



THE HONG KONG
POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY
香港理工大學

Opening Minds • Shaping the Future • 啟迪思維 • 成就未來



BRE Connected

Jun 2020



Department of
Building and Real Estate

建築及房地產學系



Table of Contents

Head's Message — P.1

Awards & Achievements — P.2-6

Happenings — P.8-13

Research Column — P.14

People — P.16-23

Giving — P.24

Head's Message



Going The Extra Mile Amid Challenges

The only way that we tackle the toughest challenges is to go the extra mile with fresh perspectives and positive thinking.



When every corner of the world is fighting the novel coronavirus, and as the health of our students and other stakeholders is of utmost importance to us, we had to put most of our face-to-face activities on hold this academic year, to be in line with the social distancing guidance. With the commitment to providing our students with the best possible educational experience, we have been successful in shifting our classes from on-campus to online to keep our students on track amid the pandemic. In addition, we were glad to give our prospective students online information/consultation sessions concerning our internationally recognised programmes and vibrant campus life over the past months.

This year saw a successful launch of our first-ever professional doctorate programme: 'Doctor of International Real Estate and Construction (DIREC)'. This is certainly an excellent pathway to career advancement and aspiration fulfillment. At the same time, I take pride in the achievements of our colleagues, students and graduates in knowledge transfer, academic and research excellence, as well as dedication to society.

Good news is around us! It is very encouraging that PolyU had a big rise to 75th place in the QS World University Rankings 2021, which is definitely good recognition of the concerted efforts of the PolyU community. Reaching the full potential of our colleagues matters to success. I wish to extend huge congratulations to our promoted, loyal and dedicated colleagues and my heartiest welcome to new colleagues. I am confident that following our passions and stretching boundaries, we will go from strength to strength in the years ahead.

Challenges make us stronger and take us further for sure. My sincere thanks go to our colleagues, students and friends for countless acts of extraordinary efforts, support and persistence during this time. That is crucial to BRE's successful deliverables. I hope you will discover new insights from our inspiring stories in this edition of BRE Connected. As the summer break rolls in, I wish you a refreshing and delightful time ahead. Enjoy reading!

Ir Prof. Albert P.C. Chan, PhD

Head of Department of Building and Real Estate
Associate Director of the Research Institute for Sustainable Urban Development (RISUD)
Able Professor in Construction Health and Safety
Chair Professor of Construction Engineering and Management

Awards & Achievements



Prof. Albert Chan's Research Team Transferring Knowledge for Society's Benefit

Congratulations to Prof. Albert Chan and his research team on their success in transferring knowledge for the benefit of society. Their innovative work on an "Early heat stress warning system" casts light on the health and safety of construction workers and provides useful solutions to industry challenges. This is hailed as a special milestone for the team as licensed technology deriving from their work has significantly contributed to the achievement of SmartWorks developed by SmarTone Mobile Communications Limited in January 2020. Bringing academics in BRE and industry resources together has had an accelerating effect on the time taken to directly benefit society.

Equipped with the early heat stress warning system, SmartWorks recently won 1st Prize in the Construction Safety Category of the Construction Innovation Awards 2019 of the Construction Industry Council (CIC). Incorporating the 'Heat Stress Artificial Intelligence Engine' developed by Prof. Chan's research team, SmartWorks integrates the technologies of the five key smart services, Smart Helmet, SmartHealth Station, Environment Station, Dump Truck Management and Danger Alert & Access Control to enhance construction worker health, safety and operational efficiency.

Organised by CIC on a biennial basis since 2015, the Construction Innovation Award aims to spearhead the development, promotion and implementation of new construction materials, methods and technologies to enhance the competitiveness of the construction industry. The same research team won the Local Grand Prize of the Inaugural Construction Innovation Award in 2015 for their innovative development of anti-heat stress uniforms, which have been adopted as standard work wear for construction workers on all government funded projects since 2017.



Feature Stories in 'Technology Frontier' and 'The Lighthouse'

Shout-out to Prof. Albert Chan's research team whose countless research efforts over the past decade are greatly appreciated in the newsletter "Technology Frontier" (April Issue) of PolyU's Institute for Entrepreneurship in May 2020 (<https://polyu.hk/IMNCV>) and the magazine "The Lighthouse" (Summer Issue) of Lighthouse Club International (<https://www.lighthouseclubintl.com/News3>).

Have a read of Prof. Chan's profile :



BRE Academics Receiving Teaching and Development Grants

What good news to us! Dr Kim Minkoo, Assistant Professor and Mr. Kong Wai Kei, Teaching Fellow received the Teaching and Development Grants for their respective projects in April 2020.



Dr Kim Minkoo

Sharpening students' interactive learning experiences in the real-world and dynamic construction activities on an e-platform was one of reasons for Dr Kim to win the Teaching and Development Grant. Supervised by Dr Kim and team member, Dr JoonOh Seo, Assistant Professor of BRE, the project, 'Project Live – Experiencing Construction Site Visit in Classroom' will take advantage of 360 cameras and a laser scanner to record construction activities and related details at a range of construction phases that will give students a new level of insights into the construction practices.

Have a read of Dr Kim's profile :



Mr. Kong Wai Kei

With grants totalling HK\$260,000- (including a matching grant), Kong's winning project entitled 'Immersive Learning for Construction Technology and Management with Four-Dimension BIM Models' aims at giving a boost to student learning experiences in digital construction which will soon become of central importance to the construction industry in Hong Kong. Led by Mr. Kong and co-investigator, Dr Chi Hung Lin, Research Assistant Professor of BRE, the project will kick off in July 2020.

In addition, as one of the co-investigators, Mr. Kong will be engaged in another winning project, 'Promoting Peer Learning in Multi-disciplinary Subjects on Virtual Learning Spaces' in July 2020, teaming up with scholars from the Departments of Building Services Engineering, Management and Marketing, Applied Social Sciences and Applied Mathematics, all in the PolyU.

We wish Dr Kim, Mr. Kong and their teammates every success with their projects!



Awards & Achievements



15th HKHS Award for Outstanding Students

The outstanding achievements of our students brighten our days. Our undergraduate students were bestowed the 15th Hong Kong Housing Society (HKHS) Award for their remarkable academic performance and hard work. Prof. Ling Kar Kan, HKHS Vice-chairman and Prof. Esmond Mok, Dean of Students of PolyU, sent their hearty congratulations to the following group of high-performing students: namely, Kwok Ka Chun, Lee Ying Ngai, Wong Chun Hei, Yau Tsz Pan, Yip Tsoi Wa and Yuen Wai Pong, in the Presentation Ceremony in January 2020.



What's more, this round of achievements unfolded opportunities for the students to realize their potential ahead. The students were invited to the HS Academy Alumni Club, which was established last year to facilitate network building and expand members' horizons through a range of community services. It was also rewarding that the students were to be given priority for summer internships by the Hong Kong Housing Society.

OSH Best Project Scholarships for BRE Research Students

What wonderful news! Our research students, Mr. Gong Yue and Mrs. Fordjour Genevieve were selected as among the OSH Best Project Scholarship winners and MERIT winners of the Occupational Safety and Health Council, respectively. Inspired by respective supervisors, Dr JoonOh Seo and Prof. Albert Chan, they put forward new ideas and explored the effect of health related factors on the enhancement of construction worker well-being. Gong's project on 'Wearable System for Workers' Productivity, Safety and Health Monitoring' and Fordjour's study 'Investigating the Causes and Effects of Indicators of Occupational Psychological Health Conditions among Employees' reflected their hard work and passion.

Amid great applause, Prof. Chan, Gong and Fordjour were honoured to receive the awards and heartiest congratulations during the OSH Best Project Scholarship Prize Presentation Ceremony on 15 January 2020.



Applause for BRE Graduate's Achievements

Let's have a round of applause for Dr Haoran Xu, a BRE Graduate and Prof. Ni Meng, his supervisor. Dr Xu was awarded the Best Presentation Award in the First International Conference on Energy and AI and the Doctoral Prize Fellowship of Loughborough University, the U.K. He was also shortlisted for the HKIS Young Scientist Award, 2019.

In the conference, Dr Xu reported recent progress on the hybrid numerical simulation method for solid oxide fuel cells (SOFCs), entitled 'Combined multi physics simulation and artificial neural network model for fast and accurate online optimization in SOFC operation'.

Under the supervision of Prof. Ni Meng, Dr Xu received his PhD in the PolyU in October 2018, following completion of his undergraduate programme in Zhejiang University in 2014. His research focuses on the development of solid oxide fuel cells, a promising electrochemical device for energy conversion between electricity, fuel and heat. Dr Xu has published more than 40 papers (15 as first author), with over 600 citations.



Winning Research Projects (Commenced in early 2020)

No	Principal Investigator	Project Title	Funding Scheme
1	Dr SUN Yi	Effects of Environment-related Experiences on Older Person's Well-being in Hong Kong's "Double Ageing" Context: A Person-environment Perspective	PICO Public Policy Research
2	Ir Prof. LI Heng	Solving Public Housing Problem in Hong Kong by Adopting Modular Integrated Construction (MiC) to Build the Transitional House	PICO Public Policy Research
3	Ir Prof. LI Heng	In search of a suitable tool for proactive physical fatigue assessment: an invasive to non-invasive approach.	General Research Fund
4	Ir Prof. YAM Chi Ho Michael	A Study of a Beam-to-Beam Connection using Nitinol Shape Memory Alloy Plates and Washers Subject to Cyclic Loading	General Research Fund
5	Dr SEO JoonOh	Understanding the Situation Awareness of Mobile Construction Equipment Operators through Immersive Virtual Reality Simulation	General Research Fund

No	Principal Investigator	Project Title	Funding Scheme
6	Prof. HUI Chi Man	Land conveyance in midst of State policy directions, public welfare, and career interests: An empirical study of Chinese cities	General Research Fund
7	Dr CHI Hung-lin	Toward Effective Off-site Crane Training - Development of a Digital Operation Coach by using Automatic Motion Planning Approach	RGC Early Career Scheme
8	Dr WEI Hsi-Hsien	Real-time post-earthquake optimization for bridge-inspection routing and restoration scheduling in highway networks	RGC Early Career Scheme
9	Prof. ZAYED Tarek	Smart Noise Logger-based Leak Diagnosis System	Innovation and Technology Fund - Innovation and Technology Support Programme (ITF-ITSP)
10	Ir Prof. LI Heng	SureFire: Smart Urban Resilience and Firefighting - BRE	RGC Theme-based Research Scheme



Awards & Achievements



Joint Supervision Scheme with Chinese Mainland, Taiwan and Macao Universities 2019/20

In the recent round (2019/20) of the Joint Supervision Scheme with Chinese Mainland, Taiwan and Macao Universities, two applicants, Shuyuan Li and Yang Wang will be spending one year as research assistants under the supervision of Prof. Eddie Hui and Prof. Ni Meng, respectively, in our Department from Sept 2020. The ultimate goal of this Scheme is to inspire research collaboration and knowledge transfer with non-local universities.

BRE Supervisor	Student	Supervisor (University)	Project Title
Prof. Eddie HUI	Shuyuan LI	Prof. Haizhen WEN (Zhejiang University)	The Impact of Urban Landscapes on Housing Price: Heterogeneity across Housing Submarkets and Time
Prof. Meng NI	Yang WANG	Prof. Kui JIAO (Tianjin University)	Morphological Evolution Process in SOFC Microstructure based on Phase Field Method

Hong Kong PhD Fellowship Awardee's New Adventure in BRE



One of the awardees of the HK PhD Fellowship Scheme 2020/21, Peng Huiwen, will be embarking on a new adventure in exploring the 'flow space' within the megacity region, 'Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area' under Prof. Eddie Hui's supervision in the coming academic year.

Huiwen's research aims to investigate the factors affecting flows in the spatial network structure of urban agglomerations and to explore the influences of flow factors in the megacity region. Meanwhile, empirical work on the Greater Bay Area continues, consisting of nuanced analysis of the spatial structure characteristics of the flows of information, traffic, capital, and goods. The work contributes to promoting spatial cooperation and integration strategies for the Greater Bay Area.

Huiwen shares, "Being granted an HKPF Scholarship is an honour and an inspiring start for my future PhD life. It is a recognition of my past endeavours and serves as a stepping stone for me to chase my dream. Last but not least, I am particularly grateful to Prof. Eddie Hui and Lang Wei for their support and encouragement throughout my application."

The Fellowship provides an annual stipend of HK\$309,600 and a conference and research-related travel allowance of HK\$12,900 per year for each awardee for a period up to three years.

We greatly look forward to welcoming Huiwen in September 2020.

Realise Your Future of Professionalism, Innovation and Success

International Professional Recognition

Chartered Institute of Building (UK)
Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (UK)
Hong Kong Institute of Construction Managers
Hong Kong Institute of Housing
Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors
Hong Kong Institution of Engineers

Undergraduate Programmes:

BSc (Hons) in Building Engineering and Management
BSc (Hons) in Property Management
BSc (Hons) in Surveying



bre.polyu.edu.hk

f HKPolyUBRE

ig hkpolyubre

yt HKPolyUBRE

THE HONG KONG
POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY
香港理工大學

DEPARTMENT OF
BUILDING & REAL ESTATE
建築及房地產學系

INTERNATIONAL • COLLABORATIVE • CONSTRUCTION



HK's First-ever Professional Doctorate in International Real Estate and Construction - DIREC : Live Info Seminars in Feb and Mar



We are proudly launching the Doctor of International Real Estate and Construction Programme (DIREC), the first of its kind in Hong Kong, for a September 2020 entry. This brand new programme, DIREC, is designed to provide a genuinely innovative professional development experience for senior executives possessing a wealth of experience in the industry, aiming to enrich their theoretical and technical knowledge, develop their management and leadership skills, and equip them with a fresh mindset fitting them for top management roles in the modern and ever-competitive real estate and construction market.

In line with social distancing guidance, amid the disturbing spread of COVID-19 early this year, we met prospective students in two Live DIREC Info Seminars via our Facebook on 22 February and 7 March 2020. Specifically, on 7 March, Dr Daniel Chan and Prof. Eddie Hui of the programme team delivered a comprehensive presentation, and addressed many students' questions. The professionalism they exhibited surely broke down the 'distance' barrier through the air ways, a "prelude" to the path to career advancement and aspiration fulfillment with BRE!

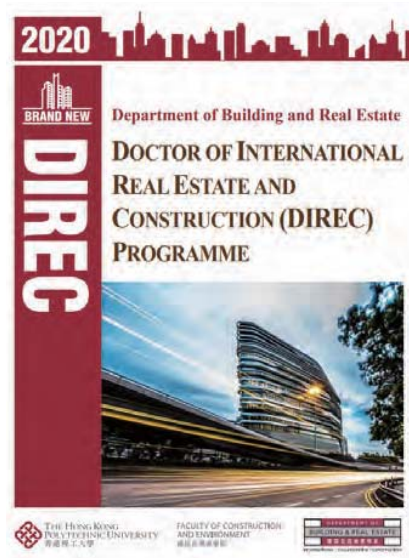
More about the programme:



(Leaflet)



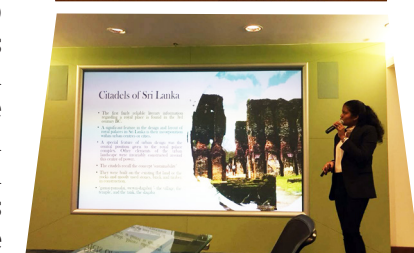
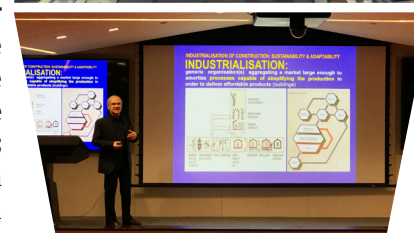
(Video)



PASS Workshop Series - Improving and Exporting Hong Kong Industrialized Construction Services under the Belt and Road Initiative

With the support of Hong Kong Government's Professional Services Advancement Support Scheme (PASS), led by Prof. Geoffrey Shen, Chair Professor of Construction Management of BRE, the project aims to enhance the competitiveness of the Hong Kong construction sector, facilitate the integration of new technologies in industrialized construction, and encourage collaboration in the provision of construction services. Other team members include Sr Thomas Tse, Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Construction Association and Dr Justina Hoi Wing Yung, Manager of the Belt and Liaison Unit, PolyU. The project deliverables include a series of workshops to improve the understanding of industrialized construction and its prospects in BRI countries, followed by an online training course and an international forum. Since January 2020, eleven workshops have been conducted by nine scholars and professionals from the Belt & Road countries. Including local and overseas practitioners from the construction industry and students and researchers from academia, the participants appreciated these workshops which were professionally organized and highly relevant to the need of the construction industry, both locally and internationally.

We wish the team every success in the coming workshops, training course and forum.



More:



Wondrous Way to Discover HK Real Estate Industry

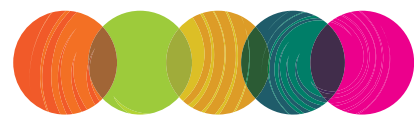


There are a number of wondrous ways to discover more about the Hong Kong Real Estate Industry. Bringing a good deal of passion and his well known expertise in housing studies, Prof. Eddie Hui, Associate Head (Partnership) of BRE explored 'Why do Housing Prices Go Sky-high?' with the public, particularly Secondary 4 and 5 students, in the PolyU & You - Online Lecture Series in the afternoon of 5th May. Not limiting learning to the classroom, this interesting lecture gave participants an online tour of the different factors including international housing affordability, supply and demand, developers' strategies, land sales to land use. We hope the students had a fabulous time with us and took away a better understanding of the housing market.



More about the undergraduate programmes:





Eager to Help JUPAS Candidates Navigate Towards Best Possible Choices

Amid this challenging period, we were not able to meet JUPAS candidates in person to discuss our programmes and admissions requirements. Yet, we were eager to give timely advice to help them navigate towards the best possible choices in updating their programme selections in early June 2020.

As such, there is no better way of obtaining advice than by joining 'Virtual PolyU JUPAS Consultation Day - Admissions Strategies'. On 30 May 2020, Dr Patrick Fong, Award Co-ordinator of BSc (Hons) in Surveying Programme, Dr Francis Siu, Deputy Award Co-ordinator of BSc (Hons) in Building Engineering and Management Programme and Deputy Admissions Officer as well as Mr. Kong Wai Kei, Programme Leader of Higher Diploma in Building Technology and Management Programmes and Admissions Officer, hosted the Online Info Seminars on our undergraduate programmes.

The Info Seminars were a success in showing how our teaching resources and staff members routinely and smoothly support every stage of student studies with no hassle. Studying with us is part of the journey towards a future of professionalism, innovation and success. Best wishes for great achievements in the HKDSE!

More about the undergraduate programmes:

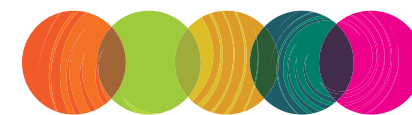


Outstanding BRE Alumni Award Paying Tribute to Exceptional Alumni



In 1937, the Department embarked on a journey of educating and preparing students for professional careers in the Construction and Real Estate industries. Over the past 80 years or so, our alumni have mightily contributed to Hong Kong and beyond. We have a very distinguished history. Held biennially since 2010, the Outstanding BRE Alumni Award (OBAA) aims to give public recognition to our outstanding graduates for their distinguished accomplishments in the professions and staunch contributions to Hong Kong. This year marks the 6th OBAA and a Nomination Committee has been formed for the purpose of selecting the right candidates for this year's OBAA. We look forward to announcing the result in July 2020.

More:



International Study

Empowering students to organize a whole study tour for themselves, enhancing their leadership and organizational skills as well as providing them with an international perspective

Singapore

BSc (Hons) in Building Engineering and Management Programme

2-6 January 2020

Supervised by Prof. Edwin Chan and Prof. Michael Yam



Visits to National University of Singapore (NUS), Singapore Institute of Technology (SIT), a range of England Style Architectures (St Andrew's Cathedral, Singapore MICA Building, Art House, City Hall, Old Supreme Court Building), and The Garden by the Bay (Architectural Features), etc.



South Korea

BSc (Hons) in Surveying Programme &
BSc (Hons) in Property Management Programme

7 – 11 January 2020

Supervised by Dr Kim Minkoo and Dr Chi Hung Lin



Visits to Seoul Energy Dream Center and Dongdaemun Design Plaza in Seoul as well as Lecture on 'Prediction, Big data and Urban Modeling' in University of Seoul, etc.

Singapore

BSc (Hons) in Surveying Programme

1-7 January 2020

Supervised by Prof. Eddie Hui and Dr Francis Siu



Visits to PUB NEWater Visitor Centre, National Library (Architectural Features), CNQC (South Pacific) Holding Pte. Ltd., CNQC PPVC Factory (HL building material pte Ltd.) and CNQC Le Quest, National Design Centre, etc.



High Performance Fuel Cells for Electricity Generation Using Plastic Waste and Coal as Fuels

In Hong Kong, about 1,866 tonnes of plastic waste is disposed of in landfills, daily [1]. The burning of plastic wastes in an incinerator could generate harmful gases such as dioxins, and the energy efficiency (for electricity generation) is in the range of 13-24% only [2]. Since coal will continue to be an important fuel in China in coming decades, it is necessary and urgent to improve the energy efficiency of coal conversion.

In collaboration with Shenzhen University and Nanjing Technical University, Prof. Meng Ni's team have developed high performance fuel cells for electricity generation using plastic waste and coal. When a suitable catalyst is used, the power output of the fuel cell using plastic waste (green curves in Fig. 1) is comparable to that when using H₂ fuel (black curves in Fig. 1) [3]. In another study, when an Ag-infiltrated Ni/(Y₂O₃)_{0.08}(ZrO₂)_{0.92} anode was used, the fuel cell was able to efficiently convert the coal chemical energy into electricity (Figure 2) with a much higher power density than is achieved by other similar technologies (Figure 3) [4].

Prof. Meng Ni's research covers fuel cells, metal-air batteries, building energy, and the built environment. He is a Senior Editor for *Sustainable Energy Technologies and Assessments* (Elsevier) and a founding editor of *Energy and AI* (Elsevier). He is an active reviewer for over 70 journals, including *Science* and *Nature Communications*.

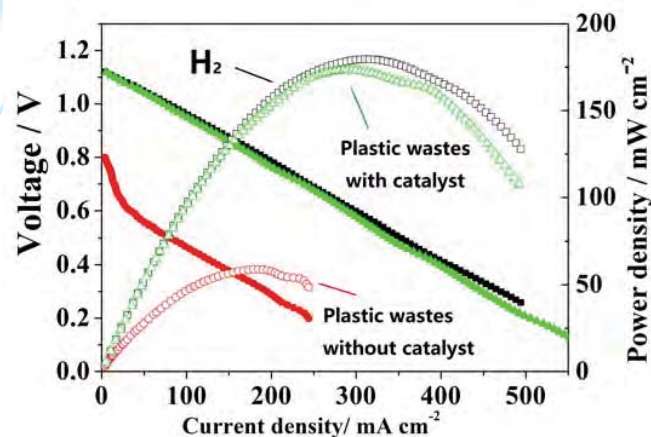


Figure 1. Performance comparison of fuel cells using plastic waste and hydrogen as fuels



Figure 2. Schematic of the fuel cell apparatus for electricity generation using coal as a fuel

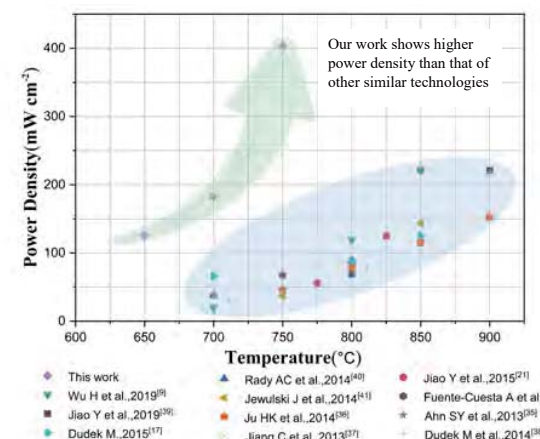


Figure 3. Comparison of maximum power densities of fuel cells using coal as a fuel – our work demonstrates significantly higher performance levels than other similar technologies

References:

- [1] Monitoring of solid waste in Hong Kong, waste statistics for 2013, Environmental Protection Department, Hong Kong SAR.
- [2] T. Malkow, Novel and innovative pyrolysis and gasification technologies for energy efficient and environmentally sound MSW disposal, Waste Management, Vol.24, issue 1, 2004, pp. 53-79.
- [3] W.Z. Cai, P.P. Liu, B. Chen, H.R. Xu, Z.J. Liu, Q. Zhou, F.Y. Yu, M.L. Liu, M.N. Chen, J. Liu, **Meng Ni**, Plastic waste fuelled solid oxide fuel cell system for power and carbon nanotube cogeneration, International Journal of Hydrogen Energy, Volume 44, Issue 3, 15 January 2019, pages 1867-1876.
- [4] Heping Xie, Shuo Zhai, Bin Chen, Tao Liu, Yuan Zhang, **Meng Ni**, Zongping Shao, Coal pretreatment and Ag-infiltrated anode for high performance hybrid direct coal fuel cell, Applied Energy, Volume 260, 15 February 2020, Article 114197.

Have a read of Prof. Ni's profile:



Realise Your Future of Professionalism, Innovation and Success

Inspirational World Rankings

8th (QS Top 50 Under 50 Rankings 2020)

25th (QS Asia University Rankings 2020)

75th (QS World University Rankings 2021)

19th (QS World University Rankings by Subject 2020 - Engineering - Civil & Structural)

22nd (QS World University Rankings by Subject 2020 - Architecture / Built Environment)

Undergraduate Programmes:

BSc (Hons) in Building Engineering and Management

BSc (Hons) in Property Management

BSc (Hons) in Surveying



f HKPolyUBRE

ig hkpolyubre

yt HKPolyUBRE



THE HONG KONG
POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY
香港理工大學

DEPARTMENT OF
BUILDING & REAL ESTATE
建築及房地產學系

INTERNATIONAL • COLLABORATIVE • CONSTRUCTION

Prof. Eddie Hui's Dedication to Serving Our Community



Prof. Eddie Hui, Associate Head (Partnership) of BRE, is honoured to accept appointments as a member of the HKSAR Government's three steering groups, 1) Task Force for the Study on Tenancy Control of Subdivided Units, 2) Subsidised Housing Committee of the Hong Kong Housing Authority and 3) Panel of Advisors for the Land Sharing Pilot Scheme for periods of eighteen months, two years and three and half years, respectively.

As the world's most expensive property market, Hong Kong faces a shortage of land in developing proper living places for society, in particular, the grassroots and underprivileged population. To tackle the complex challenges, the Task Force has the mission of exploring the feasibility and options for tenancy control of subdivided units while the Subsidised Housing Committee puts new ideas forward on the supply of subsidized housing. The Land Sharing Pilot Scheme intends to unleash development potential on private lots and speed up the short-to-medium-term public and private housing supply.

Prof. Hui says, "I am very much delighted to have such an opportunity to serve the community. Also, it is my honour to be appointed."

Picking up a wealth of wisdom along the way, Prof. Hui is an all-round professional with diverse experience in research and consultancy projects in housing studies and real estate investment and finance, etc. He has been serving a wide range of public organizations in Hong Kong, from the Property Management Services Authority (plus anti-epidemic support scheme), Estate Agency Authority, Real Estate Investment Trust Committee, Securities and Futures Commission, Building Appeal Tribunal, Town Planning Board, Metro/Rural and New Town Planning Committee, Hong Kong Housing Society, Urban Renewal Authority, Real Estate Services Training Board to Advisory Panel Member of Planning Department on Hung Shui Kiu New Development Area and so on. Prof. Hui's unwavering efforts and passion have been widely applauded.

Have a read at Prof. Eddie Hui's profile :



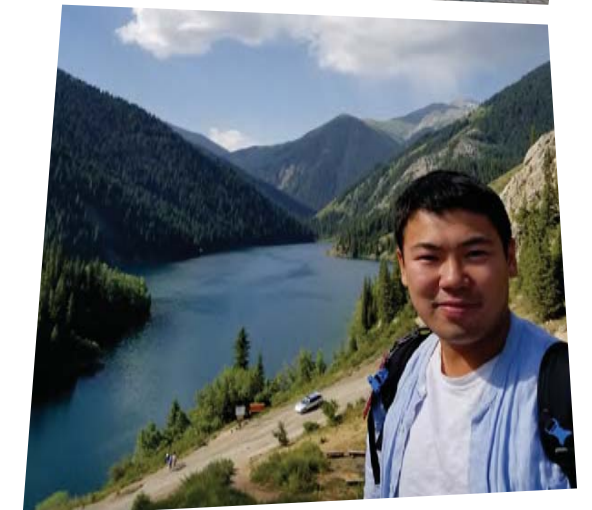
Surveying Student, Wai Pong's Endeavours and Worldwide Exposure Awarded HSBC HK Scholarship

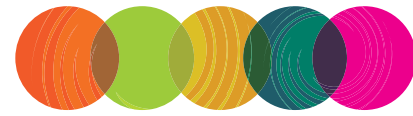
Good news is around us! Please join us in congratulating Yuen Wai Pong, a final-year student of our Surveying Programme on receiving the HSBC Hong Kong Scholarship of HK\$50,000- in June 2020. Signifying a reward for years of Wai Pong's hard work and worldwide exposure, this achievement will unlock his potential to go further.

In addition to his fruitful learning pathway at the PolyU, Wai Pong's extraordinary experiences of studying abroad went beyond academic achievement. He studied at Tsinghua University, China and Ewha Womans University, South Korea through our exchange programme in 2018 and 2019, respectively as well as the Summer School at the University of Cambridge, U.K. in Summer 2018. Over the years, he was awarded the Outbound Exchange Scholarship 2018 of the Faculty of Construction and Environment, the HKSAR Government Scholarship Fund-Reaching Out Award 2017/18, the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (Hong Kong) Scholarship 2018/19, the 15th Hong Kong Housing Society Award, the Service-Learning Scholarship Scheme 2019/20 of PolyU, the 15th Hong Kong Housing Society Award and the Outstanding BRE Award 2019.

Wai Pong shares, "I am very happy to learn that I was selected as one of the awardees of the HSBC Hong Kong Scholarship. This time I stand before you as a 2020 graduate. I believe many of us are about to launch into life and we are going through a difficult time in 2020 as fresh graduates but we must remain resolute and keep going. "Tough times don't last forever, but tough people do." 2020 is the time in our life when we get the shock of the freezing cold shower; the time of struggle when we fear the next step in life in such bone-chilling cold. However, this is the time that defines us. My friends, don't give up! Every crisis contains the seeds of opportunity for our progress; difficulties come to make us strong, as long as we decide to go onwards."

He adds, "Developing my career will be the next step after graduation. I think a career is where I get to influence, impact and change people's lives, including mine. Our life cannot be meaningful without a meaningful job. My career goal is to be a professional and make contributions to society. As a final year student of BSc (Hons) in Surveying, I have hopes of becoming a chartered quantity surveyor and excellent project manager. I've learnt a lot from school, and now I have to say goodbye to my alma mater and this chapter of my life."





Building Engineering and Management Graduate, Qiancheng Realising Dream in Cambridge

Studying at the University of Cambridge may be one of students' big dreams. Qiancheng Wang, an alumnus of our Building Engineering and Management Programme, is realising his dream in Cambridge.

The successful completion of MPhil in Architecture and Urban Studies at the University of Cambridge in 2018 ignited Qiancheng's passion for furthering his PhD study in Land Economy there this year. The focus of his PhD study is put on 'Developing a New Spatial Equilibrium Model for quantifying the Environmental Impacts of Alternative Urban Spatial Planning Strategies for Fast-growing City Regions: A Case Study of Greater Beijing'.

Qiancheng says, "The University of Cambridge provides students with excellent academic resources, and also promotes a fair academic atmosphere and combats the breeding of violence and discrimination through various activities. The university not only broadened my horizons but also made me further reflect on the way and meaning of the educational process. In our fight against the COVID-19 epidemic, researchers and students of different races stood together and fought side by side, demonstrating extraordinary cohesion. I am also delighted to see that BRE has initiated diversified cooperation with the University of Cambridge. I look forward to seeing more and more faces from BRE in Cambridge."

"I am heartily thankful to BRE, a warm home for students. BRE not only opens up students' international perspectives with a culturally diverse learning platform, but also offers students support when we confront challenges. Being a member of this family is one of the most important decisions in my life." adds Qiancheng.



BRE Ph.D. Graduate, Shell Receiving RGC Postdoctoral Fellowship



It is great that Dr Xiao Li, our Ph.D. graduate of 2019, was appointed as a RGC Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Hong Kong (HKU) in April 2020. The scheme aims to incentivise young researchers to build up a career in research and development (R&D) in Hong Kong, providing support for 50 awardees this year. HKU will also consider an additional top-up that brings it to a similar level of the HKU Presidential Postdoctoral Fellowship (HKU-PPF), which aims at hosting the world's most exceptional post-doctoral talents to undertake frontier research at HKU.

Dr Li would like to give sincere thanks to his supervisor, Prof. Geoffrey Shen of BRE, for his continued guidance and support, in particular, the recommendation for this remarkable achievement.

Huge Congratulations to Promoted Colleagues!

Dr Esther Yung

new capacity as Associate Professor
(Urban Sustainability Policy)
(from July 2020)



Teaching areas : development control law, urban planning and design as well as research methods

Research interests : built heritage conservation, urban planning and development, urban sustainability, active ageing and urban environment

"I am truly grateful for the valuable opportunities for considerable growth and advancement that BRE has provided me in the past years. I am contented with all the invaluable experience gained from conducting research and teaching. I am excited about my promotion and look forward to attaining new achievements. Thank you for the earnest support from all colleagues. May God be glorified!"

profile :



Dr Chi Hung Lin

new capacity as Assistant Professor
(Construction & Real Estate Management)
(from July 2020)



Teaching areas : construction technology

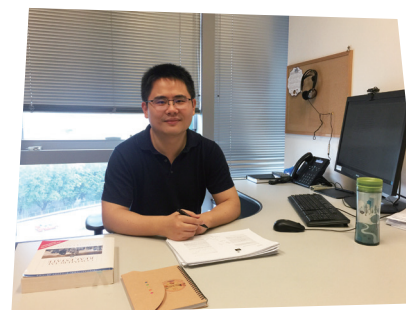
Research interests : advanced construction machinery, building information modeling, sensing and tracking technologies in construction as well as visualisation in engineering

profile :



"Digitalization in the AEC industry is an inevitable trend for future society. Advanced digital technology aligned with management in practice can definitely improve our daily life. I am very honoured to be able to work in the BRE department, PolyU, and be part of the research force on speeding up the digitalization processes. I hope my effort will continuously contribute to our academic field in future."

Warmest Welcome to New Colleagues!



Dr Jeff Shen

Assistant Professor
(Construction & Real Estate Economics)
(joined BRE in June 2019)

Teaching areas : real estate finance, project finance, credit rating and asset pricing

Research interests : REITs, real estate development, land auction, project finance, infrastructure investment, credit rating agencies, financial statement analysis and institutional investor

"BRE is like a family. I met great colleagues and talented students here. It is my pleasure to be a part of this big family."

profile :



profile :



Dr Fan Ying

Assistant Professor
(Construction & Real Estate Economics)
(join BRE in July 2020)



Research interests : real estate economics and household finance

"With my research background in the microfoundations of real estate market dynamics, I hope to achieve high-quality publications, contributing to the building up of the core expertise of the department. I look forward to working with all the esteemed colleagues in advancing research and teaching at BRE towards the next milestone."

Dr Darko Amos

Research Assistant Professor
(Construction & Real Estate Management)
(join BRE in July 2020)



Research interests : sustainability, sustainable built environment, sustainable construction, green building, modular and offsite construction and digital applications

"I am very excited about my appointment as Research Assistant Professor in the Department of Building and Real Estate (BRE) at The Hong Kong Polytechnic University (PolyU). It has been my lifelong dream to become a world-class academic in a world-class and exciting university/community. This appointment is that dream come true. What excites me most is the marvellous opportunity to further significant and meaningful contributions to research, teaching and service in BRE, PolyU, Hong Kong and the world."

profile :





A Big Thank-you to Retired Colleagues!

Prof. Patrick Lam Professor

Patrick, an alumnus (graduate of Associateship in Building Technology and Management), has been a member of the academic staff for 29 years, always a courteous and excellent teacher. He has been conspicuous as an unselfish and conscientious team player to the Department's benefit. We are extremely grateful. His experience and wisdom will be sorely missed.



Ms Clara Hui Personal Secretary to Head

Clara has been in the Department as Head's Personal Secretary for 14 years where she established a reputation for friendly prompt efficiency with no attendant fuss. She came to us after 10 years' previous service in the PolyU, a lot of it as Personal Secretary to the Dean of the Faculty of Engineering. We will miss that great efficiency.

Mrs. Christine Ng Clerk

Christine has been a pillar of the General Office staff for 40 years. She is held in great affection by us all. We are very grateful for her huge contribution over the years and we shall surely miss her.



Rapturous Applause for Colleagues' Loyal Service and Contribution!

Join us in applauding our colleagues receiving the PolyU's Long Service Award!

Having exhibited considerable devotion and loyalty to every step of the way to today's achievements of PolyU and BRE over the years, the award recipients including Prof. Edwin Chan, Dr Patrick Fong, Mrs. Vivien Kao, Mr. Kong Wai Kei, Mrs. Christine Ng and Prof. Geoffrey Shen received the award certificates and souvenirs, as a token of our sincere appreciation, from Prof. Albert Chan, Head of BRE.

Now more than ever, following our passions, we believe our unified endeavours will continue to transcend boundaries to succeed in our goals. We are very thankful to all of the above recipients who will continue on with us on the journey ahead!



Prof. Edwin Chan Professor



Dr Patrick Fong Associate Professor



Mrs. Vivien Kao Senior Executive Officer



Mr. Kong Wai Kei Teaching Fellow



Mrs. Christine Ng Clerk



Prof. Geoffrey Shen Associate Dean(FCE) and Chair Professor of Construction Management





Facing the spread of coronavirus and challenges across the globe, now more than ever, we continue to pursue excellence through our innovative education, application-oriented research and strong global connections.

Your generosity will certainly have a positive and profound impact on the development of our Department and the growth of our students. With your giving, we will build on our strengths to transcend boundaries, in the hope of being an ideal place for advancing knowledge and inspiring our students, tomorrow's leaders, to succeed in building a sustainable city.

Purpose of Donation:		
<input type="checkbox"/> BRE Development	<input type="checkbox"/> Research	<input type="checkbox"/> Bursary
<input type="checkbox"/> Student Development	<input type="checkbox"/> Scholarship	<input type="checkbox"/> Others (please specify:_____)
Amount of Donation: HK\$		
Type of Donor:		
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual		<input type="checkbox"/> Organization (please specify:_____)
Name of Donor: *Ir/Prof./Sr/Dr/Mr/Mrs/Ms/Miss (English) (Chinese)	Name of Contact Person: *Ir/Prof./Sr/Dr/Mr/Mrs/Ms/Miss (English) (Chinese)	
Contact No.:	Fax:	Email Address:
Correspondence Address:		
(For alumni only)		
Year of Graduation:	Programme:	

You can make your donation by printing and sending the above form to The Department of Building and Real Estate, ZS726, South Tower, 7/F, Block Z, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University (by post), bscyeung@polyu.edu.hk (by email) or (852) 2764 5131 (by fax). The information you provide will be used in connection with this appeal only. To find out more, please contact us at 2766 5815.

To unlock more opportunities for the future, we look forward to receiving your donation.

Realise Your Future of Professionalism, Innovation and Success

Generous Scholarships:

Entry scholarships for high-performing HKDSE students

In 2018/19, over HK\$1.2 million for our outstanding students

Undergraduate Programmes:

BSc (Hons) in Building Engineering and Management

BSc (Hons) in Property Management

BSc (Hons) in Surveying



bre.polyu.edu.hk



HKPolyUBRE



hkpolyubre



HKPolyUBRE



THE HONG KONG
POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY
香港理工大學

DEPARTMENT OF
BUILDING & REAL ESTATE
建築及房地產學系

INTERNATIONAL • COLLABORATIVE • CONSTRUCTION

Contact Us

Head of Department

Ir Prof. Albert P.C. CHAN
albert.chan@polyu.edu.hk

Associate Heads of Department

Prof. Eddie C.M. HUI, MH
(Partnership)
eddie.hui@polyu.edu.hk

Prof. Meng NI
(Research)
meng.ni@polyu.edu.hk

Ir Prof. Michael C.H. YAM
(Teaching)
michael.yam@polyu.edu.hk

Editorial Team

Ms Christine Y. M. YEUNG
Ms Teresa L. P. WONG
Mr. Ken Y. W. CHUI

Advisers : Ir Prof. Albert P.C. CHAN
Prof. Eddie C.M. HUI, MH

Correspondence address:

Department of Building and Real Estate
ZS725, South Tower, 7/F, Block Z
The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

Telephone: (852) 2766 5815 / 3400 3867

Fax: (852) 2764 5131

Email: bspromo@polyu.edu.hk

Website: <http://www.bre.polyu.edu.hk>

