

THE NPU GLOBE



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NORTHWESTERN POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY



SOUND BODY, SOUND MIND

The NPU Globe team interviewed Dr. John Ku, faculty in charge of NPU's recreation programs. Recently, under his leadership, the NPU Student Association (NPUSA) has been dynamically promoting extracurricular activities for students, faculty, and staff.

NPU Globe Team: Can you tell us something about NPU's new Recreation Center?

Dr. Ku: The Recreation Center serves multiple purposes. It is available for use by NPU students, faculty, and staff.



Dr. John Ku

They can relax, play badminton, table tennis, or participate in music or dance activities. The Recreation Center is also where major events organized by NPUSA are held. The Center is open from 5 P.M. - 6 P.M. (Mon.-Th., & Sat.) and for a full day on Fridays and Sundays. It is a great place to have fun!

NPU Globe Team: What kinds of activities have been organized?



Dr. Ku: NPU's International Day was recently celebrated, and table tennis, badminton, and singing competitions were held. At ClubSport Fremont we had the first-ever basketball game between faculty and students.

NPU Globe Team: What future events are planned?

Dr. Ku: New and exciting activities are being planned. For summer, concerts and a folk dance competition are scheduled. We are also trying to put together an all-women's student basketball team. I encourage all students, faculty, and staff to visit!

NPU AND SILICON VALLEY COMMUNITY: EDUCATION FAIR AT NUMMI & WORK2FORCE

NUMMI: NPU was invited as an education provider to participate in the NUMMI Employee Education Fair. NUMMI is New United Motors Manufacturing Inc. (NUMMI), a joint venture between Toyota and GM located in Fremont. Due to a strategic decision from management, NUMMI had to close down. NPU participated in the education fair along with several other colleges and universities to help re-train the employees. Dr. George Hsieh, Dr. Mariam

Ghazvini, Mr. Barry Bishop, and Mr. Michael Tang represented NPU. More than 100 visitors inquired about NPU and customized programs for NUMMI's employees



were introduced to them.

WORK2FORCE: To enhance employability, going back to school is the best option for the unemployed. Work2Force organized an education fair in San Jose and NPU was one of the participants. Dr. Mariam Ghazvini, Ms. Shilpa Eguvanti, and Ms. Monica Sinha informed the visitors about NPU's special programs specifically designed for workforce retraining and approved by Employment Development Department (EDD).

SPOTLIGHT

NPU Globe Team: What encouraged you to select NPU to pursue your MBA?

Andy: There are a few aspects that attracted my attention while choosing my MBA study. NPU is known for its academic excellence, flexible class schedule, and CPT opportunities.

NPU Globe Team: How did the courses help you in your career and did they meet the requirements for industry standards?

Andy: Since most of the instructors are working professionals in related program areas, it helped me in practical learning. The case studies covering the industry standards are taught and this has helped me to better understand the courses and also in implementing the same standards in my daily work.

NPU Globe Team: What are your future goals?

Andy: I aim to work as a project manager in a high-tech company.

NPU Globe Team: Any recommendations to our current NPU students?

Andy: Currently, the job market and the whole economy is not the greatest, so it is considered to be the perfect time to enhance one's practical knowledge and hands-on skills. Be active in academic and extracurricular activities at school, and the professional job market will be available once you are prepared.



Mr. Chi-Ho (Andy) Kuo, NPU MBA alumnus now working as a customer service supervisor.

CHEMICAL SYNTHESIS AND INFORMATICS

Dr. Chris Honda

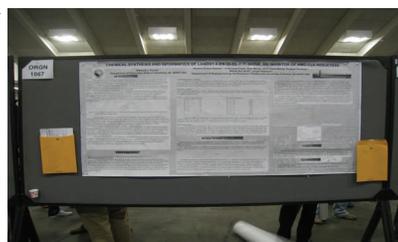
NPU faculty, Dr. Chris Honda, along with NPU student, Mr. Chih-Chao (Steven) Wang, and others presented a poster presentation in San Francisco at the 239th ACS (American Chemical Society) National Meeting.

Their topic covered a new method for the chemical synthesis of lanost-8-en- β -ol-7, 11-dione, and inhibitor of HMG-CoA reductase was developed. The allylic oxidation of Δ^8 -steroids was initially accomplished by chromic acid mixture with limited success.



Amines complexed with chromium VI reagents have provided new routes to allylic oxidation. PCC (pyridinium chlorochromate)

under different reaction conditions is an effective reagent in augmenting the allylic oxidation of Δ^8 -steroids. It has been found that lanost-8-en- β -ol-7, 11-dione (VII) is a significant inhibitor of HMG-CoA reductase. A 1.26 μ M concentration of sterol was required for a 50% inhibition of enzyme activity. A computer-aided drug design was investigated.



The experimental procedures used in cell culture studies using mouse cells (a subline of NCTC clone

929 mouse fibroblasts) were grown in a serum-free medium and the determination of HMG-CoA reductase in cell homogenates.



Dr. Honda is a well-known material scientist and has focused on biopharmaceuticals, nanoelectronics, green energy, and innovation management. He is currently teaching biological science and engineering at NPU.

LEARNING BY EXAMPLE

Dr. Swapna S. Sinha

India could take a leaf from China's book in terms of attracting FDI inflows by making structural changes to its economic set-up and developing large but few special economic zones. The reasons why China received \$92bn in FDI in 2008 and India got only \$46.5bn are intriguing.



Dr. Swapna Sinha is an entrepreneur, investor, educator, consultant, corporate trainer, and mentor to several Bay Area companies. He is CEO of Strategism and teaches business courses at NPU.

Indeed, if we analyze the Indian FDI data at the relevant microstate level for the period 1992 to 2005 and compare it with the Chinese data for the period of 1978 to 2005 at the economic zone level, some stark differences emerge.

The Indian FDI model reveals that the country has grown mainly due to the quality

of its human capital, the potential size of its market, the rate of growth of its market, and the political stability witnessed in the past two decades. India has abundant 'human capital', which means a vast pool of engineers and other educated professionals. English-speaking graduates also contribute to this stock of human capital, helping India in Business Process Outsourcing, IT, and IT-enabled services.

A different model seems to be emerging for China. For China, 'congenial business climate' factors comprising structural changes to the economy, creating strategic

infrastructure at SEZs (special economic zones) and taking strategic policy initiatives seem to have helped the economy to grow. The strategic policy initiatives involved a fourfold approach – providing economic freedom, opening up the economy, attracting Diaspora, and creating flexible labor laws. These factors were identified as drivers for attracting FDI and the model was tested and found to be significant.

While India's reasons for attracting FDI are different than China's, India should follow some concrete steps to catch up with China and become the leading destination for FDI inflows.

Excerpt from research article published in FDI Magazine, published by Financial Times
http://www.fdimagazine.com/news/fullstory.php/aid/3167/Learning_by_example.html

NPU Idol – A singing competition was organized by NPU's Student Association. NPU students got an opportunity to show their talent and compete among their peers. Around twenty students participated. The audience enjoyed songs sung in Cantonese, Mandarin, English, Hindi, and Russian. Judges were NPU staff and faculty. Mr. Xin Chen won first prize, Mr. Abhijeet Prahlad came in second.

International Day – Students, staff, and faculty came together to celebrate International Day at NPU. NPU's Recreation Center was transformed into a place full of

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people dressed up in traditional attire. Tables were set up to display arts and crafts from various countries. Students shared their country's culture through songs, instrumental music, and dance. Everyone enjoyed cuisine from Korea,

China, Taiwan, the U.S., and India. It was an amazing sight to see diverse cultures converge under one roof.



Swimming Competition – ClubSport Fremont hosted a swimming competition for NPU students. The winners were awarded gift certificates.

Student - Faculty Basketball Competition – NPU's faculty

basketball "Dream Team" competed against the student team. The students won the trophy this time in a good game by both teams. The Dream Team is honing its skills to win the next game.



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