

Festival showcases *hall life* at PolyU



To further promote the joy of hall life and value of hall education, the University held its first ever Hall Festival from 30 March to 1 April on campus. Organized by the Student Affairs Office and Student Halls of Residence, the three-day Festival featured a variety of activities, including hall residents' performances, exhibitions of winning works of the hall logo design and hall photo-taking competitions, inter-hall tug-of-war and cooking competitions.

Speaking at the opening ceremony, Prof. Poon said: "Students residing in the hall are afforded the valuable opportunities of handling human relationships, building up personal network, communication skills, adaptability, among others. All these will bring life-long benefits to the students."

As a way to enhance students' personal development, the halls regularly run a series of academic, social and cultural activities, ranging from interest groups, high table dinners to inter-hall sports competitions. A team of hall wardens, tutors and administrators are also on hand to provide pastoral care and intellectual guidance to the student residents.

Located 15 minutes away from the main PolyU campus, the Student Halls of Residence provides 3,004 hostel places and currently has an occupancy rate of 90 per cent. Since its inception in 2002, more than 4,500 PolyU students have lived in the halls. With the support of over 15 academic departments, about a hundred scholarships have been set up to subsidize interested students to stay in the halls. ❖



Sincere awards innovative students

The Sincere Company Limited, a leading retailer in Hong Kong, has recently honoured three PolyU students for their creativity in retailing through the "Sincere Scholarship for Innovation in Retailing" scheme. Now in its fifth year, the scheme targets students of the Higher Diploma programme of the Institute of Textiles and Clothing.



Former gold awardees Christine Fung(left) and Sheryl Cheng(right), who are now management trainees of Sincere, congratulate this year's winners: (from second left) Gigi, Jimmy and Lena.



Prof. Tao Xiaoming (right), Head of Institute of Textiles and Clothing, thanks Mr Philip Ma for continuously sponsoring the scheme.

Gold Award winner Jimmy Tao Wai-leung suggested the retailer to set up a specialty store for youngsters, showcasing trendy and functional outfits and to hold career-wear fashion show among various universities.

A music enthusiast, Silver Award winner Lena Kwok Lai-na wrote a theme song for Sincere and proposed to hold piano and lyrics composition competitions in stores to draw in customers. The Bronze Award went to Gigi Chan Wai-chi.

Sincere Group Managing Director Mr Philip Ma highly commended the inventiveness of the contestants. He said some of the ideas were very practical and the Company may consider turning them into reality.

This year, the Scheme received more than 80 entries. The three awardees might be granted the opportunities to undertake internships at Sincere and a total cash prize of \$25,000.

Top prizes for fashion design students



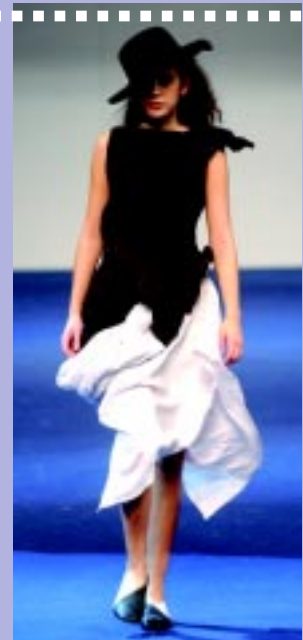
Fighter, by Lee Ho Wing-ngai, a 2002 Fashion & Textiles Studies graduate and winner of the "Ten Best Collections Award".

Fashion design students and graduates of the Institute of Textiles and Clothing have recently won top awards in the Hong Kong Young Fashion Designers' Contest 2004, organized by the Hong Kong Trade Development Council.

Among some 200 entrants, 15 most remarkable talents – of whom five were from PolyU – were short-listed to compete for five categories of awards. With their immense creativity, three PolyU members walked away with a total of six awards.



Conjunction, by Gary Shiu Ka-wai, a 2001 Clothing Studies graduate and winner of the "Ten Best Collections Award" and "Lectra Award for Best Application of Technology".



Grand Ultimate, by Johnny Ng Ping-wai, a Year Three student in Fashion & Textile Design, who has also won the "Ten Best Collections Award", "HKFDA Award" and "Fur Prize".

Awards and accolades

From accounting, multimedia technology to chemistry, PolyU students make their mark in various areas.



Chemistry students win first place in Olympiad

Students of the Department of Applied Biology and Chemical Technology won first place in the Hong Kong Inter-University Olympiad 2004, organized by the Hong Kong Chemical Society and the Royal Society of Chemistry in London.

Charged with the task of explaining how human beings survive in space from a chemistry perspective, PolyU team impressed the judges by having student Tsui Hoi-cheung (middle) playing the first Chinese astronaut Yang Liwei, while his colleague Chin Lai-man (right) played a scientist from the China Aerospace Academy and Chu Pui-wah a TV anchor to present their findings in an interesting and interactive way. ❖

Thumbs up for accounting students

Two teams of third-year students in Accounting won first and second runner-ups in the Hong Kong Society of Accountants Qualification Programme Case Analysis Competition. The competition was held for the second year to develop participants' generic skills and to cultivate their professional judgment. ❖



Business students snap HSBC Silver Award

Students John Yu Shing-chung, Cyrus Lau Chung-yin and Galis Yau Lai-na from the Faculty of Business won the Silver Award of the HSBC Young IT Entrepreneur Awards in March. The open competition required participants to make use of information technology to develop an innovative business plan. ❖



Honour for outstanding community service

Angus Law, a final-year student in physiotherapy, was honoured with the Outstanding Service Award for Tertiary Student 2003/04 by the Hong Kong Student Service Association. Angus has been actively involved in community service since 1992 and has paid great efforts to help the needy. Talking about the latest honour, Angus (middle) thanked Prof. Christina Hui-Chan (right), Head of the Department of Rehabilitation Sciences, and programme leader Dr Alice Jones for their support and guidance. ❖

Playing wireless “Tug-of-war”



Three MSc students in Multimedia and Entertainment Technology invented a mobile game which allows users to play “tug-of-war” between mobile phones, using Bluetooth technology. The invention scored the championship in the JAVA Mobile Game Competition, organized by Borland (HK) Limited, Asiasoft (HK) Limited and sponsored by Nokia (HK) Limited.

Logistics student receives special award

Vienna Lam Hin-yee, a Year One student in Global Supply Chain Management has become the first bursary recipient of the Hong Kong Association of Business and Professional Women in the field of logistics. Despite its male-dominated tradition, logistics has always been a favourite subject and a fascinating industry for Vienna. With the bursary award of \$15,000, Vienna plans to join two exchange programmes this summer to widen her horizon.



A big thank-you to donors

The University held a large-scale reception in its Student Halls of Residence in April to thank generous donors who have contributed scholarships, bursaries and other forms of financial assistance to our students.

During the 2003/04 academic year, more than 270 donors have contributed an amount of over \$22 million to PolyU either in the forms of scholarships, travelling scholarships, bursaries, education loans, emergency grants and loans, or sponsorship for the participation of a wide variety of student activities.

In addition, with the enthusiastic support from our friends and partners, the University has also accumulated a donation sum of \$15 million for its Student Development Fund since its establishment in 2002. The Fund is used on activities or campaigns that can help further our students' ability and personal development.



Students of the School of Hotel and Tourism Management thank donors and teachers for their support and guidance.



President Prof. Poon Chung-kwong says the long term success of an institution relies a lot on community support.

Turning holidays into worthy learning experience

This spring and summer, the University will organize a series of unconventional, interesting activities for students of secondary schools.

During weekends and holidays from April to August, about 20 learning workshops that require active participation by students will be run by academic departments to introduce their courses and related professions to the participants, and more importantly, to broaden their horizons. Students who are studying between Secondary Three and Secondary Seven are welcome to join programmes that are tailor-made for them to gain first-hand experience at PolyU.

Apart from monthly activities, several summer camps will be held in July. An innovative training camp named "Sparkles



Mrs Ada Chan, Senior Assistant Academic Secretary (fourth from right), poses with departmental and student representatives at the press briefing.

of Life" invites secondary school students to stay in the Students Halls of Residence and experience rigorous training that helps nurture their self-esteem, social and leadership skills. Other educational camps will be run by the Faculty of Applied Science and Textiles, Faculty of Business and School of

Design to enrich students' long vacation with worthy learning experience.

PolyU will also provide secondary school students with a taste of university classes by arranging teaching staff from among the 26 academic departments in our six faculties to deliver mini lectures in the schools.

Interested students and school teachers can visit our website at www.polyu.edu.hk/study or contact 2766 5141 for details. ❖

Wellness in Action 2004

To promote holistic and preventive health care among its students and staff, the University held its annual campus-wide programme named "Wellness in Action" from 16 March to 2 April. The three-week programme featured a variety of activities on campus, ranging from exhibitions to workshops with specialized themes on team-building, EQ development, effective communications and social skills, time and stress management. ❖

