

LABORATORY TRIP - WUYI UNIVERSITY

The Environmental Studies (Year 1) students made use of the summer break to take the Environmental Studies Laboratory course which was jointly offered by CCCU and WuYi University (五邑大學). The 84 participating students were divided into 2 groups, each of which went through a series of scientific experiments in a 5-day laboratory classes in the period 14 - 25 of May 2012.



WuYi University is located in Jiangmen City of Guangdong (廣東省江門市), occupying a campus of total site area of 350,000 square metres, with an establishment of 15 education colleges offering 36 academic programmes. Total enrollment is over 17,000 among which around 10,000 are undergraduate students.



The course was conducted in college of chemical and environmental engineering (化學與環境工程學院) of WuYi University, where the laboratory building stands on the extended green campus in an open environment.

Rather than squeezing in concrete jungles, students felt the nature while working on a well-designed spectrum of laboratory exercises.



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From volumetric analysis to electrolysis, from dehydration to redox reaction, from sampling to data analysis, the students learned the practical skills of carrying out, as well as reporting results, of chemistry and micro-biology experiments of environment related topics such as measuring toxic matters concentrations, testing acidity of sewage discharges, and determining ambient air composition and tap-water quality.



Besides the laboratory work, participants also paid a visit to an electroplating factory [(New Fortune Environmental Protection Co., Ltd. Yamen Jiangmen (Electroplating Industrial Base) (江門市崖門新財富環保工業有限公司 (定點電鍍工業基地))]- a vicious environment polluter, and its associated wastewater treatment centre [New wealth Yamen Jiangmen Wastewater Treatment Co., Ltd. (崖門新財富污水處理廠)]- an environment defender which controls the quality of the discharges from the electroplating factory before the water is released to the sea. The Electroplating Industrial Base has declared national development zone and national model ecological industrial base jointly, by upholding "ecological and environmental protection, intensive and efficient" as the enterprise's objective of achieving a harmonious unity of benefits between economy and environment.

The wastewater treatment centre applies a metallurgical technique of an ion exchange process to extract the heavy metals in its discharges, achieving a high rate of recycling of industry heavy metals and wastewater. In the visit, students got the chance to see a



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fully automatic electroplating process, treatment of wastewater discharged from the working plants, and recycling of water and production materials.



Notwithstanding the working schedule was busy, the student visited an exhibition held in the WuYi Overseas Chinese Square (五邑華僑廣場), where they learned about the hardworking stories of WuYi predecessors who contributed their life and labour to the railways and mines in US and UK.

On top of having gained the working skills in chemical and biological laboratory experiments, students treasured also the opportunity to participate in the study course which was held in mainland China, where they experienced the learning culture across the border, as well as widened their perspectives on potential opportunities for their further studies and career development in environmental industry.

