聯合書院明德獎

獎額一名，港幣五萬元，旨在表揚在大學肆業期間整體學業成績卓越，在領袖才能及服務方面均具相當表現的本院應屆畢業生。此項書院最高榮譽的獎學金獎將會在書院院慶典禮上頒發，並由老師宣讀讚辭，得獎人的資料亦會永久存在書院檔案。

United College Ming De Scholarship

The Scholarship, in the amount of HK$50,000, was established by the College to honour a final-year UC Student for having achieved academic excellence, manifested leadership ability as well as performed outstanding services to the College and the Community at large during his/her tenure at the University. The recipient will additionally be honoured with a public citation at the College's Anniversary Ceremony and a permanent record of his/her accomplishments will be kept in the College archives.

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「聯合書院明德獎」得獎人高宇桃同學讚辭

高宇桃同學，主修電子工程，副修數學，2011 年夏以工程學學士學位甲等榮譽畢業。在大學肆業期間，她的學業成績優異，主修科的成績位居全班第一，獲頒聯合書院彭禎祥獎學金、遵理學校 Richard Eng 獎學金及院長嘉許狀、工程學院院長嘉許狀等榮譽。三年級時宇桃到美國伊利諾伊大学厄巴納－香檳分校（UIUC）電子及計算機工程學系作交換生，表現依然出色，多數科目獲 A+成績。期間進行的圖像壓縮研究，給該校的教授留下深刻的印象。

撰寫畢業論文的過程，充分體現了宇桃的學術能力和做學問的精神，她認真踏實、積極進取、勤於思考、勇於創新，對於自己有興趣的課題，她投下巨大的熱情。作為一個本科生，她在畢業論文《利用圖像的不規則自擬，通過字典學習和低秩逼近改進圖像復原的算法》，挑戰了相關領域的學說，這是連研究生都未曾涉及的重大問題，在理論分析和現實應用各方面面對極大的挑戰，然而宇桃還是取得了令人興奮的成果。她的結論，是迄今最好的方法。通過實驗，論文對該問題現行的各種說法作了廣泛而又深入的比較和分析，並在此基礎上作了多方面改進和創新。宇桃早就樹立了投身科學研究的理想，大學畢業後取得全額獎學金，到美國康奈爾大學(Cornell)電子及計算機工程學系攻讀博士學位。

宇桃積極參與各項課外活動及社會服務。她曾加入聯合書院馮桑均先生全人發展獎勵計劃，擔任過兩屆到訪傑出學人委員會的學生代表。她在 2009 年初作為明日全球研究院 (GIFT) 青年領袖計劃的成員，考察了印度新德里周邊農村地區，結合當地的經濟狀況和生活水平，與其他成員一起提出了網絡服務外包的可行性方案，以增加農民收入，方案最終被當地一家公司接納並實施。在 UIUC 交流的一年裏，宇桃堅持每周前往鎮中心的愛心商店作義工，整理和清洗回收的廢舊物品，並以合理的價格賣出，所得利潤用於為低收入人群建造房屋，以提高他們的生活質素。宇桃在這些活動中的出色表現，說明了她具有極強的社會責任感，願意全心全意為社會服務。

我們認為，宇桃同學勤奮、開朗，樂於助人，謙和有禮，她在學業上及社會服務方面的傑出表現，彰顯了聯合人的氣質和風範，為工程學院以及聯合書院的同學樹立了良好的榜樣，是本年度聯合書院明德獎的最好人選。

此讚辭由湛偉權教授、陳錦泰教授及王曉剛教授撰寫

Miss Gao Yuguang
Recipient of United College Ming De Scholarship
A Citation

Miss Gao Yuguang graduated in June 2011 with a First-Class Honours degree in the Bachelor of Engineering, majoring in Electronic Engineering with minoring in Mathematics. She achieved excellent academic performance throughout her undergraduate study, and was ranked top in many technical courses. Yuguang has been awarded a number of honours, including Pang Ching Cheung Scholarship, Beacon College Richard Engineering Scholarship, College Head's List, and Engineering Faculty Dean's List. In her junior year, she studied at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign as an exchange student, and received A+ for the majority of courses she took there. While there, she conducted a research project on image compression.

In her final year project, Yuguang fully showed her talent, potential and spirit for the academy: she was earnest, motivated, and active in innovative, systematic and critical thinking; moreover, she was enthusiastic about the research topics she was working on. As an undergraduate student, she challenged herself, when doing her thesis research about image resolution, by exploring irregular self-similarities via image-signature-dictionary learning and low-rank matrix approximation, problems which were extremely challenging both in theoretical analysis and implementation and which had not been approached by graduate students in relevant areas. She did extensive experimental comparison of multiple state-of-the-art approaches and significantly improved them in innovative ways. She was determined to devote herself to research. Upon her graduation she went on to pursue her PhD degree in Electrical and Computer Engineering at Cornell University with a Cornell Fellowship.

Besides academic studies, Yuguang also participated in various extra-curricular activities and social services. She joined the Mr Fung Sun Kwan Whole Person Development Award Programme of United College, and she acted as a Student Representative on the United College Distinguished Visiting Scholar Committee for two terms. In 2009, she joined a team of Young Leaders Programme organized by The Global Institute for Tomorrow (GIFT) to visit the rural areas around New Delhi, India. The team proposed a plan of Business Processing Outsourcing (BPO) to enhance local people's income and quality of life, based on the local economic situations. The plan was eventually accepted and executed by a local company "Drishtee." When she was in Illinois in 2009-2010, Yuguang did voluntary work of arranging and recycling donations at Habitat "Restore" of Humanity of Champaign County every week. The profit from the sold products was used to build shelters for the low-income families to ensure reasonable living conditions for them. Yuguang has shown a strong sense of social responsibility in the past and she is ready to continue to contribute to society in the future.

All in all, Yuguang is a diligent, pleasant, obliging and polite student, with outstanding performance in academic and social aspects that befits the spirit of United College.

This citation is written by Professor Cham Wai Kuen, Professor Chan Kam Tai and Professor Wang Xiaogang