Students’ Study Trip to Africa

YOUNG ECO LEADERS IN NATURE CONSERVATION

"The objective of the Ecology & Biodiversity (E&B) programmes at HKU is to empower students with the requisite knowledge of and skills in nature conservation. Biodiversity conservation requires scientific input as well as passion. As such, strong emphasis is placed upon experiential learning such as overseas field expeditions and work placements in the environmental sector," said Dr Billy Hau (BSc 1991; MSc[EnvMan] 1994; PhD 2000), Assistant Professor of the School of Biological Sciences, who took 22 students to the Masai Mara in East Africa.

The 15-day field trip provided a life-transforming experience for students who witnessed how species are driven to extinction by environmental degradation, and how dwindling communities of endangered species can be revived by well-managed efforts in restoring their habitats.

"The Great Migration in Africa is just astonishing! Sitting in a safari jeep with binoculars, I saw thousands of zebras heading towards a water source. What a magnificent picture!"

Flora Leung Tsz-yan (BSc, Year 3)

In support of the International Year of Biodiversity, HKU students shared their safari trip experiences with the general public at the “Horn of Africa – Masai Mara” photographic exhibition at K11, the art mall in Tsim Sha Tsui. The trip was made possible through the sponsorship of Mr Adrian Cheng Chi-kong, Founder and Chairman of K11.

Photos by Billy Hau
Dr the Hon Lee Shau Kee (Hon LLD 1998) was joined by over 400 HKU students and senior management of the Henderson Group and its subsidiaries at the Lee Shau Kee Hall High Table in celebration of the Hall’s fifth anniversary.

"Knowing how to watch for macro trends and picking the right career will enable you to make the best shot as you want. If you happen to make good money, remember to contribute to your society and your nation," Dr Lee advised the students.

A staunch supporter of the University, Dr Lee supported the establishment of Lee Shau Kee Hall in 2005, which provides hostel spaces for over 300 students each year. Three years later, he generously donated HK$60 million for student scholarships and campus development.

In the academic year 2009/10, eight students hailing from Cameroon, Germany, Malaysia, New Zealand and the Chinese Mainland received Lee Shau Kee Scholarships for Outstanding Students (Non-local). And a further seventy-two students received a Lee Shau Kee First-in-the-Family Bursary which enables them to participate in various overseas learning activities.

“Wealth is not only giving me the chance to study at HKU, but also allowed me to see, explore and discover the Chinese culture, something I have always dreamt of.

I hope one day I will be able to make use of all the experiences I gained in Hong Kong to strengthen the relationship between China and Germany after my graduation.”

Michael Godin
Lee Shau Kee Scholar (BBA, Year 2)

In recognition of Dr Lee’s generous support of the University, the Lecture Centre and the Learning Commons at the Centennial Campus will be named after Dr Lee and Mr Colin Lam 林高演 (BSc 1973), respectively.
HKU Foundation AGM

A YEAR OF REFLECTIONS LEAPING INTO NEW HORIZONS

“Through new and continuing fundraising initiatives, it was a year which saw many successes achieved by the Foundation. From touching the lives of students to supporting cutting-edge research that improves the quality of life of all, Foundation members are helping to make positive changes in the world,” Chairman Dr Philip Wong (BA 1955; Hon LLD 1996) (2nd right) reported at the HKU Foundation’s Annual General Meeting (AGM), at which more than 100 benefactors, friends and colleagues attended.

“All in all, the University has a vital role to play in the Government’s plans to step up efforts to develop Hong Kong into a regional education hub,” said Vice-Chancellor Lap-Chee Tsui DSC, reporting on the updated developments of the University.

Thanks to Dr Fong Yun-wah 方潤華 for his recommendation, a “minor planet” discovered by the Chinese Purple Mountain Observatory in 2007 has been named after HKU and is now known as the “HKU Star 港大星”.

After the AGM, Pro-Vice-Chancellor S P Chow (MBBS 1968; MS 1988), an orthopaedic surgeon, delivered a talk on how strengthening the spine can balance the body and mind. Professor Chow also demonstrated a series of relaxing exercises to promote the releasing of daily pressures.

www.hku.hk/hkuf/agar2010
First-in-the-Family Education Fund
PROMOTING EQUAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

At a presentation ceremony and experience sharing held in February 2010, alumni-cum-donors Mr Wong Kai-man 黃啟民 (BSc 1972; BSc(Sp) 1973) (seated, 1st row 4th left), Chairman of Azalea (1972) Endowment Fund, and Mr Winston Chan 陳中正 (BScSc 1983) (seated, 1st row 2nd left) encouraged First-in-the-Family Education (FIFE) Fund recipients to make good use of the fund and enrich their learning experiences at HKU.

www.fife.hku.hk

HKU Fundraising Programmes Won International Awards

The FIFE Fund, which aims at promoting equal learning opportunities in support of financially challenged students, follows in the footsteps of another gold-medal winning donation programme, the Stanley Ho Alumni Challenge, to win two gold medals in the Circle of Excellence Awards organised by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education.

The Circle of Excellence Awards received a total of 2,800 entries from 690 member institutions in 2009.
A Boost to Nurses’ Training

PARTNERING KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER

“The strategic partnership between HKU and Temasek Foundation, Singapore demonstrates a shared objective to build the capacities and capabilities of nursing professionals in Asia through cross-cultural collaborations and knowledge exchange.”

Mr Goh Geok Khim 吳玉欽
Chairman, Temasek Foundation

The month of March saw the official launch of the HKU School of Nursing’s new initiative “Training-of-Trainer Programme for Advancement in Nursing for Nurse Managers, Nurse Educators, and Community Nurse Leaders in Guangdong Province, China”.

The two-year project aims to improve the management skills of nurse managers, advance the teaching skills of nurse educators, and promote community nursing with the focus on raising awareness of chronic disease prevention and the training in tobacco dependency treatment. With the successful implementation of the programme, a model of nurse management training will be built to contribute to enhancing the overall standards of health care in China.

Under the project, 180 nurse managers and educators in Guangdong will receive training and will become trainers themselves, transferring their knowledge and skills to at least 6,300 nurses in the Province, which is about 5% of the 128,043 nurse population in the Province.

This first-of-its-kind programme was made possible with a donation of HK$5 million from the Temasek Foundation, Singapore. This is the first time the Foundation has awarded a grant to a university in Hong Kong and this project, which marks the Foundation’s first joint partnership with HKU, will strengthen the School of Nursing’s mission of knowledge transfer.

At the launch ceremony in Guangzhou, Pro-Vice-Chancellor S P Chow 周思幹 (seated, 4th left) and Dr Liao Xinbo 廖新波 (seated, 5th right), Deputy Director, Health Department of Guangdong Province, signed a Memorandum of Understanding, which was witnessed by the Temasek Foundation delegation, including Mr Goh Geok Khim 吳玉欽 , Chairman (seated, 6th right), and Mr Christopher Cheng 楊耀宗, member of Board of Directors (seated, 4th left), representatives of the Health Department of Guangdong Province, HKU and the first batch of course participants.