

# Fruits of innovation under one glass roof



Mr Tzang (above) and Dr Lui addressing the press at HOI.



The House of Innovation

The House of Innovation (HOI) recently came under bright spotlight as it was first formally introduced to the public through a media tour of its celebrated collection of cutting-edge projects.

Taking the form of a self-contained, glass-walled exhibition hall adjacent to Mong Man Wai Building on campus, the new facility assembles the newest and most innovative technological achievements at PolyU.

It is worth mentioning that three among the 100-plus projects on display at HOI have earned honours from the Seoul International Invention Fair held last December (see table below):

Commenting on the research deliverables on display, Deputy President Mr Alexander Tzang said HOI offers many successful examples of technology transfer and commercialisation of research deliverables. In addition, Vice President Dr Lui Sun-wing stressed that the University remains sensitive to the ever-changing needs of the business and industrial sectors to ensure that PolyU's applied research can be of value and benefit to them.

According to Mr Andrew Young, Head of Partnership Development Office, PolyU is also working closely with the Europe-based design house Giugiaro in developing new models of a light four-wheel vehicle.

HOI showcases advanced technologies in four major areas:

- ☆ Product Design and Opto-Mechatronic Technology
- ☆ Telecom and Information Technology
- ☆ Construction and Environmental Technology
- ☆ Biotech, Healthcare and Advanced Materials.

For visits to HOI, please call PolyU's Institute for Enterprise on 3400 2799 or email to [pdadmin@inet.polyu.edu.hk](mailto:pdadmin@inet.polyu.edu.hk).

## Awards earned in the Seoul International Invention Fair

Award	Project	Project leaders
Gold Medal	Advanced Composite Materials for IC & Microelectronic Wire-bonders (See related story on p.9)	Prof. Helen Chan Lai-wa Prof. Choy Chung-loong (Department of Applied Physics)
Silver Medal	Innovative High Speed and Low cost Palmprint Security Control System	Prof. David Zhang (Department of Computing)
Bronze Medal	Advanced Microencapsulation of Phase Change Material (PCM) for Smart Apparel	Dr Li Yi (Institute of Textiles & Clothing)



### Palmprint identification system

By identifying the unique feature of a human palm, the system can be used to meet high security requirements, such as building access control, airport check-in and ATM operations. Two American patents have already been obtained for this invention.



Capturing device and recognition engine



Real time identification in 1.5 second

## Council and Court appointments

The University is pleased to announce that *Dr Sir Gordon Wu Ying-sheung* and *Dr Tung Chee-chen* have been re-appointed as Chairman of Council and Chairman of the University Court respectively.

Sir Gordon has been re-appointed by the Chief Executive for another three years from 1 April 2003 to 31 March 2006. He assumed Chairmanship of the Council in 1997 and was previously Founding Chairman of the PolyU Court between 1995 and 1997. Dr Tung has been re-appointed by the Council to continue his Court Chairmanship until 31 December 2005.

Meanwhile, upon the expiry of the term of office of Council members *Mr Ng Man-kung* and *Ms Alice Yuk Tak-fun*, two community leaders have been appointed to the Council from 1 April 2003 to 31 March 2006. Another nine new appointments to the Court till the end of 2005 have been endorsed by the Council. Their names are as follows:

### New appointments to Council

- *Mr Victor Cha Mou-zing*, Managing Director, HKR International Ltd.
- *Dr Chow Yei-ching*, Chairman and Managing Director, Chevalier International Holdings Ltd.

### New appointments to Court

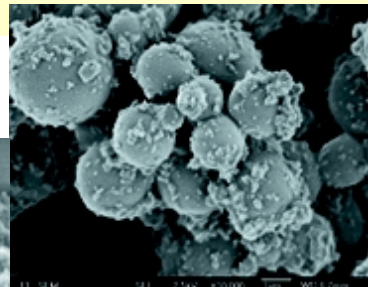
- *Mr Chan Wing-kee*, Managing Director, YangtzeKiang Garment Manufacturing Co. Ltd.
- *Mr Lam Tai-fai*, Managing Director, Peninsula Knitters Ltd.
- *Mr Lawrence Lam Yin-ming*, Senior Partner, Messrs M.K. Lam & Co. Ltd.
- *Mr Kenneth Lam Yiu-kin*, Partner, PricewaterhouseCoopers
- *Mr Ng Wai-hung*, Chairman, SAE Magnetics (HK) Ltd.
- *Mr Danny Ngai*, President, Artin International (Holdings) Ltd.
- *Mr Patrick Poon Sun-cheong*, Head of Greater China Region, ING Asia Pacific
- *Dr Stephen Tai Tak-fung*, Executive Chairman, Four Seas Mercantile Holdings Ltd.
- *Dr Henry Tseng Chee*, Managing Director, Kingtronics Holdings (HK) Ltd.

### Nano Composite Microencapsulation of PCM

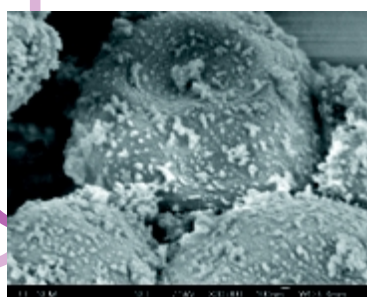
Encapsulated Phase Change Materials (PCMs) can increase the capacity of materials to store energy. This new material helps the human body maintain its normal temperature across hot and cold environments. It can be applied in the making of apparel, medical devices as well as building materials.



Cooling and heating process



Nano PCM Micro-capsules



# Celebrity golfers raise fund on the green



The champion Playmates Holdings team receives the Wing Hang Bank Trophy from Dr Fung.

**M**ore than 100 business and community leaders turned out for a day of fun at PolyU's first ever Celebrity Golf Tournament, held at the Hong Kong Golf Club on 28 February.

Following a ceremonial tee-off by Mrs Rita Fan Hsu Lai-tai, Honorary Chairperson of the Tournament, 27 teams vied for championship in the Texas Scramble format. Among the celebrity golfers were Mr Raymond Or Ching-fai, General Manager of HSBC; Dr Patrick Fung Yuk-bun, Chairman and Chief Executive of Wing Hang Bank; Dr Lo Ka-shui, Deputy Chairman and Managing Director of Great Eagle; Mr Raymond Chan, Group Chairman and CEO of IDT International; Mr Kenneth Lam, Partner of PricewaterhouseCoopers; and Mr Joseph Lo, Partner of Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu.

The event successfully promoted friendship between PolyU and its supporters and raised more than \$500,000 for the PolyU Development Fund and Student Development Fund — thanks to the leadership of Dr Fung as Chairman of the Tournament Organizing Committee.

The event was sponsored by Wing Hang Bank, Mercedes-Benz China, Virgin Atlantic Airways, China Hotel by Marriott, Citibank N.A., PricewaterhouseCoopers and all other participating teams.



Tee-off: Mrs Fan and Dr Fung flanked by the University President and Deputy President.

## Results of the Tournament

Overall Champion	Playmates Holdings
First Runner-up	HSBC
Second Runner-up	Fuji Xerox (HK)
Closest to Pin	Dr Lo Ka-shui
Longest Drive	Mr Joseph Yu



*It's a happy get-together for Mrs Fan, Honorary Graduate Dr Rosanna Wong and business faculty dean Prof. Judy Tsui.*



*Closest to Pin: Dr Lo Ka-shui makes a wonderful swing.*



*Dr Fung shows off his prowess.*



*The HSBC Team emerged as the First Runner-up.*

## *Dedication of building marks a strong bond*



*Left: Outlook of the Shirley Chan Building. Below: The generous Chan couple receive a souvenir from Council Chairman Sir Gordon Wu.*



As the Chinese saying goes, “When one drinks water, one thinks of its source”. Such virtue must have prompted electronic engineering graduate Mr Raymond Chan and his wife Mrs Shirley Chan to make a generous \$20 million donation toward the PolyU Development Fund and the Student Development Fund.

In grateful appreciation of the couple’s contribution, the University formally named a wing of its Professional Complex “Shirley Chan Building”.

Mr Chan is Group Chairman and CEO of IDT International Limited and also a recipient of PolyU’s University Fellowship last year. He has offered valuable input to his alma mater by serving on the PolyU Council since 2000. He is Chairman of the Advisory Committee of the Department of Electronic and Information Engineering and a Trustee of the Board of Trustees of PolyU Superannuation Fund. He also sponsored the University’s PolyU-IDT Innovative Entrepreneur Contest among students.

Mr Chan’s wife is also his close partner at work. As co-founder of IDT and Executive Director of IDT Holdings (Singapore) Limited and I-Comm Technology, Mrs Chan takes charge of the marketing strategies and administration of the Group.

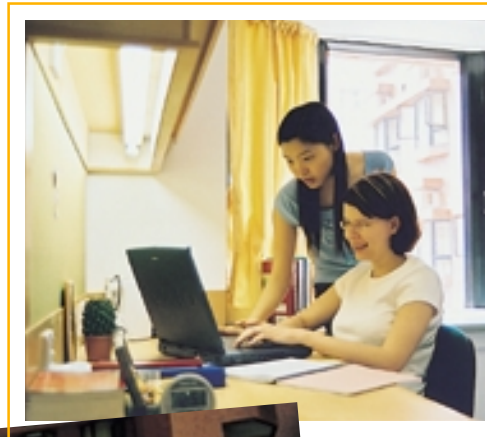
With a smart, contemporary architectural design, the eight-storey Shirley Chan Building and the five-storey RQ Wing together constitute the self-financed, 10,600 square-metre Professional Complex. It houses PolyU’s two self-financing entities dedicated to serving the community, i.e. the Institute for Enterprise and the College of Professional and Continuing Education.

# Celebrating the grand opening of the Halls



A spectacular lion dance and the unveiling of two commemorative plaques have marked the opening of PolyU's new Student Halls of Residence and the naming of the west wing of the Halls after the Hong Kong Jockey Club. The jubilant occasion, held on 21 January, was officiated at by Dr Alice Lam, Chairman of the University Grants Committee (UGC); Mr Ronald Arculli, Chairman of the Jockey Club; Dr Sir Gordon Wu, PolyU Council Chairman; and Prof. Poon Chung-kwong, University President.

During the ceremony, Prof. Poon expressed profound gratitude to the Government, the UGC and the Jockey Club for their unwavering support of the hostel development project, which spanned over six years. "The opening of our halls is indeed another step leading the University to its vision of offering truly all-rounded education to our students," he added.



The Hong Kong Jockey Club, through its Charities Trust, has pledged a generous donation of up to \$117 million toward the project. The actual amount, however, may vary as a result of the considerable savings in the construction project. While three quarters of the total construction cost was covered by the Government, the donation accounts for close to half of the remaining quarter of the cost borne by the University.

Located 15 minutes away from the main campus, the 22-storey hall building occupies a site area of 5,868 square metres and provides up to 3,004 hostel places. The residents are grouped into nine halls. Eight of them accommodate undergraduate students while one houses postgraduates. A team of hall wardens, tutors and administrators are on hand to provide pastoral care and intellectual guidance and support to students.

Since its first residents began moving in from last August, the Halls have been actively running a host of academic, social and cultural activities.

The Hong Kong Jockey Club has long been a staunch supporter of PolyU's efforts in nurturing preferred graduates for the community. It has previously made generous donations toward the establishment of PolyU's Jockey Club Rehabilitation Engineering Centre and the Jockey Club Auditorium.





## Students spread wings to fly high

**M**ore than a thousand “wings” took flight at Times Square on 22 March during the official launch of Cathay Pacific (CX)’s large scale community programme “I Can Fly”. The magnificent scene was formed by 40 PolyU students, together with 1,000 youngsters and CX pilots.

Hosted by Mr Philip Chen, CX Chief Operating Officer, the event was graced by the presence of Dr Philemmon Choi, Chairman of Hong Kong Commission On Youth, Prof. Poon Chung-kwong, PolyU President, Mr Cheung Hing-wah, Assistant Director of Social Welfare and other distinguished guests.

This meaningful programme has successfully recruited 1,000 youngsters aged between 13 and 18 to serve as the programme members. Under the guidance of CX pilots and PolyU students, members are divided into groups to perform a series of voluntary services and aviation activities in the coming year. Being the only university partner in this meaningful programme, PolyU is proud to send forth 40 elite students selected amongst 300 applications after rounds of stringent assessment. Despite their various academic interests — ranging from



nursing to business studies, rehabilitation sciences, industrial and systems engineering, management and Chinese and bilingual studies, they all share a common passion for voluntary service and aviation.

Throughout the programme year, PolyU students will serve as a bridge between the programme members and the CX pilots by channelling through information and providing support, direction and mentorship to their group members.

Prior to the launch, various training sessions were held by CX for PolyU students to equip them with the necessary skills and knowledge to help them meet the challenges in the coming year. A two-day visit was arranged to the Hong Kong International Airport to give students a better understanding of the operations of one of the world’s busiest airports. Students were allowed to go behind the scenes to restricted areas like the Air Traffic Control Tower, Government Flying Services and SuperTerminal 1. A special training session on volunteering and social servicing was also conducted by experienced social workers of the Social Welfare Department in mid-March. ❖

# PolyU courses a hit with JUPAS applicants

In the latest round of JUPAS statistics for 2003/04 admission (excluding HKUST), PolyU again proved to be the most preferred institution — in terms of the total number of Band A (top three choices) applications. PolyU's programmes in hotel management, social work and tourism management (see Table 1) have become the three most popular choices among JUPAS applicants. Topping the list is the BA programme in Hotel Management which has an admission ratio of 66 applications to one intake.

Other well-known programmes such as social work, design, hotel management, accountancy and nursing also received record-breaking applications, out-beating similar programmes offered by other institutions (see Table 2).

**Table 1. Total Band A applications versus intake quotas of the top three programmes**

Programme	Band A applications (A)	Intake quota (B)	Ratio (A:B)
Hotel Management	1,653	25	66
Social Work	2,057	39	53
Tourism Management	898	21	43

**Table 2. Total number of applications selecting PolyU programmes as their first choice**

Programme	First choice applications	Intake quota
Social Work	691	39
Design	644	111
Hotel Management	609	25
Accountancy	451	207
Nursing	418	127

**World class rating for tourism school**

The School of Hotel and Tourism Management (HTM) was listed among the world's top 15 prolific hotel schools, according to the authoritative *Journal of Hospitality & Tourism Education*. PolyU is the only institution in Asia to be put on this roll of honour.

Conducted by two academics in the United States based on the authorship of 61 research and scholarly journals in the field of hospitality and tourism, the latest ranking indicates the fact that HTM's research output is on par with other world-class institutions. Ranking first on the list is Cornell University of the US, followed by prestigious institutions in Europe and North America.

*From left: Prof. Kaye Chon, Ms Clara Chong, Prof. Poon Chung-kwong and Prof. Judy Tsui cut the ribbon for the newly refurbished centre.*



## New tourism resource centre opens doors

HTM celebrated the opening of its newly refurbished Hotel and Tourism Resource Centre in mid-March. With a net floor area of 250 square metres, the Centre is the only one of its kind in Asia which provides an updated and extensive range of publications, journals, statistical reviews and reference materials for students, researchers as well as industry members.

The Centre also houses the head office of the International Academy for the Study of Tourism and a sub-unit known as the "Hong Kong Sustainable Travel and Tourism Resource Unit", sponsored by the Hong Kong Tourism Board. For enquiries, please call 2766 6529 or send an email to [hmstella@polyu.edu.hk](mailto:hmstella@polyu.edu.hk).

# Overseas students targeted

In line with the Strategic Objective of promoting the University's internationalization, PolyU's Academic Exchange and Collaboration Office (AECO) has recently launched new initiatives to invite applications for PolyU's undergraduate programmes for year 2003/04.

In mid-February, members of AECO went to Kuala Lumpur to attend the FACON Education Fair to promote the University and to recruit prospective students. On the same trip, the team has officially entered into agreement with the United Chinese School Committees' Association of Malaysia (UCSCAM) to join hands in recruiting students from Malaysia. The UCSCAM is a non-profit organization representing some 60 Chinese private secondary schools with a student population of more than 60,000.

As an attempt to attract quality overseas students, International



*On behalf of the University, Prof. Yeung (left) signs agreement with representative of UCSCAM to recruit prospective students from Malaysia.*

Student Scholarships are offered, with a maximum subsidy of HK\$270,000 (US\$34,500) for each student over three years. International students with outstanding achievements are encouraged to apply for the Scholarships in support of their tuition fees and living expenses.

Prof. Philip Yeung Kwok-wing, Vice President (Academic Development) of PolyU said, "Renowned for its practical and well-designed programmes, PolyU strives to provide students with professional knowledge and practical training. Having the chance to study in Hong Kong certainly creates

competitive edge for the students' future careers."

All overseas students are able to enjoy a guaranteed accommodation policy as well as the same benefits as local students by paying the government-funded tuition.



*A leading school in aviation education, MU joins hand with PolyU to launch the first Master's programme in aviation in Hong Kong.*

## HK's first Master of Aviation

The joint effort between PolyU's Department of Mechanical Engineering and the School of Aviation of Massey University (MU) of New Zealand saw the launch of Hong Kong's first Master of Aviation programme.

With an aim of grooming future aviation leaders and educators of the region, this two-year programme is offered under PolyU's School of Professional Education and Executive Development. Unlike other aviation programmes that focus on technical training, this pioneering programme provides a comprehensive curriculum covering topics on airport operations, logistics, aircraft and airspace management.

The new programme is scheduled to start this summer, on a self-financed basis. Classes will be conducted both face-to-face and via distance learning. Apart from enjoying the academic support of both PolyU and MU, students are able to access PolyU library.

Applicants have to obtain Bachelor's degree with an appropriate grade point average or any equivalent academic qualification. Industry incumbents can provide evidence of practical or professional experience of an acceptable standard in an area relevant to the qualification.





# Regional acclaim for 'myPolyU' portal



**A pioneer in IT application, PolyU launched a unique portal "myPolyU" last year to provide better services to students and staff via the Intranet.**

**A** Singapore-based IT magazine *Intelligent Enterprise Asia* has recently named PolyU one of Asia's top 20 IT-savvy organizations in its "Third Intelligent20 Awards". PolyU is among the five Hong Kong organizations being put on the list.

The coveted award honours the University's achievement in pioneering the use of portal in the local tertiary sector. Known as "myPolyU", the portal provides staff and students with personalized one-stop access to all essential information and electronic services. Users can also customize the portal interface by re-arranging the sequence of displaying items, using a different colour and subscribing to news channels.

With its single sign-on feature, end users only need to logon once to access e-mails, e-learning materials, e-calendar, e-forms, weather information, local newspapers, library services and various other e-services at their own pace. These e-services have largely replaced paper forms and over-the-counter services, thus promoting the wider use of information technology among the PolyU community. ❖



**From left: Mr Cheng, Mrs Tan and Prof. T. P. Leung.**

## PolyU seminars draw crowds at Education Expo

**P**olyU's leading programmes in hotel and tourism management, logistics, accounting and finance once again proved a big hit in the Hong Kong Trade Development Council's annual Education and Careers Expo held between 20 and 23 February.

Similar to previous years, local universities were invited to set up exhibition counters and to give public seminars as part of the four-day programmes. This year, PolyU hosted three seminars with speakers from the departments of Hotel and Tourism Management, Shipping and Transport Logistics and Accountancy, to talk on the development of the professions and strengths of PolyU's programmes. All seminars recorded high turnout rate and received overwhelming response.

Staged at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre, the annual event was kicked off by Mr Christopher Cheng, Chairman of the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce, Mrs Pamela Tan, Commissioner for Labour and other distinguished guests. ❖



**Senior students are geared up to help prospective students to know more about PolyU.**