



THE CHINESE-AMERICAN ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL
ASSOCIATION IN SOUTHEASTERN UNITED STATES

美東南區中華學人協會

敬邀 CAPASUS 會員:

參與

The 30th Anniversary Conference

July 21-23, 2006

Atlanta Marriott @ Gwinnett Place

Invited by 黃麗勳 (Lily Hwang)
President, CAPASUS

Featuring special celebrations on the 30th anniversary of CAPASUS, including pre-convention tours (Georgia Aquarium & Midtown Atlantic Station), an exhibition of CAPASUS memorabilia, a special publication of CAPASUS history and experience, excellent keynote speeches and panel discussion/presentations, and silent auction. Popular seminars on medicine and health, arts and humanities, as well as acupuncture service are also offered. The Convention will be opened by a reception hosted by TECO in Atlanta. Following the TECO reception is a party hosted by CAPASUS.

Location: Atlanta Marriott at Gwinnett Place
(www.marriott.com/atlgp) @ Exit 104 of I-85.
1775 Pleasant Hill Road, Duluth, Georgia 30096
Phone: 770-923-1775.

For further information, please contact Lily Hwang
@ 770-414-0595 or lhwang@bellsouth.net

思源 SZAB YUAN

May 2006

30 根源台灣 放眼世界

30 Years' Perspectives of CAPASUS

Keynote Speakers: The Chief Representative, Dr. David Tawei Lee [李代表大維] (being invited), Dr. Joseph Jen [任筑山], former Under Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics of United States Department of Agriculture, and Mr. Norman Fu [傅建中], US Bureau Chief, China Times.

Themes of Technical Sessions: Environment and Energy Conservations. Experts on these subject matters are invited to give panel presentations.

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The Information Society

Technology in recent decades has reshaped communication all over the world. Data including text, sound, voices and photo graphics are easy to exchange cheaply. Wireless technology, including cellular phones and internet connection allow people to take of care of business almost anywhere and anytime. The improvement of hardware, software and all other infrastructure of data communications make end user much easy to use. The speed of data exchange has reshaped the daily life of all industrialized countries.

Maybe you are not really a computer user that enjoys the convenience of these changes. However, traffic is increasing. Life is busy, and material flow in and out is faster than ever. Communication is much easier and cheaper. The information age has changed the ways that people live, work and play. However, there have also been some negative consequences to this newfound convenience, such as "Cyber Crimes". Laws need to be rewritten and may never catch up to the speed of change. Business is conducted in different ways. "Office Mobility" is no longer a dream, and most sale activities can easily to be conducted on roads, in restaurants, or in any corner of the city. Governments are now providing services to their people more efficiently. Some cities have begun accepting payments on the internet for traffic fines and taxes.



Program Announcement

Speakers at Saturday Luncheon :

Mr. 郭榮太 (being invited) ,

Dr. 王德 , Dr. 蔡裕棟 , Dr. 石羽飛

Speakers at Panels on Environment and

Energy : Dr. Viung Chung (梅文中) , Dr. Zhe Chuan Feng (馮哲川) , Mr. Alex Wu (吳樾) , Dr. Jy S. Wu (吳知行) , Dr. Shou-Yuh Chang (張守玉) , Dr. Tsung-Hung Peng (彭宗宏) , Dr. William Cheng (鄭義為)

Speakers on Arts and Humanities, and

Medicine : Mr. Chin-cheng Hung (洪智城) , Dr. George C. H. Sun (孫智榮) , Dr. C. I. Lin (林遵瀛) , Dr. Willie Chen (陳英偉) 主持醫學講座 , Dr. Min-Nan Sze (施敏男) 教授八段錦健身操 .



The information revolution is good news for most industrial countries. It is bad news for Third World countries. The gap between poor and rich is getting even worse. This situation is applicable to both individuals and countries. The gap between poor and rich seems hopeless. It is a "Digital Gap". Illiteracy refers to people who cannot read. Illiteracy prevents people from having the chance to learn and gain more opportunities to advance. What about computer illiteracy? It will cause people to lose a lot of opportunities too. Does the information revolution really benefit the whole world? Actually it does not. It only benefits a small portion of these rich countries and individuals. It was said that if the whole world's population was only 100 people, there is only one person that can own a computer and one person that can have a college education. If you are a computer user and live in an industrialized country, you are considered as part of the world's elite.

What does this high speed information society mean to you? The boundary of country has gradually become vague for industrial countries. Capital flows to where the people or businesses need it most. Most business transactions are now cashless. Do you carry only small amounts of cash in your wallet but a bunch of plastic cards? The cashless society is becoming more of a reality. Your money is just a digital number that is stored in a bank's computer servers. You can spend it without counting the bills and coins. You can pay bills, shop, and buy tickets by just clicking your mouse.

It affects each individual that is for sure. What will happen in the next few next decades? Have you prepared for the wave of this change? No matter whether you like it or not, the impact will continue. The game of the whole world is being rewritten, and the competition is no longer local, but global.

Globalization has been happening for years. Critics can see only the richest countries getting the most benefits of globalization. Garrett (2004) said that

“People and countries must be competitive in either the knowledge economy, which rewards skills, and institutions that promote cutting-edge technological innovation, or the low-wage economy, which uses widely available technology to do routine tasks at the lowest possible cost. Those who cannot compete in either include not only the erstwhile industrial middle class in wealthy nations, but also most countries in the middle of the worldwide distribution of income, notably in Latin America and eastern and central Europe.”

This is what happened during my employment in the world's largest defense company due to outsourcing. “Outsourcing” is not a new term for most working Americans. The consequences of outsourcing might include lost jobs and plants shutting down. Employees are afraid of losing jobs to domestic competitors or overseas, and they are resisting it. The legislators are making laws to protect it. At the company I work, when the labor union agreement expired, the labor union went on strike for job security and medical benefits.

You might believe that America has already been a product of globalization for many years even before all the internal trade treaties had been signed. The trends squeeze all the middle class, not only in America but worldwide. To be in a position to compete, either you have a good skill or knowledge in the high technology that the market needs, or you sell your time as a cheap laborer. Individuals who have know-how and skills to use the tools will be better off. Lifetime-learning and self-teaching might be the key to survive. A famous college degree is no longer a guarantee to success. Formal college education is just the beginning of all the learning.

Young school kids do not have any difficulties at all for these changes. For “E-Generations” it is not even a change. It is the way they grow up. Whatever comes to them, they absorb and adopt it. They did not need to know what is different between software and hardware. What the ADSL⁽¹⁾ and TCP/IP⁽²⁾. They just turn on the computer and “plug and play”. Sony’s “Walkman” changed the way that people listened to music two decades ago. Now, it is the turn of Apple Computer’s **iPod**. Thousands of songs come in one little box. You are bringing a music library with you.

Data and information are abundant on the internet and in computer servers, like the music in our iPods. Data are like raw materials and are useless unless you process it. Actually, information did not even exist unless you analyzed and used it. As long as data is accurate, processed, analyzed, and can be used in time, it become valuable. Knowledge means you can get the information at the right time and use it in the right place. Data can be collected, generated, stored and analyzed. However, how to make decisions and use this information depends on the end users. In other words, the computer is a tool and information is just digital messages.

For those people who do not have time to do all the processes, ESDS (Executive Support Decision System) has been designed for them. It lets the high level managers make decisions quickly without going through all the data processing. The time that is saved for these high level managers can be used for more important things, such as company long term goals and business strategies. Making quality decisions depends on the accuracy and the quality of the information that you have and how the people use it. This is true even if you are not a high level manager in a company. Data is abundant in this information society. Do you know how to take advantage of these changes?

Reference:

- (1) ADSL: *ADSL is an interesting technology for the transport of VoD-services or other high bit-rate services over the ordinary phone-lines.*
Saarela, Kimmo. Retrieved Feb. 21, 2006 from http://www.cs.tut.fi/tlt/stuff/adsl/pt_adsl.html
- (2) TCP/IP is short for Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol, the suite of communications protocols used to connect hosts on the Internet.

About Author:

Terry Tsai (蔡士汕) is senior engineer of Lockheed Martin Aeronautical Company. He is team member of JSF (Joint Strike Fighter) program. He lives in the Kennesaw, Georgia.

吉人自有天相

~ 艾容 ~

瑪麗是一位出生在紐約的波多黎各婦女，中等身材，娃娃臉，皮膚古銅色，黝黑的長髮，自編成一條整齊的辮子垂在腦後，貼在背脊上，樸實的穿着打扮，笑臉迎人，一口流利的英文及西語，很容易溝通，她談吐大方，態度誠懇，是位讓人喜歡親近與交談的朋友。

伴隨在她身邊的是一位削瘦、有點憔悴、高出她半個頭的男士，看他的膚色長相，也能猜出他是來自中南美洲，某一個國家的居民。鼻下沿着上唇間，一綫黝黑的、修剪整齊的鬍子，給人有種老氣橫秋的感覺。他只會說西語，太座瑪麗好似他的貼身祕書，翻譯書寫由她一手包辦。他雖然有令人嗟嘆的人生故事，但他笑口常開，一副知足常樂的模樣，令人印象深刻。

他的姓氏有十一個字母，名字也長，我只能叫他姆利。姆利是哥倫比亞人，在逃亡前，他是一家建築公司的工會領袖，替員工們出面，爭取合法的福利。有一天他被四名年輕的歹徒追逐，其中之一，手持尖銳的長刀，往他的胸部刺去，他爲了讓我明白真相，脫去上衣，親自表演當時他如何轉身，並用手指指着皮膚上的疤痕，當單薄的長刀刺入皮內進入兩肋骨間時，刀緣沿着下邊的肋骨滑去，斜插進入胸部。他算命大，只有刀尖傷及肺部一點點。肺可是很脆弱的器官，雖然受傷區域極小，卻也造成氣胸。

他倒在地上，血流不少，幸好及早被他的屬下們發現，開車送往醫院，在加護病房加上普通病房，共待了一個月才痊癒出院。出院後，他改名換姓，逃至鄰國委內瑞拉。當時那個國度政局還算平穩，他居無定所，四處打零工，經常填不飽肚子。約三年左右，換了領導人，社會秩序紊亂，治安不良。他逃回哥倫比亞，五年之間，遊走了五個城市，第六年時，他找到一份在遊客船上的工作。臨走前，他曾潛回故鄉，準備攜愛妻同往美國，但是人生變幻無常，回到家鄉，發現

愛妻抱着一個小男孩。琵琶已別抱，生米已煮成飯，又可奈何！姆利得知真相後，暗自神傷，自身已難保，只好將三個孩子留給前妻照料，獨自上船，學作麵包。十二年前當遊輪行駛，到達美國邁阿密港口時，他下定決心留在美國，由友人相助，申請政治庇護。

十年前，姆利來到亞特蘭大，由朋友介紹和瑪麗認識。真是良緣天註定，他們兩人一見鐘情。瑪麗離過婚，帶着一個十歲的女兒，認識不久，三人便已組成一個甜蜜的小家庭。姆利和前妻沒正式辦過離婚，得知她變心後，他未曾和她通過電話，就這樣不了了之！

瑪麗對夫婿百般的溫柔體貼，並且對醫學名詞瞭若指掌，她說：在紐約曾做過護士，這次的婚姻帶給他們一個男孩。兩人一起爲一家公司做事，主要是負責三百七十四間公寓的運轉，夫婿負責內外油漆。瑪麗很能幹，在HBlock上班，他們也寄錢回去給三個孩子唸書，如今個個都已成家立業了。

她告訴我，他們同年是五十一歲，離開前，我告訴她：姆利很幸運娶到您這位賢妻，有人說過：娶到良妻，勝過擁有半壁江山。他一轉身救了他自己一命，他能逃過劫數，乃因他處處替別人着想，無私地付出。中國人說：頭上三尺有神明，吉人自有天相。她笑着說：對極了。她擁抱着我說：謝謝、感恩！

我對有數十年吸煙歷史的姆利說：您該戒煙了，活得健康才能快樂，瑪麗答應，回去後要好好勸他，必要時會回來請教外子並且希望得到他的幫忙。因爲現在已經有藥物可助戒煙了。

吉人自有天相



(畫 by 久彌)