

## **Special Report on Excellent Teachers of the 2021 Academic Year**

### **Wang Jia-Yin, Department of Electrical Engineering: Treat students as those who raise questions for life and learn by teaching them**

Professor Wang has always been a student favorite, ever since he started teaching at Chung Yuan Christian University. The effort he has given to his students during 19 years of teaching is obvious to everyone. Professor Wang tells us that, “I was given the opportunity to spend time with more than 60 students, and although they sometimes have difficulty expressing themselves, the familiarity and trust between us gradually forms into a steady friendship after we get to know each other.”

#### **The students set the questions**

#### **The professor answers them**

#### **We devote ourselves to each other through love and wisdom**

Professor Wang shares about the interactive relationship between himself and his students using an approach in which “the students pose questions while he answers them”, including problems related to life, schoolwork, career field, and interpersonal relations. This is how he sincerely practices to listen to and think in the students’ shoes, trying to understand them to figure out the best solutions. Professor Wang believes that everyone is good at different fields, and that each student specializes in something. He once asked a student who is very good with electronic keyboards to teach him, and then began learning himself based on pure interest. Professor Wang senses the unique personality of each student and believes that everyone has infinite potential.

For students with Tourette Syndrome or other challenges, it takes time to listen and understand them in order to build up a sense of trust, and therefore it is necessary to keep in close contact with their parents. Professor Wang expresses gratitude, “The lord has been standing by me because I have been given a lot of learning opportunities in the university even with very little experience. I even participated in an occasion with the dean, the department instructor, the professors, and the counseling division—this is an amazing part of Chung Yuan Christian University, everyone working together to make a better university.” He shared with us a message from a dedicated mother: “Your caring is like a warm current on cold days, thank you! It is a blessing to know you!” Professor Wang continues, “Although I was afraid in the past due to my lack of experience, I realized that I will eventually gain support and acknowledgment by being friendly and showing that I care.”

The motivation that keeps Professor Wang willing to devote himself to his students is that he has always received assistance from many teachers throughout his life, and those sweet memories make him want to take care of students. Moreover, Professor Wang cherishes opportunities to interact with students as he had the experience of trusting and giving mutually toward love and wisdom based on his beliefs. The atmosphere of holistic education at Chung Yuan Christian University and the dedication of each professor allows for a harmonious relationship between professors and students, one which also influences him. Professor Wang can never forget that a student once made an album for him with photos taken from summer and winter camps, drama performances, and reading club, along with letters of appreciation from students.

### **Think for the students and accompany them through their growth with love**

It may not always be easy as a professor while still having to take care of teaching and administrative tasks, but Professor Wang believes that a little more contribution is sometimes significant to the students. He shared with us many little stories that still make him feel happy even now, and he realized that life is filled with many possibilities. There was a time when Professor Wang cared only about himself, back in the days when he had excellent grades for his studies; but as he began to care and help others, now he even thinks of how help students by taking them to participate in social welfare events, going so far as to design suitable and practical assistive devices for early intervention institutions. Professor Wang says, “I realized that it is a significant change for me to have a heart that thinks for others! I am thankful for everything here at Chung Yuan Christian University and its holistic education after I have been through so much.”

Professor Wang showed us his “words from students” project. He asked his students them to write down the reasons and consequences for the subjects they failed, as well as the effort they put into and the thoughts they had, along with some advice they want to share with other students in subsequent years. A few caring messages and gestures of encouragement can touch and change students when they feel lost in university life. The professor feels that what he has done is very little, yet he cannot describe the peaceful and solid feelings he has inside his heart—it is as though he can see the core value and the meaning of life.

There are certainly times that Professor Wang feels helpless while caring for students, but he believes that these are the tasks of life, and he prays for students and gives blessings to them when he is unable to make any change. At the end of our interview, he says with a spark in his eyes, “Many stories will continue and I will keep striving to conquer all obstacles, to complete my missions with dedication so that we can both

grow in certain aspects.” Professor Wang sincerely blesses each student with a wonderful life.