“一心想让妈妈过好日子”
奖学金让贫学生
朝梦想展翅飞翔

我最大的推动力是希望毕业后能找到一份好工作，让妈妈过较好的生活，而且那么一来，还在念中学的弟弟将来不用为学费烦恼，可以专心读书。

蔡慧玲／报道
大约7-8年前，新加坡管理大学三年级学生卓锶杰（24岁）的父母想离开家乡而去，留下母亲陈木娇一人抚养还在念书的三个男孩。

为了不让家里的问题影响孩子的学业，陈木娇（44岁）每天都默默地在充满油烟的咖啡店工作12小时，赚取1200元的月薪。

母亲的辛劳卓锶杰看在眼里。为了报答她的养育之恩，身为家中老大的卓锶杰决定发奋读书，以便将来毕业后能够获得一份较有前途的工作，让母亲能好好幸福。

他认为：“在读理工学院的时候，学费的确已经是一大负担，但是如果我就这样开始工作，不但薪水比大学毕业生少一大截，将来要升迁也比较困难。所以想要去，尽管要考还得继续读书比较好。”

就这样，卓锶杰报考了新加坡管理大学。他回忆，他还像其他同学一样在课余时间打份兼职工，只是规范地做好学生的工作。

有工作，也曾在大学内当家教，在为同学提供课余指导的同时精进自己的功课，同时也

努力没有白费。

他说：“我在新加坡工作了两年，年年考取优异的成绩，挤入学院优异学生名单（Deans List）。”

所以：“我最大的推动力是希望毕业后能找到一份好工作，让妈妈过好的生活。而且那么一来，还在念中学的弟弟将来不用为学费烦恼，可以专心读书。”

他计划在新加坡工作，希望将来能到外国大学参加学术交流计划，但欲成真的限制一直无法如愿。有了这笔奖学金，他计划明年的到中国大学深造。

奖学金今年捐款120万元为新大学生设立奖学金，每年资助30名家庭年收入少于5000元的学生，减轻他们的经济负担。卓锶杰是奖学金的受益者之一。

吴氏基金会主席指出：奖学金的设立是希望为新大学生提供一个机会，让他们能够到外国大学深造。

他认为：“在学术上考取优异的成绩，卓锶杰也是杰出的学生领袖，他目前是新大商学学院学生协会理事会（Student Association Council）的会长，之前也担任投资俱乐部主席。”

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吴氏基金奖学金的设立意味着，新大学生生所能申请的奖学金增加到120个。从明年起，每名学生当中就会有一个人有机会领取奖学金。
Goh Foundation Scholarship

"Always wanted mum to lead a better life"

SCHOLARSHIP ALLOWS NEEDY STUDENTS TO FULFILL DREAMS

"My biggest motivation is to land a good job after graduation so that my mother can lead a better life and my younger schooling brother will not have to worry about school fees and concentrate on his studies," said Zhuo Liu Jie.

Some seven or eight years ago, 24-year-old Singapore Management University (SMU) student Zhuo Liu Jie’s father left his family, leaving his mother, Mdm Chen Mu Jiao, to support three sons on her own.

In order not to affect her sons’ education, 44-year-old Mdm Chen toiled for 12 hours a day in a greasy coffee shop where she took home $1,200 a month in wages.

Aware of his mother’s hard life, Zhuo Liu Jie resolved to study hard so as to land a job with good prospects so that he can repay his mother’s efforts in raising him and allow her to lead a better life.

While most others in his shoes might opt to drop out of school and enter the workforce so as to be able to contribute financially to the family, Liu Jie instead chose to further his studies after obtaining a diploma from a polytechnic.

He said, "While I was in polytechnic, the fees were certainly tough on my family. However, if I were to seek employment right after graduation, I know my salary would be less than university graduates and promotion prospects not as good. After much consideration, I think furthering my studies in a university would be better in the long run."

Therefore, Liu Jie applied to SMU. During his undergraduate years, he did not overload himself with part-time employment but focused on getting his studies on track. He did, however, applied to be a Teaching Assistant and helped fellow students with academic pointers. At the same time, he earned some pocket money.

Efforts are not wasted

His efforts were not wasted. In the past two years, he has been obtaining excellent academic results and making it into the Dean’s List.

He said, "My biggest motivation is to land a good job after graduation so that my mother can lead a better life and my younger schooling brother will not have to worry about school fees and concentrate on his studies."

Good results aside, Liu Jie is also an outstanding student leader. He presently sits on the Student Association Council and was also previously president of the SMU Investment Club.

Liu Jie is also passionate about giving back to the community, a trait traceable to his humble beginnings. While SMU requires every student to put in minimum 80 hours of community service, Liu Jie has already served more than 100 hours helping to sell recycled handicrafts and raising funds for the underprivileged.

$10,000 scholarship

His excellent performance earned him a one-year $10,000 scholarship from the Goh Foundation.

Liu Jie said that he had always wanted to have a chance to go overseas for an exchange programme with a foreign university. His financial situation, however, did not allow for that. Now, this sum of money from the Goh Foundation allows him to go to China next year to expand his learning experience.

The Goh Foundation has given $1.2m to SMU to support 30 needy students each year whose monthly per capita income is less than $900. Liu Jie is one of the 30 scholarship recipients.

The new pool of scholarships increases the number of available scholarships in SMU to 120. From next year, one in nine SMU students will have a chance to qualify for a scholarship.