Christie’s Hour

Who is Christie? Christie Gilson is a Research Associate (Fulbright Fellow) working in the Faculty of Education, HKU. She is also a Doctoral Candidate from the Dept. of Special Education, College of Education, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, USA.

Why did I interview Christie? Christie has been communicating with the GH Management months before she moved to Graduate House because Christie is visually impaired. We have been trying to accommodate her needs and it is through communicating with Christie that we learned how we need to improve our facilities. On a personal note, it is through communicating with Christie that I found myself so inadequate in helping people around me. That’s why I want to share this experience with you.

(H): What is your research topic?
(C): I am working on a qualitative study on the 5 current HKU students with disabilities. I am trying to collect information on their needs and pressure. Hopefully, the research outcome can help more disabled students in the future.

(H): Why do you choose to conduct your research in Hong Kong?
(C): There are reports on similar topics in the States and in Europe but data in Asia is lacking. Also, I believe China and India will be the future of the world. When choosing between China and India, I consider myself having a Type A personality, so I don’t think I can stand the pace of life in India. Hong Kong is a vibrant city and I need the English speaking environment.

(H): So, Christie, what are the major difficulties for your stay in GH and in Hong Kong?
(C): Well, it takes time for me to adjust to a new environment away from my family and my guide dog. My colleagues and staff of GH helped me a lot but there are factors that we cannot change … just like the steps in the terrace … they are difficult for someone with disabilities. Sometimes, language becomes a problem too. I find it difficult to ask for the way as I cannot speak Chinese.

(H): I think it is not just the language barrier but we do not know what is the best way to show you the directions.
(C): It is OK. It is hard for sighted people to understand … simply take my hand and lead me to the place may not be the best way to help. … if you describe the way and allow me to learn at the same time, then I can find the way by myself next time.

(H): Sorry! I must learn this by heart. Christie, I am interested in the use of Information Technology in communication and education. What happens to students with visual impairment when other people emphasized so much on multimedia, particularly the use of pictures or icons?
(C): It is making life difficult. I have machines to convert text to voice for me but pictures would be problematic. …

Christie and I chatted further and an idea sprung into mind … Christie noticed that there are a lot of non-native English speaker in GH and she would like to spend one hour every Saturday afternoon to talk to GH residents in the Foyer. If you see Christie around, please feel free to talk to her!

Helen Law
Resident Fellow

Dinner gathering with Tutor Fellow

In consultation with the GH Committee of Management, the Master of Graduate House appointed one Tutor Fellow in each Faculty so they act as mentors for the postgraduate residents in GH. Tutor Fellows are academic staff nominated by their Faculties. They are expected to facilitate the communication between house members and their faculties. They also help with the selection of applicants for residency.

On the 19th of April, Dr. Yip (Dentistry) and Dr. Sham (Medicine), invited residents from Dentistry and Medicine for dinner at the Senior Common Room, KK Leung Building. It was a nice evening of casual chats and exchange of experiences.

Please feel free to contact Tutor Fellow of your Faculty via email:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Faculty</th>
<th>Email</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dr. FYS Lee</td>
<td>Arts</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sey@hkcc.hku.hk">sey@hkcc.hku.hk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. TH Tse</td>
<td>Engineering</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tse@csis.hku.hk">tse@csis.hku.hk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Jessica Young</td>
<td>Law</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tkyoung@hku.hk">tkyoung@hku.hk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. MY Wong</td>
<td>Business &amp; Economics</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mywong@business.hku.hk">mywong@business.hku.hk</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Kevin HK Yip</td>
<td>Dentistry</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. A McManus</td>
<td>Education</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. MH Sham</td>
<td>Medicine</td>
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<td>Dr. GKY Chan</td>
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<td>Dr. Peter TY Cheung</td>
<td>Social Sciences</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tyicheu@hkucc.hku.hk">tyicheu@hkucc.hku.hk</a></td>
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This list is also available from http://www.hku.hk/gradhse/
Graduate House Residents Satisfaction Survey 2005

In June 2005, the Graduate House Committee of Management has conducted the first Resident Satisfaction Survey to collect valuable feedback on the residents’ experiences. The objective of the survey was to use the collected information to improve the service for future residents. The Survey was analyzed by an independent party and the statistics was presented at the Committee of Management Meeting. Here is a brief summary:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Demographics</th>
<th>91 replies (69 Research P/G; 17 Taught P/G; 40 Male; 47 Female)</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Native place of residents</td>
<td>64 Mainland; 11 local; 3 USA; 2 India; 1 Malaysia; 1 UK</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rating of cleanliness of rooms and common areas</td>
<td>A bit high or good (4/5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rating of facilities in rooms and common areas</td>
<td>A bit high or good (4/5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helpfulness of staff</td>
<td>A bit high or good (4/5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activities organised by Resident Committee and Graduate House Management</td>
<td>A bit high or good (4/5)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| What service or facility at GH not provided would you have liked? (Top five responses) | 1. TV inlet/TV set/cable TV for each room  
2. cooking utensils and washing detergent in the Pantry  
vending machines/ small supermarket/ mini store  
3. more sports/ fitness/ weight-lifting/ games facilities  
4. Better/ updated/ more computer facilities/ faster network  
5. More/ individual refrigerator  
6. Quiet air-conditioner |
| What is the best thing about your stay at GH? (Top five responses) | 1. Convenience and location  
2. Meet friends with different backgrounds/ over the world  
3. Quiet environment  
4. Nice or good environment  
5. Helpful/nice cleaning and office staff |
| What is the worst thing about your stay at GH? (Top five responses) | 1. Dirty toilet/pantry/corridor  
2. Noise from bathroom/ washing machines/ air conditioner/ hillside  
3. Not enough cooking space and facilities  
4. No fixed time for cleaning rooms  
5. Need to share toilet  
6. High rental charge |
| Other comments (Top three responses) | 1. Reduce rental charge  
2. Should organise more activities (at weekends)  
Friendly helpful staff  
3. GH is a pleasant/ideal place for research/study  
Annoy with charge for key lending  
Dirty furniture in lounges |

In general, the comments are mainly positive. In response to the negative responses we have purchased steam cleaning equipment and meet with our cleaning staff to ensure the cleanliness in rooms and common areas will be maintained. We are also finding ways to fix some problems during our up-coming renovation. More recently, the Graduate House Committee of Management has conducted the survey for 2006. The response rate was high and the statistics will be reported later.

In House Management

Graduate House Volleyball Team and Basketball Team

Every now and then you will receive our emails about court bookings. Have you ever wonder who is organizing these activities? Do you know we have a Basketball team and a Volleyball team in Graduate House? Ha! Believe it or not! We even have team uniforms! Also, we have friendly matches with other groups in the University.

If you are interested in joining the game or just be a spectator, please feel free to contact the conveyor WANG Wenfeng (wwfeng@hkusua.hku.hk) or come along for a stretch and have fun.

If you are not interested in basketball or volley ball, why not start a new sport team? Please feel free to send your proposal to the Management.

gradhse@hkucc.hku.hk
2Bee is an artistic collaboration by German artist Brigit Wudtke and Hong Kong artist Beatrix Pang. Their photographic works concern about the relationship of the two that is related to their home and their identities. This exhibition included their exploration in 2003 – 2006.

Artists in Residence (10/4 – 26/5)

Design HKU Map by vote – Phoebe Man

MAN Ching ying Phoebe, multi-media artist, instructor of School of Creative Media, City University of Hong Kong, co-founder and board member of Para/Site Art Space, has exhibited widely in local and international art exhibitions.

Design HKU Map by Vote
Artist Talk of the public art exhibition
4/5/2006 (Thu.) 6pm- 7:30pm, P503, Graduate House, University of Hong Kong

The University of Hong Kong is now planning the Centennial Campus and asking for advice. What is an ideal campus? How to make people love the campus? Phoebe Man’s public art might be able to provide some of the answers. Phoebe will talk about the motive, concept and findings of her exhibition in her talk. The concept is related to psychogeography, public art and installation.

Details of the show:
http://www.cyman.net/designhku_e.htm (English)
http://www.cyman.net/designhku_c.htm (Chinese)
Web art: Our/My HKU Map http://www.cyman.net/hku/main.htm

Please refer to Posters for details
Graduate House Lecture 7th April, 2006 (6:30pm) P501, GH

HILANDAR PANORAMAS - A Documentary QTVR Spherical Panorama Project at Hilandar Monastery

by Michael Milojevic
Senior Lecturer at the School of Architecture, the University of Auckland.

Graduate House Lecture 3rd May, 2006 (2pm) WGW Theatre, GH

Antibiotics – The Twentieth Century ‘Silver Bullets’ and How They are Being Tarnished

by Prof. Shahriar Mobashery
Navari Family Professor in Life Sciences, University of Notre Dame, USA

This is a joint function organised by Graduate House and the Department of Chemistry

Misterious (C) 2 days workshop - Le French May & Graduate House

16/5/2006 (Tuesday) 11am-1pm P503 Graduate House (Session 1)
2 -4pm P503 Graduate House (Session 2)

17/5/2006 (Wednesday) 2 -5pm Exterior terrace of Graduate House (Session 3)

This is a joint function organised by Graduate House and Hong Kong Arts Centre

Details available under Activities on GH Homepage: http://www.hku.hk/gradhse/
Classical Music with Resident Fellow

Mar 22, 2006 (Wed) 10:00pm GH Foyer
Gu Qin Melodies
suggested by Yang Yuanzheng

In was a special evening, Yang Yuanzheng brought along his Gu Qin and gave us a brief introduction and live performance with this traditional Chinese musical instrument.

Apr 19, 2006 (Wed) 10:00pm GH Foyer
Prokofiev Violin Concerto #1 & 2
suggested by Michael Cheong

May 24, 2006 (Wed) 10:00pm GH Foyer
Sacred Arias – Andrea Bocelli

Jun 21, 2006 (Wed) 10:00pm GH Foyer
Yo-Yo Ma plays Ennio Morricone

Come enjoy the music and have a relaxing time!!

Also, please feel free to suggest any titles!

hkwlaw@hkucc.hku.hk

GH Events in Jan - May

13/1 RC Movie Series (9 pm)
The Gods Must Be Crazy
25/1 Classical Music with Resident Fellow (10 pm)
2002 New Year Concert / Prokofiev (Piano)
15-17/2 RC Movie Series (9 pm)
Godfather Festival
22/2 Classical Music with Resident Fellow (10 pm)
Variations of The Butterfly Lovers
23/2 RC Culture
The memoir of Gisha
24/2 Graduate House Movie Screening (8 pm)
The Myth – Cantonese movie
24/2 RC Movie Series (9 pm)
He Ain't Heavy, He's My Father
10/3 RC Movie Series (9 pm)
Sliding Door
19/3 Classical Music with Resident Fellow (10 pm)
Gu Qin Melodies

In May/June

31/3 RC Movie Series (9 pm)
Little voice
7/4 Graduate House Lecture
HILANDAR PANORAMAS - Michael Milojevic
19/4 Classical Music with Resident Fellow (10 pm)
Prokofiev Violin Concerto #1 & 2

In - out Board

Jan – Apr

A warm welcome to: Gu Min, Parahitiyawa Nipuna, Sae-Pang Jearn Jang, Zhao Hang, Zhao Ke, Zheng Da Yue, Zhu Jia

A fond farewell to: Chan Yat Chun, Chen Hai Yan, Gautam Govind Kumar, Lu Lin, Martin Morgan Tuuli, Ng Fong Man Anny, Pan Ye, Pothina Bhanu Prakash, Seneviratne C.J.A.A., Wan Hoi Wah, Wang Han Feng, Yang Zhi, Zhuang Hou Long

Apply 3 months ahead if you would like to be considered for the (24+12) policy!