

My scientific career started back in 2002 with this tiny little creature *Drosophila* in the cosy laboratory of MMW509. It was where I made my first ever step into scientific research. This tasting section of being a summer student developed my interest in science.

I spent the most memorable and challenging moment of my university life in the LDR. I have to be honest with you all it was where I encounter lots of difficulties and frustration. But on the plus side, I met some of my best friends in this place and learnt a whole lot in research and problem-solving. Pictures of how we all contributed to help out in the research conference and exhibition are still engraved in my heart. I am sure you agree that we had a great time doing these jobs. And those late nights working in the rather crowded lab reminded me of the hard work we did together.

I am really grateful to Dr. Chan and my fellow colleagues especially Yee, Katy, Tristan and Iris for supporting and encouraging me all the way through. You made me much more matured and diplomatic. You also played an extremely important role in making my dream to study overseas come true. Without you all by my side, I would not be able to make it.

It has been more than two years since I left the LDR to pursue my aspiration to study a PhD in Cambridge. I do think of all of you from time to time and I still remember clearly the wonderful time we had together.

My current lab is exceptionally friendly despite being quite British – my best friends here are indeed my labmates. They all love me and take good care of me as a little girl (for some reasons I am always the youngest one among all my friends here©). We go out together very often. We went punting, bowling, go-karting, golfing... and we had countless cups of tea and drinks. They really light up my life in this boring city. Unfortunately, my team will be dismissed in the coming months as my current boss is moving the lab to Glasgow in Scotland. What a pity! We are trying our best to enjoy every leaving-do and I was reassured that they will be here to celebrate my last day in the Institute when I graduate next year. Bless them!

To all LDRians especially the young ones: Enjoy every single day in your life but don't

let yourself stress out. Treasure your friends and family. Last but not least, always be happy.

By Johanna Jim