

Chinese Vice-President impressed with 國家副主席參觀理大科研成果

Chinese Vice-President Zeng Qinghong paid his first visit to PolyU on September 12, spending almost an hour on our campus in his whirlwind three-day visit to Hong Kong. At PolyU, he was impressed with researchers' groundbreaking use of nanotechnology in designing "smart" textiles. He also witnessed the signing of a cooperation agreement between PolyU and the Beijing Institute of Technology (BIT) — Mr Zeng's alma mater.

Mr Zeng was accompanied by the HKSAR Chief Executive Mr Donald Tsang throughout the visit. Also joining the tour were Permanent Secretary for Education and Manpower Mrs Fanny Law, Director of the Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office of the State Council Mr Liao Hui, and Director of the Liaison Office of the Central People's Government in the HKSAR Mr Gao Siren.

Showing immense interest in novel technology, Mr Zeng said that he hoped Hong Kong could strive for more world "firsts".

They were warmly welcomed by Chairman of the Council of the University Mr Victor Lo and University President Prof. Poon Chungkwong, who escorted them to tour the Nanotechnology Centre for Functional and Intelligent Textiles and Apparel, a facility set up with the support of the Government's Innovation and Technology Fund. At the Centre, Prof. Fan Jintu of PolyU's Institute of Textiles and Clothing, introduced Mr Zeng to "Walter" — the world's first "sweating" manikin.



*Mr Zeng touring the nanotechnology centre.
曾副主席參觀納米科技中心。*

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Life-size Walter is made up of water, mechatronics and breathable fabric, allowing realistic simulation of human thermal physiology under various environments. The manikin achieves a body temperature distribution similar to a real person, as 37-degree-Celsius water is pumped through his body. His moisture-permeable fabric "skin" allows him to perspire.

The technology has applications in designing not only comfortable clothing for the general consumer, but also clothing for people working in extreme environments, such as soldiers, firefighters and astronauts.

According to the five-year agreement signed between PolyU and BIT, the two parties will forge collaboration in various areas, including academic, research and student exchange.

The historic tour closed with a friendly exchange of souvenirs.

*Prof. Fan (left) explains to Mr Zeng how Walter works.
范金土教授介紹華特的構造。*



PolyU innovations

並見證京港理大簽署合作協議

國家副主席曾慶紅先生於去年九月十日至十二日旋風式訪港，特別於最後一天早上抽出近一小時到訪理工大學，參觀本校納米科技應用的最新成果，對本校研發的納米科技留下深刻印象；又見證了其母校北京理工大學與本校簽署合作協議。

陪同曾副主席到訪的還包括香港行政長官曾蔭權、國務院港澳辦公室主任廖暉、中央政府駐港聯絡辦主任高祀仁和教育統籌局常任秘書長羅范椒芬。

曾副主席對此創新科技大感興趣，更藉此勉勵港人說「希望香港有更多的世界第一」。

副主席一行人由本校校董會主席羅仲榮及校長潘宗光教授親自帶領前往理大的功能性及智慧型紡織品及成衣納米科技中心參觀，並由本校紡織及製衣學系教授范金土介紹全球首創出汗暖體假人「華特」。該納米科技中心由創新及科技基金資助，於二零零三年六月成立。

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「華特」用水和特種織物製造，具備模擬人類體溫攝氏三十七度血液循環的水流循環系統，其防水且可滲透濕氣的布質皮膚容許它在不同環境下模擬人體排汗過程。「華特」除了可用以設計一般便服，亦可以應用在極端的環境，範圍包括作戰軍服、特種工作服以至宇航服的設計。

根據當日簽署為期五年的京港理工大學合作協議，兩校將合作發展學術、研究、學生交流等多方面的項目，互取所長。

訪問在雙方交換紀念品後，完滿結束。



BIT President Kuang Jingming and Prof. Poon signing the cooperation agreement.

北京理工大學匡鏡明校長與潘宗光教授簽署合作協議。



A friendly chat with staff and students.

曾副主席與師生談笑風生。



Mr Zeng presents a replica of the Shenzhou V spacecraft as a souvenir to the University. In return he receives a luminescent piece of fabric featuring our campus, developed using nanotechnology.

曾慶紅副主席把神舟五號飛船模型贈予本校，同時獲潘校長贈予一幅以納米技術製成，可以發光的理大校舍外貌圖。

11th Congregation salutes 9,200 graduates



The University sent forth 9,200 postgraduates, undergraduates and sub-degree students in the 11th Congregation held at the Hong Kong Coliseum on 3 December.

The Congregation was presided over by Mr Victor Lo Chung-wing, Chairman of the Council. This year, the University awarded 82 Doctor of Philosophy, 41 discipline-based Doctor's degree, 2,649 Master's degree, 3,602 Bachelor's degree, 231 postgraduate diploma and certificate and 2,555 sub-degree awards. It is noteworthy that as many as 792 Chinese mainland graduates, who had successfully completed PolyU programmes offered on the mainland, were conferred PolyU awards. Among them, about 650 made a special trip to Hong Kong to join the ceremony.

The Congregation also saw the conferment of Honorary Degrees to four prominent figures in recognition of their outstanding achievements and contribution to the community. They were: Mr Kenneth Fang Hung and Dr Lui Che-woo, both of whom were conferred the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Business Administration; Mr Kan Tai-keung, the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Design; and Mr Barry Lam, the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Technology.

Mr Kenneth Fang Hung, Chairman of Fang Brothers Knitting Limited, is a highly respected industrialist in the textiles and clothing sector. He has made outstanding contributions to the industry and was a recipient of the Industrialist of the Year Award in 2002. He is also currently Member of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference.

Mr Fang achieved remarkable accomplishments while serving as Chairman of the Hong Kong Productivity Council from 1994 to 2002. He was Founding Member of the PolyU Court and Member of the University Grants Committee. In recognition of his significant contributions to the social and industrial development of Hong Kong,



Mr Fang was awarded the Gold Bauhinia Star by the HKSAR Government in 2004.

An internationally famed designer and painter, **Mr Kan Tai-keung** embarked on his career as a designer in 1967 and launched his own design company in 1976. His distinctive style of tapping Chinese arts have won him hundreds of awards at home and abroad, and his works have been featured in leading international publications and are collected by renowned museums in the world. He was named the World's Outstanding Chinese Designer by the Hong Kong Design Centre in 2004.



Mr Kan has always actively promoted art and design education, publishing more than ten books on design principles. In 2003, he became Dean of the Cheung Kong School of Art and Design of Shantou University.

Mr Barry Lam, a visionary notebook computer tycoon, founded Quanta Computer in 1988 and has since been Quanta's Chairman and CEO. Under his capable leadership, his company quickly became a leading notebook computer manufacturer in the world.



With over 30 years of entrepreneurial experience, Mr Lam is widely recognized for his accomplishments. In 1999 and 2001, Mr Lam was twice chosen by *Business Week* as one of the 50 "Stars of

Asia". Mr Lam is also reputed for his dedicated promotion of the arts. In 1999, he set up Quanta Education Foundation to support charitable activities and to promote arts and culture. He is Chairman of the Contemporary Art Foundation and a Director of the Cloud Gate Theatre Group.

Dr Lui Che-woo is a distinguished entrepreneur and renowned philanthropist. Known as the "King of Quarry", Dr Lui is currently Chairman of K. Wah Group, with major member companies including K. Wah International Holdings, Galaxy Entertainment Group, K. Wah Construction Materials, K. Wah Properties (Holdings), Stanford Hotels International,



Stanford Hospitality and Cresleigh Homes Corporation.

Apart from making remarkable contributions to the development of the local economy, Dr Lui is a staunch supporter of education and community services. He has been serving as Founding Court Member of PolyU since 1995. Dr Lui is also widely known for his support for professional training for the hotel industry in Hong Kong. PolyU has benefited from Dr Lui's invaluable insights and support for its development of hotel and tourism programmes. ❖



President calls for more first-degree places

Addressing the Congregation this year, President Prof. Poon Chung-kwong called on the HKSAR Government to "seriously explore the possibility of expanding the number of first-degree places".

He said: "The Government has long set the number of first-year first-degree places at 14,500 for every year. This represents a mere 16.5 per cent of the relevant age cohorts, short of the Government's target of 18 per cent. This means that, because of limited places, a large number of eligible students are deprived of the chance of education at degree level.

"Now that the Government has achieved in advance its target of 60 per cent participation in tertiary education, it is time for it to look at ways of addressing school-leavers' needs for university education, and offering help to more outstanding associate degree graduates to further their studies for government-funded first-degrees."

Prof. Poon welcomed the Chief Executive's recent announcement regarding the implementation of the "3+3+4" academic structure in 2009. He also supported the further expansion of education export, which he thought could tap into Hong Kong's first-rate educational resources to groom talent for the Asia-Pacific region and attract outstanding students from abroad to study in Hong Kong.

Prof. Poon added that PolyU has finalized its plans for two major projects, namely a new teaching hotel for its prestigious School of Hotel and Tourism Management, and the very first Research and Development Centre for Textile and Clothing in Hong Kong.

The Government's Innovation and Technology Commission has already designated PolyU's Institute of Textiles and Clothing as the focus area for establishing the first Research and Development Centre for Textile and Clothing in the territory. Set up to facilitate research and development on textile-and-clothing-related technologies, the Centre is dedicated to promoting Hong Kong as a world-class fashion and textiles hub.

During his visit to PolyU in September last year, Chinese Vice-President Mr Zeng Qinghong affirmed the Institution's achievements in applied technology development, and pointed out that technology should serve economic purposes. Mr Zeng said that PolyU should strive to make contributions to the development of society and, in his own words, "to groom more 'future pillars of society' to serve the motherland as well as Hong Kong".

Prof. Poon concurred and remarked: "We will also do our best to align our efforts with the globalization trend as well as the development of our motherland. The most crucial aspect of our work is that we must go full steam ahead with developing all-round education," PolyU's goal, he added, is that in the course of their study, every student will be given at least one chance of going abroad for placement or study purposes. ❖