



Prof Paul Whitla : Aspiring to become a model for students Paul WHITLA 教授：致力成為學生的榜樣

Paul WHITLA 教授在嶺大任教了24年，他從未忘記當初為何產生培育下一代的教育理念，以及為何堅定不移地忠於這理念。他每次上課都會提早15分鐘到達課室，主動與學生交談，嘗試了解他們的想法。Whitla教授說：「每次上課我都盡量準時。如果課堂是上午9時開始，我確保我們能夠準時開始上課。我想向學生展示什麼是責任心和專業精神。」有些學生在進大學之前，可能沒有人指導他們正確的道路，Whitla教授希望成為他們的榜樣。

Whitla教授希望學生能夠具備應有的特質。他試圖在任教的每個科目裡培養學生的創造力、慎思明辨和溝通的能力。他說：「過去，我們主要培訓學生的技能，好讓他們能夠在同一家公司工作40年，但現在他們需要的是那些可轉移的技能，幫助他們在職業生涯中找到正確的方向。我期望他們擁有全面的知識，能夠從多角度看待問題。」

作為「同儕教學觀察計劃」的發起者、開發者和執行者，以及「以行動學習轉化果效的教師計劃」的熱心支持者，Whitla教授毫無保留地與同事分享他的見解和建議。明白新入職的教員在開始教學生涯時或會面對一些挑戰，Whitla教授對他們亦會特別照顧。

Whitla教授是學生和同事的導師，他對教學的敬業精神，使他成為嶺大社群裡備受信任、喜愛和尊敬的人物。

Having taught at Lingnan for 24 years, Prof Paul WHITLA never forgets why he started and unwaveringly stays true to the education philosophy of nurturing the next generation. He arrives 15 minutes before the start of each lecture, talking to students and trying to understand their thoughts. "I try to be punctual for every class. If the lecture starts at 9am, I make sure that we are ready to begin at exactly that time; I hope to show students what responsibility and professionalism is about," said Prof Whitla, who sees himself as a role model for students who might not have had someone to show them the expectations of professional business behaviour before coming to the University.

Hoping that students will be equipped with the right attributes, Prof Whitla tries to develop creativity, critical thinking and communications (the "three C's") in each of the courses he offers. "In the past, we trained students for skills that would allow them to stay in the same company for 40 years but now they need these transferrable skills to help them navigate in their career life. I expect them to have well-rounded knowledge and be able to look at issues from multiple perspectives," said Prof Whitla.

As the initiator, developer and executor of the Peers Observing Peers (POP) scheme and a keen supporter of the Transforming Outcomes Through Action Learning (TOTAL) Teacher Experience, Prof Whitla unreservedly shares his insights and advice with colleagues, especially new recruits who may face challenges at the beginning of their teaching career.

As a mentor to both students and colleagues, Prof Whitla's dedication to teaching renders him a respected figure, trusted and adored by the Lingnan community.