

■ Geography Field Camp to Singapore (18-23 May 2015)

A group of geographers had conducted an overseas field camp in Singapore between the 18th and 23rd of May. The group included 70 geography major students and 5 staff members. Dr Him Chung, associate professor at the geography department, served as the chief organiser and he was supported by Prof. Kenneth Wong, Dr Karen Chow, Mr Johnson Yeung and Ms Tracey Yiu. Sustainable city was set as the overall theme of the field camp. It aimed to look at how the idea has been engaged in Singapore's development strategy and town planning. Specifically, the group focused on: (a) urban redevelopment and place-making; (b) housing issues; (c) multiculturalism; and (d) nature conservation and water management. Participants were encouraged to employ a comparative approach; not only for the understanding of the Singapore experience, but also to think about the implications/meanings of these developments to Hong Kong. To pursue these purposes, the group visited various places including Singapore's Urban Development Authority and the Singapore City Gallery, the Housing and Development Board and a new town at Punggol, the China town, Little India, Sultan Mosque, the PUB NEWater Visitor Centre, the Clean Tech Park, the Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve and Kok Fah Technology Farm. On top of these sites, the group also visited the geography department at the National University of Singapore, the Chinese Heritage Centre and the Energy Research Institute at the Nanyang Technology University. Two feature talks, one on Singapore's urban development and conservation and the other on innovative energy efficient technologies for sustainable building design, were given to the group by professors at respective universities. Further, during these visits, the group had precious opportunities to meet and to exchange ideas with fellow geographers and experts who specialized on energy-saving building design and technologies. In short, the trip to Singapore was an educational and inspiring tour.



