

Double honour for engineering scientist

Prof. Ronald So, Head, Department of Mechanical Engineering, was named “Man of the Year 2001” and granted the Distinguished Leadership Award by the American Biographical Institute. These honours recognise his outstanding accomplishments in the area of fluid mechanics. Earlier in the year, Prof. So also became the first non-US based Fellow of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics. The Fellowship is presented to scientists who have made distinguished and contributions in the field of aerospace. Prof. So was honoured for his many contributions to the areas of turbulent fluid mechanics and turbomachinery which have led to a significant impact on the design of wind turbines, jet engines, superchargers and nuclear reactors.



Prof. Ronald So

Textile and rehab experts head international bodies

Three esteemed scholars from PolyU have recently been named heads of prestigious professional bodies of international stature.



Prof. Philip Yeung

Prof. Philip Yeung kwok-wing, Vice President (Academic Development), has been elected Founding Chairman of the Society of Textile Scientists and Engineers (SOTSEA) at the Society’s inaugural meeting in Taegu, Korea.

SOTSEA was founded last year and comprises members from Asian countries and territories including China, Taiwan, Iran, Australia, India, Korea and Hong Kong.

Apart from overseeing matters related to academic affairs of PolyU and The Hong Kong CyberU, Prof. Yeung is also Victor Tang Trust Chair Professor of Textiles and Clothing. His research is focused on the development of new materials for the fashion industry and enhancement of quality assurance systems.

Another textile specialist **Prof. Edward Newton** has been elected Chairperson of the International Foundation of Fashion Technology Institutes (IFFTI). Prof. Newton is Chair Professor of Fashion Marketing and Merchandising and Head of PolyU’s Institute of Textiles and Clothing.

IFFTI is one of the most prestigious international organizations representing higher education in the areas of fashion design, management and technology. The organization seeks to advance education and to promote an inter-national forum for the exchange of ideas and collaborative research and development.

Meanwhile, **Mrs Kit Sinclair**, Assistant Professor of the Department of Rehabilitation Sciences, has been elected the 12th President of the World Federation of Occupational Therapists (WFOT). She is the first Hong Konger to head this association in its 50-year history.



Mrs Kit Sinclair

Mrs Sinclair has been practicing and teaching occupational therapy in the territory for 32 years. There are now over 800 occupational therapists in the SAR, and Mrs Sinclair has helped train all of them.

The American-born academic was elected to the post at a recent World Meeting of the WFOT in Sweden. She said, “As President of WFOT, I will continue to facilitate the constant stream of occupational therapy educational exchange and visits between Hong Kong therapists and those in other countries. That’s vital for the growth of the profession and for maintaining our very high standards.”

WFOT is a professional organization that links professional bodies in 57 countries. It speaks for 120,000 therapists around the world.



Prof. Edward Newton

Faculty greets new Dean

The Faculty of Business and Information Systems has a new captain at the helm. Its new Dean is Prof. Judy Tsui. Also Chair Professor of Accounting, Prof. Tsui assumed office on 15 July.

Prof. Tsui first embarked on her career as an accountant in Canada, and as an Audit Senior when she returned to Hong Kong. In the 1980s, she started teaching at the Hang Seng School of Commerce before joining the City University of Hong Kong (CityU). There, she has been Head of Department of Accountancy since 1994 and became Chair Professor in 2001. She is also a Deputy Director of the Accounting and Corporate Governance Centre at CityU.

Prof. Tsui now holds Honorary Professorships at Zhongshan University, the Shanghai University of Finance and Economics and Xiamen University. She has been elected as the Vice President – International of the American Accounting Association. Prof. Tsui has published widely in top refereed journals, and is also Associate Editor and reviewer of a number of international journals.

The professor holds a Bachelor of Commerce degree from the University of British Columbia, Canada, and a Master of Science degree in Accounting and Finance from the London School of Economics and Political Science in the UK. She qualified as a Chartered Accountant of the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants in 1980 and became a Fellow of the Hong Kong Society of Accountants in 1989. Prof. Tsui earned her PhD degree in Accounting from The Chinese University of Hong Kong in 1994. ❖



Prof. Judy Tsui

External Appointments

- Prof. Poon Chung-kwong, President, has been appointed as Advisor to the Kowloon Region School Heads Association (九龍地域校長聯會), with effect from April 2002.
- Prof. Philip Yeung Kwok-wing, Vice President (Academic Development), has been appointed by the Government as a member of the Steering Group for Consultancy on Setting up a Qualifications Framework and the Associated Regulatory Framework, with effect from May 2002. The Steering Group will lead the Consultancy which is commissioned to develop a model for setting up a Qualifications Framework and a Regulatory Framework covering all educational sectors in Hong Kong for consideration by the Government.
- Dr Lui Sun-wing, Vice President (Partnership and Continuing Education), has taken up the following external appointments:
 - Science and Technology Advisor to the Futian District, Shenzhen (深圳福田區), with effect from 2000;
 - Honorary Director of the Southern Yangtze University (江南大學), with effect from November 2001;
 - Economic Advisor to the Weihai Municipal People's Government (威海市人民政府), with effect from 10 April 2002; and
 - Advisor to The Administrative Committee of Qingdao Free Trade Zone (青島保稅區管理委員會), with effect from 22 April 2002.
- Prof. Edwin Cheng, Chair Professor of Management, has been re-appointed by the Government as a member of the Hong Kong Committee for Pacific Economic Co-operation, for a further period of two years with effect from 1 April 2002. ❖