SCiL Stanford Center for Innovations in Learning

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DR. ROY PEA
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Professor Tak-Wai Chan
Center for Science and Technology for Learning
National Central University
Chungli, Taiwan, 320

Dear Tak-Wai,

I am pleased to be asked to write a letter in support of your proposal to the *Program for Post Promoting University Academic Excellence* entitled: *Design and Experimentations on Digital Classroom Learning Scenarios— contributing to G1:1—a global network of collaborating researchers and test-beds.*

It was exciting to read about your plans, which relate in a fundamental way to my own research on 1:1 computer learning using advanced technological systems in a mobile-learning framework. I share your view of this era as a golden age of new studies, science, and theories of learning once learning transactions are able to be captured and data-mined for creating new powerful learning technologies, assessments, and curriculum activities. The heart of this work now involved creating digital classroom learning scenarios that deal gracefully with the transitions in the boundaries between physical contexts (home, classroom, outdoors) and purposive contexts (intentional learning, play, peer networks, implicit learning). I know from your work with EduCities that your team has the capacity to develop important visions for new learning environments and to deliver them in

technical systems and broad scholarly contributions to the literature for global impact, so I have strong expectations for the promise of your new proposed work that breaks through the classroom boundaries. The issues you define in the proposal are well-conceptualized and should provide a fertile pathway of investigation. It will be of special importance to understand how these scenarios and new technologies provide transformational changes in learning and education, and not only making more efficient existing practices. You have defined some of the parameters to make these new investigation vital ones (e.g., social and affective enrichment, cognitive enrichment, seamless access).

With this letter of support, I'd like to express my interest in advancing our collaboration in defining research problems, literatures, methodologies, and studies for the mobile learning frontiers work that we have been discussing. The success of your proposal would be vital to our ability to continue such collaborations, especially relating to doing empirical or theoretical work and writing together. I find exchanging research approaches, results, and critically appraising evolving products with you to be a very valuable and mutually beneficial activity. I also see great promise, if funding is provided, in the prospect of reciprocal graduate student exchange and co-advisement.

Sincerely yours,

Roy D. Pea, D.Phil., Oxon.
Professor of Education and Learning Sciences
Director, Stanford Center for Innovations in Learning
Co-Director, Stanford Media-X Industry Program

March 25, 2005

Professor Tak Wai Chan
National Central University
ChungLi, Taiwan

Dear Tak Wai,

I am pleased to write this letter of support for your proposal, titled "Design and Experiments on Digital Classroom Learning Scenarios." This work you propose is clearly "state of the art" within the International community of scholars and has great promise for improving education. Your group -- with its extensive background in wireless and mobile technologies and strong learning research capability -- has the ideal capabilities to undertake this work.

Here in the United States, we are involved in several related efforts and I see strong synergies that could emerge by working together. In particular, you and your students are involved in one of our projects designing core architecture for networked learning models. A number of our other research projects also strongly incorporate the themes you mention in your proposal.

I would be delighted to be involved in any of the following ways:

- Traveling to Taiwan to advise your project
- Partipcating in related workshops & symposia
- Exchanging students and staff (if funding allows)
- Co-authoring papers or books (when suitable topics emerge)

Overall, I am delighted you invited me to be involved in such a high quality effort. The proposal is exciting and essential for our continuous collaboration to advance the field of wireless and handheld technology for education through international coordination.

Sincerely,

Jeremy Roschelle, Director
Center for Technology in Learning

Nicolas Balacheff
Directeur

Grenoble, 2004-03-25

To

Professor Tak-Wai Chan
Center for Science and Technology for Learning
National Central University
Chungli, Taiwan, 320
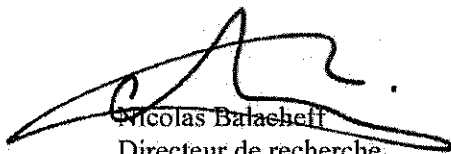
Dear Professor Chan,

I have been very interested by the reading of your project "Design and experimentation on digital classroom scenarios". This project is promising, and its reading was stimulating. As you know, we have interest in this field of research; since the mid 80's we are involved in an *eClass* project (initially the project FORMID, and the project TéléCabri, which are web based), which is a joint project within the *Models and technology for human learning* research group, a federation of teams from the Leibniz Laboratory, the CLIPS laboratory and the Science education laboratory in Grenoble. This project has some complementarities with yours, mainly on the scenario side. We are very interested by your advances on the use of wireless and mobile technology which is an emerging *problématique* for us.

I hope that you will get the necessary funding so that we can develop a joint research programme. If it is the case, then we will be able establish a mobility programme for our graduate students, including joint supervision of PhDs; an initiative which is well appreciated and supported by my university—the *Université Joseph Fourier*—and the CNRS.

Indeed, the project G1:1 which you initiated and invited us to participate, will be a good context for this collaboration. It will also be the case for the network of excellence Kaleidoscope, which develops—as you may have noticed—a research programme quite inline with your own plans. We are currently developing in Grenoble a testbed which we will offer as a component of the international network G1:1. I have every expectation that it will be an efficient means to the service of integrated research actions between our laboratories. Co-authored papers, communications and shared research for an integrated activity at an international level will be the mark of this collaboration.

I hope that you will get the expected funding, and that this will be the booster for the fruitful collaboration we have already engaged.

Best regards

Nicolas Balacheff
Directeur de recherche
CNRS FRANCE

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March 26, 2005

It is with great pleasure that I write a letter of support for Dr. Tak-Wai Chan's grant "Design and Experimentations on Digital Classroom Learning Scenarios." Dr. Chan is a world-leader in technology and education. His efforts and the efforts of his colleagues working with him have made significant contributions to the educational technology community across the globe. Dr. Chan is one of a small handful of world-class leaders who are providing both the vision and the concrete demonstrations of how technology can lead to a positive impact on student achievement and student attitude. Without hesitation or qualification, therefore, I give Dr. Chan's proposal my highest recommendation for funding.

While Taiwan is a small country its impact on educational technology has been large – in direct measure to Dr. Chan's leadership. The EduCities and G1:1 projects are well-regarded globally in the educational technology community. Dr. Chan has shown an ability to put forth a vision for what ought to be and an ability to orchestrate a large, diverse group of researchers and practitioners in actually pursuing that vision on a day-in, day-out basis. Most importantly, Dr. Chan has "stayed the course." Dr. Chan has made a long-term commitment to advancing education and educational technology. Only through such dedication can one make a significant impact on education. As I said, there are precious few leaders in the world that have accomplished as much as Dr. Chan in the educational technology field.

I have come to know Dr. Chan over the last few years on a personal basis. Before then, I knew of his work through his writings and the writings of his colleagues. In coming to know Dr. Chan personally, I have found him to be a warm and caring individual, who is clearly dedicated to improving education in Taiwan. Moreover, Dr. Chan feels that bringing in the world community is a key element in both improving Taiwan education and helping to improve education around the globe.

I sincerely hope that I can interact with Dr. Chan on a more regular basis over the next few years. Taiwan is a leader in using mobile technologies for learning, an area that is very near and dear to my heart. Thus from a professional perspective, I feel that working more closely with Dr. Chan and his extended team will reap large benefits for me personally and for the field of mobile learning. Dr. Chan and I have discussed various scenarios for my participation. For example, I look forward to an extended stay in Taiwan where I can work closely with Dr. Chan and his colleagues; from that
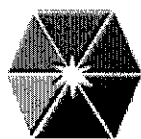
collaborative effort research papers and tangible products should arise. I am very open to exchanging graduate students and serving as a mentor for Dr. Chan's students. We ourselves need to use the technology that we are promoting! That technology will help make the world a smaller place, a more intimate place, a more educationally meaningful place.

In closing, I repeat what I said at the outset: I give Dr. Chan's proposal my highest recommendation for funding. Given Dr. Chan's past accomplishments, Taiwan will see a very high return on investment from Dr. Chan's proposed activities. Indeed, not only will Taiwan reap the benefits, the world educational community will also benefit. Dr. Chan is one of Taiwan's diamonds. His new proposed activities will unquestionably result in demonstrating Taiwan's brilliance.

Sincerely,

Elliot Soloway
Arthur F. Thurnau Professor
College of Engineering, Dept. of EECS
School of Information
School of Education

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March 28, 2005

Letter of Support: Dr. Tak-Wai Chan's grant "Design and Experimentations on Digital Classroom Learning Scenarios."

I have reviewed Dr. Chan's proposal to extend his ground-breaking work (EduCities, G1:1) in educational technology. The past is most definitely a predictor of the future. Thus, I am quite confident that in pursuing the plans Dr. Chan lays out in the above proposal, he and his team will be every bit as productive as he has been in the past.

While Texas, my home, is nowhere near the Pacific Rim, I have recently been quite taken with the exciting ideas and products coming from that region. In particular, in making Dr. Chan's acquaintance I have had the great pleasure of being exposed to the educational accomplishments of Taiwan. Recently, I visited Taiwan and interacted with Dr. Chan's students and colleagues, as well as visiting Kaohsiung University. The energy, imagination, and commitment to education and educational technology of the individuals I met during my visit were most impressive. Dr. Chan has created and nurtured a vibrant, productive group of educational researchers and practitioners who are having a major influence on educational technology world-wide.

As I understand it, Dr. Chan's proposal seeks to expand on his group's work with EduCities and G1:1 and reach out both internationally and nationally. The timing, in my mind, is just right: mobile technologies have dropped dramatically in cost and thus the technologies are appropriately priced to be available in schools. What is needed, of course, are ideas and examples for how to use the technologies to promote learning and teaching. The activities in Dr. Chan's proposal should result in providing both the research community with new ideas on how to exploit mobile,

networked technologies and the school community with concrete curricular ways to integrate mobile, networked technologies into the everyday activities of students and teachers.

On a personal note, I hope to be able to increase my participation in Dr. Chan's projects. We researchers are a global community and we need to learn from and support each other. As I mentioned above, I have found Dr. Chan's group spilling over with provocative ideas on how to use technology effectively in learning. I am excited about the opportunity to visit, on an extended basis, Dr. Chan and his group in Taiwan and I very much look forward to hosting members of Dr. Chan's group at my university in Texas.

By his contributions, Dr. Chan has earned his place as a world leader in education and educational technology. I give Dr. Chan and his efforts my fullest support. Please feel free to contact me should you wish further input on Dr. Chan's proposal.

Sincerely,

Cathie Norris, Ph.D.
Professor

March 24, 2005

LETTER OF INTENT

Dr. Tak-Wai Chan
Center for Science and Technology for Learning
National Central University
Chungli, Taiwan
320

Dear Dr. Chan:

Re: IKIT participation in "Design and Experimentations on Digital Classroom Learning Scenarios"

The Institute for Knowledge Innovation and Technology (IKIT) at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education of the University of Toronto (OISE/UT) has been informed by Dr. Tak-Wai Chan from the National Central University about his intention to submit a proposal to the National Science Council. As per the information I was provided, the objectives of the proposal are academically innovative as well as challenging and, if accomplished would promote university academic excellence.
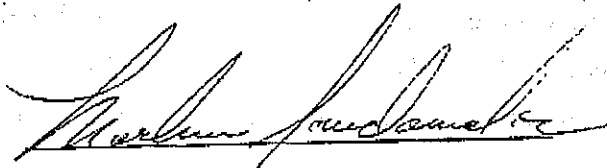
As Director of IKIT, I fully support this proposal. IKIT conducts research, develops technology, and helps build communities aimed at advancing beyond "best practice" in education, knowledge work, and knowledge creation. An international community from a variety of sectors is actively engaged in pooling intellectual resources and participating in projects of this sort. This initiative proposed by Dr. Chan would further contribute to our collective goals of advancing academic excellence using digital media and technology enhanced learning scenarios.

1) I declare our willingness, if funding permits, to support this proposal and consider it essential to our continuing collaboration with Dr. Chan and colleagues.

2) I declare our willingness, if funding permits, to participate in virtual meetings, jointly organized scientific symposia, contributing to scientific publications or participation in workshops or summer schools as invited and/or organized by Dr. Chan and/or network researchers.

3) I declare our willingness, if funding permits, to exchange graduate students and/or mutually to co-advise graduate students.

I, therefore, agree to participate in the project entitled "Building Learning Companion in Learning Context Supported by Wireless, Mobile, and Digital Tangible Technologies" if the proposal is accepted by the National Science Council.

Sincerely yours,

Signature:

Title/Name: Director, Professor Marlene Scardamalia

Affiliation: Institute for Knowledge Innovation and Technology, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, University of Toronto

Position: Professor and President's Chair in Education and Knowledge Technology, University of Toronto

Place: Toronto, Ontario, CANADA

Date: March 24, 2004

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25 March 2005

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter of support for the proposal entitled "Design and Experimentations on Digital Classroom Learning Scenarios" that is being submitted by Prof. Tak-Wai Chan for National Science Council grant.

The proposal is very timely and significant for the advancement in the rapidly advancing research on technology based learning. Prof. Chan is fully capable of managing and completing the project with successful and visionary outcomes, having been one of the pioneering promoters of e-learning and mobile learning. His research work in the area of digital classrooms is seen as one of the major milestones by researchers from all over the world. He is the initiator of G1:1 Public Private Partnership Platform for Mobile learning, which has attracted interest of not only the researchers from all over the world, but also of various other stakeholders such as European and American funding agencies, medium and large scale companies and various academic institutions.

I find the proposal very refreshing and particularly very essential for the collaboration efforts between my Advanced Learning Technology Research Centre and Prof. Chan's group. We are currently finalising Memorandum of Understanding, and the collaboration in this project would be one of the milestones of our successful relationship. If this proposal is successful, I would be very keen to participate in various workshops, possibly under the framework of G1:1 or any other similar events for exchanging ideas, research findings, and products, and would do my best to keep each other aware of our research.

This project also opens up another avenue of collaboration, where, if funding permitted, I would be keen to exchange graduate students and/or mutually co-advise them. I also look forward to finding areas for combining research work, with particular focus on joint publications in reputed journals and conferences.

I can see a great opportunity of research collaboration by combining my group's work on cognitive traits and adaptive learning, with the proposed project by Prof. Chan. I found the proposal very high quality and I can confidently say that the outcomes of this project will contribute to the state-of-the-art in world-class research.

I wholeheartedly support this proposal. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any further queries on this matter.

Regards.

Kinshuk

The University of Tokushima
2-1, Minamijosanjima,
Tokushima, Japan

To Whom it may concern,

We are very exciting and interested in the proposal that is entitled "Design and Experimentations on Digital Classroom Learning Scenarios" for the Post Promoting University Academic Excellence Program.

Professor Tak-Wai Chan's research group has been working in the area of educational technologies and intelligent systems. We were able to know each other because we have been working in the same research area for several years. His research team is an internationally prestigious research group in this area, because he organized so many international conferences and workshops, gave keynote and invited talks, and served as the editor and editorial boards of well-known journals. For example, he is organizing GI:1 research initiatives and international conference on CSCL 2005. Also he published a lot of papers and books so far, which have been cited by many articles.

We have been engaged in several projects related to this proposal. Currently, we are investigating on Mobile and Ubiquitous Learning Environment in Tokushima University, Japan, which is funded by the Ministry of Education, Japan. Also we are organizing the international conference on WMTE (Wireless Mobile Technologies in Education) 2005.

As mentioned above, Professor Chan's group and our group are really active in this field. If this funding allowed, we will manage to participate workshops, possibly under the framework of G1:1 or other event for exchanging ideas, research findings, and products and keep aware of mutual research. Also we will exchange graduate students and/or mutually co-advise them. If we find a topic with common interest, we will be interested to co-author a paper with Professor Chan's group.

Hereby, we would enthusiastically recommend this project to be accepted. With the mutual collaboration, we are sure that this project will produce immense results.

Faithfully yours,

Yoneo Yano
Dean of Faculty of Engineering, University of Tokushima

Hiroaki Ogata
Associate Professor, Dept. of Information Science and Intelligent Systems,
Faculty of Engineering, University of Tokushima

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Date: Mar. 23, 2005　Signature: _____

Date: March 23, 2005　Signature: _____