City Upbeats

CityU Humanity Talk Series, Dr. Ann Hui and Professor Leo Lee’s Sharing on “The Golden Era”

Lecture Theatre M401 was packed to the rim for The Humanity Talk Series organized by the Office of Vice-President (Student Affairs) to celebrate CityU 30th anniversary. To commence the first talk held on 19 September 2014, Dr. Ann Hui On-wah, filmmaker, and Professor Leo Lee Ou-fan, Professor Emeritus at Harvard University, discussed the major themes and cultural background related to the early years of the Republic of China in Dr Hui’s new movie The Golden Era which has been selected to represent Hong Kong in the best foreign-language film category at the Academy Awards and was the closing film of the Venice Film Festival.

Professor Horace Ip Ho-shing, Vice-President (Student Affairs), shared his thoughts about the series, “we invited renowned artists and academic professors to explore from various angles cultural issues in the hope that they would inspire our students to think critically from multiple perspectives.” The response to the talk was overwhelming with more than 500 participants who treasured the opportunity to comment on the topic and to ask the speakers questions.

For the anniversary of the construction of the City University, a series of talks and workshops were held to celebrate the 30th anniversary. The first talk was held on September 19, with Dr. Ann Hui On-wah and Professor Leo Lee Ou-fan from Harvard University discussing the early years of the Republic of China in the movie The Golden Era, which was selected to represent Hong Kong in the best foreign-language film category at the Academy Awards and was the closing film of the Venice Film Festival.

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Professor Horace Ip, Vice-President (Student Affairs) encourages students to think from different perspectives for each issue.

The talk was held in Lecture Theatre M401, packed to the rim for The Humanity Talk Series organized by the Office of Vice-President (Student Affairs) to celebrate CityU 30th anniversary. Dr. Ann Hui On-wah, filmmaker, and Professor Leo Lee Ou-fan, Professor Emeritus at Harvard University, discussed the major themes and cultural background related to the early years of the Republic of China in Dr Hui’s new movie The Golden Era, which has been selected to represent Hong Kong in the best foreign-language film category at the Academy Awards and was the closing film of the Venice Film Festival.
This year, our new students were able to access the important dates and information on 2014 Student Orientation Programmes by simply downloading a Student Orientation App developed by CityU students.

The special app was the result of a collaboration between Student Development Services (SDS) and CityU Apps Lab (CAL), and was designed and put together by 4 students: Tom Lau Ka-kin (Computer Engineering), Leon Lo Ka-chun (Computer Engineering), Kevin Hon Hui-fung (Computer Engineering) and Ken Kwong Pin-ken (Information Engineering), under the supervision of Dr. Ray Cheung, Director of CAL. Working on an orientation app was an excellent chance for students to practice what they have learnt and to contribute their innovative ideas. Some examples of the innovative ideas found in this app are the CityU Card which facilitates new students to enlarge their university social groups. Also included in the app is the Push Notification Function that allows easy dissemination of important messages to students.

Students involved in this project were glad to have given such a practical learning opportunity and to serve their fellow new students through their technical skills. Working together as a team, they realized how important it was to be able to discuss the difficulties encountered in their work and the joy of overcoming them together. One of the challenges they faced in their programming work was how to look after server data. It required them to figure out ways to handle data maintenance on the server and to do debugging. Overcoming these challenges meant that their learning journey was enriched as a result.

Dr. Cheung and Mr. Kenny Mew Kin-ni, Manager of CAL, in expressing their gratitude to SDS for providing students a unique opportunity to serve CityU. "We are happy to see our students coming up with a meaningful and useful problem in app development and solve it by themselves with the latest computer technology," they said.

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Sharing from
Timothy Lee Ho-yin, 2013-2014 SU President
李浩賢分享學生會會長的經驗

Timothy Lee Ho-yin (Chinese, Year 3), was the President of Students’ Union (SU) in 2013-2014. Having attended hundreds of meetings and having been given a good number of media interviews in his one year as SU President, he found this leadership experience rewarding and fruitful. In this important position as a student leader, he said he was not only motivated to develop his potential to better serve students but also realized the need of being well-equipped in order to do his job well.

After serving as the SU President for a year, Timothy found improvements in different aspects of himself. He said, “I was shy and was afraid of speaking in public before. However, as a student representative, I have learnt to overcome my anxiety in public speaking and I can speak up well in meetings with the university administrators and external organizations.” Through organizing and participating in various activities and programmes, he also acquired the special power of communication. “SU is a channel to deliver students’ opinion and voices to the university management. At the same time, we have to consider the needs of all stakeholders. Hence, it was vital for us to be able to communicate with different parties with tact,” Timothy said.

Being the SU President was a remarkable and significant experience for Timothy. Most of all, it enabled him to develop the precious skills of leadership, presentation, communication, and coordination.

修讀中文的三年級學生李浩賢，擔任2013-2014年度學生會會長，使他學會挑戰自我，並積極裝備自己。

擔任學生會會長，李浩賢克服個人害羞的性格，代表城大學生出席不同場合的活動、面對群眾表達意見，以至與校方或其他組織開會，他亦能一一勝任。他亦領會溝通的重要性並表示：「學生會需要有效地將學生的聲音傳達至大學管理層，同時亦要平衡各方持分者的利益，最終務求得出一個既全面又合理的結果，因此溝通是十分重要的。」

縱使學生會會長的工作繁多且艱巨，李浩賢卻覺得自己獲益良多。李浩賢說：「這些工作令我成長不少。學會待人接物，熟練行政工作，更可以擴闊自己的社交圈子，是極具價值的經驗。」

1. Timothy Lee led new students in a commitment pledge at the Welcoming Ceremony.
2. Timothy Lee and members of Students’ Union communicated regularly with the university management like Professor Way Kuo (first row, third from the right), University President, to air students’ opinion.
3. Serving as the President of Students’ Union, Timothy Lee participated in various university events and had media interviews.
Hu Fengge (Finance, Year 2) participated in a global internship programme and worked for a Non-Governmental Organization, The Mwelu Foundation in Kenya this summer. The organization is committed raising global awareness of the lives in slums through photos and films, as well as the training of young photographers and filmmakers.

While going around every corner of the slums, taking photos and recording videos of the slums’ situation as well as posting his work on the internet so as to raise the global awareness of the slums, he found that in reality, the living standard in the slums was poor, and everyone there was extremely needy and it was a totally deprived place. Instead of backing away, he initiated a project to help the people there.

“With the support from the school that I helped in Kenya and my teammates, I initiated Orphans Sustaining Project which aims at improving the living standards of the orphans in the school. We decided to build a shop on wholesale business for the school so that they can get extra income to buy better quality food for the orphans,” Hu Fengge said. A fund raising campaign was launched and about HK$30,000 was raised to meet the initial cost for the project. He was delighted that the shop was completed before he left Kenya and the students there were also excited.

Hu Fengge found that the internship programme with The Mwelu Foundation was a meaningful experience, not only because he acquired professional photography and video editing skills, he was also able to initiate his own project. He was involved in the whole process, from the project’s initiation to negotiations and its execution. The project helped him to develop his skills of leadership, communication and the ability to coordinate with people with different cultural backgrounds. More importantly for Hu Fengge, because of what he did, the living standard of the orphans in Kenya was improved.

二年級學生胡峰歌主修金融，於剛過去的夏季假期到了肯亞的其中一個非政府機構進行實習工作，是次實習工作機會對胡峰歌具莫大裨益，他不但學習各種工作技巧，亦首次展開個人項目，幫助有需要人士。

實習工作的緣故，胡峰歌走訪肯亞貧民窟的各個地點，親眼看見衛生環境惡劣的貧民窟，一餐溫飽亦是奢想天開的情況，深深觸動了他，使他積極策劃計劃改善當地一所學校的孤兒的生活情況。整個項目的策劃、統籌以至實踐，胡峰歌也參與其中，當中除了培訓他領導才能、溝通技巧及與不同文化的人相處之外，能夠親身幫助當地孤兒對他意義重大。

1. Teachers and students are all excited about the project initiated by Hu Fengge (middle).
   對於胡峰歌（中）策劃項目改善學校孤兒的生活情況，老師與學生亦無比興奮。

2. Children & teenagers in Kenya are eager to learn from Hu Fengge even they are given lessons in an environment with insufficient lighting.
   胡峰歌為滿足肯亞兒童及青少年對學習的渴求，儘管在照明照明系統欠缺的情況下，亦把這次實習的時間教導他們。

3. Working in slums in Kenya moves Hu Fengge to initiate a project to improve the living standard of the orphans there.
   肯亞貧民窟惡劣的生活情況，觸動胡峰歌自發策劃項目，改善當地孤兒生活水平。
Iris Feng Xiaoqian, (Surveying, graduated in 2013), is now an Assistant Quantity Surveyor of the Graduate Training Programme at Gammon Construction Limited. She was granted two patents of water treatments and her achievements have been recognized by The Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors and Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors as an Associate Member. In a workshop organized by SDS's Counselling Service to help students from the Mainland to adjust to the learning environment in Hong Kong, she shared her university experience and skills with the new comers.

"Of the four different kinds of relationships in life, that is, one’s relationship with oneself, with others, between humans and nature, between humans and the metaphysical world, developing a relationship with yourself and others are the first two that you must learn from a university," Iris shared. She believed knowing more about our own personality, attitude, and thinking habit would allow us to fix our weaknesses and better equip ourselves. Besides, doing so would make it easier for us to understand others and show sympathy to them.

"To develop a comprehensive and objective thinking habit, you may consider adopting the 3C principle which refers to Conceptual, Contextual & Critical Thinking. In conceptual thinking we form a concept of something, we could then relate the concept to different contexts which is now contextual thinking. But in the end, we also want to examine an issue critically or what I call critical thinking. This may help us to find out the truth of the matter," Iris added. She also encouraged students to read more books that are written for one’s Hand, one’s Head and one’s Heart (3H). ‘Hand books’ are those books that provide one with the knowledge needed to maintain one’s livelihood. ‘Head books’ help students see the world from macro-perspectives. ‘Heart books’ are edifying books that purify one’s soul and are for heart.

Through these workshops, new students learn important skills from their mentors, enabling them to become more confident in finding the key to their own path of success.

城大土木及建築工程測量學系畢業生馮曉倩，現職金門建築畢業生培訓計劃中的助理工科測量師，她擁有兩項有關水污染防治的專利，技術上受到專業協會認可，更成為香港測量師學會及皇家測量師學會的副會員。輔導服務邀她於「成功有鑰－大學教育座談會暨工作坊」，分享其學習心得，協助內地新生融入城大的校園生活。

馮曉倩分享她一位導師的教誨：「人的一生需要解決四種關係，人與自己、人與人、人與自然以及人與超自然的關係。而大學的生活中，必先學會解決這兩種關係。」所以她亦鼓勵新生們先了解自己的性格、品性、以及思維習慣，有助改善個人短處及裝備自己外，亦能對周圍的人多份理解與包容。馮曉倩同時提醒同學必須建立個人客觀而全面的思考習慣，並多閱讀不同類別的書籍，除有助增長知識，亦能陶冶性情。

新生從學長的分享與互動中學習不少技巧，有助他們找到個人的成功鑰匙。
Jenny Li Yu-ying (Psychology, Year 3) is committed to community services. “Living in Student Halls of residence provided me ample opportunities to help people in need,” Jenny, a resident of Chan Sui Kau Hall, said.

Jenny visited Cambodia twice through City Youth Empowerment Project (CYEP) which was a heart-warming experience for her. She spent most of her time with mentally handicapped children who could barely communicate with others.

“More attention should be paid to those in need, they should not be neglected. It is more blessed to give than to receive,” Jenny said. To achieve her goal to continue helping children who are in need, she plans to become an educational psychologist in the near future.

很多城大學子都踊躍參加課外活動，使校園生活更多姿多彩，就讀心理學的三年級學生李雨盈亦不例外。她曾在柬埔寨打工，一心想參加各種社會服務。

李雨盈加入了城青優權組織，曾兩度前往柬埔寨，於當地一所公立學校為患病孤兒提供幫助。參與社會服務使她深受感動，亦喚起她對需要援助的兒童的關注。她希望日後能成為一位教育心理學家，繼續為需要幫助的兒童提供服務。她相信「施比受更有福」，所以鼓勵學生們多把握機會參與宿舍舉辦別具意義的活動，不但有助個人發展，更能夠幫助別人。
Combining Student Talents with Charity: The First Ever Joint Hall Art and Music Festival

The first annual Joint Hall Art and Music Festival was held at the Student Residence on 24 September 2014. It was a fund raising charity event in which residence students were also given the opportunity to express their artistic talents. The event proved to be very popular, with over 300 students flocking to the grass lawn outside Halls 8 and 9 to enjoy several hours of art, dance, and music.

The festival showcased 17 music and dance acts to an appreciative crowd. The music was eclectic by design, drawing on the assortment of talent found in the residence. We heard acoustic guitars, blues rock, Cantonese rock, and South Asian vocals. The dancing styles were equally diverse and exciting, highlighted by an energetic street-style "popping" performance put on by Hall 3 students.

The art section was both educational and playful. Different artists were invited including a professional caricature artist who elicited many laughs with his comical drawing of students. Besides, a small group of artists from the halls displayed some of their work and they were joined by Creative Media students who also exhibited a number of pieces. A residence student taught and drew Chinese calligraphy for event visitors. A local student showed off her impressive knowledge of henna body painting from India. Students enjoyed the performance and they could donate as much as they felt comfortable.

The festival raised over $6,000 for the Crossroads Foundation, a charity organization that distributes donated goods across the world and designs simulation exercises to expose individuals and groups in Hong Kong to contemporary global challenges. Students in halls now have a growing relationship with Crossroads through a volunteer programme initiated by Hall 10.