



Disney hunts for talent at PolyU

For more than 10 years the Walt Disney company has come to the Department of Hotel and Tourism Management to recruit students for its cultural exchange programme. In November 1998 the world-famous company made another visit to the Department to select students to work in different operations at Disney World in Florida, United States.

About 10 places are available and more than 70 students have put in their application for the one-year ambassador programme. The successful candidates will gain valuable cross-cultural experience at Disney's operations in Attractions, Food and Beverage, and Merchandise. During the year, selected students will need to attend mandatory weekly seminars. As accommodation is to be shared among participants from different parts of the world, it offers a great opportunity for everyone to learn about other cultures and interact with others in authentic contexts. Elements of recreation and travel are also included in the exchange programme.

Dr. Ray Pine, Head of the Department, said the many Disney-experienced graduates of the PolyU had given Hong Kong a significant advantage in attracting Disney to develop a park in the territory. Naturally these graduates, who are already familiar with Disney operations and the Disney standards of service, provide a ready source of potential employees.

"This sort of international experience is so beneficial that we are actively seeking co-operative arrangements with other large international organizations, such as hotel companies and fast food operators. We expect at least one such arrangement to be ready by next year so that even more of our students have the opportunity to go overseas during their time at the PolyU," he added.

These experiences are a perfect complement to the academic knowledge students gained at the PolyU, where all courses have a strong business and management foundation.



(From left) Ms. Deanna Roberts, Manager of College and International Housing, Walt Disney World Co., Dr. Ray Pine and Ms. Kimberly Warsicki, Representative College and International Recruiting, Disney Worldwide Services, Inc.



Student section of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers formed

The recent establishment of the Hong Kong Student Section of American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME/HKSS) at the PolyU is a breakthrough in mechanical education and practice in Hong Kong. It was the result of students' hard work plus the strong support from the ASME Hong Kong Section.

The Hong Kong Student Section was set up to achieve high professional standards through advancing scientific knowledge, leadership and mechanical engineering research. Its members are students from

the PolyU as well as from other UGC-funded institutions.

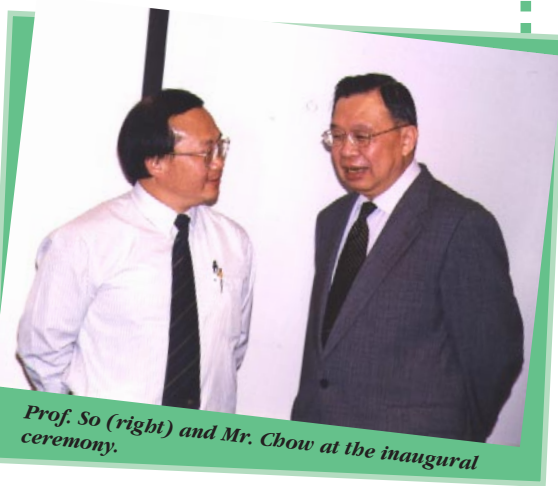
Mr. W.K. Chow, Chairman of the ASME Hong Kong Section, and Prof. Ronald So, Chair and Head of Department of Mechanical Engineering of the PolyU, jointly officiated at the inaugural ceremony of the Student Section. A certificate authorizing the set-up of ASME/HKSS was issued by ASME International and was presented by Mr. Chow to ME. In support of the establishment of the Student Section

and its forthcoming activities, a cheque of HK\$6,000 was also presented to the Chairman of ASME/HKSS. The fund came from ASME Hong Kong Section and ASME International.

Since its founding in 1880, ASME has continued to grow rapidly into an international society with the goal of maintaining the

standards of excellence set by its founders. Today, with over 125,000 members, ASME is a worldwide engineering society focussing on technical, educational and research issues.

The founding officers of the ASME/HKSS for 1998/99 are: Mr. Cho Man-lung, Chairman; Mr. Ken Lam Man-hung and Mr. Sam Ma Hung-choi, Vice Chairmen; Mr. Chow Ho-man and Mr. Alan Lau Kin-tak, Secretaries; and Mr. Patrick Chui Man-ching, Treasurer. ❖



Prof. So (right) and Mr. Chow at the inaugural ceremony.



Student wins Jones Lang Wootton Scholarship

Final-year student in Real Estate Miss Charmaine Ha Chau-ming was one of the two winners of this year's Jones Lang Wootton (JLW) Scholarship.

Expressing her gratitude, Charmaine said the Real Estate degree course of the PolyU not only guided her towards professional qualifications but also offered a wide range of opportunities to develop in different fields within the property industry.

The two winners of the Scholarship are each required to conduct a research project in a relevant discipline of real estate and to present to the JLW Scholarship Board in

early 1999. After careful consideration and consultation with her professor, Charmaine has decided to work on theme parks.

"The themes of both research projects are very interesting and relevant to the current market situation in Hong Kong," Mr. Nigel Smith, Chairman of the Staff Training Committee of JLW said. "I am pleased to see their effort to apply their knowledge to a real need of the market."

The Scholarship is set up by the leading international real estate consultancy to recognize those outstanding students who pursue a career in real estate. Each



Miss Ha (third from right) at the presentation.

scholarship is equivalent to the final-year's degree tuition fee of HK\$42,100. ❖



Students show sportsmanship spirit

This academic year's Aquatic Meet and Athletic Meet, organized by the Students' Union, were held on October 10 and December 5, 1998 respectively. The results of both were outstanding. For the swimming gala, Ching Kai-yip of the Faculty of Construction and Land Use (FCLU) and Jeremy Wang of the Faculty of Business and Information Systems (FBIS) took the Men's Individual Championships while Lai Ka-wing of FCLU and Cheung Pui-yee of the Faculty of Applied Science and Textiles (FAST) won the Women's Individual Championships. The FBIS team became the Overall Faculty Champion.

In the Athletic Meet, To Sze-wan and Wong Kin-hang of FBIS carried off the Men's and Women's Individual Championships respectively, and the Overall Faculty Championship went to the Faculty of Engineering (FENG) team.



Efforts to promote understanding of the Basic Law

The Student Affairs Office, with sponsorship from the Centre for Professional and Continuing Education (PACE), took the lead in organizing a series of activities in November 1998 to enhance the awareness and understanding of the Basic Law among students and staff. The promotion was kicked off by a ceremony officiated at by the President, Professor Poon Chung-kwong, and the Honorable Andrew Wong. During the two-week event, a seminar by Mr. Wong and an exhibition on the Basic Law were held. Booklets and CD-ROMs produced by PACE were also distributed to visitors to provide comprehensive information on the Basic Law.

Thank you, Donors

The Hong Kong Polytechnic University wishes to record its grateful appreciation to the following new donors whose recent contributions have much enriched the University's scholarship and bursary schemes:

- Arthur Andersen Educational Trust
- Cheung On Tak Charity Foundation
- City Lions Club of Hong Kong
- Hong Kong Institute of Real Estate Administration
- Hong Kong Plastics Manufacturers Association Limited
- Hong Kong Translation Society
- Johnson & Johnson (Hong Kong) Limited
- Jones Lang Wootton Limited
- Kao Ya Trading Limited
- Prof. John H. Evans and Prof. Arthur F.T. Mak
- Simatelex Charitable Foundation
- The Civil Division of the Hong Kong Institution of Engineers
- The family of the late Mr. So Tsang Yuk
- The Landmark Fashion Foundation
- The Tung Wah Group of Hospitals
- Topcon Optical (H.K.) Limited
- Tri-Union Management Company Limited