

# Young design talents reap Hermes Award

**F**our students from the School of Design proudly received the prestigious Hermes Award 2000 from Chairman and CEO Mr Jean-Louis Dumas-Hermes, who was deeply impressed by the students' creativity. The winning team, "prime", is composed of Annie Chan Lai-fong, Sean Cheng Wai-wai, Purple Lee Tsz-leung and Vivian Tse Hui-wan.

Inaugurated in 1998, the design award is collaboratively organised by Hermes and the University's School of Design. The theme of the competition was to design a website on a universe in the year 2050. Connecting elements between the physical and the virtual world, participants studied values, environment in the future, and put culture, tradition as well as innovation into a new time frame.

The winning students will be awarded a cultural exchange trip to Paris in the summer of 2001, during which they will visit the Herms workshops and the Hermes Museum.



Mr Jean-Louis Dumas-Hermes presented the award to members of "Prime", in the presence of Prof. Poon Chung-kwong.

## What did the judges think?

**Mrs Harriet Tung, arts promoter:** I found it to be more comprehensive and complex than in previous award entries.

**Mr Dennis Chan, industrial designer:** The students spent a lot of effort and were very professional and well planned in terms of the web design.

**Mr Barney Cheng, fashion designer:** It is interesting how The Hong Kong Polytechnic University has changed. It is now all encompassing. I believe this team effort better prepares the students for the future work environment.

**Mr Freeman Lau, graphic designer:** The winning work reflected the spirit of teamwork and was coherent with the theme of harmony.

**Mr David Mok, IT specialist:** The space and environment really made me feel like I want to go there. The students very poetically described the world and it left a lot to the imagination.

## What did the winning team say?

Our theme for *HermesUniverse in 2050: harmony in our work for HermesUniverse*, we focus on harmony in the human-human relationship as well as the human-environment relationship. Our products cover the following areas of design:

**Environment:** Our city's structure is inspired by bubble's structure. It is flexible; it can interact with human and therefore achieve harmony between human and the environment.

**Signage system:** Signage is an important interface between humans and unknown spaces. Our easily understood signs help exploration in natural space as well as in virtual space.

**Clothing:** Our material studies are inspired by jellyfish. Products will be flexible, changeable and self-repairable.



# 國際紡織賽光芒盡顯

## Shining in international textile competition

**M** r Xiao Wenling of the Institute of Textiles & Clothing (ITC) won the first prize and was awarded the “Best International Designer of the Year Award” at the Confederation of Indian Apparel Exporters (CIAE).

His collection, entitled “Hand”, was a black leather collection of contemporary western silhouettes, with intricately done handwork which was executed and made up at his studio in Beijing. The designs were acclaimed as expertly conceived and extremely professionally made up, exemplary of a very high standard. His award included a gold-plated trophy and a visit to India including potential industry visits and field trips.

Mr Xiao came from Beijing to PolyU to study his master's degree in Fashion and Textiles Design, which gave him the opportunity to enrich his fashion merchandising and technology specialism.

On the joyous occasion, Mr Xiao said that he felt deeply inspired by the richness of the Indian textiles and tradition, and hopes to imbibe some of it in his future design collections.

CIAE was formed around March 1999 by a group of leading garment exporters, to take a step forward in bringing the Indian garment industry closer to the world of e-commerce. This international student design competition is held annually.

Formally established in December 1977, the Institute has maintained a unique role in providing textiles and clothing education in the local tertiary education sector throughout the years. ❖

**紡**織及製衣學系的肖文陵同學在本年印度服裝出口商聯盟大賽 (CIAE) 榮膺總冠軍及最佳國際設計家年獎。肖同學創作系列「手」，為極富西方風格的黑皮革系列，在其北京工作坊製作，手工精巧細緻，匠心獨運。其創作構思及專業水準獲高度評價。肖文陵除獲頒金盃獎座外，亦獲安排到訪印度，參觀當地公司及考察。

來自北京的肖文陵，去年專程來港修讀理大服裝及紡織品設計文學碩士課程，以擴闊其在服裝銷售及科技的專業知識。

在該頒獎典禮上，肖同學表示印度傳統紡織文化源遠及豐富，為他帶來不少創作靈感，希望可應用在其未來創作中。

印度服裝出口商聯盟在一九九九年由一群主要紡織出口商所組成，旨在促進印度紡織業在電子商業範疇的發展，而該會每年均舉辦是項國際學生設計比賽。

紡織及製衣學系早於一九七七年成立。多年來，該系是本港唯一致力培育紡織及製衣業專業人才的重要支柱。 ❖



**Mr Xiao Wenling (middle) with his gold-plated trophy.**  
肖文陵同學(中)獲大會頒發金盃獎

# More industrial exposure gets extra mileage

**T**he signing of agreements between the University and the Century International Hotels as well as four theme-restaurants has brought students of Department of Hotel and Tourism Management golden opportunities to practise in different real-life working environments.

Last November, a co-operative education partnership agreement was signed by Mr Douglas A Barber, Vice President–Hong Kong of Century International Hotels, and Prof. Kaye Chon, Chair Professor and Head of the department.

Pleased with the collaboration, Prof. Chon said, “The partnership does not only facilitate our students to gain international exposure in the hotel industry, but also allows our industry partner to identify potential future managers.”

“Moreover, with Century’s aggressive expansion in Asia, our students will be given more training and career opportunities in different parts of the region, including the mainland, Malaysia and Singapore,” he added.

Under the co-operative education partnership agreement, hotel and catering management students will undertake a 10-week to 12-month industrial placement at one of the Century hotels located in the region, totalling more than 20.

Prior to the Century deal, the department has also reached a similar agreement with a group of Hong Kong-based theme-restaurants comprising Island Seafood, Balalaika, El Cid and Spice. It was the first time that the department signed a co-operative



*Mr Douglas Barber (left) and Prof. Kaye Chon signing the agreement.*

agreement with independent theme-restaurants.

Over the years, the department has been actively cultivating partnerships with industry to afford its students with effective in-service training. Other co-operative education partners are McDonald’s Restaurant (HK) Ltd., Kentucky Fried Chicken of Birdland (HK) Ltd., Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre, Disney Worldwide Services, Inc., The Hong Kong Jockey Club, LSG Lufthansa Service Asia Ltd. and Marriott Asia Pacific Management.



*Prof. Ray Pine (right) of HTM supports the partnership.*

Looking ahead, Prof. Chon is optimistic that more companies in the hotel, catering and tourism industry will offer the best training ground in support of his department’s endeavour to produce graduates who can apply theories to practice. ❖



*The driving force of the agreement pictured with guests at the ceremony.*

# Special gathering at the Government House



*Eighteen students of PolyU attend the reception.*

In recognition of the Hong Kong Jockey Club's generous support to bring mainland students to pursue undergraduate studies in local institutions, the University Grants Committee (UGC) held a Reception for Outstanding Students on 19 December 2000.

Community and business leaders met with the outstanding students from the eight UGC-funded institutions, including 18 from PolyU. As pointed out by Dr Alice Lam, UGC Chairman, in her welcome speech, the reception had created an opportunity for guests to "see for themselves that good students are still very good and the best are even better", despite the fact that "we have moved away from an elitist higher education system".

Under the scholarship scheme sponsored by the Jockey Club, there will be a total of 450 students from top-notch mainland universities brought to the SAR, with 289 already in town studying programmes of their choice. The scheme, which has a beneficial effect on both the mainland and local students, has received favourable feedback from participants and the education community at large. ❖



*Mrs Fanny Law (left), Secretary for Education and Manpower, and Dr Alice Lam, UGC Chairman.*



*Council Chairman Sir Gordon talks with students.*