



# CENTENNIAL Connections

JAN 2015  
—  
ISSUE

01

www.centennialcollege.hku.hk

hkcentennialcollege

tel 3762 6200

President's  
Message

John  
Malpas

## WORDS FROM OUR LEADERS

Vice-  
President's  
Message

Cheng  
Kin Fai

Centennial College was established in 2012 by The University of Hong Kong as an independent, self-financed, degree-granting institution, specialising in liberal education. At the College it is our aim to instil in our students the spirit of enquiry, intellectual curiosity and self-learning. Our core values of integrity, global and multicultural awareness and social responsibility underpin the concept of an education which teaches one how to learn; how to think; how to take a broader perspective of life; how to be flexible but reliable; all in all, how to be a better human being. Our learning environment stresses the student-teacher relationship and is designed to develop both intellectual ability and transferable skills because our graduates can understand problems, can provide solutions, and can communicate these solutions to others. Asia has many institutions providing first-rate technical and discipline-based programmes, but few which place so great an emphasis on whole-person development. At Centennial College, we are trying hard to establish a rewarding



and challenging intellectual environment that prepares students as global citizens. The College is young in years, but has the benefit of maturity through its association with its parent institution. This means we are lucky enough to have energy and experience, a combination which should result in great achievement, something to which we can all look forward.



"Our whole life is an education - we are ever learning", every moment of time, everywhere, under all circumstances something is being added to our existing

knowledge. Edward Paxton Hood's words spoken in 1852 are more true today than ever before due to the constantly changing nature of knowledge in contemporary society. Therefore, we are preparing our students for a knowledge-based society, which thrives on a knowledge-intensive economy, and through liberal education our College seeks to provide the very foundation for students' success. We emphasise an interdisciplinary, broad-based curriculum that spans key areas such as Chinese and English language, information technology and numeracy for students to acquire a complex range of generic skills that can enable them to adapt and respond quickly to any situation. Knowledge has a limited shelf life today. So, we want our students to make learning how to learn their life-time goal.

# CENTENNIAL'S PIONEERING PROGRAMME

## Management as a Liberal Art



Amy Yip, Major Coordinator of MLA, spoke at a Conference Jointly held by Centennial College and Peter F. Drucker Academy.

will develop an awareness of the larger role organisations play in society.

Consequently, the MLA Major takes a people-centered view of management. This approach concentrates more on human nature and values, which are reflected in human behaviour. Thus, the Major aims to ground students in an understanding of the human condition in all its guises, which we believe will help students comprehend the complexity of managing people in the professional workplace. This is why the MLA Major stresses whole-person development and students are required to join a leadership development programme, which includes a leadership training camp, coaching activities, and the organisation of a community project.

Centennial College is currently offering a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) Major in "Management as a Liberal Art (MLA)", which is a one-of-a-kind educational programme in Hong Kong. The aim of the MLA programme is to provide students with a new liberal arts perspective in analysing 21<sup>st</sup> century managerial issues. Therefore, it stresses the importance of balanced judgement and values, which underscore the relationship between management and society. As a result, students



Internationally renowned academics and senior executives were invited to share their entrepreneurship experiences at the Conference.

The pedagogical design of the Major provides diverse modes of teaching and learning which are highly beneficial for students with different learning styles. For example, practitioners involved in course delivery offer a wide range of experiences to our students such as the application of classical principles (e.g. the 'Art of War' 孫子兵法, 'Thirty-six Stratagems' 三十六計) to examine current issues, case analysis and presentation, the study of effective management in action and reflective journal writing. The goal is for such learning experiences to instil in students a strong sense of both social responsibility and accountability which will help guide them through the decision-making process when facing ethical and moral dilemmas in real-life work situations.

Open for Year 1 application in 2015-16

# MEET OUR NEW TEACHERS

## Message in a Minute



Helen B. Toraskar



Quote:

“ GENIUS IS ONE PER CENT INSPIRATION, NINETY-NINE PER CENT PERSPIRATION. ”

(THOMAS EDISON)

**Blurb:** The iconic figures we consider geniuses today worked exceptionally hard to become successful, so never disregard the influence of hard work in achieving your goals in life.

Quote:

“ I HAVE MADE AN INTERNATIONAL REPUTATION FOR MYSELF BY THINKING ONCE OR TWICE A WEEK. ”

(GEORGE BERNARD SHAW)

Steve Yang



**Blurb:** Thinking is the easiest thing to do, but often we feel that we are "too busy" to do it. Students can get the most from university studies by engaging in reflection.

Mario Liong



Quote:

“ EDUCATION IS AN ADMIRABLE THING, BUT IT IS WELL TO REMEMBER FROM TIME TO TIME THAT NOTHING THAT IS WORTH KNOWING CAN BE TAUGHT. ”

(OSCAR WILDE)

**Blurb:** I am happy to be a partner of my students on their path to knowledge-building which they find useful even after they go out of the classroom.

Quote:

“ NO ONE CAN BECOME REALLY EDUCATED WITHOUT HAVING PURSUED SOME STUDY IN WHICH HE TOOK NO INTEREST – FOR IT IS A PART OF EDUCATION TO LEARN TO INTEREST OURSELVES IN SUBJECTS FOR WHICH WE HAVE NO APTITUDE. ”

(T. S. ELIOT)

Anna Lee



**Blurb:** Making mistakes is inevitable in one's learning process. Be mindful of your weaknesses and target them, otherwise you will never reach your potential.

# NATURE TRIPS

## | A Walk on the Wild Side |

### PRODUCE GREEN FOUNDATION

Reading Week is no longer just about spending hours of the day studying in a library.



For some of our students, it is also about learning while enjoying the great outdoors. This October, some students had the opportunity to gain knowledge about organic farming by getting involved in farm work at Produce Green Foundation, a local non-profit charitable organisation enthusiastic about healthy food and sustainable agriculture. With a hands-on experience of ploughing, fertilising, seeding and watering, students enjoyed a healthy workout as they were taught the basic principles of organic farming.



Other students spent a fun-filled afternoon at Hoi Ha Marine Life Centre in Sai Kung, an education centre for marine biodiversity and conservation.



### HOI HA



Wading knee-deep in the waters in their canvas shoes, students closely observed the coastal habitats and marine life. Hoi Ha is well known for its lush coral communities where over 60 types of hard coral and 120 species of coral fish can be found. Centennial College students had the rare chance to observe these from up-close in a specially-designed glass-bottomed boat. All kinds of local marine life were spotted, from jellyfish, hermit crabs and freshwater snails to sea cucumbers and sea urchins. Being surrounded by diverse marine life is perhaps the best way to learn about conservation!



Lesley College

# STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAMMES

## Unique Experiences in the USA

This spring Global Studies major Julia Chiu will be taking courses in Urban Sociology and Terrorism Studies. Accounting major Hozefa Hoosenally will be studying American Popular Culture and Brand Management.

Julia and Hozefa have joined the first group of Centennial College students to spend a semester in the United States. With this month's launch of the Centennial Exchange Programme, students can experience firsthand an American liberal arts education at one of two partner universities, Lesley College and Endicott College in Massachusetts. An exchange with a third university, Carthage College in Wisconsin, will begin in September.



Endicott College



Carthage College

All three colleges offer highly participatory, student-centred learning environments with small classes, interactive teaching, and a tremendous range of extra-curricular activities. Students will be fully immersed in American college life, and can make use of weekends and study breaks to go sightseeing. Lesley and Endicott are within half an hour's train ride from Boston, while Carthage's beautiful campus is situated just north of Chicago on the sandy shores of Lake Michigan.

The Office of Student Success is now accepting applications for the September semester. Five spaces are available per semester per college. Apply now while spaces are still available!

For more information, check out our website at <https://www.centennialcollege.hku.hk/en/exchange-programme/outgoing-students/>

# A GLIMPSE OF OUR GRADUATES' CAREER PATHS



## SAMMY MA

BA (Hons) Double Major in Language and Communication and China Studies, Centennial College

"My job? It's related to handling meat products in the food and beverage industry. Did I know anything about this industry before? No, not really! But I can say that my work involves communication, finance, public relations and business, everything I learnt at the College and a lot more. It's adventurous and exciting. The first thing I do when I get into the office is to check the exchange rate of various currencies such as the Australian Dollar, US Dollar and Japanese Yen. Then I inspect my goods that need to be sent out to our clients. Usually, my afternoons tend to be a bit more relaxed and leisurely, and I get to spend some time attending interesting events or business lunches, which help me know more about what's going on in the industry. In the near future, I will be reposted to China. As a middle-management employee, I will be in-charge of a sales team and responsible for the operation of various business activities in China. I am eager to take up this new challenge and start the next chapter of my life."



## DANNY IP

BA(Hons) in Language and Communication Major, Centennial College  
Currently pursuing Master of Arts degree in Linguistics at The Chinese University of Hong Kong

When asked about his experiences as a university student, Danny said, "University education is only a small part of life, but it can be a very important part of life. Learning time management, learning analysis, learning organisation and learning to find joy through the hard times can be developed in the university. It is a good place to broaden my horizons and equip myself for future challenges."



## ALEX FUNG

Assurance Associate, BDO Limited  
Bachelor of Professional Accounting (BPAcc), Centennial College

Now working as an employee at one of the top five accountancy firms, Alex expressed his views about studying at the College with great conviction when he said, "Life in Centennial College has equipped me with great confidence and competencies for my career in BDO Limited and in the accounting profession."



## ELIZA CHAN

BA(Hons) in Language and Communication Major, Centennial College  
Currently pursuing Master of Arts in Media Management at The Hong Kong Baptist University

Eliza is really enjoying the forums, talks, lectures and other events in her new educational environment. At the same time, she is also working part-time for a start-up production house where she is involved in writing promotional materials for the company. She aspires to enter the advertising profession and hopes that she can use her talents in an NGO or any charity organisation. When asked why, she answers humbly, "because giving something back to society is very important to me".

## NICHOLAS CHAN

BA(Hons) Double Major in Global Studies and Integrated Business, Centennial College  
Currently pursuing Master of Arts in Law at the University of Bristol

"At the University of Bristol, we are given numerous precious opportunities to get in touch with different international law firms and chambers in the UK. Through various career fairs and networking dinners held by the Law School, we are able to participate in many of their vacation schemes. Apart from that, the law degree would also allow me to pursue a PCLL (postgraduate certificate of laws) in Hong Kong in the future.

The education I received in Centennial College has enabled me to analyse legal issues from different perspectives, especially concerning constitutional law. The Global Studies and Integrated Business courses have not only raised my awareness about the legal and political issues in Hong Kong and mainland China, but also about those in countries with different legal systems."

# STUDENT ACTIVITIES

## News & Views



### Football Club

The Centennial College Football Club holds training sessions for its members every Friday. In-school and inter-school friendly and competitive matches are also held on a regular basis. Jack, one of our students at the College who is a member of the Football Club, shares his thoughts with us about the Club and the game:

"I joined the football team as a Year one student when I first joined the College. Now, I am also a committee member of the football society. Through the training and competitions, I have come to realise that the most important attribute you need as a football player is team spirit. Football, as a game, depends on collective effort rather than individual abilities, so members need to trust each other during the game. So, because of this bond of trust I ended up making wonderful friends

with other College students within the team. Although at the moment, we are not a very strong team compared to other university teams, I feel happy to see our team improve after each training session and competition. I think a football team is much more than a sports team because playing as a team, building trust and acquiring a sense of responsibility, are all experiences that will stay with me long after I have graduated."



### Dance Society

The Dance Society was started by a group of dance enthusiasts in the College. Steffi Lam, one of the organisers of the Society says, "We aim to provide a platform for students to enjoy dancing, have fun and meet fellow dance lovers".



# LOOKING FORWARD

## Centennial College Essay Writing Competition

“Does diversity really matter in today’s world?”

**Group:**  
Secondary Groups (Chinese / English Essay):  
Form 4 students or above in any secondary school

**Closing date:**  
28 March 2015 (Saturday)

**Prizes:**

1 <sup>st</sup> Prize:	<b>HK\$5,000</b>
First runner-up:	<b>HK\$3,000</b>
Second runner-up:	<b>HK\$2,000</b>
Merit:	Book coupon of <b>HK\$500</b>

For competition details, please refer to  
[www.centennialcollege.hku.hk](http://www.centennialcollege.hku.hk)



## Herbert Huey joins the College as the new Registrar

Herbert Huey assumed the post of Vice-President (Administration) and Registrar on the 1<sup>st</sup> of December 2014. Prior to joining Centennial College, he was the Deputy Director (Administration) and Registrar of the Hong Kong Academy of Performing Arts. With his extensive experience in the higher education sector of Hong Kong, we are confident that Herbert will provide excellent leadership in administrative and student matters.



### Editorial Board

Editor-in-Chief: Aditi Dubey-Jhaveri  
Editors: Karita Kan | Helen B. Toraskar