

News

Upcoming Events

Apr - Aug 2007
Information Technology Enrichment Project
Course for Gifted Students: co-organized by the Computer Science and Engineering Department and Education and Manpower Bureau.
16-21 July ; 23-28 July 2007
IT Youth Summer Camp : run by the Computer Science and Engineering Department together with the Hong Kong Federation of Education Workers from 16-21 July and 23-28 July 2007

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11 July 2007

HKUST Hosts Greater China Collegiate Programming Contest Tsinghua University Wins Championship

科大舉辦兩岸三地大專生程式設計比賽
清華學生奪本年度冠軍

Undergraduate computer wizards from Tsinghua University in Mainland China, National Tsing Hua University in Taiwan and Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST) tested their skills against each other on Tuesday (July 10) at the HKUST campus in this year's Tsinghua-HKUST Programming Contest, an exciting Greater China collegiate team competition.

The contest, hosted by HKUST's Computer Science and Engineering Department, marked the first time that the annual event had been held in Hong Kong. Launched seven years ago, the contest was initially held between Tsinghua University in Beijing and National Tsing Hua in Taiwan. HKUST joined in 2006. The competition aims to foster creativity, teamwork and innovation in building new software programs among computer science students and to promote cultural exchange.

Seven teams took part in this year's challenge, two individual teams from each university and a joint "United Women's Team" formed by female students from all three institutions. After a remarkable day of enterprise and effort on Tuesday, students from Beijing's Tsinghua University eventually beat the other contestants to take home the Tsinghua-HKUST Programming Contest 2007 Championship.

Liu He, a second-year student from the winning team at Tsinghua University, said: "Although the contest questions were very challenging, I believe all the participants had the technical knowledge to handle them. The main reason we outperformed the other teams was our team's great coordination, which enabled each of us to utilize our own unique strengths."

To teammate Zhu Chenguang, a first-year undergraduate, the greatest reward was not taking home the trophy but having the opportunity to interact with students from Taiwan as they are hard to find at universities in China, he said. All three members of the winning team were impressed by the hospitality of HKUST students during their stay on the HKUST campus.

The United Women's Team won the third prize in the contest. "We did not feel any pressure being the only female team," said Yang Siyu, from Tsinghua University in Beijing. "We were confident that our programming skills were as good as the male teams." Teammates Li Qingxi from HKUST and Hung Hui-ju representing National Tsing Hua were both amazed by the mutual understanding between Women's Team members. Although they came from different parts of Greater China, the young women found their similar age, interest in computing and experiences as female engineering students immediately created strong bonds. There was just one email exchange before the competition but the team's coordination proved to be flawless.

Prof. Lionel M. Ni, Head of the Computer Science and Engineering Department at HKUST, said that the contest had provided an excellent platform for computer science students to learn from each other and thanked Tsinghua University and National Tsing Hua University for their support. "I have been delighted to be able to bring together students from the Mainland, Taiwan and Hong Kong," Prof Ni said. "It has not only been a good opportunity for them to share ideas in the computer science field, but also an interesting cultural learning experience."

Following the contest, all the teams were able to relax today (July 11) with an expedition to Hong Kong Disneyland, where HKUST students acted as guides for their fellow competitors from Tsinghua and National Tsing Hua.

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來自北京清華大學、新竹國立清華大學及香港科技大學(科大)的電腦程式高手，於七月十日齊集科大，參加今年的「兩岸清華暨香港科技大學程式競賽」，結果由北京清華大學學生勇奪冠軍。

這項比賽早於七年前由清華大學及國立清華大學發起，科大於2006年起加入比賽，讓該活動成為大中華區三大著名學府一年一度的程式競賽盛事。「兩岸清華暨香港科技大學程式競賽」旨在培養學生的創意和團隊精神，及促進三地文化交流。

是次活動由科大計算機科學及工程學系主辦，共有七支隊伍參與。三所大學除了各派出兩隊參賽外，更額外派出一名女生組成一隊聯合女子隊，與其餘六隊一決高下。各參賽隊伍需要在最短時間內，解決最多程式編寫的難題。經過一輪比賽後，結果由北京清華大學奪得冠軍。

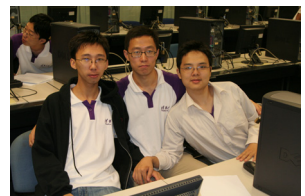
北京清華大學冠軍隊的二年級生劉賀說：「我們這次能夠稍勝其他參賽者，主要是因為隊員之間的配合。我們的默契讓每個隊員都能發揮所長。」他又謙虛地表示，雖然今次比賽的題目有一定難度，但是他相信其他參賽者技術上都絕對有能力應付。他的隊友，就讀大學一年級的朱晨光則說：「這次比賽最大的收穫並不在於獎項本身，而是有機會跟台灣學生交流，因為在國內很少機會跟台灣學生碰面。」而科大學生的熱情款待及細心照顧，就給冠軍隊的每一位隊員留下很深刻的印象。

由三所大學女生組成的聯合女子隊則奪得比賽的第三名。來自北京清華大學的楊思雨說：「雖然我們是唯一的女子隊，但是並沒有什麼壓力。我相信，我們的程式編寫技巧都不在男生之下。」在科大第一次見面的三位女生，她們正式見面之前，只有一次電郵聯絡，但在比賽中卻「一拍即合」，盡顯默契。科大代表李聯熾和新竹國立清華大學的洪慧儒覺得隊員之間，並沒有因為來自不同地方而產生隔膜。大家年紀相若、志趣相投，加上修讀工程學科的共同背景，可能就是她們一拍即合的理由。

科大計算機科學及工程學系主任倪明選教授感謝清華大學及國立清華大學師生們的支持。他認為這次比賽為同學提供了一個交流意見的寶貴機會。倪教授說：「很高興兩岸三地的學生能聚首一堂，作學術及文化的交流。」

緊張比賽過後，來自三所大學的參賽者今天(七月十一日)，以輕鬆的心情到香港迪士尼遊玩。科大學生則擔當嚮導，陪同兩岸清華的學生遊香港。

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