

Hong Kong Polytechnic University (Western Canada) Association 香港理工大學(加拿大西)員生會

Newsletter Summer 2001

編者的話

-- 黃李偉瑞 -

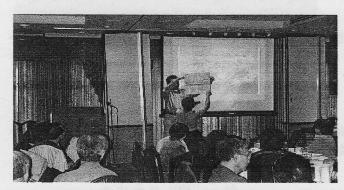
- 本通訊總編輯任健藻先生因私人事務繁忙,請辭主編一職,理事會全人謹此衷心感謝他在過去多年來為本通訊所作的寶貴貢獻,還望他繼續慷慨賜稿。
- 母校香港理大校董會經過廣乏的諮詢和研究後,於去年 正式通過以「開物成務 勵學利民」(To learn and to apply, for the benefit of mankind)為校訓,今期特節錄由校 方所發出的公佈,以便各會友更能瞭解母校的抱負和使 命,可以同步並進。
- 自上期通訊出版至今,本會已先後舉辦了很多活動,計有春茗、「電子商貿」講座、港式燒烤旅行和「亞伯達省」自助之旅,而期間又參與社區內的「超級單車」和「中僑百萬行」等慈善籌款活動;至於與香港大學和香港中文大學等校友會合辦的活動也不少,分別有「西藏之旅」幻燈片欣賞聚餐、「超級單車」大比拼和野餐,以及「如何向加國政府銷售商務」講座等。上述各項活動,均各有特式,值得回味,今期幸得謝博賢就其中多項活動寫下他的精彩紀要和感受與各會友分享
- 今期教育版有余松彬先生為大家介紹 "Coooperative Education" 的來龍去脈,而「生活隨想」版則有兩篇文章,分別由趙曾藝群和馬淑君兩位供稿,在此謹向三位 致謝。
- ↑人物誌」的主角是關應泉校友,多謝關校友樂意地他 自己的經歷和生活感受拿出來與大家分享。
- 今期通訊出版時剛巧是本年度會員大會的前夕,在此預 祝新一屆理事會順利誕生,並祝會務蒸蒸日上。



二月,新春聚餐,會友攜眷友踴躍赴會,筵開十三 席,喜氣洋洋,歡樂滿堂。



三月,袁善定先生以他對電子商貿的豐富知識和體 驗,帶領各會友渡過一個非常充實的晚上。



四月,本會與香港大學卑斯校友會合辦「西藏之旅」幻燈欣賞會,會友可以在筵席間欣賞 Ms. Irene Man 鏡頭下的西藏風貌,真是賞心樂事



六月,本會與香港中文大學卑斯校友會和港大卑斯校友會經過慈善單車友誼賽的角力後,再移師到 Deas Island 郊野公園進行另一類遊戲競技和野餐聯誼。

Acting Editor: Martha Wong, Staff Writer: Parmenas Tse Graphic Design: Chris Cheung Typesetting: Parmenas Tse Photographer: Danny Chan Hong Kong Polytechnic University (Western Canada) Association #140-8380 Lansdowne Road, Suite 157, Richmond, B.C. V6X 1B9 Tel: 604 272-3443

e-mail: hkpuwca@canada.com

web page: www.geocities.com/hkpuwca

香港理工大學校訓簡介

(節錄自香港理工大學校友刊物網絡第九期,二零零零年三,四月)

香港理工大學校董會經過廣泛的諮詢及研究後,正式通過以「開物成務 勵學利民」為校訓,並公佈大學的抱負及使命。以下為新校訓和使命的簡介:



開物成務 勵學利民

「開物成務」出自《易,系辭上》 「夫《易》,開物成務,冒天下之道,如斯而已者也。」 孔穎達疏:「言《易》能開通萬物之志,成就天下之務,有覆冒天下之道;斯,此也。易之 體用,如此而已。」意謂《易》的功用,就在使人通曉萬物之理,並根據這種佑識志辦事, 把事情辦好。

「勵學利民」取自漢王充《論衡》:「夫可知之事,惟情思之,雖大無難;不可知之事,厲心學問,雖小無易。故智能之士,不學不成,不問不知。」及《逸周書》:「王者佩在德, 德在利民。」



成為一所提供「首選課程」, 培育「首選畢業生」的「首選大學」。

使 命

透過以下途徑,發展以專業為基礎的卓越學術水平:

- 提供以應用為本的課程,讓畢業生能學以致用。
- 進行切合工商界及社會需要的應用研究。
- 提供理想的學習環境,讓學生全面發展學術以及個人的才能。
- 與工商界及專業團體發展密切的夥伴關係。
- 為在職人士提供進修課程,以利終身學習。

價值觀

我們奉行以下的價值觀,作為成功的基礎:

人 才(People)

我們珍惜廉正的品格、自由和創造力;鼓勵教職員不斷進取,並勇於接受可承受的合理風險。藉著發展教職員的個人才能,以及將之互相配合,促進整體工作,發揮團隊精神。我們為學生及教職員提供理想的環境,讓他們可安心尋求及推動個人和大學的發展。

表 現(Performance)

我們要求教職員有出色的表現,對其中表表者加以獎勵表揚。我們鼓勵創新、務實和 創業的精神,以及在學術及管理方面精益求精。

生產力(Productivity)

我們珍惜社會提供的資源,以最符合成本效益的方法,通過精簡的管理架構、高效率的程序、有效的制衡,及完善的素質保證機制,取得高質素的成果。

夥伴關係(Partnership)

在共同努力實現本校抱負之時,教職員彼此緊密合作。我們整體也是社會的夥伴,分享共同的目標和重視相互的利益。











愛麗斯湖港式燒烤

是日也,五月四日,正是我們中國五四文 化運動的紀念日。不知道是不是五四新文化運 動幾經波折方才有成,而中國現代史中好幾件 震盪人心的事件也發生在五四前後,所以連老 天都黯然神傷,洒下同情之淚,近年來這一天 都下起大雨來。今天也不例外,整天都下著傾 盆大雨,好像天要塌下來似的。本來天公要下 雨,也沒有甚麼大不了,橫豎每年這個時候都 是這樣的了,但我們員生會的理事們卻因這傾 盆大雨而憂心忡忡;事關我們員生會相約了五 十多位會員於翌日,亦即五月五日前往 Squamish 的愛麗斯湖(Alice Lake)舉行郊遊及 港式燒烤大會。如果這般傾盆大雨繼續下著, 那麼我們的活動豈不是要泡湯,旅遊車已經訂 下,燒烤的食物亦已準備就緒,那實在是大大 的麻煩。再者,更重要的乃是我們又相約了理 大校長潘宗光教授伉儷與我們同遊;如果因大 雨而不能成行·豈不是十分掃興。尚幸,理事 會當機立斷,連夜想好了應變措施,無論明天 天氣如何,郊遊燒烤事在必行。



老中青共"野"一爐

這日也,五月五日,大概我們真誠感動了老天;一早起來,天空放晴,大兩早已收了, 大隊得已依時出發。一行五十多人,浩浩蕩蕩 乘坐旅遊巴士向愛麗斯湖進發。不是說,我們 已相約了理大校長潘宗光教授伉儷同遊的 嗎?那麼潘教授伉儷呢?奇怪了,潘教授事務 繁忙,為什麼會老遠從香港來到溫哥華跟我們 郊遊燒烤呢?原來潘教授要前赴大多倫多市 參加香港理大加東員生會的週年大會和週年 聚餐,而潘教授一向親民,一有機會,他一定 會跟海外的校友和前教職員相聚,故取道溫哥 華與我們一起郊遊燒烤,跟眾會友相聚交流。 所以這天大清早,潘教授伉儷已經來到集合地 點,登上旅遊巴士,跟眾會員們一同出發。



沒有空氣,怎能起火?

行程約兩個多小時,在車上,校長向會員們詳細報導了母校理工大學的近況和發展,當中最引起會員們興趣的,乃是理大承包了美國太空署太空船的工作臂的合約,此乃母校及香港華人的光榮也。此外,校長又詳盡介紹了母校的新校訓和抱負,新校訓是「開物成務」勵學利民」(本期通訊另有專文介紹新校訓的意義,這裏不作詳細介紹)而眾會員們都覺得這新校訓亦可作為我們員生會和各會友的座右銘。

大軍約於上午十一時到達愛麗斯湖,原來 先頭部隊早已佔了極有利的位置,並已把燒烤 爐安排妥當。這時節雖已時屆初夏,但氣溫仍 然很低,大家都有點兒寒意,而且經過了兩個 多小時的行程,大家都餓了,所以立即生火燒 烤。生火的時候,大家又從潘校長那裏上了一 課,事緣有些會員直接把燒烤炭放置在燒烤爐 上,在爐與炭之間並沒有留下適當的空間,以 至空氣不能流入,所以很久都未能把炭燃著。 校長親自指示會員們把鐵網置於爐上,再放下 炭堆,這樣才能把火引起來。跟著,大家叉叉 相向,血肉橫飛,隨著肉香四溢,大家便大快 朵頤,吃得津津有味,轉眼間,便已把食物吃 光。



理事們與潘校長合照

飽餐一頓後,由謝博賢帶隊環湖一週,飽 覽湖光山色,愛麗斯湖的水溫乃是大溫地區各 湖中,水溫第二暖的一個湖,所以,在夏天, 很多人來這裏暢泳。際此初夏時節,水平如 鏡,並沒有人游泳;祇見水鴨三兩,游弋於沿 岸綠柳之間,遠看山上,仍是白雪暟暟,簡直 是人間仙境,風光實在美不勝收。在這環湖的 遊覽中,大家更可跟潘教授高談闊論,實有不 亦樂乎之感。



潘校長指示:力的原理

其後,大會安排了兩個很有趣的集體遊戲給會員們暢玩,這些遊戲由活動統籌李平及黃

李偉端二人設計,並由會員事務統籌王鎮球帶領;其一為「三人同行運奇寶」,參加者被分



關校友離開母校多年仍可獲校長頒獎,可喜也!

為三組,每組派出三人合力以一橡膠圈把一物 件套著然後運回終點,各組以接力進行。這遊 戲致勝之道在於大家對力學的理解和運用,結 果潘校長所屬的一隊大獲全勝,可見唸科學的 人在這些活動上總佔上一點優勢。第二個遊戲 乃是「問答尋寶」,這遊戲更加有趣,因為集 問答遊戲與尋寶於一身,同時透過遊戲,更可 增加我們對加拿大和大溫地區的認識所以各 參加者都全力之以赴,東奔西跑,務求在最短 時間內找到所有的問題和答案。到了下午三時 遊戲結束,優勝者亦已決出,由潘教授頒獎。 獎品則分別由會長陳傳亮先生和財務陳國強 先生兩位捐贈,於此亦謹向他們兩位致衷誠謝 意。而我們今年的郊遊燒烤亦於歡樂中結束, 旅遊巴士於下午三時許踏上歸途。大家相約下 次活動再見。



一家大細,齊心合力

卡加里、愛民頓自助之旅

由於旅途遙遠,駕車需時,而且整個行程需時六日, 所以並非大多會員可以參與,最後總共有十六位成員參 加,主要為理事和其家屬。當中十三人驅車前赴亞省, 而副會長伉儷和永權先生則因時間和私人事務的關係, 並不隨團出發,他們分別乘坐飛機飛赴卡加里跟大隊會 合。



大隊一行十三人,於六月廿九日出發,分乘三輛汽車直趨卑斯省的 Golden 下榻汽車酒店。翌日,即六月卅日,再驅車前往卡加里,途經班芙和露易斯湖,乃順道一遊,兩地景色秀麗怡人,大家都耳熟能詳,無容細敘。而大家於露易斯湖酒店的餐廳共晉午膳,實賞心樂事也。午膳後,繼續行程,約下午四時左右抵達卡加里,由前理工學院社工系講師 Dr. Daniel Lai 安排下榻於 Best Western Inn。而 Dr. Lai 和另一位前學生事務處體育部的職員 Mr. Boon-Li Lee 已於酒店大堂等候歡迎我們,盛情令人感動。

由於我們行前已經聯絡上數位分別居於卡市和愛市的友好幫忙,先在該兩市的中文社區報和明報刊登通告,相約校友和前教職員晚餐歡聚,於暢聚之餘,可向他們介紹員生會的概況。在卡市當晚,我們於東苑海鮮酒家餐聚,一共筵開三席,有九位校友、教職員和家屬聞風出席,大家除了共話於母校的趣聞逸事外,更分享

各自於溫市和卡市的移民生活和社會狀況等,暢談甚 歡。最後,大家更懇切討論了卡市校友和教職員加入員 生會的方案。由於目前人數不多,力量有限,所以大家 都屬意直接加入目前以大溫為基地的加西員生會,待日 後壯大後再作打算。餐聚直至晚上九時許,大家仍不願 散去,最後拍下全體照後,大家才依依不捨的散會。

七月一日,大清早,我們兵分兩路,一路前往 Drumheller 遊覽恐龍谷博物館及發挖恐龍遺跡的山谷, 博物館展出的恐龍骨栩栩如生,收藏品種豐富,而其他 藏品和介紹資料亦十分詳盡。發挖恐龍遺跡的山谷又能 保持原貌,留覽其中,讓人有身處恐龍時代蠻荒之感, 這個恐龍勝地實頗堪遊玩。完成遊覽後再前往愛民頓。 另一路大軍則直奔愛民頓,一方面有成員需要趕往愛民 頓處理私人事務,其他成員則可及早抵達愛市準備餐聚 事宜。晚上六時大家於愛民頓市的太子軒大酒樓餐聚。 我們獲得居於愛市的校友 Mr. Alan Ching 拔刀相助,負 責聯絡居於愛市的校友和前教職員。祇可惜我們訪問愛 市時適逢長周末,所有聯絡上的校友們都出埠渡假去 也,而聯絡人 Mr. Alan Ching 又逢結婚週年,跟其愛侶 早已另有安排,故僅得前教職員 Mrs. May Hui 和其夫婿 跟我們相聚。原來 May Hui 和我們多位理事都很相熟, 所以相聚時,大有他鄉遇故知之感;而他們兩位皆是好 客和健談之士,所以大家談笑甚歡,開心之極。最後 May Hui 更於不知何時,神不知、鬼不覺地結了帳,要 筵請我們,我們要爭也爭不來,實在令我們既感激又汗 顏。May Hui 更即席加入員生會為終生會員,繳交會費 作實。對 May Hui 的盛情無以為報,唯有相約他們訪溫 時,必定由我們作東道回請他們。

兩次餐聚後,最大的收獲是除了獲得多位校友和前 教職員應允加入員生會外,更得到 Dr. Daniel Lai, Mr. Boon-Li Lee, Mr. Alan Ching和 Mrs. May Hui 應允繼續出 任該兩市的聯絡人,房負招募和聯絡該兩地會員的重責。

完成了兩市的訪問後,大隊繼續自助旅遊的行程, 飽覽洛磯山脈和 Jasper 的秀麗風光後才於七月四日返抵 溫哥華,結連行程,而員生會這次愛伯特省的卡加里市 和愛民頓市的自助旅遊亦完滿結速。



社會服務新方向

這一年度,我們員生會的活動發展有兩個很重要的新方向,其一是增強社會服務;其二則是與各友好校友會加強聯繫。在這新方向的指引下,我們一方面希望提供機會讓會員參與社會服務,當會員安居於溫哥華的時可以更加融入社會,為社會作出一點貢獻;而另一方面,則希望會員們可以有更多機會跟其他校友會的一方面,則希望。因此,我們首先跟香港大學卑斯校友會組隊參加了卑斯省心臟病協會的超級單車籌款活動,而隨後又參與中僑互助會一年一度的"與龍同行"(Walk with the Dragon)百萬行籌款。以下簡報該兩項活動的盛況

超級單車大比拼

這項籌款活動由卑斯心臟病協會主辦,乃一公開活動,歡迎卑斯省所有公共機構、公司和社團組隊參加。心臟病協會特製了一部超級大單車,可供三十人同時騎上該單車,共同踏車前進。我們參加了於列治文市舉行的一次活動,於六月九日舉行。除了車長必須由心臟病協會派出的專人負責外,參加的隊伍須派出廿九人騎該單車,而且每一參加者必須籌得最少加幣五十元方可騎車。為了增加趣味,我們聯合了港大校友會和中大校友會一同參加,並且進行一場友誼賽,看誰最快完成行程,爭奪冠、亞、季軍獎杯。比賽完畢後,更拉隊前往 Deas Island 郊野公園進行午餐暢聚和競技遊戲比賽。

六月九日當天,天公可算做美,雖然仍有點冷意,但天色頗佳,還有點兒太陽,上午九時,大家於列治文市的 Ironwood Plaza 準時集合,我們員生會一共有三十一名會員及家屬出席,並且籌得加幣一千六百多元善款,為三隊中籌款最高者。但祇能讓廿九名成員騎車,得王鎮強兄及其家屬禮讓其他成員騎車,他們祇作壁上觀。我們被安排第一隊出發。全程約廿餘分鐘,一部大單車由三十人踏著在馬路上奔馳,甚為壯觀,沿途車上並播出一些進行曲和激勵的音樂,吸引了途人和汽車的注意,紛紛給予熱烈的掌聲和鼓勵。

相對於其他兩校友會,我們的成員較為年輕,所以 大家都以為穩操勝券,踏來輕鬆,甚至有點兒輕敵。結 東我們僅奪得季軍,三隊之末。大家都誓言來年必須全 力以赴,把冠軍奪回來。不過比賽祇為增加趣味和氣氛, 輸贏並不重要,跟友校校友會成員的友誼才是最重要。

比賽完畢,大家拉隊前赴 Deas Island 郊野公園進行 野餐和競技遊戲。該郊野公園風景優美,陸草如茵。三 家校友會合共八十多人出席了這項家庭樂活動,由於上 午進行了超級單車大比拼,大家的氣力負出不少,所以 到達 Deas Island 時大家都肚餓了,野餐隨即開始,食物 除了中式菜餚、炒飯和炒麵外更有 Pizza 批,可說適合 男女老少,而我們會長陳傳亮更報效自己公司代理發售的果仁和卡樂B薯片供大家享用;食物豐富,除了大快 朵頤外,大家更趁此機會暢談,交流在大溫的移民生活, 氣氛十分融洽。

午餐之後便是歡樂時間,我們安排了一個遊戲競技項目,由三家校友會作為比賽隊伍。遊戲共分四項,分別為「運水摸魚」、「三人同心」、「打鑼打鼓」和「流星兩」等;這些遊戲均為隊際遊戲,各項遊戲每隊分別派出六至十名成員出賽,所以每位成員都有機會參加比賽。比賽時,大家鬥智鬥力,互爭長短,但又不失友誼第一的精神,可以玩來十分開心,可能我們員生會經常舉辦各項康樂和社交活動,所以會員們對這些競技遊戲駕輕就熟,我們輕易便勝出成為冠軍,抵償了單車大比拼的落敗。大會安排的活動至下午三時許結束,參加者再各自與親屬友好於公園的郊遊徑作遠足步行,隨後依依不捨地散去。



"與龍同行" (Walk with the Dragon)百萬行籌款

員生會另一項社會服務乃於七月廿二日組隊參加了由中僑互助會舉辦的"與龍同行"(Walk with the Dragon)百萬行籌款活動。由於會員的努力,尤其是我們的程序籌劃理事之一李平先生的全力以赴,我們共籌得了加幣一千一百多元捐給中僑互助會·支持該會為大溫地區新移民的服務。而會員大多派出其少壯的新一代出馬新移民的服務。而會員大多派出其少壯的新一代出席步行,我們總共有約廿餘人由會長陳傳亮一家帶領出席步行開總共有約廿餘人由會長陳傳亮一家帶領出席步口開幕儀式,因為籌款超過一千元,獲頒發一面紀念與牌以作嘉許。隨後步行開始,我們的隊伍一共花了別參與以作嘉許。隨後步行開始,我們的隊伍一共花了別參與了各項家庭樂攤位遊戲和欣賞各項台上表演,大會於下午三時結束,會員們相約明年繼續努力,動員更多會員參與此項甚具意義的社會服務活動。

會長陳傳亮兄招待眾理事於其家中召開理事會,並設戶外燒烤款待各理 事及其家屬,使各理事於全心全意討論會務之餘,又能進行交誼分享,實樂事 也。故特調寄「何日君再來」以詠此一開心盛事。

調寄何日君再來 (國語版)



縱有分歧見 共識乃可待 雖唇槍舌劍 不把友情傷



(來來來,喝完這一杯再開會吧!) 眾志可成城 會務蒸蒸上



聯絡。

歡迎會員於員生會的網站上刊登廣告和選購員生會T恤



本會委託專人設計的精美會員 T 恤已印製完成,用料上乘,堪稱價廉衫美,售價每件十元正,歡迎選購,訂購者請與謝博賢(Parmenas Tse)聯絡(電話:604 272-3443)

刊登廣告內容以服務本會會員為對象。於同一時間,每位會員只能刊登廣告一則為期三個月,先到先登,額滿即止。本會有權決定是否刊登任何廣告。有興趣者請與會長陳傳亮先生(Mr. Randy Chan)(電話:晚上 604 522-8393)或張志忠先生(Mr. Chris Cheung)(電話:晚上 604 517-1111)



「望子成龍」,「望女成鳳」。相信古今中外的每對父母都有此期盼,在同一心態下,為父母的都會毫無條件;毫不保留地心甘情願為兒女奉獻一切,犧牲享受,竭盡畢生的心力;窮一生的積蓄,務求栽培自己的,窮一生的積蓄,顯父母;光於前,於後。」則所願達到了。這樣的苦心,這種熱切的期望,究有多少身為兒女者能體會到親心呢!今天生活在異國的家庭,面對著中西文化的差異,父母對子女的教養,確是個不容忽視的課題,如何解決兩代文化的鴻溝,頗值得深思和探討。筆者不才,願就一得之愚見,略作論述。

(一) 雨代中西文化差異的根源:

不少土生土長的華裔子女,出生後便是百分之百的加拿大人,但也是百分之百的華人。他們講洋語、習洋文、打扮西化、染金黃色頭髮、拒學中文·····數中華文化一竅不通,自無中國人身份的歸屬感。然而,生長在中國人的家庭,也有著中國人的血統;其父母具有中華文化的基礎,很自然地要求子女繼承中華文化的傳統,希望子女把自己的祖裔文化,思想觀念延伸給下一代,發揚光大。但子女受了西方教育的影響,受了同輩的薰陶,漸漸與父母期望的模式距離日遠,兩代中西文化的認知度有了差異。大致而言:

- (1) 倫理道德觀—中國人的家庭,父親多是一家之主。認為要長幼有序。在家能「入則孝」,在外能「出則悌」,做事要「謹而信」,符人要「汎愛眾」。望子女學業、事業有成,承襲世業,出人頭地。但西方人對民主體認不同。灌輸給子女的是獨立自主思想,很重原則,做事主動,有信心,肯創新,人與人間互重互愛,重視公民之權利與義務的責任,懂得努力工作賺取報酬,享受人生。
- (2) 傳統的家族思想—中國人性格含蓄包涵, 說話語調溫婉隱晦,事事以忍為貴,不以 人為忤,對子女衣著裝扮,要求端莊大方。 婚姻大事,會給予意見,抗拒異族通婚 量,組合成一個大家庭的群體。更望子女婚後仍與父母同住,能數 堂,組合成一個大家庭的群體。更望子女 極直,有話直說,愛恨分明。打扮裝飾, 追求潮流,對婚姻制度,態度自由開放, 子女到了法定年齡,必須完全獨立自主, 父母不會強加意見,也不打算依賴子女奉 養。

(二)文化的價值觀:

身為華裔的父母,心中都懷有一種揮之不去的矛盾 感。他們希望子女能盡快融入加拿大社會,能操流利的 英語,卻又怕子女過份西化,忘記了自己是龍的傳人身 份。為求自己的子女能承傳中華文化的遺產,父母會刻 意安排子女學中文、學國畫、學琴、學中國功夫,甚至 自己甘願作司機接送。在家祇講中文,閒暇時更絮絮不 休地向子女講述中國的歷史故事,祖先的發跡史,度假 也回原居地,不厭其煩地提醒子女:「別忘記自己是炎黃 子孫,是地道的中國人,根在中國,所以必須認識中 文·····」,子女遵從學中文,可說是在父母安排下, 無可奈何接受的。但當子女到了青少年期,由於在加拿 大教育制度中成長;生活在加拿大的地方。思想上所承 受的自然也是以加拿大社會西方的文化為主位。但是, 其中因滲入了一些來自家庭傳遞的中華文化,往往引致 了中西文化的衝突,和價值觀的認知不同。很容易便產 生了二者勢不兩立的局面,這是家庭中最困擾的問題。 (三)身份的困惑:

來自中、港、台的青少年,因英語程度欠佳,拒與外籍或土生華人往還,接觸的多是同聲同氣的朋友,所以久久未能融入主流。日漸對自己身為中國人,卻生產在非華人文化的異邦地方產生懷疑,對自己身份誰屬更感迷惘,覺得很自卑。不知道怎樣在異族朋友中求認同意種內心的苦惱,心理的掙扎。在子女成長的歲月中至感痛苦,很需要父母陪同他們度過,平衡他們掙扎的心態,進而幫助他們增加自信,認識自己,認識別人。使他們融入加拿大的社會,踏上人生有意義的路途。

CO-OPERATIVE EDUCATION: A BRIEF OVERVIEW

Michael Yu

INTRODUCTION

Since 1957, when the University of Waterloo initiated the first co-op program in Canada, the number of co-operative education programs has increased tremendously. Today, the Canadian Association for Co-operative Education (CAFCE) lists more than 100 university and college members offering co-op programs in hundreds of professional study areas. Co-op is now a recognized form of education, and much research has been done to ascertain its benefits for students, employers, and the institutions offering these programs. Based on research findings and experience from operating co-op programs, improvements to programming are continuously made to reflect changes in learning theories as well as professional work requirements.

Since co-op is an education strategy, not a job placement strategy, it is important for students and parents to understand its nature and formulate realistic expectations. There are real benefits for participation in co-op programs, but there are also commitments and sacrifices. All evidence indicates that bridging study and work is becoming more and more important for postsecondary students. Co-op programs present an excellent mode of learning that is conducive to linking study to work, and vice versa. In this article, I will give an overview of co-op education at the postsecondary level, and will point interested students and parents to further sources of information.

FRAMING CO-OPERATIVE EDUCATION

The following definition of co-op education is extracted from CAFCE's website. 1

A Co-operative Education Program is a program that formally integrates a student's academic studies with work experience in co-operative employer organizations. The usual plan is for the student to alternate periods of experience in appropriate fields of business, industry, government, social services and the professions according to the following criteria:

- 1. Each work situation is developed and/or approved by the co-operative educational institution as a suitable learning situation.
- The co-operative education student is engaged in productive work rather than merely observing.
- 3. The co-operative education student receives remuneration for the work performed.
- 4. The co-operative education student's progress on the job is monitored by the co-operative education institution.
- 5. The co-operative education student's performance on the job is supervised and evaluated by the student's employer.
- 6. The total co-operative work experience is normally fifty percent of the time spent in academic study, and in no circumstances less than thirty percent.

CAFCE has an accreditation process that educational institutions can use to assess the quality of their co-op programs. While this is not mandatory for institutions, many of them apply for accreditation, or at least use the standards established by accreditation as a basis of developing their programs.

In BC, the Association of Co-operative Education (ACE) represents CAFCE to advocate co-op education and serves as a conduit for the member institutions to develop resources and programs that help encourage student participation in co-op education.

The following benefits for students are extracted from the ACE website.²

- 1. Students receive meaningful, study related work experience which is a prerequisite for post-graduation employment.
- Students explore career opportunities through their experiences in real work environments.
- Students obtain valuable hands on experience and are able to evaluate interests and aptitudes to assess career goals. Salaries are paid at competitive rates allowing students to finance their education.
- 4. Students develop valuable workplace skills such as teamwork, communication, writing and computer skills.
- 5. Institutions receive immediate feedback on the quality and relevance of their program and on the quality of their students.

The following benefits for employers are also extracted from the ACE website.³

- 1. Starting and completing a special project.
- 2. Supplementing existing staff during peek periods.
- 3. Reducing recruiting costs.
- 4. Hiring temporary staff to fill in during vacations and leave.

¹ 'Definition of Co-operative Education', in the "About CAFCE" section, http://www.cafce.ca/e/index-e.htm

² 'What are the Benefits of a Co-op Education', in the "Student Information" section, http://www.co-op.bc.ca/stdinfo2.htm

³ 'What are the Benefits of Hiring a Co-op Student', in the "Employer Information" section,

- 5. Utilizing a student's knowledge of new technology to complete a special project.
- 6. To assist in building a work force which meets the needs of their organization and which contributes to its success.

Since the benefits are mutual, more and more employers are becoming interested in hiring co-op students. Here's what one co-op employer has said positively about co-op.⁴

Seagate Software (now known as Crystal Decisions) recently hired a UBC Arts Co-op student as a technical writer and we were surprised to find out how useful an English student could be in a software company! The student wrote a Quick Start guide for a new product, edited a developer's guide, coordinated technical reviews, and organized meetings to discuss user interface design. Since then, Seagate has hired more than a few Arts Co-op students from UBC ... (Karen Bently, Documentation Team Leader, Crystal Decisions)

Likewise, co-op students gain positive experience from their work terms:5

As a Personal Financial Services Representative, I handle issues involving customer finances, including regular savings accounts, investments, and loans. My position requires me to be both a financial advisor as well as a salesperson-roles that are each uniquely challenging and exciting. ... My studies have helped me to develop excellent communication skills and the ability to look at problems from different perspectives-skills essential to the Royal Bank of Canada. (Winnie Low, Linguistics Major, Commerce Minor, UBC)

Co-op Education in BC

According to recent statistics collected by CAFCE, in 2000-2001, BC had a total of 11,449 co-op student enrollments, 2,415 of which were from colleges/institutes and 9,034 from universities.⁶ All BC colleges, institutes and universities have set up some forms of co-op programs. These programs span a large range of studies, including arts and humanities, sciences, engineering, commerce/business, trades, and technologies. These programs share common features while differ in details of program content.

- · Alternating study and work terms
 - Co-op students conduct their program in alternate study and work terms. The number and length of work terms differ, but co-op students are often required to commit themselves to a set number of work terms.
- Co-op fees
 - Fees may be in the form of tuition (based on credits) or special co-op fees, or a combination of both. Since co-op programs require extra coordination work, most institutions need extra funds to operate these programs.
- Maintaining appropriate academic standing
 - Applicants to co-op programs often have to maintain appropriate academic standing. This requirement ensures that the students who are admitted into co-op programs have reasonable knowledge and skills related to their fields of study, and would be able to contribute to their co-op positions.
- Mandatory preparation workshops
 - To ensure that co-op students have a realistic understanding of co-op programs as well as necessary skills in securing placements (such as resume writing, job search, job interview skills, etc.), most institutions require applicants to attend mandatory prep workshops.
- Coordinator support
 - Co-op officers are available to support the co-op students from the initial stage of application to the final stage of completion. These co-op coordinators not only provide help to the co-op students, but they also work closely with the co-op employers to ensure that their experience with hiring co-op students is a positive one.
- Job posting service
 - While some co-op students find their own placement, most utilize job posting services by their institutions. Placement opportunities are often developed by co-op coordinators with employers, and the job postings are accessible to co-op students.
- Job interviews
 - Although the institution has developed co-op positions with employers, the responsibility is on the employers to select the most appropriate candidates. Co-op students have to realistically work through a normal job application process. Placement is not guaranteed, and only hard work by the students leads to positive results.
- On-site visits and employer supervision

http://co-op.arts.ubc.ca/employers.cfm?ID=132

⁴ Extracted from the UBC Arts Co-op website, "Student/Employer Profiles" section,

⁵ ibid

⁶ In the "Statistics" section, a downloadable PDF file, http://www.cafce.ca/e/index-e.htm

Co-op coordinators work with program advisors and employers to ensure that the co-op experience is helping the students apply what they have learned in their studies to the real world of work. On-site visits are conducted, and employers commit resources to supervise and support the co-op students. However, this does not mean that the co-op students are there just to learn; they are expected to contribute to their jobs like any other employees. The level of expectations differ, of course, because they are still learners in their field of studies.

· Final report submission requirements

In order to complete their co-op programs, students often have to write final reports to assess their co-op experience. Their assessment is often based on learning objectives that have been set up in the beginning of the co-op term.

Special Pointers

1. Arts students do co-op too

In the past, "co-op" was only associated with business, computer science, or engineering students. Today, many universities, including UBC and SFU, have Arts Co-op Programs. At UBC, Arts co-op students not only get support from their coordinators; they also get peer support from the Arts Co-op Student Association. Arts co-op students have found co-op positions related to public relations, human resources, writing, special event organization, research & analysis, history & archeology, socio-economic planning, legal and justice issues, and fine arts.

- 2. Think career planning and work-based learning not just earning a few extra bucks
 Postsecondary students doing part-time or summer jobs is common. But co-op is more than earning extra bucks. Co-op is based on adult learning theories that emphasize the integration of study and work. So it is foremost a learning method. At the same time, co-op students are able to explore their career options using the co-op work terms. Research has shown that co-op students have higher employment rates and choose their careers more rationally.
- 3. Alternatives to full co-op programs
 What if a student's career interest does not have a matching co-op program? There are other options. Some programs may have a practicum component, whereby students are placed in supervised, but unpaid, job positions in order to apply what they have learned in their studies. Practicum periods are usually shorter not months like co-op work terms, but weeks perhaps. And then there are internship programs some paid and some unpaid/voluntary. Some internship programs are reserved for graduates, while others allow

To Find Out More

Interested students should always contact the co-op offices of their respective institutions for the most up-to-date program information. Canadian Association of Co-operative Education (CAFCE) (www.cafce.ca)

- general information about co-op education
- accreditation information

any students to apply.

BC Association of Co-operative Education (ACE) (www.co-op.bc.ca)

• Brief information on BC co-op programs and links to institutional websites

Institutions in the Lower Mainland with co-op programs:

- University of British Columbia (www.coop.ubc.ca)
- Simon Fraser University (www.sfu.ca/coop)
- British Columbia Institute of Technology (www.bcit.ca/industry/coopEducation.shtml)
- Kwantlen University College (www.kwantlen.bc.ca/coop-ed)
- Langara College (www.langara.bc.ca/coop)
- Douglas College (www.douglas.bc.ca/coop)
- Capilano College (www.langara.bc.ca) look for links to cooperative education programs

Two Self-Counsel publications have useful information about co-op programs:

- The Complete Guide to Canadian Universities
- The Complete Guide to Canadian Colleges



好好先生機械師一關應泉校友

雨年時間,轉眼即過,關先生於一九七一年畢業, 隨即踏上事業發展的旅途。畢業後,關先生立即投入工 作,他獲得紹榮鋼鐵廠的聘用,出任機械維修技術員, 由於當時的鑄鐵技術仍然落後,所以當鑄造鋼筋時要同 時維修鑄鐵機械則十分危險,所以關先生祇工作了兩年 便轉職。他於一九七三年轉入香港大東電報告局出任電 報機(Tele-printer)的機械維修工作。在大東電報局一做便 做了二十年,最初當機械工作,但兩年後,電報機轉為 電子操作,關先生便在公司安排的在職訓練下完成電子 維修訓練,而轉為電子維修技術員。到了一九八八年電 報發報及長途電話均轉為電腦化,所以,關先生再次接 受在職訓練,並被派往大東電報告局轄下的電訊中心(電 報轉接中心)負責當時的大型電腦維修工作。由初加入 大東電報局至一九八一年這八年時間內可說是關先生事 業發展最順利的時期,一方面他可以不繼學習進修,另 一方面薪酬亦不錯。但到了一九八一年,大東電報局跟 香港電話公司合併為香港電訊,由於香港電話公司的薪 酬遠低於大東電報局,故合併後,大東電報局原來職工 的發展便被拖慢。但關先生堅持其工作,對香港電訊事 業可說作出了極大的貢獻。

一九八九年發生北京民運事件,香港人心頗有波動,而關先生亦於此時萌生移民的念頭。一九九零年,他一家來溫哥華旅遊,親身體驗溫哥華的風光如畫、景物怡人,認為是可安居的地方,而其太座亦頗有移民的意願。返港後,乃立即入紙申請移民,很快得到批准,並於一九九三年舉家移民來到溫哥華。

來溫後,關先生很想當回老本行,即機械維修的工作,曾嘗試申請加入 BCTEL 工作,但不獲聘用。經過反覆思量,發覺現代電訊中心的硬件越趨先進,而且其可靠程度遠勝於舊式的大型電腦,故舊式電訊中心維修工作所需的大量人手必然大量減少,所以關先生深切體會到再入這行的機會已經很少。若要在溫哥華另創一番

事業,必須另闢途徑。湊巧,關先生移民來溫三個月後 讀到了一則招生廣告,這廣告乃 Metro Training Institute 的一則"Auto Body Repairing for U.I. Recipients"的招松 學員的廣告,雖然這則廣告指明此課程為正在接受 金的人任而設身,但關先生認為機不可失,乃打電話去 問,而幸獲安排面試,並獲得取錄,接受為期付於 對於一次,且有生活津貼。 這課程除了技術創鍊更獲 類如何撰寫覆歷書和見工技巧等,完成訓練後更獲 具一套,故這課程可說是關先生在溫哥華從新發展事業 的基礎。

關先生認為在加拿大再創一番事業,必須弄清當前的社會發展方向,把握機會,鍥而不捨。要保障個人的工作或事業,必須靠個人的表現,切勿仿傚本土人士的工作態度,應盡本人的最大力量去完成工作,表現個人的效率和可靠性。

雖然關先生指出在這裏再創一番事業絕不容易,而他會走過的路亦頗困難,但他甘之如始,而且學院的路亦頗關先生強調香港工業專門學院的副先生強調香港工業專門學院的國人。
一個基礎,他學懂了如何思考去解決在工作上遇程中,個學會了不斷讀書和進修的重要性;縱觀他在職員出來,亦可見他身體力行,不斷地接受在職讀者於如此困難的工作市場上保障到一席位。而讀書和旅遊的興趣亦於工專時代養成,所以在大溫的生活環境,正好讓他可以享受這餘閒興趣。

關先生育有兩位掌上明珠,現已亭亭玉立,長女十九歲,次女十七歲,均正在求學期間。其太座則為賢妻良母型的職業婦女,除了相夫教女外亦於銀行界任全職工作。關先生稱在大溫生活和工作可讓他盡享天倫之樂和愉快的生活餘暇。

