

樹仁簡訊

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Time to welcome Moodle and bid farewell to ILN 仁大新學年將全面轉用 Moodle



Hong Kong Shue Yan University (HKSYU) will change to using Moodle as the University's interactive on-line learning platform and learning management system starting from September 2015, and that will be the time to signify the end of 12 years of service that the Interactive Learning Network (ILN) has given to the University since 2003.

Dr. Yuen Wai Kee, Chairperson of the University's IT in Teaching and Learning Committee, said the University had started its trial run and testing of Moodle at the beginning of the first semester of the 2010-2011 academic year. By now, a certain number of teaching staff and students are familiar with it, so the Committee felt that it was the right time to make a complete shift to Moodle.

Dr. Yuen explained that the ILN was originally developed and supported by the Centre for Information Technology in Education (CITE) of the University of Hong Kong. In September 2010, CITE stopped supporting the use of the ILN and this made it difficult for the Computing Services Centre of HKSYU to maintain its normal function in terms of resources and supporting ability. So the University needed to set a date to shift to the use of a new on-line learning platform.

Dr. Yuen pointed out that Moodle is an open source environment that allows all users to

develop the interface and functions. There will be no question of not getting enough support. At present, about 70,000 education institutions and other organizations use Moodle.

According to Dr. Yuen, Moodle is very flexible for teaching and learning. For example, professors and lecturers can save the assessment guidelines and rubrics in Moodle for use in another academic year, and insert videos and photos whenever they want, neither of these features were available in the ILN.

At present, near 40% of all courses (including sections) are using Moodle as their on-line learning platform, and the Department of Journalism and Communication is the first department to have completed the shift to Moodle, according to Mr. Cyrus Chan, Head of the University's Computing Services Centre (CSC).

In order to support those professors and lecturers who are not familiar with the functions of Moodle, the CSC launched a special webpage with a step-by-step user guide in January 2015.

According to Mr. Chan, to make Moodle more user-friendly, the CSC has made adjustments to the interface of HKSYU Moodle to enable users to check different new announcements, such as Registry

Notices, OSA Notices and Library Notices on the right hand side of the front page. However, since the Moodle system does not have a function to group all new announcements from different courses in one place, it is beyond the ability of CSC to create such a “function”. Users therefore need to check each course for new announcements in Moodle or through their e-mail.

In the near future, students will be able to upload their assignments to Moodle once and the system will automatically transfer the assignments to VeriGuide. “We are now working with the Chinese University of Hong Kong, the developer of VeriGuide, to align Moodle and VeriGuide. If all goes smoothly, this new function will start in the coming academic year.” Mr. Chan said.

Dr. Yuen does not expect any problems in September this year when the University shifts completely to Moodle.

“I believe that everybody will quickly become familiar with Moodle’s various features and I believe my colleagues will love its flexibility and multi-functions.”

香港樹仁大學將由2015年9月新學年開始，全面轉用網上學習平台兼課程管理系統Moodle。屆時，服務樹仁達12年的Interactive Learning Network (ILN)將「光榮」引退。

仁大資訊科技教學與學習委員會主席袁偉基博士表示，樹仁在2010—2011學年開始試用Moodle，至今已有不少師生熟習Moodle系統的操作。委員會認為今年9月新學年開始時，是全面轉用Moodle的合適時間。

袁博士解釋，ILN是由香港大學教育應用資訊科技發展研究中心開發的網上學習平台，樹仁於2003—2004學年引入。但該中心自2010年起不再為ILN提供支援服務，校方於是同年9月開始試用Moodle，並計劃在數年後全面使用這一新系統。在過去數年，ILN在仁大資訊科技部的支援下雖能

繼續使用，但考慮到資源和支援能力等問題，仁大實有必要為ILN的「服役期」劃上句號。

袁博士指出，Moodle是一個開放源碼（open source）網上學習平台，可讓軟件開發者和全球用戶共同開發。目前，全球已有超過70,000間學校和機構使用，不會出現支援不足的問題。

袁博士又指出，Moodle的可塑性高，可多方面迎合教學需要，如老師可在系統中設定評分準則，方便評改作業試卷，而存入的問卷也能重用。另外，Moodle也有多媒體功能，可以直接放入圖片和短片，方便教學。以上這些功能ILN都無法做到。

仁大資訊科技部主管陳煒鏗表示，為支援老師轉用Moodle，資訊科技部已於今年1月，推出特別網頁，用圖像和簡單的文字介紹Moodle基本功能和操作方法，並隨時解答老師的查詢。至於學生方面，如有疑問，可瀏覽Moodle的操作指南。目前，全校的科目（包括各組別section）中，近40%已使用Moodle，而新聞與傳播學系則已全面轉用Moodle。

陳煒鏗又表示，為切合師生的需要，資訊科技部對Moodle的版面做了一些新的配置，例如在首頁右邊，加入註冊處通告欄、學生事務處通告欄和圖書館通告欄，方便同學閱讀最新的通告。不過，由於Moodle系統本身沒有一個可總覽所有最新通告的功能，因此，同學如需要查閱各科目的最近消息，仍需登入各個科目，又或者留意電郵，因為任何老師發出的通告，都會通過電郵傳送給學生。

陳煒鏗說，在不久的將來，相信同學只需在Moodle上載習作，習作便能同時轉去VeriGuide（維誠），減省一次上載程序。「我們正與開發VeriGuide的香港中文大學合作，整合Moodle和VeriGuide的功能。如進展順利，最快可於新學年實施。」

袁偉基博士不擔心新學年全面轉用Moodle後，教學上會出現甚麼「阻滯」。他說：「我相信大家很快就可以熟習Moodle的各種功能。同事們更會因為Moodle的彈性與多功能而愛上它。」



Research project funded by Research Grants Council: Executive Function Skills and Early School Success in Young Chinese Children from Low-income Families

研究資助局資助計劃：華人低收入家庭幼童執行功能技巧與早期學習成就



This project is supported under the Faculty Development Scheme (FDS) of the Research Grants Council (RGC).

Principal Investigator: Dr. CHAN Chi-Keung, the Assistant Professor of the Department of Counselling and Psychology
Amount awarded: HK\$712,138
Duration of the project: October 2014 – September 2016

Details of the project:

“Hong Kong’s education system is polarized. Children from lower-income families need more help and support in their early developmental stages.” Dr. Chan shared his feelings from his heart.

Dr. Chan received his master and doctorate degrees in Educational Psychology from the University of Minnesota, USA. Then, he worked at an urban public school district in Minnesota and was in charge of research and administrative work. He observed that children from lower-income families tend to have poor physical and psychological development as well as learning outcomes as compared to peers with better family background. In recent years, lots of researches from Western countries have shown how socioeconomic status affects children’s development in executive function skills which in turn affects their cognitive development and learning outcomes. Although there are some existing researches about children’s executive function skills in the Chinese societies, none of them covered the socioeconomic impact on children’s executive function skills and early academic outcomes. Thus, Dr. Chan hopes this project

would be a reflection and contribution to Educational Psychology, education and poverty alleviation work in Hong Kong.

Dr. Chan said he started discussion with the collaborative scholars from Hong Kong and USA, nine months before the application of the Faculty Development Scheme was even announced. They reached a consensus on designing and conducting a clear aim and meaningful research which could apply to both education and developmental psychology as well as to shed light on the problems of local education and society. “Our goal is to educate everyone irrespective of one’s background and to provide early support to the grassroot children in the developmental process so that they have healthy development and flourishing life. Dr. Chan thinks this research project could receive the FDS grant because it has a clear research aim, a systematic research method and the importance of this research to the academic field and local society. The reviewers of Research Grants Council gave high evaluations on these categories.

Speaking of the difficulties, Dr. Chan stated that the preparation of research instruments and training videos took a long time, as the testing instruments and procedures adopted from foreign countries might not be applicable to Chinese society. Also, the translation and back-translation required a lot of time to organise. Furthermore, this project involves cooperation with kindergartens. Given the school’s tight schedule as well as the fact that teachers, student and parents are all involved in this research project, it requires the coordination, trust and assistance from all parties. Although having to face and tackle these issues, Dr. Chan is quite satisfied about the expected progress of the project.

Dr. Chan said a research project that involves multiple layers cannot be completed by one-man effort. Taking in others’ suggestions can help succeeding in an outstanding research. He would like to express gratitude to his collaborators from Hong Kong and USA, including Dr. Bernard Wong from the Department of Counseling and Psychology at HKSYU, Dr. Xiao Zhang from the Department of Early Childhood Education at the Hong Kong Institute of Education,

Dr. J. J. Cutuli from the Department of Psychology at Rutgers University, and the Research Assistant of this project, Ms. Lala Ng. He is grateful to meet and know these young scholars who not only have common research interests as him but also with great hope and aspiration on education. He would also like to give special thanks to Professor Catherine Sun, the Head of Department of Counseling and Psychology at HKSYU, Professor Geoffrey Blowers and his team at the HKSYU Research Office, and some local scholars in Educational Psychology, for their valuable advice while writing the research funding proposal.

This research project might not help changing the polarized education in Hong Kong in the near future. However, Dr. Chan hopes when more people are willing to contribute and to pay attention to the cognitive and psychological growth of children from lower-income families, every children could grow on “the same starting line”.

此項研究計劃獲研究資助局「教員發展計劃」(Faculty Development Scheme)撥款資助，由輔導及心理學系助理教授陳自強博士出任計劃的首席研究員(Principal Investigator)。

資助額：HK\$712,138
計劃年期：2014年10月—2016年9月

計劃詳情：

「香港教育制度兩極化，基層的孩童在早期的成長階段，需及早得到更多的支持。」輔導及心理學系助理教授陳自強博士有感而發。

陳博士在美國明尼蘇達大學完成教育心理學碩士和博士課程後，曾在當地城市的公立學校校區擔任研究及行政工作，察覺大部份的基層孩童在身心成長及學習成就方面，都落後於在較好環境長大的同輩。近年來，西方有很多相關研究顯示，社經地位如何影響幼童執行功能技巧(executive function skills)的發展，從而影響他們早期的認知發展及學習成就。在華人社會中，雖然也有一些關於幼童執行功能技巧的研究，但探討社經地位對幼童執行功能技巧發展和早期學習成就的研究，則仍有發展的空間。因此，希望藉着這次研究，能對

香港教育心理學界，甚至教育及扶貧的概念，有所貢獻及反思。

陳博士表示，早在資助計劃申請前9個月，申請程序還未公布時，已和一同合作的港美學者商討，共識是要設計一個目標清晰和具有意義的研究，不但可以應用於教育及成長心理學方面，亦能關注本土教育及社會的問題。「我們的目的是要真正的有教無類，讓基層孩童在成長過程中及早得到支持，讓他們有着健康的成長，過着豐盛的人生。」

陳博士認為，能在云云研究計劃之中脫穎而出得到資助，是因為他的研究計劃有明確的研究目標、有系統的研究方法和對學術與本土社會均具重要性，研究資助局的評審員在這幾個範疇都給予很高的評價。

談及研究計劃面對的困難時，陳博士指出，預備研究的測量工具及培訓短片需花費很多時間，因外國的測量工具及測試程序未必能完全適用於華人社會，而且需要翻譯及反翻譯，花很多時間整理。此外，與幼稚園合作時，由於學校的時間表都很緊密，加上研究計劃涉及老師、家長及學生三方面，極需要各方配合，彼此信任及協助。雖然要面對和解決這些問題，但陳博士對計劃的預定進度，仍感到樂觀及滿意。

陳博士指出，一項涉及多層面的研究計劃，不是單憑一己之力使能完事；多聽取他人的建議，有助成就一個出色的研究。他特別感謝一同合作的港美學者團隊：如仁大輔導及心理學系的王柏豪博士、香港教育學院幼兒教育學系的張曉博士、羅格斯大學(Rutgers University)心理學系的Dr. J. J. Cutuli及研究助理吳媛婷小姐等的協助。他很高興能認識這些研究興趣相投，並有教育理想及抱負的年青學者。他亦感謝仁大輔導及心理學系系主任孫天倫教授，仁大研究部門Professor Geoffrey Blowers及其團隊，以及本地一些教育心理學學者，在撰寫計劃申請書時，給予寶貴的意見。

在未來研究裏，或許不能一下子改變香港教育的兩極化現象，但陳博士相信，只要有更多人都願意出一分力，多關注基層孩童認知和心靈的成長，盼望所有的孩童都能在「同一起跑線」上成長。

Mist and obstacles of the property issues in Hong Kong 經融系舉辦香港房產問題圓桌會議



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The “Mist and Obstacles of the Property Issues in Hong Kong” round-table talk hosted by the Department of Economics and Finance of Hong Kong Shue Yan University (HKSYU) was held in the Conference Hall of the University’s Library Complex on 17th January 2015. The talk focused on the challenges to and governance of Hong Kong’s real estate markets and housing policy. The solutions put forward in the Policy Address in January 2015 to avert the supply-demand imbalance were also covered. In this round table, scholars and experts were invited to share their point of view, including Mr. Wing-Ching Shih, Founder of Centaline Group and AM 730, Prof. Si-Ming Li, Chair Professor of Geography at Hong Kong Baptist University, Dr. Po-Ming Daniel Chan, Director of Brilliant & Bright Investment Consultancy Limited, and Dr. Pang-Kwong Li, Associate Professor of the Department of Political Science and Director of the Public Governance Programme at Lingnan University. Professor Kwong-Wing Chau, Head and Chair Professor of Department of Real Estate and Construction in the University of Hong Kong was one of the guest speakers.

Insufficient supply leading to rising housing prices

When it comes to the reasons why the price of dwellings in Hong Kong has risen significantly, the experts agreed that it was due to the limited supply of housing. Mr. Shih pointed out that there is a long waiting list of Public Rental Housing (PRH) applicants. He commented that “The higher the supply of flats, the better. However, if the government cannot increase the supply of housing in time, there might be a series of serious consequences that could trigger social evils, such as an increase in the unemployment rate.” At the same time, Prof. Si-Ming Li pointed out that the government should be held responsible for the insufficient quantity of flats supplied. Over the past few decades, the government has not taken action to increase the supply of housing, hence the current demand for housing is not completely satisfied. History demonstrates that there are limitations in the efficiency of the market’s self-adjustment mechanisms. This is the reason why the government needs to take a more important role in the property market.

Solutions to solve the overheating problem of the housing market

Dr. Pang-Kwong Li stated that the government should clarify the role of property in society in order to solve the problem of rising housing prices. Once it has defined housing as a product for living, speculation, social stability or a mixture of all three, the government can set appropriate housing policies by determining the supply of housing and the ratio of public to private housing.

Reflecting on housing bubbles and property speculation, the speakers compared the situation in Hong Kong and Singapore. They discussed whether there was a need to distinguish the various functions of the housing market. Particularly, some flats are simply for living in, and others may incorporate investment features. The problem of the expectations of buyers in relation to housing prices was also highlighted. One of the guests said that landlords wanted the price of flats to rise as high as possible. If the prices dropped, they would blame the inappropriate housing policies proposed by the government.

On the issue of land supply, Prof. Si-Ming Li deemed that the government could no longer undertake land reclamation. Particularly, when the government changes designated land usage or carries out large-scale projects, it has to overcome several problems, such as the complicated ownership of old flats, and opposition from society and environmental organizations. The housing policies, therefore, cannot be implemented swiftly. He proposed that the government should actively develop brownfield sites. It could also consider taking back the land occupied by the Fanling Golf Course to build more houses and increase the efficiency of land policies.

1 From left to right: Dr. Po-Ming Daniel Chan, Mr. Wing-Ching Shih, Dr. Yeung Wai Man, Prof. Si-Ming Li, Dr. Pang-Kwong Li.
由左至右：陳寶明博士、施永青先生、楊偉文博士、李思名教授、李彭廣博士。



▲ Prof. Si-Ming Li
李思名教授



▲ Mr. Wing-Ching Shih
施永青先生



▲ Dr. Pang-Kwong Li
李彭廣博士



▲ Dr. Po-Ming Daniel Chan
陳寶明博士

Expected future crash of housing prices

Referring to the likely trend of housing prices in the following year, the speakers were cautious. The United States will put a halt to the policy of Quantitative Easing (QE Policy) which will cause the market to slow down. At the same time, some troublesome issues, such as the global economic recession, the decline of oil prices and the upsurge of terrorist movements, impose a threat to the property market. Furthermore, the increase of housing supply announced in the recent policy address might spark off a decrease in housing prices. Mr. Wing-Ching Shih, Dr. Po-Ming Daniel Chan and Prof. Si-Ming Li agreed that there will be a declining trend of housing prices. Mr. Shih commented, "I am selling some of my properties as well as decreasing property investment projects". Hence, it will be suitable for young people to buy flats until the housing supply increases. However, Professor Kwong-Wing Chau spoke of his recent study which indicated that the price of flats would not drop but continue to rise.

香港樹仁大學經濟及金融學系於2015年1月17日舉辦香港房產問題圓桌會議，邀請多名學者、專家和業內人士深入剖析香港樓價持續上升引發的政經問題，並分析樓價走勢。與會講者包括中原集團及《AM730》創辦人施永青先生、弘策投資顧問有限公司董事陳寶明博士、香港浸會大學地理系講座教授李思名教授和嶺南大學政治學系副教授及公共管治研究部主任李彭廣博士。出席的嘉賓還有香港大學房地產及建設學系系主任鄒廣榮教授等。

供應不足導致樓價飆升

對於樓市火熱的成因，學者專家一致認為是房屋供應量不足的所致。施永青指出，現時公屋輪候冊有十多萬名申請人排隊，公私營房屋供應量越多越好。若政府未能及時增加供應，容易造成連鎖效應。

李思名教授認為，政府過去十多年來新增房屋的數量，遠遠不能解決對房屋的持續上升的需求；而參考過往歷史，房屋市場的資源配置生產效率有限。鑒於當前香港樓市情況，政府在房屋市場有必要扮演更重要的角色。

李彭廣教授則認為，政府應先為房屋在社會上的功能定性，包括對「住屋需要」、「社會穩定」、「炒賣」等不同功能作出恰當的定位，才能有清晰的政策目標去落實公私營單位的最終供應量和比例。

談及樓價泡沫和炒賣活動時，有講者把香港房屋市場結構與新加坡比較，提出探討香港是否需要調整政策，把房屋分為「純粹居住用途」和「投資用途」，以抑制炒賣活動。

也有講者指出，房屋有「期望值」，當市民買入房屋單位時，不理會樓價節節上升，但下跌時卻將責任歸咎政府，指責政府房屋政策失衡。這為政府制訂房屋政策帶來不少挑戰。

對於政府近年不斷積極覓地建屋，李思名教授指出，特區政府已不能像港英政府時代般不斷填海解決土地供應問題；而在改變土地用途或收地方面時，也經常遇到業權問題及業主、居民和環保組織不同的反對理由，令土發展計劃難以快速執行。他建議政府大力發展「棕地」（一般指港口後勤用地、荒廢或遭破壞農地、工業用地和露天貯物場），並考慮收回粉嶺高爾夫球場土地，以減少發展土地的阻力，加快房屋政策的成效。

講者預期樓市有下行趨勢

對於未來樓價走勢，施永青、陳寶明博士和李思名教授均認為，受近來環球經濟疲弱、油價下跌、美國停止量化寬鬆政策、全球恐怖襲擊不斷、以及《施政報告》宣布增加房屋供應等因素影響，樓價有下行趨勢的誘因。施永青笑言，「正減持自己手上的物業和投資項目」。他建議「上車」心切的年輕人，等待未來房屋供應增加或需求減弱時才置業。

不過，香港大學房地產及建設學系系主任鄒廣榮教授指出，根據他較早時對香港房地產的研究模型，預測未來樓價會不跌反升。

林熙齡校友：不存在起跑線

雷 菱亞洲投資董事總經理林熙齡博士是樹仁90後？沒錯，不過所指的是1990年樹仁工商管理系畢業。他隨後繼續進修，在2013年取得香港理工大學工商管理博士學位。在事業上，林博士活躍於房地產及金融界，現為全國工商聯房地產商會香港分會副主席，以及香港理工大學會計及金融學院兼任教授。

林熙齡博士的行內朋友多以Dr.Lam稱呼他。跟他相熟的，就只叫他Charles。香港樹仁大學校友會的每個活動，Charles只要在港，都會盡量參與。早在校友會建立Facebook專頁前，他已開設了樹仁校友的Facebook組群。一個董事總經理就是那麼的「樹仁」，那麼的親切。在2014年，他應樹仁校友會邀請，在校友會舉辦的「校友日」周年活動，首度回到母校作專題演講，不少校友慕名而至，會場座無虛設。

Charles對樹仁的深厚感情，源自他在樹仁找到自己的方向。在高級程度會考放榜後，他考入了當時的樹仁學院，讓他有機會接受高等教育。他在二年級當了ABAA（工管會計聯合系會）會長，既為同學服務，也是學習。Charles形容4年大學生活給他的最大得着，是提供了一個平台，訓練待人處事之道，例如管理、計劃實行、人事調和等等，這些經驗對他日後踏足社會有很大幫助。

樹仁畢業後，Charles選擇到美國修讀工商管理碩士課程。當時學費和生活費都很緊，幸他早作準備，他並感謝學校系主任以及胡懷中博士給他寫推薦信。在訪問中，他更表明要向校長鍾期榮博士、校監胡鴻烈博士致謝，感激他們的知遇之恩。

成功有沒有方程式？有的，且不限於一條，而Charles亦毫不吝嗇的告訴大家他走過的每一步，讓大家可以參考，找出屬於自己的路。打籃球有「四步上籃」，Charles也有他的「四步上位」秘技。

第一是要有熱情。當對自己從事的行業充滿熱情，用熱情追求事業，自會投放時間與精力而不累。Charles形容晉身房地產事業是他的目標，從事金融投資相關工作則是他的興趣。當興趣與目標配合，這份熱情自能歷久常新。

第二是準備。從考入樹仁、選定路向、負笈海外等，都在為他的事業作準備，例如他在美國修讀碩士課程時，便集中專攻房地產、金融、投資等學科，並於其後工作時考獲特許金融分析師（CFA）專業資格。

第三是落實執行。只尚空談而沒有行動，最終也是一事無成。Charles回港後，便集中找房地產業的工作，期能學以致用，而他正是從新鴻基地產開始，開展他在房地產方面的事業，對他日後於AIG、中國平安、美國保德信等國際金融集團的房地產投資管理事業發展，奠下了良好基礎。

第四是專注、前瞻。他形容軟、硬知識都要不斷提升，前者就是要了解行業發展、競爭環境，從而不時調整定位；而後者泛指技術和學術層面的知識，好為預計的將來和自己的下一步作好部署。

近年很多人都愛說「贏在起跑線」，但Charles認為根本不存在起跑線的問題。他認為成敗的分野，重點在於能否專注自己的目標，和走上向目標發展的路徑。他重視的是要與自己比較，持續進步。當遇上逆境時，就要懂得先退一步思考再行動，要明白困難很多時會較想像中容易解決，而且困難也只是給你一個提升的考驗而已。

雖然離開樹仁已好一段日子，Charles不忘參與樹仁的「良師益友」計劃，因他在校時有幸遇到啟蒙老師，自己既走過這條路，也希望以過來人的經驗和學到的知識啟發後來者。他對校監、校長及樹仁的情懷，正是建立在這份「知遇之恩」之上。他亦勉勵同學要緊記人生歷程每個重要時刻曾幫助過你的人，讓自己也能以謙遜的心，扶持別人，一起成長和進步。（訪問稿由香港樹仁大學校友會提供）



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