

城大碩士生梁向東獲 世界頂尖學府錄取 CityU postgraduate student accepted by world-class universities

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香港城市大學(城大)應用數學碩士生梁向東，最近接連榮獲美國麻省理工學院、加州大學柏克萊分校，以及英國牛津大學錄取，並獲頒全額獎學金資助他進修應用數學博士課程。錄取梁同學的三所大學在應用數學專科方面都是世界頂尖拔萃的學府，其中麻省理工學院每年全球只收錄八名應用數學博士生。

梁向東同學把這項榮耀歸諸於城大陣容強大的師資、師生間緊密的教學切磋、指導教授的大力推薦、學校良好的硬體設施、國際交流計劃提供的機會、為吸引內地尖子設立獎學金，以及自己積極參與國內外大型數學比賽並且得獎和個人努力等因素。

他指出：「城大計算數學課程給我在應用數學方面紮實的訓練，為負笈海外繼續深造作好充足的準備。如果當年我沒有來城大就讀的話，今天肯定進不了麻省理工學院這樣的一流學府。」

梁向東五年前在吉林大學修完第一年課程之後轉到城大就讀，修畢計算數學榮譽理學士課程後，繼續在城大進修應用數學碩士課程。

城大副校長(研究)及研究生院院長王世全講座教授的悉心指導和栽培，是梁向東在求學道路上成功的關鍵。2002年梁向東申請入讀城大時，即由當時的科學及工程學院院長王世全教授負責面試；入學後王教授又擔任他的導師，殷殷督促教誨不倦；更在他申請留學英美攻讀博士學位時，親自提點並大力推薦。

王教授對這位得意門生讚譽有加。他說：「一間大學的地位主要是靠優秀的學生建立的，就像一家公司的品牌要由它的產品和服務打響。梁向東同學是城大的驕傲，也是我們教學質素的體現。」

梁向東對數學的興趣可以說是愈鑽愈投入，將之形容為「樂在其中」。許多研習數學的人看到「ε」這個常見的數學符號時不免覺得頭痛，但在梁同學的眼中它卻像一個開心的微笑，吸引他更加投入。

在興趣驅使下，梁向東夥同城大志同道合的同學先後參加美國COMAP (The Consortium for Mathematics and its Application)建模大賽以及中國「高教社盃全國大學生數學建模競賽」，並在兩次比賽中都取得一等獎的優良成績。他還憑優異成績爭取到以交換生的身份，在本科生學習最後半年到美國卡內基美隆大學進修一學期。點滴積累，奠定了他今天成功申請到世界級大學深造攻讀博士學位的基礎。

梁向東指出：「成績好是起碼的條件，參加比賽得獎的大有人在；我能贏得麻省理工學院等名校的青睞，成敗關鍵是指導老師的份量和推薦信的內容。」他對王世全教授的提攜由衷的感謝說：「王教授對學生的要求很嚴，同時又處處為學生著想。他改寫了我求學的歷程，能有這樣一位良師益友實在是我的運氣。」

為梁向東寫推薦信的還包括城大數學系系主任周定軒教授和在麻省理工學院取得博士學位的城大數學系副教授陸雅言博士。

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Liang Xiangdong, a City University of Hong Kong (CityU) student on the Master of Philosophy in Applied Mathematics programme, has been awarded full scholarships by world-class universities MIT, UC Berkeley and Oxford for further studies towards a doctorate. All three are among the world's top institutes in applied mathematics.

Only eight students are accepted globally each year for MIT's doctorate programme in applied mathematics.

Liang Xiangdong attributed his success to CityU's strong faculty, the close interaction between teachers and students, the strong endorsement from his supervisor, the advanced campus hardware and facilities, the opportunities provided by the international exchange programmes, the scholarships for outstanding mainland students, as well as his own hard work and active participation in major national and overseas mathematics competitions.

"CityU's Computing Mathematics programme has provided me with solid training in applied mathematics. This has prepared me well for further studies overseas," Liang Xiangdong said. "If I had not come to CityU, I am sure that I would not have been admitted to top universities such as MIT."

After his first year in Jilin University, Liang Xiangdong came to study at CityU five years ago. He continued his studies towards his Master of Philosophy in applied mathematics at CityU after completing his Bachelor of Science (Hons) in Computing Mathematics.

The thoughtful guidance offered by Professor (Chair) Roderick Wong Sue-cheun, Vice-President (Research) and Dean of Graduate Studies, has played a key role in Liang Xiangdong's success. When he applied for admission to CityU in 2002, it was Professor Wong who interviewed and recruited him. After admission, it was also Professor Wong who took Liang Xiangdong under his wing by acting as his supervisor. Professor Wong made sure that Liang Xiangdong stayed the course and made the right moves, and he strongly endorsed his applications for admission to top doctorate programmes in the US and the UK.

"The standing of a university is based on the excellence of its students, just like a company's brand reputation relying on its products and services," Professor Wong said.

Other media coverage :

Newspapers

23-3-2007 *Apple Daily*《蘋果日報》, *Ming Pao Daily News*《明報》, *Sing Tao Daily*《星島日報》, *Ta Kung Pao*《大公報》, *Wen Wei Po*《文匯報》, *Hong Kong Economic Times*《經濟日報》, *South China Morning Post*《南華早報 Young Post》



"Liang Xiangdong is CityU's pride and represents the quality of our education."

The deeper Liang Xiangdong digs into mathematics, the more fascinated he becomes. He describes his experience as "seeking and finding joy in mathematics". The mathematical symbol epsilon "ε" often gives students a headache. But not Liang Xiangdong. In his eyes, it looks like a warm smile that pulls him further in.

Driven by enthusiasm, Liang Xiangdong and his CityU classmates have competed successfully in major mathematical contests. They won first prizes in the modeling contests held by the Consortium for Mathematics and its Application and the China Undergraduate Mathematical Contest in Modeling. With his brilliant academic performance, Liang Xiangdong won the opportunity to study at Carnegie Mellon University in the US for one semester as an exchange student towards the end of his undergraduate study. All these achievements have paved the way for his successful application to world-class universities to pursue further studies towards a doctorate.

"Good grades are the minimum requirement. Quite a few students have won major contests," Liang Xiangdong pointed out. "What really made the difference is the academic stature of my supervisor Professor Wong and the content of his recommendation letter." From the bottom of his heart, Liang Xiangdong thanked Professor Wong for his mentoring. "Professor Wong is demanding on the students but also very considerate. He changed the course of my education. I feel extremely fortunate to have such a great teacher as well as supportive friend."

Professor Zhou Dingxuan, Head of the Department of Mathematics, and Dr Lu Ya-yan, Associate Professor in the same Department, who received his PhD from MIT, also wrote letters of recommendation for Liang Xiangdong.