

English Across the Curriculum at The Chinese University of Hong Kong: Our Beginning, Expansion and Future

presented by
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(Hybrid)



Abstract

With the growing emphasis on disciplinary literacy, English Across the Curriculum (EAC) has become more popular in recent decades in the tertiary education sector, both locally in Hong Kong and internationally across the globe. Through EAC initiatives, content teachers and language teachers, especially like-minded ones with a common goal of enhancing students' mastery of English in specific academic fields, come together to provide customized support to students in areas such as genre features and disciplinary writing conventions. Besides benefiting students, such collaborations are also conducive to the professional growth for both groups of teachers.

At The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK), our university-wide EAC project, also called an "institutional movement", officially started in 2016 with funding from the Teaching Development and Language Enhancement Grant (TDLEG). To date, we have established diversified forms of collaborations, through setting up different Communities of Practice (CoP), with all the eight faculties in our university, involving over 70 content teachers and over 10,000 students.

In this talk, the background, rationale and features of intervention model of our EAC project will first be introduced, followed by the sharing of strategies to sustain the project along the 10-year journey. At the end, some challenges encountered, coping strategies and possible future directions will be presented.

Speaker Bio

Dr Allen Ho is the Director of the English Language Teaching Unit of The Chinese University of Hong Kong. He is an experienced English language educator with a strong passion for advancing pedagogy, course design, and project management. Currently, he is the Principal Investigator of three funded projects, namely i) Initiatives Beyond the Formal Language Curriculum, ii) Peer Tutoring Scheme: Collaborative Service Learning for Academic, Personal, and Professional Development, and iii) Monitoring Students' English Language Proficiency Using IELTS. His professional interests include English Across the Curriculum, peer feedback, and learning transfer.