

To Shine in the Teaching Profession

“Every student is a star that has his/her own strengths. The time for him/her to shine will come gradually,” said Dr Annie Ko, Lecturer of SPEED honoured with the CPCE Dean's Award for Outstanding Teaching Performance/ Achievement in 2013/14.

Dr Ko joined SPEED some six years ago to teach business subjects. “Teaching others is a good learning opportunity for oneself. Although every day comes with new challenges, witnessing the growth of students is very fulfilling,” said she smilingly.

She recalled memories of her early teaching career, “Some students who took my Personal Financial Planning class once suggested that I should gain a deeper understanding of the actual financial products in the market.” That dawned on her, “Students can learn sheer theories from textbooks on their own. It would be meaningless if the course contents fail to catch up with the market.”

Now Dr Ko is keen on visiting the banking outlets to collect information on the prevailing financial products. “I feel gratified when the market updates I shared during lectures can inspire students to ponder and discuss on various financial topics.” She also has a knack in stimulating students’ interest in learning the complicated theories, “Most textbooks are written by foreign authors and are lack of local references. Supplementing theoretical knowledge with local case studies and examples would be important.”

Another challenge facing Dr Ko is how to address the different learning needs of students, particularly freshmen from diverse backgrounds with varied academic standards. “At the beginning of an academic year, I spend time explaining the fundamental concepts to students. Some of them may have prior knowledge, but they still find the lectures instrumental in refreshing their memory.”

Apart from imparting knowledge, Dr Ko treasures the moments chatting

with students. “The youth always need attention and care. One of the missions of an educator is to help students understand more about their own strengths and weaknesses.” She is more than willing to lend an ear to share students’ ups and downs. Some alumni also seek her advice on career development.

The world changes quickly and knowledge keeps evolving. Developing students’ self-learning skills and independent thinking abilities has become a goal of Dr Ko.

She said, “Lifelong learning is important for everyone who aspires to further advance his/her professional competence in teaching. I have attended various workshops on teaching methods, and learnt that students can be categorised

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「每一位同學都有獨特的長處，終有天變成一顆閃亮的星星。」獲頒2013/14年度CPCE「院長特設傑出教學表現/成就獎」的SPEED講師高衍璋博士說。

高博士約六年前加入SPEED，負責教授商業科目。她說：「在教導別人的過程中，自己也獲益良多。雖然每天也面對新挑戰，但能見證同學的成長，教學生活更見充實。」

她憶說早期的教學經歷：「早年我任教個人財務規劃科目時，有些同學建議我須更深入了解市場上的理財產品。」這令她反思：「同學可以從書本學習純理論知識，如果課堂內容未能與市場同步，教學便失去意義。」

高博士自此緊密留意市場的理財產品，經常到銀行索取最新資訊。「同學能從我所分享的市場資訊中，獲啟發思索和討論不同的財務課題，這給予我很大滿足感。」要提升同學學習複雜理論的興趣，高博士分享她的心得：「大部分教科書也是由外地作者編寫，欠缺本地化內容，因此在教材中輔以本地案例很重要。」

眾多學生有不同的學習需要，特別是一年級生來自不同的學習背景，學業水平也參差，



as visual, audio and kinaesthetic types of learners. My teaching style has been catering to the needs of the visual-oriented students only. How to strike a balance among the needs of different students will be a lesson for me to learn.”

怎樣因材施教是高博士面對的一大挑戰。

「每個新學年開始時，我會花時間講解基本的概念，雖然不少同學已學過相關的知識，但他們很珍惜溫故知新的機會。」

除傳授知識外，高博士在課堂外也常與學生聊天。「年輕人需要關注和關懷，教育工作者的其中一項使命，是幫助學生認清自己的長處和短處。」她樂意聆聽同學的心聲，亦與不少校友保持聯繫，為他們的事業發展提供意見。

世界瞬息萬變，知識不斷更新，高博士認為培養同學的自學能力和獨立思考十分重要，這亦是她的未來目標。「資訊會過期，但獨立思考及自學能力卻是終身受用。」高博士致力改進教學的專業技巧，因此參加了很多教學方法的工作坊。「原來依據感官的學習成效，學生最基本可以分類為視覺型、聽覺型和體感型。我素來的教學方法只照顧到視覺型學生的需要，如何平衡照顧不同類型的學習需要，我仍要多加學習。」