Synopsis of the seminar:

In the face of globalization, people increasingly find life, particularly work, not confined to a single location. It is very common nowadays that people have to travel extensively for work, and to work with people of different nationalities, cultures and values. Ability to work across cultures is crucial to personal development as well as international business success.

For 30+ years, Alex has worked for various major American and Chinese high tech companies. His base of work has covered developed countries like US, Singapore, Japan, and developing countries like Bangladesh, Iran and Bahrain. He has had to deal with people from all parts of the world.

In this seminar, Alex would like to share his experiences in working with people of different cultures and the success stories of a Chinese vendor overseas. He wants to help Hong Kong students to prepare themselves to survive in this Global Village.

Bio-sketch of speaker:

Mr Alex Li started his career as a computer Programmer in 1980 in Hong Kong, and he soon became a Systems Engineer at a US based mini-computer vendor. His work encompassed both pre-sales and post-sales technical support functions. From 1991, he moved to the management level and began to take charge of region-wide customer services (CS) responsibilities. He has held positions as 3Com’s CS Director for the Asia Pacific Region, Nortel Networks’ CS Director for North Asia, Professional Services Director for Asia Region, and NetScreen Technologies’ CS Director for the Asia Pacific.

For two and a half decades with these North American multi-national companies, Alex travelled extensively for work, and had tremendous opportunities to deal with customers and counterparts from what are commonly considered the “developed” part of the world.

In 2005, Alex made a major change to his career path. He joined Huawei Technologies, a rising Chinese high tech giant, and has since then been posted to various “developing” locations. He had his first base in Malaysia for 1.5 years to oversee technical services for the Asia Pacific Region. He then moved to Egypt in January 2007. In mid-2007 he was transferred to the headquarters at Shenzhen to head the Managed Services Competence Center (commonly known as the SWAT team) providing expert support to major operations worldwide. Then in 2009, Alex was transferred to Middle East Region to head the Managed Services (MS) Department, based in Bahrain. In early 2011, he was transferred back to HQ to handle HR transition and transformation for about a year. Then he moved back to his old job as SWAT team leader and as mentor for MS PD until now.

For Huawei alone, Alex has performed work in 42 countries. His last assignment was Deputy Director of India GNOC based in Bangalore for over one year.

Alex holds a Higher Diploma in Information System and is a lifetime member of the HK Computer Society.