Dear Colleagues

In this November 2018 issue of the “Newsletter from DLTC”, the Departmental Learning and Teaching Committee (DLTC) has invited Dr Chi-Kin Leung, former DLTC Chairman, to share his good teaching and learning practices with colleagues.

Dr C.K. Leung taught “EIE4106 Network Management and Security” in 2017/18 Semester 2. The subject has received many positive comments from students.

Dr Leung enabled students to see the usefulness of the subject content in daily life by introducing to them current news and real life examples regarding network management and security at the beginning of the semester and during some lectures when the topics are relevant. This could help arouse students’ interests in the subject.

Also, because the class size of EIE4106 in 2017/18 Semester 2 was small, Dr Leung was able to offer prompt assistance to students whenever they found the need. This is especially so in lab sessions during which he would walk around and answer students’ questions promptly.

Dr Leung pointed out that students found the lab exercises which asked students to configure CISCO routers practical and useful.
He would also explain during the lab sessions how the lab exercises could be related to the lecture content to reinforce students' learning. As he and the tutor would offer students guidance and assistance whenever students encountered problems while working on the lab exercises, students generally considered them helpful and this could have positive effects on students' learning attitude.

Dr Leung made subject materials available to students through Blackboard. He also video-recorded a make-up class so that students who were unable to attend the make-up class could review the video at their own time later. Students welcomed such arrangement as they thought it was convenient to them. Judging from this response, Dr Leung remarked that the recently popular "flipped classroom" pedagogy is worthy of further trial and adoption.

From Dr Leung’s experience, we found that the following might have contributed to positive learning experience for students:

- **Give More Attention to Students and Answer their Questions Promptly** - Walking around the lab during lab sessions to offer assistance to students where necessary and answering students’ questions promptly.

- **Provide Practical Hands-on Experience** - Allowing students to engage in hands-on lab exercises which were related to lecture contents and real-life usage could enable them to realize the usefulness of the things they had learnt.

- **Make Teaching Materials Easily Accessible** - Making teaching materials available on Blackboard and video-recording make-up class to allow students to view the lecture at their own time.

The DLTC will continue to identify good learning and teaching practices for sharing. If you have any teaching practices and experience that you want to share with colleagues, you are welcome to send us your views anytime.

Dr M.W. Mak
Chairman
Departmental Learning and Teaching Committee (DLTC)
Department of Electronic and Information Engineering