

Editor's Note :

We stayed all together from winter to spring

"Plum blossoms represent the thawing of winter when the freezing snow melts away, and willow branches dangle in the breeze when spring returns." (寒雪梅中尽，春风柳上归) This line comes from a poem written by Li Bai, the most famous poet of the Tang Dynasty, which tells the amazing changes of scenery as well as the poet's own state of mind from winter to spring. This Newsletter reviews those wonderful days as the season changes, covering stories from the winter break to the first month of new semester of 2021.

The **Special Event** of the newsletter introduces the HII online New Year's Eve party, where the epidemic could not stop our young students showing their talents. The **Headline News** showcases the first online meeting between the HII programme directors of DMU and UH, as well as the first offline meeting with the Dr Li Sun, UH Director of HII. As for the **Features** section, it takes a fresh look at the heart-warming moments when DMU helped the students return home during the epidemic outbreak, and the excellent performance students achieved at the Sports Day. In the **HII Chat** section, students present the customs of Chinese New Year and the city's features.

Bidding farewell to the cold winter, members of the HII family jointly welcomed the Year of the Ox and started new journey to a new semester. We hope that the Newsletter will always be with all HII students and faculty, from winter to spring, from now to the future.

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2021 HII CHINESE NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY

BY LIU Jinze

An online Chinese New Year party held on February 4th brought a culture feast to 1,918 audiences. All performances were directed, acted and recorded by HII students. After editing and post-production, the party was rebroadcast via two platforms (Bilibili and Tencent Meeting). The online party was a perfect occasion to commemorate a whole year's endeavours fighting against the COVID-19 and to demonstrate the HII students' diligence and innovation.

Key Moments of the Party

At the beginning of the party, an original song composed by HII students was first performed on stage. Titled "Start Here, Go Anywhere", some notable lyrics were "The Yellow Sea shines with red light, and the Bohai Sea brings a myriad of ideals together. To the future, sail far. From here, go anywhere." The students showed a determination to protect the ideal of progress and move forward bravely. This is extraordinarily significant for the coming years.

Du Hao continued with the song "Leaving the surface of the earth" to warm the atmosphere of the party. Wang Chengzhe featured a Sinan Band appearance singing "Ong Ong". Following that, "Just Right", "The Backlight", "A Little Red Flower for You", "Dandelion's Promise", "The Schubert Rose" and "Dear Traveler" were full of expectation for 2021, expressing best wishes to everyone. Yao Yuan, Zhaoxia and Lu Shan performed

hot dances, "More" and "The Baddest", to wow the audience. Du Shuyi played a violin solo with strong ethnic characteristics "why are the flowers so red". Liu Hengrui's playing of erhu "War horse galloping" described the frontier soldiers defending their country.

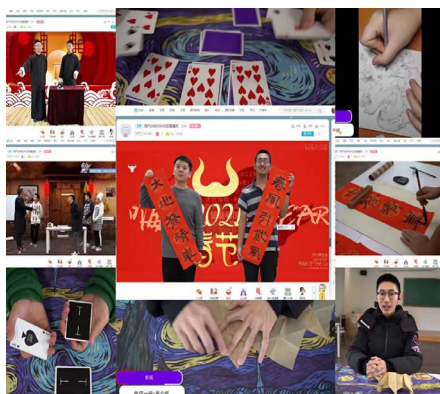
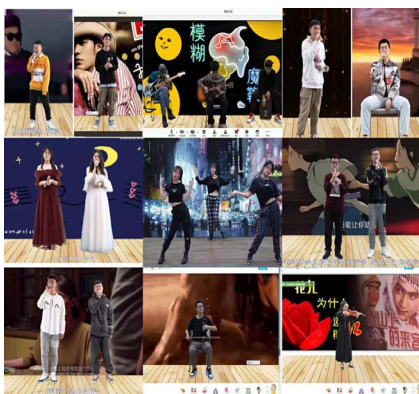
An ordinary set of playing cards were kaleidoscopic in the hands of two magicians, Li Zhenchen and Zhai Yuhang. During the cultural performance, three students showed their talents and skills. Sun Yiyang carved a beautiful seal - "Fu" - from a piece of ordinary rubber brick; Zhou Yunfan folded a piece of thin paper into a vivid animal - an "ox"; and Zhang Tianshu used a brush pen to write wonderful calligraphy. Subsequently, comedies were displayed to bring the audience together to enjoy and have fun. In the cross talk "Happy Childhood" and opusculum "Eating Noodles", every moment of the acting made the audience laugh out. At the end of the party, representatives of faculty members of HII recited the Youth Day anthem "Rising Waves" to the new generation.

The party was prepared, recorded, edited and produced by members of HII News Media Centre. The party was here to bring a brand new experience of the Chinese New Year festival, and to bring hope, friendship and spirit to every HII students and faculty members.

Performance List

Organised by HII News Media Centre
Hosted by Li Zhenchen (ME 1), Ma Huiyi (EE 1), Cao Tianying (ME 1), Li Yixuan (CE 1)

1. Original Song----Start Here, Go Anywhere
Author: Zhang Tongrui (ME 1), Du Shuyi (ME 1), Composer: Du Shuyi (ME 1)
2. Song----Leaving the Surface of the Earth
Performed by Duhao (CE 2)
3. Band Music----Ong Ong
Performed by Sinan Band
4. Opusculum----Eat Soodles
Performed by Wang Junkuan (EE 1), Gao Zhiyuan (EE 1), Huang Ziyi (EE 1), Li Weiwei (EE 1), Han Qingyun (EE 1)
5. Violin Music----Why are the Flowers so Red?
Performed by Du Shuyi (ME 1)
6. Song----Just Right
Performed by Zhao Yu (CE 1)
7. Magic Show----The Stolen Heart
Performed by Zhai Yuhang (EE 1)
8. Song----Backlight
Performed by Zhang Shuoyan (CE 2)
9. Cultural Performance&Talent Show
Performed by Sun Yiyang (ME 1), Zhou Yunfan (EE 1), Zhang Tianshu (ME 1)
10. Song----A Little Red Flower for You
Performed by Zhang Tongrui (ME 1), Ma Yuanchao (ME 1)
11. Magic Show----The Unreal Sessions Episode
Performed by Li Zhenchen (ME 1)
12. Song----Dandelion's Promise
Performed by Li Guanting (ME 2)
13. Crosstalk----Joyful Childhood
Performed by Zhai Yuhang (EE 1), Huang Ziyi (EE 1)
14. Song----Schubert's Rose
Performed by Yao Ruqing (CE 2), Bao Xinna (EE 2)
15. Erhu----War Horse Galloping
Performed by Liu Hengrui (CE 1)
16. Dance----More&The Baddest
Performed by Yao Yuan (EE 1), Zhao Xia (CE 1), Lu Shan (CE 2)
17. Song----Dear Traveler
Performed by Gao Yuan (EE 2), Liu Zhengxu (EE 2)
18. Recitation----Rising Waves
Performed by Representatives of faculty members of HII



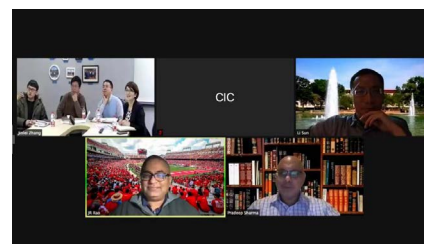
HII ACADEMIC & OPERATIONAL MEETINGS BETWEEN DMU AND UH

BY FU Wenzheng

HII held three online meetings for Programme Directors on January 21, 22 and 25. Dr Jagannatha Rao, Associate Dean of UH Cullen College of Engineering, Dr Pradeep Sharma, Department Chair of Mechanical Engineering, Dr Badri Roysam, Department Chair of Electrical and Computer Engineering (ECE), Dr Miao Pan, Associate Professor of ECE, Dr Jiefu Chen, Assistant Professor of ECE, Dr Roberto Ballarini, Department Chair of Civil Engineering, Prof. Liu Shewen, Dean of Naval Architecture and Ocean Engineering College (NAOEC), DMU, Dr Liu Zhijie, Deputy Dean of NAOEC (Programme Director of HII ME), Dr Wang Zhaogui, Lecturer of NAOEC, Dr Bi Sheng, Dean of Information Science and Technology College (ISTC), Dr Zhang Jingbo, Director of the Undergraduate Education Centre of ISTC (Programme Director of HII EE), Dr Huai Shuaiheng, Lecturer of ISTC, Dr Li Xiaofei, Deputy Dean of the Transport Engineering College (TEC) and Dr Zhang Peng, Lecturer of TEC, attended the meetings. Dr Zhang Jinlei, Dean of HII, and Dr Li Sun, Director of HII, chaired the meetings.

Dr Zhang Jinlei introduced the current teaching work progress about HII Autumn semester, noting that teaching reform, teaching innovation in DMU and HII, and the final exam had recently been accomplished at the same time. She stated that both UH and DMU had worked closely together on the course, and students' current learning situation was satisfactory.

The three Programme Directors of UH discussed upcoming teaching tasks, curriculum arrangements, teaching commitments and other details. They noted that, due to the COVID-19, some courses temporarily cannot be taught offline. In view of this, UH has optimized its hardware facilities and teaching design to cope with the impact of the epidemic. The Programme Directors proposed that for the online courses of UH, each programme would arrange professional faculty to conduct the courses and guarantee the teaching quality. Afterward, the participants discussed the issues of faculty training, sharing teaching materials and teaching reform.



MEETING WITH THE DEAN FOR NEW SEMESTER

"The heart is always full of hope, in a persistent way."

BY CHEN Yuan

On 17 March 2021, HII had the "Meeting with the Dean for new semester" in Room 406, Zhixing Building. Dr Zhang Jinlei, Dean of HII presided over the meeting while Dr Li Sun, Director of HII delivered a keynote speech. All HII students participated in this meeting.

Dr Li Sun told the students that HII is committed to build a diversified and multi-channel international cooperation and exchange to provide a variety of and multi-level opportunities for learning and communication abroad. And HII gathered the superior resources of both DMU and UH. It was hoped that students can make full use of the development platform of the college, to cultivate comprehensive practical ability, enhance the consciousness of innovation and

creation, give full play to personal characteristics, and become innovative talents with international competitiveness. Dr Sun encouraged students to make more positive "vertical comparisons" with themselves, while to reduce unnecessary "horizontal contrast" with others. Students should always take a positive and optimistic attitude to face the difficulties and challenges in life. "Your heart should be always full of hope in a persistent way."

Lastly, Dr Zhang summarized this meeting with three "W". The first "W" represents "Who", Who I am?, which was about self-awareness. Students should compare vertically and think about who I am; The second "W" stands for "What", What I can do? Students should think carefully. What should

I do? What can I do? Students need to form a full understanding of their own ability and give play to their strengths; The third "W" represents "Where", Where I want to go? Students may begin by defining the future direction of their personal development. After positioning, they should continue to forge ahead for it!

During the meeting, the students and the two Heads had active communication and idea exchanging. The harvest of the meeting was fruitful. In addition, during Dr Sun's visit, he set up the "Open Hour with Students", which was on 6 p.m. on 15 and 16 March.

A Special New Year

BY LIU Jinze

With the emergence of a new wave of COVID-19, the winter holiday for students in HII was postponed for 20 days. Thus, students have the chance to celebrate New Year together on the campus.

Though the epidemic has yet to subside, it cannot stop the enthusiasm for the New Year. This New Year, many dormitories have taken on a new look. Some dorms have witnessed early procurement of couplets, "Fu" words and other decorations, to add a festive atmosphere to the originally bare bedrooms. Dormitories were thoroughly cleaned, so that the year of 2021 could be opened with a clean and tidy dorm and brand-new look. On the new year's eve, a lot of dorms hosted warm parties to memorialise the previous year and welcome the coming new year. "Neighbors" from different dormitories gathered together to share food, counting down the seconds to leaving 2020. During the celebration, the Dean and faculty members came to give the students snack bags and fruit boxes as new year gifts and to celebrate with students together. This New Year's Day was not alone!

Good things come in pairs! There was a snowfall during the New Year's Day celebration. Like saying "a fall of seasonal snow gives promise of fruitful year" goes, the heavy snow heralded a good harvest this year and brought laughter to everyone. The dormitory buildings and the sports ground were all covered with a layer of snow. The students could do nothing less than have snowball fights and make snowmen.

"Different areas may cause different but wonderful feelings, the peace of mind is hometown." (异域未必不风情，此处安心是吾乡) This brings to a close this New Year's Day chronicle of students in HII. There are also many other different activities to celebrate New Year's Day. Everyone tried to make this special New Year's Day more wonderful and meaningful. Having gone through 2020 together, let us continue to move forward hand in hand, meeting challenges and creating brilliance together.



Warm Heart Actions Illuminate the Journey Home

BY YAO Yuan

"We sincerely hope you come back safe and sound, while we share the same bright moon thousand miles away." (游子归兮念珍重，隔千里兮共明月) When I got on the bus with my suitcase, such a poem posted in the most striking place of the bus brought me great warmth.

— from DMU student representative



On January 18, students started to return home for winter vacation. In order to ensure that 19,236 students can start their home returning journey smoothly, the time of each student left DMU were kept updating. DMU conducted nucleic acid tests for each student before their journey. Epidemic prevention package, including medical masks, disinfectant wipes, coach service and ticket collection service were provided.

January is the coldest month at Dalian. DMU made every effort to "warm" the students. In accordance with the principle of proximity, three terminal waiting areas were opened, where station service started from 4:00 a.m. until mid-night. In the waiting area, faculties and students volunteered to service, to carry out disinfection for vehicle, to check information, to guide and provide consultation service. 24-hours service were provided for each student.

Features



"HELLO SPRING" HII Fun Sports Day

BY XING Yunjie

In the afternoon of April 24, HII Fun Sports Day, themed as "Hello Spring", was held by HII at Xishan Stadium. Dr Zhang Jinlei, Dean of HII, Dr Zhang Jingbo, Director of Undergraduate Teaching Centre of School of Information Science and Technology (also Programme Director of HII EE), Mr Gerson Dominguez, teacher of School of Foreign Languages (one of HII's language teachers), and all HII students participated in the event.



The Dean, Dr Zhang Jinlei, delivered a speech at the opening ceremony. She mentioned that a healthy body and a complete personality serve as the important foundation for every student to grow and live a happy life, and it is hoped that students stay healthy, study hard, and become better as they grow up.

The games were kicked off with an intense competition known as "wu-dong-qian-kun (舞动乾坤)" where each class sent a team of 20 students who went through hula hoops hand-in-hand. This challenges not only skills, but more about teamwork. Then there was the competition called "er-long-xi-zhu (二龙戏珠)" where two students carried a balloon on their back while running a 25-m relay. Close cooperation between the two was the key to win, and the audiences were cheering for all the competitors. The "fan-jiang-dao-hai (翻江倒海)" competition was actually the traditional 10-people long-rope skipping. It requires careful observation of those who swayed the rope every time a new person jumped

in. All teams worked perfectly and the competition for the championship was extremely fierce.

Sandbag throwing is a traditional game. Students came up with all sorts of fantastic ideas, and they designed the "da-li-chu-qi-ji (大力出奇迹)" part with "sandbag + keg". Each contestant had 10 sandbags, and they would win different scores based on the size of keg they hit in. The site was crowded and everyone had a great time.



Besides, the organising team also prepared all kinds of fun games such as "fan-shan-yun-shui (翻山运水)", "wu-ren-liu-zu (五人六足)", and "penalty shoot-out". The "qi-xin-xie-li (齐心协力)" tug-of-war was the highlight of the sports Day. Each team was composed of their professional teachers, foreign teachers and students. Tug-of-war reflects how a team gathers strength, and it manifests the bravery and determination of all. With the cheers of everyone, the sports Day came to an end.



Champion—EE2



Runner-up—ME1



Second Runner-up—CE2

Office Spotlight

30 January



Notification:
HII Learning Mall is in service on WeChat platform

6 March



DMU News:
HII First introduced course "Introduction to Engineering" obtained a good response

6 March



Ongoing Activities:
Open hour with language teachers

11 March



DMU News:
Meetings: On-line meeting for preparation of "Introduction to Computing for Engineers"

2 April



DMU News:
HII—a student-centred Institute, an article introducing HII, was published on DMU WeChat Platform

9 April



Meetings:
Seminar on teaching method of Calculus & Physics

Student Spotlight

1 January



Student Activities:
A letter to future self

5 to 7 January



Notification:
Tips for campus security

Winter Vacation



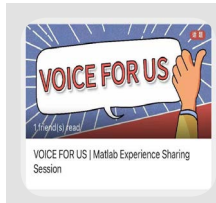
Student Activities:
Go back to my high school

Winter Vacation



Student Activities:
Exercise indoors

30 March



Student Activities:
Voice for us—Matlab experience sharing

Winter Vacation



Student Activities:
"English with a Twist" series of activities about English learning

Upcoming Dates

- 1 May to 31 May, selections and commendations for HII Student Award "Perfect Youth"
- 1 May to 31 May, enrollment at UH
- 1 May to 31 May, preparation for upcoming course "Physics"
- 6 May, experience sharing for Innovation & Entrepreneurship contest
- 15 to 21 May, campus site will open for voluntary COVID-19 vaccinations
- 15 May, University Commencement of Cullen College of Engineering, UH



Hello, students at UH,

The Spring Festival is part of China's traditional culture, it has a long history. To this day, people will eat together, create couplets with glued Fu, and other activities. In 2021, I not only participated in the Spring Festival travel

"warm winter action"; I also sent couplets to the elderly in the community and prayed for peace and happiness in the next year. During the winter vacation, I learned to cook and spent a fantastic time with my family.

Of course, Spring Festival is also a time to relax. I played games for several hours. I think Super Detective On is very intriguing. Knights sometimes for fear of being considered an assassin or witch choose not to reveal their identity and lead the villagers out of the game. Angels can protect anyone but themselves, but do not protect the same person for two consecutive innings. An assassin that has two darts can make others out. The two witches and knights have exclusive channels for dialogue.

Super Detective On is a little game I do not get tired of. I wonder what kind of card games students at UH would like to play?

Liu Xinran (CE 1)



Hello, Cougars!

My name is Xie Zhongqi, an HII student of ME class 2. Today I want to introduce Dalian, which is my second hometown, to you.

The name Dalian, originated from Dalian Bay. In 1880, Li Hongzhang, Minister of Beiyang, mentioned "Dalian Bay" in his memorial on the construction plan for the Dalian Bay military port. It is said that the name of Dalian is derived from the word "dalini". "Dalini" in Russian means "far away". Dalian was named "Dalini" based on the order of Czar Nicholas after it was reduced to a Russian leasehold and opened as a free trade port. During the Japanese occupation, it was renamed as Dalian in February 1905. After liberation, on April 1, 1949, Dalian and Lvshun were called LvDa city. In February 1981, it was renamed back to Dalian with the approval of the State Council.

Dalian is a prosperous tourist city. Because Dalian is situated by the sea, it is famous for its seafood, such as shrimp, oysters, sea urchins and so on. Additionally, there are also many playgrounds and awesome beaches. Dalian's history is both long and colourful. When you walk in some streets, you may see some exotic buildings.

I would like to show you around once you come to Dalian.

Xie Zhongqi (ME 2)



Hello, Lilly,

As you mentioned in your last message, the Chinese New Year is also the most celebrated festival in China. The Chinese New Year has a great history. In our past, people lived in an agricultural society and

worked all year long. They only took a break after the harvest and before the planting of seeds. This happens to coincide with the beginning of the lunar or Chinese New Year.

The Chinese New Year is very similar to Christmas, rich in traditions, folklores and rituals. It has been described as a combination of the Western Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year. This is hardly an exaggeration!

The origin of the Chinese New Year itself is centuries old - in fact, too old to actually be traced. It is popularly recognized as the Spring Festival and the celebration lasts 15 days.

Preparations tend to begin a month before the date of the Chinese New Year (similar to Western Christmas). During this time, people start buying presents, decoration materials, food and clothing. A thorough clean-up is launched underway days before the New Year, in which Chinese houses are cleaned from top to bottom. This ritual is supposed to sweep away all traces of bad luck. Doors and window panes are often given a new coat of paint, usually red, then decorated with paper cuts and couplets with themes such as happiness, wealth and longevity printed on them.

The end of the New Year is marked by the Festival of Lanterns, which is a celebration with singing, dancing and lantern shows.

During the Festival, traditional observances are honored. The predominant colors are red and gold. Also, "Good Wish" banners are hung from the ceilings and walls. Lion dancers continuously perform on stage, and visitors take home plants and flowers symbolizing good luck. An array of New Year's specialty food is available in the Food Market; many individuals enjoy dumplings at this festival. Visitors purchase new clothing, shoes and pottery at the Market Fair. Bargaining for the best deal is commonplace! Normally, we also have fireworks. However, for environmental protection, fireworks have been banned in most parts of China. But you can set off electronic fireworks.

I wish you enjoy your new semester.

Best,

Xing Yunjie (CE 1)