In 2012 summer I had an opportunity to visit Bangkok. It was the first time that I was in the place where I do not speak a word of its language. That did not seem particularly worrisome at first since I was with a number of people, but the trip soon became a little adventure after I lost the group at our first destination, *Chatuchak*, the world’s largest outdoor market. What could I do? Wasting any moment of the two days I had was unimaginable, so I decided to keep going, alone. The day turned out, however, to be nothing like a single-player game. I encountered a ton of strangers who helped and accompanied me despite the language boundary. One especially memorable figure was a taxi driver. In the car I was attracted by the folk songs that he was playing. I expressed my curiosity. His reply was mostly in Thai and hard to understand but, as a music lover myself, I could tell, from his tones, how enthusiastic he was in the music. I tried to talk back by making the words “good” and “like” clear, although he seemed to be listening to my tones and expressions as well. He ended up giving the CD to me. Overjoyed, I did not even know how to say thanks: all I could return was a bow, palms together. He smiled back and did the same, with a peaceful facial expression that I had seen nowhere but in this Buddhist country. That was the moment when I realized how much we human beings can communicate without words.

One encounterance I had was with an old Thai lady and her mother on the skytrain: the lady helped me transfer to the ferry; her mother, who spoke no English, merely smiled and nodded to me, with a special peaceful expression on her face that I had seen in nowhere but in this Buddhist country.

A Chinese citizen myself, I have complicated feelings about my motherland. I am proud that it has nurtured probably one of the world’s most diligent ethnic groups, creating a country today that is evolving and progressing every moment. I pity the farmers, the teachers, the average workers, who are fighting to the last drop of their sweat to sustain their families yet live with a severe lack of security and happiness. I despise – yes I despise – the scarcity of trust, faith, and originality in the present culture. Yet I too see hope that a new generation who appreciates, believes, and creates is taking over. After all, I miss it.

Since this project intends to bring global education experience to Chinese students, one quality that I will particularly look for in the teaching team is diversity. Ideally we shall have members with distinctive experiences, skills, interests, personalities, and teaching styles. There should be members who have deep sight and passion about the subjects, while someone else would bring some technology-based, hand-on design/building projects, since Chinese students have generally few opportunities to hand-on practices. It will also be great if someone could introduce activities foreign to Chinese students, like Frisbee or western cooking, while someone enjoy activities that the students are already familiar to. People with experiences in internships, research, and social services could all help broaden the students’ views. The personalities and communication styles of members should also be balanced. For a travelling team, we first need someone who can find directions without the help of electrical devices, or equivalently, someone good at communication and acquiring information. We will also need a detail-oriented person who keeps tracks of travel logistic and another that deals with finance.

The kind of team that I would love to join must be a diverse one. Ideally members will have different interests, personalities, skills, and experiences, but are hold together by a common goal. For a teaching team, diverse experience it is especially important to maximize the students’ education experience. In general, an effective team needs at least someone who is passionate and idea-generating, someone overlooks the overall process, someone good at implementing idea and someone will be a good communicator/negotiator.

First, a good teacher shall have insight and passion in the material been taught; she/he shall also be tentative to the students’ progress and interest and be innovative in education means.

Since we will be teaching in a different country, members should also remain open-minded and respectful towards the local culture. It will also be a big plus if someone can demonstrable skills or introduce practiceable activities that are foreign to Chinese students, for example Frisbee, cooking. It will be especially wonderful if someone could introduce a hand-on design/building projects that involve a little bit technology, requires available materials, are useful, because to my knowledge Chinese students have relatively few opportunities to these kind of experiences.

Has done internships in

Done research

Service

global

Maximize their education experience

Characteristics of teaching team members: I sing, so I wish there would be someone who also does some sort of music.

In a travelling team, someone needs to be able to read a map without the help of smart phones.

I like music. I like computer science. I like the nature. I like philosophy.

I’m good at communicating.

curious and sensuous. I do not understand every problem, but when I do, I understand

anti-conventional I’m the proudest when I came up a unique interpretation

Seeks for peace and magnificence. Mostly independent.

Like every MIT student, I love problems. Curiosity and passion are what drive me forward. Resilient.

I also sing well.

Curiosity has always been the source of highest joy in my life. I love discovering new knowledge, have my own view of it and feel its significance. Although I am not a computer science master, but for the concepts that I plan to teach, I do have a degree of understanding and sincerely appreciate the fundamentality of these concepts. I hope to excite and inspire the students as my teachers have done to me.

I truly love what I learn. I believe that computer science encapsulates some of the most fundamental ideas about human knowledge, and I have a strong urge to share my passion with young students in China. My mixed cultural and educational background can help with the mutual understanding of participants from the two countries. I believe my motivation and background, together with the problem-solving skills that I have built up at MIT, can make me a good member in a CETI project team.

I also sing well. especially addressing problems of the students

Curiosity, aspiration for knowledge; Innovation/creation;

Experience with China, US, and the difference; familiarity