

PolyU's consultancy arm celebrates *10th Anniversary*



Mr Leung (fourth from right) and Prof. Poon toasting at the ceremony.

More than 300 guests from business, industry and the government attended the 10th Anniversary celebration of PolyU Technology and Consultancy Company Limited (PTeC), a self-financed unit established by the University to provide one-stop and comprehensive consultancy services to business and industrial sectors both in Hong Kong and the neighbouring region.

The auspicious occasion, held on 30 March, was officiated at by President Prof. Poon Chung-kwong and Mr Gordon Leung, then Acting Commissioner of Innovation and Technology Commission.

During the past decade, PTeC has provided professional services

for over 6,000 consultancy projects and to more than 3,500 companies with the support of the University's team of experts and state-of-the-art facilities. In recognition of its superior quality management, the company was awarded the ISO 9001 certification last year.

At the ceremony, awards were presented to 10 selected outstanding consultancy projects that have benefited the community. The event also acknowledged 14 distinguished long-term partners from electronics, toys, advanced materials, biotechnology, engineering, manufacturing, public transport, consumer services, tourism, and social services sectors with special mementos. ❖

The 10 projects awarded the Most Valuable Consultancy Projects Award were (in alphabetical order by department):

Projects	Department
In-depth Social Science Studies on Various Social, Economic and Political Issues and Public Policies	Department of Applied Social Sciences
Development of Novel PCO Water and IAQ Treatment Technology	Department of Civil and Structural Engineering
Structural Health Monitoring and Safety Evaluation of Long-Span Bridges	Department of Civil and Structural Engineering
Modernization Programme for Integrated Children and Youth Services Centres	School of Design
Study of Electromagnetic Interference and Electro-mechanical Issues for the Railway Industry	Department of Electrical Engineering
Antioxidant Research	Department of Health Technology and Informatics
Automatic Vehicle Clearance System (Vehicle e-Channel for Immigration Clearance)	Industrial Centre
Optical Design and Ultra-precision Machining of Precision Products for Optics, Photonics and Telecommunication Industries	Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering
Stigma and Behavioral Health in Urban Employers from China and the United States	Department of Rehabilitation Sciences
Walter - The World's First Sweating Fabric Manikin	Institute of Textiles and Clothing

PolyU snatches eight awards in Geneva's Invention Expo

The University won three Gold and three Silver Awards, and two Special Awards in the 34th International Exhibition of Inventions, New Techniques and Products held in Geneva from 5 to 9 April. The award-winning inventions and their principal investigators are outlined as follows:

Special Awards and Gold Awards

Telemedicine Management System by Prof. Thomas Wong, *Faculty of Health and Social Sciences*; Prof. Joanne Chung, Dr K L Fan, *School of Nursing*

Using Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) technology, the researchers have developed the system, also called eMED Administrator, for dispensing medicine and detecting medication misuse. Each medication package is labelled with an RFID tag and the information is stored in a central telemedicine database. The RFID tag allows the package to be tracked whenever it is taken out of or put into a computerized medicine cabinet. The tracking data can be retrieved in real time by healthcare professionals and caregivers for monitoring or analyzing purposes.



Flexi-Wrist Fracture Balance Brace by Dr Guo Xia, *Department of Rehabilitation Sciences (RS)*; Prof. Man Hau-chung, *Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering*; Dr MQ Liu (RS)

With the installation of a universal joint, the ingenious design allows greater movement of the wrist in different directions. It is, compared to the rigid form of plaster cast, considered as a major improvement especially for elderly patients. The University has licensed the production of this patented device to Guizhou Tongjitang Medicine Co. Ltd in the mainland market. The company has initially invested RMB 5 million for the development and promotion of the device.



Gold Award



Self-Cleaning Garment by Prof. John Xin, Dr Walid Daoud, Dr Yuyang Liu, *Institute of Textiles and Clothing*

Backed by the support from the Innovation and Technology Fund, the researchers have made use of the Lotus Nano™ surface fabrication technology and the patent pending nano photocatalysis technology to develop the self-cleaning garment. The biomimic lotus leaf nanostructure and nano titanium dioxide coating built on fabric can defend and decompose stains, dirt, odours, bacteria, harmful gases. The special fabric is also highly water- and oil-repellent.



Silver Awards



Ferric Reducing Anti-oxidant (fRAP) Assay by Prof. Iris Benzie, *Department of Health Technology and Informatics*; and Prof. Sean Strain, *University of Ulster*

This unique test has been employed by scientists worldwide to probe into the antioxidant and potentially anti-ageing ingredients in foods, ranging from Lingzhi and green tea to wines and dark chocolate. The inter-disciplinary nature of the research has helped the University establish an extensive research network with international experts in human nutrition, cancer biology, DNA damage and repair, ageing and diabetes.



Palmprint Security System by Prof. David Zhang Dapeng, Dr Lu Guangming, *Department of Computing*

Inspired by the idea of palm-reading, Prof. Zhang has developed the world's first Palmprint Security System. By identifying unique features 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 US patents have been secured for this invention.



“Virus Stopper” – a Novel Protective Clothing System by Prof. Li Yi, Prof. Edward Newton, *Institute of Textiles and Clothing*

The system was built on the application of nano antibacterial fabrics with moisture management functions. Repeated experiments have shown that it can provide higher protective efficiency against viral aerosols and prevent penetration of virus- contaminated droplets. It can be used to lower the risk of infection in the case of person-to-person transmission of diseases and is suitable for frontline healthcare professionals.



3rd PolyU Arts Festival

Major international sports competitions like the Olympic Games and the World Cup catch the world's attention, while sporting events take place in parks, schools and even at home. In this sense, sport is related to each and every one of us, and it has also contributed to the development of culture. Thus, the theme of the 3rd PolyU Arts Festival was "Culture in Sport, Sport in Culture". The event, staged from 8 February to 5 March, featured a diverse range of events, including a carnival, talks, exhibitions, competitions, performances and film shows. Let's take a look at the highlights:



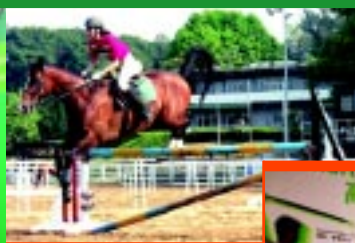
Thrills and spills — performances of X-Skate members during the opening ceremony.



Supported by 15 sports associations and organizations, the Carnival provides unique opportunities for participants to experience the excitement of various sports.



An exhibition on equestrian sports was held with the support of the Hong Kong Jockey Club. Picture shows (from right) Dr Kim Mak, Executive Director of Corporate Development of HKJC; Miss Karen Mak, a member of the Hong Kong Equestrian Team and PolyU student; Prof. Poon Chung-kwong, President; Mr Roy Chung Chi-ping, Deputy Council Chairman; and Prof. Leung Tin-pui, the then Vice President of PolyU.



Talk series: Ms Olivia Cheng (left), winner of the Hong Kong Amateur Championship, shares her passion for both art and sport. Miss Li Fai (right), a leading figure in the world of martial arts, shares her experiences as a martial arts performer.



Officiated at by LegCo member the Hon. Mrs Selina Chow, the Closing Ceremony stages special performances including percussion show, and Ballroom and Latin dance.