

關於校史文獻系列

欣逢本校四十二週年校慶，本刊編者特承圖書館特藏組黃文興先生為本刊撰文，並提供珍貴史料照片以饗讀者。瀆煩殊甚，謹致謝忱。

——本刊編者

本校「校史文獻」，不僅記錄著四十來東海師生共同努力的業績，同時也是研究「聯董會」與中國基督教高等教育的第一手文獻，更是研究台灣高等教育的重要史料，深具學術研究價值。它是本校獨有的一種文獻，是本館的特藏。

「校史文獻」雖然深具學術研究價值，對凝聚「校園共識」、建立「東海傳統」，也有直接效益。但是「校史文獻」的實質價值，仍取決於校園成員與學術教育界，是否確實受用，而不應只是理論上的評估。

因此，本館在徵集、典藏之餘，陸續將整理成果刊布，期望藉由歷史的回顧，找尋往日校園生活的共同記憶、師長辦校的理想與經驗，凝聚「校園共識」，建立「東海傳統」，以增加現今校園事務的深度與廣度，塑造出東海自己的形象。

圖書館特藏組 黃文興

求學之道

Dr. William Fenn 著
林靖文·譯

案：

芳衛廉博士(Dr. William Fenn)早年曾在中國大陸諸教會大學，如燕京、金陵等校任教。二次大戰後離開中國返回美國，並任職於亞洲基督教高等教育聯合董事會，擔任執行秘書，以迄一九七〇年六月退休。

在一九六九年，亦即退休前一年的十一月初，他來到東海做退休前的訪問，並於五日應邀在月會上，就「求學之道」，啓發並勸勉在場的全體同學，辭懇意切，此文即其演講稿。原稿並無標題，「求學之道」係譯者新加。

芳博士以他過去的經歷，以及在教會中的關係，對本校的貢獻很大。吳德耀校長稱他是「東海創辦人中的創辦人」，蓋東海大學乃是在芳博士極力籌備下始告誕生。也是在他的規劃下，才打下良好基礎。東海之有今日，芳博士功不可沒。今特將譯為中文，在此刊佈流傳，以垂永久。

上個禮拜天是東海十五週年校慶，一個值得大家省思其成長及展望未來的日子。東海如何成就智慧與道德？以及在上帝和人們的眷顧下又是如何成長茁壯？我們可以去問問董事、教職員與學生們。

現在我就問你們，來這裡究竟想尋求甚麼？想發現甚麼？倘若獲知了甚麼，你們又將如何去做？對於大一新生而言，這個問題著重在「你們希望能在這裡發現甚麼？」對大二學生而言，「你們來這裡的目的是為何？」，對大三學生而言，「你們發現了甚麼？」，大四學生則是「尋著了、得知了，你們又將如何去做？」

幾十年前，有位受歡迎的英國詩人寫了一首詩，叫做「探險家」，詩中敘述有一個永不滿足於自己所發現新大陸的人，他內心中總有一股聲音，趨使他不斷地勇往直前，去探索層峰背後所深藏而仍未被人發掘的事物。

人們攀越了重重無知、偏見、憎恨和恐懼的山嶺，去尋覓處處充滿知識、合作和愛的山谷。人們不斷地探求存在的意義，解決無窮盡的難題，就是這股力量驅使著人類發展。

我們總以為有關地球的探險和發現的日子已趨結束。地球上的事物全被探測過了，我們的目光已轉向月球。沒錯，在馬可波羅發現舊世界，或著哥倫布發現新大陸後，未被開發的地方已所剩無幾。但在海洋深處與地球內部仍有大半為人所未知。那是因為我們對原子的組織結構仍不清楚。同時，人與環境的關係亦等待我們去學習。環境的破壞，人口過多，的確是人類未來一大災禍。東海，將為世人所稱道的，就是協助台灣面對

這些令人擔憂的問題，免於走向無藥可救的死胡同。在美國，我們必需攀登過一大片的垃圾，廢棄的汽車，才能尋得未被污染的河川山谷，台灣很幸運地還未「進步」到那種地步！

然而，還有一個區域有待我們去探索，去發現新的答案，如果這個區域的生機尚未被摧毀的話，這個區域就是人與人之間有關社會、政治、經濟與精神方面的關係。鄰居間能守望相助嗎？種族間能沒有歧視之分嗎？共產和自由可以並存嗎？全人類都能免於饑餓嗎？國與國之間皆能和平相處嗎？

這些大問題，對你們而言，似乎沒有多大的關係，而你們也無能為力。但是，有些問題是你們必須面對的，不能逃避的，你們的未來操之在你們自己的手中。亞洲有三分之二的人口平均年齡在二十五歲以下，有一半是在十七歲以下，雖然你們無法確知你們的未來將面臨些甚麼情況，然而你們確是左右大局的關鍵所在。如果你們是甚麼事也不做，是個自我中心的人，那麼你們只會加速造成那些無可避免的災禍。你們絕對會影響未來，可能是走向更好，也可能是更糟。

那麼在這種情勢下，你們所扮演的角色，將取決於你們在東海想尋求些甚麼？要發現些甚麼？我有五個建議，前兩項你們多半已想過了，但後三項可能還沒想過。

我懷疑你們所找的不過是資料而已，我用「資訊」這個字眼，而不用「知識」，是因為我認為「知識」的範疇還涵括了其它的要素。

書本和課堂上的資訊雖為我們所想要的，但這類資訊常常沒有多大的用處，很快就過時，而且需要的時候，卻不是隨手可得。因此，重要的不是要收藏資訊，而是知道如何去找到，並且善用這些資訊。

至於技能方面，基本的技能是必要的，但專門的技術則不必然，你們不可能預先去打點每件可能發生的事情。如果需要學習專業技術，可以上商業或技術學院，而非上大學。重要的是在獲取基本技能後，能運用這些基本技能，去提昇你們所需的特殊技能。

比資訊、技能更重要的是敏銳的心智，如果你們的心智是薄弱無力的，一當面臨問題或信念的衝擊時，豈不立即耗盡心力，棄械投降？這樣的心智是否能直指問題或信念的重心所在？薄弱的心智絕對無法成就未來。

想擁有敏銳的心智，必需要有寬闊的識見，能夠洞悉深廣不同難易不一的問題，能洞悉潛能、能洞悉他人未能發覺之處。「沒有遠見，人類將趨於滅亡」，這句真言，不管是在三千年前所羅門時代或在今日都適用。有識見才能超越此時此地，有開放心靈，才能超越每一個當下，創造一個更美的世界。

除了資訊、技能、心智和識見外，最重要的是一份關懷。知過能改，勇於創新，並非只是圖一己之利，而是冀望全人類有更美好的世界和生活，這才是你們善用所發現事物的目的和方向。

你們所抉選的目的和方向，將會決定你們究竟圖的只是財富、權勢、地位等帶給你們個人利益的身外之物，還是你們能在不同層面上，善用這些身外之物去求得答案，求得究竟甚麼樣的世界是你們想要，以及留給子孫的。一個人的可貴，取決於你關懷，而非你知道些甚麼？

前面我引述了一位虛構的探險家，容我我再引述另一位，一則真實的故事，十年前我在這裡說過這個故事，你們當時並未座，我希望.....

三十年前，Admiral Richard Byrd 獨自在南極待了一整個冬季，在那兒，太陽從不升起，一連好幾個月都是夜晚，他的家在冰層底下，安全又溫暖，但他需要到外頭去活動，所以他在雪地上插上木桿，標誌出一條小道，只要這些木桿在他的視野內，他總是可以在冰層下找到回家的路。

有一晚，應該是有一次，因為那兒都是夜晚，因為耽溺於自己的思緒，愈走愈遠，等他往上打量方位時已看不到任何一根木桿，他迷路了。如果方向錯誤，他將陷身於綿延百里的雪地中，就如事後他說：「我害怕極了」。

正當他杵在那的時候，雲層突然出現一道縫隙，他認出一顆星星，藉由這個明確的指標，從一個方向往另一個方向移動，最後他看到了他插的一根木桿，跟隨著木桿，他得以安全地回到溫暖的家。

人生有如探險一般，即使沒有迷路，只是想找出自己要走的路，有個明確的指標來指引方向，將是極為重要的。

你們冀求敏銳的心，寬廣的識見和關懷嗎？沒有這些價值觀的引領，你們將難以解決問題，而這些問題不僅困惑著我們，也將煩擾著你們的未來。

TUNGHAI, NOVEMBER 3, 1969

Sunday was Tunghai University's Founders Day - its Fifteenth Birthday.

A time to take stock of itself, when friends consider its growth and its prospects. How has Tunghai grown in wisdom and stature and ⁱⁿ favor with God and man? This question can be asked of directors, administrators, faculty, and students.

This morning I ask it of you as students, but somewhat indirectly. What are you looking for and finding here? And what are you going to do with what you find? To freshmen, the question might take the form of "What do you hope to find here?" To Sophomores, "Are you finding what you came for?" To Juniors, "What have you found?" To Seniors, "What are you going to do with what you have found?"

A lifetime ago, a popular English poet wrote a poem called "The Explorer" which tells of a man who was never satisfied with the new lands he had discovered, but was always drawn on to renewed search by an inner voice which ^{whispered}, "Something hidden, go and find it, go and look behind the ranges. Something lost behind the ranges, lost and waiting for you. Go."

This is the way in which humanity moves. This is the power behind the search for answers to the great questions of existence; the solutions to its endless problems. Men and women climbing difficult ranges of ignorance and prejudice and hate and fear, finding new valleys of knowledge and cooperation and love.

We are inclined to think that the days of exploration and discovery have ended -- at least so far as this earth is concerned. It has all been thoroughly explored and we are off to look at the moon. True, there is little room for new Marco Polos finding their way to the Old World or Christopher Columbuses seeking the New. But the depths of the oceans and the interior of the earth still remain largely unknown, the make-up of the atom still eludes final delineation. And there is much yet to learn about man's relation to his environment. Indeed, man's destruction of that environment ranks with his over-population of the world as one of the looming catastrophes of tomorrow. Tunghai is to be

complimented for helping to face this issue in Taiwan before the task becomes hopeless. In the United States, we must climb great ranges of garbage and abandoned automobiles in the search for valleys with unpolluted streams. Fortunately, Taiwan is not as supposedly "advanced" as that!

But there is another area of exploration and discovery where new answers must be found if the new valleys are to be discovered at all, and if their freshness is not to be destroyed as soon as found. This is the area of man's relation to man -- social, political, economic, and spiritual. Can neighbors be neighborly? Can black and white and yellow and brown live together? Can communist and free co-exist? Can all men have enough to eat? Can nations live together in peace?

These are such tremendous questions that you may feel that they have nothing to say to you, that there is nothing that you can do about them. Yet, these are questions for you, and there is no way of evading them. You and your generation hold the future in your hands. Already two-thirds of the population of Asia is under 25, and half of those are under 17. You cannot clearly know the shape of things to come, but you are going to help to determine that shape. If you are self-centered and do nothing, you will only be hastening inevitable disaster. You will ^{most certainly} shape the future -- for better or for worse.

What ^{role} ~~part~~ you will play in that shaping will depend in part on what you look for at Tunghai and what you find. I would like to suggest five possibilities. The first two are almost certainly on your lists, the others may not be.

I suspect that you are all looking for more information. I use that word rather than "knowledge" because knowledge seems to include some of the other elements I have in mind.

Information from books and lectures is desirable, yes, but often useless, quickly out of date, always available later when you need it. The important thing is not to have it but to know where to find it, and above all, how to use it.

And of course, skills. Basic skills are essential, but specific techniques may not be. You can never hope to be prepared for every situation that may arise. And trade and technical schools -- not universities -- are the places to which you go for ^{specific} skills. The important thing is to acquire the basic skills that will enable you to develop the more particular skills you will need.

More important than information or skills, however, is a sharpened mind. Is your mind a flabby, shapeless thing that, when it bumps up against a problem or idea, falls exhausted or gets hastily out of the way? Or does it have a cutting edge that goes to the heart of the problem or idea? The future is not going to be given effective shape by flabby minds.

With the sharpened mind there needs to go broadened vision -- vision of problems in all their breadth and complexity, vision of exciting possibilities, vision of something lost beyond the ranges. "Where there is no vision, the people perish" is as true today as it was in Solomon's time 3,000 years ago. And vision comes only by trying to see beyond the present and the here, through letting the mind roam imaginatively outside oneself and beyond today, creating a better world.

To these four -- information, skills, mind and vision -- I would add an all-important fifth, concern. Dissatisfaction with what is wrong, determination to bring about change -- not for any advantage to yourself, but because you want a better world, a better life, for all.

This is what gives purpose and direction to your use of the other things you find. It will determine whether you seek wealth, power, position for their own sake and the benefits they bring you personally, or whether you use them, in whatever degree you achieve them, to find answers to the great questions that must be answered if the world is to be anything you want to live in or to leave to your children. How much you are worth will

be determined, not by what you know but by what you love.

Are you looking for the sharpened mind, ^{for} ~~the~~ broadened vision, ^{for} ~~the~~ concern?

Without such values to guide you, you will have little to contribute to the solution of the problems that vex us ^{now} and will vex you even more in the years ahead. It is my hope that you will seek these things and that Tunghai will help you find them.

~~An imaginary one~~
I have quoted one explorer; let me quote another - a real one. I told this story here ten years ago, but no student here was here then - I hope...

Thirty years ago Admiral Richard Byrd spent a winter alone at the South Pole, where for months the sun never rises and it is always night. His home was under the ice, where he could be safe and warm. But it was necessary for him to get some exercise, so he marked out with poles stuck in the snow, a path in which to walk. So long as he kept one of those poles in sight, he could always find his way back to his home under the ice.

One night - or rather, one time, for there it was always night - he lost himself in thought and walked too far. When he looked up, no pole was to be seen. He was lost. If he were to move in the wrong direction, there would be nothing but hundreds of miles of ice and snow ahead of him. As he said later, "I was horribly afraid."

As he stood there, there came a sudden break in the clouds and he saw a star which he recognized. Using this one fixed point, he moved first in one direction and then in another until finally he again saw one of his sticks. From there he was able to return to warmth and safety.

In life as in exploring, it is essential to have a fixed point to guide your movements if you are not to get lost but to find your way to where you wish to go.