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Work Placements - A Journey Around the World. Findings from the World Association of Co-operative Education (WACE) Conference. Singapore 2007

Original Citation

Ward, Lisa J. (2008) Work Placements - A Journey Around the World. Findings from the World Association of Co-operative Education (WACE) Conference. Singapore 2007. In: ASET Annual Conference 2008: Proceedings of the 2008 Placement and Employability Professionals' Conference. ASET, Plymouth. ISBN 978-0-9542231-8-2

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A world map with a light blue background. The United States and parts of Canada are highlighted in a darker green. China and India are highlighted in a light green. The rest of the world is in light blue. The text is overlaid on the map.

Working Internationally
ASET Conference Plymouth 2008

Lisa Ward

University of Huddersfield

A world map with various regions highlighted in different colors: light blue for most of the world, green for North America and parts of Europe, and light green for Asia. The text is overlaid on the map.

Work Placements A Journey Around The World

Findings from World Association of
Co-operative Education (WACE) Conference.
Singapore, 2007

Terms

Co-operative Education?

Work Based Learning (WBL)?





Destination One

Asia



Singapore

- Excellent skills.
- Big wins: innovation, creativity, outside the box
- Foreign Universities welcome
- Women in workforce
- Credit for achievement
- Island state – is this model replicable?

China

- Education System
- Respect for education and teachers
- Beijing workforce
- Alliances with Universities



Hong Kong Polytechnic University

‘Using weblog and e-portfolio’

- **E-Portfolio** – to develop work related skills
 - First steps often lonely
 - Digital diary - shared
 - Teachers can set up a log to share, Sports blog - practise English.
- **Weblog** to record work placements
 - Mentor groups to read each others diaries

Japan

- Collapse of bubble economy
- Good quality workforce
- English skills poor
- Cultural Issues: don't challenge, respect
- Gender differences
- Lifetime employment - wage seniority
- Untrained workers => to be trained
- Skills employers want

Japan - Kyoto Sangyo University

‘On/Off Campus Fusion’

- Big turnaround – no one does placements
- Placements from 2 days to 2 weeks
- Create fusion between academia & work after graduation
- Never experienced working life, how do you choose the right company?



India

- Half population under 25
- Hungry for educ.- growth limited by skills
- Talent at high end
- 60% population still rural
- Teachers well regarded
- In 1990 \$100m in reserves, now \$400bn.
- Talent returning to India

Taiwan



- General university education - 70%
- Tech / vocational education is 2nd choice
- Students have computers at home.
- English is not very popular
- In Taiwan everyone wants to be their own boss



Destination Two

Australasia



Australia – Legislative Context

- ‘Sandstone’ and ‘Gum Tree’
- Aus Fed Govt HE Support act, 2004
- International students
 - WBL only if compulsory
 - 25% overseas students (OS) => affects OS recruitments
- Home students - high employment => no WBL
- 2005 - Govt changed funding, 70% WIL by 2010 (compulsory)
- Sept 2006: Inaugural Australian Collaboration



Australia – Swinburne, Melbourne

- Place 500 students p.a.
- 40% student choose their Uni for WBL
- WBL not 'owned' by academics
- Major project 'Integrating professional placements into the curriculum'
- Principle: What strategies would your faculty like to try?



Australia – Swinburne (2)

‘Meeting Hospital Demand for Trainee Medical Scientists’

- Shortage of medical scientist
- Fill the roles - from other disciplines
- Well supported programme

A map of Australia with Queensland highlighted in red. The rest of the continent is shown in light green, and the surrounding ocean is light blue. The title 'Australia - Central Queensland Univ' is overlaid on the map in blue text.

Australia - Central Queensland Univ

- Industry based projects for first years
- Geography - large coal reserves (boom time), strong industry links, not research profile
- Need to solve complex and ill defined problems
- Well defined and practical approach



Australia – Griffith Univ, Brisbane

Understanding Academic Workload Implications

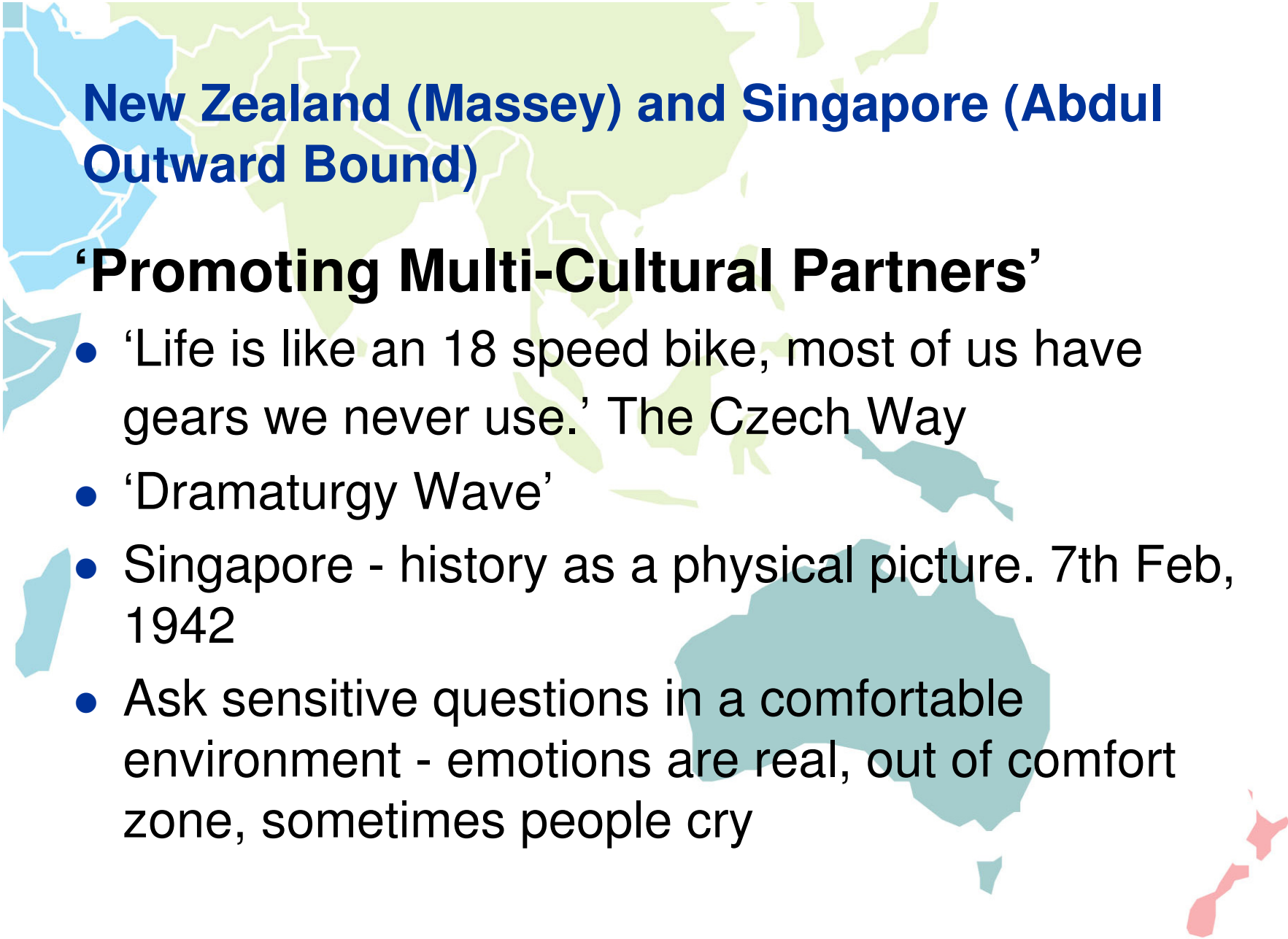
- Academic roles
- WIL is important. Unique role for academics – promotion based on research
- Lack of recognition for non-traditional teaching
- Community of practice – need and outcome
- 12 months to draft WBL guidelines



New Zealand - Unitec

‘Migrants Heading for Work’

- Sizeable immigrant community. Shop floor workers - highly educated overseas
- Get work - using English in context
- ‘Language in the Workplace’
- Authentic transcripts
- Words used at work, office politics



New Zealand (Massey) and Singapore (Abdul Outward Bound)

‘Promoting Multi-Cultural Partners’

- ‘Life is like an 18 speed bike, most of us have gears we never use.’ The Czech Way
- ‘Dramaturgy Wave’
- Singapore - history as a physical picture. 7th Feb, 1942
- Ask sensitive questions in a comfortable environment - emotions are real, out of comfort zone, sometimes people cry

Destination Three

USA



USA – Bill Gates, March 2007 talk to American Legislators

- Business comm rep, campaigner
- High school graduation
- Basic science and language skills
- Innovation - internet for every student
- Revisit migration
- Showcase the best teachers on line
- Business community - leader in training

USA - Northeastern University (NE)

- Students say Co-op is the best part of education
- Salaries pay tuition fees
- Private university. Financial crisis
- Co-op poor pedagogical? OK for jobs

Increase stature of NE via Co-op:

- Synergy and bridges - work and education
- Well paid jobs => learning
- Each stage => different kind of placement

USA – NE, Co-op as Strategy

Intellectually Demanding Work

- Quality mattered - problem for underperforming students
- Eligibility requirements - plus had to earn
- Large employers helpful. More difficult for SMEs

How successful? Still have a long way to go.

NE was 162nd out of 250 (10 years ago), now 98th

Conclusion: Establish Co-op as equiv. to acad. learning.

Students want practical experience.

USA – Drexel University, New Jersey

University started 1919, first co-op, 20% Prog. on-line

MSc in Higher Education (Launched 2005)

- Professionals and leaders in HEIs.
- Career advancement, executives and PhDs
- Retention 86%, 95% work f/t: Deans, Profs, dentists
- Need for HE administrators: 6000 roles p.a. 50% due to retire
- Action research dissertation – solving own problems in HE
- Institutional => research driven => benchmarking
- 30% of students have had a promotion

A world map with a white background and black outlines for continents and countries. The map is color-coded: Europe and Africa are shaded in a light red/pink color, while North America, South America, Asia, and Australia are shaded in a light blue color. The text 'Destination Four' is centered over the map, with 'EUROPE and AFRICA' in a larger, bold font below it.

Destination Four
EUROPE and AFRICA

UK – Liverpool John Moore's

‘Blogging from the Touchline’

- CETL funding
- Understanding graduate needs of sports clubs
- Academic secondments
- Anonymised blogs about experience
- Students talk not blog
- Realistic understanding of football environment
- May take 10-15 years to get the ‘right’ job

Blogging is an effective method to develop student's understanding of a closed environment

Kosovo

Economy

- Under 30, unemployed, no industry, pollution, corruption, gangs, GDP €1,565

University of Pristina

- 38,000 students, no computer admin.
- University can lead economic development
- Not which course to take to get a job
- CNC Machines - brought by the Dean

Kosovo - US Dept of State in Kosovo

Mrs Jimmie Pratt & Dr Chris Pratt

Academic Advising & Career Dev. Centre

Student centred lifelong learning

- Broad change for all students
- Deep plan for a sample of first year students
- Pilot career education academy
- Selected best students - 'academic advisers'

Kosovo - US Dept of State in Kosovo

‘Early engagement in WIL can help students to an understanding on what they can do for themselves, for their community, and foster an independent desire to do it’



South Africa

Women in the Workplace

- 45m pop. in 2001, Society with male 'head'
- 54% students are women
- Vulnerable in society, in the workplace
- Violence against women
 - Violation of human rights
 - Harassment to rape
 - Leads to HIV and unintended pregnancies
 - Failure to achieve academic potential



South Africa: Univ J'burg & Vaal UoT

Goal – achieving equality in HE

Danger of working alone, after dark, in isolated places

Behaviours in the workplace

- Proper conduct
- Sexual harassment
- 'Eve teasing' / Dress code

Research – how well prepared for work

- Gender discrimination for 7 out of 45
- Sexism in engineering
- Expected sexual harassment, got sexism & racism

Companies: inform & preparation



Publishing Research

- Research 'limited, uncertain and sparse', 1997
- 'What has been published is good', 2004
Bartkus and Stull
- Descriptive, applied, best practice, limited theory
- General staff 'can't do' research - still access it!

Publishing Research

Why publish?

- To further the wider world
- To gain better acceptance in mainstream academia
 - Sound methodology
 - Some importance
 - Evidence of literature

Places to Publish

- **International Handbook for Co-operative Education**
 - 25 chapters, 55 prominent authors
 - Covers: theory of co-op, practice, benefits and future issues
- **International Handbook for Co-operative Education plus internships 2004**
 - Best brought via amazon.com
 - Patricia L Linn, Eric Miller, Adam Howard
- **The journal of Co-operative Education and Internships ISSN 1933 – 2130**
 - WACE members have full access
- **Asia Pacific Journal of Co-operative Education**

Publishing Research

Other Places to Publish

- Vocational Educational Journal
- Journal of Vocational Education and Training
- Research in Science and Technology Education
- Discipline Specific Educational Journals

Peer Review: The publishing process

Article is submitted

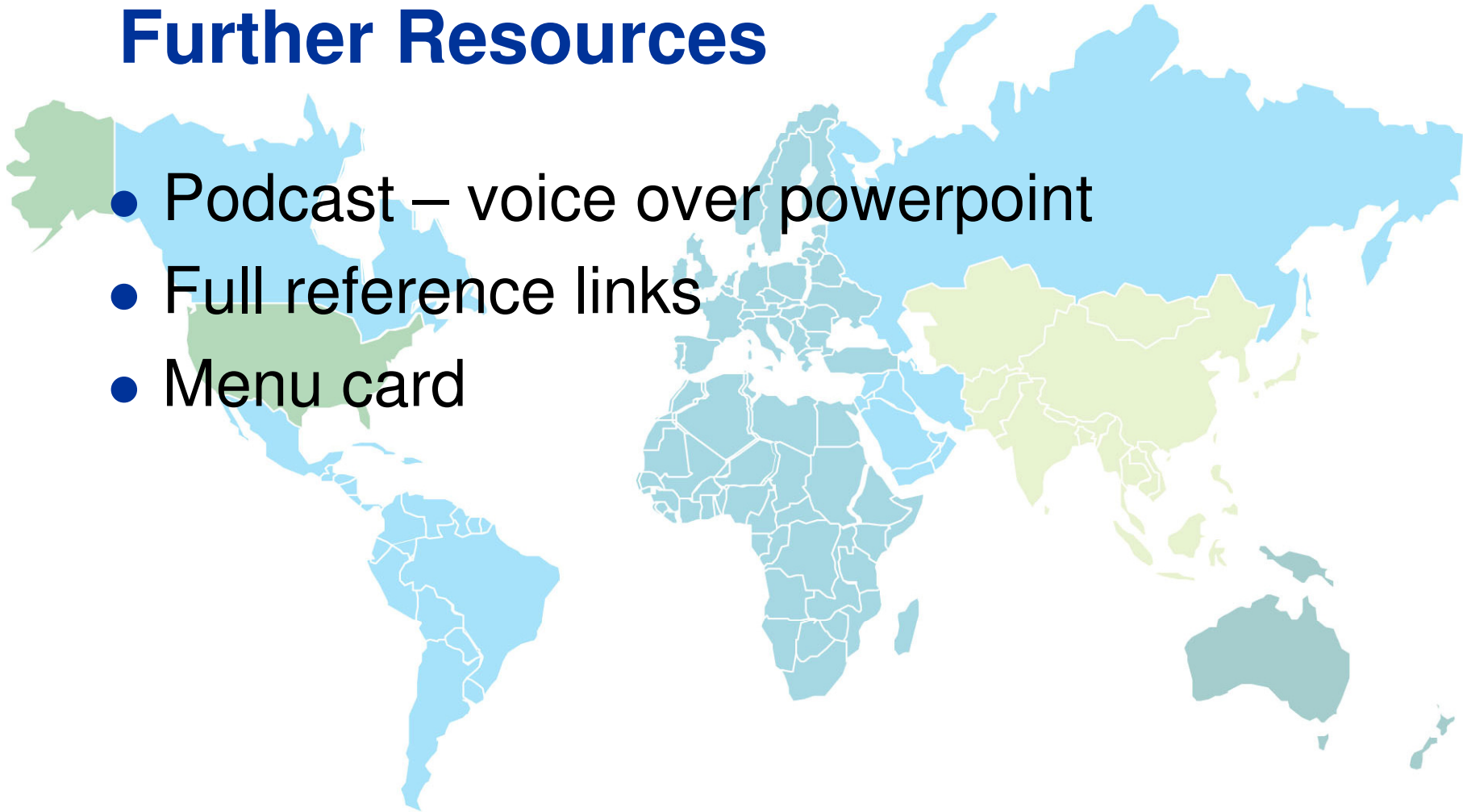
=> Editorial board

=> Reviewed by 2 referees

Research is needed

Further Resources

- Podcast – voice over powerpoint
- Full reference links
- Menu card



Contact Details

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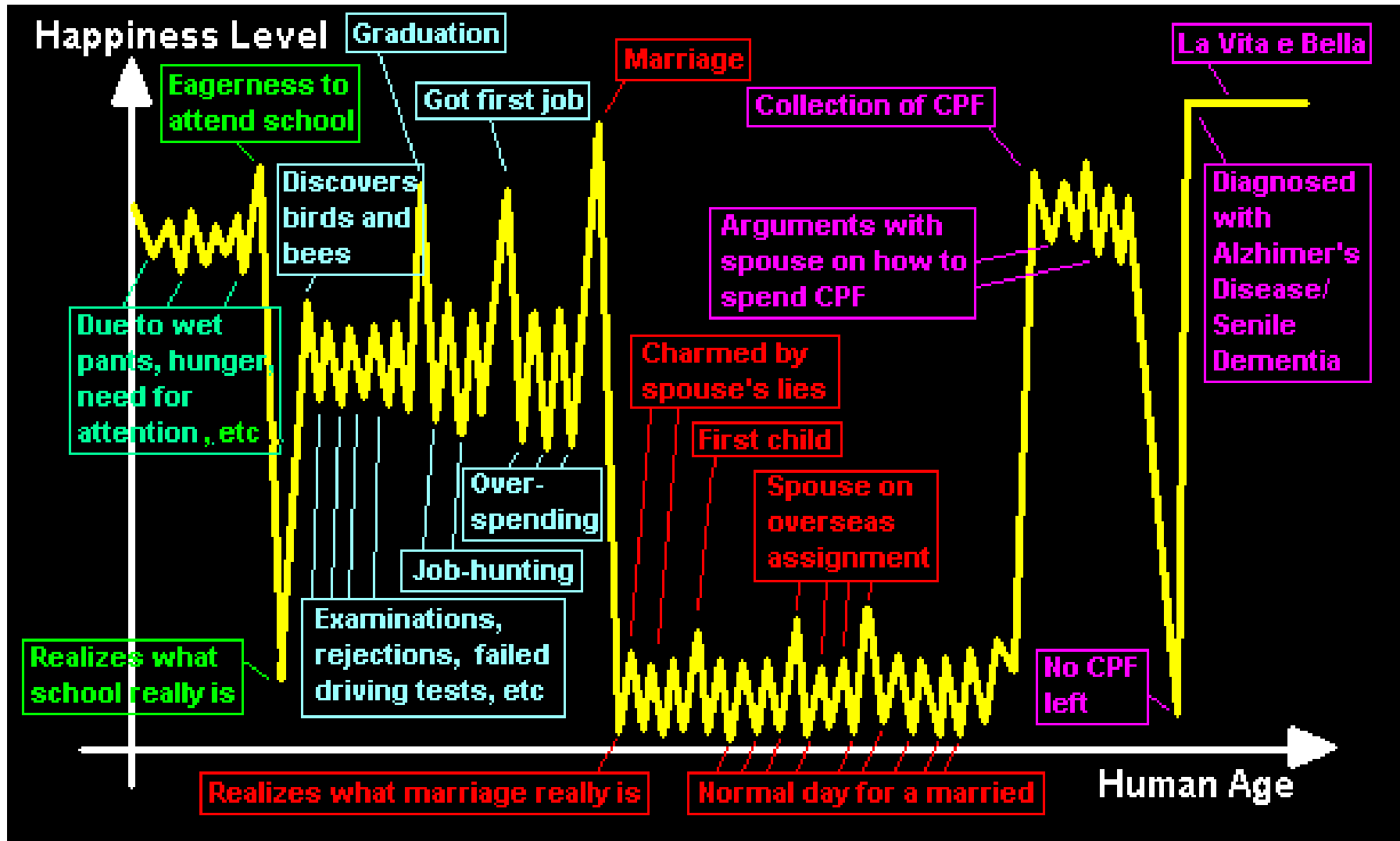
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Life's Journey – Happiness Chart

Madam Geok Choo Ho



Discussion



Any Questions?