### **PRESIDENT'S OVERVIEW** 校長報告

# RAISING THE BAR OF EDUCATION 提升教育水平

The 2015/16 academic year was an important milestone as our first four-year curriculum cohort of students graduated. The implementation of the new curriculum had been a success, and we are now undergoing a full review of the process with students and staff.

During the year, we continued to enhance the Service-Learning programme, an experiential pedagogical approach that integrates meaningful community service with academic study and reflection. In 2015/16, a total of 3,745 students spent some 150,000 hours serving over 20,000 people. Highlights included vision screenings for children in Qinghai, Guizhou and Vietnam by our Optometry students, as well as the establishment of a school computer laboratory in Kyrgyzstan and the provision of free classes in science and computing by our Computing students. Their efforts and those of many others like them have made a genuine difference in the world, and I am truly proud of all the students who selflessly contributed in worthwhile endeavours.



2015/16學年是四年制本科課程的重 要里程碑,因為課程的首批同學年內 畢業。新課程的推行是成功的,我們 正與學生和教職員一起就課程進行全面 的檢討。

年內,我們繼續強化服務學習課程,這 種體驗式教學方法將饒有意義的社區服 務與學習和反思結合起來。2015/16年 度,理大共有三千七百四十五名同學 投入近十五萬小時服務,服務超過二萬 人。焦點活動包括視光學系同學在青 海、貴州和越南為兒童進行視力健康檢 查;電子計算學系同學在吉爾吉斯坦-所學校設立電腦實驗室,並免費教授學 生科學和電腦的知識。參與服務學習的 同學付出的努力,真的為世界帶來了改 變。這些服務饒有意義,我為他們的無 私奉獻感到無比的驕傲!





Another hallmark of PolyU education is helping our students, staff and graduates follow their dreams. I was especially pleased to see two of our graduates – Joe Wong and Jerry Lee – continue to make inroads into the world of business with the support of the PolyU Micro Fund. Their lifestyle products were not initially popular, yet they persevered and had the fortitude to learn from their failures. Subsequently, they created their own brand, putting a lot of creativity into their products which are now distributed in more than 100 sales outlets in Japan, Taiwan and Hong Kong. What I find even more heartening is that they do not just focus on making a profit but also contribute to society by employing workers from sheltered workshops.

I was also delighted to see our efforts in support of the professional development of our teachers rewarded, a vivid example being Dr Gail Forey in the Department of English who won the University Grants Committee (UGC) Teaching Award in 2015. Described as having a special ability to inspire and enthuse students with her passion, integrity and warmth, Dr Forey in turn provides support to the professional development of many teachers in Hong Kong and overseas. 理大教育的另一特色是鼓勵學生、教職 員和畢業生追尋夢想。我很高興獲知兩 位畢業生一黃文翰和李德駿在理大微 型基金計劃支援下成功創業。他們的生 活時尚產品開始時未獲市場垂青,然而 堅毅不懈,並從失敗中學習,最終創立 自己的品牌,並推出創意產品,現時在 日本、台灣和香港已有一百多個銷售 點。更鼓舞人心的是他們並不只著眼利 潤,而是從庇護工場招聘員工,從而回 饋社會。

另一方面,我也很欣喜知悉大學支持 教師專業發展的努力得到回報。2015 年教資會傑出教學獎得主一英文系的 Gail Forey博士就是很好的例子。Forey 博士對教學充滿熱誠,而且和藹可親, 在啟發和激勵學生方面表現出色。Forey 博士同時也為很多香港和海外教師的專 業發展提供支援。

### **Pushing back boundaries**

We continued to make advances on many fronts during the year. Our researchers from the Department of Applied Physics and Interdisciplinary Division of Biomedical Engineering have developed a nanobiosensor that cuts down the testing procedure for influenza from one to three days to just two or three hours, at only HK\$20 per sample. Having a handy near-infrared laser pen to accurately detect different kinds of viruses is undoubtedly great news in the fight against viral outbreaks and for saving human lives.

Drawing on our expertise accumulated from designing space tools, the Novel Surgical Robotic System was developed in collaboration with The University of Hong Kong. With this system, it is now possible to perform surgical procedures with only a single incision or even no incision. Equipped with robotic arms that reassemble inside the body, expanding and transforming according to the needs of different surgical procedures, the system can provide tactile feedback to surgeons and is highly portable for mounting on any standard surgical table.

Extending our partnership with the China Academy of Space Technology in the nation's lunar exploration programme, we are also constructing the Surface Sampling and Packing System for collecting lunar rock samples in a mission scheduled for 2017.



### 挑戰極限

年內我們繼續在多方面取得進展。應用 物理學系和生物醫學工程跨領域學部的 研究人員開發了一個納米生物傳感器, 令檢測流感時間由一至三天大幅縮短至 兩至三小時,而每個樣本的檢測成本僅 為港幣二十元。研究人員又利用簡便的 近紅外激光筆,準確地檢測不同種類的 病毒,用以對抗病毒爆發及拯救生命, 實在是令人振奮的好消息。

理大憑藉從設計太空儀器累積的專門知 識,與香港大學合作開發嶄新外科手 術機械人系統,實現單切口或無切口手 術。系統配備機械臂,根據不同的外科 手術程序的需要在人體內重新組裝、展 開和轉換型態,可為外科醫生提供觸覺 反饋。系統是一個便攜式平台,可裝置 在任何標準手術床上。

此外,我們進一步擴展與中國空間技 術研究院在國家探月工程方面的合 作,並研發採集月球石樣本的表取採 樣執行裝置原理樣機,用於2017年的 一項任務中。

## Advocating university social responsibility

Spearheading international partnerships in University Social Responsibility (USR), PolyU joined 11 other universities to form the USR Network, with PolyU acting as the Network secretariat. The new network will mainly focus on joint research and publication, student-oriented activities and programmes, staff attachments and visiting fellowships, as well as the promotion of USR.

Another USR effort was the establishment of the 43-member University-Government-Industry Consortium for Sustainable Urban Development as a platform for the development of technologies and solutions for smart/sustainable cities as well as for the undertaking of collaborative research. During the Consortium's first two years of operation, PolyU's Research Institute for Sustainable Urban Development will serve as the Consortium host.

Our commitment to social responsibility is not only evident in education and research, but also realised in the hands-on service of staff, students and alumni under the umbrella of the PolyU Volunteers set up during the year. In summer 2016, we undertook the University's first staff Service-Learning project to Cambodia, where participants built a zero-carbon community learning centre and organised learning activities for some 130 primary students in a rural community.

In the years ahead, we will continue to extend our collaborative initiatives and continue to internationalise our academic and research programmes in meaningful ways. At present, we have been working with 350 mainland institutes and organisations and partnering with more than 330 overseas universities/institutions in 45 countries and regions.

### 肩負大學社會責任

理大更擔當領導角色,與十一所大學 組成「大學社會責任網絡」,藉此推動 國際間的合作,並擔任網絡秘書處。 新成立的網絡將集中促進聯合研究和 出版、學生為本的活動和計劃、教職 員互訪、訪問學人,以及推廣大學社 會責任文化。

另一項有關大學社會責任的工作是倡 議成立匯聚四十三個成員的大學/政 府/業界三方聯盟,藉此推動可持續 城市的發展。我們透過平台開發新科 技與方案,促進智慧/可持續城市的 發展,並開展合作研究項目。在聯盟 成立的首兩年,理大可持續城市發展 研究院將負責統籌的工作。

我們承諾履行社會責任,不僅在於教 育與科研的領域,更體現於年內設立 的「理大義工隊」的活動,此舉讓員工、 學生和校友身體力行服務社會。2016 年夏天,我們舉辦了第一個教職員參與 的服務學習活動。參加者遠赴柬埔寨建 設一個零碳社區學習中心,並為農村社 區的一百三十名小學生安排學習活動。

未來我們將繼續開拓協作項目,持續令 各項學術和研究計劃日趨國際化,並深 化其意義。目前,我們與三百五十個內 地院校和組織協作,又與四十五個國 家和地區的三百三十多所海外大學/ 機構緊密合作。





### Looking into the future

In March 2016, the UGC released a report, *Governance in UGCfunded Higher Education Institutions in Hong Kong*. Recognising the need for robust governance practices, we welcome the recommendations of this report and are currently identifying areas for the further enhancement of our governance structure.

During the year, we continued to steer the initiatives set out in the University's Strategic Plan for 2012/13 – 2017/18. We adopted a realistic budgetary approach with prudent cash flow management for redeploying any potential excess income and expenditure savings to promote our academic development and strengthen our teaching and research capacity. The effectiveness of this revised approach can be seen in the small variance in the financial results as compared with the budget.

We also continued to exercise stringent risk management control through a process of continuous assessment and mitigation in areas including financial sustainability, internal control, investment, management of fixed assets, succession, information security and commercialisation. (For additional details on our approach to risk management, please refer to the chapter on University Governance.)

As we head into a new year, we take pride in our traditions of excellence spanning eight decades. We are also proud of what Hong Kong has achieved and our role in contributing to its economic and social development. We salute the many achievements of the past while continuing to hold fast to our motto – "To learn and to apply, for the benefit of mankind".

Finally, I would like to thank the University Council, Court, staff, students, alumni and our partners for their unfailing support of PolyU. It remains my firm commitment to further strengthen ties within the University community and beyond for the benefit of all.

Timothy W. Tong, *Ph.D.* President

December 2016

#### 展望將來

2016年3月,大學教育資助委員會發 布了《香港教資會資助高等教育院校的 管治》報告。我們歡迎報告的建議, 認同有效管治的需要,並正研究如何進 一步優化大學的管治架構。

年內,我們繼續推行2012/13-2017/18 策略發展計劃中建議的各項工作。我們 採用了切實的預算模式,謹慎管理現金 流量,重新調配潛在的額外收入和可省 卻的資源,以促進學術發展及加強教學 和科研能力。本年度財務狀況與預算相 當接近,證明了經修訂後的預算模式有 效可行。

一直以來,我們透過持續評估和緩解措施嚴格控制風險管理,涉及的範疇包括 財務可持續性、內部監管、投資、固定 資產管理、人才更替、信息安全和商業 化。(關於理大風險管理的詳細資料, 請參閱《大學管治》章節。)

理大將邁向新的一年,我們既為八十年 的豐厚傳承驕傲,也為香港的成就及大 學對社會經濟及發展的貢獻而自豪。我 們緬懷光輝歷史的同時,一直毋忘秉承 「開物成務 勵學利民」的校訓。

最後,我衷心感謝校董會、大學顧問委員 會、各位教職員、學生、校友和合作夥伴 對理大的鼎力支持,我將一如既往,致力 團結大學社群,並且加強與外界的聯繫, 為各持分者謀求最大的福祉。

唐偉草

校長 唐偉章, *Ph.D.* 

2016年12月