the strategic professional service arm of the University which provides one-stop consultancy and technology transfer services to business sectors, government institutions and non-profit making organisations.

Research & Scholarly Activities

Joint Postgraduate Student Symposium and JWLLP-VariAMU Joint Workshop

Organised by the Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies (CBS), the Joint Postgraduate Student Symposium (JPSS) on Language, Culture and Cognition cum the 22nd Joint Workshop on Linguistics and Language Processing (JWLLP) and the 5th Workshop on Variations in Action: A Multilingual Approach (VariAMU) was successfully held on 7–9 April 2017 on the university campus.

JPSS, an FH event leveraging the mandatory yearly gathering of research postgraduate students, provides an inter-institution forum for research students from different disciplines to present and discuss their work, exchange ideas and share their experiences in research. This year's JPSS kicked off the 2.5-day joint event with a presentation given by Prof. Huang Chu-ren, Chair Professor of CBS. It was then followed by 16 high quality presentations by the postgraduate students from Hong Kong, Macau and France. The presentation of the Best Paper Award (Mark Narty, ENGL; with two finalists from CBS and UMacau) and a moving tribute to our beloved Prof. Evans marked the end of the first part of JPSS.

The 8 April 2017 afternoon sessions are shared by JPSS and the JWLLP-VariAMU Joint Workshop. The joint workshop combines the fifth VariAMU workshop, which is held bilaterally with CNRS-LPL at Aix-Marseille University; and the Joint Workshop on Linguistics and Language Processing, which was previously held alternatively in Japan or Korea. Prof. Jong-Bok Kim from Kyung Hee University, Korea gave his keynote presentation and started the joint workshop officially. A total of 17 international scholars presented at the 1.5-day joint workshop this year.

This event achieved great success in many areas. First, the JPSS was organised by the students for the students under the student leadership of Xingcheng Ma (CBS) and assisted by Esterina Nervino (ENGL) as well as other FH and University of Macau members. The team won a competitive RGC postgraduate research student conference grant. Second, with more than 15 students and staff members from University of Macau, the workshop laid a solid foundation for collaboration for the future. Lastly, with high quality paper presentations and active participation from leaders of all institutions involved, including Prof. Chetwyn Chan AVP(LT), deans and associate deans from Macau, Waseda, and PolyU, as well as the past, present and future directors of the LPL-CNRS Labs, solid consensus and exciting new directions have been set for the future.



(Left) 16 postgraduate students from Hong Kong, Macau and France presented at the JPSS and took a group photo with the invited guests.

(Right) Prof. Jong-Bok Kim from Kyung Hee University, Korea gave his keynote presentation at the JWLLP-VariAMU Joint Workshop which was first held in Hong Kong.

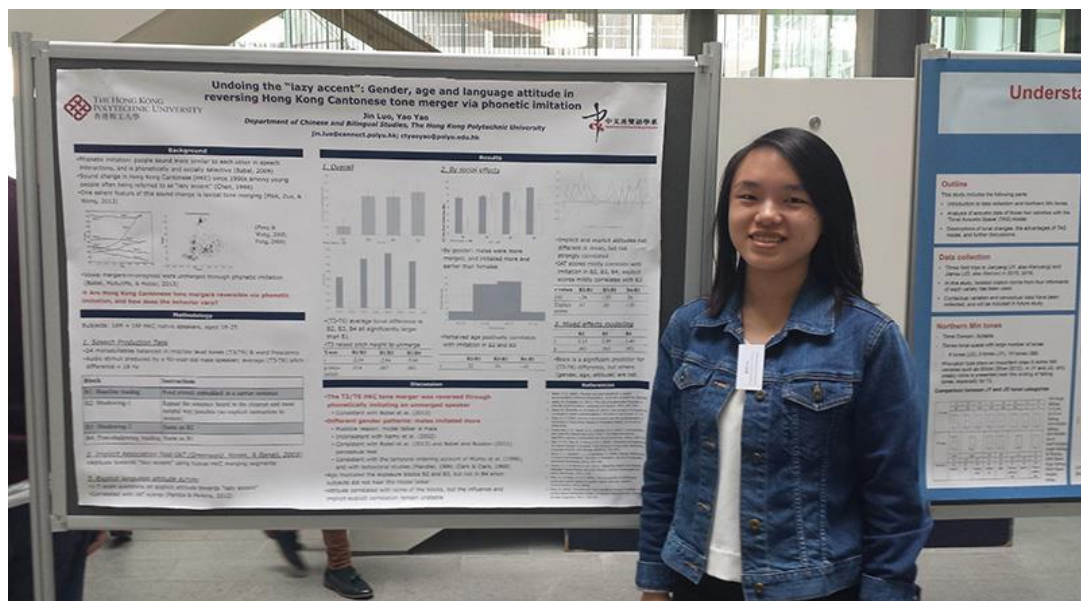
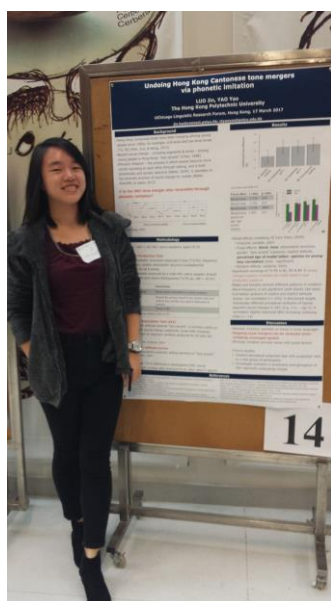
Research & Scholarly Activities

BACBS Student Presents Study on Cantonese Tone Imitation at International Conferences

Final-year student Luo Jin from the BA (Hons) in Chinese and Bilingual Studies programme recently presented findings of her capstone project on Cantonese tone imitation at the 4th International Workshop on Sound Change (WSC4). The highly selective symposium was held at the University of Edinburgh during 19-22 April 2017. Jin previously presented preliminary results of the capstone project at the 21st International Conference on Yue Dialects in Macau last December and at the UChicago Linguistic Research Forum earlier in March.



Luo Jin presents findings of her capstone project at the 21st International Conference on Yue Dialects in Macau.



Luo Jin at the UChicago Linguistic Research Forum (left) and the 4th International Workshop on Sound Change (right).

Events

Jingkun Theatre

Appreciating the Classics of Peking and Kunqu Opera

Date of the event: 15 February 2017

Organised by: Department of Chinese Culture

Students and teachers gathered for an intimate lecture and demonstration of traditional Chinese opera with award-winning actor-directors, Deng Wanxia and Geng Tianyuan on 15 February 2017. Hong Kong native and Plum Blossom Prize winner Deng, along with her students from Hong Kong, demonstrated the emotional expressiveness of the romantic Kunqu style. Accompanied by professional musicians, director and veteran actor Geng discussed the costuming and martial arts techniques of the style of Peking Opera. Throughout the interactive presentation, students asked questions and participated in discussion, gaining new insights into traditional Chinese theatre culture.



Young Hong Kong actors perform famous Kunqu scene "Yearning for Worldly Pleasures" (《思凡》).



Young Hong Kong actor demonstrates the martial arts skills of Jingju.



Faculty members with Deng Wanxia (fourth from left) and Geng Tianyuan (third from right).

Events

Symposium on the Evolution of Human Cognition

Date of the event: 20 March 2017

Organised by: Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies and Confucius Institute of Hong Kong

During the half-day symposium “The Evolution of Human Cognition”, five guest speakers from the Anthropology Research Team of Indiana University, namely Prof. Kevin Hunt, Prof. Kathy Diane Schick, Prof. Thomas Schoenemann, Prof. Peter Martin Todd and Prof. Nicholas Partick Toth, reported on insights gained from their recent work and visit to various prehistoric sites in the Chinese mainland. The event was joined by some 90 attendees.



Guest speakers from Indiana University (Anthropology Research Team).



Participants listen to the speakers' insights.



From right: Prof. Chu Hung-lam, Prof. Li Chor Shing David and the guest speakers.

Events

World Civilization Series

#3 Talk by Dr Rina Marie Camus

Beauty is Not Skin Deep: Bodybuilding in Ancient Greece

Date of the event: 20 January 2017

Organised by: General Education Centre

World Civilization Series #3

**Beauty is Not Skin Deep
Bodybuilding in Ancient Greece**

Jan 20, 2017 (Fri)
4:30 – 6:00pm
Venue AG710
English

Dr. Rina Marie Camus

Dr. Rina Camus received both Western and Chinese liberal arts education. Born and raised in Manila, she studied Chinese Language and Culture in the Chinese University of Hong Kong. She did postgraduate studies in Italy (Philosophy, Università della Santa Croce), and earned her PhD in Taiwan (Philosophy, National Chengchi University). Her research interests include civilization and thought in early China and Greece, Comparative Philosophy, Ethics, and Metaphor Theory. She has written about Aristotelian Metaphysics and the Neo-Confucian School of Principle and has upcoming publications on metaphor use in Aristotle and early Confucian texts.

Registration: www.polyu.edu.hk/gec/gecregistration/ Enquiry: 2766 4866 / 2766 4869



Dr Rina Marie Camus, Visiting Lecturer of the General Education Centre of The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, delivered a talk on bodybuilding in Ancient Greece on 20 January 2017. More than simply introducing different kinds of sports in Ancient Greece, Dr Camus probed deep into the philosophy of Plato and Aristotle. It was noted that the Greeks idealised the beauty of the human body and athletic games in ancient Greece embedded different values in developing character and morality. Besides enhancing physical well-being, sports and exercise also promoted the holistic concept of education through the training of body and mind.



Dr Rina Marie Camus and Dr Paris Lau from the General Education Centre

Events

Local Culture Talk Series

#6 Talk by Luke Ching Chin Wai Art and Social Innovation

Date of the event: 29 March 2017

Organised by: General Education Centre

本土文化系列 #6

一個人與社會的藝術實驗

2017年3月29日 (星期三)
下午3:30 - 5:00
地點: M1603
廣東話

香港中文大學通識教育課程
THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY
程展緯
CHING, CHIN WAI
2017-03-29
15:30-17:00
M1603
02-2939-115

程展緯
程展緯十八歲於聯合道中學二級二班畢業，在場演說時，二十六歲，中學是音樂創作，三十歲於香港中文大學畢業，主修美術教育，四十歲於關心社會的公共空間和設計博物館發展，畢業後在生利社會中心擔任主任和教學，四十歲後專攻個人藝術發展。

網上報名: www.polyu.edu.hk/~gec/registration/ 查詢: 2756 4866 / 2756 4869



Luke Ching received an M.F.A. degree from the Chinese University of Hong Kong in 1998. His talk focused on his works in the past decade which extended the boundary of art by engaging different local communities. His endeavours in the name of art had challenged both the artistic practice and stakeholders. Not merely aiming to arouse public attention to certain social issues, he was also eager to make social changes through various means.



Luke Ching and Dr Yu Kam Por from the General Education Centre

Events

European Film Festival @PolyU

Dates of the event: 25 January – 6 April 2017

Organised by: Department of English

The Minor in European Studies programme of the Department of English held the European Film Festival from 25 January to 6 April 2017, in collaboration with the European Union Office to Hong Kong and Macao and the Hong Kong Consulate Generals of France, Hungary, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland. Eight films from different European countries were chosen for screening. The event welcomed all students and staff as well as the general public. More than 400 participants joined the screening sessions.

The objective of the film festival was to let participants gain exposure to European films, as they are often not extensively shown in cinemas in Hong Kong, and in particular, to highlight social issues that are of concern to Europeans today. Many of these issues were then discussed in class as part of the Minor programme.

With the generous help and support from the Consulate General of Switzerland in Hong Kong, the Festival was able to invite one of the ten directors of the Swiss film, *Wonderland*, to conduct a Skype Q&A session after the screening. Mr Lionel Rupp answered many questions from the audience regarding the meaning and making of the film.



(Left) The Programme Leader of the Minor in European Studies programme, Dr Renia Lopez, introduced the film and thanked its sponsors, the French Consulate and the Francophonie Festival, before the screening of Les Malheurs de Sophie (Sophie's Misfortune).

(Right) One of the 10 directors of Wonderland (Heimatland), Lionel Rupp, responding to the questions about the film from the audience and sharing his experience regarding the production of the film.

The Minor programme has a Facebook Page with regular updates of different related activities and current issues:

<https://www.facebook.com/PolyU.MinorEuropeanStudies/>

Events

Writing Roundtable 2017

Date of the event: 19 May 2017

Organised by: English Language Centre

Writing for Readers was held on 19 May 2017 with the aim to bring together writing practitioners from both academic and creative fields in Hong Kong. The event attracted around 100 registered participants with more than 80 in attendance, the largest-ever crowd for a local event in a niche area. There were five parallel sessions and seven keynote and invited sessions. Although the event was advertised for local participants, we received presenters and participants from Thailand and Macau in addition to Hong Kong. Participants represented all eight tertiary institutes in Hong Kong as well as from many secondary schools and local writers' groups in addition to several colleagues from overseas. The keynote and invited speakers included [Prof. Ken Hyland](#), [Mr Jason Ng](#), [Dr Page Richards](#), [Dr Grant Hamilton](#), [Mr James Shea](#), [Ms Sarah Brennan](#) and [Ms Elizabeth Solomon](#). The [videos](#) for the four keynote speakers and the three invited speakers are now on the [ELC's YouTube channel](#).



Events

Hong Kong Literature and Culture Lecture Series

The Department of Chinese Culture held a lecture series on Hong Kong literature and culture to mark the celebration of the PolyU 80th anniversary. Chaired by Dr Leung Shuk Man and partially supported by her Early Career Scheme of the HKSAR government (PolyU25614016), this lecture series brought together academic specialists in Hong Kong literature, cinema and music, along with representatives from the media and literary world, to share their ideas and inspire PolyU students, alumni and the general public.

Writing Life after the Ivory Tower

Dates of the event: 18 January 2017

Organised by: Department of Chinese Culture

This lecture shares how two award-winning youth writers, Dr Lui Wing Kai and Ms Tam Wing Sze, find their inspiration and continue writing after completing their studies. As a secondary school teacher and a poet, Dr Lui seeks to understand Hong Kong through the writing of poems. Ms Tam is the former executive editor of a literary magazine, *Fleurs des Lettres* (Zihua 字花), and has organised a series of writing campaigns for the young people in Hong Kong.



Hong Kong Literature and Culture: Imaginaries of China in Hong Kong Cantopop Lyrics

Dates of the event: 23 February 2017

Organised by: Department of Chinese Culture

In this lecture, Prof. Stephen Chu Yiu Wai, Professor of School of Modern Languages and Cultures (Hong Kong Studies) at the University of Hong Kong, explores the imagining of China in Hong Kong Cantopop lyrics from the 1980s to the post-handover era in relation to the development of identity of Hong Kong people.



Preserving Folklore as Resistance: Dai Wangshu's Study in Guangdong Proverbs

Date of the event: 20 March 2017

Organised by: Department of Chinese Culture

In this third lecture of the series, Dr Fanny Li Yuen, Assistant Professor of the Department of Literature and Cultural Studies at the Education University of Hong Kong, examines Dai Wangshu's (戴望舒) serial essays on Cantonese proverbs between 1943 and 1945, which demonstrated unique stylistic characteristics and succeeded in preserving a national cultural heritage. The lecture also introduces the importance of Dai Wangshu's career during the Japanese occupation of Hong Kong and his work on the Pictorial Illustrations of Cantonese Proverbs (Guangdong suyu tujie 「廣東俗語圖解」).



Proverbs Hong Kong's 1960s: The Present and the Past at Hong Kong Cinema and Literature

Date of the event: 17 May 2017

Organised by: Department of Chinese Culture

Leaving its traces in different aspects, Hong Kong in the 1960s seems far yet close to us. With reference to Hong Kong cinema and literature, Prof. Wong Shuk-han discusses the societal changes in the 1960s as well as explains the aesthetics and ideology in films and literature in this seminar.



Events

Inscribe Readers' Choice Award

Date of the event: 19 May 2017

Organised by: English Language Centre



Congratulations go to Winson Pan, now a PolyU graduate, whose story was honoured as “Readers’ Choice” by readers of *Inscribe*. PolyU’s e-journal of undergraduate writing held a “Readers’ Choice Award” contest for its latest issue. Four stories from Issue 2 were nominated and the journal’s readers selected their favourite. The contest was open to the general public and promoted to participants of the recent Writing Roundtable event. “The Secret of the Mooncake” by Winson Pan received the popular vote. Winson wrote the fantasy short story in the popular CAR subject [ELC1A04, From The Lord of the Rings to Harry Potter: Fantasy, Reality and Humanity](#). The contest and award helped to increase visibility of the journal, boost readership, and honour the students for their polished and compelling writing. The contest was managed by Dennis Fount, *Inscribe*’s Executive Editor, and the winners were announced by Chrissy Burns, Editor-in-Chief. Winson and the other nominated authors were given bookstore gift certificates in appreciation of their achievements.

Events

15th ABC Asia-Pacific Conference

Dates of the event: 9 – 11 June 2017

Organised by: Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies

The 15th Asia-Pacific Conference of Association for Business Communication was held at PolyU campus in conjunction with the Association for Business Communication (ABC). Hosted by the Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies, the conference has attracted over 106 academics and practitioners coming from different countries and regions around the globe including Japan, Korea, Thailand, Singapore, the USA, the UK, Netherlands, South Africa as well as Hong Kong, Taiwan, Macau and the Chinese Mainland.



The theme of the conference was “**Business Language and Communication in the Age of Digitalisation and Glocalisation**”. The conference programme featured input from scholars from different disciplines including language and communication studies, intercultural communication, public relations and corporate communication. The conference programme included three workshops, seven keynote speeches, panel discussions, and over 80 individual paper presentations.

Events

CIHK Lecture Series

Distinguished Lectures on Chinese Culture and Religion

Dates of the event: 9 and 24 March, 7 April, 18 May and 14 June 2017

Organised by: Confucius Institute of Hong Kong and Department of Chinese Culture

Five distinguished lectures were held during the first half of 2017 with guest speakers as follows:

- 1) a leading scholar on the intellectual history of China, Prof. Benjamin Elman, who is currently Gordon Wu '58 Professor of China Studies, and Professor of East Asian Studies and History at Princeton University;
- 2) an expert on the history of Chinese communist party, Prof. Chen Yong-fa, who is currently Visiting Chair Professor of the Department of Chinese Culture at PolyU and Distinguished Research Fellow at the Institute of Modern History, Academia Sinica;
- 3) a famous Taoist, Abbot Meng Zhiling, who is currently Vice Chairman of Chinese Taoist Association;
- 4) a leading scholar on Chinese intellectual history and philosophy, Prof. Dennis Cheng, who is currently Chair Professor of Cultural History at the Education University of Hong Kong; and
- 5) an internationally renowned scholar on intellectual history of Late Imperial China, Prof. Ng On-cho, who is currently Professor of History, Asian Studies and Philosophy, and Director of Asian Studies Programme at The Pennsylvania State University

Altogether over 300 participants from the PolyU community and public attended these lectures.



(Left) Prof. Benjamin Elman, guest speaker of the “Chinese Science and Culture since the Sixteenth Century” lecture, and Prof. Chu Hung-lam, Director of CIHK.

(Right) Prof. Chen Yong-fa, guest speaker of the “Political Examination in the Mass Line: Retelling the Yan'an Experience” lecture, and Prof. Chu Hung-lam.



(Left) Abbot Meng Zhiling, guest speaker of the “Cultivation and Application of Taoist Culture” lecture, and Prof. Chu Hung-lam.

(Middle) Prof. Chu Hung-lam and Prof. Dennis Cheng, guest speaker of the “On Between Heaven and Man” lecture.

(Right) Prof. Chu Hung-lam and Prof. Ng On-cho, guest speaker of “Moral Agency and Humanistic Values in Traditional Chinese Historical Thinking”.

Specialist Lectures on Chinese History and Culture

Dates of the event: 10, 13, 17 and 24 February, 13 March, 12 April, 4 and 8 May 2017

Organised by: Confucius Institute of Hong Kong and Department of Chinese Culture

CIHK and CC organised eight specialist lectures between January and June 2017 with guest speakers from Hong Kong, Zhejiang, Taiwan, Beijing and Guangzhou. The lectures were the following:

1. "The relations of Bei Shan Tang and Chinese art in Hong Kong" by Dr Cheung Ngai Yee from Bei Shan Tang Foundation;
2. "The ritual, law and norms in rural society of China" by Prof. Du Zheng-zhen from Zhejiang University;
3. "The reasons of the collapse of paper money in Ming Dynasty" by Prof. Chang Pin-tsun from The Research Centre for Humanities and Social Sciences, Academia Sinica;
4. "Some important changes to the legal rights of women in traditional China" by Prof. Lau Lap-yin from the Institute of History and Philology, Academia Sinica;
5. "Seeing the transformation of Modern China from celebrity biographies" by Ms Cheung Sin Yee, Directory of Hok Hoi Association of Hong Kong;
6. "The development of new Four Books and new Confucianism in China" by Prof. Liang Tao from Renmin University of China;
7. "Transitional Era of Understanding Chinese Culture by Westerners: focus on the questioning and writing of Chinese ancient history by the westerners in China during 19th Century" by Prof. Wu Yi-xiong from Sun Yat-sen University;
8. "The Writing Style Reform of Civil Service Examinations and its Feedbacks in Late Qing" by Prof. An Dong-qiang from Sun Yat-sen University

More than 300 audience participated in these specialist lectures.



(1st from left) Prof. Chu Hung-lam and Dr Cheung Ngai Yee from Bei Shan Tang Foundation.



(2nd from left) Prof. Du Zheng-zhen from Zhejiang University.



(3rd from left) Prof. Chu Hung-lam and Prof. Chang Pin-tsun from Academia Sinica.



(4th from left) Prof. Lau Lap-yin from Academia Sinica.



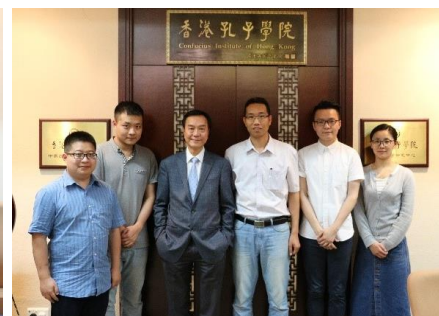
(1st from left) Ms Cheung Sin Yee from Hok Hoi Association of Hong Kong and Prof. Chu Hung-lam.



(2nd from left) Prof. Liang Tao from Renmin University of China and Prof. Chu Hung-lam.



(3rd from left) Prof. Wu Yi-xiong from Sun Yat-sen University and Prof. Chu Hung-lam.



(4th from left) Prof. An Dong-qiang (third from right) together with Prof. Chu Hung-lam and lecture attendees.

Seminars on Chinese History and Culture for Postgraduate Students in Hong Kong, Macau and the Pearl River Delta

Dates of the event: 18 and 25 February 2017

Organised by: Confucius Institute of Hong Kong and Department of Chinese Culture

The spring session of 2017 postgraduate student seminars on Chinese history and culture was held on 18 and 25 February 2017, with two guest speakers from Taiwan and two scholars from PolyU. The speakers from Taiwan were Prof. Chang Pin-tsun from The Research Centre for Humanities and Social Sciences of Academic Sinica, who gave a talk on “The third cycle of Chinese culture”; and Prof. Lau Lap-yin from The Institute of History and Philology of Academic Sinica, who discussed the topic “How to study law and religion?”.

Dr Chen Lang, Assistant Professor of CC, shared about the topics “The emergence of the concept of happiness” and “The modern challenges of traditional culture” while Dr Kevin Schoenberger, Assistant Professor of CC, presented on “Musical elements of traditional Chinese drama: A cognitive approach”. A total of 22 postgraduate students from Hong Kong and Guangzhou participated in the seminars and exchanged their insights with the invited speakers.



A group photo with Prof. Lau Lap-yin (back row, 8th from right), Prof. Chu Hung-lam (back row, 7th from right) and the participating postgraduate students.



A snapshot during discussion among the speakers and participating students.

Faculty Updates

People

In Memory of Professor Stephen Evans

It was with great sadness that we learned of the passing of our dear Prof. Stephen Evans on 16 March 2017. Prof. Evans was the Associate Head and Professor of the Department of English. He was an extremely dedicated, hard-working and conscientious academic. His contribution to the field of applied linguistics led to a highly acclaimed international reputation as a leading expert in post-colonial Englishes, language policy and planning, English for academic purposes, business and professional communication, language education and English language teaching. He will be greatly missed and we honour his memory as an outstanding scholar, wonderful teacher and generous colleague.



External Appointment

The following academic staff members from the Faculty are the new Executives and Fellows of the Hong Kong Academy of the Humanities elected in 2017:

Executives

- Prof. Kathleen AHRENS, Department of English (Vice-President)
- Prof. Winne CHENG, Department of English
- Prof. HUANG Chu-Ren, Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies

New Fellows

- Prof. Hans LADEGAARD, Department of English
- Prof. Bernadette WATSON, Department of English

New Junior Fellows

- Dr William FENG, Department of English
- Dr Sophia LEE, Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies
- Dr Dennis TAY, Department of English
- Dr Yao YAO, Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies

New Appointment

We are pleased to welcome the following academic and teaching/clinical staff members who took up new full-time positions between 1 January 2017 and 30 June 2017.

Department of Chinese Culture

- Dr CHEN Lang, Assistant Professor
- Dr SCHOENBERGER Kevin Conrad, Jr., Assistant Professor

Department of English

- Prof. Kathleen AHRENS, Professor

Retirement

We would like to give our heartiest thanks to the following academic and teaching members who retired between 1 January 2017 and 30 June 2017 for their invaluable contributions to the Faculty. We wish them good health and happy days in their retirement!

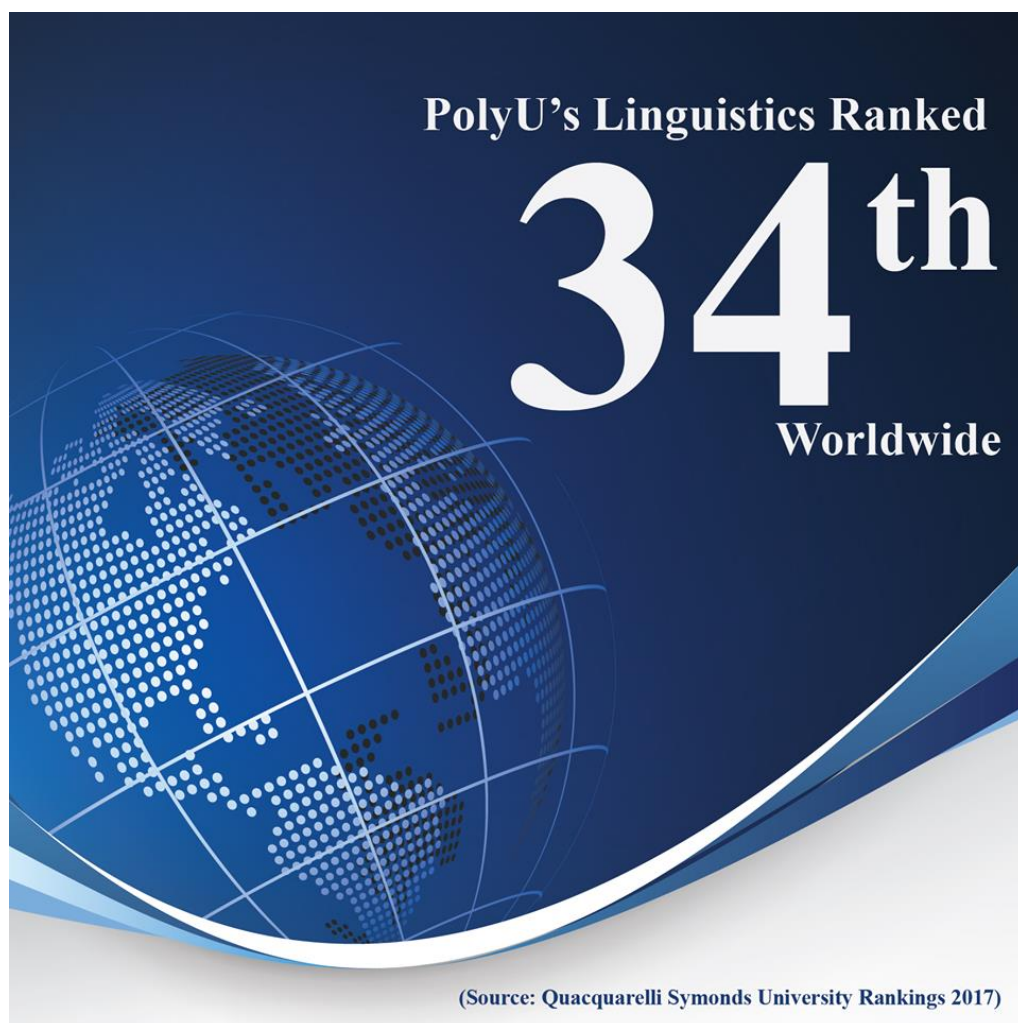
- Dr CHOW Kim Sin, Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies
- Mr Alfred LEE, English Language Centre
- Dr LI Wai, Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies
- Dr Jozsef SZAKOS, Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies
- Dr TAM King-fai, Department of Chinese Culture
- Dr YAP Foong Ha, Department of English

Faculty Updates

PolyU's Linguistics Ranked 34th Worldwide

PolyU's Linguistics is ranked 34th worldwide in the 2017 Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) World University Rankings by Subject, climbing up from the 41st place last year. PolyU's Linguistics, the discipline to which the majority of FH staff members belong, is being consistently ranked among top 50 in the world. PolyU's Arts and Humanities is ranked among the top 20* universities in Asia and 106th in the world.

QS rankings are based on universities' subject performance in terms of academic reputation, employer reputation and research impact.



Faculty Updates

FH Recognises Outstanding Staff Performance

Faculty Award for Outstanding Performance/Achievement 2015/16

Every year, the Faculty Award for Outstanding Performance/Achievement is awarded to staff members who have demonstrated excellent performance in teaching, research and scholarly activities and services. The 2015/16 Faculty Award for Outstanding Performance/Achievement recipients are as follows:

Teaching	Awardee
Individual	Prof. Stephen Evans Department of English
Team	Mr Adam Forrester (Team Leader), Ms Bee DY, Ms Jessica Y. Xia and Mr Keenan Manning English Language Centre
Research & Scholarly Activities	Awardee
Individual	Dr Dennis Tay Department of English
Services	Awardee
Individual	Prof. Chan Shui-duen Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies
Team	Ms Shari Lughmani (Team Leader), Mr Jim Lo, Ms Chan Man, Miss Christine Burns, Ms Lucy Chan and Ms Au Yeung Yuen Yee English Language Centre

Dean's Award for Research Excellence (DARE) 2015/16

Dean's Award for Research Excellence (DARE) is set up by the Faculty to recognise outstanding performance/achievements in research and scholarly activities in the areas of Humanities. The result of the 2015/16 DARE is listed below:

DARE	Awardee
Individual	Dr William FENG Department of English

Faculty Updates

24th FHSA

The 24th Faculty of Humanities Students' Association (FHSA) was formed through election in February 2017. The membership of the association, *Synchronica*, is as follows:

The President: Heung Wing Wong Florence, BDLCC

The External Vice-President: Chow Tin Long Jason, BAESP

The Internal Vice-President: Chu Tsz Tung Lettice, BDLCC

The Financial Secretary: Lau Hoi Kiu Christy, BDLCC

The General Secretary: Lai Wing Sum Debbie, BDLCC

The Promotion Secretary: Lee Sze Wing Joyce, BDLCC

The Public Relation Secretary: Ho Yuen Yee Josie, BDLCC

The Recreation Secretary: Wong Hoi Ting Natalie, BDLCC

The School Affair Secretary: Man Ning Ling Manling, BDLCC

The Welfare Secretary: Pun Ho Yan Kristen, BDLCC



The 24th FHSA website: <https://www.facebook.com/24synchronica>

Student Corner

Outstanding Student Awards 2016 – Sharing by FH Recipients

Recipients of the Outstanding Student Awards 2016 from FH were invited to share with Newsletter readers their joy of receiving the awards and their experience at PolyU. The Outstanding Student Awards Presentation Ceremony was held on 15 March 2017. PolyU President, Prof. Timothy W. Tong, officiated at the ceremony and presented the awards.

Miss Ng Chak Ling from Department of English received the “2016 Outstanding Student Award of Faculty”. Together with Chak Ling, Miss Tan Shin Ling from Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies and Mr Law Wai Fai from Department of Chinese Culture received the “2016 Outstanding Student Award of Department”.



PolyU's Outstanding Student Award is granted on an annual basis to full-time final-year students who excel in both academic and non-academic pursuits during their studies. Each academic department is allowed to nominate one candidate. The “Most Outstanding PolyU Student” is then selected among the eight awardees from six faculties and two independent schools.

NG Chak Ling (Department of English)

During my four-year study at PolyU, I had treasured every learning opportunity and strived for excellence. It is my honour to receive the Outstanding Student Award this year and I feel my efforts have been fully recognised.

My life at PolyU has been fulfilling and inspiring. Through the Department's quality courses and overseas exchange programmes, I have acquired in-depth knowledge of English linguistics which I am very interested in. I have also participated in voluntary teaching services in Hong Kong and the Chinese Mainland. These experiences motivated me to reflect on my social responsibility and pursue a career in speech therapy to serve people with communication needs.

I would like to thank my family and friends for their unconditional love and care. I am also grateful to PolyU and my department for their great support to my academic and personal development.



TAN Shin Ling (Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies)

I am humbled and grateful for receiving this Outstanding Student Award of CBS Department. Four years of studies passed in the blink of an eye, but the incredible learning experience would etch in my mind and serve as a guideline as I start navigating my own career and life decisions.

Unbeknownst to some teachers and friends, I was a transfer-in student to BDLCC after completing my first semester of studies in the Faculty of Business. At the beginning it was just a light-bulb moment to change major, but now looking back I am really happy that I proactively made the change and pursued my interest. This is because CBS has provided us a great platform to become an effective bilingual speaker who can shine in our areas of expertise. For that I want to thank every teaching and admin staff in the department who has constantly rendered us tremendous support.



LAW Wai Fai, Joe (Department of Chinese Culture)

I am very honoured to be nominated as the Outstanding Student of the Department of Chinese Culture. I believe that this honour belongs to all my companions and I would like to take this chance to thank them and share this award with them. All the academic staff in this University are helpful and kind and they support as well as guide me every time, especially Dr Leung Shuk Man, who always gives me encouragement and confidence when I encounter difficulties.

Studying at the PolyU has been one of the greatest times of my life. In my second year, I took part in a meaningful Service-Learning (SL) subject "Appreciating and Applying Chinese Literary Masterpieces in Modern Daily Life". Thanks to this SL subject – besides having learnt valuable skills such as teaching and obtained lots of unexpected learning experience, I have also built a solid foundation of Chinese literature. My teacher Dr Leung and SL adviser Miss Mak showed us what the essential elements of learning and teaching Chinese literature are; for example, how to put Three Character Classic (《三字經》) and Standard for Students (《弟子規》) into practice in daily life. These real-case applications were challenging but fortunately, I attempted to explore the problems and succeeded in overcoming them.



Student Corner

Writing English Language Programme for Yokohama National University Students

Programme Coordinator: Anna Ho (Associate Director) & Vivian Li (Teaching Fellow)

The Winter English Language Programme was run by the English Language Centre (ELC) from February to March 2017 to a group of students from Yokohama National University in Japan. The two-week programme focuses on four different skills – socialising in English, attending meetings, developing promotional materials and giving persuasive presentations.

One of the key components of the programme is the buddy system which helps to personalise their studies in Hong Kong. Each student from Yokohama University is paired with a local student to provide a friendly face, help them find their way around Hong Kong, settling in, answering all the questions s/he might have.

Eri and Akimu said the best part with having a buddy was that it provides extra opportunities to practice English and take part in several enjoyable events that they otherwise would not have known about. Their PolyU buddies took them to shop in Mongkok, try out local restaurants, and visit several of the outlying islands.

Similarly, Stan and Diana said they really enjoyed the intercultural exchange and they have built a strong friendship with their buddies. They learned the importance of key words, body language and eye contact in communicating with their Japanese counterparts.

All of them concluded that the buddy system really provided them an opportunity to learn about language and culture from each other, and they will continue to stay in contact. Several PolyU buddies have even made arrangements to visit Yokohama in the summer.





Student Corner

FH Students Perform with the Hong Kong String Orchestra and World-Renowned Violinist Yao Jue

FH students Florence Law Hoi-Wing (MACC) and Sonia Park So Young (BACBS) performed with the Hong Kong String Orchestra and virtuoso violinist, Ms Yao Jue, in the “21st Century Music Education for Young People – Music Dreams Come True Concert” held at PolyU’s Jockey Club Auditorium on 3 March 2017.

When being asked about this exceptional experience, Florence remarks:

I had never thought of having a chance to participate in the “Music Dreams Come True Concert” as I do not have any official qualifications in viola, while many other performers have obtained grade 8 or above. It was very surprising that I got accepted after the audition. I feel very grateful to have this opportunity to enhance my skills under the guidance and supervision of the professional tutorials and rehearsals. It was an amazing journey to perform with all the talented and skilful players. I look forward to joining the show in the coming year.



(Left) String Players of The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

(Right) Ms Yao Jue (1st from left) together with FH students Florence (2nd from left) and Sonia (2nd from right)

ELC Drama Club Annual Performance – The Great Gatsby

The English Drama Club is an extra-curricular society established and funded by the English Language Centre (ELC). We maintain that drama is one of the most powerful and effective ways to learn English. As such, we work very hard to present to the University a high-quality production each year.

This year we decided to break from the tradition of doing comedies and try to stage a romantic tragedy. Originally a 1925 novel by F. Scott Fitzgerald, *The Great Gatsby* was adapted into a stage play by the English Drama Club. The story centres upon a mysterious millionaire, Jay Gatsby, and his obsessive passion for the young socialite, Daisy Buchanan. The play explores the themes of misplaced idealism, social upheaval and the loss of innocence played out against the backdrop of 1920s Jazz Age New York. It paints a cautionary picture of the American Dream.

The show ran for three nights from 1 to 3 March 2017 in Chang Chen Studio Theatre and attracted very good audience numbers – in fact, the final evening was a full house. The show was well-received and some of the audience were noticeably moved by Jay and Daisy's doomed love affair.

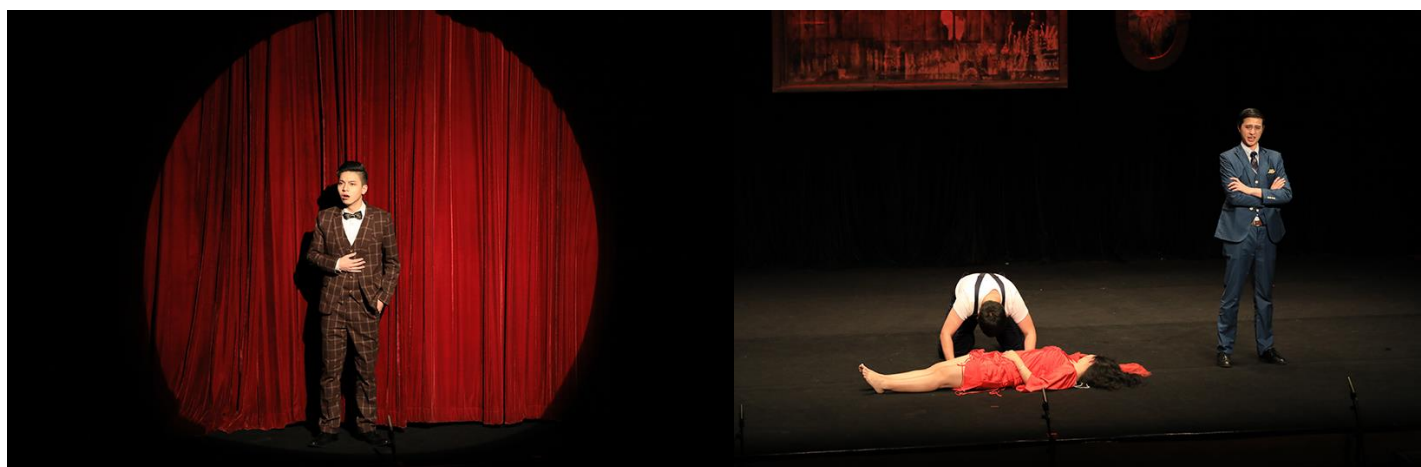
Putting on the show allowed PolyU students to gain many skills that will benefit their future, including project and budget management, recruitment and human resources, time management, presentations and communication. On top of these, they learned teamwork and what it means to work on a large-scale project within the PolyU family.

The 15th Committee has now passed its responsibility on to the 16th for the 2018 Performance. The long process has already begun, with cast and crew being selected for the various roles needed. We are all very grateful for the support that the University continues to give the English Drama Club as it provides an unforgettable experience to all of the students involved each year.

Thank you.

Zhu Tianhui
President of the EDC
On behalf of the 15th Student Committee





Student Corner

Scholarships Received by FH Students

Bauhinia Cup Outstanding Entrepreneurs Association Scholarship

ZHOU Xuan, Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in Chinese and Bilingual Studies (BACBS) with a Minor in Japanese

Commercial Radio 50th Anniversary Scholarship

HO Yee Lam, Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in Language and Speech Sciences (BALSS)

MAK Wing Ting, Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in Chinese and Bilingual Studies (BACBS) with a Minor in European Studies

YANG Zihang, Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in Chinese and Bilingual Studies (BACBS) with a Minor in Marketing

Fung Scholarship

CHOI Tsz Ying, Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in English Studies for the Professions (BAESP) with a Minor in Finance

YUNG Po Kiu, Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in Chinese and Bilingual Studies (BACBS) with a Minor in Marketing

Kai Chong Tong Scholarship

OMILA Hanna Sunshine Vasquez, Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in English Studies for the Professions (BAESP) with a Minor in European Studies

The Hong Kong Jockey Club Scholarship

CHAN Chi In, Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in English Studies for the Professions (BAESP) with a Minor in Translation and Bilingual Communication

The Japan Society of Hong Kong Scholarship - Japanese Studies

LEUNG Cheuk Kwan, Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in Chinese and Bilingual Studies (BACBS) with a Minor in Japanese

HKSAR Government Scholarship

LAM Hoi Ching, Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in Chinese and Bilingual Studies (BACBS)

NG Chun Lam, Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in English Studies for the Professions (BAESP)

WONG Huen Yi, Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in Chinese and Bilingual Studies (BACBS)

HKSAR Government Scholarship Fund - Talent Development Scholarship

CHOW Oi Shan, Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in English Studies for the Professions (BAESP) with a Minor in European Studies

HUA Xia, Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in Chinese and Bilingual Studies (BACBS)

WONG Tin Yan, Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in Bilingual Interdisciplinary Chinese Studies (BABICS)

WONG Yi Ching, Broad Discipline of Language, Culture and Communication (BDLCC)

Scholarship for Prospective English Teachers

CHEUNG Wing Hei Benton, Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in English Studies for the Professions (BAESP) with a Minor in European Studies

Self-financing Post-secondary Scholarship Scheme - Outstanding Performance Scholarship

CHEN Jie, Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in Bilingual Studies (BABS)

LEE Ka Keung, Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in Bilingual Studies (BABS)

Self-financing Post-secondary Scholarship Scheme - Talent Development Scholarship

HO Tsz Tung, Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in Bilingual Studies (BABS)

HKCC Scholarship for PolyU Articulation

CHAN Pui Yee Mariah, Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in English Studies for the Professions (BAESP)

CHENG I Tan, Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in Chinese and Bilingual Studies (BACBS)

CHENG Ka Long, Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in English Studies for the Professions (BAESP)

CHIU Wan Yi, Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in English for Business and Professional Communication (BAEBPC)

CHOI Hiu Chi, Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in Chinese and Bilingual Studies (BACBS)

HO Hiu Yan, Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in Chinese and Bilingual Studies (BACBS)

KWOK Kun Hing, Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in English for Business and Professional Communication (BAEBPC)

LEUNG Ka Wing, Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in Chinese and Bilingual Studies (BACBS)

LI Aizhu, Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in Chinese and Bilingual Studies (BACBS)

LO Cheuk Yin, Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in English Studies for the Professions (BAESP)

Humanities Doctoral Scholarship

GUO Anqi, Doctor of Applied Language Sciences (DALs)

Andrew John MORRALL, Doctor of Applied Language Sciences (DALs)

YUNG Hing Wah, Doctor of Applied Language Sciences (DALs)

Faculty of Humanities Scholarship for Hall Residents

KIM Minju, Broad Discipline of Language, Culture and Communication (BDLCC)

Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies Scholarship for Hall Residents

CHAN Hiu Laam, Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in Chinese and Bilingual Studies (BACBS) with a Minor in European Studies

CHEN Pei, Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in Chinese and Bilingual Studies (BACBS) with a Minor in English

Department of Chinese Culture Scholarship for Hall Residents

PANG Wing Tung Candice, Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in Bilingual Interdisciplinary Chinese Studies (BABICS)

Department of English Scholarship for Hall Residents

GUO Cheng, Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in English Studies for the Professions (BAESP) with a Minor in Translation and Bilingual Communication

LU Yuanqing, Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in English Studies for the Professions (BAESP) with a Minor in Fashion and Textiles

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