

Building named in honour of Chan Tai-ho

The University has named a wing of its teaching block after business leader Mr Chan Tai-ho to recognise his generous donation of \$30 million to support PolyU's future development.

At the naming ceremony held on 26 March, Mr Chan, Founder of Playmates Group, presented a donation cheque of \$30 million to Council Chairman Dr Sir Gordon Wu and President Prof. Poon Chung-kwong.

The other guests of honour at the ceremony included Dr Allen Lee Peng-fei, former PolyU Council Chairman, and Mr Chuang Shih-ping, Member of CPPCC National Standing Committee and Honorary Chairman of Nanyang Commercial Bank Ltd.

Sir Gordon expressed profound gratitude to Mr Chan for his benefaction. He said, "Mr Chan is not only a leading figure in the regional and local toy industry, but also a dedicated philanthropist committed to supporting the development of education in both Hong Kong and the Chinese mainland."

Speaking at the ceremony, Prof. Poon also thanked Mr Chan for the donation. He said with his enterprising spirit and strong will, Mr Chan has set a good example for fresh graduates nowadays.

Having experienced a series of upheavals in his early years, Mr Chan became a self-starter businessman in Hong Kong since 1962. Today, his businesses span many countries worldwide. Out of his care for the community, he has generously donated towards

building of schools on the mainland, flood relief and other charitable causes.

The \$30 million donation will be used to support the long-term development of the University, including the provision of all-round education to students, the further advancement of continuing education, and the strengthening of professional services to business and industry.

The support of many members and sectors of the community has been a powerful driving force behind the University's efforts.



Mr Chan flanked by Mr Chuang (right), Prof. Poon and Sir Gordon.



Admission scheme opens door early to the brilliant

To offer a new path for bright students to start university life ahead of their peers, PolyU is introducing a scheme to admit up to 48 sixth-formers to its publicly funded full-time programmes in the coming academic year.

Prof. Philip Yeung Kwok-wing, Vice President (Academic Development), said, "In line with the reform proposals advocated by the Government's Education Commission, we are introducing this new initiative to allow greater flexibility in our admission system."

According to Mrs Nancy Tong, Academic Secretary, Hong Kong has been losing some of her talents who choose to cut short their matriculation studies and further their studies abroad. "We believe the new scheme can help better this situation," she said.

To be eligible to apply for entry under the new scheme, Secondary Six students need to have achieved a total score of not

less than 22 points in at least 5 HKCE subjects in one sitting, which must include both Chinese Language and English Language (Syllabus B). For those who take English Language (Syllabus A), Grade A is required. Application will close on 22 April, after which interviews will be conducted in May, and the results made known in June.

Mrs Tong said, "These students are expected to have a good record of non-

academic achievements and consistently good performance in their S6 year."

"Our 48 places constitute only two per cent of the first-year-first-degree intake concerned. At the tertiary level, we hope to minimise disruption to the secondary sector," Mrs Tong said. Meanwhile, similar schemes are being introduced in other local universities.

Furthermore, the University each year admits more than 200 Higher Diploma graduates to its publicly funded degree programmes. "We will continue to admit good higher diploma graduates to our degree programmes, and will also consider admitting more outstanding Higher Diploma and Associate Degree graduates to our degree programmes to enrich the mix of students," Mrs Tong added. ❖



Prof. Yeung and Mrs Tong speaking on the new admission policy at a press briefing.

Expo booths draw a big crowd

More than 40,000 visitors joined in a special "expedition" to "Explore a brand new era at the PolyU" by visiting the University's booths in the Education and Careers Expo 2002, held between 21 to 24 February at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre. The exhibition offered firsthand information on PolyU programmes and lifelong learning opportunities offered by the School of Professional Education and Executive Development (SPEED). ❖



Dr the Hon. Rosanna Wong, Chairman of the Education Commission, congratulates PolyU students at the Expo.



Prestigious awards for healthcare and design researchers

Two PolyU scholars have been named recipients of two of the four first awards granted under the Fulbright Hong Kong Scholar Programme to undertake research in the US in 2002-2003.

The two Fulbrighters are: Dr Samantha Pang Mei-che, Associate Professor in the School of Nursing, and Dr Michael Siu Kin-wai, Assistant Professor in the School of Design. Dr Pang will conduct a cross-cultural study of end-of-life decision making for patients with Dementia and Alzheimer's type, while Dr Siu will study the reception of public space by the Chinese community in Boston.

This new fellowship programme supports scholars in the fields of arts, humanities and social sciences. It is jointly sponsored by the Research Grants Council (RGC) and the US Consulate General in Hong Kong, and administered by The Hong Kong-American Centre.

"The Fulbright Scholar award gives me and my research collaborators positive affirmation as we are embarking on our journey into the field of clinical decision making that surrounds end-of-life care," Dr Pang said. She will spend 10 months at Boston College and at the hospice unit of the Bedford Veterans Medical Centre in Boston, Massachusetts.

Dr Siu was equally excited: "I'm most happy to receive this



Dr Pang (second from right) and her team review their healthcare studies.



Dr Siu observing usage of space in a local market.

award, especially given that there are few post-doctoral scholarships for non-science research available in Hong Kong." Using case studies, interviews and field observation, Dr Siu will describe how ethnic Chinese practice their everyday lives in public spaces. He will be affiliated for 10 months with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Under the programme, up to five awards are granted each year for local scholars to spend four to 10 months as Fulbright visiting scholars affiliated with major American universities and research institutes. The basic award for a 10-month grant is HK\$350,000. A supplementary award of up to HK\$150,000 will also be awarded as needs arise.

The other two awardees, both from the university of Hong Kong, are Dr Frederick Leung, Dean of the Faculty of Education, and Dr Priscilla Roberts, Lecturer in history.

The worldwide Fulbright Programme was established in the US in 1946 to increase mutual understanding between the people of the US and other countries. ❖

Council greets new members

Four new members have recently joined the University Council. They are:

- Mr Jonathan Choi Koon-sum, Chairman of Sun Wah Hi-tech Group, who was appointed by the Government for a term from 1 December 2001 to 31 March 2004
- Prof. Choy Chung-loong, Dean of Faculty of Applied Science and Textiles, who was appointed as one of the two Deans of Faculty nominated by the President for a term from 1 January 2002 to 31 December 2002
- Dr Luk Suet-fan, Assistant Professor of the Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering, who was elected by all eligible staff to serve on the Council for a term from 1 January 2002 to 31 December 2003
- Mr William Tong Man-chung, who was appointed to represent the alumni federation on the Council for a term from 1 November 2001 to 31 October 2003.

In addition, Prof. Leung Tin-pui has been re-appointed to serve on the Council for a further one-year term until 31 December 2002 in his capacity as Dean of Faculty of Communication. Having completed their term, Prof. Ko Jan-ming, Dr Terence Lo and alumni representative Mr Albert Lee have retired from the Council. ❖



Mr Jonathan Choi

International academy designates tourism school as world HQ

The School of Hotel and Tourism Management (HTM) recently announced the good news that it has been designated by the prestigious International Academy for the Study of Tourism (IAST) as its world headquarters and secretariat.

In announcing the designation, the Academy's President, Prof. William Gartner of the University of Minnesota in the US, said, "The School of Hotel and Tourism Management at PolyU is very active and well known by the international tourism industry and academia and highly deserving for this designation."

As the world headquarters and secretariat of IAST, HTM will provide member services to the Academy and will receive financial support to establish a "Hospitality and Tourism Resource Centre", a unique, industry-specific library to provide information services to hospitality and tourism community worldwide.



HTM maintains close links with both industry and academia.

The Academy was established to enhance research in the field of tourism, with the total number of members limited to 75.

HTM is the only one in Asia which has also been designated by the World Tourism Organisation as one of its Education and Training Network Centres around the world since 1999. ❖

Celebrating 25 years of dedication in advancing healthcare

The School of Nursing was joined by a host of distinguished guests and friends from the healthcare field when it launched its 25th anniversary celebrations at a ceremony held on 11 March. The School has just been renamed from the "Department of Nursing and Health Sciences" near the end of the month to reflect its growing stature and scope of work.

The ceremony was kicked off by Dr E. K. Yeoh, Secretary for Health and Welfare, HKSAR; Prof. Yuxiu Gong, Director of Nursing Division, Department of Medical Administration, Ministry of Health, PRC; and Mr Alexander Tzang, Deputy President of the University.

Dr Naeema Al-Gasser, Senior Scientist for Nursing and Midwifery of the World Health Organisation, gave her speech via videoconferencing and a speech of Dr Christine Hancock, President of International Council of Nurses, was also presented. These were followed by a special anniversary lecture, "Orchestrating a Career", delivered by Prof. Angela B. McBride, Distinguished Professor and University Dean of Indiana University School of Nursing in the US.

Established in 1977, the academic department was the first to offer degree level education for nurses in Hong Kong, and remains a major training provider of a diverse range of programme levels of awards in nursing and biomedical sciences.

To celebrate its silver jubilee, the School will also hold a series of scholarly activities as well as an anniversary dinner during this anniversary year. ❖



Old friends, alumni and new partners join the department's silver jubilee celebration.

Making great strides in professional services

To pay tribute to staff who have rendered outstanding professional services for business, industry and the community and to encourage innovation on campus, the PolyU Technology and Consultancy Ltd (PTEC) presented more than 20 awards to faculty members at the Outstanding Professional Services and Innovation Awards Ceremony on 18 January.

In addition to the awards listed below, a total of 15 teams received the new Patent Awards for their successful patent applications in the recent few years.

The past year has seen the turnover of consultancy services and the number of projects rendered through PTEC increased by leaps and bounds. PTEC, an operating unit of PolyU's self-financing Institute for Enterprise, is the strategic professional service arm of the University.



CSE Head Prof. Y.S. Li (right) received the Highest Departmental Consultancy Revenue Award on behalf of the department.



The Most Valued Project Award goes to the team behind the project "Advanced Information Technology in Education Training Services".

Outstanding Professional Services and Innovation Awards

Category & Title of Awards	Winner
<p>Consultancy Awards</p> <p><i>Departmental Awards</i></p> <p>Highest Departmental Consultancy Revenue Award Maximum Staff Participation by Percentage of Staff Award Highest Revenue Growth Award</p> <p><i>Individual Awards</i></p> <p>Most Active Consultant Award Most Valued Project Award Highest Consultancy Growth Award New Consultant with Highest Revenue Award</p>	<p>Department of Civil & Structural Engineering (CSE) Department of Land Surveying & Geo-Informatics (LSGI) Department of Industrial & Systems Engineering</p> <p>Prof. Ho Siu-lau (Department of Electrical Engineering (EE)) Mr Sidney Wong (Management & Executive Development Centre) & team Dr John Shi Wen-zhong (LSGI) Dr Lo Wai-chau (EE)</p>
<p>Product Development Awards</p> <p>Highest Departmental Product Development Revenue Award Highest Individual Product Development Revenue Award</p>	<p>Institute of Textiles and Clothing (ITC) Dr Li Yi (ITC) & team</p>
<p>Licensing Award</p> <p>Highest Licensing Value Award</p>	<p>Dr Li Yi (ITC) & team</p>
<p>Self-financed Training Activities Award</p> <p>Most Active Staff Award</p>	<p>Mr Richard Charles (English Language Centre)</p>

Top students of the year honoured



(From left) Yu Siu-nga, Chan Yu-kai, Chan Ying-wai, President Prof. Poon Chung-kwong, Chan Chin-hang, Cheng Wah-on and Peng Chao.

The University has recently honoured six outstanding students who excel in both academic and non-academic pursuits. The awardees, all full-time final-year students, are:

- Mr Chan Chin-hang, Most Outstanding PolyU Student and Outstanding Student of the Faculty of Engineering
- Miss Yu Siu-nga, Outstanding Student of the Faculty of Applied Science and Textiles
- Mr Cheng Wah-on, Outstanding Student of the Faculty of Business and Information Systems
- Mr Chan Ying-wai, Outstanding Student of the Faculty of Communication
- Miss Peng Chao, Outstanding Student of the Faculty of Construction and Land Use
- Mr Chan Yu-kai, Outstanding Student of the Faculty of Health and Social Sciences.

Accountancy graduate at top of the world



Ricky humbly attributes his exam success to the good training he had at PolyU.

Accountancy graduate Ricky Kwan Chung-pan emerged as the whiz kid who scored the highest mark worldwide for the paper "Advanced Taxation" in the most recent examinations of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants. Ricky, who just graduated from PolyU last year, beat more than 8,000 students from 160 countries in the global exam. The budding accountant is currently working in Ernst & Young.



Top student Chan Chin-hang (right) has also been winner of the Chen Hsong Industrial Scholarship and Chinese General Chamber of Commerce Excellent Award for Tertiary Students.



Oscar glory for *Shrek* Animator

Kudos go to design alumnus Mr Raman Hui, whose work *Shrek* has won the new Academy Award for Best Animated Feature Film in this year's Oscar race. As the chief character animator of this box-office smash at PDI/Dream Works, he has brought the unconventional creatures of *Shrek* to life, which has been hailed as a breakthrough in character animation. Mr Hui headed for the US in 1989 after graduating from the Hong Kong Polytechnic in 1984 and starting his animation career in Hong Kong. He was also supervising animator for *Antz*.

