

## PKU Holds 8th Annual Thanksgiving Celebration



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On the brisk Friday evening of November 25th, Moot Court looked a little different from its usual set up. Five long rows of orange tables stretched from the stage to the back of the room, where they met another row of tables laden with ten turkeys and side dishes. Two people manned the check-in desk, doling out raffle tickets, as others excitedly took pictures in front of a makeshift photobooth at the side of the room. Festive jars and balloons dotted the tables alongside evening programs and special thanks cards. Students, staff, and faculty chatted excitedly in anticipation for an evening that only

comes to campus once a year.

After several weeks of groundwork and coordination between various schools, offices, and volunteers, the much anticipated day had finally arrived. The Chancellor's Secretariat Office held the 8th Annual Thanksgiving Celebration in B-building's Moot Court. What originally started out as a modest get together to share an American tradition with Chinese friends and colleagues has, over the years, turned into an international celebration of togetherness and thanks.

Beginning as early as 9 AM, staff and volunteers buzzed in and out of the venue setting up tables and decorations in preparation for the evening. As night fell, the doors opened to a crowd of roughly 200 international and Chinese students from all of University Town's schools, faculty, and staff ready for a night of food and KTV.

The night was guided by hosts Thomas Ciarán Zschocke of the HSBC Business School and Yan

Min from the neighboring Tsinghua University Graduate School. After a brief introduction, they invited the School of Transnational Law's Assistant Dean Christian Pangilinan onto the stage to kick the night off with the annual Thanksgiving toast. Once again, the dinner's turkeys were catered by Metro in European Town, the side dishes were prepared by Frankie's American Bar & Grille in Nanshan, and the peach and cherry cobblers from Baekerei Thomas in Shekou. Attendees enjoyed turkey, mashed potatoes, stuffing, pasta salad, and cobbler among other things.

After eating and drinking, hosts Thomas and Yan Min called on a few audience volunteers to assist in the annual raffle, which saw four winners who each received a gift card to Starbucks. Soon after, the lights went dim and Edison Chang, one of eight Campus Community Advisors at PKU Shenzhen, started the evening's KTV session with his rendition of John Legend's 'All of Me'. The stage saw many internationals and Chinese students sign up to sing afterward, including a big group dance to

Macarena.

As the Thanksgiving event's planning assistant, Yang Wandong of the School of Urban Planning Design says it was "awesome to see things come together in its own way, with everyone's effort, then finally take shape in an event that people enjoyed. That sense of accomplishment is what made it worthwhile."

As always, the annual Thanksgiving celebration was a warm and genial event that brought Chinese and international populations on our campus together for a good meal and great songs. Special thanks to the Chancellor's Secretariat Office, CA Program, International Association, and English Association for organizing this event, with further support from the Peking University HSBC Business School, School of Transnational Law, Yinyuan Catering Company, and Happy Mealtime Catering, as well as all the volunteers who made this event possible.

Reported by Megan Mancenido



Running Through 2016:

An End-of-Year Guide to Shenzhen Marathons and Runs



For all you runners out there, the end of the year is for more than just shopping, Thanksgiving dinner and Christmas parties. These last couple of months of 2016 promise to be a festival of a different kind for those who love to run.

For the past month of November, there were plenty of marathons, and 5km or shorter events around the city, including in our very own University Town. For instance, the Color Run, dubbed the “happiest 5k on earth,” was held on November 12 in the Shenzhen Universiade Sports Center. Shenzhen is the final stop of the Color Run 2016 tour in China, after being held in cities such as Beijing, Shanghai, Chengdu and Nanjing. This is a 5 km run with no ranking or timing so that everyone can participate. The most important thing is to appreciate the happiness of staying fit and healthy. Colored powder was given to all participants as part of the run.

In our own University Town, there were two running events in one week alone. On November 17, the Tsinghua Marathon Association organized a 2.5km night run. Runners gather together and were given glow sticks and glittering light sticks to accompany them as they ran around the three campuses.

The following day, on November 18, the 37th Shenzhen Citizen Run, organized by the University Town Management Office was held in the University Town. Over 500 teachers and students from Tsing Hua University Shenzhen Graduate School, Peking University Shenzhen Graduate School, HaErBin Institute of Technology Shenzhen, Southern Technological University, Shenzhen University Town Xili Elementary School and more attended this 2.5km run, bringing everyone from around University Town together. It aims to promote a healthy lifestyle in citizens and bring activeness into everyday life.

The Shenzhen Nanshan Half Marathon also just ended on Nov 27. It is held every year on the last Sunday of November and attracts more than 15,000 people. It started from the Shenzhen Bay Sports Center, passing



through Chun Can, Houhai, Shenzhen Bay Bridge and many more places. There was also a 3km Fun Run for those who would like to participate but could not finish a longer race.

Coming up, the Shenzhen International Marathon will be held on December 18. The Shenzhen International Marathon, going on its fourth year, will offer a marathon (42.195km), a half-marathon (21.0975km) and a 6km run, accommodating a total of 30,000 people.

The Dapeng New Year Marathon, to be held on Jan 1, 2017, has received 19,121 applications from 16 countries. Among them, 57% are 35 years old and below, 38% between 35 and 50 and 5% above 50 years old, with the oldest applicant being 74 years old. However, with only 3,000 people as the cap, the acceptance rate is at 12%.

If you have never run a marathon before, 42.195km can seem like an intimidating number. Of course it is no easy feat to prepare then run a marathon, but once you’ve made the commitment to do it, it will be an incredible journey as you slowly build up and increase your distance. Baby steps are the key. The internet has proven to be a great source of information and advice for you to get started, and of course trainers are always a good idea.

2016 is coming to an end, and another new year is about to begin. Where are we now since our 2016 New Year resolutions? Have we progressed, or digressed again? Most of us are guilty of setting unrealistic goals and then not accomplishing them. Perhaps you need to treat it as preparing for a marathon. Small parts building up to the big, final one race, and its these small daily steps that will bring you towards the end goal. That being said, enjoy the last few days of 2016 and see how far you have come. Don’t underestimate your abilities and resolutions.

Reported by Yang Wandong

The Health Effects of Black Mold

Imagine after a long and tiring day, you enter your room in the hope of finding some peaceful sleep. But, after only a few minutes in the room, you feel out of breath and nauseated. Even after taking proper medication, the condition remains uncured.

The first thought that might have popped up in the minds of many people is that the room might be home to dust and is far from clean enough. But what if the room is clean but the problem still persists? Even after cleaning the room or a house many times over, people can still witness some gross black patches suddenly occurring on walls and on the panels of doors and windows, especially during moist winters. Well, those aren’t just ordinary black patches but rather a very dangerous form of fungus commonly known as Black Mold.

Humid environments such as the subtropical climate we find ourselves in are susceptible to black mold. For those who have seen it but didn’t know what it was and ignored it, they may have soon realized how dangerous it can be.

Black mold, known scientifically as *stachybotrys chartarum*, not only impacts the respiratory system but also leads towards mental impairment, breathing problems, damage to internal organs and sometimes even death. Following are the main groups of symptoms toxic mold causes :

- Mental and neurological symptoms
- Respiratory symptoms
- Circulatory symptoms
- Vision and eye problems
- Skin problems
- Immune system problems

- Reproductive system problems
- Tiredness and discomfort

So how can one get rid of this fungus if it should appear? A common mistake is to simply repaint the walls or otherwise scratch the fungus out, but that’s not all that helpful, as after a while it comes back and the method also costs a bit of money as well. The proper solution is not just easy but affordable too! Rubbing a few drops of synthetic white vinegar or liquid bleach on the affected areas of the wall or wood will help in combating the toxic mold. And last but not least, keeping air dehumidifiers in rooms help stop the formation of black mold before it ever takes hold.

Reported by Fayeza Yahya





## A New Chapter: Studying Financial Journalism at PHBS

Financial journalism (MJC, Master of Journalism and Communication) is a new major at the PKU HSBC Business School (PHBS). It's a three-year program which includes a master's degree of Journalism and Communication and a minor certificate in Finance, Management or Economics. The history of this novel and highly interdisciplinary subject can be traced back to 2014, when it was still a two-year program affiliated with the School of Humanities and Social Sciences in PKUSZ.

As newcomers to PHBS, most freshmen students of MJC like me had experienced a period of loss and unaccustomed feelings for multiple reasons. Firstly, we are at a loss about our career path in the future and we can hardly ask previous students in this subject for advice, mainly because it's the first year for MJC to join PHBS family, and the courses and all other arrangements are totally different. A more profound reason is peer pressure. Financial media students have a diverse educational background, such as communication studies, advertising, sociology, history, philosophy and so on. Since we have joined PHBS, PHBS's culture and evaluation criteria inevitably infected us. In comparison with students of other majors, most of us are less familiar with the business world, and we met some difficulties in choosing student associations.

Things soon turned for the better as we started our intense study life. In the first module, we have five different courses and an English writing seminar. The courses are quite challenging and well designed, including two business courses introducing basic knowledge in financial markets and economics, in addition to three communication courses which teach us fundamental theories and reporting skills in financial journalism.

Before each journalism course, we have to read four to five selected chapters (about 150-200 pages in Chinese) in advance from different classic works in sociology, politics, history, anthropology and many other fields. Though the materials are obscure and very time-consuming, I have been gradually building a general understanding of academic journalism and become more insightful and discerning by completing the readings. After-class homework is always very practical and challenging, like analyzing a



firm's data and trying to find some news questions, or using Google Ngram Viewer to investigate the history of an object.

My teachers are young and successful scholars. In that way, they are quite like our friends. What impressed me most was that they are surprisingly willing to hear suggestions from the students. At the end of the first module, they organized a class meeting to improve their teaching methods and whole administrative system. My classmates are brilliant and diligent people, each with different talents such as dancing, hosting, photography, design and so on. It's really lucky to be in such a warm, innovative and efficient family.

Studying financial journalism is really a wonderful experience. I'm looking forward to new challenges and a better me in PHBS.

Reported by Xu Ying

## The Founding of the Economics Development Association



While many students prefer to focus on studies and perhaps choose to engage themselves in some recreational outdoor activities, very few opt for the much more practical approach towards life and career, and most importantly, towards a specific subject.

This year, new PHBSers went ahead to prove their mettle in academia and extracurricular activities by not only performing well in their studies but also by establishing a new association, the appropriately named "Economics Development Association". The main aim of the association is to highlight the driving forces behind economic development and highlight the reasons behind the recent economic development of China.

In order to achieve its goals, the association successfully held a small talk on the subject of 11/11, most commonly known as singles day, at PHBS on 20th November. Both Chinese and International association members attended the talk and participated with zeal.

11/11 is famously known as the Chinese version of Black Friday and, keeping in mind the success of this online festival, EDA members discussed the factors behind the success of singles day shopping spree and its impact



on the Chinese economy. Besides that, the talk also shed some light on the reasons behind the fast development of e-commerce in China, including its pros and cons and the future it holds for the 11/11 shopping carnival.

The members were divided into three groups, with each group focusing on a specific question concerning e-commerce in China. After the group discussion, each group gave an impromptu presentation over their understanding of e-commerce in China and the future prospects it holds.

International students also gave a small presentation about their home countries and the available e-commerce platforms in their respective countries, including details about the given country's culture and important information related to the economy of the country.

In the end, everyone shared their thoughts over the event and praised the new students over their new initiative.

Reported by Fayeza Yahya



## All You Need is Ecuador

A few months ago, I arrived in Shenzhen to start living the dream of studying in China. This country has been warm and welcoming and the opportunity to be an insider during these critical years of its development is something very valuable. As with many other international students, we all bring part of our countries to this campus and I am sure that I will take a part of China everywhere else I go from now on. That is why I wanted to tell you a little bit about my tiny but magical country: Ecuador.

This year, three Ecuadorian students started their first year of a master's degree at PKU SZ. All of us have a story to tell. I asked Eduardo Meythaler, an Ecuadorian student of Management in PHBS, what happens when his Chinese classmates ask where he comes from. His answer was simple: "At the beginning they do not know where Ecuador is, so I have to say close to Colombia and Peru. However I would like them to know that Ecuador is a beautiful country. Our regions are getting closer and closer, and that means a lot of opportunities for China and Asia to work together with us."

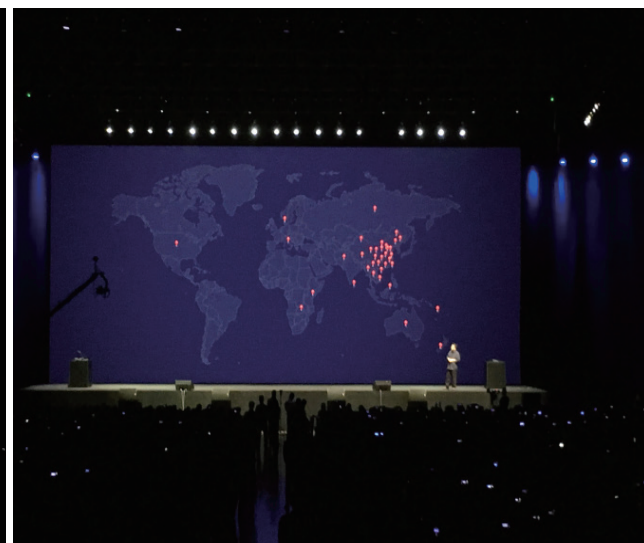
Recently President Xi Jinping visited Ecuador and the whole country was expectant to receive the main authority of one of the most powerful and influential countries of the world. Wang Yuling, Ambassador of People Republic of China in Ecuador, stated in an interview to the magazine "Travesía" that the bilateral relations are in its best moment, and we as Ecuadorian students in China are a demonstration of how this is happening on every level.

Ecuador is a very small country compared to China, but I would like to invite you all to come. We have beautiful sights and landscapes that range from the Pacific Ocean beaches to the Galapagos Islands, from the glorious Andes mountains to the most charming jungles of the Amazon. For all these reasons our national slogan is: All you need is Ecuador!

Reported by Lis Moreira



## Lessons From Entrepreneur Yonghao Luo: From Teaching English to Smartisan



Yonghao Luo was once an English teacher, teaching GRE classes for New Oriental. After quitting this position, he founded his own English training school. He's a good speaker and a man of great attractiveness. He planned and organized a series of promotional activities and, as a result, a great number of undergraduate students began to love this school and went there to study English. The school was able to turn a profit soon afterwards. This experience made him feel that starting a business was not very difficult. If you are not afraid of taking risks and facing difficulties, you could launch your own career as well.

At this time, Luo spent a good deal of time thinking about which industry was his favorite. He realized that he was crazy about electronics and had a gift for industry and software design and made a big decision. He shut the English training school down and set up a handset firm called 'Smartisan'. He determined to operate this new firm for his life.

There are many handset firms. Big companies such as Apple and Samsung have untold billions of fans in the world. Other companies, containing Xiaomi, Huawei, Meizu, have produced lots of excellent cellphones that customers have loved. The cellphone industry is a very competitive business.

generation products had met numerous difficulties. The company continued to accrue losses for nearly 3 years. Speculation was rife that Smartisan would pull the plug.

However, since the cellphone brand 'Smartisan' created such a great user experience, this company has a dedicated base of fans that find pleasure in its artistic presentation and love its extraordinarily interactive design.

Yonghao Luo held a press conference in Shanghai on October 18th, in which over ten thousand audience members in attendance and more than ten media platforms streamed live webcasts for the event. He released the newest cellphone, and it was perfect on all points. Cellphone-related sales data has proven to be a successful product for Luo.

Nevertheless, 'Smartisan' is still a start-up company. While we don't know the company's ultimate fate, I admire Yonghao Luo's courage and his commitment and perseverance. I wish him and his company great success in the years ahead.

Reported by Longjun Qin

The cruel reality is true. Production and sale of the first and second