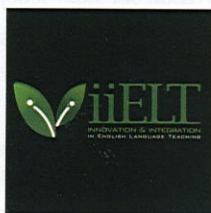


April 2012

English Language Center, Shantou University, China



iiELT--Teaching Language Creatively, Technologically and Humanisticly



Written by 11 Journalism Wen Zihua
Photos provided by ELC

An important English conference is coming to STU campus in April. Innovation & Integration in English Language Teaching (iiELT) starts on April 20 and includes a series of activities, lectures and conferences.

The conference is sponsored by ELC and brings teachers and researchers together to share their ideas on teaching. Students, faculty and others who have an interest in language teaching and learning are welcome.

The ELC has hosted a similar symposium at Shantou University every two years since the founding of the ELC. This year the conference will take place April 20-22 with the theme: Rethinking Praxis in a Connected World.

"Praxis is about 'practice' or what people do as opposed to theory. So the conference focuses on what people are doing in their language teaching, how they apply theories about language learning and teaching, and this year there is a special focus on academic writing and the use of technology and media," said Myra Ingmanson, ELC teacher of Shantou University, who's one of the organizers of this event.

"We will also have several internationally



The plenary and featured speakers will speak in the Library Lecture Hall at the following times:

Saturday, 21/Apr/2012
9:30am-10:30am

Ken Hyland - **We Are What We Write: The Role of Writing in the Academy**



Ken Hyland



Feng Anwei

1:00pm- 2:00pm
Joy Egbert - **Multi-literacies and Technology: Connecting CALL to Students' Lives**



Joy Egbert

5:00pm- 6:00pm
Mao Sihui - **Decoding Male & Female Images in Advertising as Critical Engagement**



Mao Sihui

Sunday, 22/Apr/2012
8:30am- 9:30am
Feng Anwei - **The 'Third Wave' - The Spread of English across Greater China**

known speakers who will talk about their ideas on key issues in language teaching including academic writing, the increasing use and role of English in China, computer assisted language learning, and critical thinking," added Myra.

The lectures will include two keynote speakers: Dr. Ken Hyland from Hong Kong University and Dr. Feng Anwei from Bangor University in the UK, and two featured speakers Dr. Joy Egbert from Washington State University and Dr. Mao Sihui from Macao Polytechnic University. There will also be more than 40 teachers who will give presentations and share their thoughts during this event.

There is no cost for students or faculty of STU to attend this event, which may provide a chance not only to meet famous professors, but also to learn from them about how to teach and study a language effectively and confidently.

Students and others of STU who are interested in the iiELT and want to attend should first register on the official website: <http://elc.stu.edu.cn/iielt/>.

The website also provides a complete program of presentations which will be held in the CILL and on the 2nd floor of E Building. An Information Table will be set up outside CILL all day Saturday and on Sunday morning.

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The Advice Column

A New Center for Creativity -- The Writing Studio



The Center for Independent Language Learning (CILL) has a new service for students named the Writing Studio. The program provides tutors for STU students seeking to improve their writing skills. The program, inaugurated last semester, was established by three hardworking coordinators: Filipe de Souza, Amy Chastain and Gaelle Sabben. They named it the "Writing Studio" rather than the "Writing Center" as it is usual in universities around the world to emphasize on the creative part of the writing process.

De Souza explains that the Writing Studio's perspective aims to do more than simply help students turn in "writing assignments that are perfect without grammatical errors and spelling mistakes". Instead, the Studio is intended to "cultivate students to develop as writers and to be better critical thinkers," he says.

The Writing Studio's tutors consist of students with excellent writing skills recommended by the ELC faculty. The tutors are given special training by Chastain before work-

ing with students and work in shifts of approximately three hours a week. De Souza invites all students to take advantage of the program, pointing out that the sessions are designed to help students with problems ranging from how to start your writing assignment to getting an essay checked for organization, cohesion, logic and other common writing problems.

Students can make appointments with the Writing Studio in three ways. One is going to CILL and making an appointment with the information desk. The second is by calling CILL at 8290335 and asking about available times. The third method which is not yet available but will be soon is to go to MYSTU website to make an appointment under "Resource & Scheduling System."

In the meantime, De Souza has some advice on how to be a better writer. When it comes to writing essays, he suggests writing in a way that is unique, and different from others. This will effectively arouse teachers' interest and attention. In addition, "one of the best ways to become a great writer is to be a ferocious reader, browsing different websites, such as NPR.org, BBC.com, SLATE.com to accumulate a rich experience of writing," De Souza notes.

"A good writer always reads for content and form," he adds. By this, he means that good writers are always paying attention not only to what is written, but also how the writer chooses to write about it.

To learn more about improving your writing skills, De Souza suggests that you investigate the new Writing Studio.

"It's still young and not perfect, but the only way we can improve it is to get students to come in and give it a try," he tells Shantou Beat.



Written by 11 Chinese Xie Jinghua
Photo provided by the Writing Studio

Changing Your Negative to Positive Feelings



Written by Postgraduate Li Shengxia

What kinds of problems do students and faculty have when they first come to STU? How do they cope with their new challenges and the anxieties that sometimes result? To find out, I interviewed my foreign teacher, Amy Alice Chastain.

Amy is an American who came to STU seven months ago. Her vitality is very powerful and has a positive effect on many people. However, she said that she had negative feelings when she first came to STU. "At first, the local language, with a heavy accent, confused me. The second problem is that there are no maps or signs in English, not even words in Pinyin to give help," Amy recalled.

Did these difficulties upset her? "Yes, sometimes I even doubted that I had made the right decision about coming to STU," she answered. "I then decided I must encourage myself to study hard, to learn more Chinese by myself, and practice it more." After a period of time, she began to love living here and now treats STU as her home.

She offers some suggestions for adapting to a new environment and coping with negative feelings: First, open your mind when you have some troubles and just let someone help you. Second, your life might not be as smooth as you imagined it would be but try your best to enjoy the changes and challenges. Third, don't try to control everything. Just let things go their way. Fourth, keep yourself relaxed. Do something interesting or something you especially love.

The most important thing, said Amy, is to keep positive, and to believe your life will be beautiful and meaningful, which will make your life better.

Voice and Accent Training Lecture Series

The first in a series of lectures by the ELC's Voice and Accent Training program was held on March 22nd from 7:00 to 8:30pm at the E101 Lecture Hall.

Chanchal Singh, head of the Voice and Accent program, gave the initial lecture which was attended by STU students. Appropriately, Singh focused on the importance of first impressions by making "Western Greetings and Social Etiquette" the topic of her talk.



The purpose of the lecture series is to motivate students to improve their voices and accents and to provide them communication techniques and information that will help them become better speakers. Many STU students are shy about their accents, one reason they are often unwilling to speak

English in front of others, Singh told the Shantou Beat.

The Voice and Accent Training Program does not require that students develop a "brilliant British or American accent," says Singh, but rather to help them become "intelligent and confident speakers of English," Singh declares. "We want every student to be able to communicate well globally with a clear, clean accent!"

The Voice and Accent lectures are delivered by the Voice and Accent Program's faculty members. So far, in addition to Singh's lecture, five others have been presented. The others are "Assertiveness and the Art of Saying No," by Deepali Anand, "Body Language" by Pragya Vijay, "Language Skills "English around the world" by Ravi Dutt, and "Letters and Sounds" by Riya Dutta.

Singh encourages STU students to attend the remaining five lectures. The topics and scheduled dates are:

- "Cross-Cultural Communication" with Sohani Gandhioke will be given April 26th.
- "Communication Tips on How to Succeed at an Interview" with Chanchal Singh will be given on May 3rd.
- "Intonation and Modulation" with Deepali Anand will be given May 10th.
- "Commonly Used English Phrases and their Meanings" with Pragya Vija will be given on May 17th.



Written and Photos by 11 Journalism Li Suizhi

- "Language Skills in Formal and Informal language" with Ravi Dutt will be given May 24th.
- "Vowel Sounds" with Riya Dutta will be given May 31st.
- "Techniques to Improve Pronunciation" with Sohani Gandhioke will be given June 7th.



The Voice and Accent Training lecture series will be held every Thursday from 7pm up to 8:30pm at CILL or at the E101 Lecture Hall.

If you want to polish your voice and accent, then remember to attend the Voice and Accent Lecture Series 2012 for a fun learning experience!

Dear readers:

With this issue, the staff of The Shantou Beat (STB) is launching an editorial column. Our editorials discuss issues of concern to the STU community and represent the opinions of STB's staff. We welcome you to respond to the articles or suggest topics you want to read about by emailing shantoubeat@163.com.

Editorial: Don't Cut the Power to Dorms at Night



Written by 09 Journalism Lei Yuan

STU cuts off the power to student dormitories after 11:30 pm from November 1st to April 30th. At STU, as at most Chinese universities, power to the dormitories is shut off at night, making complaints about the practice one of the most commonly heard on Chinese campuses. STU should set an example for other universities by allowing its students the benefit of electricity twenty-four hours a day as is the policy at universities elsewhere in the world.

First and foremost, the policy interferes with the students' ability to study. Many students need power all night because they have a lot of work to do and cannot finish it during the day. Others work better at night because they can only immerse themselves in work when it is quiet or because their body clocks are set to function better at night. Students who need to keep studying after the power is cut will do so by turning on dim rechargeable lights or using a flashlight—a practice unlikely to help their eyesight.

For better lighting, they have to venture out of their rooms into the chilly corridors or out of the dormitories into Lecture Room Seven which lacks internet access, a water dispenser or a restroom. Moreover, walking around a dimly-lit campus late at night has its own dangers—especially for female students.

Shutting off electrical power at night threatens the students' basic safety as well. Students living in Dormitory Building G do not have power after 11:30 pm even in their bath-

rooms and washrooms. They may slip if there is water on the floor. Injuries may also occur while students are climbing up and down the ladders of their beds without light, or if they stumble or fall over objects on the floor. And in the event of an emergency such as an earthquake or fire, the potential exists for much greater harm if students are not able to escape quickly because of poor or non-existent lighting.

Cutting the power shows that the school treats its students like immature kids rather than adults. Universities are not designed to control their students but to help them better adapt to the adult world. Cutting off power at night is a signal the school sends to its students meaning that they are not old enough to control themselves so they cannot enjoy the freedom of using electricity at night.

University students are adults and can take responsibility for their behavior. We should receive basic respect and trust from the school and have the right to decide whether or not to use power at night. If the school does not allow us students to make such a small choice, how can it expect us to make important choices about our own futures?

Keeping power on in the dormitories helps the students in their studies, protects them from potential dangers and allows them to enjoy the basic right and freedom of being adults. So STU should listen to its students' appeal and make effort to better serve its students.



Newton's apple tree

Another Newton at STU?



Written by Postgraduate Cheng Shan
Photos by Mr. Qiu

When they brought these trees to a hotel (necessary because the airplane took off at 6am), they found the cardboard boxes were leaking. How could they get on the plane with leaking boxes? Suddenly, Mr. Qiu caught sight of the towels in the hotel bathroom and a bright idea came to his mind. They used the towels to sop up the water and a hair dryer to dry the cardboard boxes. Easier said than done; all of this took 3 hours!

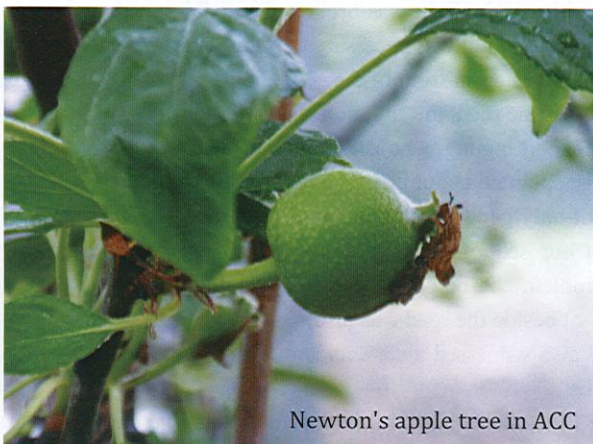
They were slightly relieved when they saw the boxes had stopped leaking. Since the distance from the hotel to the airport was about 1km and the road was narrow, they had

"Apple trees at STU" would hardly be a title worthy of appearing in a newspaper. But what if these trees were descendants of the one dropped the apple that hit the famous scientist Newton and inspired his discovery of gravity?

The people who brought Newton's apple trees to STU are Mr. Qiu and Mr. Feng. Mr. Qiu is the director of the equipment office in Resource Management Services and Mr. Feng is a member of the Li Ka Shing Foundation.

In a one-hour interview, Mr. Qiu shared us with some interesting things about the journey of bringing these 12 lovely guests here. Mr. Feng and Mr. Qiu traveled nearly 25,000 miles in about one day, which sounds like the "Red Army Long March", doesn't it?

They reached Lincolnshire, England (the hometown of Newton), brought back 12 breeds of apple trees, in which 3 are the lineal descendants of the famous Newton apple tree and the other trees are ordinary breeds necessary to meet the pollination needs. At the time all of them were 1.92m and packed in 3 cardboard boxes.



Newton's apple tree in ACC

Hand in Hand, Call for Green



Written/Photo by 10 Journalism Jin Yilun



Every year, millions of trees are planted on Arbor Day as a promotion for tree planting and environmental protection. The "2012 Arbor Day - Hand in Hand, Call for Green" activity was held on March 12 at Shantou University.

55 peach trees were planted near the Lotus Pond by 54 students from STU and 44 from the Affiliated Middle School. Every undergraduate teamed up with a middle school student to plant the trees.

The saplings and tree wells had been already prepared when the students arrived at the edge of the pond. In teams, they worked in cooperation: one of the students put their tree into the hole and kept it straight while the other one filled in soil with a shovel that seemed to be hard for some girls to use. After that, they stamped the soil flat around the tree and watered it together.

Many students claimed it's the first time they ever planted trees with their own hands. Wen Tang, a senior student, said it's cool to get such a significant memento in her university life, "I could show it to my kids if I come back in 10 years."

On Arbor Day, particular attention is drawn to the importance of trees in our lives. Moreover, it's not just a day to plant trees and then leave them all behind, forgotten, while waiting for the next celebration. Someone once said, "Planting a tree one day is nothing to be proud of if we neglect to care for it. Tree planting is an activity that requires patience, a sense of responsibility, and persistence." As the proverb goes, "The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. The next best time is now." Therefore, let's come together and join hands to plant more trees and make our world more Green and Beautiful.

expected the assistance of the hotel waiters. But it was a paid service and they didn't have the cash to pay the charge! Asking for money like beggars was far too shameful for the men to do. Eventually, they used a luggage cart to carry the trees down the street at 4AM in London!

Adding to the difficulties, the airport staff thought the packages were too large and unsafe to be taken on the plane, so Mr. Feng and Mr. Qiu had to show documents to prove the safety and legality of these trees. Finally, they paid an additional cost of 940 pounds to solve the problem.

Now, these apple trees have a glass temperature and moisture-controlled greenhouse in the ACC. They survived their long journey and will bear fruit in the future, even though they now are only bare trunks. The significance of the apple trees' transplantation is to encourage STU students' spirit of exploration, pursuit of knowledge and innovation in the sciences, said Mr. Qiu.

Should STU allow male and female students to visit each others' dormitories? There has been controversy over it for a long time. A post titled "Boys stop stepping into girls' dorms" became the headline of STU's Tulip BBS on March 20th, attracting 57 comments and furthering the controversy.

Written by 09 Journalism



Lei Yuan and 11 Journalism



Feng Yingying

Photos Provided by Yang Jun and Liu Yifan

It's an Annoyance and Potential Safety Risk



Yang Jun

The student who started the thread said that she respected the rights of lovers and understood their need to be together, but she felt it was very inconvenient to have male students inside female students' dorms, and hoped that the school would ban them from entering the female dorms. She also suggested that if male students really wanted to go into the female students' dorms, they should stay no more than one hour each day.

The initial poster, who requested anonymity, said that she could not stand her roommate's bringing her boyfriend to their dormitory. However, she found it very difficult to ask her roommate not to do so. Thus she used BBS as a platform to express her discontent.

Some replies are in favor of the appeal. A person showed his support and hoped female students would not enter male students' dorms as well because he felt embarrassed and uncomfortable at the presence of females in his dorm. Another male student went further, saying he wanted female students to not stay overnight in their boyfriends' dorms.

Although the majority of the commentators backed the girl who started the thread, there were some opposing voices. One student said that the idea of prohibiting visitors of the opposite sex to the dorms was too extreme and radical. Another suggested the girl who objected to the visits of her roommate's boyfriend talk with her roommate and attempt to settle the problem.

For many years, STU students have had ambivalent feelings about STU's allowing its students to visit the opposite sex's dormitories. While they appreciate the school's respect for their freedom and rights, some students find the presence of members of the opposite sex annoying, inconvenient and possibly, even a safety hazard.

Cai Shaojia (09 Biology) said that it was very weird to see male students hang around female students' dorms.

"For me, the dorm is like my second home. Seeing boys in girls' dorms makes me feel that my personal sphere is being violated," said Cai.

Yang Jun (10 Product Design) said that male students being allowed to enter the female students' dorms means she can't wear more comfortable and casual clothes in the supposed privacy of her dorm because she does not want to feel embarrassed. She adds that visits by boys prevent the girls in her dorm from resting and relaxing during noon breaks.

"Besides the inconvenience, safety concerns should also be paid attention to," commented Zhang Qianwen (09 International Economics and Trade), who also dislikes the current system.

She points out that students' belongings, including computers, have been stolen from their rooms. Exactly who is responsible for these thefts is unknown, but certainly restrictions on who is allowed into the dorms would give non-residents less access to students' property.

Moreover, many STU female students are worried about their personal safety if male students stay up too late at their dorms, Zhang said. She thinks STU should reconsider whether the system is truly good for its students since it has brought the inconvenience and potential safety risks.

"It's a Personal Right."



Liu Yifan

Many universities in China do not permit students to visit dormitories of the opposite sex. However, at STU the rules are not very strict. Female students can visit male dormitories easily, but if male students want to visit the female students', they need to register before coming in for safety purpose. Also, they are not allowed to stay overnight at girl's dorm. In addition, STU has a co-ed dormitory in which male and female residents feel comfortable living in the same building.

The reporter interviewed a few students who favor maintaining the current policy and feel it is normal for boys and girls go to each others' dorms.

Chen Peiying, a freshman female from the J-school says it is often necessary for males to enter her dorm.

"You know, as girls, we always need boys' help to lift heavy things. For example, some materials for activities need to be transferred from the female students' dorm to another building with boys' help."

Liu Yifan (11 Journalism) and Ba Peiyan (11 Computer Science) both said that interaction between boys and girls is a personal right, which should not be restricted by too many rules. Moreover, they both agreed that being able to visit the opposite sex in their dorms is a good way to strengthen friendships.

The boys interviewed by the reporter expressed the same sentiments. Hou Jinhui, a freshman from the College of Medicine, said he was accustomed to seeing females in his dormitory as many of his dorm's residents-including his own roommate-often had their girlfriends come to visit. He added that the presence of girls was very common in the boys' dormitories.

Huang Hewan, a first year student from the engineering school, shared his experience of going to the female dormitories. "I have helped some girls carry things and some girls came to my dorm to borrow something as well. It's ok, I think."

So, as far as these STU students are concerned, the presence of boys and girls in each other's dorms poses few problems and they believe STU should maintain its current policy on allowing boys and girls to visit each other's dorms.

Does the Traffic Light Work?

It should have been a nice day. The sun shone on the earth and birds sang in the trees happily. We just called on our friends and were on the way back to school.

All of a sudden, a bang caught my attention. As soon as I turned my head, I was scared to death. Two motorbikes had crashed into a bus, one person dropped down from the motorbike. His head was injured and bleeding all the time. His t-shirt was red with blood by the time the ambulance came. When he was carried on the stretcher, he was still just like he was dead.

It happened just outside the school gate. This was the first time that I had seen an accident in person. The terrible scene wouldn't leave my head for a long time.

There was no traffic light on the road outside the school gate at that time. Thanks to the advice of Professor Yao who is from Business School, a traffic light has been set this year. However, it is still dangerous. It is not enough to prevent a tragedy like the one mentioned above from happening again. So many problems need to be solved, such as

the narrow road, the lack of video camera and the problem of parking. But at least something has been done for improving the road situation.

But now the traffic light doesn't work at all. I wondered if the light broke. So I interviewed some bosses of the stands beside the road and some students. They told me they had no idea if the light was broken. They did say, though, that they thought it was necessary to set the light. After all, there is a bus stop in front of the school gate. When the buses go across the road, the situation is very dangerous.

Zhang Lingling, who is a student in STU, said: "I'm a little disappointed about this. Making the road condition better is not only good for students in STU but better for the future of our school. As a student, I would appreciate it if the problem can be solved." Additionally, a vendor who sells fruit beside the road was also concerned about the situation. "I also witnessed a car accident last year. It was very terrible."

STU students have the responsibility and the right to make

our surroundings safer. None of us want to see that kind of tragedy happen again. So let's improve the condition by using the media power around us. If the traffic light were fixed that would make a difference. Of course, a camera placed at the intersection to ensure that people follow the rules could make the situation better.



Written/Photos by 11 Economic Xu Ying



"We are heading towards the Championship" --A Q&A with STU Basketball Coach Scott Rigot



Written and Photo by 09 English Literature Huang Zhiwei

Huang: Hey, Coach Scott, do you get used to the life here? Do you like the food here?

Scott: Wow, the people here have been great, so I enjoy my time here immensely. They are wonderful and treat me very nice, so for me it is a great experience. The food here is a little bit different to me but it is excellent. I think I have to get some time to adapt it. I enjoy Chinese food and Italian food, also Mexican food.

H: Do you know much about the development of basketball in China before you come here?

S: No, not really. I just notice that basketball in China is getting very popular. A lot of Western coaches are coming over. I knew something about it. But you really don't know much until you get there.

H: Nowadays, there are many American basketball coaches working in China. The coach of our national basketball team is also American. What's your opinion about that?

S: Americans invented this game, so I think they have a better understanding of it. The American coaches are eager to learn more about this game. To be a successful basket-

ball coach, you have to be open to different ideas. We will see whether or not Chinese coaches are open to Western coaches. Only time will tell. But it appears it is heading that direction. The Chinese get some people who have a lot of experience of basketball. They bring lots of valuable knowledge and pass it over. So the Chinese can learn a lot from them. The situation in China is developing now. If they can do well at the international level, win the silver medal or bronze Medal in the Olympics, it will give a huge boom to basketball in China.

H: There is no doubt that there will be lots of differences between the culture of basketball in US and China. Can you tell us something about that?

S: Well, I think there are lots of differences. The level of competition in America is very strong, so good players can play against good players. In China, good players have to work to find other good players because basketball in China is still developing. For example, there are more quality college basketball teams and professional teams in America. But China is making huge gains to get there. China is investing a lot of money in basketball. And they do it very well. I think it is just a matter of time for China to be a better basketball country.

H: As a foreign coach, have you come across diffi-

culties in communicating with your players or the staff of our team?

S: It is the major problem. Communication is the hardest part of the job. Something is always lost in the translation. You can see it sometimes in the assistant coaches' faces—they don't really understand what I tell them. The most difficult part is the language barrier. A good interpreter will take it a long way. He can't just know English but also needs a rich understanding of basketball.

H: Can you tell us your goal for the team? Is it to be CUBA's champion or getting into the semi-final? And what is your plan for achieving your goal?

S: What I am doing right now is to get the program headed into the direction of champion. The program is a little bit down now because we lost 5 seniors last year, and they are very good players. So we rebuilt the program and bought some equipment. The ultimate goal for me is to have Shantou head into the right direction to become a national power in China. I believe our team can be as good as any university's.

H: Thank you. I hope you will become the CUBA champion this year.

S: Thank you.

In this issue, The Shantou Beat reporters interviewed several STU staff whose work contributes to the beautiful, clean and safe campus.

Written/ Photos by 11 Journalism Chen Minzhi, Tang Gezhen

Content in Canteen

"Do you think the table is dirty after the student left?"

"Of course, it's dirty, but this is my job!"

The woman who answered the question is Li Qiong, a staff member in the No. Two canteen who comes from Si Chuan and has worked here for 4 years.

Cleaning the canteen and serving the food are the things Li does every day. The canteen staff has their lunch at 1 pm and dinner at 8 pm, which is later than students. Li prefers sleeping, watching TV or doing housework on weekends.

Li has been in Shantou city for more than 10

years. She thinks Shantou's food is tasty and some local people are kind. What's more, she thinks most of the students in STU are polite, although some can be a little weird.

When mentioning her kids, she said they have been brought up by grandma. She also said she usually goes back home only once every 2 to 3 years because going back home costs a lot of money.

However, Li is a positive person and she thinks it's important for us to be happy every day. Li's story tells us that life is hard sometimes, but we shouldn't be pitiful. Instead we can change our attitude and face it. We are on the run all the time, but it's time for us to stop and appreciate the people around us. They have a lot they can teach us.



Different Jobs, Different Feelings

HAPPY: The smiling lady has worked in ACC for 6 years, and her optimistic attitude left a deep impression on us. She wakes up at 5 o'clock every morning, after preparing breakfast for her children. She arrives at ACC by bike from Tuo Dong, and then begins her whole day of hard work. "I need to sweep the floor in front of the ACC door firstly, and then clean the restaurant. After finishing this work, it is time for me to have a meal."

In the afternoon, she starts to work again. Fortunately, ACC provides three meals a day, so that she is able to save the return time, which helps her to finish her work efficiently. Particularly, she has a responsibility to help the staff to spread manure and pesticide on Tuesday and Saturday. When it comes to her feeling about STU, she expressed that STU has a very beautiful environment with fresh air. Mostly, she takes ACC as her second home, so she enjoys the job and a happy life here. She is really a hopeful worker in STU!

Security Guards Watch for Problems

Have you ever lost anything in the library of STU?

"The most important reason why our students lose their personal belongings is because they do not have the sense of taking care of their things," said the security guard of STU library Chen Shengtao.

Chen, aged 25, is a local person and he has been at STU for 2 years. What he does every day includes monitoring the video so that they can protect students from fire disaster or stealing, patrolling the library and watching the gate to stop cars from entering the library area.

In order to keep our library safe, the security guards of STU need to work even on holidays, like QingMing and Spring festival, times when the library is closed. What surprised me most is that they said they are a little nervous when they are on duty and they feel relaxed after catching the criminal. Chen said there was no crime committed during the first and second year

after the library opened.

Chen also said the most serious crime in the library was a habitual criminal who is

not a student at STU and stole mobile phones. With the help of the camera, they spotted a woman who looked suspicious. One day, the woman ap-

peared in the library again, but she found she was watched and wanted to flee. However, the security guards took action and caught the woman in the end.

As for a security guard, what Chen does is hard and even dangerous. However, he is responsible in his job and tries his best to do it. In addition, his story also tells us that the library is not always safe, and it's vital for us to take care of our personal belongings.



ANGRY: Li, who has worked in STU for 11 years, is a dustman in EF dormitory building. Li is a 50-year-old Hunanese, who lives with her husband in Shantou. Every day, she wakes up at 5 o'clock to do garbage collection. She said that she has to do double work by herself, including collecting toilet garbage, cleaning the water tank and sweeping the first to third floors in EF dormitory building.

In the past, there were 4 workers, but now only two workers to collect the whole EF dormitory's garbage. It is a huge and impossible job for them. Therefore, she expressed her anger with her words: "Some girls litter sanitary pads randomly in the bathroom. I have to do extra work, and one time, I even argued with a girl because I supposed she had thrown rubbish in the lobby!" She complained that there is too much work for them to do, but she must do it because she needs this job to make a living.

Chao Shan Celebrates Tomb-sweeping Day



Written by 11 Journalism Hong Yu
Photo by 09 Journalism Mo Hualong

April is here, along with people climb the mountains to Tomb-sweeping Day. People sweep the tombs and mourn their ancestors. You can see this makes the mountains very lively and noisy. Sometimes you may even see the mountains are on fire.

The mountains are on fire!

Remember to bring lunch!

"Our family went to sweep the tomb this year like before." When you ask local people what they did during the festival, many of them would tell you something similar to this.

Chao Shan people always have a close relationship with their hometowns and families, so the dead would usually be buried in the mountains nearby. Every Tomb-sweeping Day, a lot of local

As we know, this festival aims to mourn the ancestors and clean up the tombs. During this time, the weather is always rainy; it is a sad day in this sense.

However, nowadays, many people just regard it as a happy day to climb the mountains with the family. There are even traditional games that can be played on this day, and you can also feel more energetic after spending a relaxing and refreshing day.

In this sense, it is a quite special festival. We can have different feelings about this occasion.

Climbing the mountains is sometimes quite tiring for the elderly, while young people seem not to have enough passion to do it. Now, the number of the younger generation who participate in the sweeping is going down, because young people today aren't very concerned about the past.

In my opinion, every youngster should bear the responsibility of memorializing his or her forefathers, instead of just leaving this customs to the elder generation. It can remind us of our sense of family and responsibility.



Magic Music Creates a Magic World



Written/Photos by 10 Chinese Lin Cuiling

At 19:30 on March 16th, 2012 there was a special concert held in the Lecture Hall. The band called RTHK Quartet (Radio Television Hong Kong Quartet), established in 2009 in Hong Kong, was invited to play string quartet. The four outstanding members -- one violoncellist, one violist and two violinists -- come from Japan, Vietnam, Hong Kong and Luxembourg. This band is playing an important role in promoting the genre of chamber music and encouraging the art of playing chamber music in Hong Kong. It is not only loved by many people there, but by many people here at Shantou University.

On the night of the performance, about an hour before the concert began, there were many people lining up outside the door without complaint. When the performers came onstage, a burst of noise erupted from the crowd. All the musicians wore clean and tidy uni-

forms and the female violinist looked elegant, while the three male players looked gentle.

They played a pair of Haydn's string quartets and Shostakovich's C Minor String Quartet. As the music came on, the breath of the audience was taken away. The wonderful music quickly took the audience to another world. It made them feel that they had turned into an eagle. At one moment they were hovering in the blue sky; the next billowing suddenly into a cloud; and then finally plunging into the bottom of a valley. Every audience member was moved and excited by the magical performance and enjoyed themselves in their own private world of the music.

After the concert ended, there was an autograph session. Many people stood outside in line to wait for the autographs of the four musicians. Lynn was the last one in the queue. Lynn said she was extremely excited because she admired the male violinist very much. "He is handsome and gentle and plays so excellently. It was really a romantic journey for me!" She said. "I heard his voice - I talked to him in English! He is from Vietnam and he can speak a little Cantonese," Lynn continued excitedly. On the way to the dorm, Lynn talked about the concert the whole time. There is no doubt that the music had totally stolen this girl's heart.



Do Overseas Chinese Celebrate Qing Ming?



Written by 11 Inorganic Chemistry, Shi Yanrong
Photo from the Internet



Bruce Lee's grave (above) is in the same cemetery in Seattle Lakeview where Stella Dong's parents are buried.

Qing Ming Festival is a traditional Chinese festival, just like the other three major traditional Chinese festivals: Spring Festival, Dragon Boat Festival, and Mid-Autumn Festival. It is a time to express one's grief for one's lost relatives. How do overseas Chinese, who are so far away from the graves of their ancestors, celebrate this festival? Do they have rituals to pay respect to their families' ancestors? Shantou Beat spoke to a few overseas Chinese who work at STU, and found out most of their overseas families do not celebrate Qing Ming. But STB has found one Chinese-American who has memories of her family observing Qing Ming.

Stella Dong, an English teacher at STU, is a Chinese-American. She remembered that as a child growing up in Seattle, her family always took flowers to her mother's and other relatives' graves. And her family was not the only family which observed Qing Ming. In Seattle, most of the Chinese are from Taishan, a district in the southern part of Guangzhou not far from Jiangmen. Most of the dead Chinese in Seattle have been buried in the same cemetery, and it's a really nice cemetery. "I saw there were other cars parked in the driveway. There were other Chinese coming with flowers and cleaning the graves," Stella recalled.

At that time, Stella didn't understand why she needed to show up at the cemetery on that day. Her father only told her "It's Qing Ming." But after coming to STU, she realized what Qing Ming is. "Qing Ming makes me feel a real strong connection to my family, and now I wonder who my ancestors are and I want to know all about them. I don't know how others feel. But I feel a connection to China, because it's an old Chinese traditional festival," she added.

Stella is now thinking that maybe she should pay a visit to her mother's village and look for her grandparents' tombstones. Maybe it's the right thing to do.

Lastly, Stella said that most of the Chinese in American came from mainland, Taiwan and Hong Kong, and so most likely their ancestors were not buried nearby. But she hopes that the immigrants can keep this old traditional festival alive in America.

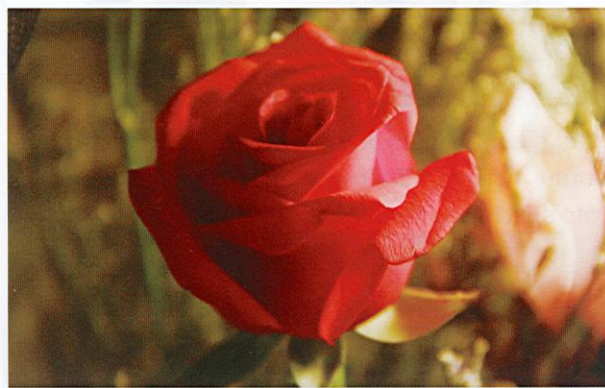


Days for the Girls



Written by 10 English Lu Man

Photos provided by Zou Yi and Zhang Yang



Could this be a true story? A girl wrote down her little wish on a card: she wanted someone to sing a song to her. Then she hung the card on a wish tree with her cell number on it. Several hours later, a phone call came. It was from a boy who sang her a song. Her little wish came true. Yes, wishes could be granted in Shantou University (STU) at this time of the year--Girls' Day.

Unlike at other universities, Girls' Day at STU doesn't end after several days but lasts for about a month. As one of this semester's big events, Girls' Day has been very popular. "We had started preparing for it since the end of last semester," said Zhao Siqi, one of its members at the Student Union. "In order to bring something new to our campus, we tried our best to brainstorm for the project and worked until midnight." Looking at the results, it seems that their work really paid off.

In only the first 12 hours after the wish tree was put in the "Golden Triangle", it got covered with countless wish cards conveying girls' hopes, big and small. Some of them were: "I want someone to sing to me", "I would like to have din-



ner with a handsome boy" and even "I want KFC for breakfast".

Besides this, the Student Union also held an event called "love on cycles". If you're a boy with a bicycle, and you want to do a favor to a girl, then you can offer her a ride on campus. And the staff in the Student Union will tie a red string on your bicycle which means you are willing to take any girl in need to any place within the campus.

The special spirit of Girls' Day has caught on and the rest of the university launches special activities every year during this time. For example, every year when the Girls'



Day comes, boys of the 09 Journalism Department send special gifts and wishes to the girls in their class. Last year, they sang songs together in front of the girls' dorms at night. This year, they went into the girls' dorms and gave a rose and a chocolate to each of their female classmates. "Compared to the boys in other colleges, they seem more thoughtful," said Wang Jindan, one of the lucky girls of 09 Journalism, "I hope they can bring more surprise next year."

However, not every girl on campus is lucky enough to receive a gift on Girls' Day. More than half of the girls on campus did not receive anything. And some do not want to take part in such kind of events at all because they thought was very so childish.

Another disappointment is that after writing down their wishes and phone numbers on the cards, some girls received harassing calls. Some calls were even made at midnight, disturbing their sleep.

So, if you have put your number on the wish card, you'd better be careful. No one can tell if the next call will cheer you up--or let you down!

How Do Other Schools celebrate?



Written by 11 Journalism Ren Yi

Photos from the Internet

Recently, there has been a spate of Girls' Day celebrations in Chinese universities. Girls' Day is a made-up event but the enthusiasm is genuine with a variety of that include not just presenting gifts but imaginative ways of demonstrating love and affection. Let's take a look at how other universities celebrated Girls' Day.

Most romantic Girls' Day:

School: Xiamen University

Date: March 7th



It may be common that a boy shows love to a girl personally, but how would you feel if there were a group of boys asserting their sincerity to girls in public?

Don't be surprised! In Jiageng college at Xiamen University, boys put on a lighting show to express love. To the accompaniment of a deafening countdown, the whole building's lights in the boys' dormitories were extinguished for a moment. Only a few seconds later, part of the lights were turned on again and formed the words---"I love U" (heart-shape in place of "love"). Then the words switched to "GO" (means fighting) after less than a minute of loud cheering.

"We earnestly hoped to create a romantic and unforgettable memory by having this show for the girls," a boy from Jiageng college said.

Most meaningful Girls' Day:

School: Tsinghua University

Date: March 7th



A large number--more than half--the girls at Tsinghua University contributed to the blood donation without payment to celebrate the special day. In the activity spot, every girl wore a sweet smile and held flowers. To express its appreciation, the Red Cross of Tsinghua University presented the donors with elegant gifts that included special greetings and a rose.

"I feel rewarded by doing this. Not only can I contribute toward helping others in urgent need but this is also an important experience in my life," Huang Jinghuan, a Tsinghua University student, declared proudly.

The most charming Girls' Day:

University: Xi'an International Studies Uni-

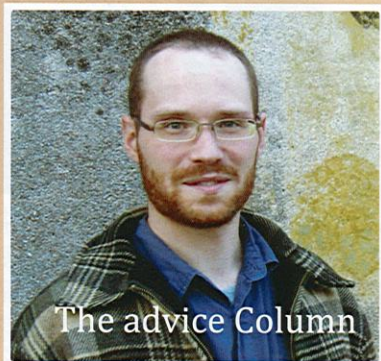
versity

Date: June 15th



Who can resist charming girls? Xi'an International Studies University students provided a visual feast of when it gathered many of its most beautiful and graceful girls on stage for an "Image Ambassador" competition. The event, showcased nine girls who were touted as the embodiment of "vitality, wisdom and seduction". The competition consisted of three parts, including a self-introduction, a talent show and questions and answers.

Girls' Festival became a growing trend on campus for many reasons. "We can't deny that plenty of these activities are purely recreational. However, the activities might have a useful purposes too by inspiring others to be more caring and virtuous and also by improving relationships between boys and girls," commented Xia Zengmin, vice-director of the Gender Research Center at the university. "More attention should be paid to the protection of girls' rights and girls' development. After all, entertainment is temporary, but the students' development is permanent."



The advice Column

The following two questions are collected by Liao Jinping:

Qing,

One of these adaptations regards your classmates. It is extremely important to learn to deal with different personalities and people from different backgrounds. Bosses hire and reward people who are able to have working relationships with many different types of people. But you need the emotional security of having friends, too, so it is now your job to find them yourself. Join one of the many clubs on campus. The university provides many opportunities for you to meet new people. Take advantage of this and develop relationships around hobbies, sports, or other shared interests. There are lots of lonely students like you out there who are looking for friends. Just step up and say hello. This skill will serve you well for the rest of your life.

Adam

Dream.

Did Dream really love her ex-boyfriend? I can't say. Nor can her friend. Nor, apparently, can Dream. So stop trying to debate this issue because it really doesn't matter now and there will never be a clear answer to the question. Just do your best to make your relationships happy and healthy for both people for as long as possible. That's what I call love and it's the best that any of us can do.

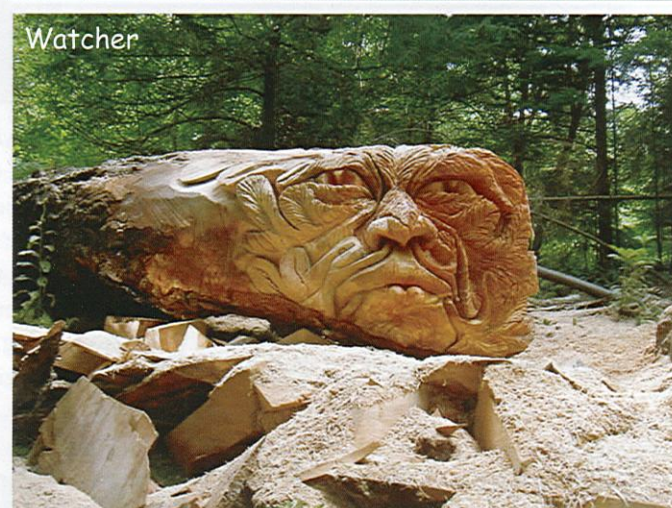
Adam

Amazing Tree Sculptures

Beautiful tree carvings made by talented British sculptor Tommy Craggs. Chainsaw artist transforms fallen trees into spectacular works of art.



Alice in Wonderland



Watchers



Seahorse



Collected by 11 Journalism Liao Jinping

Link: <http://www.toxel.com/inspiration/2012/03/15/amazing-tree-sculptures/>

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The answer of the crossword puzzle of 30th issue

Coffee Crossword

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