香港要保持在国际上的地位，必须将科技成功地应用在不同的层面上，才能把香港的整体竞争力提高。相信同学必能把握今次 IT 综合大赛的機會把理论付諸实施，启发其他同学甚至业界人士更多新的概念。謹祝 IT 統合大賽完滿結束。

林秀熙
大學教育资助委员会主席 林翘如博士
Message from Mrs Carrie Yau, JP,
Secretary for Information Technology and Broadcasting

The 2001 Digital 21 Strategy - Hong Kong: Connecting the World, promulgated in May 2001, aims at positioning Hong Kong as a leading e-business community and a premier digital city in the globally connected world. One of the key result areas of the strategy is to develop Hong Kong’s workforce for the information economy.

The ‘IT Contest 2001’, co-organised by the Hong Kong Polytechnic University, the Information Technology Services Department and the Hong Kong Chapter of Association for Computing Machinery, ties in well with the strategy. It encourages tertiary students to enhance their knowledge and skills in information technology, and to prepare and equip themselves for exploiting opportunities and meeting challenges in the new information economy.

I am delighted that there is an overwhelming response to the event, with about 2,000 students participating in the Contest. With the active participation by the contestants, I am sure they will all fully apply their innovative and creative faculty and gain useful experience and knowledge in this healthy competition process.

I wish the organisation of ‘IT Contest 2001’ every success.
On the closing of the IT Contest 2001, I have great pleasure in congratulating not only the winners who have reaped coveted prizes from the competitions, but also all the student participants who have acquired interesting and stimulating experiences with regard to the use of IT.

In gearing up for the knowledge-intense New Economy, Hong Kong needs to nurture more talented young people in the IT field and render full support to their development. I therefore look forward to seeing many more fruitful, collaborative initiatives like this IT Contest in the future.

On behalf of PolyU, the host university of the Contest, I wish to convey my heartfelt thanks to the Information Technology Services Department for initiating and sponsoring this event, and to all the co-organizers for their enthusiastic support and contributions. I also warmly congratulate them as well as all the colleagues involved for making this initiative a resounding success.

Poon Chung-kwong, PhD, DSc, JP
President
The Hong Kong Polytechnic University
In 1998, the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) published the “Digital 21 Information Technology (IT) Strategy”. With the joint efforts of the IT industry, the academia and the Government, Hong Kong has built better capabilities and information infrastructure, and created a strong foundation for growth in the use of IT since then.

Today, Hong Kong has become one of the best connected cities in the world. We have the highest mobile penetration rate (78%) in Asia and are one of the top three globally. Our Internet penetration rate also puts us at the top in Asia and as one of the top ten globally.

In response to the rapid development of the information economy in the world, the IT industry, the academia and the Government need to make unremitting efforts jointly in order to maintain Hong Kong’s position as a leading global digital city. Therefore, the HKSAR Government revised the 1998 IT Strategy and published the “2001 Digital 21 Strategy : Connecting the world” in May 2001.

The main theme of the “2001 Digital 21 Strategy” (2001 Strategy) is “Hong Kong: Connecting the World”. Building on the solid foundations for the use of IT that have been established, the 2001 Strategy aims at striving to position Hong Kong as a leading e-business community and digital city in the globally connected world.

The 2001 Strategy follows our free enterprise philosophy which guided us to our success in the past. It aims to put in place the right environment, infrastructure, skills and culture to encourage the development, adoption and use of IT and e-business by the whole community.

The Strategy covers five key result areas. One of the key result areas is to increase Hong Kong IT manpower supply through training and education, and to ensure that young people are equipped for the challenges of the information economy. The “IT Contest 2001” is exactly an endeavour for implementing the initiatives under this key result area. We hope that, through the participation of the students in the Contest, we can promote the awareness and wider application of IT among them. We also hope that they can get prepared for the information economy with the contest being a stimulus.

This year, the “IT Contest 2001” received overwhelming response from the students of all our tertiary institutions. Over 2 000 students participated in various component competitions. I am pleased to see that the participants performed well in all the competitions, including the IT Quiz, the Practical Project Competition and the Collegiate Programming Competition.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the hosting university - the Hong Kong Polytechnic University and the Association for Computing Machinery (Hong Kong Chapter) for co-organizing this meaningful event. I would also like to thank especially the Chairman and members of the Organizing Committee and staff of the Information Technology Services Office of the Hong Kong Polytechnic University for their enthusiastic and dedicated efforts in making this event a great success. Also, I would like to thank the panels of judges for their efforts in selecting the winning teams of the various competitions. Lastly, I would like to thank all contestants for their participation. I hope they will continue to maintain the innovative spirit and the life long learning attitude in order to create a better future by the application of IT.

(CHENG Yan Chee)
Acting Director of Information Technology Services
Message from Prof. Helen Meng  
Chairlady  
Association for Computing Machinery (Hong Kong Chapter)

As we approach the grand finale of the IT Contest 2001, I wish to thank the Information Technology Services Department of the Hong Kong SAR Government and The Hong Kong Polytechnic University for co-organizing this event; HP, the Hong Kong Computer Institute and edport.com for their generous sponsorships; and our colleagues, committee members and participants for their unrelenting energy and enthusiasm. The strong support and hard work has endowed IT Contest 2001 with great success and truly memorable experiences.

The ACM HK Chapter has been running the Collegiate Programming Contest (CPC) for twelve years. CPC is one of the prominent activities in the annual agenda of our professional society. Our goal is to promote scientific and educational computing in Hong Kong. As part of the IT Contest 2001 this year, CPC had fourteen participating teams representing the various local universities in Hong Kong. The teams have engaged in one of the keenest competitions in the history of CPC. We are duly impressed by the performance of our teams. The winning team will represent Hong Kong to compete in the ACM Asia Programming Contest. Winners of the regional contests will then compete with one another in the ACM International Collegiate Programming Contest (World Finals), to be held in Honolulu, Hawaii in March 2002. We wish our Hong Kong representatives all the very best as they compete among the world’s finest university students of computing. We also look forward to seeing the teams again in CPC next year!

Helen Meng  
Chairlady  
Association for Computing Machinery (Hong Kong Chapter)
Message from Mr Richard Li  
Chairman  
IT Contest 2001 Organizing Committee

Co-organized by the Information Technology Services Department of the HKSAR Government, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University (PolyU) and the Hong Kong Chapter of the Association for Computing Machinery, IT Contest 2001 kicked off at the Opening Ceremony on 27th March after months of planning and preparation. Today, even more importantly, is the decisive day for the birth and recognition of the various winners.

At this juncture, I would like to first of all thank our patrons for their support and endorsement of the vision of IT Contest 2001. They are: Mrs Carrie Yau, Secretary for Information Technology and Broadcasting of the HKSAR Government, Dr Alice Lam, Chairman of the University Grants Committee and Professor Poon Chung-kwong, President of The Hong Kong Polytechnic University. I must also thank the generous sponsorships accorded to the Contest by Event Sponsor Hewlett-Packard Hong Kong Ltd, WebQuiz Sponsor Hong Kong Computer Institute and Website Sponsor edport.com.

IT Contest 2001 is the first of its kind held in Hong Kong, aiming to elevate the knowledge and awareness of information technology among students and the public in the territory. We are very pleased that the Contest has received overwhelming and positive responses with over 2000 contestants taking part in the various component competitions. This outcome clearly reflects Hong Kong students’ interest and knowledge in information technology and their courage to accept the challenge to compete, and readiness to demonstrate their abilities. I am immensely impressed by the standard of their problem solving skills and the depth and extent of their IT knowledge.

Lastly, the Contest owes its success to far more people than I can individually name and acknowledge. I must, however, thank the contribution and support offered by the Organizing Committee and the various Sub-Committees, and express my heartfelt gratitude to colleagues of the Information Technology Services Office of PolyU, without whose selfless efforts and dedication in the past months, the Contest would not have been nearly as glamorous and successful.

I hope you will all enjoy the Finale and the remaining program of IT Contest 2001.

Richard Li  
Chairman, IT Contest 2001 Organizing Committee  
and  
Director of Information Technology Services  
The Hong Kong Polytechnic University
Message from Mr Steve Ng
General Manager, Asia Pacific
Software and Solutions Organization, Business Customer Sales Organization
Hewlett-Packard Asia Pacific Ltd.
Event Sponsor

HP is honoured to sponsor IT Contest 2001, which challenges local students to address the needs and technologies that are shaping our society.

In all three elements of IT Contest 2001 - the Collegiate Programming Competition, the Practical Project Competition, and the IT Quiz - we see the incredible talents and ingenuity that Hong Kong has to offer. This surely indicates a bright future for innovation and business in the SAR. As a Hong Konger myself, I am proud to see so much creativity and enthusiasm on display here today.

HP has a long association with the innovation that thrives in our tertiary institutions. We recognise the importance of nurturing and supporting the people who will soon be changing the world we live in. Thus I am delighted to congratulate not only the winners of today’s events but everyone who has taken part. HP would also like to take this opportunity to wish every success to the teams that go forward to represent Hong Kong and their institutions in the International Collegiate Programming Contest.

Steve Ng
General Manager, Asia Pacific
Software and Solutions Organization, Business Customer Sales Organization
Hewlett-Packard Asia Pacific Ltd.
Message from Mr William Chow  
Principal, Hong Kong Computer Institute  
Sponsor of IT WebQuiz for Secondary Schools

To meet the challenges of an increasingly globalised and competitive world, Hong Kong must develop further as a learning-based and knowledge-based community. In these years, our lives are radically changed by some far-reaching development in information technology. Hong Kong has become a technology-driven society where knowledge leads a highway to success.

In face of the challenges, our society must work together to create an encouraging environment for the success of IT education. As Chairman of the WebQuiz Competition – an associated event of IT Contest 2001, Hong Kong Computer Institute has great pleasure to sponsor and organize this event. Through the contest, we wish to elevate the awareness and knowledge of IT among students and the general public of Hong Kong.

Our school students and university students need to well equip themselves with the necessary skills and knowledge. In addition to the knowledge learned during lectures, our young generation must be able to collect, analyse and integrate those materials found from the Internet into their academic deliverables.

The key to success is to determine in which areas they want to excel. The information technology discipline requires creative and innovative youngsters. We clearly know that when the students are given opportunity, support and flexible means of study, they are able to excel and fulfil their potential, thereby contributing to the skill level of Hong Kong's workforce and the betterment of Hong Kong. Of course, in this knowledge-based world, lifelong learning will increasingly become the norm.

William Chow  
Principal, Hong Kong Computer Institute