Co-operation with National Audit Office bears fruit

As part of the on-going co-operation in research and professional training between PolyU and China’s National Audit Office (CNAO), a five-member delegation led by CNAO Auditor General Mr Li Jinhua set foot on the University campus on 6 July. During the visit, the delegation held fruitful discussions with both the PolyU Management and academics at the Department of Accounting.

This summer, five graduating students from CNAO bid farewell to the University after spending two years here working hard to complete a two-year master’s degree programme in professional accounting. The students expressed that they have all had a rewarding experience in Hong Kong and would make use of their new knowledge to contribute toward the further development of the country.

Advancing the frontiers of banking and finance

The Faculty of Business and Information Systems and the Department of Accountancy (ACCT) have recently organized lectures and symposiums with a view to contributing to the banking and finance sectors in Hong Kong and the mainland.

Bank deposit protection

The Faculty of Business and Information Systems and the Department of Accountancy organized two professional lectures on 11 July. Mr David T. R. Carse, Deputy Chief Executive, Hong Kong Monetary Authority, spoke on the topic “Enhancing Deposit Protection in Hong Kong”, and Prof. Edward Kane, James F. Cleary Professor in Finance, Boston College, US, shared his views with the public on “What Kind of Multinational Deposit-insurance Arrangements Might Best Enhance World Welfare?” The event was one of the University’s 65th Anniversary Celebrations.

Shaanxi–HK co-operation

ACCT’s China Accounting and Finance Research Centre joined forces with the Shaanxi Provincial Department of Science and Technology and Xi’an Jiaotong University to hold the “Symposium on the Co-operation and Development of Hi-Tech Enterprises between Shaanxi Province and Hong Kong” in Xi’an on 6 and 7 June.

The Symposium was attended by 200 academics, policy makers, practitioners from hi-tech industries, as well as representatives from venture capital corporations.

The speakers included Mr Sun Haiying, Head of Shaanxi Provincial Department of Science & Technology; Mr Clifton Chiu, Deputy Chairman of Hong Kong GEM Listing Committee; Dr the Hon. David Chu Yu-lin, Legislative Councillor; Ms Shirley Ha, Vice President of Champion Technology Holdings Ltd; Mr Charles Wang, Director of Investment Banking (Asia Pacific Region), Merrill Lynch.

Investing in China

ACCT also hosted a conference themed “Foreign Direct Investments in the Chinese Mainland amid the Flux of Changes” on 18 May. The event attracted more than 400 participants. The issues examined included financial law, investments, valuation, and financial market and institutions.
Major conferences and seminars

**Tourism in Asia: development, marketing and sustainability**

Co-organised by the School of Hotel and Tourism Management and the University of Houston and University of Angers, the Fifth Biennial Conference on “Tourism in Asia: Development, Marketing and Sustainability” was held from 24 to 25 May. The event was opened by Hong Kong Tourism Board Chairman Mrs Selina Chow, Commissioner of Tourism Mrs Rebecca Lai Ko Wing-yee, and PolyU President Prof. Poon Chung-kwong.

**Industry conference on eco-tourism**

The University’s School of Hotel and Tourism Management and the Business Environment Council of Hong Kong (BEC) co-hosted the Sustainable Development - Eco-tourism Business Opportunities 2002 cum 3rd Travel and Tourism Industry Round Table on the Environment from 5 to 6 June.

**Distinguished lecture on engineering construction**

At the Distinguished Lecture of the Faculty of Construction and Land Use held on 13 June, Prof. Ronald McCaffer, Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Professor of Construction Management of Loughborough University in the UK, spoke on “The Virtual Enterprise in Large Scale Engineering Construction: ICT, Business and Legal Dimensions.”

**International conference on Chinese dialects**

The Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies and the Linguistic Society of Hong Kong co-organised the First International Conference on the Written Representation of Chinese Dialects from 21 to 22 June. The forum covered various aspects of the written form of Chinese dialects, including the characters, romanisation and phoneticisation, and the interaction between dialectal scripts and standard Chinese script.

**South East Asia workshop on advanced prosthetics and orthotics**

The Jockey Club Rehabilitation Engineering Centre hosted the 2002 South East Asia Workshop on Advanced Prosthetics and Orthotics on campus from 11 to 13 July. An exhibition was held concurrently to increase the public awareness of the subject.

**International conference on rehabilitation**

The University’s Centre for East-meets-West in Rehabilitation Sciences hosted the Third Pan-Pacific Conference on Rehabilitation from 23 to 25 August on the campus. With the theme “Integrating Eastern and Western Concepts and Practices in Rehabilitation”, the conference drew together more than 260 experts from 18 countries and cities to review the latest research findings in the areas of Chinese therapeutics, musculoskeletal and sports rehabilitation, pain and neurological management, psychosocial adjustment, and tele-rehabilitation. Marking the opening of the event was the guest of honour Dr Yeoh Eng-kiong, Secretary for Health, Welfare and Food.