



Dr Mary Tabarsi Tsang

Division of Language Studies

March 2008

Dr Mary Tabarsi Tsang has three loves in her life. She loves her husband, the city of Hong Kong, and her students. “I have only been in Hong Kong for 14 years,” she says with a smile, “and every day brings something new and interesting.” It seems that Dr Tsang has always thrived on challenge. Prior to coming to Hong Kong she was a Public Health Administrator for 22 years working in several countries for governmental and not-for-profit health agencies. This included extensive experience in public relations, human resources, facility management among other fields.

When new to Hong Kong she taught nursing and health management courses but felt the need to explore other avenues of interest and began teaching English and Communication courses as well. After obtaining an RSA/Cambridge Certificate in English Language Teaching to Adults she went on to get her Doctorate in Education from the University of Bristol. “As an American who studied at the University of California, I thought it would be interesting to get a degree from an English university and I really enjoyed studying in the Bristol programme.” Currently, Dr Tsang is working on a second Masters from the University of London in Teaching English as a Second Language.

This brings us to her third love, her students. “Hong Kong students are a delight and I have taught 4-year-olds up to 54-year-olds.” After teaching for several universities in a number of different programmes, she decided that she wanted to make her part-time teaching in Language Studies a full-time commitment. “This is where the action is,” Dr Tsang says. “I like helping AD students continue along their chosen paths toward Bachelor degrees and their own challenging careers. When students return after graduation to thank me for my help, all I can do is thank *them*. Students have given me so much.”

When asked if there are any new activities coming up to keep her challenged, Dr Tsang pauses for a moment and says, “My three loves will keep me very busy in the years ahead and I am content. I plan to keep on strengthening my marriage, exploring the city and finding new ways to help my students excel.”