Happenings in our department

Faculty Achievements

Professor Liu Jiming and Professor Yuen Pong-chi Received Higher Education Outstanding Scientific Research Output Awards 2018 from the Ministry of Education

Professor Liu Jiming, Associate Vice-President (Research) and Chair Professor (left), and **Professor Yuen Pong-chi**, Associate Dean of Science and Chair Professor (right) from our Department and their teams received second-class Higher Education Outstanding Scientific Research Output Awards (Science and Technology) in the Natural Sciences category respectively. The Awards were presented by the Ministry of Education in 2018.

Higher Education Outstanding Scientific Research Output Awards from the Ministry of Education is one of the most important science technology awards for recognising scholars and scientists with prominent

Congratulations, Prof. Liu & Prof. Yuen!

Prof. Yuen Pong-chi Named IAPR Fellow

Prof. Yuen Pong-chi, Associate Dean of Science and Chair Professor of the Department, is named IAPR Fellow by the International Association for Pattern Recognition (IAPR) for his outstanding contributions to subspace learning and information fusion for visual recognition. The prestigious IAPR Fellow Award was introduced in 1994 and since then is biennially conferred on persons to acknowledge their distinguished contributions to the field of pattern recognition and to IAPR activities. According to the Constitution and Bylaws of IAPR, the number of fellows elected every two years must not exceed 0.25% of the total IAPR membership. Both service to IAPR and scientific contributions to the field of pattern recognition are taken into account in the selection process.

In recognizing Prof. Yuen's outstanding contribution to the University,

Prof. Yuen was promoted to Chair Professor in September, 2019.

Congratulations to Prof. Yuen !

Dr. Martin Choy won the Faculty's Award in Team Teaching

Dr. Martin Choy Man-ting, Lecturer of the Department of Computer Science, together with Dr. Kelvin Lee of the Academy of Film were awarded the Faculty Performance Award in Team Teaching 2019. The selection committee highly commends Dr. Choy's outstanding performance in teaching which is exemplary in many ways. Overall, Dr. Choy is an all-round scholar who is keen to achieve perfection in every aspect of teaching and students' learning experience.

Congratulations, Dr. Choy !

Department hosted the International Workshop on AI-enabled Malaria Control and Prevention on July 8-10, 2019

In recent years, Southeast-Asian (SEA) countries have achieved remarkable progress, and are moving toward the goal of malaria elimination by 2030. However, in many respects, the last mile, i.e., reducing the malaria cases to zero and preventing reestablishment of malaria is the hardest part yet coming. To control malaria in the high-burden areas and eliminate malaria in the low-burden areas, and to prevent resurgence, an effective surveillance strategy is of critical importance as it would act as an early-warning tool to monitor the risk and predict the onward transmission potential.

This workshop was held on July 8-10, 2019 at HKBU. The workshop is featured with six keynotes given by representatives from World Health Organization (WHO) and disease control experts from Southeast Asia countries. In the workshop, participants reviewed the current progress and challenges in malaria control and elimination, and co-developed action plans to reach the goal of malaria elimination. The workshop, which consists of tutorials, training programs, and case studies, was aimed at sharing the HKBU experience in developing malaria active surveillance strategies. Participants examined the challenges that the SEA countries encountered, and discussed if the available Artificial Intelligence-enabled solutions can help tackling the challenges facing and implementing better surveillance solutions.

Department received HK$3 million donation from Digital Blockchain Technology Limited

The Department of Computer Science received a donation pledge of HK$3 million from Digital Blockchain Technology Limited in support of the development of the Department. In appreciation of the donor's generosity, the University held a recognition ceremony on 18 July 2019. Officiating at the ceremony were Mr Li Feng, Chief Executive Officer, Mr Huang Xiang, Chief Technology Officer, and Ms Zou Wenjing, Chief Marketing Officer, from Digital Blockchain Technology Limited, together with Professor Roland Chin, President and Vice-Chancellor of HKBU.

President Roland Chin (centre), Vice-President (Research and Development) Prof. Rick Wong (third from left), Associate Vice-President (Engagement) Mr Yeung Chee-kong (first from right), Acting Dean of Science Prof. Michel A Van Hove (second from right), Prof. Xu Jianliang (second from left) and Prof. Chu Xiaowen (third from right), Acting Head and Professor respectively of the Department of Computer Science, express their gratitude to Digital Blockchain Technology Limited for their support to the development of computer science.

According to the strategic cooperation framework agreement signed by the two parties, the donation will be used to establish a partnership in the areas of blockchain technology development, data sharing as well as talent training. This included the establishment of a Blockchain and FinTech Laboratory at HKBU in support of the teaching and research work of the Department of Computer Science on blockchain technology.

Prof. Xu Jianliang, Associate Head and Professor, and Prof. Chu Xiaowen, Professor of the Department of Computer Science, attended the ceremony. Other HKBU representatives included Professor Rick Wong, Vice-President (Research and Development); Mr Yeung Chee-kong, Associate Vice-President (Engagement); Professor Michel A Van Hove, Acting Dean of Science; and Mrs Lily Chan, Director of University Advancement and Secretary-General of the HKBU Foundation.

Digital Blockchain Technology Limited is a renowned blockchain company in the industry. It is committed to the fundamental research as well as real-world applications of blockchain technology. Its research and development team is one of the pioneers in the design of ASIC chips for blockchain technology. The company is now developing a new blockchain technology that can harness the huge computing resources used for mining cryptocurrencies to support practical applications such as AI and scientific problems.

HKBU, and NCKU jointly organized design workshop

Our department, HKBU, and Institute of Creative Industries Design, National Cheng Kung University jointly organized the 2019 Joint Workshop on Design for Sustainability (D4S). Theming "Collaborative Game Design for Youth Social Responsibility & UN Sustainable Development Goals", this joint design workshop aims to allow the participants to apply technological and cultural transfer between two places. Celebrating its 8th anniversary, this workshop was organized in two parts, where the first part was held in Tainan on 1-3 June for preliminary ideation and the second part in Hong Kong on 4-6 June for implementation. This design workshop has been a unique learning opportunity, in which students learn to care our community and design creative games to arouse awareness on HK social challenges by collecting global wisdom.

30 participants from National Cheng Kung University, Hong Kong Baptist University, Cherrypicks and The Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups with diverse backgrounds including business, engineering, Government and International Studies, communication and computer science, etc. were divided into five groups to come up with game design for Youth Social Responsibility and United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals for children in Hong Kong. The workshops were featured with lectures, fieldwork, interviews, intensive group discussion sessions for generating innovative and interdisciplinary game design, based on their first-hand information, students also had opportunities to do prototyping and real implementation with local partners from NGOs, schools and district communities. Participants collaboratively designed 5 games and played together with 100 primary students from Po Leung Kuk Tin Ka Ping Millennium Primary School and Catholic Mission School, while learning the UN SDGs and designing a sustainable city.

Workshop Organizing Committees were surprised and satisfied by the creative ideas presented by the groups. PARGAIN Sheetal (AIS student), AZZARELLI Matteo (AIS student), BOATENG Nasir Brobbey (ITM student), and Anojan Prashanth LINGAM (ITM student) highly recommended this workshop to fellow students.
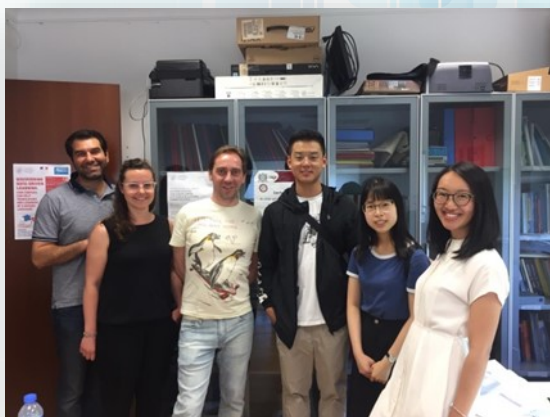
Italy Internship Programme

In Summer 2019, nine AIS and ITM students joined the Internship Programme to Italy. From June to July, they spent about six weeks in Italy, working as interns in an IT Laboratory or company. In addition, the University of Perugia (a public university founded in 1308) also offered a few seminars or courses on advanced IT topics to our students during their stay. The students enjoyed the social and cultural exchanges. This on-the-job training programme gives students a good opportunity to broaden their horizon by gaining some overseas living and working experiences. Come join us next year!

Career Development Workshop

Our department organized a career development workshop on 12 February 2019 evening. Around 100 students participated. In this workshop, staff from our career centre taught us how to write a CV and cover letter. Our department staff then introduced the IT-related job opportunities available in the market. By the end, five MSc alumni shared the experience on how to get job and apply work-related permit in Hong Kong. Feedbacks were very positive.

Strategic Interview Skills Training Series

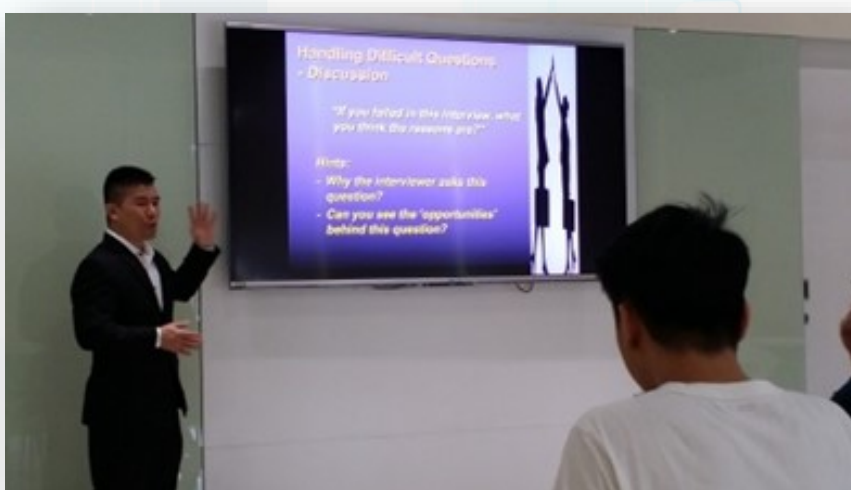## Strategic Interview Skills Training (Part 1): Getting What You Want in an INTERVIEW by PCCW

Our department and Career Centre co-organized two Strategic Interview Skills Training Workshops. Part 1 was held on 5 March 2019 evening at LT-3. Ms. Florence Chow, Head of Group Human Resources, PCCW-HKT offered a talk named Getting What You Want in an INTERVIEW！ She shared with our students how do they screen or select staff via an Interview. Over 80 AIS and ITM students attended this talk, and feedbacks were very positive.

Strategic Interview Skills Training (Part 2): Using NLP on solving difficult interview questions

Following the Strategic Interview Skills Training (Part 1), our department and Career Centre invited Mr. Alex Lam (an experienced coach) to run a mock exercise and practice in interview with our students in 21 May 2019 afternoon at iCafe Activities room. Twenty-two AIS and ITM students registered to join this event.

MSc Homecoming Party 2019

The MSc Homecoming New Year Party was successfully held on 26 January 2019. More than 80 alumni and students of MSc in ITM and MSc in AIS participated in the event and spent a wonderful afternoon together on campus. A wide variety of activities was also held during the New Year Party, including mass game, lucky draw and tea reception. Alumni shared their work as well as family life after Party and they spent a delightful and memorable afternoon together. Hope to see you in forthcoming year!

MSc Tea Gathering 2019

The MSc Tea Gathering was successfully held on 18 May 2019. More than 60 alumni and students of our MSc programmes, and teaching staff participated in the event. Alumni shared their recent life as well as interesting memory in the past and they spent a delightful and memorable afternoon together.

Professional Mentorship Gatherings

Professional Mentorship Scheme is in place to enhance the exposure of our MSc students through experience sharing and interaction with our MSc alumni who are now working in the IT industry and have registered as mentor with the scheme. MSc students are optional to join this scheme. Two mentor-mentee meetings were held on campus on 27 October 2018, and 16 March 2019 respectively. Students reflect that this scheme could enrich their social life, as well as to broaden their horizon in career planning and development.

Our department recruits mentors and mentees at the beginning of each September Semester. If you want to join as a mentor or a mentee, stay tuned!

Congratulations to our MSc Graduates 2018/19

In this year, we have over 200 MSc ITM and AIS graduates. Congratulations!

"All our dreams can come true…

if we have the courage to pursue them"

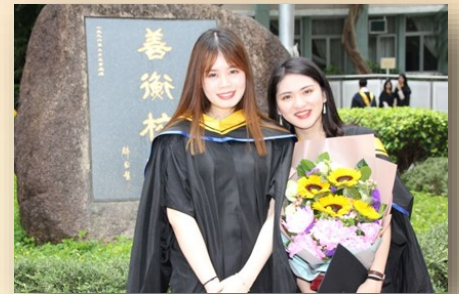Our department wishes you every success in your future career! Good health!

Library and Email Services for Alumni

Our MSc alumni can continue to have access to the library services of the University by paying an annual fee. For details, please refer to

http://library.hkbu.edu.hk/about/apply_graduate_card.html.

Stay Connected

To stay connected with us, please join our WeChat Alumni Group. The naming convention of the group: <"BU COMP MSc Alumni"> + <Cohort>. For example, if your intake year is 2018/19, you are eligible to join the group "BU COMP MSc Alumni 2018/19". Both ITM and AIS graduates from the same cohort will join the same group. Our department will make announcements to our alumni via this group from time to time. Stay tuned!

Should you have any questions about joining the group, feel free to contact our MSc alumni coordinator Dr. Jean Lai at jeanlai@comp.hkbu.edu.hk.

We look forward to catching up with you in the forthcoming alumni events!

Call for Participation

Homecoming Party 2019/20

A homecoming party will be held in early 2020 on our campus. All MSc alumni and students are welcome! We will announce the details as soon as possible. Stay tuned!

Looking forward to meeting you in the party!

Department of Computer Science

Facebook : https://www.facebook.com/hkbu.comp
Email : comp@comp.hkbu.edu.hk
Editor : Dr. Jean Lai, MSc Alumni Coordinator