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Passion

Fuels Excellence in Teaching

Prof Irene M C Lo in the Department of Civil Engineering has been awarded the Medal for Distinguished Teaching, the most prestigious honor for teaching. In her teaching at UST, Prof Lo has devoted herself to quality teaching methodologies known for her care of students' growth.

To make students better understand the concepts of Environmental Engineering subjects, Prof Lo always prepares well before classes. She designs, organizes and reviews course notes. She also likes to deliver teaching materials via different teaching methods such as video clips, group discussion and case studies, so as to better illustrate abstract concepts and stimulate students' thinking.



Meanwhile, Prof Lo places great emphasis on the quality of classroom design, sound and projector system to ensure that the environment is suitable for student learning. However, she believes that teaching is not only the dissemination of knowledge but also the nurture of students' values and attitudes. "The search for knowledge is never-ending, while character building is more important in development."

In recent years, Prof Lo has led 3 to 4 doctoral students to conduct research every year. She encourages their research and their values and attitudes towards life. "Conducting research is not only acquiring knowledge; it is also a test of students' will and endurance leading to personal growth," she said. Her research group is often a mix of different personalities. Some students are slow in response, while others are clever but reluctant to face difficulties. Regardless of their characters, she never gives up on encouraging and supporting students until they solve their problems and make breakthroughs in life. In her leisure time, Prof Lo enjoys developing friendships with students through various sports activities, such as playing squash, swimming and hiking.

Prof Lo may not have time to take good care of her undergraduate students, but she tries to show her care to those who have problems and welcomes any meeting with them. Prof Lo is even one of the "bloggers". "I try to let students know my values more by sharing my everyday life on the internet."