never been good at public speaking, all the help he could get was to be greatly appreciated after all. Chin Sien needed every trick known to man to be able to pull this off without a hitch. While he didn’t memorise the lines, he just took note of all the points. Memory loss of any of those crucial points would result in time being unduly wasted and having to refer back to the notes which would make the presentation seem ungainly resulting in a loss of marks. As things stand however, the additional time gained enabled him to rehearse his lines once again, quietly of course) as other students occupied the limelight for the moment.

As time passed and his moment arrived, he had gained more confidence to make the attempt. Substantial enough for him to walk up to the centre of the room with a steady rhythm of his heart and a gleaming glint in his eyes, he surveyed the room before launching into his torrent of words. Oh no! He realised he was speaking too fast. "Slow down, slow down", he kept repeating to himself. This of course affected his thought patterns and his main points sank into the murky depths of his mind as he sought to get the presentation over with as soon as possible. His calm exterior vanished and his body started moving on its own accord. Legs moved up and down as he progressed with his speech. Hands started flying around in the air. Frantic thoughts hovered at the edge of his mind as he attempted to keep in control. The intense pressure build up was almost too difficult to bear. However, he managed to retain a semblance of order in his unruly organic body and concentrated on certain encouraging faces around the class to make it seem as if he was addressing the whole audience while recalling his speech. From the corner of his eye, he was aware of the teacher writing furiously away much to his dismay. Putting that thought aside, focusing on the points in his mind and with the help of several previous rehearsals, he was able to recapture a portion of his previous poise, state and elaborate the points he had come to make: hopefully, effectively. As he concluded to a scattered applause, a great burden lifted off his chest as he made his way to his seat.

Another experience. Another memory. Survived to live another day. Oh yeh!

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EEE Students Won the IES Publication Awards

In October 2003, three research papers from EEE won the IES publication awards (student category). These papers were presented by five undergraduate students, Yu Jia, Chan Tuck Han, Chen Qing, Cai Huaning and Lee Chee Wei based on their final year projects (FYPs). These students had successfully created an impact and image as potential young scientists.

Yu Jia and Tuck Han presented a paper entitled “Design and Development of an Ultrasound Imaging Algorithm for Breast Cancer Detection”. Chen Qing and Huaning were involved in the project of “Adaptive Noise Cancellation Using Enhanced Dynamic Fuzzy Neural Network”. These two projects are led by AP Er Meng Joo.

Chee Wei presented a paper entitled “Nano-scale Displacement Measurement of Microelectromechanical System (MEMS) Devices Using Fiber Optic Interferometry”. His supervisors are AP Liu Al Qun and AP Tjin Swee Chuan from the Photonics Research Center (PnRC). Chee Wei’s project was a study on fiber interferometry in the nano-scale displacement measurement of MEMS devices. After the FYP research training, Chee Wei has established deep understanding of “creating with inspiration and innovating with perspiration”. Besides winning the IES awards, the paper was also presented at the SPIE International Conference on Optical Methodology in June 2003 at Munich, Germany. Subsequently, this paper was invited for publication in the IES M & E Journal.

Chee Wei (middle) with his supervisors in the Photonics Lab – AP Liu Al Qun (left) and AP Tjin Swee Chuan (right)