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EDITORIAL:

The Pandemic and This Issue of Design Education

Jae-Eun Oh Francesco Zurlo

16 - 19

When we first initiated a call for this issue on design education, never could we have imagined or foreseen what lay ahead. Since late 2019, Hong Kong has gone through an enormously difficult time. First, spikes of social unrest, rapidly followed by COVID-19. Half of the first semester of the 2019 – 2020 academic year, as skirmishes closed in on The Hong Kong Polytechnic University campus, all courses had to move over to available and often misunderstood online platforms. As the situation finally subsided, the virus emerged, impacting the commencement of the second semester, and the overall delivery modes of a structured curriculum for an entire year.

Both faculty and students of the School of Design lived and worked in high hopes to return to face-to-face teaching sooner, rather than later. In time, hope conceded to a stark reality that online, the virtual and the digital models of education, have moved into focus as the main and primary modes of education. Long gone are the days of the digital as a mere supplemental or peripheral possibility.

The digital reality presented other challenges to design education: ensuring credible and authentic outcomes for each of the design disciplines within a non-studio setting, the expression of ideas, or demonstrating principles across and through digital platforms with the additional

burdens of a digital generation that instantaneously become camera shy. Or, in the extreme the mistrust shown by students that reviewers may not understand the design work without a physical presence.

Moving one year forward, the growing pains of digital pedagogies has caused an instantaneous maturing of educators, those being educated, and of what is said, shown and discussed. Somehow, the global body of design environments have collectively responded to these and more local challenges, yet again transforming the specifics of digital pedagogies across unexplored territories.

The following series of images attest to the resilience of digital pedagogies and design institutions. May this stand as a testament to rapid responses, individuals who took the reins, and how educators shape the future of design, design-research and ultimately how design is carried forward across generations.



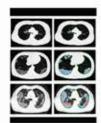
Research and Innovation





PolyU receives funding support from Health and Medical Research Fund to conduct eight studies on COVID-19

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PolyU collaborates with Macau University of Science and Technology advance diagnosis of COVID-19 pneumonia





In the News

PolyU master's degree programmes train talents in occupational therapy and physiotherapy meeting urgent demand from the social welfare sector for healthcare/rehabilitation manpower

While the demand for healthcare services is growing directically in Hong Kong, the supply of qualified therapists is far from adequate expension in the social welfare sector.

12 Aug 2020

PolyU secures HK\$18.2 million funding from Health and Medical Research Fund to conduct eight studies on COVID-19

The Hong Kong Polytechnic University (Polyt,5 has secured over HIGTS million funding from the Health and Medical Research Fund (HIMP) of _____

11 Aug 2000

PolyU collaborates with Macau University of Science and Technology to advance diagnosis of COVID-19 pneumonia

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国家抗疫 不忘增值 「理大與您」 上專題課座系列」即將上線 (only Chinese version)

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As the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic continues. RMIT remains committed to supporting our students and staff at home and

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Latest update - Monday 23 November

Previous, this and following page:

Images extracted from the publicly accessible university websites, and their Covid-19 responses; The Hong Kong Polytecnic University, Aalto University, The University of Cape Town, Illinois Tech, RMIT University, Harvard University, MIT -Massachusetts Institute of Technology, University of Applied Arts Vienna, Eindhoven University of Technology, The New School: A University in New York City, ETH Zurich, University of the Arts London, Politecnico di Milano, Goldsmiths, University of London, NUS - National University of Singapore and The Glasgow School of Art.

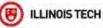
COVID-19: Guidance for the Harvard Graduate School of Design Community



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TING TO COVID, KEEPING CONNECTED

COVID-19 Menu

gether, we're committed to tackling vid-19 the MIT way - by standing with e science, working the problem, and deling the solution for our community d beyond.

ur minds, hands, and hearts can make difference.







