

Happy anniversary, PolyU

建校 65 周年紀念
1937-2002
65th Anniversary

Ready for the lighting ceremony: (from left) Prof. Poon, Mr Sung, Mr Leung, Sir Gordon, Sir Sze-yuen, Dr Woo and Mr Tung.



The celebrations have just begun

The year 2002 marks the 65th anniversary of The Hong Kong Polytechnic University. In launching a series of celebratory activities on this occasion, the University is both commemorating the past achievements and contributions of the Institution and at the same time pledging its commitment to the future.

The anniversary celebrations kicked off with the switching on of a glittering anniversary logo on 15 March. The ceremony was performed by distinguished alumnus and officiating guest Mr Leung Chun-ying, Convenor of the SAR's Executive Council; Dr Sir Gordon Wu Ying-sheung, PolyU Council Chairman; Prof. Poon Chung-kwong, PolyU President; the guests of honour, comprising former Council Chairmen Sir Sze-yuen Chung and Dr Peter Woo Kwong-ching; former Principal of the Hong Kong Technical College Mr Sung Sing-zak; and PolyU Court Chairman Mr Tung Chee-chen.

It was a warm and memorable gathering, which drew together more than 300 good friends and close associates of the University, old and new, to the University campus. Together with PolyU staff and students, they viewed a video capturing the major developments in the history of PolyU.



Right: Mr Leung rekindles the fond memories of his days as a student at the Poly.

Left and below: Former Council Chairmen Sir Sze-yuen and Dr Woo receive special souvenirs from Sir Gordon.

Addressing the audience, Sir Gordon said the Institution had come a long way from its humble beginning as the Government Trade School in 1937.

The Institution has groomed more than 200,000 graduates who have found their places in various sectors of our society, dedicating their knowledge and expertise to the development of Hong Kong's economy. "The University has moved on with the times at a quick pace. It is with great pride that I say the University is in good working order and making consistent progress on all fronts in accordance with the shared aspirations and goals," Sir Gordon said.

In particular, he thanked the past Council Chairmen and Directors for steering a path that leads to the University's vision of becoming a preferred university.

On the same occasion, Prof. Poon said, "Through all the changes of the times, and in our evolution to become a mature university, one thing has remained unchanged, and that is our full commitment to fulfilling our mission of pursuing 'academic excellence in a professional context'.

"We are proud to call ourselves a 'Polytechnic University', and remain committed to ensuring that our professional and application-oriented polytechnic character and ethos is retained, while the quality of our education, research and services to the community are delivered at a high level commensurate with that of a preferred university."

Grateful for the rich and unique heritage which PolyU inherits today, Prof. Poon paid tribute to the outstanding leadership and accomplishments of all the respective Council Chairmen, Principals and Directors of the Government Trade School, the Hong Kong Technical College and the Hong Kong Polytechnic.



65 years of education and innovation
200,000 alumni the pillars of our community

First graduate pledges support for alma mater

As the Chinese saying goes, it takes 10 years to grow a tree but a hundred years to nurture a generation of talent. To Mr Ng Wing-hong, this carries double meaning. At the launch of the University's 65th anniversary celebrations on 15 March, he generously donated \$200,000 to PolyU in support of the University's Tree Naming Fund-raising Campaign.

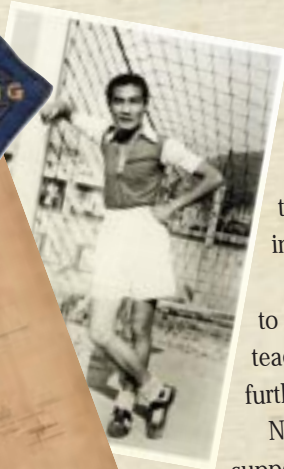
As one of the first graduates of the Government Trade School, he has also seen, more than half a century after his graduation from the class of 1939, his own son's scientific innovation bear fruit at PolyU.

"I'm most proud and honoured to have the chance to study in this wonderful Institution and to be one of its first graduates," said Mr Ng, a building graduate who was also the first alumnus to teach evening courses at the Trade School. "I earnestly hope my donation can contribute to the further development of my alma mater."

Now already in his eighties, Mr Ng is among the first supporters of the University's new tree naming campaign, which gathers funds for the Development Fund of the University.

Although the English language standard of many evening building students during those early days was not high, he recalled, the training offered by the Trade School was none the less very professional. Armed with a Diploma in Building, Mr Ng and his father later opened a construction company and continued to develop his building career until his retirement in 1997.

His son, Dr Ng Tze-chuen, is the dentist-scientist who masterminded the space tools known as the "Space Forceps" and the "Mars Rock Corer". The initial concept of these tools, conceived from the design of a pair of dental forceps which he invented, came to fruition when it was developed into a multi-purpose forceps system through his collaboration with a team of PolyU engineers. The Forceps has been used in the Russian MIR space station and the Rock Corer will be the first instrument made by local Chinese to reach Mars in 2003. Both tools have won coveted honours and awards at home and abroad.



A student sings a mellow tune at the ceremony.

On a personal note, Prof. Poon added, "For the past 11 years, it has been my greatest honour to be the head of this Institution." He was proud to have seen pleasing progress achieved on many fronts.

Looking to the future, Prof. Poon said, "With shared vision and commitment, we are well prepared to move further ahead with pride, confidence and commitment."

The University Chancellor, Chief Executive Mr Tung Chee-hwa, is the Honorary Patron for the anniversary celebrations. The

commencement ceremony is followed by a series of celebratory activities which will run up till the end of this year.

For details and updates on these celebratory events, please visit www.polyu.edu.hk. ❖

(*Related*: See p.16-21 for a specially commissioned article unfolding the precious memories of the Institution's early days, and p.24-25 for more reports on the celebrations.)

理大建校六十五周年

建校65周年紀念
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慶祝活動多姿采

香港理工大學於三月十五日舉行建校六十五周年紀念活動開幕儀式，吸引逾三百位理大的新知舊雨、各界友好到臨本校校園參加是次慶祝活動。

在開幕儀式上，理大校友兼行政會議召集人梁振英議員，聯同該校校董會主席胡應湘爵士與校長潘宗光教授為啟用閃爍璀璨的校慶徽號主持亮燈儀式；其他主禮嘉賓還有前任校董會主席鍾士元爵士、吳光正博士、前香港工業專門學院院長沈星若先生及現任理大顧問委員會主席董建成先生。

胡爵士在儀式上公開表揚各主禮嘉賓對該校發展的重大貢獻。理大也播放了一套錄像帶，讓在場的社會賢達、理大友好、校友及師生重溫該校的顯赫歷史與驕人成就。

胡應湘爵士在致辭時表示：「本校自一九三七年成立的香港官立高級工業學院發展至今，已取得了相當重大的進展。今天，理大為全港學生人數最多的教資會資助院校。多年來，本校已培育了超過二十萬莘莘學子。這些畢業生在社會各界不同的崗位上各展所長，為本港的發展貢獻他們的知識與專才。」

胡爵士續稱：「理大能夠一直緊扣時代步伐，與時並進，值得我們引以為傲。我深信大學會按照既定的目標和大家共同分享的信念繼續發展，在各方面更上一層樓。」

潘校長在同一場合表示：「今日的理大已成為一所發展成熟的高等學府，但我們一直堅持發展以專業為基礎的卓越學術水平的信念從未改變。我們為採用理工大學這名字引以為傲，銳意繼續貫徹理工以專業和實用為本的傳統辦學宗旨與精神，同時全力確保理大的教育、科研和為社會提供的服務均達到一所優質大學的水平。」

潘校長續稱：「我以在過去十一年來擔任校長一職為極大的光榮。」他說在任內目睹大學在多方面取得了長足的進展，包括教學素質、管理效率、推動終身學習，以及發展世界級的應用研究及提供專業服務等。潘校長並公開表揚歷任校董會主席及校長的傑出領導與重大貢獻，他們為理大及其前身香港官立高級工業學院、香港工業專門學院及香港理工學院奠下了穩固的基礎。

在儀式上，前香港官立高級工業學院的第一屆畢業校友伍永康先生，更率先響應理大的植樹籌款運動，慷慨捐出二十萬元，支持該校的未來發展。伍校友並親身於典禮上遞交支票予潘校長。

理大在三月至十二月期間將舉辦連串校慶活動，並由身兼理大校監的特區行政長官董建華先生出任今年校慶活動的名譽贊助人。有關活動包括首屆理大藝術節「美哉中華」、校友嘉年華、諾貝爾得獎人公開講座、萬人群體活動「理大畫出彩虹」、學術會議、大型巡迴展覽及兩岸四地大學足球邀請賽。

香港理工大學建校歷史可追溯至一九三七年成立的香港官立高級工業學院。在二次大戰後，學院在一九四七年易名為香港工業專門學院。及至一九七二年，香港理工學院正式成立，成為全港首間提供實用性課程的專上院校。一九九四年，立法局通過將學院正名為香港理工大學。理大現有二十六個學系和三個教學中心，分屬六個學院，提供一系列多元化、以應用為本的課程，程度包括有高級文憑、學士、碩士以至博士學位等。

有關理大建校六十五周年紀念活動的詳情，歡迎瀏覽理大網址 www.polyu.edu.hk。



Highlights of upcoming celebrations

Date	Event	Enquiries
3.2002 - 5.2002	The PolyU-IDT Innovative Entrepreneur Contest (2001-2002) 理大萬威科技創業擂台陣	Partnership Development Office, Institute for Enterprise Tel: 2766 4782/2766 4605 E-mail: pdayoung@polyu.edu.hk or pdgary@polyu.edu.hk
3.2002 - 5.2002	Road Shows in Secondary Schools 中學巡迴展覽	Communications and Public Affairs Office Tel: 2766 5101
3.2002 - 8.2002	65th Anniversary Road Shows at Public Venues 建校六十五周年紀念巡迴展覽	Communications and Public Affairs Office Tel: 2766 5101
29.4.2002	Lectures by Nobel Laureates 諾貝爾得獎者講座	Department of Applied Biology and Chemical Technology Tel: 2766 5607 Fax: 2364 9932
27.5.2002 - 1.6.2002	Technology Week 科技週	Faculty of Engineering Tel: 2766 5044/2766 5046 Fax: 2176 4563 E-mail: demonica@polyu.edu.hk or decarmen@polyu.edu.hk
2.7.2002 - 6.7.2002	Soccer Invitation Tournament of Universities from Hong Kong, Macau, Taiwan and the Chinese Mainland 兩岸四地大學足球邀請賽	Student Affairs Office Tel: 2766 6815 Fax: 2330 1404 E-mail: sapchan@inet.polyu.edu.hk
29.8.2002 - 30.8.2002	The 4th Asian Industrial Technology Congress 2002 (AITC '02) 第四屆亞洲工業科技大會	Institute for Enterprise Tel: 2766 5121/2766 7925 Fax: 2356 7583 E-mail: trawong@polyu.edu.hk or trkit@polyu.edu.hk Website: www.polyu.edu.hk/aitc/
6.10.2002	Human Rainbow 理大畫出彩虹	Communications and Public Affairs Office Tel: 2766 5101
7.10.2002 - 11.10.2002	Symposium on E-Business: Promises and Limitations 電子商貿：機遇和局限	Faculty of Business and Information Systems Tel: 2766 5082
12.10.2002 - 13.10.2002	PolyU Education Info Weekend 理大教育資訊日	Academic Secretariat Tel: 2766 5187/2766 5164 Fax: 2334 6671 E-mail: aschnada@polyu.edu.hk or askyeung@polyu.edu.hk
1.11.2002	PolyU 65th Anniversary Ball 理大建校六十五周年餐舞會	Alumni Affairs and Development Office Tel: 2766 4883
8.11.2002	Special Anniversary Fashion Show for PolyU 理大校慶服裝表演	Institute of Textiles and Clothing Tel: 2766 6490/2766 6491 Fax: 2773 1432 E-mail: tcnewton@inet.polyu.edu.hk or tcchengc@inet.polyu.edu.hk
23.11.2002	Faculty Open House – Celebration of Diversity in Caring 學院開放日—關懷愛心展繽紛	Faculty of Health and Social Sciences Tel: 2766 5075/2766 5077 Fax: 2363 0146 E-mail: fhss.email@polyu.edu.hk Website: www.polyu.edu.hk/fhss
11.2002 - 12.2002	Bauhinia Cup Outstanding Awards for Hong Kong and Mainland Entrepreneurs 2002 二零零二年紫荊花杯傑出企業家獎	Management and Executive Development Centre, Institute for Enterprise Tel: 2766 4121 Fax: 2764 5287 E-mail: Farrah.Chan@inet.polyu.edu.hk
4.12.2002 - 6.12.2002	International Conference on Advances in Building Technology 建築科技進展國際會議	Faculty of Construction and Land Use Tel: 2766 5033/2766 6046 Fax: 2362 2574 E-mail: clyytsui@polyu.edu.hk or ceesther@polyu.edu.hk Website: www.polyu.edu.hk/~fclu/ABT2002

Revisiting the history of PolyU

The origins of this Institution can be traced back to 1937 with the founding of the **Government Trade School**. Situated in Wood Road, Wanchai, the School was the first publicly funded, post-secondary technical institution in Hong Kong. Under Principal Mr G. White, it ran classes in building, mechanical engineering and marine wireless operating.

After World War II, the School was renamed the **Hong Kong Technical College** in 1947, offering both full-time and part-time courses. Nine years later, backed by a \$1 million donation from the Chinese Manufacturers' Association, the Government provided a similar sum and a site in Kowloon and began construction of a new building for the College. The year 1957 saw the Governor, Sir Alexander Grantham, open the new premises of the College in Hung Hom.

In 1965 Dr Sze-yuen Chung (now Sir Sze-yuen Chung), in a speech to the Legislative Council, said that the time had come to consider establishing a polytechnic-type institution in Hong Kong. A Polytechnic Planning Committee was later set up in May 1969 under the chairmanship of the late Dr Tang Ping-yuen.

Following the Government's acceptance of the Committee's Final Report, the Hong Kong Polytechnic Ordinance came into force on 24 March 1972, and the first Board of Governors of the Polytechnic (renamed "Polytechnic Council" in 1978) was formed under the under the chairmanship of Dr Chung. At the invitation of the Board, the Governor Sir Murray MacLehose (now Lord MacLehose) agreed to be the first President of the Polytechnic. Mr Charles Old was appointed the Polytechnic's first Director.



The Polytechnic days

The **Hong Kong Polytechnic** was formally established on 1 August 1972, taking over the campus and staff of the Hong Kong Technical College. Its mandate was to provide application-oriented education in meeting the community's need for professional manpower. In the academic year 1971/72, before its work was handed over to the Polytechnic, the Technical College had just over 1,700 full-time day, 740 part-time day release and 9,340 part-time evening students in eight teaching departments.

With most of the College's courses at technician and craft levels already transferred to the Morrison Hill Technical Institute established in 1969, the new Polytechnic started off focusing on achieving teaching standards appropriate to a Polytechnic. Since then, the Polytechnic has undergone extensive development and rapid expansion. The Institution launched its first five degree programmes in 1983, and introduced its first MPhil and PhD programmes in 1986 and 1989 respectively.



Landmark developments in our first 65 years

1937 Founding of the **Government Trade School**. Situated in Wood Road, Wanchai, the School was the first publicly funded, post-secondary technical institution in Hong Kong.

1947 After World War II, the School became the **Hong Kong Technical College**.

1957 Opening of the new premises of the College in Hung Hom.

24 March 1972 The Hong Kong Polytechnic Ordinance was brought into effect and the first Board of Governors was formed.

1 August 1972 The **Hong Kong Polytechnic** was formally established, taking over the campus of the Hong Kong Technical College.

1983 Launch of the first batch of five degree courses in the areas of Mathematics and Science; Computing Studies; Electronic Engineering; Mechanical Engineering; and Social Work.

1988 The Polytechnic, for the first time, held its Graduation Ceremony at the Hong Kong Coliseum. The Institution's first MPhil degree was conferred.

1989 The Polytechnic conferred its first honorary doctorate on the Founding Chairman of Council, Sir Sze-yuen Chung.

The first taught master's degree course, MSc in Information Systems, was introduced.

Submission of the New Academic Proposals 1991–94 in response to the Government's policy to expand degree places. The Polytechnic was subsequently authorised to offer degree studies to 65 per cent of its student population by 1994/95.

1991 The Polytechnic conferred its first PhD degree.



Having gained approval from the University and Polytechnic Grants Committee for self-accreditation of degree programmes, the Institution assumed full university status on 25 November 1994, changing its name to “**The Hong Kong Polytechnic University**”.

An esteemed university

Today, PolyU is a fully-fledged institution of higher learning and remains the largest publicly funded tertiary institution in terms of student population. At the dawn of this new millennium, the total student enrolment on taught programmes exceeded 16,800, with 11,500 being full-time students and the rest part-time students. The research student population stood at about 900.

With 26 academic departments and three centres grouped under six faculties, PolyU offers a broad range of application-oriented programmes at levels ranging from higher diploma and bachelor's degrees through to master's and doctoral degrees. ❖

1993 The University and Polytechnic Grants Committee (UPGC) approved the Institution's self-accreditation of degree programmes.

25 November 1994 Legislation was enacted to change the name of the Institution to “**The Hong Kong Polytechnic University**”.

1995 Implementation of the first Strategic Plan for 1995–2001. Areas of Strategic Development were designated.

Founding of the Federation of The Hong Kong Polytechnic University Alumni Associations.

1996 Establishment of PolyU Technology & Consultancy Co. Ltd.

Launch of the territory's first DBA programme. Establishment of the PolyU (Western Canada) Association. The PolyU (Eastern Canada) Association was set up in 1999.

1997 Establishment of the first mainland training outpost in Zhejiang. The following three years saw the setting up of outposts in Beijing, Shenzhen and Zhuhai.

The first Outstanding PolyU Alumni Awards were presented.

Revamped undergraduate curriculum, including the inclusion of English as a mandatory subject and the implementation of credit-based system. In 1998, written Chinese, Putonghua and general education also became mandatory subjects.

1999 Inauguration of the Institute for Enterprise (I/E) to strengthen self-financing professional services for business and industry.

Establishment of the School of Professional Education and Executive Development (SPEED) to foster lifelong education.

2000 Establishment of the University Motto and Statement of Vision, Mission and Values. Co-founded The Hong Kong CyberU, Hong Kong's first virtual university, with Pacific Century CyberWorks.

2001 Implementation of the second Strategic Plan for 2001–2007.

2002 The Institution celebrates its 65th Anniversary. ❖