



## Outstanding Student, Faculty of Applied Science and Textiles 2016

**Mr. ZHONG Ren**  
*BSc (Hons) in Engineering Physics*

My name is Zhong Ren, a final year student majoring in Engineering Physics. It is my great honor to be selected as the Outstanding Student of the Faculty of Applied Science and Textiles. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to PolyU, my faculty, the Department of Applied Physics, as well as my professors, family and friends for their support and accompaniment throughout my four years of university.

There are so many memorable moments throughout my university life. Regardless of tears or cheers, these memories have been engraved in my mind and have shaped me into the person I am today. I admire all of these experiences and hope to share them with you.

### **Physics, the key of all mystery**

From atoms to the universe, everything is guided by physics laws. They reveal the realities of the world, which attract me to learn and to seek. Thus, I am very fortunate to be able to study in the Department of Applied Physics at PolyU. The whole program has built for me a solid foundation of physics knowledge as well as research skills. However, I am not satisfied with learning discovered facts. The eagerness to make my own contribution to physics drives me to actively be involved in scientific research. During my sophomore year, Dr. Yang Chai, my supervisor, offered me a great opportunity to work in his laboratory. After collaborating with a PhD student, I successfully achieved the controlled growth of a novel nanomaterial and our results have been published in a renowned journal. The feeling of being able to contribute to the field of science filled me with satisfaction and pride. To continue my research, I decided to attend a graduate school in the United States after my graduation from PolyU.

### **Study abroad, embrace the diversified world**

With great honor and pleasure, I was selected to join an exchange program to North Carolina State University during my junior year. Living in a foreign community was a brand new experience for me. There were plenty of obstacles for newcomers like myself, such as food and language, however, my adaptability helped me to overcome these obstacles. While communicating with exchange students from different parts of the world,



I recognized that our shared experience brought us closer together as we learned and grew with one another. Our friendships were strengthened during this process. The whole autumn break we spent in Texas was such a precious memory. The long trip on I-35, the sunrise at Lake Travis, and our cow-boy cosplay at Dallas will recall in my mind forever.

### **English Drama Club, be brave and never give up**

Before coming to PolyU, I lacked self-confidence. However, things changed when I became the backstage leader of the English Drama Club. During the complex and hectic preparations of our performance, my friends and I encouraged and supported each other every time we faced obstacles. Finally, we overcame these things together and our performance was a success. When I stood on the stage, with huge applauds and spotlights surrounding us, I realized that I could actually contribute and impact others. I recall this moment s in my mind everytime I face challenges. The energy and confidence I gained from this experience has changed my timid character and inspired me to pursue my dreams in the future with courage.



### **Volunteer work, donate efforts to people in need**

Apart from the hopeful appearance of our society, there are thousands of people suffering from poverty, discrimination or other misfortunes. I believe it is our duty to help those in need. During my first year of university, I joined the Heartfire Voluntary Trip to Guizhou, Zhenfeng as a physics teacher. During that summer, I participated in the service learning team that focused to preserve the cultural heritage for Oroqen, a nomadic minority living in Inner Mongolia, to record the their endangered language. I was also a volunteer of the 9<sup>th</sup> provincial game of disabled person in Shandong Province at October, 2014. I believe humans are not born to be equal, however, our efforts such as voluntary works will enable those people in need to acquire opportunities to achieve their personal goals.

I hope my experiences can inspire others to discover goals of their university life. Thank you for reading.

