Dinner in Celebration of the Chinese New Year and 30th Anniversary of the Faculty of Education

University of Macao Doctor Honoris Causa Lecture: Healthcare and Education in the Era of Artificial Intelligence

Chinese New Year Gathering 2019 for FED House Programme

https://www.um.edu.mo/fed/newsletter.html
OBJECTIVES

To disseminate educational ideals and report on faculty and student activities of FED;

To provide an easy and user-friendly platform for academic staff;

To promote a sharing culture and boost teacher education and professional development.

EDITORIAL BOARD

Prof. Sylvia S.L. IEONG            SLIeong@um.edu.mo
Echo ZHEONG                       y647705@um.edu.mo
Phone 88224144                    
Address E33-3030
Academic Staff Activities

1. Seminar on “English as a Lingua Franca: Perceptions of Preservice English Teachers”. 1
2. Briefing on “Bachelor of Education in Integrated Science”. 2
4. Course Counseling and Internship Experience Sharing. 4
5. University of Macau Doctor *honoris causa* Lecture: Healthcare and Education in the Era of Artificial Intelligence. 5
6. Dinner in Celebration of the Chinese New Year and 30th Anniversary of the Faculty of Education. 6

Student Activities

1. Gathering with FED House Delegates. 9
2. Chinese New Year Gathering 2019 for FED House Programme. 10
Seminar on “English as a Lingua Franca: Perceptions of Preservice English Teachers”

Seminar on “English as a Lingua Franca: Perceptions of Preservice English Teachers” was held at E33-G021, Tin Ka Ping Lecture Hall, Faculty of Education, on Monday 14 January 2019.

The speaker of the Seminar was Prof. Chiou-lan CHERN, Taiwan Normal University. Prof. Chern teaches courses on TEFL methodology and language skills at undergraduate levels as well as reading seminars at the graduate level. Her research interests include L2 reading instruction and critical thinking, English language policies, and English teacher education. She is the coordinator of the 9-year Integrated English Curriculum Advisory Team of Ministry of Education in Taiwan. Her administrative posts at TNU include the English Department chair from 2007 to 2010 and Dean of Office of international Affairs from 2011 to 2013. She currently serves as Dean of College of Liberal Arts at TNU.

Therefore, teacher training programs in universities need to prepare future teachers to effectively teach English for communication and make students aware of the role of English in the 21st century. To understand pre-service English teachers’ perspectives of English as a lingua franca (ELF), a survey was conducted among university students who were trained to become English teachers in an EFL setting. The Likert-based survey explored the participants’ perceptions of the status of English as a lingua franca, with a focus on the extent to which a variety of English should be emphasized in the classroom, the role of English in communication, as well as language and culture. The results of the survey showed that participants differed in their perceptions of the role of native speakers, including having them as role models, sounding like them, and the importance of being exposed to a variety of English. In general, intern English teachers tended to have higher expectations for being native-like; English minors, however, were more liberal and showed less reliance on a native speaker model. Prof. Chern discussed possible reasons for these differences as well as their pedagogical implications.

English is not just a required course in primary and secondary schools in many EFL contexts, it is also a tool for communication, a lingua franca, among speakers of various language backgrounds.
Briefing on “Bachelor of Education in Integrated Science”

Briefing on “Bachelor of Education in Integrated Science”, organized by the Faculty of Education, was held in E33-G021, on Tuesday 15 January 2019.

Teachers and students from Pooi To Middle School, Colegio de Santa Rosa de Lima, Kao Yip Middle School, Escola dos Moradores de Macau, and Escola Nossa Senhora de FÁTIMA participated in the event.

Prof. Ren-He XU, Associate Dean (Research) of Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Macau, and Prof. Hui PAN of Department of Physics and Chemistry, University of Macao, Prof. Chun Wai CHENG, Associate Dean (Teaching) of FED, Prof. Bing WEI, Programme Coordinator of Graduate Programmers of FED and Prof. Pey-Tee OON, Faculty of Education, attended the briefing.

Prof. Wei introduced the Bachelor of Education in Integrated Science and answered the questions about the programme, graduation career, academic and teaching arrangement. The Bachelor of Education in Integrated Science is based on the training of science subjects as the overall framework, and integrates the learning areas of physics, chemistry and biology. The curriculum is based on the comprehensive scientific concept and knowledge. Students can choose physics, chemistry or biology as the special learning field. The goal is to train qualified teachers in the junior high school and high school for Macao. The establishment of this new programme is in line with the development and needs of Macao education, and it can also meet the needs for Integrated Science teachers of Macao.
Seminar on “Mathematical Proficiencies in the Australian Curriculum: Old Medicine in New Bottle”

Seminar on “Mathematical Proficiencies in the Australian Curriculum: Old Medicine in New Bottle” was held at E33-G021, Tin Ka Ping Lecture Hall, Faculty of Education, on Thursday 21 February 2019.

The speaker of the Seminar was Prof. Wee Tiong SEAH, University of Melbourne, Australia. Prof. Seah is an Associate Professor in Mathematics Education at Melbourne Graduate School of Education. He is also Research Fellow of Zhejiang Basic Education Research Center, China. He has extensive professional experience in mathematics teaching across a range of school settings in Singapore and Australia. His research and professional interests focus on sociocultural, conative and affective aspects of learning. He has been coordinating a multinational research team in a series of research studies since 2008 and Macao is one of the participating regions. He also conducts collaborative research and consultancy activities in 8 countries across Australia and Asia.

Prof. Chunlian JIANG, Programme Coordinator of Teaching Practice, PED

This presentation discussed why the current “Australian Curriculum: Mathematics” introduced a new dimension of proficiencies, in addition to the set of three content strands. The content strands are Number and Algebra, Measurement and Geometry, and Statistics and Probability. The new dimension of 4 proficiency strands are “understanding”, “fluency”, “reasoning” and “problem-solving”. They describe how school mathematics is learnt. Both primary and secondary school teachers across Australia are expected to integrate the development of these proficiencies in their students together with the teaching of content. In this talk, Prof. Seah offered some views on why the proficiencies are introduced only now in Australia and discuss the implications for school mathematics education in other countries.

Prof. Wee Tiong SEAH, University of Melbourne

Teachers and students from the University of Macau, Shaanxi Normal University, Wenzhou University, Escola Portuguesa de Macau, Pooi To Middle School, Keang Peng School, Macau Xin Hua School, Pui Ching Middle School, Macau Baptist College, and Kwong Tai Middle School attended the seminar.
Course Counseling and Internship Experience Sharing

To strengthen contacts and exchanges between the students of FED and the teachers of schools in Macao, “Course Counseling and Internship Experience Sharing”, organized by the Faculty of Education, was held in E33-2037, on 21 February 2019.

Prof. Jin-Jy SHIEH, Programme Coordinator of Post-Graduate Certificate of Education Programme of the Faculty of Education, chaired the event. Ms. Hio San VONG, Fu Luen School, was invited as the speaker. The students of FED asked questions about their study and work. Prof. Shieh and Ms. Vong patiently answered them all.

Ms. Vong used the 40-minute true teaching to simulate a primary school classroom scene, treating the students of FED as “real” primary students, with a lot of interactive and group activities in the teaching process. The use of interesting teaching aids to arouse students’ interest in learning also increased students’ input and participation, there was also a 20-minute experience sharing session to provide counseling and guiding for the students who will start their internship in Macao schools. The content includes psychological pressures that may be encountered during the internship, as well as some unexpected situations, especially in dealing with children of different ages, Ms. Vong has a relatively unique experience, and shared it with the students. Ms. Vong used her words and deeds to convey a deep sense of responsibility and positive energy, both in school counseling and classroom management, which are extremely important to promote the personal growth of teachers and students.
On Friday 22 February 2019 “University of Macau Doctor honoris causa Lecture: Healthcare and Education in the Era of Artificial Intelligence”, organized by the Faculty of Education, was held in UM Hall (N2), University of Macau.

Prof. Joseph Jao-yiu SUNG, Doctor of Education honoris causa, University of Macau, 2018, was invited as the keynote speaker of this lecture. Prof. Sung is Mok Hing Yiu Professor of Medicine, Director of Institute of Digestive Disease, Former Vice-Chancellor and President of the Chinese University of Hong Kong.

In the lecture, Prof. Sung shared his views on the current situation of healthcare and education in the era of AI and looked forward to the future development of AI and its impact on human society. Much of what we once did with our eyes, hands, and ears has been replaced by machines. A child who comes to an emergency department with abdominal pain is likely to have a CT scan before ever being examined by a physician. The stethoscope, the very tool that shaped and defined the bedside examination, began to be phased out as a way to examine the heart sometime at the end of the last century. AI is coming to Medicine Redefining the role doctors. The rise of AI as a type of maggot therapy. It consumes only those portions of the physician’s work that are no longer human, restoring us to health.

The future will hold a role for physicians somewhere among the technologies that diagnose and target therapy. As the human body becomes digitized and quantified, there will be an emerging role in shaping individual human information as knowledge and wisdom.

Prof. Sung pointed out that we must focus on educating the next generation in “5Cs”: Critical thinking, Collaborative spirit, Communication skills, Confidence in themselves, and Compassion for others. Humans will not be replaced, but changes will surely come. Darwin said “Change is the only constant. It is not the strongest of the species that survives. Nor the most intelligent that survives. It is the one that is the most adaptable to change.” The question of the moral and legal responsibility of AI is also a question that requires further human consideration.
Dinner in Celebration of the Chinese New Year and 30th Anniversary of the Faculty of Education

“Dinner in Celebration of the Chinese New Year and 30th Anniversary of the Faculty of Education”, organized by the University of Macau (UM), was held on 27 February 2019, which was attended by principals and teachers from primary and secondary schools as well as kindergarten in Macao.

At the beginning of the dinner, Prof. Yonghua SONG, Rector of the University of Macau and Interim Dean of the Faculty of Education, extended a key speech. Prof. Song said that UM is a university with distinctive characteristics. Nearly 80% of UM faculty members are from overseas. So far, the university has signed collaboration agreements with more than 140 universities in 33 countries, providing students with exchange and internship opportunities to broaden their horizons and gain practical experience. In addition, UM has established two bases for primary and secondary education, namely the Macao Base for Primary & Secondary Education in Humanities & Social Sciences, and the Macao Base for Primary & Secondary STEM Education, which will further deepen education in humanities and social sciences and provide more opportunities for students to put their knowledge into practice. UM will continue to produce outstanding graduates to contribute to the development of Macao and the Greater China region.

Then, Prof. Chun Wai CHENG, Associate Dean (Teaching) of the Faculty of Education, introduced the development and achievements of FED. Prof. Ka-Veng YUEN, Registrar of the University of Macau, also gave a brief presentation on admission and course information. Over the past three decades, the Faculty of Education has produced many education professionals for Macao, including 2,660 outstanding graduates in B.Ed. degree programmes, 660 in the master’s degree programmes, and 23 in the doctoral programmes. The numbers of its academic staff members and papers published in SCI (Science Citation Index) and SSCI (Social Sciences Citation Index) journals have been rising steadily over the past 30 years, which is expected to raise the quality of educational research in Macao and beyond.
In the latest Times Higher Education World University Rankings, UM is ranked in the 201-250 bracket in Education, showing international recognition of the quality of its education. FED will continue to improve teaching quality, aspiring to become a world-class educational institution in China, Asia, and beyond, in teacher training and educational research.

Prof. Yonghua SONG, Rector of the University of Macau, and Interim Dean of the Faculty of Education, Mr. Sai Kei LAI, Vice President of the Chinese Educators Association of Macau, Fr. Pak Fai CHOW, President of the Union of Catholic Schools of Macau, Prof. Lionel M. NI, Vice Rector (Academic Affairs) of the University of Macau, Prof. Wei GE, the Vice Rector (Research) of the University of Macau, Prof. Kee Long SO, the Vice Rector (Student Affairs) of the University of Macau, Dr. Mei KOU, the Vice Rector (Administration) of the University of Macau, co-chaired over the Cake-cutting and Toasting Ceremony, and wished FED to scale a new height!

After that, Ms. Mei Han KONG, a Year-4 student from B.Ed. Programme (English) of FED, and a student of Honours College at UM, shared her experiences in studying. Mr. Ziang LI, a master student from Physical Education and Sports Studies Programme of FED, gave a wonderful performance with singing. Prof. Song was invited to present certificates to the participating schools and expressed his gratitude to them.

Activities celebrating the 30th anniversary of the FED include a conference on teacher education and school leadership, an exhibition of the FED’s history, a crossword puzzle, a 30th anniversary quiz, and the FED Anthem. This year marks the 30th anniversary of the FED. Happy Birthday to FED!
Ms. Mei Han KONG, Year 4 student from English Education of FED and Honours College at UM

Mr. Ziang LI, master student from Physical Education and Sports Studies Major of FED

Event Highlight

All the participants took a group photo together
Gathering with FED House Delegates

“Gathering with FED House Delegates”, organized by the Faculty of Education, was held in E33-1038, on 23 January 2019. This is a gathering for bridging the faculty and the delegates of FED House.

To strengthen communication with the members of FED House, Prof. Ping-Cheng WANG, Assistant Dean for Student Affairs of Faculty of Education, invited some delegates of FED House. Mr. Wai Lon CHANG, Administrative Staff (General Administration) of FED introduced the process of organizing FED House activities. The delegates from different FED House asked questions about their work. Prof. Wang and Mr. Chang patiently answered them all.

During the gathering, the delegates spoke freely and enthusiastically. Prof. Wang fully affirmed the good ideas and thinking of the students and advised that they should pay more attention to the effectiveness and good communication during the organization of FED House activities. Mr. Chang’s report highlighted the details of the application for FED House activities, the latest guidelines for funding, and the registration of changes in FED House.

With the support and efforts of every member of FED House, the activities of FED House will become more and more abundant. FED House will continue to make the students of FED acquire unique, interesting learning experience in UM.
Chinese New Year Gathering 2019 for FED House Programme

The Faculty of Education held “Chinese New Year Gathering 2019 for FED House Programme” celebrating the Chinese New Year at The Learning Commons on 27 February 2019.

The FED academic and administrative staff members and students gathered together. There were also wonderful shows and fun games. On this special day, the joys and happiness added a splendid color to the new year.

As a start, Prof. Yonghua SONG, Rector of the University of Macau, and Interim Dean of the Faculty of Education, extended his warm welcome to the participants. On behalf of the Faculty of Education, Prof. Song expressed his heartfelt gratitude to the teachers, students and administrative staff for their hard work in the past year. He sincerely congratulated everyone on their work and academic achievements.

The new year is not only a very important year for the construction and development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, also a very commemorative year for the 30th anniversary of the establishment of the Faculty of Education of the University of Macau. Prof. Song believes that in this historical moment, the Faculty of Education will make another great achievement in the next 30 years.

FED students, Mr. Ka Chon PHANG, Ms. Hio Lam LEONG, Mr. Zeqi CHEN and Ms. Man I LEONG put on amazing singing performances. Some quiz games were also prepared for the participants, and the winners were awarded festive gifts. Peace and love prevailed everywhere leaving a wonderful and beautiful memory for everyone.
Prof. Yonghua SONG, Rector of University of Macau, and Interim Dean of Faculty of Education, and participants

Prof. Chun Wai CHENG, Associate Dean (Teaching) of Faculty of Education, and participants

Event Highlight
Event Highlight

Event Highlight

Amazing singing performance
Event Highlight

Event Highlight

All the participants took a group photo together