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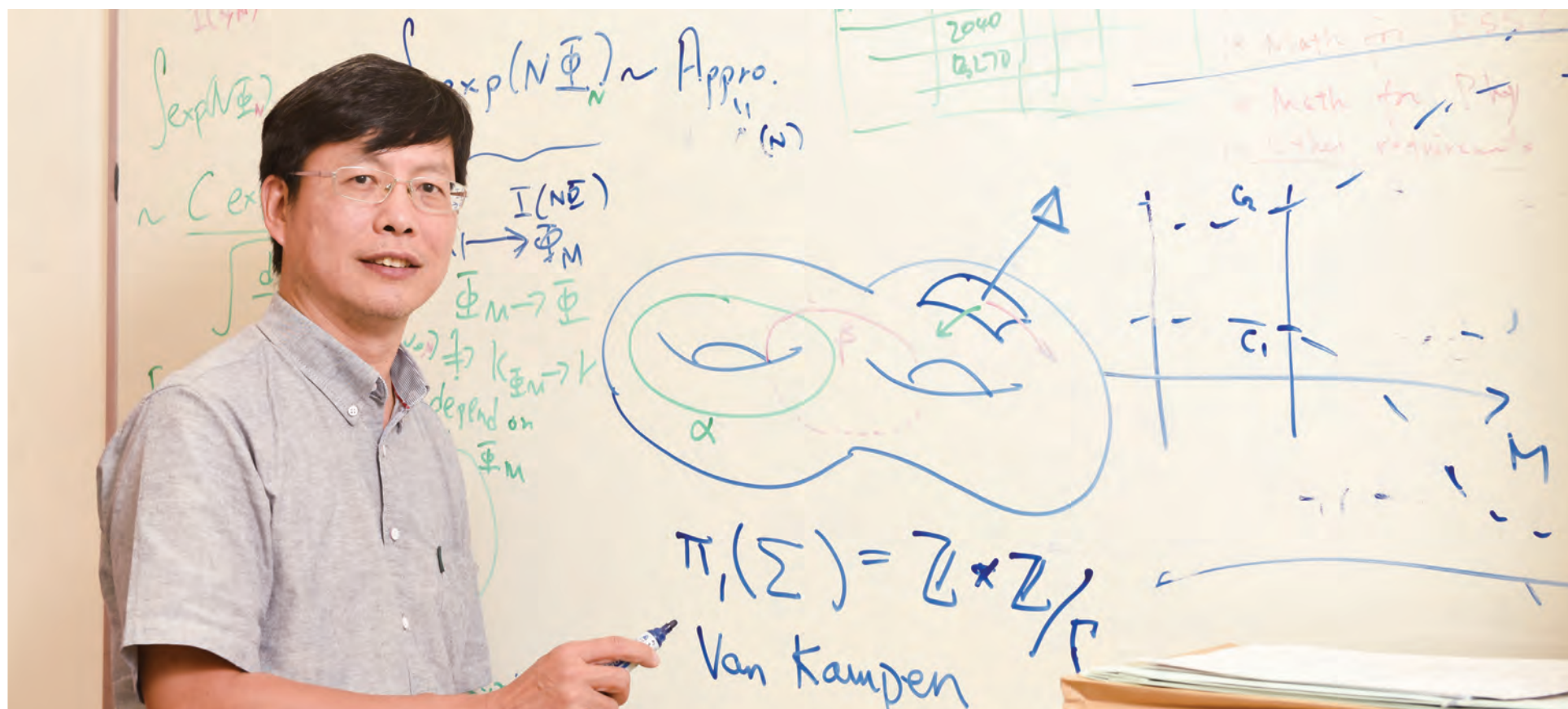


Photo by ISO Staff

▲ 區國強教授推動學生從多角度探索科學
Prof. Thomas Au motivates his students to explore science from difference perspectives

古希臘人認為算術和幾何是靈魂的音樂，連柏拉圖和亞里士多德都不願把數學與美學分開。欣賞荷蘭版畫家艾雪的畫作，便能感受畫家匠心獨運，將幾何對稱之美展示得淋漓盡致。數學系吳彥琪是應屆畢業生，她獲該系區國強教授支持，在科學館地面舉辦「璀璨數學之美」展覽，展現數學與藝術的完美融合，展區地面的幾何花樣圖案，正是從艾雪的《貝殼與海星》得到啟發。

融會數學與藝術之美

數學既有嚴密的邏輯運算，又有千姿百態的分形幾何圖案，結構之美教人目眩神迷。吳彥琪展出的三件雕塑品源於正幾何體和分形兩個幾何學中重要又極具美學價值的分支，前兩件分別是菱形六十面體及五角化六十面體，第三件是用銀色鐵線扭成的謝爾賓斯三角形，中間用綠色與黃色鋁線扭成的是希爾伯特曲線，是一條能夠填滿正方形空間的曲線，由德國數學家希爾伯特在1891年提出。分形與日常生活息息相關，除了葉脈構成的分形，人體血管分布和大腦的皺褶等地方都有各種分形或類似分形的幾何特徵。

甚具藝術天賦的吳彥琪鍾愛數學，自小學開始積極參與數學比賽，早已視考入數學系為目標。她最喜歡英國數學家哈代的名言——「美是最首要的標準：不美的數學在世上永不會找到容身之所。」吳彥琪習慣每次考試前透過繪畫減壓，去年更為數學系的網頁設計精緻的平面圖，以優美的線條繪出克萊因瓶（Klein bottle），形態看似數學上「無限大」的符

號「∞」，帶人走進數學的海闊天空。在中大科學館地面舉辦展覽是吳彥琪的夢想，她早前向區國強教授提出，想不到教授十分支持，除了贊助展覽的材料費，也透過理學院職員為她統籌場地安排，她對此由衷感激。

點線面創新無疆界

區國強教授說：「吳彥琪的展覽是Science Crossover計劃的頭炮活動。」顧名思義，這個計劃是支持學生用科學以外的方式探索和展示科學的本質，對象是理學院所有學生。「我鼓勵學生放膽嘗試，把新構思寫成建議書，凡是經面試獲計劃取錄的學生，會獲撥款支持；款項可用於舉辦展覽、製作科學紀錄片、修讀與建議書相關的課程等。除了培育優秀的學生外，我的心願是透過跨學科實踐發揮學生的創意，進而

深化他們的科學思維。」區教授相信科學探索的過程，以至在創作期間學得的技巧，足以讓學生受益一生。

數學家認為數學是萬物之本。柏拉圖深信幾何多面體是宇宙的根源，在1600年，有德國天文學家以「柏拉圖多面體」精密地推算行星與太陽之間的距離。區教授說：「連薯片本身都有數學原理，它一面彎曲向上，相反的那面彎曲向下，我們稱之為『雙曲拋物面』。因為它雙重彎曲，有助於平衡物件的張力和壓力，任何一處受壓，都可以把壓力傳遞至四周，所以薯片雖然薄，卻有令人意想不到的強度。」建築界亦巧妙地應用薯片的幾何原理，讓建築物可以把重量分散，這些重量最終會傳遞到地面。區教授鼓勵學生多觀察身邊事物，便能體會數學天地之無垠。



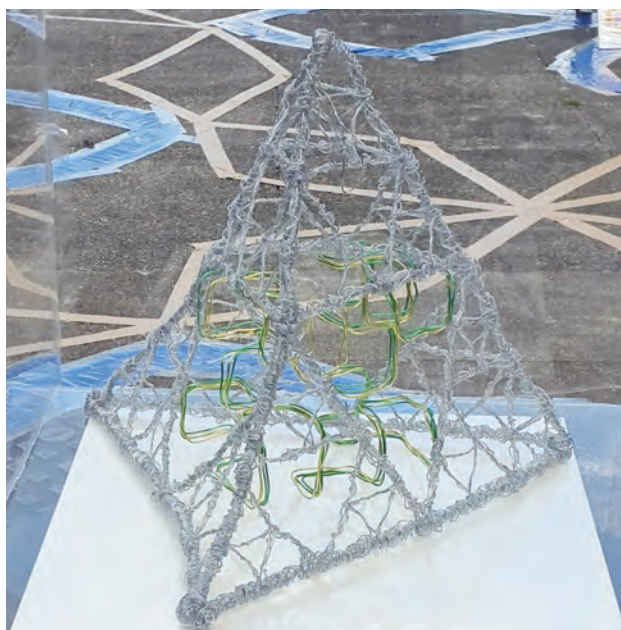
▲ 位於倫敦奧林匹克公園的室內自行車館，也是採用「雙曲拋物面」的幾何設計
The velodrome cycling arena located in the London Olympic Park also adopts 'hyperbolic paraboloid' in its design



▲ 菱形六十面體
Rhombic hexcontahedron



▲ 五角化六十面體
Pentagonal hexcontahedron



▲ 謝爾賓斯基三角形
Sierpinski triangle

The ancient Greeks believed that arithmetic and geometry are the soul of music. Even Plato and Aristotle were reluctant to separate mathematics from aesthetics. The works of the Dutch printmaker M.C. Escher exemplify how an artist's mind makes manifest the beauty in geometry. Kiki Ng, who just graduated this year from the Department of Mathematics and with the help of Prof. Thomas Au of the same department, held the 'Shining Beauty of Mathematics' exhibition in front of the Science Centre to pay homage to the inherent beauty in mathematics and art. The geometric floral pattern on the ground of the exhibition zone was inspired by Escher's *Shells and Starfish*.

Inherent Beauty in Mathematics and Art

No one would deny the algorithmic precision in mathematics, but few know that its fractal geometric shapes are pleasing to the eye as well. Two of Kiki's exhibits, a rhombic hexcontahedron and a pentagonal hexcontahedron, drew their inspiration from the concept of regular polyhedron, an important branch of geometry fraught with aesthetic potential. A third exhibit was a fractal display in the form of a Sierpinski triangle. The triangle was made of twisted silver wires, itself encasing a Hilbert Curve (named after the German mathematician who invented it in 1891) of green and yellow aluminum wires. Fractal geometry is closely interwoven into our daily life—leaf veins, blood vessels and brain folds, to name a few, are all expressed in different fractal shapes or fractal-like characteristics.

The artistic Kiki is also a mathematics lover. She has been actively taking part in mathematics competitions since primary school, and aimed at studying mathematics in university. Her favourite quote is from the British mathematician G.H. Hardy: 'Beauty is the first test: there is no permanent place in the world for ugly mathematics.' Drawing was Kiki's way of coping with pre-examination pressures. Last year, she contributed a sophisticated graphic design to the department's new website—a Klein bottle with refined strokes. With its shape like the mathematical symbol '∞' for infinity, the design welcomes the website visitors to the infinite world of mathematics. To organize an exhibition at the Science Centre had long been Kiki's dream. When she brought the idea to Professor Au, she was surprised by and grateful for his staunch support: from sponsoring the materials cost to venue arrangement.



◀ 吳彥琪
Kiki Ng



▲ 她為數學系網頁繪製的「克萊因瓶」
The Klein bottle she illustrated for the department's website

Connecting the Dots to Fathom the Unfathomable

'Kiki's exhibition is the kick-off event of the Science Crossover Programme,' said Professor Au. As the name suggests, the programme supports students of the Faculty of Science to explore the essence of science in non-scientific ways. 'I encourage the students to be bold in translating their new ideas into proposals. Students who were selected by an interview panel would receive financial support. The funding could be used for organizing exhibitions, producing documentaries, or taking courses relevant to the proposed subjects. On top of grooming students, I wish to unleash their creativity by cross-disciplinary try-outs through which they could deepen their scientific thinking.' Professor Au reckoned that the scientific exploration itself and the skills acquired from scientific crossover productions would benefit the students for life.

Mathematicians believe that mathematics is the basis of everything. Plato believed that geometric polyhedrons were the origin of the universe. In 1600, a German astronomer came up with an ingenious system of nested Platonic solids to approximate the distances of the known planets from the Sun. 'Even potato chips embed a mathematically hyperbolic paraboloid: the parabola of a saddle-shape faces upward, and the opposite side faces downward,' explained Professor Au. 'The double curvature of a potato chip strikes a delicate balance between different pulls and pushes. The different forces would be spread to the edges of the chip whenever any part undergoes tension or compression, which allows the chip to remain thin yet surprisingly strong.' Architects also apply the chip principle to evenly distribute the forces buildings are put under, which will all be eventually transmitted onto the ground. Professor Au thought that if the students were keen observers of the things around them, they would begin to appreciate the boundless world of mathematics. 📷

快樂老實人——楊明標區寶琪伉儷



Photo by ISO Staff

年逾八十的楊明標先生，膚色黝黑，聲如洪鐘，一望而知是位運動健將。二千六百米的吐露港渡海泳，他參加過四次。無論冬夏晴雨，他堅持每天上班前早泳半小時，持之以恆四十多年。他熱愛球類活動，本最愛網球，近年覺得過於激烈，改學乒乓球，每週操練三次。皮膚白皙的太太區寶琪女士坐在他旁邊，相映成趣。她五六歲時在鄉下曾遇溺，陰影揮之不去，從此不肯下水，但每天散步一小時總少不了。

體健學勤

這對人稱標叔標孀的夫婦，對中大一直關愛有加，自2003年起，屢次捐資支持各項發展，包括以二人名義設立的學術交流獎學金、非本地生獎學金、精英運動員獎學金、中大運動代表隊發展基金，又資助寰宇暑期實習計劃、高爾夫球日、傑出運動員北京奧運觀摩團和划艇項目等。問到為甚麼特喜支持體育，標叔說：「學生除了求學問，鍛鍊身體也十分重要，沒有健康的體魄，無論你擁有多少，還是甚麼都做不了。」

標叔1936年出生於鶴山農村，父親早逝，在戰亂中由母姊撫養成長，只唸畢小學五年級，便工作養家。工餘好學不倦，靠讀報充實自己。所以他非常樂於幫助後輩把握學習機會。「學生有志向學，如果我的區區捐助能解其困，讓他知道有人關心，從而燃起鬥志，那何樂而不為呢！他們寫給我的感謝信，真情流露，我都留着。」

誠樸之家

標叔標孀的家沒有金雕玉砌，不像那些收拾得沒有一件雜物、沒有一絲人氣、光可鑒人的示範單位。他倆熱情招呼你在客廳吃水果，或在花園給你講解一草一木以至一只金錢龜的來由，就如長輩與你閒話家常，讓你如置身一個平平實實的「家」，而不是「豪宅」——雖然這確實是九肚山上的一座獨

立屋，而屋主正是以一個甲子見證了本港鐘錶零售業發展的東方表行集團主席。東方表行於1961年成立，1973年併購瑞士表行，八十年代率先開拓內地市場。1993年東方表行集團成為首間於香港聯合交易所上市的鐘錶零售商，現時分店遍布中、港、澳、台，代理近百個世界頂級鐘錶品牌。

這一切成就都是赤手空拳打拚得來的。標叔1949年來港，十五歲時獲上海街成安記表行收作學徒，十七、八歲擢升為買手。1958年，他創辦華新行，主力二手錶買賣，收購當舖斷當的舊錶，打磨錶殼，修理機件，再賣給海員和來往中港兩地的水客。積累了經驗和資金，他在1961年與朋友合資開設首間東方表行，不計租金高昂，堅持在德輔道中這表行林立的奢侈品銷售集中地落腳，主攻二三線歐洲錶，殷勤待客，每周七天朝九晚十一營業，成功攻佔市場。後來遇上良機，窺準瑞士表行坐擁多個世界名錶代理權，僅花數小時便完成洽談至簽約的併購過程，隨即拓展高價手錶市場，規模日漸壯大。這段佳話，在香港商界無人不曉。

笑看風雲

標叔彪炳的事業隨中國七十年代改革開放迭創新高。2003年「自由行」政策實施，把鐘錶零售業推向巔峰。然而，近兩年國內肅貪雷厲風行，高檔產品銷路首當其衝。標叔說：「最旺時期我們有些店每月營業額五六千萬，整體毛利以億元計。鬧市旺鋪供不應求，月租數百萬元，還是有鋪即搶。但這兩年，一千萬也不到。香港十五間店，大部分都虧本。雖然近一半鋪位是自置物業，仍然見紅。」

「市道低迷，開源節流，減少存貨，避免借貸，多存現金是一定的了，可幸過去總算積聚了點實力，還可以守住。但情況如多持續幾年的話，就難看到遠景了。」惟他指出來自日本、南

韓等地的競爭日劇，再加上新一代並不視手錶為必然，鐘錶業可說是個夕陽行業。

風高浪急，但紅褲子出身、白手興家的標叔說來輕描淡寫，沒有怨天尤人。他在生意不景的日子仍然惦記中大，月前大學籌募及拓展處得悉他決定加捐一百萬元，支持楊明標精英運動員獎學金，無不驚訝感動。

同心同德

標叔謙稱自己沒有學識，只靠勤懇工作，能養妻活兒，子女亦已成才，助自己一臂之力，人生可說無憾。美滿家庭是他人生的最大支柱。標孀與他結褵半世紀，最欣賞丈夫的堅毅與恆心，工作運動都全力以赴。打趣問標叔追求她時是否也有恆心，她爽朗回應：「當然，否則也追不到。」至於標叔欣賞標孀甚麼，她笑說：「整天罵他。」其實夫妻默契盡在不言中，兩人都懂得互諒互讓，不硬碰，不口出惡言。未有孩子前，標孀一直到店裏幫忙，和丈夫一個紅臉一個白臉，把員工管理得口服心服。標叔樂善好施，立下每年捐助中大的心願，她深表支持，每屆新學年便會提醒標叔是否已把善款送出。

這位自稱營商作風保守的老一輩生意人，一生勤奮拼搏，堅守誠信。他對員工最看重的也是這些素質：好學，不怕吃虧，不斤斤計較。想當年他當學徒，最初只負責斟茶打掃、煮飯跑腿，老闆就是賞識他乖巧勤快，刻苦耐勞，很快讓他學習修理手錶，旋即升為「櫃面」。他用心做好每宗差事，抓緊學習機會，認識鐘錶零售業每個環節的運作，就這樣為日後的宏圖大業奠定了技術基礎和人際網絡。

時代的巨浪或許會淘汰某些行業，但美德與操守，是淘洗不去的。

文/資訊處盧惠玉

A Couple Happy and Honest—Uncle Biu and Aunt ‘Biu’

Regardless of his eight decades, Mr. Yeung Ming-biu swims and plays ball games like any youngster. Morning swims and tennis used to be his routines. Even now, he practises the less strenuous sport of table-tennis three times a week. His wife Au Po-kee has a fairer complexion. Because she was almost drowned when she was five or six, she has not taken to the water as her husband has. But she insists on walking for an hour each day.

Staying Fit for Learning

Uncle Biu and Aunt ‘Biu’, as the couple are affectionately called, have been showering CUHK with their beneficence. Since 2003, they have been active supporters of the University’s various scholarship schemes—student exchange, non-local, superior athlete—and the funding of CUHK sport teams. They have also sponsored the Global Internship Programme, the CUHK Golf Day, the CUHK delegation to the Beijing Olympics, and rowing competitions. When asked why he seems to single out sporting initiatives to support, Uncle Biu said, ‘Exercising is as important as studying. Without a fit body, what you can accomplish with your good mind is very little.’

Uncle Biu was born in a village of Heshan in 1936. His father passed away and he was raised by his mother and older sister during the difficult war years. He had to start working before completing primary education, but he never stopped teaching himself, chiefly through reading newspapers. That may explain why he’s so keen on giving educational opportunities to the young. ‘If my little contributions can help the young ones out of their difficulties, show them someone cares and re-ignite their willingness to learn, that’s enough reason for me to do it. I still have the letters sent by the students I had helped to express their appreciation.’

Rich and Modest

The house that Uncle and Aunt ‘Biu’ live in, though big and situated in a prime location, is not intimidatingly opulent. Everything in it is what you expect in a home where a nice couple treat you to some refreshment and introduce you to the plants and the golden coin turtle they keep. Little in it suggests that you are talking to the chairman of Oriental Watch Group and a captain of the watch industry in Hong Kong. The Oriental Watch Company was founded in 1961, acquired La Suisse Watch Company in 1973, ventured into the China market in the 1980s, and in 1993 became the first retail watch company that was listed in the Hong Kong Stock Exchange. The group has outlets in China, Hong Kong, Macau and Taiwan and carries around 100 of the world’s most prestigious brands in timepieces.

A self-made man, Uncle Biu came to Hong Kong in 1949, became an apprentice in a watch company in Shanghai Street, Kowloon at the age of 15, and a merchandiser a few years later. He founded a second-hand watch company in 1958. When he had accumulated enough experience and capital, he co-founded Oriental Watch Company in 1961 and opened shop in Des Voeux Road, Central. He later moved into the high-end market by swiftly acquiring La Suisse Watch Company and embarked on a successful career that has since become legendary.

Embracing Ups and Downs

Uncle Biu’s fortunes rose with the opening up of China in the 1970s and peaked in the early 2000s with the influx



of mainland visitors under the Individual Visit Scheme. However, the high-end market has suffered a setback in recent years. Uncle Biu said, ‘In our peak times we recorded profits in hundreds of millions. Shops with high rentals were snapped up in no time. But sales have dipped drastically in the last few years. We have 15 shops in Hong Kong and most of them are losing money. Even if nearly half of our shops are our own properties, the books are still in the red.’

‘Adversity requires us to cut costs and inventory as well as keeping more cash in hand and not taking out too much loan. We’re still doing OK, given the long years we have been in the business. But if this continues, I do not see any future.’ He further pointed out that the business is facing increasing competition from Japan and Korea and the challenge that the young generation do not see watches as a necessary personal effect. All these may spell the end of an era for the watch retailers.

But Uncle Biu has not lost sleep over it because over his long years in the trade he has seen it all. Even when business is not good he has not forgotten about CUHK. His recent decision to donate an additional million to support our superior athlete scholarships has met with a pleasant surprise and admiration from our colleagues at the Office of Institutional Advancement.

One Heart, One Mind

Uncle Biu is modest on his achievements but proud of raising talented and capable children. A happy home has supported him through thick and thin. Aunt ‘Biu’, his partner for more than a half-century, appreciated most

about her husband’s perseverance and tenacity and his putting everything into what he does, whether work or play. Was he like that in their courtship? She replied unceremoniously, ‘Of course, how could it be otherwise?’ What did she think Uncle Biu appreciates the most in her? ‘My constant scolding,’ she burst out laughing. Husband and wife know each other so well that they do not need words to communicate their thoughts. They know how to complement each other as if by design. Before they had children, Aunt ‘Biu’ worked in the shop, too. Their good guy-bad guy combination had made a highly disciplined and competent team of their employees. Uncle Biu’s passion for CUHK is very much shared by his wife. She would remind her husband at the beginning of each school year if he has transferred the funds.

Uncle Biu describes his style of doing business as conservative and old-school. Hardworking and integrity are his watchwords. He expects the same from his employees: a willingness to learn continuously and go an extra mile. As an apprentice years ago, his job was initially to prepare tea and run little errands. His boss did not fail to see his diligence and devotion and soon promoted him to repair, and next to the sales counter. He put his mind into doing every job, and learned something from it to gain a comprehensive knowledge of the retail business of watches. That laid down the technical foundation and the human network for a brilliant career.

Some industries and trades may not withstand the changing tides of time, but virtue and integrity are never old-school and do not fade away. 📷



禪修常樂

Meditation Brings Happiness

約一千三百名師生、校友及公眾人士於9月21日晚上慕名來到林蔭大道，聆聽著名的藏傳佛教禪修大師詠給·明就仁波切的講座，學習如何令自己快樂些。

明就仁波切應博群大講堂邀請，以「逍遙天地寬」為題演講。他出生於尼泊爾，熟悉物理學、生物學、心理學，並將之與佛學修行相結合，教授禪修知識。

明就仁波切2002年參加美國威斯康辛大學的實驗研究，被測出大腦中的快樂指數在禪定狀態中，躍升了百分之七百，美國《時代雜誌》形容他為「世界上最快樂的人」。他的暢銷書《世界上最快樂的人》高踞《紐約時報》暢銷書排行榜，同時也被翻譯成超過二十種不同的語言。



在講座中，明就仁波切指出我們雖不能改變逆境，像是疾病和衰老，卻可改變心境，寬容面對。要讓自己快樂的竅門是深入認識和關顧自我的心境，而禪修正是最好途徑。他說：「禪修的精粹是『覺知』，當你愈能『覺知』，也就愈快樂，壓力愈減。」他更即場教授禪修的方法，帶領大家一齊體驗。

他繼而道出禪修的裨益：把問題轉化解決方案，苦困變成快樂，保持平和。「禪修可隨時隨地進行，每天兩分鐘禪修，已綽綽有餘。」最後，他還與幾位中大學生促膝交談，解答他們對學業、家庭以及人生的種種困惑。

About 1,300 students, staff, alumni of the University and members of the public gathered at the University Mall on the evening of 21 September to learn from Yongey Mingyur Rinpoche, the renowned Tibetan Buddhist meditation master how to be happier.

Mingyur Rinpoche was invited to host the I-CARE University Lecture on Civility 2016 titled 'The Journey to Joy'. Born in the Himalayan border region between Tibet and Nepal, Mingyur Rinpoche is a figure among the new generation of Tibetan Buddhist masters. In addition to extensive training in the meditative and philosophical traditions of Tibetan Buddhism, he has also had a lifelong interest in Western science and psychology. He is known for his ability to present his understanding of Tibetan Buddhism using the language of contemporary Western thought.

Mingyur Rinpoche is characterized 'the happiest man in the world' since he participated in a study of brain activity at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2002, where scientists found that advanced meditation increases mental happiness. His first book, *The Joy of Living: Unlocking the Secret and Science of Happiness*, debuted on the *New York Times* bestseller list and has been translated into over 20 languages.

In his lecture, Mingyur Rinpoche pointed out that though we cannot reverse adverse situations, e.g., getting sick or old, we can change our mind to respond to the problems encountered. The key point of feeling happier is to learn and care one's mind which can be achieved by meditation. He said, 'Awareness is the essence of meditation. If you get in touch of awareness more and more, you will be happier and free of stress.' He then guided the audience, step by step, to do meditation.

Mingyur Rinpoche gave a brief account of the benefits of meditation such as turning problems to solutions and suffering to happiness, as well as keeping one's mind calm and peaceful. 'Meditation can be done at anytime, anywhere. A two-minute meditation will be good for a whole day.' At the end of the lecture, some CUHK students joined him on the Beacon to seek for answers to questions about their studies, relationships and life.



公積金計劃投資回報成績

Investment Returns of Staff Superannuation Scheme

基金 Fund	8.2016		1.9.2015-31.8.2016	
	未經審核數據 Unaudited	指標回報 Benchmark Return	未經審核數據 Unaudited	指標回報 Benchmark Return
增長 Growth	2.06%	1.82%	6.22%	8.90%
平衡 Balanced	1.27%	1.03%	5.81%	9.25%
穩定 Stable	0.38%	0.003%	5.93%	9.85%
香港股票 HK Equity	5.40%	5.75%	8.36%	9.68%
香港指數 HK Index-linked	5.38%	5.23%	9.32%	10.41%
A50中國指數 A50 China Tracker	3.94%	3.67%	3.30%	-1.52%
港元銀行存款 HKD Bank Deposit	0.06%	0.01%	0.72%	0.13%
美元銀行存款* USD Bank Deposit*	0.11%	0.04%	0.93%	0.31%
澳元銀行存款* AUD Bank Deposit*	-0.80%	-0.94%	8.70%	6.90%
歐元銀行存款* EUR Bank Deposit*	-0.19%	-0.18%	-0.43%	-0.34%
人民幣銀行存款* RMB Bank Deposit*	-0.37%	-0.36%	-1.91%	-2.89%

強積金數據請參閱：www.cuhk.edu.hk/bursary/chi/public/payroll_benefits/mpf.html

For MPF Scheme performance, please refer to:
www.cuhk.edu.hk/bursary/eng/public/payroll_benefits/mpf.html

* 實際與指標回報已包括有關期間內之匯率變動
Both actual and benchmark returns include foreign currency exchange difference for the month

教職員公積金計劃(1995)——投資簡報會

Staff Superannuation Scheme (1995)—Investment Forum

財務處安排於10月18及19日舉行投資簡報會。詳情如下：

Two investment forum sessions are scheduled for 18 and 19 October. Details are as follows:

12:30 p.m.–2:00 p.m. 富爾敦樓103室 Room 103, John Fulton Centre	
18.10.2016 (星期二 Tuesday)	19.10.2016 (星期三 Wednesday)
平衡基金 Balanced Fund	增長基金 Growth Fund
穩定基金 Stable Fund	香港股票基金 Hong Kong Equity Fund
增長基金 Growth Fund	香港指數基金 Hong Kong Index-linked Fund
香港股票基金 Hong Kong Equity Fund	A50中國指數基金 A50 China Tracker Fund
	穩定基金 Stable Fund

薄備簡餐。請各成員踴躍出席。參加表格可於財務處網頁 (www.cuhk.edu.hk/bursary/eng/index.html) 下載。查詢請致電薪津及公積金組電話：3943 7236/7244。

Light lunch will be provided. Your attendance at the forum is highly recommended. The enrolment form can be downloaded from the Bursary website (www.cuhk.edu.hk/bursary/eng/index.html). For enquiries, please contact the Payroll and Superannuation Unit at 3943 7236/7244.

首屆正向員工服務獎接受提名

Positive Workplace Service Award Scheme Open for Nomination

由「正向工作間及員工發展」委員會贊助的「正向員工服務獎2016-17」現正接受提名。此嶄新獎項涵蓋範圍更廣，以取代於2014年起暫緩舉辦的「員工優異服務獎」，而獎勵的亦不只是員工工作成效，更着重個人及團隊在大學裏建立推動正向工作間文化的努力和貢獻。所有中大的學生及教職員均可提名全職僱員參選。截止日期為2016年10月31日。詳情請參閱：www2.per.cuhk.edu.hk/en-GB/pwsa201617-chi

The Positive Workplace Service Award Scheme 2016-17, sponsored by the Committee on the Positive Workplace and Staff Development, is now open for nomination. This new staff award scheme will take the Exemplary Service Award, which has been suspended since 2014, to an expanded scope covering all full-time staff, as well as enabling staff recognition not only for the work outcome but the individual behaviour and team practices that can cultivate and promote a positive workplace culture in the University. All CUHK students and colleagues are welcomed to make nominations by 31 October 2016. For details, please visit: www2.per.cuhk.edu.hk/en-GB/pwsa201617.

訃告

Obituaries

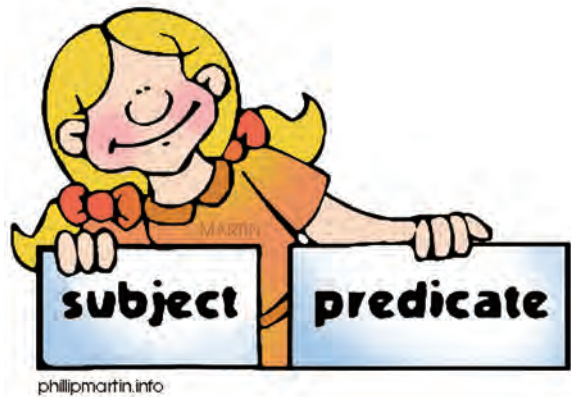
本校兩位職員近日離世，大學深表哀悼。

- 張樂恒先生於2016年8月26日逝世。張先生於2016年5月26日加入中大，擔任大學出版社助理文員。
- 研究院一級文員范寶玲女士於2016年8月28日辭世。范女士於1992年受聘於本校，兩年後離職，1997年12月8日再度加入中大服務。

The University is saddened by the loss of two colleagues.

- Mr. Cheung Lok-hang, who passed away on 26 August 2016, joined the University on 26 May 2016 and had served as clerical assistant in The Chinese University Press.
- Ms. Fan Bo-ling, general clerk I of the Graduate School Office, passed away on 28 August 2016. Ms. Fan had been in the employ of the University from 1992 to 1994. She re-joined the University since 8 December 1997.

SENTENCING



Writing plainly or writing plain English may be easier said than done. And plain words are easier to master than plain sentences. There is a fine line between plainness and sophistication, and a finer one between sophistication and incomprehensibility.

Among those shortlisted for *TLS*'s first Mario Ortiz Robles Prize for Incomprehensibility (2011) is this sentence (yes, one sentence) from the essay 'Reading Skin Signs' by **Jeremy Redlich** (in *Performative Body Spaces*, ed. **Markus Hallensleben**):

*Working with selected texts by the Japanese-born author **Yoko Tawada**, who writes in both Japanese and German, I examine how the contours or boundaries of the body cannot be taken for granted as biological givens, but rather how these boundaries are continuously in a process of materialization, subject to the cultural, social and linguistic impressions that mark the bodily boundary, namely skin, as a surface that is coded and decoded like any other text.*

A perfectly grammatical and syntactically well-balanced sentence, its qualification for the year's top honour in English writing, courtesy of the twisted humour of *TLS*, is due to three things: prolixity, embeddedness and academic jargons. As only a small number of writers of English belong to the elitist club of the academicians, a better understanding of the first two things will make us a lot more comfortable with our medium.

An English sentence is inherently capable of going on forever and attaching to itself various forms of add-on that give it an onion-like structure. Let's look at the following sentence from Kingsley Amis (in *The King's English: A Guide to Modern Usage*):

*The most serious objection to the use of **hopefully** in a dangling position, often signaled by a following comma, is not that it is not good English, though it is not, nor that it is a trendy usage, though it is, nor even that the thing remains obstinately afloat after many well-aimed salvos of malediction, but that it is dishonest.*

The 60-word sentence is not particularly prolix by the standard of English. But because of its abstract subject and the many enfolded negatives its meaning may appear obscure at first sight. Coming to such labyrinthine constructions, one must go back firmly to the basics—identify the main sentence, ascertain what the pronouns refer to, know which parts are subordinate clauses or phrases (each of which may have its own subordinate clauses or phrases, potentially *ad infinitum*).

Reduced to a bare subject-predicate structure, Amis's sentence looks like:

The most serious objection to the use of *hopefully* in a dangling position is not A nor B nor C but D.

At least the comprehension of this no-frill sentence is humanly possible.

Next, the pronoun 'it', which occurs five times throughout the sentence, refers to one thing, namely:

The use of *hopefully* in a dangling position (with the adjectival phrase 'often signaled by a following comma')

What A, B, C and D stand for are:

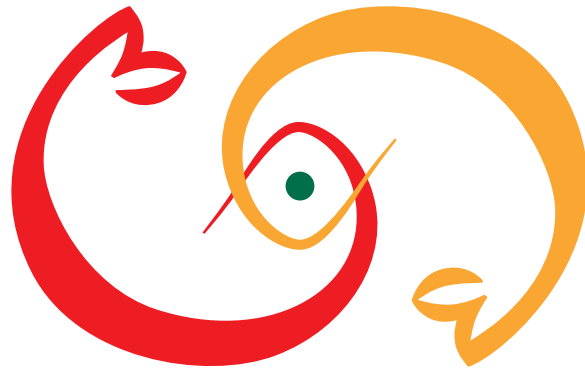
A = it is not good English (with the adverbial clause 'though it is not')

B = it is a trendy usage (with the adverbial clause 'though it is')

C = the thing remains obstinately afloat (with the adverbial phrase 'after many well-aimed salvos of malediction')

D = it is dishonest

Note the functions of 'that' and the double commas. The former cues the objection (to the use of *hopefully* in a dangling position) to be called up for consideration. The latter delineates the clause or phrase that modifies what precedes immediately. In Amis's exegetical sentence of the word *hopefully*, not one bit is superfluous and not one bit is dispensable.

魚魚相扣
Ouroboros of Pisces

中國文化研究所吳多泰中國語文研究中心的標誌是由簡單俐落的線條組成的「雙魚」，靈感來自中國文化研究所庭院水池中的錦鯉。紅橙二色正是錦鯉的典型顏色，而雙魚重疊的綠眼睛，則與該所所徽的顏色一致，代表吳多泰中國語文研究中心是研究所的成員，兩者關係緊密。

中心從1966年成立，到1978年及1980年重新命名，成為吳多泰中國語文研究中心後，都一直沒有任何標誌。主任**鄧思穎**教授在2011年建議設計標誌，希望能借此凸顯中心的研究重點，並提升形象。「『雙魚』這個概念和標誌的初步構思由我提出，並由當時擔任研究助理的**湛綺婷**女士負責具體的美工設計。標誌簡單的線條象徵中心追求學術卓越的務實態度。雙魚活潑的姿態，則代表吳多泰中國語文研究中心致力成為一個具活力創意的學術樞紐。語言變化多樣，如錦鯉一般生氣盎然。語言學亦擁有同樣特點，無論是本體研究還是應用研究，都充滿活力氣息。」

緊密扣連的雙魚令人聯想起埃及和希臘的古代銜尾蛇符號。符號形狀是一條正在吞食自己尾巴的蛇或龍，象徵萬物的協調及一致性。兩邊尾巴銜接成一個圓環，代表永恒更生的循環。中國文化研究所水池中盤繞的錦鯉與吳多泰中國語文研究中心互相連結的標誌不但相互呼應，還具有深層的文化哲學象徵意義，表現出設計者的心思及創意。

The logo of T.T. Ng Chinese Language Research Centre of the Institute of Chinese Studies consists of two fish sketched in simple lines. It was inspired by the koi in the pond of the Institute. Red and orange are typical colours of koi and the two fish come together in a green eye which is of the same hue as the Institute's emblem. The close relationship between the Centre and the Institute goes without saying.

T.T. Ng Chinese Language Research Centre did not have any logo when it was originally founded in 1966 and subsequently renamed in 1978 and 1980. In 2011, Prof. **Tang Sze-wing**, director of the Centre, proposed to create a logo to showcase the Centre's research foci and image. 'I came up with the idea of the Pisces and Ms. **Mian Cham**, then research assistant, did the artwork. The simple lines of the logo signify the Centre's modest and pragmatic approach to achieving academic excellence. The curving and coiling koi underscore the Centre's determination to become a vigorous and creative academic hub. Human language shares the same fluidity and vitality of the koi. The study of language, be it pure or applied, also leads one into a realm of endless wonders and insights.'

The interlocking Pisces may remind one of the ouroboros, the ancient symbol of the Egyptians and the Greeks which depicts a snake or dragon eating its own tail. It symbolizes the unity of all things, physical and spiritual, engaged in a perpetual cycle of change and re-generation. The koi that twirl in the pond of the Institute of Chinese Studies and twine in the logo of T.T. Ng Chinese Language Research Centre are pregnant with no less cultural and philosophical symbolism.



口談實錄 / VIVA VOCE

Photo by ISO Staff

方永平教授

Prof. Fong Wing-ping

- 崇基學院院長
- Head of Chung Chi College

「音樂情懷」和「宗教情操」是崇基的兩大特色，這會否把部分學生摒諸門外？

基於歷史因素，中大所有修讀音樂及崇基學院神學院課程的本科生都會被分派到崇基，所以崇基相比其他書院擁有較強烈的宗教及音樂氛圍。而事實上，我們崇奉的基督精神——如博愛、導人向善、平等、包容及謙卑等——都是人類的普世價值，修讀任何主修科的學生都可追求及實行。崇基雖然是由香港基督教教會代表所創辦，但我們亦尊重並歡迎其他宗教及信仰的學生加入，希望所有學生能感受學院的人情味以及「崇基一家」的感覺。

過去數年，大學書院數目幾近倍增，你怎樣看隨之而來的「競爭」？

我覺得無需看得負面，有危總會有機。書院數目增加可以造就更多院際合作機會。崇基就曾與聯合及伍宜孫書院於治蕙藝文計劃中協辦藝術展，活動成功吸引各界人士到場觀賞，大獲好評。

我們當然會關注令學生對崇基卻步的原因，但這並非為追求成為「最受歡迎」的書院，而是想藉此檢討我們是否有地方做得不足，這樣才能為現在或將來有機會入住的學生提供更好的環境。只要符合學院的價值觀，我們都會致力改善。

學院的教育理念為何？

我們明白每個學生都是獨一無二的，所以學院並非只為某種特定類型的學生而設。我們致力為學生提供多元化的活動以及充足的支援，希望每個學生都能在學院找到他們有興趣或熱愛的活動。我們最關注的是學生個人成長及其潛能發展。總括而言，我們既希望培養學生擁有學院提倡的價值觀，同時亦尊重他們的獨特性。

科學家的訓練對於出任院長一職有助嗎？

有趣的是現在中大的書院院長中有三分之二都是科研出身的。我認為無論院長是科學家、社會學家或人文學家都不是問題，因為最重要是有遠見和促進團隊精神的能力。如要列舉科學家的優點，我會說是客觀和務實。科學訓練令我們習慣運用數據資料進行理性分析，當需要客觀平衡各方利益及意見以作決策時，這尤其重要。作為一個務實主義者，我在策劃時會充分考慮方案的可行性。

你擔任不少科學活動的評審或顧問，香港學生在這方面的潛質怎樣？

我在科學活動中擔任評審或顧問已差不多二十年，應該也夠資格評論一下學生在比賽中的一般表現。我們每年評選的參賽作品之中，不少還是大有改良餘地的。很多學生都未能察覺他們作品實行起來的限制，有些則文獻研究不足，以致未能發現在其他地方已有類似的作品出現。

但談到最頂尖的一批學生，他們的水平還是很高的。每年有很多香港學生入圍世界大賽，並在各地取得優秀成績，足見香港學生的能力在國際上備受認同。

坦白說，很多在科學比賽中獲獎的學生並沒有繼續在科研方面發展，但學生透過比賽培養的科學精神——大膽假設，小心求證——卻是不同職位和行業同樣渴求的素質。

Music and religion are the two distinguishing characteristics of Chung Chi College. Do you think that students who do not major in or are not related to either may feel less at home?

Due to historical reasons, all undergraduate students in music or programmes offered by the Divinity School of Chung Chi College would be assigned to Chung Chi. The College therefore has greater music and religious sentiments compared to other Colleges. However, Chung Chi is more than either music or religion or for that matter any single disciplines. The values we embrace—such as love, kindness, equality, forgiveness, and humility—are in fact universal values of mankind and can be pursued and practised by students of all disciplines and persuasions. Although Chung Chi was founded by the Protestant Churches in Hong Kong, we respect and welcome other beliefs and faiths. Chung Chi College is the home to all of its members and all students feel equally at home.

The number of Colleges at CUHK has more than doubled in the past few years. How do you see the 'competition' that comes with it?

I do not see it necessarily in a negative light. Challenges often go hand in hand with opportunities. The growth in the number of Colleges has offered an invaluable chance for further collaborations among the Colleges. For example, Chung Chi has joined hands with different Colleges such as United College and Wu Yee Sun College to hold art exhibitions in some of the Hop Wai Art and Cultural Programme's events. The events were well received and attracted participants from various parties.

Of course we always want to know what may give pause to students in selecting Chung Chi. Instead of hankering for 'popularity', what we are concerned with is how to further develop our College in order to make it a better place for both current and prospective Chung Chi students. If we identify areas for improvement that align with our College values, we will work on these areas and effect changes for the better.

What is Chung Chi's educational philosophy?

We understand that every student is unique and we do not only cater for any particular type of students. At Chung Chi, we offer a diverse range of activities and extensive support so that every student could find something that they are interested in or passionate about. Our primary concern is for the students' personal growth and how to develop their potentials. In a nutshell, we strive to nurture students with attributes advocated by the College, while also respecting their individuality at the same time.

How has your training as a scientist supported your role as College Head?

Interestingly enough, two thirds of the College Heads/Masters in CUHK have a science background. In my view, whether a Head/Master is a scientist, social scientist or humanist would not make much difference. The vision and the teambuilding skills of a leader, however, are the heart of the matter. If I have to name the positive attributes of a scientist, I will say objectivity and pragmatism. Our training as scientists teaches us to analyse issues based on data and facts. This is especially important for decision-making, when we have to balance different stakeholders' interests and opinions. I think I'm a pragmatist and, being a pragmatist, I will give due consideration to the practicability of any idea.

You have been an adjudicator or a consultant at many science events. What have you observed regarding the potential of students of science in Hong Kong?

Having served as an adjudicator and consultant at science events for almost 20 years, I think I am in a good position to give some critical comments on the general performance of the participants. In many of the projects we review each year, there is still much room for improvement. Students are

often unaware of their projects' limitations. In some cases, they have not done enough literature review to realize that similar work had already been done in other parts of the world.

However, if you look at the top batch, the standard is quite high. We have had many Hong Kong candidates entering worldwide competitions and achieving remarkable results, proving that Hong Kong students' abilities are well recognized in the international sphere.

To be frank, many of those who won awards in science competitions did not pursue a scientific career later on in their lives. But the truth-seeking attitude that the students developed through the science training—the ability to formulate bold and creative hypotheses and scrutinize them with caution and empiricism—is often greatly sought after in a diverse range of occupations and industries. 📌

