

Presentations (in chronological order)

Partnering with Students in Climate Education

Abstract

"Partnering with Students in Climate Education: HKU Climate Ambassador" and "Climate Ambassadors: Desert Service-learning Trip in Mainland China," are the two projects supported by HKU Teaching Development Grant and the Teaching Development and Language Enhancement Grant 2022-25, respectively.

These programs are centered around the "Students as Partners" approach, with undergraduate students being the primary beneficiaries. In the HKU Climate Ambassador program, students will be trained as Climate Ambassadors, guided by mentors who are students and alumni of the Master of Science in Environmental Management. Emphasizing the interdisciplinary nature of climate-related initiatives, we actively encourage collaboration between students from various faculties to co-create innovative solutions.

The program begins with comprehensive training sessions designed to equip students with essential knowledge and skills. After the training, students will have the opportunity to develop their own projects focused on climate-related initiatives, aiming to make a meaningful impact on broader communities. To showcase the experiences and achievements of our students, we will be hosting a student-led conference in June 2024. Following the conference, selected Climate Ambassadors and mentors will have the unique opportunity to participate in a desert service-learning trip in mainland China in July 2024.

The expected outcomes will include the development of a climate education program which echoes the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDG), including Targets 4.7 Education for Sustainable Development and Global Citizenship, 12.8 Promote Universal Understanding of Sustainable Lifestyles, and 13.3 Build Knowledge and Capacity to Meet Climate Change, a teacher-student partnership model under environmental sustainability contexts and higher students' ownership. Students would also gain better understanding of climate-related initiatives and create impact within and beyond HKU communities.

These projects will demonstrate "Students as Partners" at multiple levels.



Speaker

*Dr. CHAN Kit Yan, Janet, and her Student Partners
Senior Lecturer, School of Biological Sciences,
Faculty of Science, HKU*

Dr. Janet Chan is a Senior Lecturer at the School of Biological Sciences and a member of Institute for Climate and Carbon Neutrality at the University of Hong Kong. She is also the Program Coordinator and Chief Examiner for the Master of Science in Environmental Management program. Dr. Chan's research and teaching areas include environmental and climate education, waste management, environmental pollution, environmental health, and research methods. Her dedication to teaching and learning in higher education has been recognized through various accolades, including her appointment as an Inaugural Member of the HKU Teaching Academy and the Senior Fellowship of Advanced HE in 2022.

Dr. Chan has received numerous awards, including the Gold Award of HKTEA Design Thinking CoP design thinking competition in 2024, Teaching Development Grant Award in 2024, Teaching Development and Language Enhancement Grant 2022-25 (experiential learning and AI) in 2024, University's Outstanding Teaching Award in 2020, and the Science Faculty's Teaching Excellence Award in 2019. She is a member of various environmental professional societies and is frequently sought after by government bodies, environmental organizations, and social NGOs for her expertise and advice.

Prior to joining HKU as an academic, Dr. Chan worked at the headquarters of an international social NGO in Geneva, Switzerland. There, she developed programs focused on the Millennium Development Goals and was delegated as the organization's global focal point on climate change. Her work also centered around promoting youth empowerment.

Managing and Retaining Student Partners in an Educational Innovation Lab

Abstract

Dr See will describe his work in running a medical education innovation lab where onboarded student partners have stayed and worked on multiple projects in gamification and educational AI over several years. They have contributed to the conception, design, implementation of educational innovations, as well as the resultant pedagogical studies where they have been first-authors in journal publications, conference presentations and educational awards. He will describe the project management tools and techniques used to make everyday work a reality and communication methods that suit students of this generation. He will also address the human considerations in building lab culture through student-teacher activities to generate a flat rather than top-down working hierarchy, whilst maintaining the professional relationship required of teachers and students.



Speaker

*Dr. SEE Yew Hong, Christopher, and his Student Partners,
Lecturer, School of Biomedical Sciences,
Faculty of Medicine, CUHK*

Dr. Christopher See is a dedicated medical educator, holding a medical degree from the University of Cambridge, a PGCE from the University of Edinburgh and a Ph.D. in medical education from the University of Hong Kong. Currently, he serves as a lecturer at the School of Biomedical Sciences, CUHK Faculty of Medicine, where he teaches human anatomy and leads the university-wide AI for Education Community of Practice.

His research interests lie in gamification, e-learning, and the application of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in medical education. He has received over 4.75 million HKD in teaching-related grants, published educational studies and won pedagogical innovation awards. He has received recognition for his teaching, including the Excellent Teacher Award at the University of Manchester, Fellowships from the Academy of Medical Educators UK and the Higher Education Academy and the Faculty Education Award at CUHK for his teaching excellence in 2022.

Students as Learning Co-Instructors – Empowering Student-Educator Partnership for Enhanced Learning

Abstract

Instructors engaging students as partners in the typical classroom setting to work together and enhance teaching practices is a growing pedagogical approach. However, can we take this a step further and empower students to become co-instructors? This seminar aims to showcase how we can engage and empower students to become co-instructors in a student-initiated project on electric racing car. By participating in this seminar, you will learn about a unique project where students take the lead in designing and building an electric racing car, while also assuming the role of co-instructors. This project not only promotes active learning and collaboration among students but also encourages them to take ownership of their education by becoming co-creators of the curriculum and pedagogical approaches. The seminar will share tried-and-tested practices and frameworks that have been adopted in partnering with the project team to design pedagogy and curriculum for STEM education, with a specific focus on promoting motorsport in Hong Kong. Additionally, the seminar will include multiple perspective reflections on the effectiveness of students as learning co-instructors, providing valuable insights and inspiration for educators interested in implementing similar approaches in their own classrooms.



Speaker

*Dr. KO Wai Lun, Match, and his Student Partners,
Senior Lecturer and MSc (Eng) in Mechanical Engineering
Programme Director, Department of Mechanical Engineering,
Faculty of Engineering, HKU*

Dr. Match Ko is from the Department of Mechanical Engineering. He has been actively engaged in experiential learning and leading several student initiated teams.

He has been working on a Students as Partners project – HKU Racing in the Faculty of Engineering since 2018. HKU Racing is a student motorsports team representing the University of Hong Kong in the Formula Student UK (FSUK) competition. The team's main goal is to promote motorsports to young people. The team has achieved an impressive feat by designing and constructing a formula-style, single-seater, open-wheel electric race car. This project provides an ideal platform for the young engineers to showcase their exceptional engineering skills and promote motorsports in the society. In addition to building the race car, the team has also hosted numerous STEM education workshops related to motorsports to further our mission of promoting STEM education.

Undergraduate Students as Research Partners

Abstract

Engaging students in research activities is an effective approach to promote partnership in teaching and learning. In this presentation, I will share my experience with undergraduate students at The Chinese University of Hong Kong. While serving as Department Chair and College Head, I had the pleasure of meeting many freshmen with great potential. These bright young minds, however, often need special attention. A few examples about our research orientated student advising and curriculum design will be given. Our efforts must have played a key role in motivating students to reach their full potential. It is most satisfying to track their path to success.



Speaker

Prof. YU Chai Mei, Jimmy
Emeritus Professor, Research Professor,
Department of Chemistry, Faculty of Science, CUHK
Former Head of United College, CUHK

Prof. Jimmy Yu is currently Research Professor and Emeritus Professor at CUHK. Before retiring from teaching, he was Choh-Ming Li Professor of Chemistry and Head of United College. He served as College Head from 2012 to 2022, and as Dean of General Education from 2009 to 2012. He was the Director of Environmental Science Programme for ten years, and also had a brief stint as Chairman of the Department of Chemistry. As a highly cited researcher, Prof. Yu has received numerous honours including a State Natural Science Award and Chang Jiang Scholar Chair Professorship.

Moderators



Prof. LEE Wing Yan, Vivian
Associate Professor,
Centre for Learning Enhancement And Research (CLEAR),
CUHK

Prof. Vivian Lee is currently an Associate Professor at the Centre for Learning Enhancement And Research (CLEAR) at CUHK. Her team supports Learning Enhancement in Higher Education.



Dr. LAU Fat Man, Peter
Lecturer, Teaching and Learning Innovation Centre (TALIC),
HKU

Dr. Peter Lau is a lecturer at the Teaching and Learning Innovation Centre (TALIC) at HKU. He is the programme coordinator of the Certificate in Teaching and Learning in Higher Education and is committed to professional development for young teachers. Peter's work at TALIC extends to organising seminars and symposia, providing consultation on curriculum development, pedagogical design, as well as offering peer mentoring for student partnership and Advance Higher Education Fellowship applications.