

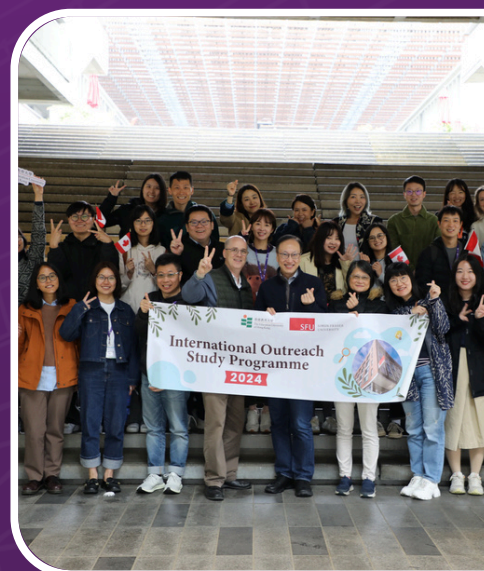


香港教育大學  
The Education University  
of Hong Kong

# GRADUATE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2024 | ISSUE 22

- Interview
- Events Highlights
- Scholarship Portal
- Student Sharing
- What's New



生研  
院究 Graduate  
School



# Graduate School

## Message from the Dean

Since its inception in 2010, the Graduate School has been delivering and supporting high-quality research and taught programmes at EdUHK. We pride ourselves in empowering motivated and intellectually curious individuals in their quest for knowledge and innovation. Whether you are joining us for the purpose of conducting impactful research or advancing your professional development, I hope you will be inspired by our diverse and multidisciplinary community and achieve new heights in your chosen field.

**Professor GU Ming Yue Michelle**  
Dean of Graduate School

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## Editorial Board

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## Striving Towards Research Excellence: Cultivating Scientific, Independent, Innovative, and Responsible Research Practices

Professor XU Guandong, a leading researcher in data science, artificial intelligence, and social computing, holds the positions of Chair Professor of Artificial Intelligence, Director of the University Research Facility of Data Science and Artificial Intelligence, and Director of the Centre for Learning, Teaching, and Technology at EdUHK. With a steadfast focus on fostering scientific, independent, innovative, and responsible research practices, Professor Xu champions the pivotal role of doctoral training in shaping the next generation of researchers. Emphasising the significance of this academic journey, he stresses, “PhD training is foundational for nurturing researchers who embody these core values.



**Professor XU Guandong**

*Chair Professor of Artificial Intelligence, Director of University Research Facility of Data Science and Artificial Intelligence (UDSAI), Director of the Centre for Learning, Teaching and Technology (LTTC)*

“**PhD training is foundational for nurturing researchers who embody these core values.**”

In academia, doctoral students are urged to embark on a journey marked by the meticulous design and execution of research projects. Encouraging a thorough exploration of existing literature, Professor Xu advocates for a deep understanding of research challenges, the identification of gaps, the formulation of pertinent research questions, and the proposal of cutting-edge approaches to research. While experienced researchers might be well-versed in their expertise, emerging peers are often more open to novel areas. Professor Xu views this as an opportunity for research postgraduate students to propose innovative ideas in their fields by conducting comprehensive literature reviews on frontier research.



Crucially, the application of robust research methodologies is highlighted as a cornerstone of successful research endeavours, particularly in areas such as data science. Professor Xu points out that studies in data science are expected to identify practical and technical issues from realistic scenarios, develop algorithms aligning with datasets, and ultimately demonstrate these algorithms to discover domain insights. He notes, “The whole research process requires a scientific mindset, through which we can produce valid research findings and get published.”

Moreover, doctoral students should grow as independent researchers, capable of identifying emerging and trending research topics and understanding evolving research challenges. Otherwise, they might be left following the research directions of others. Furthermore, being independent does not mean conducting research without collaboration. Instead, every prominent researcher possesses outstanding leadership skills. Professor Xu highlights the importance of interdisciplinary collaboration, “Attending international conferences and presenting your research ideas to professionals enables you to establish your own research networks and look for cooperation opportunities.”

Effectively disseminating research findings is a critical aspect of scholarly endeavour. Beyond upholding research quality and accuracy, selecting reputable publication platforms is deemed vital for enhancing research visibility and influence. Professor Xu indicates that choosing appropriate journals for research visibility and impact is crucial. Acknowledging the inherent challenges of academic pursuits and publications, he advises navigating feedback and rejection with resilience and discernment, reflecting on one’s works critically, and seeking constructive input from supervisors. Professor Xu’s insights illuminate a roadmap for aspiring researchers, encapsulating the essence of scholarly excellence and perseverance in the pursuit of impactful research contributions. He encourages doctoral students to use opportunities and equip themselves with invaluable skills and perspectives to strive for a transformative academic journey.



# Interviews with New Chair Professors



## Professor LIN Mei Yi Angel

*Chair Professor of Language, Literacy, and Social Semiotics in Education, Department of English Language Education (ELE)*

Professor LIN Mei Yi Angel is a leading scholar in the fields of English language education and critical literacies. Her research expertise spans second language education, discourse analysis, translanguaging, trans-semiotising, content and language integrated learning, decoloniality, and critical media literacies. Professor Lin has authored more than 100 publications and contributed to the organisation of numerous research seminars. Her work and service have established her as a respected academic leader, advancing language and literacy education while having a significant impact in the field.

## Go beyond Your Original Discipline

Professor Lin encourages students to pursue broad-based training, go beyond their 'home area,' and familiarise themselves with different research disciplines. Drawing from her own experience, Professor Lin mentioned that she attended around 20 courses when she was a PhD student, "I felt like I was a sponge, and I was so greedy for learning; I just wanted to absorb everything." She believes this experience provides her with a transdisciplinary horizon.

*"I'm kind of like on top of a high mountain, and I can have an eagle's eye view of different disciplines, including their assumptions, ontologies, epistemologies, and methodologies."*

Professor Lin emphasizes the importance of having a transdisciplinary horizon. She mentioned, "Nowadays, educational issues are so complex... You have to collaborate with others." If students can develop a transdisciplinary horizon, they will be able to understand other researchers' work. They can discuss complex educational issues together, build research teams, and tackle these issues collaboratively.

## Develop a Researcher Identity

"Doing research is more than interest. It's about your philosophical understanding of what it means to do research... It's not simply about learning some research skills or techniques," imparted Professor Lin. "It's about asking questions like who am I, why am I doing research, what will I be able to create, what kind of knowledge, and what kind of impact will I have."

Postgraduate research students are encouraged to establish a strong researcher identity. Providing insight into her experience, Professor Lin said "You need to believe in being a researcher... for example, I am an education researcher. I can contribute to education, to scholarship, and to society through my education research. This research identity can sustain you through difficulties."



## Improve Your Writing Skills

Professor Lin advises students to find a good researcher in their field or area of interest and read their writing carefully. She suggests that students should deliberately observe: “how these researchers start their paragraphs, how they transition to the next paragraph, how they build up their argument logically, and how they write their conclusions cogently.” In addition, Professor Lin highlights the importance of ‘finding your voice.’ “You need to have this belief: I need to get my voice out. I have something important to tell the world. It is some important discovery I’ve made. Even though it’s a very small discovery, it’s very important. I need to tell the world about it,” said Professor Lin. This will help students to gain both the drive and confidence to publish their research.

## Find Your Research Program

Professor Lin suggests that postgraduate research students can start from an inquiry that is driven by a few key *problematics* and then gradually develop their own research program. “Problematics” refer to broader theoretical or conceptual issues that may guide or inform research questions. Research questions are more specific inquiries or puzzles that researchers seek to answer within a study. Problematics provide a framework or context for understanding the significance of the research questions and help to situate the research within the larger field of study.

A research program means your sustained inquiry into these problematics keep intriguing you. It is a broader field of inquiry that encompasses multiple research questions in order to tackle these problematics. This could enable research students to lay a solid foundation for their future career development.

More specifically, Professor Lin suggests a way for students to find their own research program: identify the people they care about. “If you don’t know what your research program is, think about the people you care about, what issues and challenges these people are experiencing... A research program is centered on people,” noted Professor Lin. “From people to issues to theories and methodologies. Then we’ll go back to re-conceptualise the problematics, the issues.”

Professor Lin provides postgraduate research students with suggestions on conducting research, writing academic articles, and planning future career development. By adopting Professor Lin’s advice, postgraduate research students can better understand how to become a researcher and develop a clear plan for their academic journey.



# Interviews with New Chair Professors

Professor LI Hui Philip, Professor of Early Childhood Education, is renowned for his contributions across curriculum and pedagogy, educational policy, school leadership, and teacher education. Professor Li's scholarship is demonstrated by an impressive portfolio of 330 academic publications and recognition as one of the World's Top 2% Scientists by Stanford University since 2021. He was also listed by The Australian as the National Leading Researcher (Top 1) in the field of social sciences (social work) in 2023. In this interview, Professor Li offers invaluable advice on strategically navigating PhD studies, such as his '3D' approach and three 'stones'.



**Professor LI Hui Philip**

*Chair Professor of Early Childhood Education, Department of Early Childhood Education (ECE)*

## **Reading is the Cornerstone of Research Success**

*"Research postgraduate students should always be prepared for their study topics, this requires extensive reading."*

Professor Li emphasises the fundamental role of engaging in reading, thinking, writing, and reflecting. According to him, reading is the bedrock of scholarly work, enabling students to deepen their understanding of their research topics, identify the gaps, and stay abreast of recent developments.

Accordingly, Professor Li advocates for the thorough utilisation of library resources. He advises students to concentrate on highly relevant texts for secondary reading and balance between books and journal articles. "You have to clean the relevant bookshelves of your library to consolidate your knowledge base", he says. While books provide foundational knowledge, journal articles offer insights into the latest advancements in the field. "You have to check the relevant journals every month to monitor the latest findings", he points out.

## **Publishing is the Milestone of Research Success**

"Unless you publish it, your research is not completed", notes Professor Li. Talking about journal publishing, Professor Li presents a structured '3D' approach:





## 1. Doing a thorough scoping review.

Begin with extensive reading and draft a publishable scoping review of the research topic. "This will help you understand the current state of research, recognise existing work, and pinpoint potential research gaps", he says. Then, you can reflect on and justify your own research design through this initial groundwork.

## 2. Designing research to fill the gaps.

First, identify methodologies suitable for addressing the research gaps, be it

quantitative, qualitative, or mixed methods. Then, develop a robust research design grounded in this methodological evaluation.

## 3. Doing your research.

First, aim to publish your research as an integral part of the research process. Second, submit your research work to journals for free and professional reviews, which will not only strengthen the research but also nurture new insights and a deeper understanding of the findings.

## Time Management is the Magic Stone for Research Success

"Students need to have good time management skills," advises Professor Li. Accordingly, he highlights the importance of planning to clarify what needs to be accomplished and warns against procrastination. "If you delay job A, then B will be delayed, and C will be delayed... It's a chain reaction," he cautions. Essentially, sticking to the plan and meeting daily targets without excuses is crucial to avoiding a backlog that could hinder progress.

Prof. Li invites research postgraduate students to watch his previous talk given to fresh PhD students at HKU. This insightful session is available at the following link:

<https://youtu.be/x4hcUixMVyA?si=VtecukFdEUNROL2Y>



By embracing Professor Li's advice on preparation, methodological rigor, and disciplined planning, PhD students can navigate their research journeys more effectively and strategically, ultimately achieving academic and professional excellence.



## **Professor YUNG Kin Lam Ken**

*Associate Vice President (Research); Chair Professor of Biology and Neuroscience; Director of University Research Facility of Human Behavioral Neuroscience (UHBN)*

### **Strong Heart and Work-life Balance**

“Patience, hard work, and genuine interest are the essential qualities to maintain as you navigate the journey from failure to success in your academic career,” states Professor Yung. Scientific researchers often face considerable pressures, including the demands of high publication standards and the challenges of securing research grants. However, beyond cultivating resilience in the face of these challenges, it is equally important to recognise when to pause and recharge, rather than continuously pushing oneself to the limit. “Sometimes you fail, and that’s ok,” reflects Professor Yung. “Take a break, recover, and then move forward with a renewed commitment to learning.” He emphasises that failure can be a valuable learning experience, “From another point of view, you can learn the method through the failing experience, providing insights that increase the likelihood of success in future endeavors.” Professor Yung also suggests developing hobbies and engaging in regular exercise can be effective ways to manage stress.

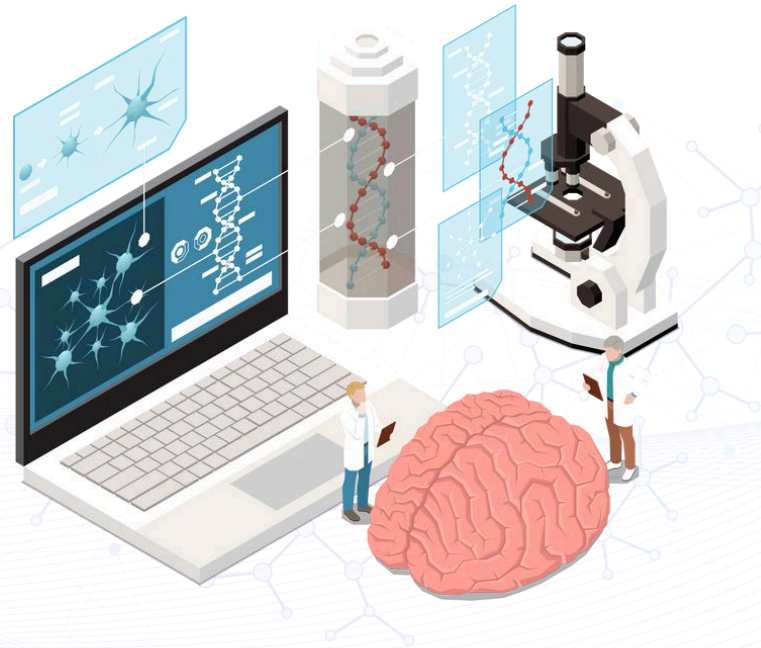
### **Expectations for PhD students**

*“The most important thing is to actively engage yourself in your research field”*

PhD students are expected to become experts in their domain-specific areas, and this requires taking the initiative and leading your research efforts. Professor Yung elaborates, “You are becoming the person who knows your research field better than anyone else, so you cannot wait for someone to tell you what to do.” However, he also stresses the importance of seeking advice from others and critically evaluating that advice. “Conducting PhD research is very much a people-centered interaction,” Professor Yung points out.



“Your supervisor is not just your teacher but also your partner. While your supervisor may have broader knowledge in the research field, as you delve deeper into your specific topic, there will come a point where you know more about it than they do.” A strong partnership between you and your supervisor is built on trust, which is cultivated through ongoing interaction. In addition to this relational aspect, developing research skills and techniques is crucial for PhD students. Nevertheless, Professor Yung believes that “If you are active and engaged, you will naturally acquire the necessary skills and techniques. So, the first priority is to be active.”



## **Experience in Submission and Conference**

It is common for new PhD students to feel overwhelmed when preparing to submit a paper or attend academic conferences. Professor Yung offers some advice, “The impact factor is not the only measure of a journal’s quality. There are other important factors to consider, such as citation rates. However, the most important goal is not simply to publish in a top journal, but to address a significant challenge in your field. This should be your ultimate direction.” Students are encouraged to stay updated with frontier research to identify emerging trends and research gaps. “I usually encourage my PhD students to attend at least one international conference during their doctoral studies to stay informed about the most cutting-edge research,” says Professor Yung. At conferences, students have the opportunity to engage with prominent scholars by offering comments and insights during their talks and can build sustainable professional relationships through follow-up emails. Professor Yung emphasises, “Conferences are a valuable opportunity for students to see what is happening in their field and to interact with others who share similar research interests.”

Inspired by invaluable suggestions from Professor Yung, PhD students can establish their academic beliefs, build their resilience in their research work, and accumulate the necessary learning experience to be well-prepared for their academic journeys.



**Professor LOOI Chee Kit**

*Research Chair Professor of Learning Sciences, Department of Curriculum and Instruction (C&I)*

Professor LOOI Chee Kit is a renowned scholar in the field of learning sciences, computer-supported collaborative learning, mobile learning, AI in education, and computational thinking. He has published more than 120 international journal papers, as well as over 50 books or chapters, and produced 160 refereed international conference papers. Professor Looi's research has had a high level of influence on educational practices.

## **Do Not Work Alone**

Professor Looi emphasises the value of open communication and collaboration across diverse research areas. "The clash of ideas and re-contextualising your perspectives is where innovation truly emerges," he explains. Professor Looi believes that modern research often requires integrating different viewpoints to tackle complex issues. "Nowadays, research is largely about bringing various lenses to address a problem," he notes. Furthermore, Professor Looi highlights the personal benefits of active communication and networking.

*"In my experience, building a strong professional network is incredibly important. Through connecting with other researchers, I was able to find mentors who have been invaluable to my career development."*

Accordingly, Professor Looi encourages students to look for opportunities to participate in workshops and conferences. He suggests that students engage in conversations with fellow graduate students and professors, both locally and internationally. "By listening to the work of others, you will get to know some of the key researchers in the field, and that's where you learn a lot," says Professor Looi. He advises students to be sociable and build networks, especially when attending international conferences. "Some of these networks might be helpful in your future," he notes. "Don't just think in terms of the three or four years. Think beyond that. The people you meet will become lifelong friends, academic or otherwise."



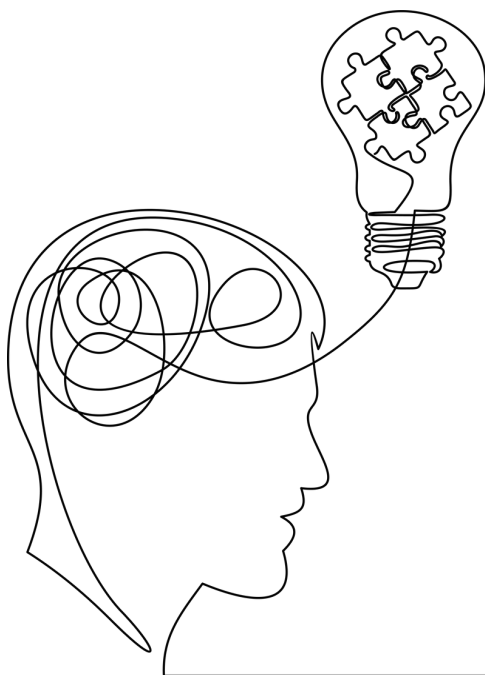
## **Take Notes While Reading**

“Don’t read passively ...there is this illusion that you have read it already and understood it, and then you move on to the next paper... After a while, you will forget what you read,” says Professor Looi. He suggests that students write or annotate notes while reading academic articles. “I encourage my students to construct and scribble notes and diagrams about what they read. You can type them into digital devices like laptops or iPads, or you can choose the old-fashioned way of writing or scribbling in a notebook.”

Professor Looi mentions that students could also use AI tools such as ChatGPT to assist with their reading. He suggests that these tools can help students better understand academic papers. “You can ask ChatGPT to give you a summary of the article,” says Professor Looi. “It’s important for students to use these AI tools wisely in today’s world.”

## **Solicit Feedback and Be Open-minded**

“You need to understand that everyone goes through the stage of receiving negative comments or feedback from supervisors or journal reviewers,” notes Professor Looi. “So, be open-minded and don’t take it personally. Feedback is meant to help you improve your research. Take the constructive ideas and use them to enhance your work and writing.” Professor Looi encourages students to maintain a strong mindset and an open attitude towards comments or feedback they may encounter in their studies. Learning from feedback can ultimately benefit them in their academic journey and future research endeavours.



In summary, Professor Looi offers research postgraduate students valuable advice on collaborating and communicating with others, being active readers, and keeping an open-mind about criticism and feedback. By following his suggestions, students can develop into well-networked, skilled, and strong-minded researchers.

# Mid-Autumn Festival Celebration

The Graduate School (GS) celebrated the Mid-Autumn Festival with an afternoon of activities for all postgraduate students on 16 September 2024.

Approximately 350 students joined the cheerful and festive gathering, where they were warmly greeted by Professor GU Ming Yue Michelle, the Dean of the GS and Dr TSANG Yiu Fai Chris, Assistant Dean and Mater of Education Programme Director.



▲ Group photo with students

The event featured an exciting Kahoot quiz, interactive self-introductions using Catchbox, and the assembly of festive lanterns. Students enjoyed traditional mooncakes and refreshments.





## Research and Publication Experience Sharing 2022/23 (November)

The sharing session of the Postgraduate Students Publication Awards Scheme (PSPAS) 2022/2023 was hosted on 2 November 2023. Approximately 30 students participated in the event, where 14 awardees were honoured for their exceptional achievements in publishing articles in high-quality peer-reviewed journals. They reflected on their publications in individual presentations before joining one of the two discussion panels hosted by Dr TSANG Yiu Fai Chris, Assistant Dean of the Graduate School.



▲ Students were listening to the sharing attentively



▲ Awardees sharing publication experience

## EdUHK Showcased at QS Higher Ed Summit: Asia Pacific 2023

Professor Chetwyn CHAN, Vice President (Research and Development), led an EdUHK team, including Professor Michelle GU, the Dean of the GS and representatives from various faculties and offices, to attend the QS Higher Ed Summit: Asia Pacific 2023, from 7 to 9 November, in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

EdUHK colleagues, including Ms Teresa POON, Chief of Staff Graduate School and Dr MA Qing actively participated in seminars, panel discussions, and networking with peer universities and QS management, including Lancaster University, Surrey University, Taylor's University, and Sunway University. This engagement proves EdUHK's dedication to global academic exchange and leadership in higher education trends.



▲ Professor GU (third from the right), Dr MA (second from the right) and Ms POON (first from the right)



# Graduation Ceremony 2023



The Graduate School (GS) held the graduation ceremony on 16 December 2023. Witnessed by family and friends, more than 270 masters and doctoral students celebrated their academic achievements.

Professor GU Ming Yue Michelle, GS Dean, delivered an inspiring address, encouraging graduates to embrace their future endeavours with confidence and resilience. She underscored that the ceremony marked the beginning of a new phase in their lives, replete with limitless prospects and possibilities.



▲ Group photo of RPg & EdD graduates

Dr ZHAO Yanmin, GS postdoctoral fellow and the event's moderator, introduced the graduates. GS colleagues, including Associate Dean Dr LEE Kwai Sang, Assistant Dean Dr TSANG Yiu Fai Chris, and postdoctoral fellow Dr LIAN Yi, extended their congratulations to the graduates.

After the ceremony, the graduates and GS colleagues commemorated the occasion by capturing photographs and videos across the campus.



▲ Group photo of MEd graduates

The GS extends its heartfelt congratulations to the Class of 2023. We hope that our graduates will carry the values and knowledge acquired at EdUHK to contribute to the shaping of a brighter future.

## Celebrating the Year of the Dragon (2024)



The Graduate School (GS) celebrated the Year of the Dragon on January 31, 2024 with quizzes and craft activities. The GS Dean, Professor GU Ming Yue Michelle welcomed the students and wished everyone a happy new year. The GS Assistant Dean, Dr TSANG Yiu Fai Chris gave an engaging trilingual talk about his Lunar New Year experiences and encouraged students to explore Hong Kong culture, especially holiday snacks.

Dr ZHAO Yanmin and Dr PATKIN John Gideon hosted a Lunar New Year Quiz, with 10 winners receiving GS gift packs and all participants making assembling their own dragons from decoration kits. Traditional Fai Chun decorations symbolising good luck and prosperity were also distributed.

## EdUHK Alumni Homecoming 2024

The GS participated in the EdUHK Alumni Homecoming Day on 23 March 2024, a special event organised by the Alumni Affairs and Development Office to commemorate the University's 30th anniversary. The event was a joyous occasion, as alumni from various cohorts returned to campus to reminisce about their time at EdUHK and celebrate the University's achievements.



▲ GS hosted a popular DIY booth





# Doctoral Student Consortium cum Learning and Teaching @EdUHK Festival 2023/24

The Graduate School (GS) hosted a Doctoral Student Consortium as part of the Postgraduate Session at the Learning and Teaching @EdUHK Festival 2023/24. The event brought together over 60 doctoral students, master students, alumni and international guests to discuss emerging issues in education. The half-day programme on April 24th began with opening remarks from the GS Dean, Professor GU Ming Yue Michelle, followed by two keynote speeches (Professor GAO Xuesong Andy and Dr MA Xiaojuan) on the future of AI-enabled project-based learning and teaching languages in a digital world. An outstanding FEHD alumna, Dr LIU Huinan, made a presentation about technological affordances and debates in the field.



The event also included two student presentations covering topics relating to postgraduate studies and strategies for supporting students with learning disabilities. An open forum session allowed attendees to engage in lively discussions on these presentations, facilitated by chairs Dr MATSUNOBU Koji and Dr LEUNG Ka Man Carman.

The Doctoral Student Consortium provided a platform for EdUHK postgraduate scholars to connect with leaders, learn from experiences, and unpack pressing matters relating to AI and online learning, educational technologies, inclusive pedagogy and other priority areas shaping the future of education.





## Academic Lecture and Workshop Series

The Graduate School organised a series of seminars in Semesters 1 and 2 of 2023/24 to enhance postgraduate students' research capacities and academic knowledge.

### Semester 1 of 2023/24

#### Seminar 1: Open Option: Further Education in Mainland

Seminar 1 featured speakers from the Beijing-Hong Kong Academic Exchange Centre (BHKAECC). Mr Calvin WONG from BHKAECC provided an overview of the organisation's services, after which Ms April CHEUNG shared her successful application journey to Beijing Language University's doctoral programme through BHKAECC. The event concluded with an interactive question-and-answer session, allowing participants to engage directly with BHKAECC speakers and address any concerns about their own applications.



#### Seminar 2: China English or Chinese English? The Coming of Age of an Indigenised Variety



In Seminar 2, Professor LI Chor Shing David addressed the ongoing debate in World Englishes regarding terminology for English in China. He stressed the need for consistent terminology and posited that "Chinese English" more accurately reflects the nuanced usage of English by educated bilingual individuals in China. The Q&A session prompted many attendees to engaging discussions and further inquiry about the topic.

### Seminar 3: Presenting and Publishing Qualitative Research

In seminar 3, Professor GAO Xuesong Andy from the University of New South Wales, Australia, offered insights into overcoming obstacles when publishing qualitative research in international journals. Professor Gao drew from his personal experiences and sharing strategies to effectively address reviewer concerns. He also pointed out the importance of methodological rigour and conceptual contributions.

Swahili learning investment trajectories  
Attention is being paid to the study of languages other  
research has been conducted on African languages. Yet  
those (not) to learn Swahili remains relatively  
language investment model (Dorvin & Norton, 2015).  
A longitudinal multiple-case study approach to track  
investment in Swahili language learning?  
investment in Swahili language learning?  
these research questions?  
understand the nature of 'investment'?



## Semester 2 of 2024/25

### Seminar 1: Publishing in International Applied Linguistics Journals: Perspectives from the Editor and Reviewer



In seminar 1, Professor ZHENG Yongyan from the Fudan University, mainland China, with extensive experience as an editor and reviewer, provided valuable insights into the challenges editors face and offered practical advice for authors navigating different journal submission expectations. She asserted the importance of understanding reviewer perspectives and providing systematic responses to feedback. The seminar was well-received by attendees, who found it both informative and engaging.

### Seminar 2: Generative AI: Implications and Applications for Education

In seminar 2, Professor William COPE from the University of Illinois, United States of America, discussed the transformative potential of generative AI in education, highlighting its applications in personalised learning, content creation, intelligent tutoring, language learning, data analysis, and virtual reality. He presented the CGScholar platform, developed at the University of Illinois, as a prime example of AI-driven adaptive learning. Professor Cope also addressed intrinsic limitations of AI, including its lack of common sense, dependence on training data, and potential for misuse.



## Joint Symposium: Identity and Intercultural Communication in the Digital Age



The Joint Symposium: Identity and International Communication in Digital Age was a collaborative effort between EdUHK and University College London's (UCL) Institute of Education (IOE). Notable speakers included professors from both institutions, such as Professor LI Wei, Professor ZHU Hua, and Professor O'REGAN John from UCL, and Professor LIN Mei Yi Angel, Professor GU Ming Yue Michelle, Dr GAO Fang Tina, and Dr Jan Christian GUBE from EdUHK.

Speakers addressed a wide range of topics, including AI and Trans-culturing communication, Bilingual students' sociocultural and educational practices, Digitally mediated identity, and Teacher education for culturally diverse classrooms, through six engaging keynote speeches. The event commenced with a welcome speech by EdUHK President LEE Chi Kin, John, and concluded with a roundtable discussion moderated by Professor LI Wei, Director and Dean of UCL Institute of Education, University College London, and Professor LIN Mei Yi Angel, Chair Professor of Language, Literacy, and Social Semiotics in Education, Department of English Language Education (ELE). The participants actively discussed on the challenges posed by AI and digital technology in intercultural communication and teacher education.

## Seminar 3: International Publishing and Professional Development: Author, Reviewer and Editor Perspectives

In seminar 3, Professor ZHANG Jun Lawrence from the University of Auckland, New Zealand, spoke about the uncertainties faced by young scholars regarding suitable journals for their research publications. The seminar also shed light on the manuscript submission process, including how to respond effectively to reviewer recommendations and editor decisions. By attending this session, postgraduate students and other participants could enhance their understanding of the publishing landscape and improve their chances of successful research dissemination.





# International Postgraduate Roundtable and Research Forum cum Summer School 2024

IPRRFSS 2024



EdUHK hosted The International Postgraduate Roundtable and Research Forum cum Summer School (IPRRFSS) in Education, Social Sciences, Liberal Arts and Humanities from 9 to 12 July, 2024. The Forum was attended by over 300 postgraduate students, alumni and scholars from more than 19 countries and regions.

The theme of the forum was 'Innovations and Sustainability: Shaping Education and Global Futures'. EdUHK President Professor LEE Chi Kin John said "By fostering interdisciplinary dialogue and innovative thinking, the Forum explores solutions to global challenges while shaping a more sustainable and brighter future for all."

Professor Chetwyn CHAN, Vice President (Research and Development) said, "Safeguarding sustainability is a crucial response to today's sociocultural and technological developments and environmental changes. Assuming everyone here shares this belief, I trust that you will find the keynote speeches and the ensuing discussions both empowering and inspiring."



▲ EdUHK President Professor LEE Chi Kin John delivers a welcoming speech through video



▲ International Postgraduate Roundtable



▲ Keynote Speakers

Twelve keynote speakers shared their topics related to Education, Language and Literature, Linguistics, Psychology, AI and Machine Learning, and Neuroscience.



▲ Open House - Poster Board Presentation

Participants engaged in a variety of activities, including the roundtable session, student presentations, EdUHK students' sharing sessions, and open house poster presentations. The Forum awarded 16 **outstanding full paper awards** to postgraduate students to recognise the excellence of the selected publications and promote high-quality research in their fields.

The forum cultivated an environment that encouraged postgraduate students to collaborate, transcend disciplinary and geographical boundaries, present their research and engage with individuals from diverse cultures and communities. It also served as a platform for sharing and discussing research in education, social sciences, liberal arts and the humanities.

For more information:

IPRRFSS Web page: <https://www.eduhk.hk/gradsch/index.php/iprrfss2024.html>





## Supervisor and Student Event Series

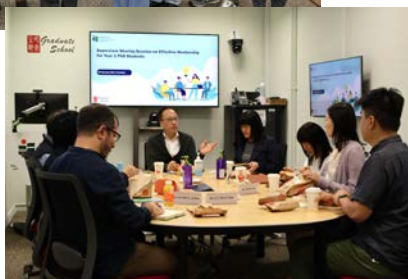
*The Graduate School (GS) organised a series of new events among supervisors and students to foster a more cooperative and inclusive academic environment.*

### Brown Bag Lunches

Regular Brown Bag Lunches, organised by the GS, aim to promote peer networking and encourage graduate students to feel comfortable interacting with senior scholars. A total of four brown bag lunches were organised in the academic year of 2023/24. All the Brown Bag Lunch series were co-hosted by Professor Chetwyn CHAN, Vice President of Research and Development, and Professor GU Ming Yue Michelle, Dean of GS. Across multiple sessions, students shared academic progress, received tailored advice for their future paths, and engaged in discussions on research proposals, career planning, and methodologies.



### Supervisor Sharing Session on Effective Mentorship for Year 1 PhD Students



On March 28, 2024, the GS held its 4th supervisor sharing session, reaffirming its commitment to PhD students' professional and personal development. Hosted by Vice President of Research and Development, Professor Chetwyn CHAN and the GS Dean Professor GU Ming Yue Michelle, the session focused on effective mentorship for first-year PhD students. Six principal supervisors from various departments participated, discussing strategies to support students' growth and success.



## Wellbeing Workshop for RPg Students

The GS introduced the Postgraduate Network (PGN) with a Wellbeing workshop on 26 October 2023, led by GS Academic Tutor Dr John PATKIN. Students investigated Personal and Workplace Wellbeing, with GS colleagues Dr ZHAO Yanmin and Dr LIAN Yi facilitating group discussions on common issues and coping strategies. The workshop received positive feedback.



## Ping Pong Buddies (Almost) Christmas Party

Graduate students and members of the GS support team kicked off the holiday season with the inaugural Ping Pong Buddies (Almost) Christmas Party on November 24, 2023. PhD, EdD, and MEd students engaged in team-building activities that enhanced their communication and teamwork skills. As part of the GS's commitment to student networking and enriching campus life, participants enjoyed the Christmas atmosphere, playing games like a modified egg-and-spoon race using table tennis balls and chopsticks.



## GS Drawing Workshop

Participants in a GS workshop led by Lecturer Ms. Passy Deng on April 10, 2024, turned lines and dots into vivid images in a dynamic session. Ms. Deng began with a unique icebreaker, asking participants to interview a stranger and illustrate their responses. She then introduced the six key elements of art: line, shape, form, space, color and texture. After some practice, participants sketched with their eyes closed to different genres of music, translating sensory experiences into personal works of art. The session also encouraged collaboration and creativity during a sharing session, where students enthusiastically presented their drawings, fostering an exchange of ideas and perspectives.



### 2024 Easter Sports Party

The GS hosted the sweetest event of the year with the 2024 Easter Party on March 27. Students and GS team members played badminton, basketball and hunted for chocolates.

The highlight of the event was the 3-on-3 basketball competition. The championship game match-up took a strange twist. A confident Team Maple said they would play 3-on-6 believing their three players were talented enough to beat a team of 6. Despite a valiant effort and biased officiating, Team Berry and M&M triumphed over Team Maple 10-8 score. All nine players were rewarded with chocolate eggs.

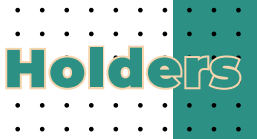


### Laboratory Exploration Workshop

On May 29, 2024, the Laboratory Exploration Workshop, jointly organised by the GS and Dr TSANG Yiu Fai Chris's laboratory team, brought together a group of PhD and MEd students from diverse disciplines, all eager to immerse themselves in a hands-on laboratory experience.



The workshop fostered an enriching environment where students from diverse academic fields could actively engage in practical laboratory experiences. This unique opportunity allowed students to gain valuable insights into the application of scientific methodology and their real-life implications, igniting their passion for scholarly exploration even further.



## Hong Kong PhD Fellowship Scheme

**Munira JAHAN**  
PhD Student



### Political Science Scholar with a Global Perspective

I am Munira Jahan from Bangladesh, a fourth-year PhD student under the supervision of Dr HU Zhiyong Fox in the Department of Social Sciences and Policy Studies (SSPS).

I have been working (now on study leave) as an assistant professor of Political Science at Jagannath University, Dhaka, Bangladesh. Prior to joining as an Assistant Professor in 2014, I was a lecturer in the same department from 2011 to 2014. I obtained a Bachelor of Social Science (BSS) degree in Government and Politics from Jahangirnagar University with distinction and two Master's degrees, one in Government and Politics from Jahangirnagar University, Bangladesh, another in Public Policy Analysis from the National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS), Tokyo, Japan under the prestigious Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science, and Technology (MEXT) Scholarship. I have published several articles in reputed refereed national and international journals. My key research areas include global political economy, foreign economic linkage and political influence in developing countries, particularly South Asia.

### Advancing Research in International Political Economy

The Hong Kong PhD Fellowship Scheme has allowed me to delve deeper into the theories and practices of international political economy and develop the necessary skills to make a positive impact in research in political science and international relations. My PhD study at EdUHK is rewarding. The faculty and administrative colleagues are highly competent and very supportive. The University allows me to engage in meaningful discussions and collaborate with fellow students from different research fields by arranging regular seminars, workshops, conferences, and academic exchange programs. My sincere gratitude goes to EdUHK and the Research Grants Council (RGC), Hong Kong, for this great opportunity, and I look forward to making a positive contribution to my research area in the future.



## Hong Kong PhD Fellowship Scheme

### Octavio FLORES OROZCO

PhD Student

My name is Octavio, and I am from a small town near the Pacific coast of Mexico. Since childhood, I have been fascinated by foreign cultures and languages. Maybe that is why I became a language teacher and an enthusiast of interculturality.



### Going here and there

My academic and working background is full of episodes in different cities within and outside my home country. I began working as a primary teacher after graduating from the University of Colima in 2012. Some years later, the winds took me to France, where I worked as a Spanish teacher and earned my Master's in Bilingual Education. Before coming to Asia, I was working as a lecturer in a teacher training college in Mexico, which motivated me to pursue a PhD at EdUHK.

### A New Chapter

It's with thanks to the HKPFS that I can continue my academic development. This programme has enabled me to meet and interact with scholars, professors, and fellow students, making this an enriching journey. Besides my studies, one of the reasons that brought me here was to continue enlarging my intercultural understanding of this world, only to realise that the more people I meet, the fewer differences I find.



## Postdoctoral Fellowship Scheme

### Dr Farid HOSSAIN

#### Postdoctoral Fellow

Before commencing the PhD program at EdUHK, I obtained a Bachelor of Social Science (BSS) degree and a Master's in Government and Politics from Jahangirnagar University, Bangladesh. I earned a second Master's in Public Policy Analysis from the National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS), Tokyo, Japan under the prestigious Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science, and Technology (MEXT) Scholarship.

I received my PhD from the Department of Asian and Policy Studies (APS) at EdUHK, where I was assigned to the Centre for Greater China Studies. I was awarded the prestigious Hong Kong PhD Fellowship. I received the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government Scholarship (2019) for my research visit to Malmö University and Linnaeus University, Sweden. I also received an Outbound Learning Scholarship for Self-financed Master's and Research Postgraduate Programmes (2018-19) from EdUHK's Faculty of Liberal Arts and Social Science.



- **Post-Doctoral Fellow**  
Department of Social Sciences and Policy Studies, EdUHK
- **Associate Professor**  
Jahangirnagar University,  
Bangladesh

My research interests include China and the Global Political Economy, Belt and Road Initiative, Chinese Soft Power, Chinese Infrastructure, Investment and Capital Flows in South Asia and U.S. Foreign Policy. I published widely in the areas of international political economy, Chinese soft power, and China-US strategic competition in the Indo-Pacific region. My articles have been published in leading international journals such as *Millennium Asia* (Sage), *Asian Politics and Policy* (Wiley), *Journal of Contingencies and Crisis Management* (Wiley), *Springer Nature*, and in various Bangladeshi journals.

## Postgraduate Students' Publication Awards

**ZHANG Ke**  
PhD Student

A critical aspect of producing an academic publication involves extensively understanding pertinent literature while knowing how to organise study resources in a scientific manner before starting with a draft manuscript. This practice may be significantly helpful in establishing a robust process while building a scientific framework for drafting a research manuscript. However, it is widely acknowledged that navigating the process of publishing an academic journal article can be challenging, especially since the likelihood rejection is relatively high. Some journals take a long time before they finally reject an article based on the scope and field of the publication. Such setbacks may progressively impact our publication arrangements, graduation convocation, and the record of research output from time to time. To remedy this issue, I found that good communication with my supervisor to analyse the content of the selected journal and its past publication metrics before submission may help significantly address the issue of desk rejection and may lead to a higher publication rate.

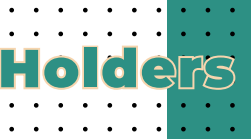
The peer review section is another challenging part of the publication process. Editors usually invite several reviewers to examine a submission before making the first editorial decision. Authors may be asked correct grammar, strengthen the theoretical structure, and scientific contributions if the editor did not reject the first round.

It is worth noting that an article may also face rejection if the revisions do not adequately address and satisfy reviewers' comments. The most critical step in avoiding this issue is to provide a rich and complete point-to-point response and make more detailed additions and revisions to the original article on top of each reviewer's comments.

Authorship ▲	Initial Date Submitted ▲	Status Date ▲	Current Status ▲	Date Final Disposition Set ▲	Final Disposition ▼
Other Author	Aug 31, 2023	Sep 04, 2023	Completed - Reject	Sep 04, 2023	Reject
Other Author	Oct 15, 2023	Oct 24, 2023	Transfer Pending		

Beyond the difficulties perceived above, the most formidable challenge is that the article may face constant rejection despite several rounds of submissions or revisions. I have encountered such a situation with an article, illustrated in the photo below, which has been rejected several times following extensive revisions. This outcome is disappointing and frustrating, but such outcomes are common and underscores the need for persistent improvement before resubmission.





## Postgraduate Students' Publication Awards

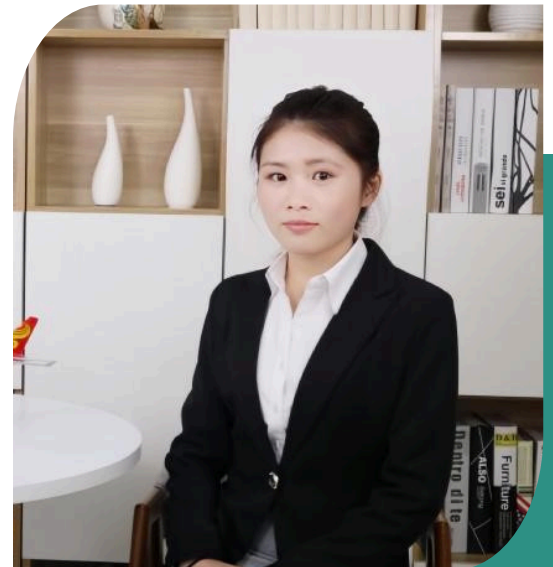
**YU Liyan**  
PhD Student

### Identification of a Suitable Journal

To ensure that you are targeting appropriate journals for publishing your research, it is vital to seek guidance from experts in the field, such as your supervisor. They can provide valuable insights and suggestions. Additionally, checking the journal's description and searching whether papers with related topics have been published in the targeted journal. It is recommended to choose a journal that have published papers on related topics.

### Preparing Your Article for Submission

Before submitting your article to a journal, it is crucial to make necessary preparations. Begin by carefully reading and understanding the author guidelines provided by the targeted journal. Pay attention to formatting requirements, citation styles, and any word limitations specified. Familiarising yourself with the writing style used in articles previously published in the intended journal will prove beneficial for preparing your own article. After completing the initial manuscript, utilising grammar correction apps like "Grammarly" can help refine your work. Furthermore, consider seeking suggestions and feedback from co-authors in your manuscript.



### Responding to Reviewers' Comments

When addressing reviewers' comments, read them carefully and discuss them with your supervisor. Remember that you don't have to address every comment, but evaluate their relevance and potential impact on the quality of your research. It is important to maintain a respectful and constructive attitude towards these comments, acknowledging their contribution to improving the manuscript.

### Rejection - A Stepping Stone to Improvement

When receiving a rejection letter from a journal, it is important to manage your emotions first. Keep in mind that rejection is a common part of the publication process, and staying persistent is key to achieving success. It is important to view this rejection as an opportunity to enhance the quality of your article. Take your time to carefully analyse why your manuscript was rejected and identify areas that can be improved. Seek guidance and suggestions from your supervisor or other co-authors to gather valuable insights. Then, based on suggestions, make the necessary revisions and address the raised issues to strengthen your manuscript.

## Geneva's Invention Expo Award



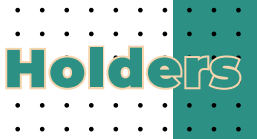
▲ Group photo with Dr FU Hong and teammates

### 1 QIU Minyu RPg Student

At the International Exhibition of Inventions of Geneva in April 2023, our team's "An Intelligent Ocular Misalignment Measurement System" project won the gold medal. This experience taught me the importance of patience and immersion when doing research.

We made a series of preparations to present our strabismus measurement system to the judges and visitors at the exhibition. It was very demanding for our measurement equipment to show its advantages within a limited time, so we re-collected data and updated the algorithm and model. At the same time, we anticipated that there would be interference from many devices in the venue, so we solved the problem of a stable connection between the equipment and the computer in advance. As a research student, we are used to focusing on the technical aspects of research projects. During this preparation process, I realised that the product's appearance needed to be considered, for commercialisation. We prepared a poster and a demonstration video to attract visitors' attention and ensure a clear and intuitive presentation to the judges. From this, I realised that effective communication is as important as clear expression and technical development in the presentation of scientific research results.

This award is the joint result of our team's efforts and collaboration and a valuable learning and growth experience for me. It deepened my understanding of technology and made me realise the significance of knowledge transfer in scientific research. Through this project, I learned how to find solutions when facing the unknown and challenges, which will be an experience that will continue to benefit me in my research career.



## Geneva's Invention Expo Award

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**HE Ziyu**

RPg Student

My name is He Ziyu, an MPhil student from the Department of Mathematics and Information Technology at EdUHK. I started my master's program in 2021, driven by a passion for programming. Upon graduation, I had the opportunity to join Dr FU Hong's research team, where we focus on applying AI to real-world scenarios.

Our award-winning invention at Geneva's Invention Expo is "An Intelligent Ocular Misalignment Measurement System" designed to address challenges in strabismus diagnosis. This machine can quickly and accurately assess strabismus, thanks to the intelligent algorithms we developed. Interestingly, my interest in smart algorithms began during my university days as a dragon boat athlete, where I dreamt of creating an algorithm to aid our training. Although it was just an idea back then, joining Dr Fu's team provided the perfect platform to bring such concepts to life. The transition from a simple idea to a practical application has been incredibly fulfilling.

Since then, I have worked on various projects, including developing an intelligent training system for the Hong Kong Boccia Team and pioneering smart mechanical arms and gloves. These experiences have been invaluable for my growth, both professionally and personally.

Although my undergraduate degree was in Environmental Science, I taught myself programming after graduation. This was a challenging journey, but I tackled every obstacle with the perseverance I cultivated as an athlete. This relentless spirit continues to drive me through the complexities of our projects. I am immensely grateful to Dr Fu's team for the opportunities to innovate together. Our collective efforts have not only brought our visions to life but also filled us with pride and joy. Looking ahead, I am excited about our team's continued growth and success.





## MEd-Entrance Scholarship

**FAN Hiu Ching, Claire**  
MEd Student in Education

### Advancing Leadership and Innovation



As an early childhood educator with over 10 years of experience, I am deeply honored to have been awarded the Master of Education (MEd) Entrance Scholarship by EdUHK. This scholarship is a recognition to the hard work and dedication I have poured into my career, and it also provides me with a precious opportunity to further develop my leadership capabilities.

After graduating with a Bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education from EdUHK, I am delighted to return to this renowned institution to pursue a Master's degree in Education. The University's excellent reputation in teacher training and its focus on innovative educational approaches align perfectly with my passion and vision for the early childhood education sector.

As the newly appointed principal of a local kindergarten, I hope to make good use of this scholarship by undertaking the MEd program, which will allow me to deepen my understanding of effective leadership frameworks, strengthen my own leadership skills, and drive positive changes within my school. Moreover, the program will enable me to explore cutting-edge teaching methodologies and collaborate with like-minded education professionals.

This scholarship not only recognises my past achievements but also affirms my unwavering commitment to the field of early childhood education. I am truly grateful for this opportunity and look forward to embarking on this transformative learning journey at EdUHK.



## UGC Targeted TPg Fellowship Programme

**CHAN Lok Sang, Ivan**  
MEd Student

### Bridging STEM Education and Real-World Application

I was totally flabbergasted when I received a call from Dr TSANG Yiu Fai Chris, who told me about the potential of receiving a scholarship for the 2023/24 Taught Postgraduate Fellowship Scheme. At first, I thought it was a scam. Yet, after learning more about the Scheme, I am so honoured and thankful to be one of the recipients.



I obtained my Bachelor's degree in Biology at HKU and my PGDE (major in Biology) with Credit from EdUHK. I am currently a student in the Master of Education and my area of focus is Science and Environmental Studies (SES). I am the Science KLA coordinator and serve on the Biology Panel at Lock Tao Secondary School, a local school that has a blend of Non-Chinese Speaking, mainland, and local students. In SES, I am able to learn more about pedagogies of STEM /STEAM education, which allows me to better incorporate knowledge learnt at EdUHK into real-life experience at work.



I thank EdUHK for granting me the Fellowship, which encourages me to stay open-minded to learn as a student. It also challenges me to be more creative when teaching as an educationist. I look forward to continuing to serve the education sector.



## Student's Learning Journey

**Thieu Thi Hoang Oanh**  
PhD Student

I commenced my PhD study in September 2020 and have finished my viva examination in June 2024. During four years in Hong Kong, I have learned a lot of skills, acquired knowledge and been exposed to new cultural aspects. Looking back at my challenging PhD journey, I am proud of what I have done and appreciate the valuable studying and living conditions at the EdUHK. I received a scholarship, research support and student accommodation. The staff of the University are also extremely helpful and friendly. In addition, I appreciate various training workshops and conferences organised by the University from which I can mingle with peers, senior researchers and improve my presentation skills as well as academic writing skills.

I sincerely thank my supervisors Associate Professor Dr GAO Fang Tina, Associate Professor Dr CHOI Tae Hee and Assistant Professor Dr BHOWMIK Miron Kumar for their excellent professional supervision, support and guidance throughout my study. Their invaluable feedback has always contributed to the improvement of my work as well as my research ability. Thank you to all the staff at the University who supported and encouraged me during my PhD journey.

The time in Hong Kong will be a wonderful memory of my life! Thank you for everything!

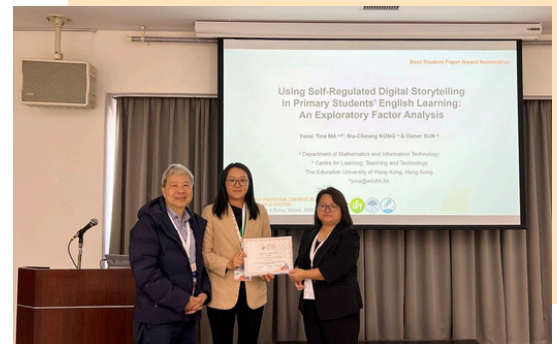




## Student's Learning Journey

### MA Yunsi Tina EdD Student

I am deeply grateful for the unwavering support extended to me by the Graduate School and my esteemed supervisors, Professor KONG Siu Cheung and Dr SUN Daner from the Department of Mathematics and Information Technology. It is with heartfelt appreciation that I share the news of my research paper being accepted and recognised by the 31st International Conference on Computers in Education (ICCE 2023). ICCE 2023 brought me to the enchanting city of Matsue, Japan, a place nestled amidst the serene beauty of Lake Shinji, Lake Nakaumi, and the Sea of Japan. The tranquil surroundings of this water city resonated with the profound words of Bruce Lee: "Be water, my friend. Be like water making its way through cracks. Empty your mind, be formless. Shapeless, like water". This philosophy has served as a driving force throughout my doctoral study journey.



▲ MIT EdD Student Won APSCE Merit Scholarship Program Award and Best Student Paper Award Nomination

ICCE 2023, known for its rigorous standards, provided a platform for scholars, doctoral candidates, and educators to convene and exchange their cutting-edge research in the realm of computers in education. The conference was a remarkable opportunity for me to engage in enlightening discussions with fellow professionals, an experience that I hold in high regard. Participating in ICCE 2023 filled me with immense pride and honour as I presented the findings of my research on using self-regulated digital storytelling to enhance young learners' English learning, a study proposal that was initially conceived at ICCE 2022's Doctoral Student Consortium. The journey was truly fulfilling, not only allowing me to showcase my work but also earning me a nomination for the prestigious Best Student Paper Award and APSCE Merit Scholarship Program Award. This significant achievement stands as a testament to the invaluable guidance and encouragement provided by my supervisors and the consistent support from the Graduate School.



## International Learning Opportunities International Outreach Study Programme (IOSP)

University of New South Wales (Australia)



**DU Yuji**

PhD Student

Starting on June 10th, I visited the University of New South Wales (UNSW) to participate in the International Outreach Study Programme (IOSP) organized by the EdUHK.

The fascinating experience was intellectually enriching. We attended academic workshops on qualitative and quantitative methods, thesis writing, publishing, and other intriguing topics in education. As a first-year PhD student, I was greatly impressed by the thought-provoking demonstrations delivered by the lecturers at UNSW. The presentations showcased their years of dedicated research and hard work in education. Through the insightful demonstrations, I gained a deep understanding of the intrinsic value of educational research and the importance of choosing research topics that are pertinent to local societal needs.



Moreover, the student presentations on June 13th were particularly memorable. Doctoral students from EdUHK and UNSW gathered together for a full day of knowledge exchange. This opportunity enabled me to explore a wide range of research topics across different disciplines and to engage with fellow PhD students from diverse backgrounds. I also learned to provide constructive feedback and pose meaningful questions during the discussions. In addition, I also noticed that several researchers and students began their presentations by acknowledging the Bedegal people in Australia. This gesture highlighted their awareness of and respect for the traditional custodians of the land.

The IOSP at UNSW was a transformative learning experience that broadened my academic horizons and deepened my appreciation for the complexities of educational research.

## International Outreach Study Programme (IOSP)

Simon Fraser University (Canada)



**Thomas FAN**

EdD Student

I am delighted to share my enriching experience from the 2024 International Outreach Study Program (IOSP) held at Simon Fraser University in Canada. This four-day program opened up a whole new world of education for me, offering a diverse range of activities such as lectures, group discussions, research exchanges, student presentations, and expert panel discussions, all of which deepened my learning experience.

The lectures by Dr BINGHAM Charles and Dr HILL Cher left a profound impact on me. Dr Bingham's insights into the philosophy of education emphasised the significance of building relationships with learners, while Dr Hill's discussions on decolonisation and Indigenous education shed light on the cultural values embedded in education.

Overall, the IOSP experience has helped me cultivate an open-minded approach and embrace diverse cultural perspectives, thereby enhancing my critical thinking skills. This experience has broadened my understanding of education, providing a solid foundation for my future academic and professional pursuits. It has been a memorable journey that continues to shape and inspire my personal growth.

Furthermore, I am grateful for the friendships I formed with fellow participants during the program. The connections made with like-minded individuals have enriched my experience and added a valuable dimension to my learning. I hope to inspire my peers to partake in similar programs to broaden their horizons and enhance their lives. Together, we can embark on a journey towards a more inclusive and diverse educational world. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to the University for this invaluable opportunity and eagerly anticipate further opportunities for learning and growth in the future.





## International Outreach Study Programme (IOSP)

Simon Fraser University (Canada)



**ABATE Samuel Getnet**  
PhD Student

I am honored to have participated in the International Outreach Study Program (IOSP) organised by the EdUHK Graduate School and the Faculty of Education of Simon Fraser University (SFU) in Vancouver, Canada, from May 21-24, 2024. The program was truly incredible and enriching for early-career researchers like myself. During the program, I attended two workshops on the Philosophy of Education and Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, Indignity, and Decolonisation, which were facilitated by SFU professors. I also had the opportunity to present my PhD research project proposal conceptual framework and received valuable feedback. Additionally, I engaged in informal and formal discussions with SFU graduate students, professors, and fellow EdUHK students about our research interests, current projects, and future careers. These discussions allowed us to share diverse viewpoints that will conceptualise our research topics from different perspectives.



Overall, the program greatly benefited me by helping me understand the interdisciplinary nature of research practices and allowing me to expand my professional network globally. I am grateful to the Graduate School of EdUHK and the Faculty of Education of SFU for creating such a valuable learning experience. I also want to express my appreciation for the warm hospitality of the SFU community.

## Overseas Learning Experience Programme (OLEP)

Sophia University (Japan).



**WANG Can**  
MEd Student

I am very honoured to have had this opportunity to be an exchange student at Sophia University in Japan. Sophia University is located in Tokyo, Japan, which is a very fashionable, modern, friendly, and beautiful city. At Sophia University, I experienced a culture different from that of Hong Kong, which broadened my horizons.

At Sophia University I learnt a lot of different expertise, such as the formation of major lakes and rivers and how to manage flooding to protect human civilisation. I also learnt how to look at the dual-carbon policy from an international perspective, and Professor QIAN Xuepeng taught us about the many issues that need to be taken into consideration when planning the Tokyo Metro, which greatly improved my knowledge.

Professor HUANG Guangwei from the Graduate School of Global Environmental Studies of Sophia University also led us on a field trip to the major lakes in Japan, patiently explaining to us how each of the lakes was managed before it was purified into its current clean state.

Through this 14-day exchange programme, I met new classmates, and it was very meaningful and enjoyable for us to make presentations together as a team, and to integrate what we had learnt at EdUHK into the environmental studies at Sophia University.



## Overseas Learning Experience Programme (OLEP)

Western Norway University of Applied Sciences (Norway).



**HUANG Shuyi**

MEd Student

I am very grateful to OLEP for giving me the opportunity to understand the education systems of European countries relatively systematically. It was a very precious opportunity for me to get in touch with different cultures directly. These two weeks taught me a lot and made me reflect on and compare the education systems in Chinese mainland and Hong Kong.

Without a doubt, the topic that impressed me the most was outdoor schooling, where I spent a day with some enthusiastic students. In China, there are very few opportunities for outdoor teaching, about 1 or 2 times a year, mainly for spring or autumn excursions. The Norwegian teaching system makes use of unique natural resources to create a unique learning environment for students. This is a very noticeable difference. As an education student, I think that understanding the education systems of different countries and regions is more helpful for me to think holistically or learn from them.

In terms of personal growth, I realised that this exchange study was not only an improvement of academic ability, but also a honing of personal ability. I met classmates from different majors, which enabled me to exchange ideas. In the Augmented Reality (AR) classroom, I also seriously thought about how to introduce AR technology into the classroom in future teaching. In addition, my life skills improved significantly during the visit. Finally, I would like to mention that daylight is limited in Norway due to its proximity to the North Pole. Coupled with the jet lag, it can be challenging to adjust to the dark environment.

Overall, this opportunity was a great experience for me to learn about Norwegian education and develop my skills, which is a very valuable experience for students who major in education.







## Virtual Research Learning Hub

The Graduate School has been developing a virtual research training hub to help research students improve essential generic academic skills. Key to this evolving platform is self-paced e-learning. Lecture videos are combined with a wide range of interactive content to enable asynchronous learning. These flexible modules include the following elements:

- Interactive thinking exercises and quizzes
- Pre-recorded videos
- Virtual discussion boards
- Links to external e-resources

### Module 1:

#### Conceptualizing Research (Professor Paul Stapleton)

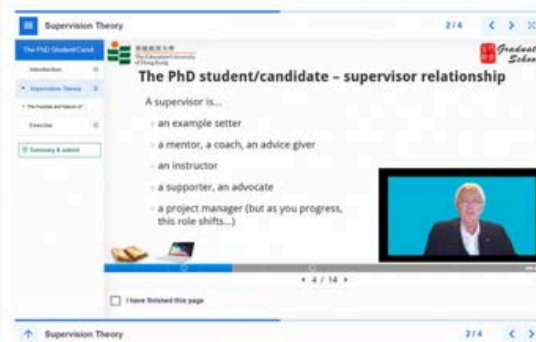


### Abstracts of the Module

- Learn some general and specific ideas related to conceptualizing research
- Realize why research is important
- Understand some approaches to research that could help you avoid making cognitive errors and biases

### Module 2:

#### The PhD Student/Candidate – Supervisor Relationship (Professor Joe Graffam, Deakin University, Australia)



### Abstracts of the Module

#### Part 1: Supervision Theory

1. The purpose and nature of PhD candidature
2. A Multi-faceted and dynamic relationship
3. Candidature planning and management

#### Part 2: Supervision Practice

1. A supervision 'relationship management' style
2. Health and wellbeing maintenance
3. Practical aspects of the relationship

## Hong Kong PhD Fellowship Scheme 2025/26



 香港教育大學  
The Education University  
of Hong Kong

### Hong Kong PhD Fellowship Scheme at EdUHK 2025/26

The Education University of Hong Kong (EdUHK) offers a world-class education with expert faculty and cutting-edge research. Our Research Postgraduate (RPG) programmes are tailored for those aspiring to academic or research careers across diverse fields, including education, humanities, social sciences, cultural and creative arts, and science. We place great emphasis on research capability – our research will contribute to the advancement of knowledge, scholarship, and innovation, with a sustainable impact on social progress and human betterment.



#### Hong Kong PhD Fellowship Scheme

Established by the Research Grants Council (RGC) of Hong Kong in 2009, the Hong Kong PhD Fellowship Scheme (HKPFS) aims to attract the best and brightest students in the world to pursue their PhD studies in Hong Kong's universities.

The HKPFS will provide a competitive annual stipend and conference and research-related travel allowance per year for each awardee for a period of up to three years.

- Monthly Stipend: HK\$28,100\* (approx. US\$3,600)
- Annual Conference & Research-related Allowance: HK\$14,000\* (approx. US\$1,790)

\*In the 2024/25 academic year.

#### Application Procedure & Timeline

##### Step 1

Submit an **Initial Application** to the RGC through the HKPFS Electronic System to obtain an HKPFS Reference Number on or before December 1, 2024, at 12:00 noon Hong Kong Time (GMT +8 hours).

- Shortlisted candidates will be invited for an admission interview.
- Application Results will be announced in April/May 2025

For more details, please visit: [www.rgc.edu.hk/hkphd](http://www.rgc.edu.hk/hkphd)

##### Step 2

Submit a **Full Application** through the EdUHK Admission System and quote your HKPFS Reference Number before EdUHK's application deadline (1 December 2024 at 11:59 pm Hong Kong Time).



#### Featured Research Areas\*

- Artificial Intelligence and Educational Technology
- Curriculum, Teaching and Assessment
- Chinese Language Studies
- Cultural and Creative Arts
- Early Childhood Education
- Education Policy and Leadership
- English Language Education
- Health and Physical Education
- Heritage Education
- Global and Regional Studies
- International Education
- Linguistics and Literature
- Mathematics Education
- Psychology
- Science and Environmental Studies
- Social Sciences and Policy Studies
- Special Education and Counselling
- Sports Science and Coaching



\* For other research areas, please visit: <https://repository.edu.hk/>

#### Basic Entrance Requirements

- A Master's degree (or equivalent qualification) from a recognised university; or
- A Bachelor's degree with first class honours (or equivalent qualification) from a recognised university

#### English Language Requirements\*

Applicants whose entrance qualification is obtained from an institution in a non-English speaking system should normally fulfil one of the following minimum English proficiency requirements:

1. Overall score of IELTS 6.5 with no subtest lower than 6.0; or
2. TOEFL score of 80 (internet-based test); or
3. Other equivalent qualifications.\*

\* Individual field of study such as English language may have higher requirement.

\* The College English Test (CET) is not accepted as an equivalent qualification.

#### Selection Criteria

In addition to meeting EdUHK's admission and English language requirements, HKPFS applicants should have outstanding credentials in the following areas:

-  **ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE**
-  **RESEARCH ABILITY AND POTENTIAL**
-  **COMMUNICATION AND INTERPERSONAL SKILLS**
-  **LEADERSHIP ABILITIES**

 Graduate School



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[www.eduhk.hk/gradsch/rpg](http://www.eduhk.hk/gradsch/rpg)



## Upcoming Events



香港教育大學  
The Education University  
of Hong Kong



Graduate  
School

# SHINE ON THE STAGE

## MC Training Programme

- Improved Communication
- Public Speaking Skills
- Confidence Building
- Stage Presence
- Adaptability

....

## Join Us!



www.edu.hk/gradsch



Students who successfully complete the course will have the opportunity to obtain a professional MC certificate.





## Upcoming Events







Block B4-G/F-02  
EdUHK, 10, Lo Ping Road  
Tai Po, N.T., Hong Kong



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