

新院長沈祖堯教授:接觸同學 作育英才

New College Head Professor Joseph Sung: Getting Close to Students to Nurture Talents

沈祖堯教授於二月十一日正式上任,成為逸夫書院第四任院長。沈教授應《逸林》邀請,談談他對書院和學生的印象、未來計劃以及家庭與興趣等等。

沈教授坦言,除了數年前曾主講書院月會外,過往他沒有太多機會與本院同學接觸。最近兩次參予的書院活動,是出席去年的千人宴和主講宿舍的文化夜。印象中,同學都很活躍、多才多藝,他感覺很親切。沈教授指出,自己接受出任院長這個挑戰,主要是希望在學生全人發展出一分力。大學生活對同學的成長起關鍵作用,他希望能培育同學成為有責任感的成年人,建立正確的價值觀,懂得面對挫折,與人和睦相處等。

沈院長初步構思舉行座談會,邀請來自不同背景 而其經驗可供借鏡的人士,出席由同學主持的訪談。此 外,又計劃推動外展計劃,訓練同學獨立和與人合作, 培養領袖才能,希望同學會歡迎這些構思。

談到自己家庭,沈教授感謝太太的支持和包容, 使他無後顧之憂。家中大小事務和教育女兒都由太太負責,當然決定某些重要事情時,沈教授一定會參予。他 坦言和兩名女兒見面的時間不多,忙起上來甚至一兩天 不見面,不過每年都會安排一次家庭旅行,期間甚麼事 都不管,放鬆心情享受與家人相處的時間。

沈教授謙稱不甚懂得分配時間,每天工作時間總是安排得密密麻麻。不過他會訂定工作的優先次序,並於適當時把工作轉交他人處理。雖然因公務常需往外地,沈教授卻不以乘飛機為苦,反而頗為享受,因為可以靜下來思考和整理計劃,而且可以看很多電影。他笑說看電影最能令他放鬆,往往不消一會兒便睡着。他也喜歡攝影,取景時可以更深入欣賞四周的一景一物。

沈院長樂於接受新挑戰,他相信很快會有機會近 距離接觸同學。他並強調,教師應以身作則,盡一己之 力作育英才,這是教育工作者最重要的任務。 Assuming his new responsibility as the fourth head of Shaw College on 11 February, Professor Joseph Jao-yiu Sung shared his impression on the college and its student, future plans, his family and interests.

Professor Sung said all along he has not had much contact with college students. At the two recent college activities he joined, he found students very active and talented. He explained that his main reason of taking up the college head position was to play a role in nurturing students to become responsible adults who have positive values, know how to face setbacks and build up harmonious relationships with others.

He initially planned to organize forums with students as hosts and people from different walks of life whose experience could inspire students as interviewees. He also planned to promote outward bound programmes which he believed, could train students to be more independent, learn to work with others and acquire their leadership skills. He hoped that students would welcome these plans.

Speaking of his family, Professor Sung was grateful to have a very supportive and accommodating wife who took very good care of the family and the education of their two daughters. Though he does not have the time to see his family very often, they travel together once every year, when they would relax and enjoy the time.

Despite a busy schedule, Professor Sung handles his daily work very well by prioritizing his tasks and delegating responsibilities to others where appropriate. Due to work requirement, he has to travel overseas frequently. He enjoys the time on plane because he can sit back and think, and reorganize his work. He also sees movies to relax himself. Taking photos is his other hobby which allows him to appreciate better the beauty of nature.

Professor Sung looks forward to getting closer to students. He restates that he would set a good example to students and would do his best to nurture talents because he believes this is the most important task of an educator.