

Sharing by awardee of Innovation and Technology Scholarship 2018

Our current Year 4 radiography student, Miss Cherry Lau Wing-sum, was awarded the Innovation and Technology Scholarship on 23 April 2018 at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre. Cherry was the sole PolyU recipient of this award in 2018.

The Innovation and Technology Scholarship Award Scheme for science, engineering and health-related undergraduates is organized by the Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups, and jointly supported and sponsored by Hong Kong's Innovation and Technology Commission and the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corp. Ltd.

Upon receiving the scholarship, Cherry has participated in a series of overseas attachment programmes at Imperial College Business School, King's College of London and National Yang-Ming University. She has been given the opportunity to widen her international perspectives as well as to explore her horizon in clinical research ideas with her mentor Prof. Timothy Kwok, a local distinguished scholar in Geriatric Medicine.

As an awardee of the scheme, Cherry has been invited to join the outreaching service project to contribute to the society with her knowledge in radiography.



Group General Manager and Chief Operating Officer, Asia Pacific, The HSBC, Mr Raymond CHENG (left) and LAU, Wing Sum



Head of Department of Health Technology and Informatics, Prof. Shea-ping YIP (left), LAU, Wing Sum (middle) and Associate Dean of Students, Dr Eric TAM (right)

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Sharing by Cherry LAU

Receiving the Innovation and Technology Scholarship and taking a gap year for overseas attachment were my life-changing milestones. With the generous support of the Scheme, I participated in a variety of overseas attachments, mentorship programme, local internship and service projects, which gave me a new vantage point of medical imaging technologies.

I am truly grateful to have the attachment opportunity at National Yang-Ming University in Taiwan for conducting research in nuclear medicine and molecular imaging. The research groups had strong background in translational research, while the imaging technology played a pivotal role to bridge the application of science from bench to bedside. I shadowed the PhD and Master students in several research studies and gained hands-on practice of in vitro and in vivo experiments. The attachment at NYMU equipped me with a strong foundation in translational research, while understanding the substantial amount of efforts put in from preclinical to clinical stages.



LAU, Wing Sum (left) and researchers at the National Yang-Ming University, Taiwan



Group photo with the research group from the National Yang-Ming University, Taiwan and LAU, Wing Sum (second from the right)

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It is my honour to have Prof. Timothy Kwok as my mentor. He is a distinguished physician-scientist specialized in geriatric medicine. We had discussions about how cutting-edge imaging can reveal the pathophysiology towards neurodegeneration. Being a radiography student with strong passion in clinical research, I am inspired by Prof. Kwok's enthusiasm in scientific advancement and his dedication in improving the elderly health in Hong Kong.

As a radiographer-to-be, it is common to hear some patients' concerns on radiation and medical imaging. With the support by the outreaching service project of the Scheme, I organized a parent-child workshop named "The Radiation Superman" at the Science Carnival. The workshop aimed at introducing the concept of radiation and different imaging technologies, so as to rectify the public misunderstanding towards radiography. Parents and children simulated how to take 'x-ray images' with the Augmented Reality (AR) technology, which surprised them by visualizing the underlying anatomical structures of different objects. They were able to answer the review questions at the end of the workshop, such as the principle of 'ALARA'—as low as reasonably achievable for the ionizing radiation dose used in medical imaging.

All in all, it was a rewarding year enriched with international exposure as an InnoTech scholar. I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to Dr. Liang-Ting LIN, Mr. Bobby SHIU, Dr. Helen LAW, Dr. Chao-Cheng CHEN and the clinical educators for their unhesitant support in providing insightful advices and assisting me in coordination of the attachments. The Scheme provided a platform for me to develop holistically and learn from likeminded scholars, which together strengthened my passion and commitment in advancing medical imaging innovations as a lifelong career.



Participant joined "The Radiation Superman" at the Science Carnival and LAU, Wing Sum (right)

For more details, you may visit

[Centre STARS webpage](#)

[Innovation and Technology Scholarship webpage](#)