

HICian LINK



15th Anniversary Issue 5 | 2021



STAY

CROSSING THE BRIDGE between cultures

CHAN CHIU KIT

A BRAVE STEP leading to a new vision TONY MAK SHING HIM

HKFYG Lee Shau Kee College

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ALUMNI ASSOCIATION MESSAGE

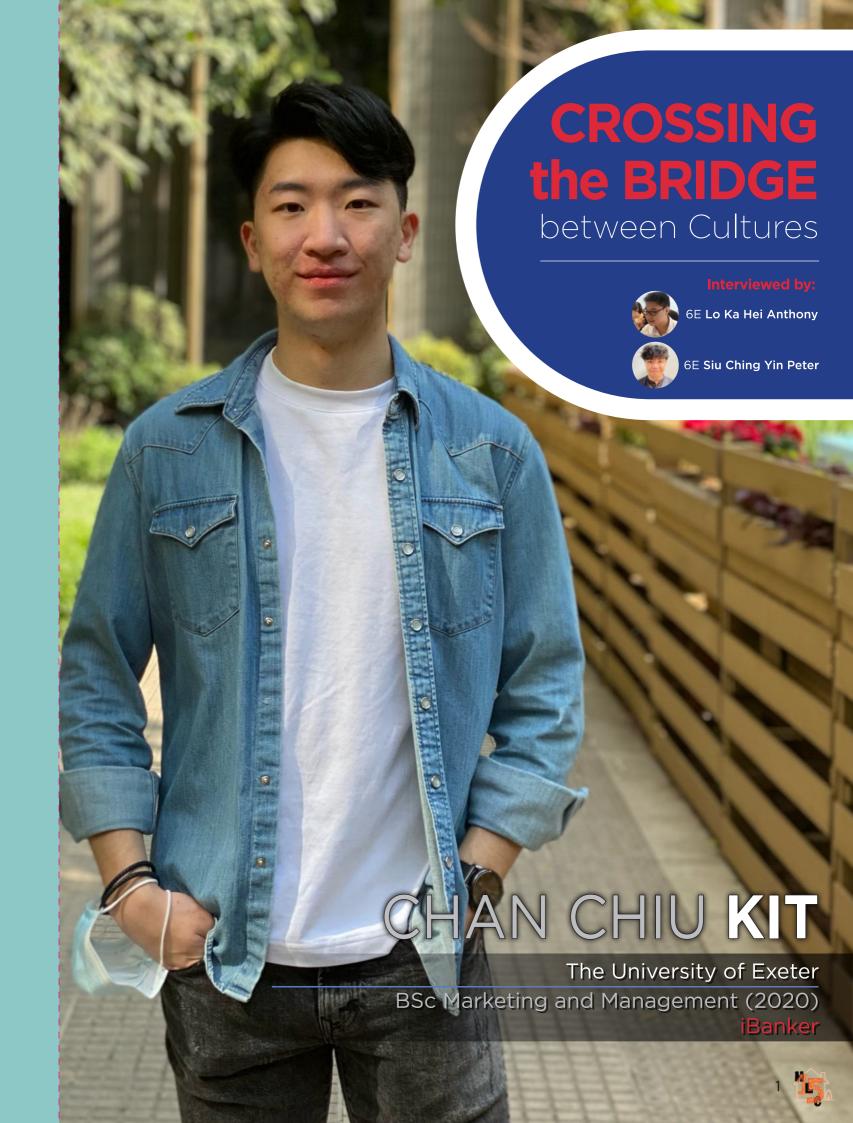
It is my honour to share with you my thoughts here. Time flies; it has been a year since I left HLC. Despite being a different role, it is my pleasure to support my fellow HLCians as the Treasurer of the Alumni Association together with our supportive teachers.

Six years might be deemed as a prolonged period of time. Nonetheless, when I look back now, everything happened just in a twinkling of an eye. My friends and I had always wanted to graduate as soon as possible so that we could escape from a plethora of exams, but when we finally did, we missed the tough, yet evocative time spent battling academics together. Not only were we working on a myriad of practice papers, but teachers were also spending days and nights to help us meet our aspiration.

After graduating from HLC, we always seize opportunities to contribute to our alma mater. As the Treasurer of the Alumni Association, I hope I can give back to HLC. With the vision of our Principal, teachers, parents and students, HLC can indubitably nurture more leaders of tomorrow.

Chan Shun Hei

Treasurer of the 2nd HLC Alumni Association School Management Committee Alumni Manager 2020-21 Graduate of 2020



it graduated from HLC in 2017 and The University of Exeter, majoring in marketing, in 2020. He is currently studying a part time master's degree at King's College London while having a full time job at a Chinese investment bank. He has experienced a lot and broadened his horizons during the few years of studying abroad in the United Kingdom.

His CAREER

He had come across a plot twist in his career. Realising a marketing job is not his cup of tea after graduation, he started his career in the finance industry after struggling for a month. Before he enrolled in the master's degree programme, he had rarely any experience in finance, other than having done some trading in the stock market. He applied for an internship at an asset management firm, which is uncommon among students after graduation. Recently, he found a back office job at an Chinese investment bank, even though his goal is to land a front office position. "It is common to struggle after graduation. There is no need to stress out about it," he said.

6 6 It is really important to follow your interest, something that you really enjoy, something that really serves you a purpose.



Kit encountered a lot of colleagues who chose their jobs for higher income but eventually hated it after a few years. He described that situation as one of the most painful things that one might encounter. He believed that finding your own interest and having jobs that are related to it, which also matches with your personality, are life goals. He recommends putting some effort and time into finding your own desire and learning more about yourself by doing the MBTI Personality Test, which finds out your personality, while not blindly following your friends', teachers', or familys' opinions. He also suggested not to be fixated on one field and be flexible when choosing new jobs.

Life in the UK

Kit felt helpless from time to time. Living in a strange land, he had to face a wide array of problems ranging from food to socialising. Yet, he held a positive attitude and managed to get by.

Expenses are the primary concern of living in the UK. Even for daily food or transportation expenses, they are all much more expensive than those in Hong Kong. Rather than dining out, Kit prefers buying groceries and cooking for himself. He told us that he attended a cooking lesson before going to the UK, and his cooking skills improved significantly during these few years. In terms of transport, buses and trains are prevalent modes of transportation in the UK. Although buses are relatively cheap, Kit recommends taking trains as they are faster and more comfortable.

Kit had learnt how to sustain himself during his university days. He would go to a discount store and buy some goods at a low price and resell them on eBay while flipping the price to earn some extra income. He also got a part-time job at a Chinese supermarket

to pay his tuition fee. The experience of selling products, shipping and packaging, and dealing with customers had provided invaluable experience that was helpful for his future career.

Speaking of socialising, Kit advocated being brave and seizing every opportunity to be exposed to the international community. He lived in a dorm with a shared kitchen when he was in the UK and got a chance to taste international recipes as roommates cooked their dishes from their homeland. On the other hand, he missed his friends and families, and they did Facetime video meetings every week.

Kit also stated that it is not common to be discriminated against in the UK, but it is better to get prepared. Because of cultural differences between the foreigners and the locals, communication is the hardest thing. From his own experience, Kit thinks that UK people do not often speak their minds and are usually very reserved when they meet strangers, but they still treat them nicely. "However, once you have made friends with people from the UK, they can sometimes be very enthusiastic and touchy, so expect some physical contact with them." Kit is always polite and smiles at others, and eventually, he had a good time staying there.

6 One of the most important things is to develop a set of skills of dealing with people from different backgrounds or ethnicities.

Kit met many students with a myriad of different backgrounds or ethnicities during his university life. He believed that the ability to understand their culture and socialise with them was of paramount importance and could be applied anywhere around the globe. "Hong Kong students lack the opportunities to encounter foreigners," he said. He was at first taken aback when he heard the term "Global Week", which is an annual event organised by HLC with the aim of exposing students to cultures and people from different countries. He was happy to learn about this new change because it did not exist back in his secondary school days.

Kit further illustrates his points by describing his workplace in the finance industry. "My boss is American. My colleagues are from India, Korea, Japan, France, and etc.," he said. Communicating with clients or colleagues from different backgrounds, understanding and respecting different cultures allow Kit to build strong relationships and hence get more opportunities, not to mention earning respect from them.

MESSAGE for HLCians

When it comes to giving advice to HLCians, Kit believes that it is of utmost importance to chill out and take it easy when taking the DSE. He explicates how this mindset can be achieved - to try your best and not think about the consequences of failing DSE because

what happens can be unpredictable. He illustrates it with the example of his friend who achieved surprising results in DSE; while his predicted DSE results were not as good as expected, so he ended up studying abroad, which he didn't intend to initially. However, to further stretch himself, he decided to pursue his Bachelor's in the UK.

He came up with two different answers when he was asked about his view towards the idea of "crossing that bridge when you get to it". One of them is to plan everything within your manageable range in detail early. He explains it with reference to a Harvard Business Study, in which 5% of interviewees who have clear written goals and plans to accomplish them earn on average ten times as much as the other 95 per cent added together. He started setting up goals and writing them down on paper, laying out clear plans on what to do every month, week, day and hour by utilising time boxing. As a result, he achieves his goal more efficiently without procrastination.

On the other hand, he believes that constantly worrying about the future is unhelpful to the situation as they will go against you and destroy your confidence. "If you face something you can't control, then forget about it and cross that bridge when it comes to you," he said. He stated that the attitude which he learnt from reading self-development books has allowed him to ignore uncontrollable factors in his life and achieve more by planning detailedly on paper.

Besides this attitude, Kit recommends finding sports or hobbies which you are passionate about. They do not necessarily have to be something you are good at or something that will become your profession. It is good as long as you can learn from it and become more proficient, and don't give up despite a myriad of failures. He said, "Playing football has changed the trajectory of my future in a tremendous way because that was the only thing I loved to do."

Finally, Kit believes that constantly worrying about others' opinions of you means you are living for someone else. That is, according to Kit, the worst way to live a life. Believing in yourselves on the right things is the key, and no one will actually judge and care about you as "everyone is busy with their own problem," Kit concluded

June 2021

2012

Kam Yuen Yi Wong Ka Tsz Tam See Long

Bachelor of Pharmacy (CUHK) Bachelor of Science (HKU)

Bachelor of Social Sciences (Honours) in Media and Social Communication (HKBU)

2013

Wong Ka Wai Lau Sin Ting Luk Chiu Nam Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (HKU) Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Laws (HKU) Bachelor of Business Administration in Marketing (CityU)

Lin Angus **Chung Wing Sum** Yeung Yang Hang

Bachelor of Engineering (HKU) Bachelor of Science (HKU)

Integrated Bachelor of Business Administration (CUHK)

2015

Kwok Shing Him Lee On Yee Lo Ching Nga

Bachelor of Business Administration in Global Business Studies (CUHK)

Bachelor of Nursing (CUHK)

Bachelor of Social Science in Sociology (HKBU)

2016

Lam Ching Hei **Chan Hoi Tung** Lee Ho Suet Wong Ka Hei **Fung Cheuk Kei** Lau Pak Kwan Tong Tak Yan Cheung Yuen Wah Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (CUHK) Bachelor of Arts in Japanese Studies (CUHK)

Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting and Finance (HKU)

Bachelor of Nursing (HKU) Bachelor of Science (HKU) Bachelor of Social Science (HKBU) Bachelor of Science (CityU)

Bachelor of Science in Occupational Therapy (PolyU)

Bachelor of Science in Applied Biology with Biotechnology (PolyU) Chau Po Ki

Lee Pui Yan Bachelor of Science in Business and Management Studies (The University of Sussex)

2017

Wu Hoi Ching Lam Yu Hei Yam Ning Yi Yam On Yi Tang Wing Kan Tang Ho Yan Man Hoi Ching Law Chiu Yi Wong Tse Yan

Bachelor of Business Administration and Bachelor of Laws (HKU)

Bachelor of Arts (HKU)

Bachelor of Science in Speech and Hearing Sciences (HKU) Bachelor of Science in Speech and Hearing Sciences (HKU)

Bachelor of Engineering (HKU)

Bachelor of Science in Psychology (University of Leicester) Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy (The University of Edinburgh)

Bachelor of Arts in International Relations with Economics (University of Birmingham)

Bachelor of Social Sciences in Social Work (CUHK)

Shir Wai Yin Bachelor of Engineering (CityU)







2018

Pun Pui Yin Yau Ching Yiu Ho Wing Lam **Pang Ching Yiu** Wong Tsz Wai **Choi Ho Ming** Lam Pui Hong

Bachelor of Business Administration in Insurance, Financial and Actuarial Analysis (CUHK)

Bachelor of Science in Quantitative Finance (CUHK) Bachelor of Science in Actuarial Science (HKU) Bachelor of Biomedical Sciences (HKU)

Bachelor of Engineering (HKU) Bachelor of Social Sciences (HKU) Bachelor of Arts (HKU)

Bachelor of Science (HKUST) Lau Ka Ting Lim Chiu Ngai

Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry (Imperial College London)

Lo Yu Hin Bachelor of Engineering (HKUST)

Lui Yee Ching Wong Kai Yiu **Tsang Lok Long** Yeung Ching Long Lo Tin Yan Tang Wing Yiu Ng Wing Kiu

Ng Wang Fung

Chan Wing Sum

So Wing Lam

Bachelor of Dental Surgery (HKU)

Bachelor of Science in Actuarial Science (HKU) Bachelor of Science in Quantitative Finance (HKU) Bachelor of Science in Actuarial Science (HKU) Bachelor of Arts in English Studies and French (HKU)

Bachelor of Science (HKUST) Bachelor of Science (HKUST) Bachelor of Engineering (HKUST)

Integrated Bachelor of Business Administration (CUHK)

Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics (CUHK)

2020

Woo Yeuk Hei **Kwok Tsing Nam** Lau Sze Hin **Chan Yan Tung**

Medicine (MBChB) Programme (CUHK)

Bachelor of Business Administration in Insurance, Financial and Actuarial Analysis (CUHK) Bachelor of Business Administrationin Insurance, Financial and Actuarial Analysis (CUHK) Bachelor of Arts in English Studies and Bachelor of Education in English Language Education (CUHK)

Kwok Ching Nam Chan Shun Hei Cheung Yin Yee Leung Hoi Ching Cheung Lok Yan Siu Wing Yu

Bachelor of Business Administration in Professional Accountancy (CUHK)

Bachelor of Science in Economics and Finance (HKUST)

Bachelor of Engineering (HKUST)

Bachelor of Arts (HKU) Bachelor of Arts (HKU) Bachelor of Arts (HKU)











urious to see how lawyers play their roles in commercial transactions and the restraint of governments' power, Tony Mak, a graduate of HLC, is currently doing a Master in Law at Queen's University Belfast.

HLC Journey

Back in HLC, Tony took up different roles when he was a student, Subject Captain, Student Ambassador, etc. Shouldering the responsibilities of the roles, Tony realised the significance of interpersonal skills as well as being self-reliant. He elaborated, "HLC students outperform others in a way that we are academically driven, and more importantly, we are just nice people because we are taught to be nice at school. When you go to college university, you have to learn to be independent in the UK and you need to work with people of different backgrounds and cultures. Thanks to my experience at HLC, I've learnt to appreciate the value of people skills communication skills and the ability to lead a task well. Those are the life skills no matter where you live.

Among all skills, Tony especially emphasises the importance to be self-disciplined in planning agendas and taking the initiatives in putting ourselves forward for extracurricular activities. These are the basics when it comes to work and study. At university and the workplace, no one will hold your hands and guide you at the pace like studying in secondary school," reckoned Tony. He was really glad when he received a Self-Directed Learning certificate in college.

Hanging out with foreign teachers in the Language Room was Tony's favourite HLC experience. "I enjoyed talking to native teachers during recess or lunch breaks. It was really fun talking to them. They brought me to an imaginative place full of foreign cultures, plus I could practice my English communication skills," recalled Tony.

"If I can thank a person, I will choose my English teacher back in Secondary One," grinned Tony. He remarked the fact that he came from a non-English primary school

TONY MAK SHING HIM

LLM International Business and Law (2020-2022)

Queen's University Belfast



posed many barriers when he first entered HLC. "It was a big step for me at first because of my English proficiency," acknowledged Tony. Thankfully, his teacher took an extra mile and encouraged him to achieve his best.

UK Adventure

Education in the UK and Hong Kong are chalk and cheese. Tony mentioned, "In the UK, it's more relaxing, liberal and inclusive because you can discuss your opinion without being criticised, even if you come from a minority background. I think it is something that Hong Kong should learn from." He also added that people in the UK are keen to strike a balance between coursework and social life. "Students in the UK don't solely focus academically because there are many more aspects in their lives. They learn to achieve excellence in a much more relaxing manner. A healthy balance is what they are after." Precisely because of the living and school atmospheres, Tony has become more proactive in participating in various events as there are no shortage of training programs, extracurricular activities and study tours, which are the best part of Tony's university life and developed his skill sets.

Country lockdown may be an excuse for many to get off from work but not for Tony. In fact, he sees this as an

an opportunity showing in the form of a challenge." Tony chooses to take this time to manage the social media of his university's Careers Department to help consolidate the bonding between classmates. He also meets friends virtually in his pastimes.

From introvert to **MASTER**

Unlike the younger him, Tony has gained a lot more confidence. He stated, "I wasn't brave enough to speak in front of people, whereas now, from time to time, I give seminars to one to two hundred people."

In the future, Tony plans to qualify as a solicitor in London. In the course of pursuing his dream, he foresees a number of hurdles. Studying the life story of Lady Hale, the former president of the UK Supreme Court, Tony constantly reminds himself of the importance of hard work. "It was fascinating for Lady Hale to achieve such a high position in the reputable industry in the times when the legal industry in the UK was conservative, especially in a British white male-dominated society," explained Tony. Therefore, when it comes to career path, Tony sees Lady Hale as a role model, who motivates him to achieve the finest version of himself in spite of his unusual background.



Don't be afraid to go after your dreams. Keep it in your mind and be persistent!

"There are plenty of opportunities for you. If you grasp them at the right time, you will definitely achieve something that you have never expected of. Having faith in yourself is essential. The fact that you are an HLC student means you must have achieved something! Get ready and write a new chapter for vourself!'

June 2021



I would have laughed in disbelief if you told me I would be going to study abroad 10 years ago, especially in a subject that I didn't have a single clue about.

Luck always seemed to be on my side, barely making the grade every time. To carve my path to university, I learned to embrace my weaknesses and appreciate all the opportunities that life has given me. After strenuous years overcoming DSE, I landed a place in Hong Kong Baptist University. I can assure you that there is no greater pleasure than being able to explore your passion at the highest level. This is what HLC taught me, and this still holds true today.

After my undergraduate study in History, I went abroad to study International Planning at UCL in 2019. It was undoubtedly a new challenge for me. Being abroad and studying a new major proved to be quite challenging for me. In the meantime, I knew urban planning is what I wanted to pursue, and I anticipated the toil that comes along with it.

At first glance, my educational background in History may seem irrelevant, but in reality, it introduced me to the art of Urban Planning. My first encounter with Urban Planning came in unlikely circumstances. During my sophomore year, I studied a course on the urban history of New York City. I was fascinated by how small details like the design of roads and housing could play such a role in a city's development. Since then, I have set my sight on becoming an Urban Planning professional. The

thing I love about urban planning is that the things we do could make a difference in people's daily lives. I was able to try my hands on urban regeneration in one of the inner city neighbourhoods of Barcelona. Our proposal eventually made the annual Bartlett Expo. Although it is a tremendous honour, no praise can compare with the actual positive influence we made.

During my time at UCL, I was a part of the university's lacrosse team. I had a lot of endearing moments, memories that I will cherish for a long time. I miss the rowdy train rides to visit other universities' home fields, as well as the camaraderie that I forged with my teammates. Playing lacrosse on behalf of my university not only filled me with pride but also taught me not to waver in tough times. I can say with confidence that I learnt just as much outside the classroom as I did inside.

My advice for my dear HLCians would be why you are doing something in the first place, and what role you can play to better yourself or the people around you. The path to success and glory may be far, but with wisdom in our action, we will always make progress. Let me conclude with a verse that is very close to my heart, "It matters not how strait the gate, How charged with punishments the scroll, I am the master of my fate: I am the captain of my soul."



ALUMNI MESSAGES



LESLEY L

University of the Arts London
BA (Hons) Graphic Communication
Design
Year 2

If you ask me the one last thing I learned before stepping out of HLC, it would definitely be "Just do it!"

I'm grateful for teachers who have always encouraged me to keep on trying when failures were sometimes inevitable. Especially in the field of art and design, I have learned that we shall never be afraid to challenge ourselves. In a world that treasures uniqueness and innovation more than ever, it would be such a shame if you, as an artist of your life, did not make the best of it. So, stop doubting or hesitating. Start today and take your first step to your goals! Studying in London would be one of my important milestones in life, because never had I imagined one day I could study what I love in a city full of adventures! Not only can you make friends from different places, but also the precious opportunities to overcome fun challenges. Imagine collaborating with students from different subjects in a design project, everyone would be able to perform what they are best at while learning to cooperate through a series of discussions. The final outcome? Needless to say, huge joy and a sense of achievement, I remember on my first day at university, my lecturer used a quote from Sister Corita Kent "We are each other's sources," Undoubtedly, I think that one of the best parts of studying in the UK would be the opportunity to appreciate ourselves as we also learn to embrace differences



Nostalgia is the worst yet
the best feeling in the
world. The days I spent in
HLC is one of the most
important periods of my life.
Here I experienced friendship,
hardship, drama, heartbreaks,
misfortune, etc. The mistakes I made
here have become my life-long lessons
whilst the bonds I have made here are also
unbreakable. The life in HLC is full of ups and downs
and after all you will find that this is the most

wonderful stage in your life.

I would like to take my chance here to thank everyone in HLC who helped me through my 6 years of study because I am sure that I did not thank them enough when I had the chance, I am extremely grateful that I met my life changer Mr. Ren Pang when I was at the lowest point in my life. Despite looking like a nerd, he has without a doubt the kindest heart amongst everyone in the college, Knowing that I needed more help in English than anybody else, he insisted on spending his own time during breaks and after school just to sit with me one-on-one so I could stay on the same page with other students in class. Fortunately, his effort did not go down the drain. English was my best scoring subject in DSE and I earned the chance to further my studies in the United Kingdom, It has always been my pleasure to be one of his students.

"Wisdom in action!" My dear fellow HLCians. It may sound like a cliché to you now but bear it in mind. Be it at university or at work, I am always trying my best to put the college motto, 'Wisdom in Action', into practice.

JAMESWONG

University of Winchester
BA (Hons) Textiles for Fashion
GRADUATE of 2017