



President Prof. Poon is pleased with the comprehensive consultancy services offered by various departments and encourages colleagues to continue the good work.

Consultancy work pays off

PolyU Technology & Consultancy Company Limited (PTeC)* and The Rapid Product Development Syndicate (RAPRODS)** held an Outstanding Consultancy Awards ceremony on 22 January to give recognition to staff who have endeavoured to conduct consultancy work in line with the strategic mission of the University.

* PTeC is a strategic professional service arm of the University which provides one-stop-shop services to businesses and industries in Hong Kong and the region. The wide range of service covers consultancy, contract research, product development and design, laboratory testing, system design and improvement, surveys, and sourcing for new technology and products.

** RAPRODS is a major initiative of the University to support the growth of local industries by providing efficient and low-cost innovative product design and development services.

Departmental Awards for Consultancy Service

Highest Departmental Consultancy Revenue Award

Winner: Department of Civil and Structural Engineering

Merit Prize: China Business Centre

Maximum Staff Participation Award

Winner: Department of Civil and Structural Engineering

Merit Prize: Department of Land Surveying and Geo-Informatics

Highest Growth Award

Winner: Department of Electrical Engineering

Merit Prize: Institute of Textiles and Clothing



Prof. Li Yok-sheung (left), Head of Department of Civil and Structural Engineering, represents his colleagues to receive the honour.

Individual Awards for Consultancy Service

Most Active Consultant Award

Winner: Dr Chua Hong, Department of Civil and Structural Engineering

Merit Prize: Prof. Ho Siu-lau, Department of Electrical Engineering

Project with Highest Revenue Award

Winner: Dr Thomas Chan, China Business Centre

Merit Prize: Mr Chris Mong, Finance Office

Consultant with Highest Growth Award

Winner: Mr Jimmy Wong, Information Technology Services Office

Merit Prize: Dr Howard Cheng, Department of Applied Social Sciences

New Consultant with Highest Revenue Award

Winner: Mr Jimmy Wong, Information Technology Services Office

Merit Prize: Prof. Tharam Dillon, Department of Computing



Dr Thomas Chan (left), Head of China Business Centre, receives an award from Deputy President Mr Alexander Tzang.

Product Development Awards

Highest Departmental Product Development Revenue Award

Winner: Department of Electrical Engineering

Product Development Project with Highest Revenue Award

Winner: Prof. Danny Sutanto and Dr Eric Cheng,
Department of Electrical Engineering



Vice-President Dr Lui Sun-wing presents an award to Prof. Sutanto (left).

Bright prospects for graduates

去屆畢業生就業情況理想



The unemployment rate of the 2000 batch of graduates of the University has shown a marked decrease from 5.3 per cent in the previous year to 2 per cent. More than 82 per cent of the employed graduates had their first job offer two months after graduation. The unemployment rate of the first-degree graduates was as low as 1.6 per cent (see the attached table).

The figures were released in the Graduate Employment Survey conducted by the Student Affairs Office, which reviewed the employment status by 31 December 2000 of 3,997 PolyU graduates who completed their full-time studies at undergraduate, sub-degree and postgraduate level last summer. A total of 3,783 valid responses were received, representing a response rate of 94.6 per cent.

An encouraging finding is that more than 80 per cent of respondents (3,046 graduates) found their full-time employment within six months after graduation. There were 13.4 per cent of the respondents (506 graduates) who continued their academic pursuit while 2 per cent (74 graduates) were seeking employment. The rest were either engaged in temporary/part-time jobs or not seeking employment.

More than 76 per cent of those in full-time employment reported that their training in PolyU had relevance to their present jobs. The application-oriented programmes offered by the University once again prove to meet the needs of the community.

The average salary of all employed graduates was \$11,445, representing an increase of 3 per cent compared to that of last year. Nearly 66 per cent of them received salary between \$8,000 and \$11,999. The average salary of the first-degree graduates was \$11,565, which also represents an increase of 3 per cent.

Among the various employment sectors, Business Services/Real Estate had absorbed 18 per cent, the largest portion of employed graduates. The sector that offered the highest salary was Community/Social Services, followed by Education. In terms of job nature, more graduates had taken up computing jobs, the salary of which was 14.2 per cent higher than the previous year.

For the 61.3 per cent of those who continued their academic pursuit, PolyU remained the most popular destination for graduates to pursue further studies. It is worth noting that the percentage of overseas studies decreased from 30.9 per cent in 1999 to 19.4 per cent.

Given the University's strong links with industry, a substantial 625 (20.4 per cent) of the employed graduates have previous work experience with their current employers. Most of them had undertaken training during placement or summer jobs before they graduated. ❖

學士學位畢業生出路

學士學位畢業生出路 Destination of First-degree Graduates	1999	2000
就業 Employed	1,826 (84.7%)	1,912 (91.2%)
自僱 Self-employed	12 (0.6%)	10 (0.5%)
短期工作/兼職 Engaged in Temp./Part-time Job	107 (5.0%)	42 (2.0%)
升學(全日制) Full-time Further Study	98 (4.5%)	89 (4.2%)
待業 Unemployed	101 (4.7%)	33 (1.6%)
未曾覓職 Not Seeking Employment	9 (0.4%)	10 (0.5%)
移民/回國/其他 Emigrated/Returned to Country of Origin	4 (0.2%)	1 (0.0%)
總回覆人數 Total Respondents	2,157 (100.0%)	2,097 (100.0%)
平均薪金 Average Salary	\$11,230	\$11,565

本校最近完成的二零零零年全日制畢業生就業調查顯示，畢業生的待業率顯著下降，由一九九九年的百分之五點三下跌至百分之二。超過百分之八十二的受僱畢業生，於結業後兩個月內便找到首份工作。其中，學士學位畢業生的待業率更低至百分之一點六（參閱附表）。

是項調查由學生事務處進行，對象為去年六月結業之三千九百九十七名學位、非學位及深造課程的全日制畢業生，反映他們至二零零零年十二月三十一日的就業情況。結果共收集到三千七百八十三份回覆，回覆率為百分之九十四點六。

受訪畢業生中，超過百分之八十（三千零四十六名）在結業後六個月內已成功就業。另外百分之十三點四（五百零六名）選擇繼續升學，待業的比例則佔百分之二（七十四名），其餘的回覆者則從事短期、兼職工作或未有尋找工作。

超過百分之七十六的受僱學生認為，他們在理大所汲取的專業知識與技能與現時工作配合，能學以致用。調查結果反映理大課程既專業且實用，切合工商界及社會人士的需求。

受僱畢業生的平均月薪較之前一年同期增加了百分之三，為一萬一千四百四十五元，超過六成就業者工資介乎八千至一萬一千九百九十九元之間。而學士學位畢業生的平均月薪為一萬一千五百六十五元，亦較去年有百分之三的增長。

調查結果亦發現，受僱畢業生中，以投身商業服務及物業居多，佔百分之十八，為吸納最多受僱畢業生之行業。此外，社區/福利機構界別則給予最高薪金，其次為教育機構。與之前一年比較，今年有較多的受訪畢業生從事電腦行業，其月薪亦有百分之十四點二的升幅。

據調查顯示，理大仍是選擇繼續升學的畢業生主要選擇，佔其總數超過百分之六十一，而選擇到外地升學率則顯著下降，由一九九九年的百分之三十點九下跌至十九點四。

此外，理大一向與工商界保持緊密聯繫，百分之二十點四（六百二十五名）的受僱畢業生已曾為畢業後的僱主工作，而大部分受訪者曾接受暑期訓練或實習。 ❖

PolyU names outstanding students of the year

Six all-round outstanding students of the University shared their honour and joy with family members and friends at a presentation ceremony held on campus in February.

This year, the award of “**Most Outstanding PolyU Student**” went to Miss Emily Choy Pik-yin, a final-year student in optometry. She has also been selected the **Outstanding Student of the Faculty of Health and Social Sciences**.

The awardees were each presented a certificate and a cash prize of HK\$5,000. Their names have been inscribed on a plaque put up on the University campus. PolyU’s Outstanding Student Award is presented annually to full-time final-year students who excel in both academic and non-academic pursuits during their studies. Each academic department is allowed to nominate one candidate, who has to compete with other top students in the same faculty. Subsequently the “Most Outstanding PolyU Student” is selected among six awardees from different faculties. The selection of awardees is based on five criteria equally weighted: academic achievement, leadership, involvement in extra-curricular activities, community service experience and exposure and personal qualities. ❖



The winning team.

Miss Chan Fung-ki – Outstanding Student of the Faculty of Business and Information Systems

- Third-year student studying the degree programme of Accountancy, Department of Accountancy
- Ranked top ten in her last two years of study in the class of over 220 students
- Participated in the programme “Know-my-Motherland” China Practices Intensive Programme organised by PolyU and Remin University and ‘Preferred Graduate’ Development Programme
- Volunteer of Produce Green Foundation

Miss Man Yuk-I – Outstanding Student of the Faculty of Communication

- Third-year student of Translation and Chinese degree programme, Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies
- Ranked top three in the past two years of study
- Winner of Chung Cheng Scholarship in 1998
- Group leader of the programme “Dragon at the Great Wall”
- Voluntary service for the elderly

Miss Kam Wing-chi – Outstanding Student of the Faculty of Construction and Land Use

- Fourth-year student of Building Services Engineering Master programme, Department of Building Services Engineering
- Ranked top three in her last three years of study
- Winner of the Student Prize of the Hong Kong Institution of Engineers in 1999
- Pass in Grade 8 Piano by the Association Board of the Royal Schools of Music
- General Secretary of Construction and Land Use Students’ Association

Miss Chu Miu-lai – Outstanding Student of Faculty of Engineering

- Third-year student of Electronic and Information Engineering degree programme, Department of Electronic and Information Engineering
- Ranked top three in her last two years of study
- Winner of Simatelex Charitable Foundation Scholarship in 1999/2000
- Named on the Dean’s Honours List in the year 1998/1999 and 1999/2000
- IEEE PolyU Student Branch Committee Member in Publicity
- Volunteer of the Hong Kong Playground Association

Miss Emily Choy Pik-yin – The Most Outstanding PolyU Student; Outstanding Student of the Faculty of Health and Social Science

- Fourth-year student of the Optometry degree programme, Department of Optometry and Radiography
- Ranked high in the last three years of study with an average score of 5.5 in SAP
- Winner of Shell Outward Bound Scholarship in 1998/99

- President of the Faculty of Health and Social Studies Students’ Association in 1998
- Councillor of Students’ Union Council in 1999
- Interested in music, practiced violin and singing, and was the conductor of the choir in her secondary school
- Voluntary service to provide visual screening for the elderly and children for various charity bodies from 1997–2000

Miss Ng Wan-see – Outstanding Student of the Faculty of Applied Science and Textiles

- Third-year student of the Colour and Textile Studies degree programme, Institute of Textiles and Clothing
- Ranked first in her last two years of study
- External Vice President of the Colour & Textile Studies Students’ Society
- Participate in Summer Exchange Placement Programme
- Volunteer of Helping Hand Home of the Elderly and Tung Wah Group of Hospitals



Miss Choy gladly receives the award from President Prof. Poon.

Getting ready for home networking



Voice control of home appliances.



WAP phones can also be used to control home appliances.

Dr Keith Chan Chun-chung showing the Intelligent Home Network System, an equipment which controls home appliances through the Internet.



The exponential development of technologies in recent years has helped turn the impossible to possible, such as having a truly Internet home. Not only does the intelligent home serve as a point-of-access for web browsing, it also networks all devices and appliances within the home environment. As the Internet has become an important part of our lives, there is an increasing need to integrate and Internet-able the devices we operate at home, bringing in exciting new home automation services. These services may include remote control and monitoring of home appliances via the Internet or WAP-enabled phones, cost-saving energy management services, home security, etc.

The Intelligent Home Group (IHG) of the University's Department of Computing has established a prototype of an Intelligent Home Network System, which was demonstrated to the press recently. The system, which links home resources and appliances together as an autonomous unit, is an Internet-based solution for complete control and management of home devices.

Led by Dr Keith Chan Chun-chung, Associate Professor of the Department, IHG was established in early 2000. The mission of the Group is to conduct research and development work in technologies related to home networking and automation, with the aim of facilitating rapid deployment and integration of various leading-edge Internet, automation and communications technologies. Their work will be instrumental in helping industry partners to develop cost-effective, turnkey solutions and prototypes. ♦

Speak English and have fun

A three-day "International Festival", with the theme "Global Outreach", was successfully held in February on campus by the student-run English Club of the English Language Centre.

Comprised a wide variety of fun and entertaining activities, the event attracted over 3,700 students and staff. All students from the University were invited to learn and practise the use of English through games and cultural performances. The games available at the booths, each depicting a cultural theme of a country, created an effective and authentic context for students to use English.

The various activities staged have helped our students to develop a greater interest in and acquire better knowledge of the interdependent yet culturally diverse world.

The fun-filled Festival, supported by the Consulates of a number of countries, is a fine example of the University's continuing efforts to heighten awareness of using English. ❖



The Festival features entertaining cultural shows including performances by an Indian cultural group and a Philippine band.



President Prof. Poon Chung-kwong (middle) and honourable guests from consulates in Hong Kong cut the ribbon for the opening of the event.



Youth Weekly, a prime-time TV programme produced by RTHK in collaboration with the English Language Centre and funded by the Language Fund, has won the Appreciation Index Survey Top 10 Best Television Programmes 2000 Award. The programme was for all ages, especially teenagers and young adults, to learn daily English with fun. Staff of the English Language Centre provided the language consultancy to RTHK production teams for all 13 episodes of the programme and around 10 PolyU students acted as a troop of "English busters" on the show.

English Language Centre staff have been invited again to be the language consultants for the next series, Youth Weekly II.

Annual expo facilitates higher education

PolyU staff and students busy giving information to visitors.

After months of planning and co-ordination, the four-day Education and Careers Expo 2001 has come to a fruitful completion at the end of February. A highlight of the Expo was the Hong Kong Higher Education Pavilion, where local tertiary institutions set up booths. The PolyU booth has attracted a large number of visitors. Students, parents and the general public were pleased to obtain up-to-date information about the University's various academic programmes and opportunities for further education as Hong Kong moved forward into a knowledge-based society of the 21st century.

Several departments of the University have also organised seminars to introduce the unique features of individual academic programmes. The topics covered: How PolyU's all-round education sharpens your competitive edge; PolyU's Postgraduate Programmes in Computing; and Enhancing your managerial and leadership competencies through PolyU's MBA Programmes. ❖



Legco member Mr Eric Li Ka-cheung (2nd from left) checks PolyU out on the Internet.

Astronaut-scientist sets foot on campus

Dr Lawrence DeLucas, a prominent scientist and former NASA astronaut, delivered two talks on "Space Flight and Health Science Research on the International Space Station" during his two-day visit to the University in February. Organised by the Faculty of Health and Social Sciences, the talks were well attended by senior form secondary school students and teachers, academic staff, students of various disciplines as well as health care professionals.

In his talks, Dr DeLucas shared with the audiences his firsthand experiences of the Space Shuttle Columbia flight STS-50 in June 1992. He also discussed the astronaut training programme concerned and how health science could benefit from research in a zero-gravity environment conducted in space.

Dr DeLucas is a Professor of Optometry and is currently the Director of the Centre for Biophysical Sciences and Engineering of the University of Alabama at Birmingham in the US. He was selected by The Sunday Times of London in 1999 as one of the 18 scientists whose work would help shape the 21st century for his work in protein crystallography and for being a leading expert in viruses and bacteria. For the past eight years, he has been directing a NASA-sponsored research effort to determine the effects of microgravity on protein crystal growth. ❖

Dr DeLucas (right), accompanied by Prof. George Woo, who chaired one of the talks.



Healthy life, happy life

With the aim of enhancing awareness of the importance of total health among its students and staff, the University launched "Wellness in Action" from 28 March to 12 April on campus.

Jointly organised by the Student Affairs Office, University Health Services and supported by the Students' Union, this two-week large-scale event helped to encourage PolyU members to achieve all-round personal development and to develop a positive attitude towards quality lifestyle.

The festive event, first launched in 1996, featured a variety of activities that provided useful tips on health care for both the body and the mind. The activities included a carnival, seminars, talks, workshops, sports promotion, healthy cooking demonstration, as well as physical and psychological fitness assessment. ❖



The flying balloons mark the official opening of the two-week event.

IT Contest 2001 kicks off

Co-organised by the SAR Government's Information Technology Services Department, PolyU (the host) and the HK Chapter of the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM), the IT Contest 2001 was kicked off on 27 March with an opening ceremony at Chiang Chen Studio Theatre on the University campus.

Since registration commenced in February, the Organising Committee has received overwhelming responses. The Contest consists of three component competitions, namely IT Quiz, Collegiate Programming Contest and Practical Project Competition. More than 150 teams comprising about 500 students signed up for the three competitions. The Collegiate Programming Contest, the Practical Project Competition and the semi-final of the IT Quiz will be held on 2 June 2001.

Winning teams of any one of the competitions will be awarded valuable prizes in cash and in kind. Cash prizes for the winner, first runner-up and second runner-up are \$20,000, \$10,000 and \$5,000 respectively. To arouse the interest of university students in the emerging internet technology XML, HP Hong Kong Ltd will present a special award of \$15,000 worth prizes to the contestants who best deploy the XML standard in the Practical Project Competition.

Further information is available at: <http://itcontest2001.polyu.edu.hk>. ❖

President Prof. Poon presents a souvenir to Dr Alice Lam.



(from left) Dr Helen Meng, Chairperson of ACM; PolyU President Prof. Poon Chung-kwong; Dr Alice Lam, Chairman of the University Grants Committee; Mr K.H. Lau, Director of Information Technology Services; Mr Richard Li, Chairman of the IT Contest 2001 Organising Committee, jointly officiated at the opening ceremony.

IT Contest 2001