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“My first faculty appointment in 2002 was my first appointment as an educator, and I had limited teaching experience. However, I had always wanted to be a teacher. Over the years, I have met a number of good teachers and mentors who teach not only with their minds but also with their hearts. I also strongly believe that students should play an active role – in thinking, solving problems, posing questions, and wondering about the why behind the what – rather than being passive listeners. That belief has inspired me to develop interactive classes incorporating questions and even simple demonstrations or hands-on activities to explain a given phenomenon.

Given that millennials grew up with the Internet and related technologies, I have adopted various new approaches that may better suit learning by this generation. I was one of the early adopters to use clickers to pose questions and promote interactive learning in the classroom. Since then, I have accumulated additional experience and learned how to effectively use e-learning to enhance learning and teaching effectiveness. I also led the design of an e-Portfolio platform as a pedagogical tool allowing students to organise, share, and reflect on their work and teachers to track students' learning process. Research is a key element of university life and our lives as scholars. I view teaching and research as a single, distinct entity. What I teach students in research projects is not limited by what I already know. My students and I discover, create, and share knowledge together. Moreover, the students also learn by adapting from their mistakes.

In the future, I will continue to work on a holistic education through programme design, with taking students' interests into account to encourage them to be active, responsible learners as a key priority.

“Let's inspire students to dream and to encourage and equip them to pursue their dreams.”



WORDS OF APPRECIATION

"I have attended lectures taught by Professor Wong since year one and it is fruitful and informative for me to learn about different innovative technologies and knowledge about biology. I also remembered that she used some activities in a lecture that showing how heredity work in reality, it is very interesting and revealing. Her teaching made me curious how heredity work. Professor Wong's lecture is well planned and effective for provoking students' interests and thinking. Also, she actively answered the questions raised by me and my classmates during class and after class. She is passionate about teaching us and offers us different kinds of help in studying. She also taught me in a course about Animal Physiology, and she makes good use of lots of graphs, analogies and real-life examples to explain the concepts clearly. I enjoyed her lecture a lot! She is also a nice and considerate professor that offers us lots of advice on different aspects including my academic studies and career path. I really appreciate her effort in teaching and inspiring us, she is a good professor that I sincerely admired."

CHONG Wing Kit
BSc 2018

"The best teacher teaches from the heart not from the books. Graduated for almost two years, Professor Wong's passionate teaching remains distinctive in my mind. Her smile was so bright, her eyes were shining and her hands followed the rhythm she talked about cell biology, from basics to advanced in early mornings at 8:30. We might not be as attentive as what she expected, with all the complicated biochemical pathways and gene sequences, she kept striving to awaken our joy in science and unwinding the mystery of the Universe. It was not until her course about oncology that I began to find the latest therapies for tumours fascinating and had her reference to work on circulating tumour cells in a biotech company at Science Park. She supports students' all-round development not only by referring internships but also sending us to conferences overseas, as she believes in active learning and that learning attitude once instilled will prepare us to be great scientists for the rest of lifetime. Perhaps that explains why she never get annoyed encouraging me to pursue dreams and never turn down to any requests benefit to students' future. We are still emailing like friends in spite of her tight schedule and I am glad and proud to have her for four years of undergraduate study. Without her as my compass, I would not have achieved at where I am today, not even knowing the direction."

Gami HIOK
BSc 2017

WORDS OF APPRECIATION

“Teaching is possibly the most difficult of all professions. It not only requires knowledge, but also needs a personalised understanding of the students you are teaching. Professor Alice Wong has always had a unique ability of connecting with her students and inspiring them with her passion for science.

Professor Wong has played a very important role in my life as a mentor. I have had the opportunity to take her classes, as well as conduct my undergraduate thesis under her supervision. Whenever I needed assistance of any kind, she was always there to help me. I remember how I sent her my thesis draft the day before the deadline and she got back to me within hours with the corrected draft. It takes an enormous amount of effort for a busy professor such as herself, to invest so much time on the learning experience of her students.

She introduced me to research and concepts of how tumours are likely to develop. She taught me how to comprehensively approach scientific questions, which inspired me to pursue a career as a full-time researcher. She is in every way a remarkable scientist and an outstanding teacher and there is no person more deserving of this award.”

Mashiat RABBANI
BSc 2017