





SLLO NEWSLETTER

November, 2020



/Hightlights/

Global Youth Leaders Summit 2020

Re-connecting young minds around the world despite global distancing

PolyU (The Hong Kong Polytechnic University) organised the "Global Youth Leaders Summit 2020" on 24 October 2020. The Summit had the overarching theme of "Transforming Crisis into Re-connection". An opening Keynote and Panel session attracted an audience of over 350 participants from over 10 countries and regions, including Australia, Belgium, Cambodia, Japan, Mainland China, Rwanda, South Korea, Sweden, Tanzania, the US and the UK, etc, and was followed by two interactive sessions: a 24-hour "Global Re-connection Hackathon" and a "Global Reflection Workshop", which were attended by 80 students nominated by over 10 institutions, who displayed innovation and creativity in their responses to the current pressing global challenges.

This is the fourth year PolyU has organised the Summit. Because of COVID-19, this year the Summit had to go online. The opening presentations and panel discussion revolved around the central theme of "A New Global Landscape". Three world-renowned speakers and practitioners shared their work and experience on social betterment, and the impact of their work on the community, especially in the context of the challenges presented by COVID-19. They were Dato Dr Kim Tan, Founder and Chairman of SpringHill Management Limited; Ms Jennifer Neelsen, Global Response Director on COVID-19 of World Vision International; and Mr Jeffrey Andrews, the first ethnic minority registered social worker in Hong Kong, from Christian Action. Moderating the panel was our own Dr. Angelina Yuen, former Vice-President of Student and Global Affairs at PolyU.

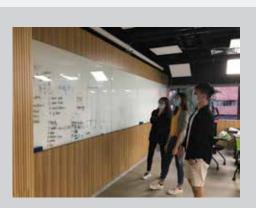


The Opening Session brought three renowned practitioners and speakers, and was attended by over 350 participants from 10 countries and regions.

The panel discussion was followed by the "Global Re-connection Hackathon" and the "Global Reflection Workshop". The 24-hour Hackathon had the primary objective of fostering international collaboration and understanding. Students from four universities in different parts of the world and different time zones worked together in cross-institution teams despite physical boundaries. They collaborated to create a short video proposal on a product or a service which would address one of two major challenges brought about by the global health crisis – education and social distancing.

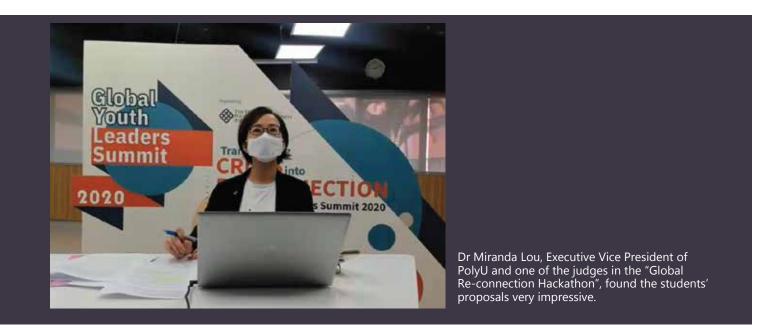






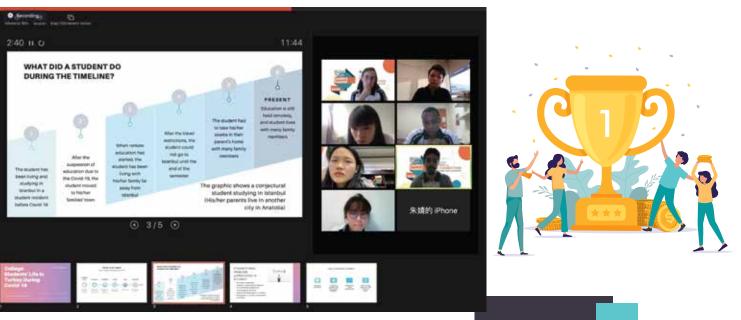
PolyU students participating in the "Global Re-connection Hackathon" worked overnight on campus for their video proposal in tackling major COVID-19 challenges.

The proposals were judged by a global panel of judges from Hong Kong, Cambodia, Vietnam, South Africa and the US based on the potential impacts, originality and viability of their ideas. The championship in the "Education" track was won by a cross-institutional team of students from PolyU and the University of Maryland in the US, with their "Uni-therapy" platform that connects students, and helps sustain their mental health and alleviate stress. The champion in the "Social Distancing" track was won by "Friend-in-a-box", proposed by students from PolyU and the University of Pretoria in South Africa, connecting children from different cultures through an innovative boxset of games and crafts and stories.



The "People's Choice Award", voted for by the participants themselves, went to the "Kiddo Workout App", proposed by students from PolyU and the Royal University of Phnom Penh in Cambodia, which connects children while training them to exercise via a workout app powered by computer vision and machine learning. The Hackathon also included inspiration sessions spaced over the 24 hours, hosted by various exceptional speakers from different continents.

In the "Global Reflection Workshop", students were guided to complete a preparation social research study investigating the impact of COVID-19 in their own context. They were facilitated to reflect on their experience under the pandemic, and to cultivate empathy and understanding across borders. The students also designed collaborative empathy games for the pandemic which will be prototyped online for public experience.



During the "Global Reflection Workshop", Burak Yorulmaz of KOC University shared his social research studies on how the pandemic impacted the young generations in rural and urban Turkey.

CoP-SL WORKSHOP ON Developing Proposals for Service-Learning Subjects

In response to the call for proposals for credit-bearing service-learning (SL) subjects (14th round) from the University in late September 2020, a workshop on Developing Proposals for Service-Learning Subjects was held on 19 October 2020. Dr. Grace Ngai, head of Service-Learning and Leadership

Office (SLLO), and Dr. Stephen Chan, former head of SLLO, explained to 27 attendees about the key considerations in developing a good SL subject that benefits the students as well as the community and the support available from SLLO in developing SL. Dr. Barry Mak, the chairperson of the Subcommittee on Service-Learning Subjects (SCSLS) also shared his experience on the dos and don'ts of writing SL subject proposal.

Dr. Grace Ngai and Dr. Stephen Chan explained key considerations in developing a good SL subject.

What is important in service-learning

>The syllabus, the proposals, the paperwork...

· What differs service-learning from other academic

 What is the role of the teacher? Why does the subcommittee care about my CV and experience?

that is not the be-all and end-all

subjects?

The Horse River.

>More fundamentally, we need to know:

· Why are we doing service-learning?

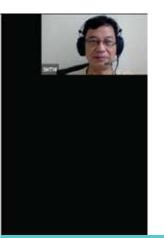
To review the workshop, please go to Seminars & Workshops on SLLO website.



https://polyu.hk/ZNgnl

The "Subcommittee on Service-Learning Subjects"

- >The entity that monitors the service-learning programme at PolyU
 - Reviews and recommends service-learning subjects for endorsement.
 - Monitors and reviews the quality and implementation of SL subjects
 - Receives and considers the SFQ for SL subjects
- >Recommendations: Reject, Major Revision, Minor Revision, Suitable to be offered
- Composed of academic staff from the different faculties
- >Note: We do not do the approval, we just advise!





Dr. Barry Mak shared his experience on writing an SL subject proposal in the workshop.

Leadership Academy for Responsible Global Citizenship

ARGC

The Leadership Academy for Responsible Global Citizenship (LARGC), organized by the Service-Learning and Leadership Office (SLLO), aspires to be a pioneering platform supporting international education, research and exchange for global citizenship and leadership development. This platform augments PolyU's well-structured service-learning and leadership programmes with cross-cultural and boundary-crossing components. In 2020-21, LARGC will be launching three local and international programmes in Hong Kong, Thailand, and East Africa. These programmes with students from universities around the world. Two online information sessions were conducted in September 2020 to introduce the programme details to PolyU students.





HABITAT GREEN in East-Africa



Habitat Green is a one-year leadership programme that focuses on global leadership and cultural sensitivities in the cross-disciplinary context of green engineering, appropriate technology and sustainable living. PolyU students will enroll in one of three service-learning subjects: BSE3S02 Living Environment for Low-income Communities in Developing Regions, or COMP3S02 Socially Responsible Global Leadership in a Digital World, or EE2S01 Low-cost Energy Infrastructures for Developing *Regions*, and will work together with peers from and the University of Rwanda (UR) to design and develop green energy solutions for families in remote villages in Rwanda.



ONE WORLD OUR WORLD

in Hong Kong



One World Our World, themed "Social Diversity and Inclusion", is a Hong Kong-based program that will enroll students from PolyU and other universities around the world. Participating students will enroll in one of two service-learning subjects: ITC2S02 Community Engagement through Expressive Textile Arts and Fashion or COMP2S01S Technology Beyond Borders: Service Learning across Cultural. Ethnic and Community Lines. They will learn about the challenges faced by their target community and acquire knowledge and skills to serve them through an innovative service project.

GENERATION-C SERVE

Generation-C SERVE is a leadership programme that brings PolyU students from *APSS2S11* Social Poverty in Developing Countries and other universities in Asia to learn and serve together. The objective is to develop students' higher-order critical thinking and empathy through integrating theories and understanding of the diverse impacts of will interact with communities, local poverty on people's lives. Students government bodies and NGOs.

In September 2020, two online information sessions were conducted to introduce the programme details to PolyU students.



Service-Learning Symposium for Secondary Schools

With funding support from the University Grants Committee (UGC), SLLO will organize an online Service-Learning (SL) Symposium for Secondary Schools on 28 November 2020.

Ms. Susan Ward-Roncalli, a National Board-Certified Teacher with over 30 years of classroom experience and a veteran SL practitioner at secondary sector, was invited to share her insights and experience in implementing SL in secondary education. Ms. Ward-Roncalli will share research that supports the use of SL to improve student academic gains and life skills such as problem solving and collaboration at the secondary level, and also explore the factors that contribute to a high-quality service-learning project. Participants will also have hands-on practice in designing a service-learning project that aligns with the content objectives of their course or subject.



Details



https://polyu.hk/PJuoV

Registration



https://polyu.hk/AlrYW

Inquiry

Ms. Renee Leung sawail@polyu.edu.hk / (852) 27666802

Ms. Eugene Cheung eugene.lp.cheung@polyu.edu.hk / (852) 34003298

Service-Learning Online Workshop Series



The Hong Kong Polytechnic University (PolyU) regularly organizes workshops to invite service-learning (SL) experts to share their good practices. In December 2020, PolyU will organize Online Workshop Series.

Dr. Luke Terra, a Director of Community Engaged Learning and Research and an Associate Director of the Haas Center for Public Service at Stanford University, was invited to share his insights and experience in leading SL. This Online Workshops Series consist of three workshops, including

