

## *Honorary doctorates for the distinguished*



*Mr Chan Sui-kau*



*Mr Patrick Fung Yuk-bun*



*Mr Charles Lee Yeh-kwong*



*Mr Lu Guanqiu*

**F**our distinguished personalities will be awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Business Administration by the University at its Seventh Congregation on 21 November. They are: Mr Chan Sui-kau, Mr Patrick Fung Yuk-bun, Mr Charles Lee Yeh-kwong and Mr Lu Guanqiu.

**Mr Chan Sui-kau** is founder and Chairman of Yangtzekiang Garment Mfg. Co. Ltd. and Member of Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference. As an industrialist, Mr Chan has made tremendous contributions to the development of the textile industry and the economy of Hong Kong. He is also recognised for ardently supporting the economic and educational development of China, particularly of the Guangdong province where he was born. Mr Chan is also a founding member of the PolyU Court.

**Mr Patrick Fung Yuk-bun** is the Chairman and Chief Executive of Wing Hang Bank, Ltd, Hong Kong, and former Deputy Chairman of the PolyU Council. Apart from his distinguished achievements as a banker, Mr Fung is credited for his significant contributions to the University. As a key member of the University Council between April 1993 to March 2001, Mr Fung actively contributed towards the University's success in its acquisition of university status and remarkable performance in the University Grants Committee's Management Review in 1999.

**Mr Charles Lee Yeh-kwong** is member of the Executive Council, Chairman of Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Limited (HKEx) and Chairman of the Mandatory Provident Fund Schemes Authority (MPFA). He co-founded Woo, Kwan, Lee & Lo, a leading solicitors' firm in the SAR. Over the years, he has rendered dedicated public service to the community. His capable leadership was instrumental to the establishment of HKEx and MPFA, both important milestones in the development of Hong Kong's economy. Mr Lee is also an active supporter of the Community Chest, now serving as its vice-patron. He received an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology last year.

**Mr Lu Guanqiu**, Chairman of the Board of Wanxiang Group, is honoured for his undaunted entrepreneurial spirit and his illustrious accomplishments as one of China's pioneering township industrialists. Mr Lu built Wanxiang from a small blacksmith's shop in Zhejiang province, opened in 1969. With his creative marketing approach and farsightedness, the Group has grown into one of the top 500 companies in China and a major international market player in manufacturing automotive parts. Mr Lu was one of the recipients of the Bauhinia Cup Outstanding Entrepreneur Awards organised by PolyU in 1997. ❖

# 360° performance review: *President stands the test*

In a recent comprehensive review of his performance over the past decade, the University President Prof. Poon Chung-kwong scored a pleasing average rating of 8.1 on a scale of 1 to 10, with 10 being the best score.

“It was a challenge to myself to evaluate how well I have done on my job as head of the institution. No matter how the rating would be, I told myself, I should face up to it for the sake of accountability,” said Prof. Poon. “Fortunately the result turned out to be rather encouraging.”

This formal, 360 degree review, perhaps unprecedented among universities in Hong Kong, was directed by the Council Chairman Dr Sir Gordon Wu Ying-sheung at the suggestion of Prof. Poon. It covered the President’s 10 years’ service with this institution since 1991.

The exercise was conducted by a President’s Performance Review Committee chaired by the Council Chairman, with lay members of the Council Executive Committee as its members.

According to Deputy President Mr Alexander Tzang, who serves as Secretary to the Council, the Committee invited a total of 150 individuals to assess and rate the President’s performance and to provide comments on an anonymous basis and under confidential cover. “We took extreme care to make sure that they could all give the comments and criticisms which they meant to give,” Mr Tzang observed.

These individuals included leaders of the University’s student bodies and staff association, members of our Council, Senate and Senior Management Committee, Chair Professors and all Heads of department. Among them were elected representatives of staff and students.

A total of 107 or 71.3 per cent of the invitees eventually responded. Apart from an average rating of 8.1 for the President’s performance, they also provided many useful comments and suggestions which were passed to the Council and the President.

In its report to the Council, the Review Committee congratulated and commended the President for his accomplishments in many aspects, particularly in academic and research development, upgrade of management efficiency, external relations, collaboration with the business and industrial sectors, and fund-raising.

At its subsequent meeting held on 23 March, the Council formally accorded appreciation for the President’s commitment, exemplary service and contribution to the University.

Prof. Poon stressed: “This is certainly not the end of it. I have already set up a taskforce to study the feedback collected. Suggestions and plans for future improvements will come out of this shortly.” ❖



## Areas covered in the review

Planning and management • academic development • research development • quality assurance • internal communication • staff development • student development • professional and continuing education development • campus development • business and industrial partnership • alumni development • resource development • plan for future development of the University

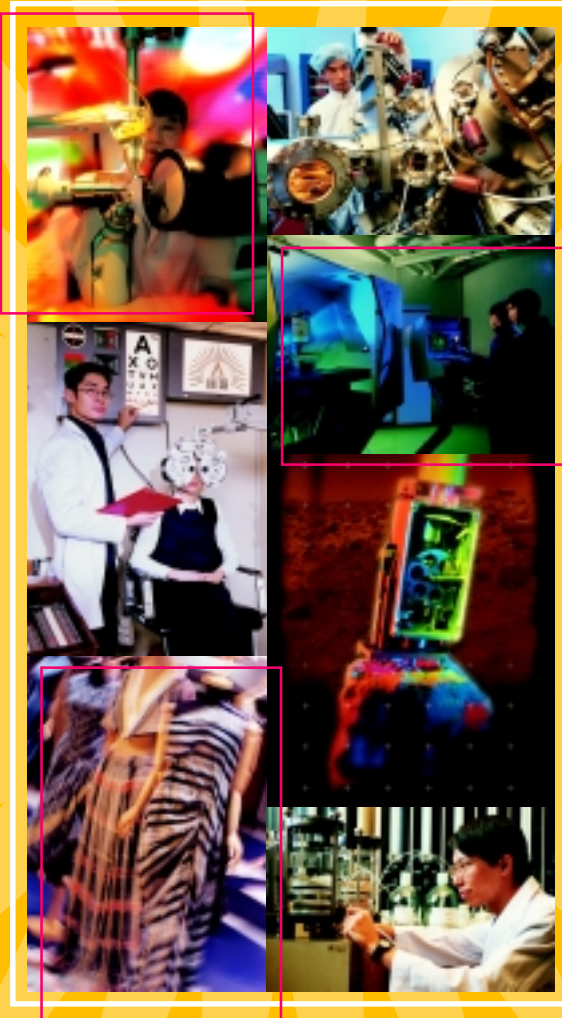
# A big leap forward in research

**T**he University has achieved outstanding success in the annual Competitive Earmarked Research Grant (CERG) exercise for 2001/02, as revealed by the decisions recently finalised by the Research Grants Council (RGC) of the SAR Government.

In 2001/02 the total amount allocated by the RGC to UGC-funded institutions is \$403 million, of which \$60 million will go to PolyU. Last year, the project grants awarded to PolyU totalled \$40 million.

Besides the total funding, the University has made tremendous improvements in other areas, including the funds awarded in the disciplines of the four subject panels. In Engineering, PolyU came first amongst all institutions with the allocation of \$43.3 million (28.3 per cent of the total funds in this discipline). Compared with the figures of last year, substantial increases were also recorded in the disciplines of Physical Sciences (from 5.1 per cent to 8.4 per cent), and Biology and Medicine (from 2.1 per cent to 6.2 per cent).

Among the 26 academic departments which applied for the CERG, the



Department of Mechanical Engineering has the best performance (19 proposals of the 25 submitted were funded), followed by the Department of Civil and Structural Engineering (15 proposals of the 28 submitted were funded). The third one on the list is the Department of Applied Biology and Chemical Technology, which has 12 successful proposals out of 24. In total, there are 121 projects to be funded by the RGC, representing a giant leap over 76 successful proposals in the previous year.

Vice President (Research Development) Prof. M.S. Demokan, said: "For the first time this year, we are topping up the grants awarded by the RGC with our internal research funds. The top-ups are significant amounts and ensure that the projects will be completed successfully."

The vibrant and dynamic research culture at PolyU is reflected by the number of ongoing research projects which totals more than 2,500, and the total spending of \$230 million on research in 2000/01.



*Mrs Fanny Law, Secretary for Education and Manpower, presents the award to Prof. Cheng.*

## Croucher Foundation salutes research excellence

**C**ongratulations to Prof. Edwin Cheng Tai-chiu, Chair Professor of the Department of Management, on being one of the six top research scientists who received the Croucher Senior Research Fellowship Awards this year. These Fellowships of the Croucher Foundation are awarded to researchers based in Hong Kong who have eminently excelled in scientific research work. Funds are awarded to the respective institutions for recruitment of young scientists to take over the administrative and teaching duties of the award winners for the period of their fellowship. The fellow will then be able to devote more time to research work. Each winner also received a cash award of \$40,000.

# Incentive to boost innovation and technology

**W**ith the aim of stimulating and facilitating the development of innovation and technology among the PolyU community, the University recently launched its Innovation and Technology Incubation Programme. The scheme is co-ordinated by the University's Institute for Enterprise (IfE) through the Partnership Development Office (PDO).

Kicking off the Programme was the PolyU-IDT Innovative Entrepreneur Contest, a business/development plan competition to be held once every academic year. It provides an opportunity for the University's full-time students to turn their entrepreneurial idea into reality.

This year, interested teams were free to compete in any of the five categories: home appliance for the aged; e-learning products; e-game and toy products; personal information organisers and applications; and any other innovative concepts.

Before presenting their proposed business plans to the judging panel, the contesting teams were given valuable support including coaching from academic staff, training workshops and subsidy for conducting market research. All of these should be useful to the future development of business ventures and career of the students.

Apart from the cash award of \$25,000, the winning team of each category may also have the opportunity to work on their proposed project by forming an Innovative Incubation Unit with the University's financial support. The Unit will develop new technology or products for commercialisation under the guidance of PolyU's professional staff and a selected business partner.



**Vice President and CEO of IfE Dr Lui Sun-wing encouraging students to participate in the contest.**



**Mr Johnny Ng, PolyU alumnus and CEO of 303 Company Limited, sharing his entrepreneurial experience with some 100 students.**



Entries to the Contest have proved to be of high quality, and presentations by the finalist teams have been made in June. Following a careful selection of the proposals, prizes will be presented to the winning teams in an award presentation ceremony to be held in September.

In addition, the Entrepreneurship Support Programme was also introduced as another part of the Incubation Programme to offer support to the University's faculty and other staff members in their engagement in entrepreneurial endeavours. It will support the establishment of spin-off companies to commercialise mature and viable technology or products developed by staff members, thus further strengthening PolyU's contribution to Hong Kong's economic development.

For further information, please see <http://www.polyu.edu.hk/itip>.

## Panel of judges for the Contest:

*(front row, from left)*

- Prof. Siu Wan-chi, Dean of the Faculty of Engineering, PolyU
- Mr Raymond Chan, Executive Chairman, IDT International Limited
- Dr Lily Chiang, CEO, E1 Media Technology Ltd.

*(back row, from left)*

- Mr Andrew Young, Head (PDO), IfE, PolyU
- Dr Thomas Siu, President, Business eSolutions, Pacific Century CyberWorks
- Mr Edwin Lun, Vice President, Hong Kong Electrical Appliance Manufacturers Association
- Mr Simon Wong, Director & Executive Vice President, Transpac Capital Ltd.
- Mr Vivian Lee, Managing Director, VComm Venture Limited
- Mr David Yip, Executive Vice President, The Toys Manufacturers' Association of Hong Kong
- Mr Kenyon Lee, Associate, techpacific



# An Associate Degree with a China advantage

**T**he University's School of Professional Education and Executive Development (SPEED) will offer its new Associate of Arts in Business programme in September.

At a press briefing to introduce the programme, University President Prof. Poon Chung-kwong said this was part of the University's efforts to fully support the expansion of local tertiary education as outlined in the HKSAR Chief Executive's Policy Address last year.

"The Chief Executive's target of providing 60 per cent of our senior secondary school graduates with access to tertiary education in 10 years' time — to bring it up to par with developed nations and major Asian cities — is visionary indeed. PolyU will of course render support to help realise this goal," he said.

Prof. Poon disclosed that PolyU was planning to set up a Community College under the aegis of SPEED. He further stressed that the University would continue to place great emphasis on



From left: Dr Lui, Prof. Poon and Dr Tam at the press briefing.

offering Higher Diploma programmes while seeking to expand its Associate Degree programme offerings.

Students of the new programme will be given an option to study one year in the non-profit-making Zhuhai International College for Innovative Training, newly set up in Zhuhai by the Harbin Institute of Technology and PolyU. Mainland students can also apply for admission.

Dr Lui Sun-wing, Vice President (Partnership and Continuing Education), said: "With a total area of 30,000 square metres, the College will provide an ideal environment for cultural exchange between mainland and Hong Kong students. There will be a student hostel, advanced teaching facilities and various amenities."

According to Dr Anthony Tam, Director of SPEED, the new programme is designed with a broad-based curriculum, with a substantial part of the content focussing on general education studies.



Signing of an articulation agreement with The University of Michigan-Dearborn on campus.



Campus of the new college in Zhuhai.



The new programme has gained recognition internationally, as SPEED has already reached articulation agreements with many prestigious universities, including the University of Michigan-Dearborn in the US, the University of Alberta in Canada, the University of Central Lancashire in the UK and the University of Southern Queensland in Australia. Students who have successfully completed the Associate Degree Programme may transfer to degree programmes at these overseas institutions.

Concurrently, SPEED is launching its Pre-Associate Degree programme, a one-year full-time foundation programme which aims at preparing Form 5 school leavers for pursuing higher education. Students also have the option to study in Hong Kong or Zhuhai.

The Associate Degree programme is open for applications until 23 July and the Pre-Associate Degree programme until 15 August. For further details, visit the website: [www.polyu.edu.hk/speed](http://www.polyu.edu.hk/speed), call 2766 5388 or email to: [speed@polyu.edu.hk](mailto:speed@polyu.edu.hk). ❖

## Executive training outpost opened in Shenzhen

**T**he Hong Kong Young Industrialist Council Executive Training Centre, PolyU's third outpost on the mainland and a joint venture between the University and the Hong Kong Young Industrialist Council, was officially opened in Shenzhen on 21 June.

Officiating at the ceremony were Mr Li De-sheng, Executive Vice Mayor of Shenzhen Municipal Government, and Mr Chau Tak-hay, Secretary for Commerce and Industry of the HKSAR.

Addressing the opening ceremony, President Prof. Poon Chung-kwong said: "This is the third training centre PolyU has established after our Hangzhou and Beijing outpost centres. The Centre's objective is to introduce tailor-made and practical training courses of international standards to the mainland, in order to meet the increasing demand of high-calibre management professionals of Hong Kong and China enterprises in the Pearl Delta area."

More than 200 representatives from the governments and industrial and commercial sectors of Hong Kong and Shenzhen joined the ceremony and attended the Enterprise Forum at the Shenzhen High-Tech Industrial Estate which followed on that day. The Forum featured two keynote speeches: Mr Sheng Bin, President of the Shenzhen Municipal Government Economic Development Bureau, spoke on "The Outlook of Economic Development in Shenzhen", and Legislative Councillor Dr Lui Ming-wah on "Economic Collaboration of Hong Kong and Chinese Mainland". ❖



*Celebrating the opening of the new outpost in Shenzhen.*