

Fifth Working Trip to Guigang

(6th - 8th March, 2018)

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During the reading week, 7 HKU students and 7 other students from South China University of Technology (SCUT), led by Dr. Ryan C. P. Wong, had a 3-day working trip to Guigang. The objectives of the trip are to 1) conduct surveying work for the construction of the kindergarten in Duling, 2) take photos for architectural modelling, and 3) consult the villagers in Xianren Mountain on the kindergarten.

On the first day of the trip, we had a brief presentation of the current design of the toilet and the kindergarten to the principal of Duling primary school. The principal had risen out his concerns and had provided us with valuable feedback for our designing team. His advice is illuminating and it provides us with firsthand experience in areas such as water resources and waste management; this information would facilitate us to make a better design that can suit the needs of the students. After the presentation, we had a brief inspection on the existing well in the school. Dr. Wong shared some of his professional knowledge on water resources and actual plans we can make in the water supply of the new kindergarten.

Despite occasional shower on the second day, we have achieved significant progress in meeting the objectives of the trip. We have split into three teams. The first team of 6 people was assigned to contour the slope at the front of the primary school. Besides that, they have taped the dimensions of the road nearby the school and have briefly investigated the slope behind the primary school. However, due to the lack of professional surveying instruments, the surveying team had to come up with alternative methods under the site constraints. Another team has carried surveying work to measure the dimension of the existing primary school for the construction of the new toilet. The last team works on taking photos and videos of the existing profile of the Duling School for the architect, Elisabeth Lee, to construct a model. After working extensively in the morning, we had a consultation session with the villagers in the common area of the village. They gave us useful recommendations to the future use of the kindergarten and their vision towards the expected role of the kindergarten as a babysitting hub. Shortly after that, a local construction contractor, known as Boss Wu, brought us to explore the village for the rest of the afternoon. We had some constructive chat with several villagers at their houses and had a deeper understanding of their culture and how life is residing in Xianren Mountain.

The trip was concluded with a visit to the Guigang Garden and Flower Expo Park. We took numerous pictures as references for the detailed architectural design in the upcoming stages. The park has a considerable diversity in ancient Chinese structures such as arch bridges, Siheyuan, and Chinese pagoda. Students from both universities had a better understanding of local architectural features after the visit.

To sum up, the trip is fruitful and we have met all our initial objectives accordingly. We also get to know 7 students from SCUT and we sincerely hope there will be more chances to work together in the future.

List of the team member for the trip

Teaching staff:

Dr. Ryan C.P. WONG

Undergraduate students:

CHAN Ching Chung	- BEng (CivE) III
CHAN Wai Hang	- BEng (CivE) III
CHEUNG Ho Ching	- BEng (CivE) II
LAM Cheuk Ting	- BEng (CivE) III
KWANG Edwin Ho-yan	- BEng (CivE) III
PANG Cheuk Ying	- BEng (CivE) II
TSOI Yu Tung	- BEng (CivE) II