



It is my greatest honour to be selected as the Outstanding Student from the School of Design. When I was studying in secondary school, I was just an ordinary student and I never thought I could ever receive this kind of prestigious award. I am studying articulation degree programme, and my studies only lasted for two years. The time was short, but I had a great time in PolyU. I would like to express my gratitude to PolyU and School of Design for offering me an amazing university life, with lots of precious opportunities and incredible experiences.

One of the most valuable experiences at PolyU was joining the PolyHack 2016 Competition. In this competition, we met students from different fields of expertise such as computer science or design, and we worked together to produce a working prototype that solved a real-world problem within 24 hours. I had formed group with friends from School of Design as well as Department of Electronic and Information Engineering, and this competition helped me to develop my networking skills and gain experience with working with experienced programmers. Though we faced several setbacks, in the end, we were so honored and humbled to receive the prizes-- the Gold Award, Best Theme Product Award (Education for All), as well as the Best Audience Award. I was proud of our team for producing a prototype which hopefully may help children with Attention Deficit Disorder. I was particularly amazed at how each team member worked very hard to make everything possible in such a short time.

I also got an opportunity to participate in a study trip to Chukyo University, organized by BA (Hons) Interactive Media, the programme I am studying in. During this short trip, we had activities where we could appreciate nature, learn about different aspects of Japanese culture, and meet other students. We experienced making Japanese Washi with natural materials, traditional craft making, rice planting, etc. These experiences impressed me a lot and helped me to value other cultures and also encouraged me to learn a different language.



Being a design student has changed me in many ways-- the way that I think, my attitude, and my aspirations. During these years, I have participated in different projects, most of which mainly targeted minority groups that may have been neglected by society. These groups included children with special educational needs and the elderly. My capstone project of higher diploma was a craft tool package for children with special educational needs; the work that my groupmates and I did during the PolyHack 2016 was an app for children with Attention Deficit Disorder. Recently, I have been working on my degree capstone project to serve the elderly population. In this era of technology, smartphones and tablets play an important role in our daily lives. For example, primary schools may use tablets as their e-textbook or office workers may use their smartphones to mark their schedules. Technology has already been greatly integrated into our daily lives and benefits us a lot. However, technology remains inaccessible to disadvantaged groups and so I would like to work toward making it possible for all people to benefit from technology.

Lastly, I would like to express my gratitude to people that gave me a remarkable and fruitful university life. I would like to thank all my teammates that I have worked with. Thank you for being my companions and for tolerating, helping and teaching me different skills and knowledge. Thank you to all the professors and tutors who always gave us advice and the extra push we needed to progress and succeed. Most importantly, thank you to my family for supporting me in all that I do.

