

Students flying high

The University has always been committed to providing quality education with emphasis on the whole-person development of students, and it takes pride to learn that the many opportunities offered to enrich students' learning experiences have helped extend their potentials and enable them to make remarkable achievements.

Heading straight to doctoral study with full scholarships

Among the outstanding final-year students, three of them have received full scholarship offers from top universities in the US to further their study at doctoral level upon their completion of undergraduate studies this year. They are Mr Zhang Yiling of the Department of Applied Physics, who will be studying on the PhD programme of materials science and engineering in Carnegie Mellon University in Pennsylvania State; Mr Yuan Hang of the Department of Electronic and Information Engineering, who will be pursuing his doctoral study in electrical engineering in University of Southern California; and Mr Cui Rui of the School of Accounting and Finance, who has selected to further his PhD study at University of Chicago Graduate School of Business out of the nine offers he received from world-renowned universities in the US.

Furthermore, the University recently organized its annual Outstanding Student Awards Presentation Ceremony to honour those full-time final-year top students who excel in both academic and non-academic pursuits during their studies. Each academic department is allowed to nominate one candidate, who has to compete with other distinguished students in the same faculty for the Award. Subsequently, the "Most Outstanding PolyU Student" is selected among the six awardees from different faculties.

Let's hear from the outstanding students how they began their journey at PolyU, and have a glimpse of their university life. ❖

Mr Zhang Yiling

BSc (Hons) in Engineering Physics

PolyU Most Outstanding Student 2007

Outstanding Student of Faculty of Applied Science & Textiles



Prof. Poon and Mr Zhang Yiling (right)

"The journey from my hometown Hangzhou to Hong Kong started more than three years ago. Studying on the engineering physics programme at PolyU, I began my investigation of the world from the perspective of a science student. My hard work, supported by great assistance from the professors and lecturers, has helped me achieve excellent academic performance. In addition, the exchange programme at North Carolina State University was a

piece of unforgettable and life-enriching experience. I enjoyed listening to professors' absorbing speeches as well as being friends with people from all over the world.

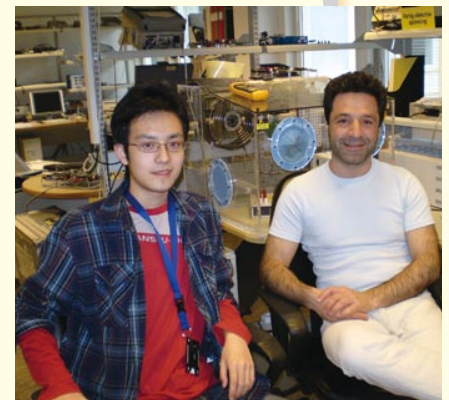
"If asked for a shortcut of obtaining high GPA, my tips are attending every class and reading one more chapter during weekends. Above all, I believe the essence of learning lies in the keyword 'understanding'."

Mr Yuan Hang

BEng (Hons) in Electronic & Information Engineering

Outstanding Student of Faculty of Engineering

"As my Chinese name 'Hang'(航), which has the meaning of travelling around, implies, I have been moving from place to place since childhood. However, it was not until I came to Hong Kong did I begin my own journey. My life at PolyU has been full of opportunities. The experience of studying at University of Waterloo in Canada on an exchange programme was inspiring. I also spent a summer working with engineers of different nationalities in Sweden which allowed me to further appreciate the power of combining theory with application. All these experiences have sparked excitement for further exploration."



Mr Yuan Hang (left)

Mr Cui Rui

BBA (Hons) in Accounting and Finance

"I am honoured to have received several scholarship offers from renowned universities in the US to further my doctoral study, and the honour should go to PolyU and its faculty. I am lucky to have excellent teachers and friendly peers who have been very supportive during my years of study here. Their kind assistance and the welcoming campus have made me quickly adapt to the new environment. In particular, I would like to thank my mentors at the Faculty of Business for providing me with valuable advice and giving me the opportunity to learn as a research assistant to acquire more skills in conducting research before I set off for the US this September.



Prof. Judy Tsui and Mr Cui Rui

"Apart from studies, my exchange life at Arizona State University has reinforced my interest in the discipline of Finance. Looking forward, as I was born into a family of professors, I want to work in the academia in future."

Mr Wong Chun-shek

BBA (Hons) in Accounting and Finance

Outstanding Student of Faculty of Business

"I have been given a number of chances to take up the role of Master of Ceremonies in various occasions at PolyU. The experiences are very rewarding. Soon starting my career pursuit, I am also prepared to contribute my knowledge and skills to society by my continued participation in voluntary services so as to help build a better and peaceful world."



Prof. Poon and Mr Wong Chun-shek (left)

Miss Yu Nga-wing

BA (Hons) in Language Studies for the Professions

Outstanding Student of Faculty of Communication

"Hardly can I forget the most treasurable memories of my placement in Hangzhou and exchange life in Shanghai. What I have learnt in the actual work environment cannot be gained from lectures. I truly believe that university learning is not made up of figures and alphabetic letters listed on the transcript; the teaching from my lecturers and the support from fellow classmates have lit up my university life."



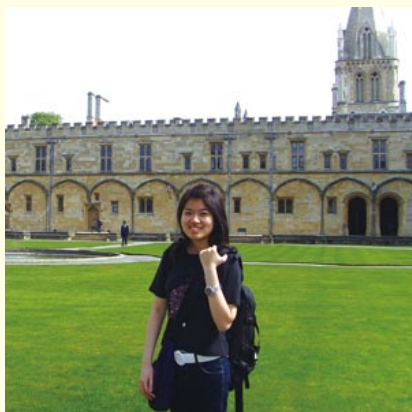
Miss Yu Nga-wing (first from left)

Miss Ma Yuen-tung

BEng (Hons) in Surveying

Outstanding Student of Faculty of Construction & Land Use

"Participating in the 'Preferred Graduate' Development Programme was surely one of the most valuable experiences. It has offered me an insight into the operations of surveying firms and real practice in the field. Furthermore, I benefited a lot during my exchange to Loughborough in the United Kingdom. I have become more independent and better-equipped with soft-skills like plan-making, problem-solving and interpersonal skills."



Miss Ku Siu-ting

BSc (Hons) in Physiotherapy

Outstanding Student of Faculty of Health & Social Sciences

"It was a tough decision for me to come back from Canada to Hong Kong to pursue my second Bachelor degree in PolyU. However, it is definitely a right decision to make. PolyU has given me a chance of a lifetime to work as summer intern at Curtin University of Perth, Australia. I had gained precious experiences during my stay at the university physiotherapy clinic. Looking back at my work experiences in Canada, Hong Kong and Australia, I learn that cultural influences play a big role in determining treatment approaches. I would have never realized that if I were not given a chance to study here."



SDWorks puts students' design on market

“We often see student projects that have great commercial potential but unfortunately end when the course is completed. SDWorks has been established since 2007 to turn these works into reality,” Prof. Lorraine Justice, Director of School of Design said.

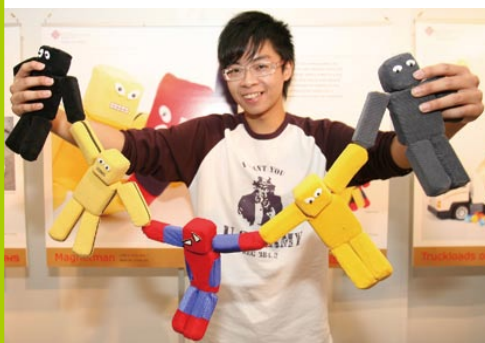
The concept was initiated by Assistant Professors Roger Ball and Ernesto Spicciolato as a way of letting design students' experience “lives beyond the classroom”. SDWorks aims to provide a platform for design students to commercialize and market their innovative works.

Let's take a look at some students' works being introduced to the market:

The “Magnetman”

Designer: Mr Kenneth Kwok

The Magnetman can change its mood explicitly on its face by rotating its two elliptic eyes. It is also a note holder and can even be a toy.



“Truckloads of Knowledge”

Designer: Miss Wingy Chan

This toy is designed to help pre-school children familiarize themselves with the English alphabet.



The Duck Necklace

Designer: Miss Cindy Yu

The necklace displays a miniature of roasted duck, which is a well-known delicacy of Hong Kong, engraved on metal.



Branch-shaped Chopstick Rest

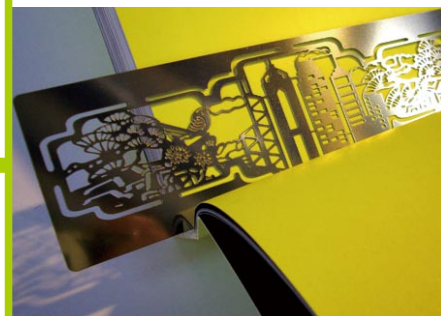
Designer: Miss Bonita Chan

The branch-shaped chopstick rest is beautifully crafted on a piece of wooden-colour ceramic and then moulded for mass production.

HK Skyline Bookmark

Designer: Miss Irene Kwong

The design of the Photochemical Machining Bookmark is inspired by traditional Chinese paper cutting. The skyscrapers surrounded by the jungle of Hong Kong Island point out the collision between nature and technology, tradition and the cutting edge.



Where to buy?

SDWorks products are available for sale at the TDC Design Gallery, G.O.D. Delay No Mall at Yee Woo Street, Causeway Bay, and the Design Gallery store at the Hong Kong International Airport. SDWorks is also seeking expansion internationally through sales negotiation with reputed design galleries in London and San Francisco.



Student sportsmen: From sweat & tears to applause



The University's annual Sports Team Prize Presentation Ceremony was held on 23 April in the Shaw Sports Complex to commend the remarkable efforts of our outstanding student athletes.

Out of 11 participating universities, PolyU sports team won the 2007/08 Men's Overall First Runner-up and Women's Overall Second Runner-up at the Inter-Universities Sports Competitions organized by The University Sports Federation of Hong Kong (USFHK).



During the ceremony, President Prof. Poon Chung-kwong expressed his heartiest congratulations on the team's laudable achievements and presented awards to more than 80 outstanding sportsmen and coaches. This year, the PolyU Best Athlete of the Year Awards of the Men's and Women's category went respectively to Mr Choi Tung-yin (Squash) and Miss Yeung Hiu-ching (Fencing).

The Most Valuable Players selected by USFHK were Miss Chan Sin-yan (Fencing), Mr Yan Ho-chun (Swimming), Mr Chiu Shung-hei (Squash) and Mr Liu Hiu-ming (Table Tennis). ❖

PolyU grooms future entrepreneurs

Nine winning teams of the PolyU-IDT Innovative Entrepreneur Contest 2007/08 were selected recently after months of keen competition among participating teams from different departments of the University. Running for the seventh year, the competition, sponsored by IDT International Ltd, provides a platform for full-time PolyU students to formulate their creative ideas in developing sound business ventures.

The winners were chosen for their innovation and creative concept, commercial viability and market potential, technology novelty and uniqueness, soundness of business/development plan and presentation skills. Under the guidance of advisor Dr Alan Lau Kin-tak, a team of mechanical engineering students, comprising Miss Ho Mei-po, Miss Joyce Lau Hiu-lok and Miss Ng Wing-ki, scooped the Diamond Award. ❖

