

GSNEWS

INAUGURAL ISSUE

Feature Story

Interview with the First PolyU PhD Alumnus, Dr Goman Ho

About PolyU Graduate School

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and Supervisors

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Message from the President

The Graduate School (GS) has been established to formulate strategies and policies to ensure a coherent, efficient and forward-looking approach to research postgraduate (RPg) education. We endeavour to provide our RPg students with a world-class educational experience, enabling them to achieve scholarly excellence and success that benefits Hong Kong, the Nation and the world.

Professor Jin-Guang Teng, President of PolyU

Words from PolyU Central Management Team

Professor Wing-tak Wong, Deputy President and Provost

"With the strategic establishment of GS, it will continue to play as an efficient and effective cornerstone for RPg education quality assurance and the full nurture of our research talent for tomorrow to create a positive impact."

Dr Miranda Lou, Executive Vice President

"Representing PolyU in RPg outreach activities, GS plays an essential role in showcasing the excellence of the University's RPg education and reaching out to important stakeholders for fostering strategic partnerships."

Professor Kwok-yin Wong, Vice President (Education)

"To prepare our students as socially responsible leaders, we embark on the advancement of educational offerings to meet emerging needs of our society. We look forward to building close ties among education and research innovation."

Professor Christopher Chao, Vice President (Research and Innovation)

"The mission of GS is to promote quality RPg education through the provision of top-rated learning experiences at national and international levels, supported by its well-established collaborative framework with renowned universities. The School strives to nurture the next generation of well-equipped researchers with a global outlook."

Professor Ben Young, Vice President (Student and Global Affairs)

"A diverse student body enriches the University community, and contributes to the holistic development of PolyU students. GS is the facilitated education hub to draw RPg students from all over the world, and build their competitiveness as contributive global citizens."

About Graduate School

A graduate school is a research powerhouse of a world-class university. It brings together the brightest minds of the university to leverage its academic strength, expertise and global network to support high-quality research postgraduate education. It aims at nurturing the next generation of research intellectuals, promoting research discoveries and innovations and transforming them into practical solutions to positively impact the world.

The Graduate School of The Hong Kong Polytechnic University is an academic unit established in September 2020 to propel our RPg education. Currently, there is a student population of 2,200, among which 18% are local, 71% are from Mainland China, Macau and Taiwan, and 11% are from overseas countries.

We envision GS to play a pivotal and strategic role in framing PolyU's research postgraduate education. Dedication is shown towards missions of strategy and policy development, promoting academic excellence,

quality assurance, enhancing student experience, and delivering collaboration and professional development opportunities for our students.

The uniqueness of PolyU's RPg education is founded not only in the University's distinctive and interdisciplinary research areas, but also the seamless integration of undergraduate and postgraduate stages of research education. The College of Undergraduate Researchers and Innovators (CURI) is now a unit of GS.

We hold firm to our values to attract top-quality students to realise their research aspirations at PolyU, and we innovate and embrace growth. Please join us to witness our milestones.

Professor Jiannong Cao
Dean of Graduate School

**Top 3 Fast-Growing Graduate School
in Hong Kong**

Number of Research Students: 2,200



GS Team

GS has been built as a strong team with 18 staff members, under the management of:

Professor Jiannong Cao
Dean of School

Professor Christina Wong
Associate Dean

Dr Kelly Chan
School Secretary

GS Divisions

Five divisions of GS serve different roles in developing the University's RPg education:

Policy and System

Develop the policy and system to implement the University's strategies for RPg education.

Study Life Management

Manage and ensure the quality of processes and outcomes in RPg student lifecycle.

Learning and Supervision Support

Enhance student experience in learning and quality of staff in supervision.

Outreach and Partnership

Promote PolyU's RPg programmes, develop partnerships and foster collaborations with stakeholders.

Undergraduate Research and Innovation

Engage undergraduate students in enquiry-based learning and nurture them to become future researchers.

What GS Offers for Research Postgraduate Education of PolyU

As reflected in the University motto, "To learn and to apply, for the benefit of mankind", research at PolyU creates impactful and transferable knowledge to tackle real-world challenges. GS adds value to RPg education of PolyU by bringing in support and enrichment to students. From admission to post-study development, GS provides resources and opportunities to unleash their potential and enhance their experiences.

Prestigious Fellowship Schemes for Outstanding Talents

PolyU provides a wide array of fellowships for the talented students to pursue their research aspirations:

- Hong Kong PhD Fellowship Scheme
- PolyU Presidential PhD Fellowship Scheme
- PolyU Research Postgraduate Scholarship
- PolyU Postdoctoral Fellowship Scheme
- Research Grants Council (RGC) Postdoctoral Fellowship Scheme

PolyU's International Rankings

66th in QS World University Rankings 2022
91st in THE World University Rankings 2022
5th in THE Young University Rankings 2022

QS World University Rankings by Subject (2021)

9th Hospitality and Leisure Management
18th Architecture and Built Environment
20th Art and Design
21st Civil and Structural Engineering
43rd Nursing

THE World University Rankings by Subject (2022)

25th Business and Economics
51st Engineering
64th Computer Science

All-round Student Learning Experience

PolyU cares about our students and assist them along their research journeys. GS provides students with guidance to progress through the pathways in the student lifecycle, enhances learning-supervision experience and opportunities, and channels career opportunities through companionship, mentorship, internship and entrepreneurship.



By studying at PolyU, students are exposed to ample opportunities to explore a wider research community and diverse environments through taking part in one of the following programmes:

Joint PhD Programme

The Joint PhD Programme offers full-time PhD students the opportunity to benefit from the shared research excellence of PolyU and its prestigious partners. After completing the Joint PhD Programme, students will obtain double PhD degrees conferred by PolyU and the partner institution. The following universities are among those collaborating with PolyU:

- Harbin Institute of Technology
- Huazhong University of Science and Technology (new)
- Nanjing University (new)
- Nankai University (new)
- Northeastern University (new)
- Northwestern Polytechnical University
- Queensland University of Technology
- Sichuan University
- Southern University of Science and Technology
- Tongji University
- University of Calgary
- University of Surrey
- University of Technology Sydney
- Wuhan University
- Xi'an Jiaotong University
- Zhejiang University

Collaborative PhD Training Programme

The Collaborative PhD Training Programme offers students an opportunity to conduct PhD studies at PolyU, sponsored by a partner institution. Students are required to meet the graduation requirements of both institutions in order to obtain a PhD degree from PolyU and a Certificate of Completion from the partner institution.

- EIT Institute for Advanced Study (new)
- Shenzhen University - Applied Mathematics
- Songshan Lake Materials Laboratory
- Southern University of Science and Technology
- Southern Marine Science and Engineering Guangdong Laboratory (Zhuhai)

Research Student Attachment Programme

PolyU has established a global network with more than 280 overseas universities/ institutions across 39 countries and regions. With these networks, GS provides support to full-time PhD students for both incoming and outgoing studies at leading universities around the world, with examples including:

- Cornell University
- Imperial College London
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- Nanyang Technological University
- University of California, Berkeley
- University of New South Wales
- University of Oxford
- University of Tokyo
- Yale University

CURI - Undergraduate Research and Innovation

In Summer 2021, the Undergraduate Research and Innovation Scheme (URIS) together with the virtual College of Undergraduate Researchers and Innovators (CURI) were established to provide support and guidance to undergraduate students for enquiry-based learning, and engage them in supervised research.

Undergraduate students are given opportunities and funding to undertake individual or group research projects under the guidance and supervision of academic staff who are strong in research. CURI facilitates a seamless integration of undergraduate and postgraduate stages of research education.

URIS 2022/23 application is available from 25 March to 14 April 2022.
Learn more at: <https://polyu.hk/TDATY>



PolyU's RPg Education is the Cradle of **Researchers & Entrepreneurs**

PolyU has developed its prominence in research and entrepreneurship education. RPg students in PolyU are admitted to a first-class research environment of advanced research facilities, centres and institutes, as well as the consistent and excellent performance in achieving external research grants. Students are best supported for research-based learning.

Advanced Research Facilities

The state-of-the-art research facilities support our students in conducting advanced and in-depth research. PolyU has 7 University Research Facilities in humane handling of research animals, 3D Printing, Behavioural and Systems Neuroscience, Big Data Analytics, Chemical and Environmental Analysis, Life Sciences and Materials Characterisation and Device Fabrication.

There are also 2 State Key Laboratories, 2 Hong Kong Branches of Chinese National Engineering Research Centres, 3 Chinese Academy of Sciences – PolyU Joint Laboratories, 3 Research Centres under InnoHK Clusters, 15 Research Institutes and Centres under PolyU Academy for Interdisciplinary Research (PAIR) and 28 Research Centres.



Strong Research Teams

PolyU's world-leading research teams make remarkable impacts in many fields, including Aerospace and Aviation Engineering, Artificial Intelligence, Big Data and Financial Technology, Drug Development and Health Science, Smart Cities, Sustainable Infrastructure and Environment, Humanities and Advanced Materials. It is worth mentioning that PolyU has participated in National Space missions of Chang'e-5 and -6, with wide-ranging and in-depth collaboration and significant contributions leveraging our strength in topographic mapping and geomorphological analysis, and cutting-edge precision engineering technology.



Photo source: PolyU Excel x Impact Winter 2020 Issue

Substantial Research Funding Support

PolyU faculty has earned great success in research funding exercises, attracting significant sums from different funding agencies for their research projects. In recent years, top international research teams led by PolyU were awarded major grants by the Collaborative Research Fund (CRF), Research Impact Fund (RIF), Theme-based Research Scheme (TRS) and Areas of Excellence (AoE) Scheme of the Research Grants Council (RGC), which recognise our research excellence in leading big projects in research breakthrough and new technology development. In Jan 2022 alone, ten PolyU's research projects have been awarded a total amount of \$47million from the RGC in CRF and RIF funds.

Comprehensive Knowledge Transfer and Entrepreneurship Services

PolyU provides learning opportunities and practical guidance for entrepreneurship through its education programmes and funding support. Knowledge Transfer and Entrepreneurship Office (KTEO) has launched the PolyU Micro Fund (MF) Scheme in 2011 that provides up to HK\$120,000 to each approved start-up. It is as well offered to students and alumni to foster knowledge transfer and technology commercialisation. In 2019, the GBA Startup Postdoctoral Programme was launched, aimed at nurturing technology entrepreneurs. It provides entrepreneurial courses, applied technology research and pre-startup support. The programme is the first of its kind in Asia. PolyU also signed MoU with three strategic partners in support of "GBA PolyVentures 2025" in October 2021 to nurture deep tech ventures.

Distinguished Research Alumni

With the well-equipped RPg education of PolyU, students become the next generation of research intellectuals in chosen fields. Students learnt research fundamentals and skillsets with a broadened vision to be innovative in solving real-world problems. Distinguished research alumni gained places across industries and positions in academia, entrepreneurship and industry with high recognition. From leading tertiary education/ industry development to founding unicorn start-up, RPg alumni manifest their research visions with worldwide impacts. Here are some examples of PolyU's distinguished PhD alumni:

Prof. Dilum Fernando

PhD in Civil Engineering (2010)
Chair in Structural Engineering
School of Engineering
The University of Edinburgh

Dr Li Si-yang

PhD in Electrical Engineering (2018)
Forbes China's 2020 "Under 30 Elite List"
Co-Founder and CEO
Goal Technology (Shenzhen) Co., Ltd.



Mr Luo Wei-dong

MPhil in Computing (2007)
Co-Founder and CEO
Aurora Mobile Ltd.



Dr Ahmed Shaker

PhD in Land Surveying and Geo-Informatics (2004)
Vice-Dean of Faculty of Engineering and Architectural Science
Ryerson University



Dr Abraham Lam Hang-yat

PhD in Computing (2015)
Founder and CEO of MEGA Automation
Founder and CEO of FUSQUARE Technology Ltd.

“ PolyU's RPg education not only geared me up with research knowledge and techniques, but also encouraged students to apply their researches to solve real-world problems. With the support of the PolyU startup funding, PolyU Micro Fund (MF) and PolyU Tech Launchpad Fund (TLF), I established my first start-up during my second year of PhD study, and later expanded my business in the Greater Bay Area. ”



Success Story

Interview with the First PolyU PhD Alumnus, Dr Goman Ho



The interview with our first PhD graduate from the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering (CEE), Dr Goman Ho, has been rewarding. There were sparks in his eyes when we touched topics of research aspiration and shaping the world with an innovative vision.

Goman is an Arup Fellow and a seasoned director at Arup, a global architecture and engineering firm. He joined the firm after his PhD with expertise in high-rise buildings accumulating a height above nine kilometres. He has participated in mega projects, mapping especially the East Asia Region, best known for the Cheung Kong Centre in Hong Kong, National Stadium (the Bird's Nest), National Aquatics Centre (the Water Cube), CCTV Headquarters and Capital International Airport Terminal 3, in Beijing. Goman also held adjunct professorships at PolyU and HKU, with over 30 technical papers and three books published. He is an active member in academia, research and charity work.

Q1. As our first PhD alumnus in Structural Engineering, how would you relate your work achievement to your past research study at PolyU?

PhD study opened my mind to innovation, seeking the best solution in complexity. After obtaining my Diploma in Structural Engineering at PolyU in 1984, I returned to

my alma mater and finished my PhD degree in 1992. I am passionate in learning and am grateful to have met my supervisor, Professor S. L. Chan (Chair Professor of Computational Structural Engineering), who had shared a same interest in the research area of "semi-rigid connection" at that time.

Research postgraduate study focuses on reaching your set objective through researching existing solutions. With critical thinking, you either improve the established method or formulate a new way to handle the same problem. My working and research projects both hinge on novelty. I applied what I learnt from my research postgraduate study in finding new solutions to these projects even in distinctive parameters. With the skills and experience in reading technical papers, I continuously update myself with new knowledge, skills and technology.

Q2. How would you describe your research journey during the time?

It was an unforgettable research experience at PolyU! Among our group of research students, there were different research disciplines, but peer learning was valuable. Back in the days when the speed of technology was comparatively slow, all our system codes were

optimised by ourselves to reduce crunching time with limited hardware memory. We used many floppy disks for storing massive research data and findings.

Q3. What do you regard as your biggest takeaway from your research learning experience?

There were so many key takeaways. Instead, I would like to share a little story. My supervisor and I were at the stage of preparing a research methodology. I had a few failed attempts despite efforts based on what was shared, but I was hesitant to inform my supervisor of the unsuccessful result. I finally spent around three to four months in coming up with a new proposal and informed my supervisor. My supervisor and I revisited the problem together with an open mind, and we finally solved it. It was the interaction between the supervisor and research student that came foremost. There is a need to develop a critical eye and be able to filter information through experience gained.



Q4. What advice would you be sharing with our prospective and current research students?

PhD student is more of the role of a researcher than a student. It is crucial to be curious and ask questions, and further define your research aim. We have to make choices throughout our lives, weighing the pros and cons for improvement or accommodation, and demonstrating our critical thinking and open-mindedness. Research is a training of thinking and innovation, and is way beyond a degree.

Q5. Under extreme climate change in the 21st century, what is regarded as a sustainable building?

At the geographical level, many regions express the pressing need of energy saving and controlling carbon



emission footprint. Indeed, energy efficiency is taken in comparison, and the answer would be different when we compare that in the unit of a building and the overall unit. The total energy demand of a dense city with high-rises is less than that in a sparse city given the same population.

With the consideration of culture, population and land resources, tall buildings are more apparent in Asia. Having said that, tall buildings could also be energy efficient on their own. For example, the Jockey Club Innovation Tower at PolyU, with building geometry as a bird, is an art embodiment of energy efficiency and innovative design. It was awarded the BEAM Plus Gold award from the Hong Kong Green Building Council (HKGBC).

Q6. Following your current research on Structural Skills Network and Modular Construction, would you explain more about your research vision with us?

I envision the innovation of a disciplined mass production to address the challenges faced by Hong Kong today, such as labour shortage and sustainability for the construction industry. It is to bring along production efficiency and advancement of their working condition, and balance the needs of different sectors in society such as hospitals and offices. When we talk about Industry 4.0 for the world, building construction also needs further industrialisation. Modular construction would be the future for Hong Kong.

The quote from Goman, "Even with the same materials and tools, we can still design and create breakthroughs using our imagination", perfectly concluded the interview. We were fascinated to learn Goman's planted seeds of passion and tenacity for lifetime research and contributions, in the unwavering pursuit of an advanced built environment.

Words from Supervisors

Many PolyU's disciplines are highly acclaimed for their originality and relevance to social needs. Distinctive research disciplines include Artificial Intelligence and Data Science, Financial Technology, Robotics and Advanced Manufacturing, Textiles and New Materials, Carbon Reduction Technologies, Sustainable Infrastructure and Smart Cities, Food Science, Life Science, Health Science, Hospitality and Design. PolyU's PhD supervisors are world-renowned scholars and leading young experts, associated with various academic programmes.



PolyU is leading in fibre-based wearable computing and smart textiles, with exciting applications and profound impacts covering healthcare, safety, sports, IoT (Internet of Things), and robotics. Research in these emerging technologies is attracting young talents from materials, engineering, and design to study PhD at PolyU. Students are supervised by renowned scholars in a challenging yet caring multidisciplinary team, supported by state-of-the-art facilities on PolyU campus.

Professor Tao Xiao-ming, Chair Professor, Textiles and Clothing

Focusing on the design and synthesis of molecular and nano materials with photofunctional properties and energy functions, we are making profound contributions in developing sustainable energy sources to meet the world's future energy demand while working towards a cleaner environment. Our team is eager to work with young talents in this world-class university. I am ready to inspire and be inspired, and guide the HKPFS awardees to excel in their research.

Professor Raymond W. Y. Wong, Chair Professor, Applied Biology and Chemical Technology



We welcome talented students to join a team of leading photonics professionals to conduct cutting-edge researches in sensing, communication, transportation, and energy systems. Supported by the world-class facilities at PolyU and the strong collaboration with top-notch universities worldwide, we train tomorrow's leaders in research, education, engineering and entrepreneurship. We advocate a healthy working relationship with our PhD students and together we create breakthroughs.

Professor Jin Wei, Chair Professor, Electrical Engineering

A PhD degree is a demonstration of one's in-depth knowledge in a specific field. More importantly, it shows that you own the ability to attain that level of knowledge. A PhD degree in PolyU hinges on the creation of societal impact to benefit mankind, with a facilitated research environment. My specialism in Precision Engineering generated many impactful engineering payloads on several of our Nation's iconic Deep Space missions, and my PhD students shared that pride as well.

Professor Yung Kai-leung, Chair Professor, Industrial and Systems Engineering

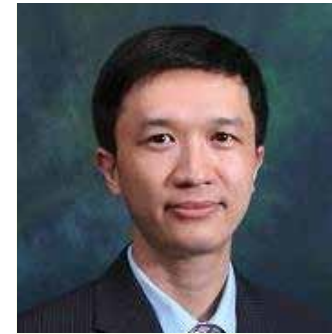


The School of Hotel and Tourism Management at PolyU is ranked global number one in various prestigious rankings. Students are mentored by the brightest scholars in a dynamic, exciting, and collegial research culture, with our specialised teaching and practising hotel near campus. My research expertise is in tourist behaviours and resident sentiment, destination marketing and more, by deploying mixed methods, including state-of-the-art psychophysiological measurements and big data, grounded in theories of psychology.

Professor Cathy Hsu, Chair Professor, Hotel and Tourism Management

PolyU is a global leader in urban and building engineering research, specialising in fire safety and optimised structural and architectural design. My research seeks creative solutions to make future urban environments more sustainable and resilient in the face of endless existential challenges. I am looking for curiosity-driven students who wish to research innovative solutions for the future urban environment.

Professor Asif Usmani, Chair Professor, Building Environment and Energy Engineering



I am a Professor working in Planetary Remote Sensing and Sciences, contributing to our Nation's Space missions. I always encourage students to be driven by curiosity and develop scientific research according to their inner interests. Sow the seeds of interest and bear the best fruits. PolyU is a place where you can explore your interests and realise your dreams. Joining PolyU will equip you with the opportunity to be a "pathfinder" in the era of innovation, let's explore the sea of stars with top talent.

Professor Wu Bo, Professor, Land Surveying and Geo-Informatics

Our team focuses on molecular diagnosis and epidemiology of infectious diseases. Collaborating with a blend of researchers in computer science and geo-informatics, we conducted territory-wide genomic surveillance of SARS-CoV-2 using pioneered equipment, which provided a scientific basis for the government to implement precise healthcare policies to interrupt the spread of COVID-19 in the Hong Kong community. Please come join us to safeguard the health of our people.

Dr Gilman Siu, Associate Professor, Health Technology and Informatics



LMS department at PolyU has a strong and productive group of world-leading researchers working with top journal publications and various external grants. Working in this active and exciting field, I am always looking for potential PhD students who are passionate about doing innovative research in supply chain/operation management, working collaboratively to develop theoretical tools and solve real-world business challenges.

Dr Xiao Guang, Assistant Professor, Logistics and Maritime Studies

Research Student Orientation



To extend PolyU's welcome to all new PhD and MPhil students, the first research student orientation was organised by GS on 10 September 2021. Around 230 students attended the orientation, in both face-to-face and online modes. The orientation was arranged to enable our new students to have a better understanding of the vision of PolyU's RPg education, the learning environment and the support offered by the University.

On that day, President Teng gave an inspiring talk to our new students. He shared the long history of the University and the latest achievement in a pursuit of research excellence, vision of creating wellness for mankind and passion to embrace changes and challenges. Professor Christopher Chao, the Vice President (Research and Innovation) talked about how PolyU provides the best learning support for RPg students to conduct their research studies.

Professor Jiannong Cao and Professor Christina Wong, Dean and Associate Dean of GS, also introduced the background of GS, why taking a PhD with the planning of success, and the specific requirements and several key dates of milestones in RPg studies. Furthermore, a professional counsellor of Student Affairs Office (SAO) has also shared some useful information about mental health and wellness, along with their services to be provided to our research students.

GS wishes all research postgraduate students a successful and productive research journey at PolyU.

Useful info for new RPg students at: <https://polyu.hk/SucYm>



Distinguished Speaker Series

GS launched the Distinguished Speaker Series on 25 January 2022. The talk was themed "Engineering Responsible AI (Artificial Intelligence)", delivered by Professor Harry Shum, Professor-at-large from HKUST as a world-renowned scholar.

At the webinar holding about 240 participants, Professor Shum navigated AI implications and current practices adopted in Microsoft AI and research areas. Content also covered responsibilities of industry, academia and the government that need to be stepped up. The audience was active in raising questions and President Teng was the first one.



Communication Sessions of Hong Kong PhD Fellowship Scheme (HKPFS)

PolyU strives to increase the number of successful HKPFS applications. At this round of exercise, GS reviewed the assessment and selection mechanism to better prepare for HKPFS admission 2022/23. A rigorous selection approach would be adopted based on the analytics of track records as well as the advice from former external advisors of the RGC and supervisors of HKPFS awardees.

In order to share the major findings with research committees at faculty and departmental levels, a communication session on Assessment and Selection Mechanism took place on 20 October 2021. The event was facilitated for interaction and discussion and many constructive suggestions were collected.



Another communication session for Reviewers and Selection Panels was held on 29 November 2021, which aimed to familiarise reviewers and selection panels with the review process and the new online submission system developed by GS.

With this concerted effort made by all stakeholders, it is expected that the best HKPFS candidates for PolyU would be selected, thus to improve the overall success rate.

PolyU Research Postgraduate Info Session 2021

On 29 October 2021, an Info Session for 2022/23 intake was successfully held online, participated by over 650 prospective students from different parts of the world. The Info Session provided the essential information of RPg studies, which included entry qualification requirements, application details, scholarships, academic programmes, etc.

During the event, eight admission talks were delivered by the academic representatives from faculty level. The talks covered current research trends of respective disciplines and distinctive research opportunities offered by them. A Q&A session was also hosted by Professor Cao and Professor Wong to address enquiries from online participants.



Fellowship and scholarship schemes available for prospective RPg students at: <https://polyu.hk/kQIRC>



Research Postgraduate Online Admission Talks



GS was invited to participate in two online research postgraduate admission talks. They were hosted respectively by the Shanghai-Hong Kong University Alliance (SHUA) on 8 October 2021; and Sichuan University, one of the partner universities of Joint PhD Programme (leading to dual awards), on 15 November 2021.

In both admission talks, GS shed light on PolyU's excellent research cores and academic trajectory with a cultivated PhD vision.



Elaboration was made on research support and services of PolyU in fellowship and scholarship, Joint PhD Programme (leading to dual awards) and Research Student Attachment Programme (RSAP), knowledge transfer, entrepreneurship and employment support for graduates. Outstanding alumni achievements were also highlighted.

Retreat of the Graduate School

GS had its off-campus staff retreat on 26 November 2021, a day surrounded by sunlight to encourage reflection and innovation, overlooking the green next to our meeting room.

To continuously promote university-wide academic excellence for research postgraduate education, we spared some quality time to reflect on our strategies and directions to bring forward all good suggestions and critiques.

Professor Cao shared his insights and experience of strategically prioritising goals and time management with the art of balance, self-awareness and mindfulness.

Ongoing discussions interwoven in our retreat covered aspects of organisational structure, operations and functional strategic plans. We are ready to embrace our reflections for execution among every member of GS.



“ Busy but not chaotic, tired but not exhausted; busy yet happy, tired but joyful. ”

Undergraduate Research and Innovation Scheme (URIS) Student Sharing Session



PolyU is honoured to have received a generous scholarship from the Lee Wan Keung Charity Foundation Limited for URIS. On 29 December 2021, GS hosted a student sharing session to demonstrate undergraduate researchers' latest findings and progress. Student representatives with their supervisors, the Central Management Team of PolyU, Head of CURI, Residential College Master of CURI, management of GS and representatives of the Alumni Affairs and Development Office (AADO) attended the event.

Four selected groups of URIS were invited to present their research ideations and innovative solutions to tackle real-world challenges. Project topics include fire-safe modern buildings, a carbon neutrality future, unmanned aerial vehicles for smart city application, and Myopia impact studies.

An engaging discussion with students was also facilitated to exchange inspiring views. Students shared their valuable gain after joining URIS. Some also planned to pursue research studies further and saw the possibilities of taking a career path in research.



“ URIS enabled me to carry out my research using a sophisticated fire simulation tool, PyroSim, at the University's workstation. I would love to equip myself with further research studies so as to pave the way in becoming an expert in fire and safety engineering in the future. ”

Doremi Lam - Student of URIS

Student Achievements & Sharings

Sir Edward Youde Memorial Fellowship for Disabled Students Awardee



Mr Andy Fung Hong-wang, a PhD student at PolyU's Department of Applied Social Sciences (APSS), has been the sole recipient of the Sir Edward Youde Memorial Fellowship for Disabled Students for two consecutive years in 2019/20 and 2020/21, with a fellowship grant of HK\$50,000 each to support his research in psychological trauma and mental health, to name a few.

Sir Edward Youde Memorial Fellowship for Disabled Students is a competitive fellowship offered to outstanding full-time students with special educational needs and/or mental health needs to pursue the University Grants Committee (UGC)-funded research postgraduate studies in Hong Kong.

The Belt and Road Scholarship Awardee from Ghana

A first-year PhD student from the School of Optometry (SO), Ayerakwah Patience Ansomah from Ghana, was awarded the Belt and Road Scholarship out of 25 quotas in the 2020/21 academic year. Her research focused on investigating the effect of off-axis astigmatism on refractive error development.

The scholarship was established by HKSAR Government Scholarship Fund to attract outstanding full-time students from countries/ regions along the Belt and Road to pursue UGC-funded research postgraduate programmes.

It was an exciting moment to be awarded the prestigious Belt and Road Scholarship. It enabled me to focus on my studies and become a professional researcher to contribute to my country and the world.



Incoming Attachment Student Sharing – Vivian Kwan from University of Calgary



Second from the left is Vivian Kwan, photo taken with FHSS team.

Vivian Kwan from the University of Calgary in Canada was one of our incoming students in the Research Student Attachment Programme (RSAP) in 2019, under the Faculty of Health and Social Sciences (FHSS). Her visiting project was later published in the journal of "Applied Neuropsychology".

Vivian recalled the exciting moment of learning her Attachment Programme admission and the valuable opportunity to work with Professor David Shum, a highly-respected neuropsychologist with expertise in brain injury and cognitive neuroscience at PolyU. Gratitude was specially expressed to his insightful career advice.

The lab members at Professor Shum's lab were genuine and it was very impressive to see how dedicated and collaborative the teams were. One of the highlights during her stay in Hong Kong was the rare chance to observe an awake-brain surgery for a patient's dangerous brain tumour and Vivian gained much from this experience.

In her spare time, Vivian would go sightseeing in junk boats at Sai Kung and explore the city lights in Mong Kok. She also ran after drooling street foods in Sham Shui Po with picturesque walks around Lantau Island.

I would surely recommend students to apply for an attachment at The Hong Kong Polytechnic University! There is an old Chinese saying: It is better to travel ten thousand miles than to read ten thousand books. My attachment at PolyU was an unforgettable experience that broadened my training, challenged my thinking, and pushed me to go outside my comfort zone.

Alumni Updates

Alumni Engagement for RPg Graduates



Two sessions of "President's Dialogue with Alumni" were held online on 16 and 21 February 2022, during which many insightful ideas were put forward on diverse topics, such as PolyU's development in Mainland China, and that in research, programme, student and alumni. President Teng also had sincere dialogues and vibrant interactions with 150 alumni all around the world.

To celebrate PolyU's 85th Anniversary, the University and the Mainland Alumni Networks have launched a wide variety of activities, such as "Sing the Theme Song", "Capture Your View of Shanghai" x 85 Photos, etc. Please follow the PolyU Alumni WeChat account (ID: HKPolyUalumni) for more details.

Join PolyU RPg Alumni Networking Wechat Account: by writing to alum.mainland@polyu.edu.hk

Early Career Development after PhD



Dr Wang Shanshan, a PhD graduate of the School of Nursing (SN), became a postdoctoral fellow of the World Health Organisation (WHO) Collaborating Centre for Community Health Services. As an early-career researcher, Shanshan has more than 30 publications and obtained several research grants.

Recently, she obtained a research grant from the Nethersole Institute of Continuing Holistic Health Education (NICHE), as the first researcher to use bibliotherapy for health promotion in Hong Kong, and embarked on the provision of an innovative, resource-saving, self-help intervention for dementia caregivers.

HKSTP Technology Leaders of Tomorrow Programme 2021

Dr Zheng Huadi, a recent PhD graduate in the Department of Electronic and Information Engineering (EIE), was selected by the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation (HKSTP) InnoAcademy as one of the 12 talents for their flagship Technology Leaders of Tomorrow (TLT) Programme 2021 themed "Start Now, Impact Tomorrow".



Photo source: HKSTP website

It was a privilege of getting selected out of over 900 global applications from the world's top universities. Dr Zheng and the other two talents won the champion of the competition together.

GS Community

GS has a wide array of key stakeholders. GS strives to build collaborative relationships with the stakeholders to offer high-quality RPg education and opportunities for RPg students.

- Top-quality worldwide RPg education aspirers
- PolyU RPg students, Ug students, TPg students
- Research supervisors
- Worldwide partner universities
- PolyU RPg alumni
- Industry and entrepreneurship collaborators
- PolyU staff and synergy departments
- Tertiary education institutions in Hong Kong



Call for Contribution

Contribute to the Graduate School through donations, sponsored scholarships, student helper sign-up and more to create a positive impact. Email gs.news@polyu.edu.hk to learn more.

PolyUAlumni



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Ongoing Initiatives & Events



The year 2022 marks the 85th Anniversary of PolyU. GS will organise the PolyU Graduate School Outstanding Research Postgraduate Alumni Award to recognise the accomplishments and contributions of our PhD/MPhil alumni to professions, research and entrepreneurship.

The Graduate School invited nominations for the award by 21 February 2022. Announcement of results will take place by **31 May 2022**. For the award details, please visit the GS website.

GS proudly presents a series of ongoing initiatives and events:

Graduate School
Distinguished
Speaker Series



PolyU Research
Postgraduate
Summer School



PolyU Graduate
School PhD
Thesis Award



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