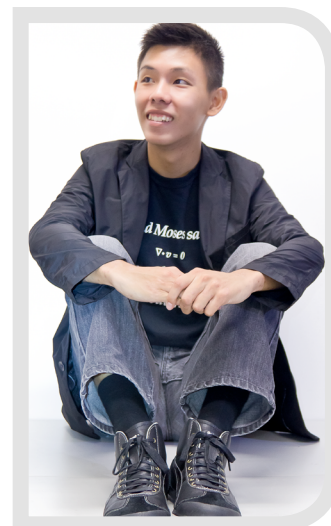


GARY LEE, 19

NUS High School of Mathematics and Science
Stanford University
A*STAR Scholar



GARY'S TIPS

Understand concepts
by learning, not studying!

Work can only be done when you
force yourself to go the extra mile.

Never slack off, it will eventually
come around to haunt you.



Direction & Writing Law Kang Jie
Photography Lim Mingjie Kenneth

OPEN LECTURES FEATURED LECTURER MR. GARY

Gary belongs to the dying breed of students who aren't out to score the top grades; he is as passionate about learning as he is about sharing. When attending NUS High, he admits that he had flunked many tests but was not concerned about his report card.

Instead, he recalls those times with fondness because it was then he truly learned. Be it blowing up school labs, or practicing magic tricks, Gary's opportunities allowed him to explore freely and, hence, learn and understand.

As part of Open Lectures, Gary wants to share his passion and expertise in the subject he loves, Chemistry, with every student willing to learn. "I've seen similar projects like MIT OpenCourseWare, Stan-

ford Engineering Everywhere, etc. It was pretty amazing when Linan founded Open Lectures, where we create a community - a credible community - to help everyone learn."

Gary recalls his alma mater's first motto, *teaching and learning with passion*. This is a principle that he feels resonates strongly with Open Lectures. "We have no motive behind this initiative," Gary says, hoping that this movement can go beyond educating students, and perhaps shape positive attitudes towards subjects that students typically loathe.

Fueled by his passion, he co-founded *cheMagic*, the union of magic, art and science. In his free time, he also runs science workshops for primary school students.

Studying in Singapore, Gary feels that there is a pressure to keep improving ourselves, but he often wonders what he has learned in such a rigid, assessment-centric system.

Ideally, education should focus on ensuring that students learn, and not whether schools teach. Gary opines, "It's high time to change how education works. Open Lectures can provide a platform for students to learn at their own pace, and school teachers can facilitate learning and understanding of topics. That is the education we should seek."

Gary is a Chemistry Lecturer with Open Lectures. Drop him an e-mail at gary.lee@openlectures.sg