

PolyU stages Technology Week



Vice President (Research Development) Prof. Suleyman Demokan addressing guests joining the event.

The University's six engineering departments showcased their achievements during the festive Technology Week held earlier on campus. The event is a major activity of the University's 65th Anniversary Celebrations.

Organized by the Faculty of Engineering, the week-long event featured a series of seminars and workshops on hot engineering-related topics, including air pollution control, information technology, engineering mechanics, environmental technology and Internet technology.

During the week, a symposium on "New Trends in Managing Environmental Noise in EU and Asian Cities" was held and public seminars were presented by three leading scholars. They are Prof. Fu Sung, Professor of the Department of Engineering Mechanics, Tsinghua University; Prof. Li Mingshu, Designated Director of the Institute of Software, the Chinese Academy of Science; and Prof. Bruce Eisenstein, Arthur J. Rowland Professor, Electrical and Computer Engineering Department, Drexel University, US.

The highlight of the Technology Week as an Open Day, during which partners and friends from industry and commerce as well as alumni visited the University and toured its new facilities.



Prof. Ronald So, Head of the Department of Mechanical Engineering, thanks Dr Joseph Chow, President of the Hong Kong Institution of Engineers (photo on left), and Prof. L.S. Skip Fletcher, Director of Aeronautics at NASA Ames Research Centre (above).

HKCyberU launches online courses in Chinese medicine

A new series of online programmes in traditional Chinese medicine are welcoming their first students, thanks to the collaboration of PolyU's Hong Kong CyberU (HKCyberU) with the China Academy of Traditional Chinese Medicine (CATCM) and the Beijing University of Chinese Medicine (BUCM).

The Postgraduate Programme in Traditional Chinese Medicine, launched jointly with CATCM, offers advanced professional training to practitioners of both Chinese and Western medicine with tertiary qualifications. Leading to the award of a Postgraduate Certificate in Traditional Chinese Medicine from the Academy, this is the *first* online programme in Chinese medicine which is officially recognised by mainland authorities. The programme commenced in September.



Prof. Liang Jusheng of the CATCM shakes hands with Prof. Philip Yeung, PolyU's Vice President overseeing HKCyberU, after the two parties entered into a co-operation agreement.



BUCM President Prof. Zheng Shouceng and PolyU President Prof. Poon Chung-kwong at the co-operation agreement signing ceremony.

In addition, HKCyberU and BUCM are also joining hands to launch on-line Bachelor's and Diploma courses in Chinese medicine for local Chinese medicine professionals such as doctors, pharmacists, nutritionists, physiotherapists, nurses, acupuncturists. Courses which will commence in spring next year include Bachelor's and Diploma programmes in Chinese medicine, acupuncture and nursing. The duration of the courses ranges from three to eight years. Upon satisfactory completion of the programmes, students will receive awards from China's Ministry of Education.

Other short interest courses, such as basic theories of Chinese medicine, diagnosis and human body dissection, will also be available. Upon completion of the courses, students can accumulate these credits toward further completion of a degree programme.

These courses, using Chinese as the language of instruction, will be delivered mainly through the Internet, complemented with intensive teaching sessions and clinical training. For details, surf: www.hkcyberu.com. ❖



Budding 'entrepreneurs' earn prizes for innovation

The second PolyU-IDT Innovative Entrepreneur Contest has come to a fruitful close with an award presentation ceremony held on campus. The event presented tough challenge for 41 multi-disciplinary teams comprising a total of more than 150 students.

The category winners, 1st runner-ups and 2nd runner-ups each received a certificate of merit and a cash prize of \$25,000, \$10,000 and \$5,000 respectively. With a uniquely designed "Low Cost Internet Controlled Video Monitoring System", a five member team led by mechanical engineering student Billy Fung won the "Raymond Chan Diamond Award of Innovation" – a cash prize of HK\$40,000 – for being the best of the best across the first and second contests.

The contestants showed their creative and business flair in five categories, namely Electrical Appliances and Health Care Products, IT Applications, Telecommunication and Personal Devices, Toys, and General. After rigorous screening, 15 teams entered the final round of competition. The competing teams were required to formulate and present their business plans, which focused on innovative technology or product development. Each team also had an academic advisor who provided guidance to the students.

Mr Raymond Chan, Chairman and CEO of IDT International Limited, has generously donated \$1 million to the contest for its first two years since 2001. The winners can even get a taste of success if their idea eventually becomes reality and is launched in the market through PolyU's Innovation and Technology Incubation Programme. ❖



Mr Raymond Chan (fourth from left) and PolyU Court Chairman Mr Tung Chee-chen (fifth from left) present the Raymond Chan Diamond Award of Innovation to the winning team.

Awardees of the 2nd Contest

Category	Award/ Project	Winning team (Department)
Electrical Appliances & Health Care Products	Winner: Computerised Stroke Rehabilitation	Kelvin Leung Tak-yiu (<i>Jockey Club Rehabilitation Engineering Centre</i>)
	1st runner-up: Low Cost Home Sensor/Alarm System	Mak Tze-yuk (<i>Department of Electronic and Information Engineering</i>)
	2nd runner-up: Tele2Care – An Integrated Approach to Use Communication Networks for Remote Health Monitoring	Wong Tin-kit Au Kwan-ip Lam Leung-chun Choi Pong-chi (<i>Jockey Club Rehabilitation Engineering Centre</i>)
IT Applications	Winner: Wireless PDA Presentation Kit	Lee Kin-pong Lai Siu-nam Kwan Siu-kin Chan Cheong-yue (<i>Department of Electronic and Information Engineering</i>)
General	Winner: GaNMicroelectronics, Inc.	Fung Hiu-wah Hardy Lui Hsian-fei Tung Ming-yau (<i>Department of Electronic and Information Engineering</i>)
Telecommunication & Personal Devices	1st runner-up: Take-Read Easy (E-Learning System)	Leung Chi-chung Li Siu-ki (<i>Department of Building and Real Estate</i>)

Graduates welcomed by employers



PolyU graduates have fared well in their job search despite the sluggish employment market. Only 4.1 per cent of the 2001 batch of first-degree graduates were still seeking employment six months after graduation, while more than 80 per cent of the employed degree graduates had their first job offer within three months after graduation.

The figures were released in the Graduate Employment Survey conducted by the Student Affairs Office, which reviewed the employment status by end-2001 of PolyU graduates of all degree, sub-degree and higher degree programmes. Out of the 4,224 graduates in 2001, 3,880 valid responses were received, representing a response rate of 91.9 per cent.

An encouraging finding is that the average monthly salary of all employed degree graduates 2001 was \$12,469, representing an increase of 3 per cent over that of 2000.

It is also gratifying to find that close to 80 per cent of degree graduates in full-time employment reported that their training in PolyU were relevant to their present jobs. Some 6.5 per cent of the degree graduate respondents continued their academic pursuit, with PolyU being the most popular destination among them.

Among the various employment sectors, Business Services/Real Estate absorbed the largest portion, or 19.9 per cent, of employed degree graduates. The sector that offered the highest monthly salary was the Government (\$16,637), followed by Community/Social Services (\$15,234).

For the sub-degree graduates, close to 94 per cent were either engaged in work or full-time study. More than 77 per cent of those employed secured their first job offer by the end of August 2001. Of those in full-time employment, about 80 per cent reported that their training in PolyU had relevance to their present jobs. For the 27.9 per cent of the sub-degree graduate respondents who continued their academic pursuit, PolyU again remained their most popular choice. Their average monthly salary stood at \$11,256.

For the higher degree graduate respondents, some 73 per cent were either engaged in work or full-time study whilst 19.1 per cent emigrated or returned to country of origin. The average monthly salary of the employed higher degree graduates was \$16,427, representing an increase of 8.8 per cent over that of last year. ❖

