

5. Campus Network & Internet

5.1 Campus Network

5.1.1 Campus Network Infrastructure

The University's campus network consists of many departmental Local Area Networks (LANs) which connect all the computers within departments. These LANs are inter-connected by the campus network backbone. Ten Gigabit, Gigabit and Fast Ethernet technologies including Etherchannel are employed in the network to provide a very high speed communication backbone. The University's campus network is extended to the Student Halls of Residence to facilitate hall users to access the central IT facilities and services. The campus network is also connected to the Internet via HARNET (section 5.1.2) to enable the sharing of computer resources and electronic information exchange within the University and externally.

Through the campus network, you can have easy access to the central computers, the University Portal, Internet and other network facilities and services as well as the Library's electronic services. You can also communicate with the world-wide community and access a wealth of information on the Internet.

*The Campus Network Infrastructure diagram is at **Appendix G**.*

5.1.2 HARNET

The Hong Kong Academic & Research Network (HARNET) is a wide area optical network linking up the campus networks of the JUC (Joint Universities Computer Centre) member and affiliated institutions, including The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, The University of Hong Kong, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, City University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong Baptist University, Lingnan University, The Hong Kong Institute of Education, The Open University of Hong Kong, Vocational Training Council and University of Macau. The optical network supports high speed network applications and research projects among universities.

Besides connecting to the Internet, HARNET is connected to the third generation of the Trans-Eurasia Information Network (TEIN3) to support academic and research activities. To facilitate information exchange and collaboration among universities in the Greater China Region, HARNET is connected to the China Education and Research Network (CERNET), CERNET2 and the Taiwan Research Network (TANet). It also peers with other National Research and Education Networks (NREN) including the Academia Sinica Grid Computing Centre (ASGCNET), Korea Research Environment Open Network (KREONET) and Asia Pacific Advanced Network – Japan (APAN –JP).

HARNET provides quality, equitable and cost-effective information and communication resources to its member institutions and all PolyU users are eligible to use the computing and networking resources of HARNET. You are requested to observe the "HARNET Acceptable Use Policy" available at the URL: <http://www.hku.hk/jucc/haup.htm>.

5.1.3 Wireless LAN and Fixed Network Outlets in Public Areas on Campus

To provide convenient connection of notebook computers to the campus network and to facilitate computer-aided teaching, both wireless LAN access points and fixed network outlets have been installed at different public areas on campus including all lecture theatres and general teaching rooms. To avoid unauthorized access to the University's IT resources, authentication is required for connection. Please refer to http://www.polyu.edu.hk/its/services_facilities/wifi.html for the procedures of setting up your notebook PC for network connection.

5.1.3.1 Wireless LAN

Wireless LAN access points have been installed at all public areas and buildings on the podium level and above including all lecture theatres and general teaching rooms, ITS Student Computer Centre,

the Library, sports centres, canteens, Chiang Chen Studio Theatre and Jockey Club Auditorium. With the adoption of the WPA (Wi-Fi Protected Access) and WPA2 Protocol, data communication over the wireless LAN is highly secure.

With a notebook computer with wireless capability, you may get convenient access to the campus network at locations with wireless access points established. The Wireless LAN will also facilitate departments and student organizations in holding exhibitions, presentations and any other functions which require network access in the open areas. Temporary WiFi access for guests attending conferences and other events on campus can also be arranged upon request by departments.

5.1.3.2 Fixed Network Outlets

Fixed network outlets have been installed in all lecture theatres and general teaching rooms to facilitate the connection of notebooks to the campus network for class teaching.

In addition to the network outlets dedicated for class teaching, 500 network outlets have also been installed at different public areas on campus to provide all staff and students with a convenient and secure way to connect your notebook computer to the campus network. The network outlets can be found at the following areas:

- **Student Common Room - S403**
- **Room W203, W208, W209 and W210**
- **Pao Yue-kong Library - All research carrels**
- **Selected departmental laboratories/offices of AP, BRE, COMP, CSE, STL, SN, REC & RS**

5.1.4 Wireless Access at Public Places in Hong Kong

Through collaboration with local wireless service providers including Y5ZONE (<http://www.y5zone.net>) and PCCW (<http://www.pccwwifi.com>), free wireless access has been extended to off campus. PolyU staff and students can enjoy free Internet connectivity at thousands of hotspots at public places in Hong Kong including popular shopping malls, restaurants, fast food chains, coffee shops, convenience stores, MTR stations, etc. Please refer to the respective websites of the service providers for the updated list of hotspots.

5.1.5 Wireless Access at Local Universities

The 'Universities WiFi' service is a joint-universities initiative on mutual wireless access, to enable local university staff and students to have roaming WiFi access across all the eight institutions using their mobile devices. PolyU staff and students can access the WiFi service at other local universities using your PolyU NetID and NetPassword.

5.1.6 Wireless Access at Overseas Universities

To provide staff and students with wireless access while visiting other overseas universities, PolyU has joined the 'eduroam' initiative (<http://www.eduroam.org>) which is a wireless LAN mutual access initiative among member institutions around the world. By configuring the wireless LAN parameters of your notebook computer, you can conveniently access the wireless LAN at all 'eduroam' member institutions locally and overseas.



5.2 Internet

5.2.1 Access to the Internet

Through the Internet, you can gain convenient access to a wealth of information and to communicate with other network users worldwide. While on campus, you can use any networked PCs or workstations in your office or the SCC to get on to the Internet via the campus network and HARNET. You may also access the Internet with your notebook PC using the wireless LAN and the fixed network outlets installed at various public areas on campus.

An Internet Firewall is used to protect the campus network infrastructure against external attacks and to avoid abuse on external networks. Please refer to http://www.polyu.edu.hk/its/firewall_rules for the default firewall rules. In case you have the practical need to bypass the firewall rules for your work, please apply via your departmental Computer Liaison Officer by completing the 'Application for Access to PolyU Computer Hosts from the Internet' form available under the 'Electronic Form' of the ITS web site.

5.2.2 Standard Web Browser

Microsoft Internet Explorer is adopted as the standard web browser of the University. To ensure accessibility, you are recommended to use the standard browser when browsing the PolyU web sites or accessing the University's web-based applications.

5.2.3 Web Hosting Service

The web hosting service enables departments / offices to host their departmental websites in the central web servers which are accessible to the PolyU community or the general public via the World Wide Web. Please contact the ITS Help Centre at **Ext. 5900** for the creation of web account.

5.2.4 Policy on Controversial Materials on the Internet

As an Internet user, you are requested to observe the University's policy that controversial materials of obscene and pornographic nature should not be accessed, developed or distributed using the computing resources of the University. As a regular practice, ITS will remove all the "suspicious" pornographic/obscene information from our servers.

Any non-compliance may result in **termed or permanent suspension of computer access**, or other disciplinary measures depending on the nature of the offence.

5.2.5 PolyU URL Policy

To ensure a consistent, predictable and user friendly experience for the University's web pages, a PolyU URL Policy is in place to define the required and preferred structures of Universal Resource Locators (URLs) of PolyU websites. The URL Policy (https://www2.polyu.edu.hk/PolyU/General_Notices/PolyU_URL_Policy.pdf) is to be followed when setting up departmental websites.