Ranked Top in Faculty of Engineering in 2013/14 GRF Application Exercise

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Welcome to our EIE Network. We have decided to produce this magazine annually to keep you up to date with the developments and achievements in the department.

As you all know the world is buzzing with electronics and information flying from one place to another and indeed the world is being formed by the subjects we tackle within the department. We like to think that PolyU is at the forefront of these developments; and like everyone else we need to adapt to and indeed shape the world around us.

Even though I have only been at PolyU for a short time, joining this January, I am very conscious of the illustrious history we have in making practical differences to Hong Kong and beyond. There are even more demands on us now such as doing world class research while still keeping touch with our heritage by making a real lasting impact.

In addition to our research work we need to equip the next generation of engineers to work in an increasingly complex world where most systems and projects are not confined to a single traditional discipline, so our students must understand and communicate with people from diverse backgrounds. We should not underestimate the extent of the challenges that face the coming generations.

We hope EIE Network reflects our current ventures and keeps you in touch with the developing face of PolyU EIE. Finally, if you have any comments on things you would like to see or features that you think would be informative please let us know. As electronic engineers we know the importance of feedback both negative and positive.

Professor Michael Somekh

Professor Michael Geoffrey Somekh Appointed Chair Professor of Biophotonics and Head of Department

We are pleased to announce that Professor Michael Geoffrey Somekh has assumed duty on 6 January as Chair Professor of Biophotonics and Head of the Department. Professor Somekh received a Master of Art degree in Metallurgy and Materials Science from the University of Oxford in 1976 and a Doctor of Philosophy degree in Microwave Electronics from the University of Lancaster in 1981. Before joining PolyU, he was Professor of Optical Engineering, Head of Applied Optics Group and Director of Institute of Biophysics Imaging and Optical Science of the University of Nottingham.

Professor Somekh’s two major research strands are laser ultrasonics for materials characterisation and novel optical techniques in biological imaging. Professor Somekh with his research group pioneered and developed novel means to control the optical beam and hence the resulting ultrasonic distribution. New methods of optical imaging have been developed. In particular, he has pioneered work in high resolution surface plasmon microscopy, a technique that gives very sensitive measure of changes in surface structure and properties. Professor Somekh has worked on the development of novel detectors for optical imaging and has carried out a programme to develop novel arrays using commercially available integrated circuit technology. His work has attracted considerable funding and several of the techniques developed in his group have been commercialized and current developments also have considerable commercial potential.

In recognition of Professor Somekh’s interdisciplinary work in the application of engineering principles to materials science and biology, Professor Somekh was elected a Fellow of Royal Academy of Engineering in 2012. Besides, he is a Fellow of Institute of Physics and a Chartered Engineer. Professor Somekh also serves on the College Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council, Panel for Equipment Grants Royal Society and is an External Reviewer for the Research Excellence Framework in the United Kingdom.
The Making of Successful Engineers: Knowledge, Innovation, and Communication
– An Interview with Ir Dr Chan Fuk Cheung

Biography of Ir Dr CHAN Fuk Cheung

1970 Graduated from the Department of Electrical Engineering (it branched out to the Electronic Engineering Department which was renamed to the Department of Electronic and Information Engineering in 1998) of the Hong Kong Technical College (the predecessor of The Hong Kong Polytechnic University).

1972 Started career in China Light & Power (CLP) as a budding trainee.

2010 Retired from the post of General Manager of CLP Engineering.

1989 Obtained Fellowship in the Hong Kong Institution of Engineers (HIE).


2011/2012 Elected President of the Hong Kong Institution of Engineers (HIE).

2013 Awarded the “Outstanding PolyU Alumni Award” in recognition of remarkable professional achievements and contributions to PolyU and the community.

Present Serving as Governing Committee member for the Hong Kong Institute of Volunteers and a member of the Town Planning Board, HKSAR Government.

After retiring from CLP Engineering in 2010, Ir Dr Chan Fuk Cheung has been busy in a number of ways; development of young engineers has been one of his major commitments. As an honorary professor he has given lectures in Universities sharing with students his experience in engineering and nurturing interest of the young generation. On an autumn afternoon, the editor met Ir Dr Chan and gained his insight in the making of engineers.

Editor: Dr Chan, it was some forty years ago that you graduated from The Hong Kong Technical College (the predecessor of The Hong Kong Polytechnic University), can you tell us what it was like in the past compared to now?

Chan: One thing that is different is the teacher-student relationship. I still keep in touch with my lecturers back then, meeting them regularly and discussing with them engineering issues. I am not sure if teachers and students are that close now with bigger classes.

Another thing is the paper chase today. Apart from learning basic engineering knowledge, which will equip them to become professionals, engineering research students are asked to write a lot of papers which may not be of use to the industry. We need more integration between academia and industry. I think research should solve engineering problems and the success of universities should be assessed by their impact to the society. Luckily, PolyU is more practical and application focused. Students get to work out engineering solutions for real life problems.
Editor: What about the things that an engineer should learn now aside from basic knowledge of the field?

Chan: An engineer should always be aware of the environment around. Apart from engineering expertise, an engineer needs to be exposed to knowledge in other areas. These days things can get more complicated. There are numerous mega projects that will require multi-disciplinary knowledge. It is essential for engineers to have the breadth of knowledge so that they can grasp and master these projects. They can no longer simply focus on one discipline and the engineering education should be multi-disciplinary. In short technology is to improve the quality of life. Engineers will need to be able to identify the ways in which technology can achieve this. They need to have the knowledge in engineering and the environment they work in.

Editor: Apart from knowledge, what other qualities should an engineer possess and how to nurture them?

Chan: I had previously talked about the “Diamond Engineer” in my HKIE Presidential Address in 2011. There are many qualities an engineer should possess and I have summarized them as the seven triangles of a diamond. Among these, I believe the most important element is innovation. We should cultivate innovative thinking among students, making them Curious, Open-minded, able to take Risks and have the Energy to be different (and these elements can be put into an acronym – CORE). I would recommend the TRIZ process to train engineers to become systematically innovative.

Editor: It is a long process training engineers. How would you start?

Chan: We should start early on, making secondary school students interested and getting more youths into the profession. An example is climate change; there are a number of problems that need to be solved such as reduction of carbon emission, search for a renewable energy, research and development for batteries with greater efficiency and so on. We need to teach the young students that these engineering challenges have been put on us and they can join in the engineering profession to provide solutions and to ultimately make a difference to our society.

Editor: You are also actively promoting Toastmasters clubs. Why do you spend so much effort on this?

Chan: Toastmaster clubs are a good platform to train communication competency. A good engineering concept can fail if it cannot be communicated properly. Engineers need communication skills in order to make people in the other sectors understand their thoughts. These skills should be trained in universities to make them capable presenters. I hope there will be a Toastmasters Club in PolyU in the near future.

Editor: Looking at the future, what do you see will change in education?

Chan: The mode of teaching. Network speed has become so quick and cheap nowadays that a lot of things can be done online including teaching. All lectures can be taught online. There will be less traffic and less carbon emission. Not only will this cut the travel time but also provide international exposure to students. Students can get access to lectures

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1 The full address can be found at: http://www.hkengineer.org.hk/program/home/idmain.php?void=137&cat=ID&dept=gen

2 TRIZ offers systematic innovation. It is a theory developed by a Russian team in 1946. Based on extensive research covering hundreds of thousands of inventions across many different fields, a methodology is created to define generalizable patterns in the nature of inventive solutions and the distinguishing characteristics of the problems that these inventions have overcome.

3 TED stands for Technology, Entertainment, Design, more information can be found in www.ted.com
from around the world. Take the TED³ talks for example. People can watch and learn from distinguished speakers and gain invaluable insight from their presentations. If we could translate these lectures into Chinese to allow wider access among local students, it would be a big step forward.

**Editor**: So it looks like that Computer and Information Engineering as well as Communications Engineering that are two core areas in this Department will be of very much importance in the future.

**Chan**: Yes, indeed. I have championed for Hong Kong to develop a network economy. In fact, we should encourage more cloud computing. Computers connected to the internet will contribute to the pool of computing power. This will reduce overall energy consumption. At the system level, there are many areas in which further research work can be done in the university in collaboration with the industry. Things like tetra telecommunication systems and spectrum radio technology can be used in public transportation, police enforcement and so on. There is huge potential to be untapped and we need innovative minds to explore. Also, as I mentioned before, engineers have to be aware of the environment around these telecommunication areas and issues like security and safety will have to come into play when systems are designed.

**Editor**: To summarize, what is the learning that you have obtained from studying at PolyU?

**Chan**: Basics. Without knowing the basics, without a solid foundation which I have got from my studies at PolyU, I would not have been where I am now. So to the students now, I would encourage them to build a strong base of knowledge in transistors, integrated circuits, signal processing and so on. These are fundamental to an engineering career in electronic field.
Winning Gold Medal at the International Exhibition of Inventions of Geneva

Dr K.H. Loo, Dr Y.M. Lai, Prof. C.K. Tse and Mr Xuecong Lv won the Gold Medal in the International Exhibition of Inventions of Geneva, Switzerland, in April 2013, for their project “An Energy-Saving, Wide-Color-Gamut LED Display System”. Congratulations to the Team for their great work leading to the winning of the international award!

The award winning system employs a low-cost method for implementing the multi-level Pulse-Width-Modulated (PWM) driving technology on wide-area outdoor LED display panel. The multi-level PWM driving technology gives rise to a two-dimensional dimming of each LED pixel and results in a color gamut that is much wider than the existing commercial systems. Because of the physical characteristics of LEDs, this driving technology also offers the additional advantage of higher energy efficiency than the conventionally driven systems. Moreover, the implementation of this technology incurs only a very slight increase in the hardware cost.

Keynote Speaker at International Forum on Green Energy Electronics and Visit to Universities in Taiwan

Prof. Michael Tse was invited to be a keynote speaker at the International Forum on Green Energy Electronics held in Taipei, Taiwan on 19 December 2013. The keynote presentation was on the efficient driving of light-emitting-diodes. Concurrently, Prof. Tse was invited to visit and deliver lectures at National Tsinghua University in Taipei and Taiwan National University of Science and Technology in Taipei.

Congratulations to 2013/14 GRF/ECS Winners

The Department hits a high success rate of 40% in the recent General Research Fund (GRF) and the Early Career Scheme (ECS) exercise of Research Grants Council (RGC) of the Hong Kong Government. We are ranked the top in the Faculty of Engineering in terms of both the number of successful proposals (9 GRF projects and 1 ECS project) and the total amount of funding received (HK$6,359,000) which is more than a 2-fold jump compared with that of the last exercise! Congratulations to all the TEN GRF/ECS Winners! The successful projects fall in the research areas of signal processing, power electronics, photonic and optoelectronics. The outstanding result demonstrates staff members’ great effort and achievement in research!

Principal Investigator | GRF Project
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Dr Daniel Lun | Dual-tree complex wavelet transform profilometry for efficient 3-dimensional model reconstruction
Prof. Alexander Wai | Frequency Domain Mode-Locked Lasers
Dr Chan Yui Lam | Region-based Rate-Distortion Optimization in 3D Video Coding
Prof. Chao Lu | Optical Fiber Sensor Systems Using Optical Communication and Signal Processing Techniques
Prof. Siu Wan Chi | Video Surveillance Technologies in the Transform Domain
Prof. Charles Surya | Investigation of SnSexS(2-x)-based heterojunctions for photovoltaic applications
Prof. Michael Tse | Design-Oriented Bifurcation Analysis of Multi-Structure Multi-Operating-Mode Hybrid Power Conversion Systems With Renewable Energy Sources
Dr Wong Siu Chung | Basic Research in Wireless Inductive Power Transfer
Dr Chan Yuk Hee | The ideal spatial and spectral characteristics of a video halftone for driving OLED displays

Principal Investigator | ECS Project
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Dr Loo Ka Hong | Research on Autonomous Microgrid/Smart-Grid Based on Decentralized Control
Prof. Charles Surya was Endowed the Clarea Au Endowed Professorship in Energy

Congratulations to Prof. Charles Surya who was endowed the Clarea Au Endowed Professorship in Energy in the First Inauguration of Endowed Professorships on 29 May 2013 at the Jockey Club Auditorium on campus.

Prof. Surya is the leader of the Thin Film Optoelectronics Research Group of the Department. Since joining the University in 1994, he has established a state-of-the-art Molecular Beam Epitaxy (MBE) and a Metalorganic Chemical Vapour Deposition (MOCVD) facility for the growth of GaN based devices. Prof. Surya has published widely in the field of semiconductor optoelectronic and electronic devices and has established himself as an international authority in the field of low-frequency excess noise in semiconductor devices. His present research effort includes development and commercialization of GaN-based UV detectors; development of GaN-based high electron mobility transistors; and development of GaN-based nanodot light emitters.

Congratulations again to Prof. Surya for his great academic and research achievement!

Visit to the Shandong University

Dr C.Y. Li, Research Fellow of the Department, has paid a visit to the Shandong University in Weihai between 30 May and 2 June 2013. During the 4-day visit, Dr Li conducted a talk on “The Optical Networking in PolyU” to introduce the research activities of the optical communications group of the Department and the latest optical networking technology to the undergraduate students from the School of Mechanical, Electrical and Information Engineering of Shandong University. The students showed great interest in the principle and mechanism of the optical networking research presented by Dr Li which aims at properly replacing the electrical signals in nowadays communication networks by optical signals to improve the system performance.

EIE Team Winning Faculty Award for Outstanding Performance/Achievement in Research and Scholarly Activities 2012/13

Congratulations to Prof. Michael Tse, Dr Y.M. Lai and Dr K.H. Loo on winning the Outstanding Team Award of the Faculty Award for Outstanding Performance/Achievement in Research and Scholarly Activities 2012/13. The recognition is well-deserved honour for their great achievements in research!

The EIE research team has been focusing its research works in the design of energy-saving LED driver systems for general lighting and display applications. With their dedication and strenuous effort, the team has made groundbreaking research results and built up its reputation and outstanding track records in sustainable lighting research. Their LED driver systems offer 18% saving in power consumption. Their research works have won two Gold Medals at the International Exhibition of Inventions at Geneva in 2009 and 2013; attracted over HK$10 million government research funding including two GRF proposals and an interdisciplinary, cross-institutional theme-based research project; and led to two licensed patents and numerous publications in prestigious journals.

The team has been further nominated by the Faculty for the President’s Awards for Excellent Performance/Achievement 2012/13. Congratulations again to the team for their excellent work!
Departmental Retreat 2013

The Department held its Departmental Retreat between 20 and 21 June 2013 in Shenzhen this year. A number of key issues related to the curriculum review and the strategic plan of the Department were discussed on the occasion. Staff members also took the opportunity to visit the PolyU Base in the Shenzhen Virtual University Park and the Huawei Technologies Co. Ltd., one of the leading global ICT solutions providers, during the retreat.

EIE Winning NSFC Fund – Congratulations to Prof. Francis Lau and Prof. Chao Lu

Congratulations to Prof. Francis Lau and Prof. Chao Lu for winning the National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC) funding applications for their projects “Research on cooperative relay selection and information theory in discrete channel with memory” and “Study of high performance distributed optical fibre sensing systems” respectively. The two NSFC research projects have won a total funding amount of RMB 1.58 Million in the coming four years. Congratulations again to Prof. Lau and Prof. Lu for their great achievement!

Successful Applications for Hong Kong Scholars Program 2013 – Congratulations to Prof. Chao Lu, Prof. Michael Tse and Prof. Alex Wai

Congratulations to Prof. Chao Lu, Prof. Michael Tse and Prof. Alex Wai for their successful applications for the Hong Kong Scholars Program 2013! They have won a research funding of about HK$600K each for recruiting Postdoctoral Fellows in assisting their research work. The Program is jointly launched by the Society of Hong Kong Scholars and the China National Postdoctoral Council under the Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security. In its pilot stage from 2011 to 2013, the Program aims to recruit 50 postdoctoral fellows each year from the Mainland to participate in research projects led by the Hong Kong supervisors for two years. The three Postdoctoral Fellows will assume duty at the Department in February 2014.

Prof. David Feng as Honorary Professor

Prof. David Feng, former Chair Professor of Information Engineering who departed from the Department last June, has been appointed Honorary Professor starting from 1 September 2013 for two years. Prof. Feng is currently Head of School of Information Technologies and Director of the Institute of Biomedical Engineering and Technology of the University of Sydney. With Prof. Feng’s expert knowledge and profound experience, his valuable input as Honorary Professor will certainly be of immense benefit to the future work and development of our Department.
Delegation from the University of Malaysia, Pahang

A delegation from the University of Malaysia, Pahang, paid a visit to the Department on 24 and 25 September 2013. The delegation composed of Prof. Mortaza Mohamed, Dean; Dr Hamzah Ahmad, Deputy Dean of Academic and Student Affairs; Dr Abu Zaharin Ahmad, Head of Department of Electrical Engineering, and Dr Fahmi Samsuri, Head of Department of Electronics Engineering. Meetings were held for the exchange of ideas and information on research and academic development and for benchmarking of undergraduate programmes.

Distinguished Lecture on Electronic and Information Engineering

It was our great honour to have Prof. Leon Chua, Chair Professor of Nonlinear Circuits and Complexity Theory (under the Distinguished Scholars Scheme) of the Department, to give a Distinguished Lecture on Electronic and Information Engineering entitled “The Third Law of Thermodynamics” on 25 October 2013 at the Chiang Chen Studio Theatre of PolyU. Prof. Chua is currently a Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Sciences Department from the University of California, Berkeley. Elected an IEEE Fellow in 1974, Prof. Chua has received many international prizes, including the IEEE Browder J. Thompson Memorial Prize, the IEEE W. R. G. Baker Prize, the Frederick Emmons Award, the M. E. Van Valkenburg Award twice (in 1995 and 1998), and the 2005 Francqui Award from Belgium. In the lecture, Prof. Chua introduced the new “principle of local activity” which resolves the above conundrum by providing a mathematical foundation for the current hot albeit disarrayed research area dubbed “complexity”. The lecture has drawn over 200 participants, including academics and students from different universities and members from the industry.

Winning Large Equipment Fund – Congratulations to Prof. Chao Lu

Congratulations to Prof. Chao Lu for winning the Large Equipment Fund granted by the Areas of Excellence Committee of the University. Teamed up with the Department of Electrical Engineering, Prof. Lu’s proposal has won a total funding amount of HK$5.34 Million for acquiring large research equipment items like an ultrafast arbitrary waveform generator with greater than 30Gsamples/s sampling rate and 20GHz analogue bandwidth as well as a 80G samples/s real-time oscilloscope with 33GHz real-time bandwidth on 4 channels. The equipment can significantly enhance our test and measurement capability for studying high capacity optical communication systems. The equipment will be put under a Central Research Facility of the University to promote sharing of equipment facility which will facilitate interdisciplinary collaborative research among researchers of the Department and the University.
Prof. Michael Tse was Awarded 2013 Gledden Fellowship and Re-appointed Editor-in-Chief of the IEEE Circuits and Systems Magazine

Congratulations to Prof. Michael Tse who was awarded the 2013 Gledden Fellowship by the University of Western Australia! The fellowship supports Prof. Tse to visit the University of Western Australia and to work with academics in its Institute of Advanced Studies, which is a research centre for promoting cross-disciplinary research. The Gledden Fellowship is awarded each year to a few senior researchers who would undertake a period of collaborative research with faculty members of the University of Western Australia. Prof. Tse has also been re-appointed Editor-in-Chief of the IEEE Circuits and Systems Magazine, a reputable journal published by the IEEE focusing on the latest development in circuits and systems and their cross-disciplinary applications.

Visitor from Huawei

Dr. Jiantong Zhou currently Head of Projects Managing Office of Media Laboratory, and Manager of Video Coding and Application Group of Huawei visited the Department on 6 November 2013. During the visit, Dr. Zhou gave a presentation on the research work of the Media Laboratory and exchanged ideas in research with our Multimedia Signal Processing Research Group led by Prof. W.C. Siu.

Raspberry Pi Workshop Sponsored by EIE

A Raspberry Pi Workshop organized by the Hong Kong Linux User Group and sponsored by the Department of Electronic and Information Engineering was held on 6 April 2013 at the Department. The Raspberry Pi is a credit-card-sized single-board computer developed with the intention of promoting the teaching of basic computer science in schools. The participants have got chance to conduct experiments on the Raspberry Pi to familiarize themselves with its usage. Those who joined the workshop found it a valuable experience to be in touch with this new technology.

Plenary Talk at 2013 IEEE International Workshop on Complex Systems and Networks

Prof. Michael Tse was invited to give a plenary talk at the 2013 IEEE International Workshop on Complex Systems and Networks held in Vancouver, Canada, between 11 and 13 December 2013. The workshop is one of the flagship specialist workshops in the area of complex systems and networks, and is sponsored by the IEEE Circuits and Systems Society. Prof. Tse’s talk was on the analysis of network growth patterns, a recent research effort of his group in uncovering a universal growth profile of transition networks that cover most practical social networks (like Facebook, Twitter), user networks of products and softwares (like WeChat, Whatsapp), disease spreading networks, etc.
Visit from the CNEC Lau Wing Sang Secondary School

18 secondary students from the CNEC Lau Wing Sang Secondary School visited the Department on 26 March 2013. A talk on Electronic and Information Engineering was conducted by Dr Y.L. Chan introduced our programmes and the latest technologies of the engineering field. The students also visited the Interactive Multimedia Laboratory, the Virtual Reality Laboratory and other facilities of the Department. They all found the 3D motion capture and eye tracking demonstrations fascinating during the laboratory tour, and enjoyed the visit very much.

EIE-SYSU Exchange Tour

Led by Dr C.K. Leung, 17 EIE students joined the EIE-SYSU Exchange Tour to the Sun Yat-sen University (SYSU) in Guangzhou from 1 to 4 June 2013. The students participated in a series of technical and cultural activities during this tour including visits to historical sites of Guangzhou like the Ancestral Temple of Chen Family. Our students enjoyed sharing their learning experience with their SYSU counterparts through the exchange activities during the visit. Three teams of EIE final-year students also took part in the project presentation contest organized by the SYSU which had demonstrated their academic knowledge and skills to other participants of the event.

EIE Taiwan Study Tour

A Taiwan Study Tour was organized for 21 EIE students from 3 to 6 June 2013 to broaden their horizons and enrich their multicultural experience. Led by Dr Zheru Chi, the students visited the National Chi Nan University, the National Taiwan University, the TECO Electric & Machinery Co., Ltd. and the National Palace Museum, etc, during the study tour. It was a great opportunity for the students to get first-hand experience about the higher education, technology, history and culture of Taiwan. All students enjoyed this trip a lot and made new friends with students from other EIE programmes joining the tour.
EIE Students Joining Robocon Hong Kong Contest 2013

Supervised by Dr Frank Leung and Dr Bruce Sham, a team of 7 final-year students from three different EIE programmes including Cheng Daonan (BEng in EIE (42070)), Jia Zheng (BEng in ENC (42079)), Leung Ting Pak (BEng in EIE (42070)), Lu Da (BEng in ENC (42079)), Fabien Santos-Cessac (DD in BA and ENG (05004)), Xie Hongyang (BEng in EIE (42070)) and Yu Yun (BEng in EIE (42070)) participated in the Robocon Hong Kong Contest 2013 organized by the Radio Television Hong Kong in the Cyberport on 23 June 2013. A total of ten teams from six post-secondary institutions joined the competition this year. The EIE team “Explorer” was one of the four teams entered into the semi-finals. The competition aims to encourage the exchange of experience in engineering and information technology among students from different tertiary institutions. Our students also acquired solid system design and problem-solving skills through designing their own robot to complete different tasks in this contest.

The 9th Robotic Project Competition and the Interactive Game Design Competition

Same as previous years, the 9th Robotic Project Competition and the Interactive Game Design Competition organized by the Department took place on 14 June 2013. In the first contest, six teams of EIE second-year students were asked to compose and programme an autonomous machine to compete for the champion of the Robotic Project Competition. The second part of the event was an Interactive Game Design Competition which students had to design computer games that combine 3D graphics and live video. These two competitions served as a platform for our undergraduates to enhance their creativity, technical skills and problem-solving ability. It was also part of the Department’s innovative effort to provide outcome-based learning experience to students through integrated projects.
Sun Yat-sen University Students visiting the Department

On 5 and 6 July 2013, the Department was happy to receive 36 students from the Sun Yat-sen University (SYSU) who will be entering our BEng(Hons) in Electronic Engineering (BEng in ENC) programme in 2014 after successful completion of their first 2 years of study at the SYSU. The students were greeted by Dr Daniel Lun, Acting Head of the Department, before having a tour to our laboratories and the Industrial Centre. During the visit, Dr Bonnie Law, the BEng in ENC Programme Leader, has also delivered a lecture on Database System to give the students a taste of the university study life in Hong Kong. All of the students enjoyed the visit a lot and are looking forward to joining EIE next year!

Admission of JEE students

Despite the stiff competition for admissions of non-local students from the Chinese Mainland (JEE) in recent years, the Department boosts the highest number of JEE students in its undergraduate intake in 2013/14 academic year among other departments of the Faculty of Engineering. For 2013/14, our BEng in EIE programme (42470) remains the top five most popular programmes in PolyU and has admitted 17 JEE students, up by 21% compared with last year’s figure, while our BSc in IMT programme (42477) has also admitted 5 JEE students, an increase of 25% compared with last year’s admission. All these JEE students have attained outstanding academic performance and their public examination results are, on average, among the top 1% of their respective provinces and cities in China.

Departmental Academic Advising Gathering

Over 100 undergraduate students exchanged greetings with their academic advisors and counterparts at the first Departmental Academic Advising Gathering on 26 September 2013. The gathering served as an occasion for all EIE new students to get to know each other and to seek academic advice from their Programme Leaders and Academic Advisors over a cup of tea. All freshmen were very delighted to have a chance to meet our alumni, Mr Jason Tsui, Ms Hayden Li and Mr Max Lo, who happily shared their study life at PolyU and work experience after graduation from EIE.
EIE Student Won in World Robot Olympiad 2013 Hong Kong Selection

The InnoCarnival 2013 organized by the Innovation and Technology Commission displays innovative products and inventions from more than 60 institutions between 2 and 10 November 2013 at the Hong Kong Science Park. Among the exhibits, a game on warriors jointly developed by our Year-2 HD in EIE student, Chan Ting Kwok, and a secondary school student has won the Championship of the Hong Kong Selection of World Robot Olympiad 2013. The award-winning team will be representing Hong Kong to join the international contest of the Olympiad in Indonesia in November. Congratulations and wish the team all the best in the next challenge!

Interactive Information Distribution Systems Developed by EIE Student

Supervised by Dr Ben Cheng, our Year-3 BSc in IMT student, Fok Kai Yin, has been working on a final-year project on the design of interactive interfaces using Leap Motion sensors. Fok has successfully applied his preliminary work to convert ordinary flat-panel displays into interactive information distribution systems, which were used in the Department’s booth on the PolyU Education Info Day took place on 5 October 2013. By utilizing the capabilities of the Leap Motion infrared-based sensors, Fok has developed a hand-gestures recognition system that provided visitors to our booth with an unforgettable touch-less interactive experience when browsing information on the Department.

Admission Talk for JUPAS Applicants

The University has organized an admission talk for all JUPAS applicants held at the Carmel Holy Word Secondary School on 30 November 2013. Dr Daniel Lun, Acting Head of the Department, was invited to introduce the engineering programmes to more than 200 secondary school students and teachers attended the talk. All participants have shown great interest in our programmes and lots of inquiries were received on the admission requirements and the curriculum of the engineering programmes offered by our University.
EIE Graduate Winning in HKEIA Innovation and Technology Project Competition

Supervised by Dr M.W. Mak, a graduate of the BSc in Internet and Multimedia Technologies Programme, Miss Chow Mung Yan, won the Merit Award in the HKEIA Innovation and Technology Project Competition 2012 for her final-year undergraduate project entitled “Web Portal for Shopping Mall”. The competition is co-organized by the Hong Kong Electronic Industries Association (HKEIA) and the Hong Kong Electronic Industries Association Education Foundation (HKEIAEF), which aims at recognizing students with outstanding projects demonstrating excellence in technology and innovation. Congratulations to Dr Mak and Miss Chow on their good work and great achievement!

New Departmental Advisory Committee Members

We are very pleased that two EIE alumni, Mr Jason Tsui and Ms Hayden Li, are appointed members of our Departmental Advisory Committee (DAC) to bring in new blood and younger generation to the DAC.

Mr Jason Tsui, Chairman of the Alumni Association of the Department (AAEIE), was graduated in 2009 from our flagship BEng in Electronic and Information Engineering programme. Jason is now an Engineer of the Applied Science and Technology Research Institute (ASTRI). Ms Hayden Li was graduated from the BSc in Internet and Multimedia Technology degree programme in 2008. As a young entrepreneur, Hayden is the Co-founder and Director of Haylott Digital specializing in interactive display system and AR technology.

With inputs directly from our alumni, we are sure the Department could have a better understanding of our new graduates’ career prospects and employment situation in the industry.

Christmas Lunch 2013

The Christmas Lunch 2013 has taken place in the Hotel ICON on 16 December 2013 for about 130 guests, alumni, staff and students. It was our great honored to have Dr Humphrey Leung, the Departmental Advisory Committee (DAC) Chairman, Ir Dr CHAN Fuk Cheung and Mr Peter Lam, our distinguished alumni, as well as other DAC members and representatives from the Alumni Association of Department of Electronic and Information Engineering (AAEIE), the Electrical and Electronic Engineering Alumni Association (EEEA), and the Electronic and Information Engineering Students’ Society (EIESS) joining this event to celebrate the festive season with the Department.
19th Congregation and Departmental Graduation Tea Reception 2013

The 19th Congregation of the Faculty of Engineering was held on 30 October 2013 to celebrate the graduation of 268 EIE students including the first cohort of 22 graduates from our Bachelor of Engineering (Hons) Degree in Electronic Engineering programme. The recipients of the Best Academic Performance Awards and the Honours Project Awards were also invited to the Departmental Graduation Tea Reception to receive the prizes from their Programme Leaders on the same day. Congratulations to both the graduates and the award recipients! Wishing all of our graduates continued success in their future endeavors!
EIE Team Won in the Best Final Year Project Competition

Supervised by Dr Y.M. Lai, student Wong Chi Shing, a graduate of the BEng in EIE degree programme in 2013, won the 1st Runner-up in the Individual Project Division of the 2012-13 Best Final Year Project Competition organized by the Energy Institute (Hong Kong Branch). The winning project “Design of High Reliable Green Light System by using High Voltage LED” focused on the study of extending the lifetime of a LED driver. Congratulations to WONG for his great achievement!

Staff Students Alumni Gathering

To give our students a better understanding of the prospects of studying at EIE, a Staff Students Alumni Gathering has been arranged on 2 November 2013. The event which took place at the Wu Kwai Sha Youth Village was kicked off with a career talk by Dr Daniel Lun, Acting Head of the Department, to introduce to students the trend of ICT and other related engineering industries. We are very pleased to have Mr Jason Tsui, Chairman of Alumni Association of Electronic and Information Engineering (AAEIE) and member of the Departmental Advisory Committee (DAC), as well as other members of the AAEIE Executive Committee: Mr Jimmy Yiu, Mr Dominic Tse, Mr Terry Ng and Ms Catherine Li, joining the event to share their work experience with about 50 students.

Donation of Antique Teleprinters from Alumnus

We are very much thankful to receive from Mr P.C. Cheung, a PolyU Alumnus a donation of two antique teleprinters. The teleprinters were a kind of electromechanical typewriters made by Siemens of Germany in 1970s. It is most fascinating that the two teleprinters are still in good condition and can operate to send and receive typed messages from point to point even now. The teleprinters will surely enrich our collection of antique electronic products being showcased in the Electronics and Telecommunications Research Laboratory (EF502).
EIE Alumni Gathering and AAEIE AGM 2013

The Alumni Association of Department of Electronic and Information Engineering (AAEIE) held the 8th Alumni Gathering at the Staff Club Restaurant of the University on 6 December 2013. The event provided an opportunity for about 60 alumni and staff to meet and catch up. The AAEIE also held its Annual General Meeting during this occasion. The following alumni were elected office-bearers of the Executive Committee (2014/15 – 2016/17) of the Association. The new Executive Committee will continue to organize activities and provide new services to our alumni.

Chairman : Mr Tse Siu Kei, Dominic
Vice-Chairman : Mr Yiu Ka Ming, Jimmy
Honorary Secretary : Mr Ng Ho Yin, Terry
Honorary Treasurer : Ms Cheng Po Ying, Maggie
Members : Mr Tsui Chi Lok, Jason
          Ms Chan Wing In, Jovi
          Ms Chan Jing Ying, Chloe
          Mr Chan Kin Man, Kurt

Award Winning EIE Dragon Boat Team

34 EIE students, staff and alumni teamed up to compete in the "Sun Life Stanley International Dragon Boat Championships 2013" organized by the Stanley Residents Association at the Stanley Main Beach again this year. The EIE Dragon Boat Team snatched three trophies, including the Second Runner-up of the Small Boat Races, the Fifth-Runner-up of the Men's Silver Plate in the Stanley Dragon Boat Warm-up Races, and the Third Runner-up of the Men's B Plate Final in the Stanley International Dragon Boat Championships. It was really a joyful activity for the team members to strengthen their physical fitness and cooperation skills, and to unite our students, staff and alumni.
Alumni Association of Electronic and Information Engineering (AAEIE)

AAEIE was founded in 1998. The Association has been maintaining a close link with our alumni, the Department and the University. In the past three years, the Association has held various activities such as:

- Annual EIE Alumni Gathering
- Chinese New Year Pun Choi Tasting and Ping Shan Heritage Trail Tour
- Social Service Programme to visit the elderly and minority group families in Hung Hom
- New Territories Walk For Millions
- AAEIE Band Performance
- Career Talk for EIE students
- Forum for 2012 Legislative Council Engineering Functional Constituency Election Candidates
- Dragon Boat Races at Stanley Main Beach

Graduates of the Department of Electronic and Information Engineering are welcome to register as a life member of the AAEIE at http://aa.eie.polyu.edu.hk/.
Let's Rock it – EIE Band "Break Four"

The EIE Band "Break Four" was formed by a group of music lovers who are our EIE and IMT undergraduates in 2008. After graduation, they continue to play music together every week. They have participated in many performances in the campus like EIE Alumni Gathering, PolyU Christmas Carols and PolyU 75th Anniversary Pun-Choi Dinner, etc. Recently, they have composed, recorded and performed their own songs on different occasions outside the campus. In May 2013, the band held their first outdoor music concert at the Avenue of Stars in Tsim Sha Tsui. President Professor Tong also came to support them as one of the audience in the show.
LIN Xi, Victoria – 2010 graduate of the BEng(Hons) in Electronic and Information Engineering degree programme, currently an Engineer (IC Design Group) of Applied Science and Technology Research Institute Company Limited (ASTRI)

I settled upon University of Oxford to pursue a MSc study in Computer Science immediately after completing my graduation from PolyU in summer 2010. Oxford is a very diverse place with both scientific strength and rich cultural heritage, and studying there grants me far more than just the knowledge in my own area. Most importantly, it is the intense and diverse learning atmosphere that I have experienced in my undergraduate study that makes me able to walk far and keep on exploring new stuff. I established natural language processing as my research direction and finished the thesis “Fine-grained Named Entity Classification in Machine Reading” (supervised by Prof. Stephen Pulman), which proposed a design of the initial stage for large-scale information extraction system.

After graduation from Oxford, I went to University of Pennsylvania to pursue doctoral study, where I focused on solving natural language processing problems with machine learning techniques, specifically graphical models. I transferred to University of Washington, Seattle in summer 2013 following the job change of my PhD advisor. Moving into new places and meeting new people never stop giving me surprises, which is the great blessing to me on the road of doing good scientific research.

TSUI Chi Lok, Jason – 2009 graduate of the BEng(Hons) in Electronic and Information Engineering degree programme, currently an Engineer (IC Design Group) of Applied Science and Technology Research Institute Company Limited (ASTRI)

I graduated from the Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) in Electronic and Information Engineering Degree Programme (EIE) in 2009 and attained the Master Degree of Science in 2013. The programme covers all-rounded practical training in hardware and software, which has equipped me well after graduation as an Engineer in Integrated Circuit Design at Hong Kong Applied Science and Technology Research Institute Company Limited (ASTRI). My current work mainly focuses on the hardware circuit design, software implementation, verification and simulation on the system, which are knowledge-intensive and demands a strong sense of innovation and good problem-solving skills.

Studying at the undergraduate programme of EIE has made my dream come true to be an engineer and allowed me to pursue my career in the engineering profession. Through participating in the extra-curricular activities, such as EIE Dragon Boat Team and EIE Guitar Band, I have widened my horizon and become a more mature person. I felt happy and am lucky. I have a strong sense of belongings to EIE and I am proud of being one of the EIE family!

CHO Lok Hin, Stephen – 2009 graduate of the BEng(Hons) in Electronic and Information Engineering degree programme, pursuing the PhD in Electronic and Information Engineering programme at EIE, PolyU

Now, my academic and research studies in the university has come to an end and I am looking for a new life in the industrial world. My studies have prepared me well with engineering skills as well as interpersonal, writing and language skills. I believe such skills will benefit my future career development a lot.
Destinations of Recent EIE Graduates

WANG Ming – 2010 graduate of the BEng(Hons) in Electronic and Information Engineering degree programme, currently working in NVIDIA as a System Software Engineer in Silicon Valley

The ability in real world practice and application is exactly what high education of Engineering in the US, especially graduate study, hopes to cultivate. Lectures without predefined scope, open-ended question and problems of various solutions. You may need to pick and learn certain new programming language or mathematical model among others to finish a mini-project. This is the situation I am facing everyday ever since started my career as a Robotic Software Engineer in RoboteX in Silicon Valley, and it remains the same for my current position as a System Software Engineer in NVIDIA, the world leader in visual computing technologies.

"To learn and to apply, for the benefit of mankind", the PolyU’s motto never fades. Besides efforts towards lectures, the student activities and programmes offered by EIE have prepared me well in my graduate study on MSc in Computer Engineering degree at Columbia University and my career afterwards. Good examples would be sandwich programme, IC training, local/oversea internship programme and final year project which really helped expose you to the real world.

THIAN Niin Mun, Sarah – 2011 graduate of the BSc(Hons) Major in Internet and Multimedia Technologies degree programme, currently a Digital Marketing Manager of Apptask Limited

Working experience has been great for me. I am now working in a mobile solution company named Apptask Limited (www.apptask.com) as a Digital Marketing Manager, which I am responsible for corporate website, social accounts and online marketing. Digital marketing is a rather new category in the industry. I would say it is a type of job that combines both technical and marketing knowledge. My study at PolyU has equipped me with appropriate knowledge, especially on understanding the market and designing comprehensive e-marketing materials. Since the world is changing rapidly, being all-rounded is quite important to stay competitive, no matter for a job or for your own business in the future.

LI Ching Fung, Fion – 2011 graduate of the BSc(Hons) Major in Internet and Multimedia Technologies degree programme, currently an Analyst Programmer of Wellcome (A Company of The Dairy Farm Group)

In order to gain working experience before graduation, I had joined the one-year Industry-based training and worked as an IT student intern in the HSBC. I was given opportunities to strengthen my technical skills and gain better understanding of the business and operation flow by taking the development and supporting role of a trading system. This valuable experience had prepared me well for my career pursue in IT.
Destinations of Recent EIE Graduates

CHU Kai Fung – 2013 graduate of the BEng(Hons) in Electronic and Information Engineering degree programme, currently a Project Engineer of Electronic Theatre Controls Asia Limited

After my graduation from PolyU, I started my career as a Project Engineer in Electronic Theatre Controls (ETC) Asia Limited. This company specializes in the design and manufacture of entertainment and architectural lighting systems. As a Project Engineer, my main responsibility is to ensure smooth running of different projects, which in turn requires me to apply my technical knowledge in lighting systems and their related products.

In order to fulfill my job duty, technical knowledge of networking, communication, programming, electronics and electricity are required. Other abilities such as problem solving, time management, logical and critical thinking are also important. I am glad that I have acquired all these knowledge and abilities during my study in PolyU through course work, laboratory exercises and mini-projects. I am satisfied with my study life in PolyU, which has turned out to be fruitful, meaningful, and full of knowledge and challenges.

Now that I have already started my career for some time, I begin to realize that I cannot just use what I learned in university for the rest of my career. Things are changing fast especially in the engineering field. Continuous learning is our only choice to survive in this fast-changing environment. I am confident to learn new things and meet new challenges because I have been well-trained in the past few years in PolyU!

QIU Jianfeng – 2011 graduate of the BEng(Hons) in Electronic and Information Engineering degree programme, pursuing postgraduate study at University of Toronto

Canada is a global hub for healthcare innovations. I am delighted to receive a research scholarship for reading my master degree specialized in Biomedical Engineering at University of Toronto, and very much honoured to further receive the Loo Geok Eng Scholarship and the Ontario Graduate Scholarship in 2013 which support my study and living in Canada. Here we are constantly challenged by problems traversing the continuum of care, from prevention through palliation. With electronics background, I currently research on the interface of engineering and medicine, and collaborate with physician, dentist and occupational therapist to develop technologies much needed in the healthcare domain. I am expecting more excitement to come along as I proceed.

The skills and knowledge I accumulated from my undergraduate at PolyU proved to be valuable for my postgraduate study. The half-year exchange programme to the Netherlands fostered my multicultural appreciation, which helps me in adapting to the new international research environment quickly. Moreover, the Final Year Project on VANET modeling equipped me with research experience, where the critical thinking, independent learning and problem solving became my asset for my graduate study. At the end of my FYP, my result was published and I had an opportunity to present my paper in an international conference held in Sydney. The EIE department is a piece of fertile land, where ones harvest as they sow.

After graduation, I plan to devote my career in R&D of electronics healthcare technology. By deploying ubiquitous point-of-care, I will strive to enable convenient access to the healthcare service and make a positive impact on people’s everyday life.
Industrial Collaboration

Our sincere gratitude to the following companies which have been collaborating with the Department in research, and providing job opportunities to our graduates, training experience to our students through the Industry-based Training Programme and short term Work-Integrated Education (WIE) Programme.

Apple Asia Ltd.
ASM Pacific Technology Ltd.
Automatic Manufacturing Ltd. (AML)
Automated Systems Holdings Ltd.
Bank of China (Hong Kong) Ltd.
Canon Electronic Business Machines (H.K.) Co. Ltd.
Cathay Pacific Airways Ltd.
China Mobile (Hong Kong) Co. Ltd.
China Unicom
Civil Aviation Department, The Government of the HKSAR
CLP Power Hong Kong Ltd.
CSL Ltd.
Cypress System Ltd.
DHL Global Forwarding (Hong Kong) Ltd.
Education Bureau/Division, The Government of the HKSAR
Electrical & Mechanical Services Department, The Government of the HKSAR
Frontier Silicon (HK) Ltd.
Fuji Xerox (Hong Kong) Ltd.
Fujitsu PC Asia Pacific Ltd.
Fujitsu Semiconductor Pacific Asia Ltd.
Funmobile Limited
Hang Seng Bank Ltd.
Hong Kong Aircraft Engineering Co. Ltd. (HAECO)
Hong Kong Airport Services Ltd.
Hong Kong Applied Science and Technology Research Institute Co. Ltd. (ASTRI)
Hong Kong Broadband Network Ltd.
Hong Kong Communications Co. Ltd.
Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants
Hong Kong Observatory
Hong Kong Post, The Government of the HKSAR
Hong Kong Red Cross
Hong Kong RFID Ltd.
Hospital Authority
Huawei Technologies Co. Ltd.
IBM China Co. Ltd.
IBM China/Hong Kong Ltd.
Immigration Department, The Government of the HKSAR
Japan Home Centre Group
Jardine Airport Services Ltd.
Jardine OneSolution (HK) Ltd.
Mandatory Provident Fund Schemes Authority
Manpower Services (Hong Kong) Ltd.
Manulife (International) Ltd.
Microsoft Hong Kong Ltd.
Mobile Telecom Network (Holdings) Ltd.
MTR Corporation Ltd.
Next Media Ltd
Nokia (HK) Ltd.
Octopus Cards Ltd.
Office of the Communications Authority, The Government of the HKSAR
Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO), The Government of the HKSAR
Oracle Systems Hong Kong Ltd.
Panasonic Electric Works (Hong Kong) Co. Ltd.
PCCW Ltd.
PricewaterhouseCoopers Ltd.
Queen Elizabeth Hospital
Schneider Electric Hong Kong Ltd.
Sengital Limited
SmarTone Mobile Communications Ltd.
Solomon Systech (International) Ltd.
St. Teresa’s Hospital
Standard Chartered Bank
Television Broadcasts Ltd. (TVB)
The Bank of East Asia Ltd.
The Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi UFJ, Ltd.
The HK and China Gas Co. Ltd.
The HK Electric Co. Ltd.
The Hong Kong Jockey Club
The Hong Kong Observatory
The Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation Ltd. (HSBC)
The Prudential Assurance Co. Ltd.
Transport Department, The Government of the HKSAR
Master of Science in Electronic and Information Engineering
With a specialism study option
“Multimedia Signal Processing and Communications”

Application
http://www.polyu.edu.hk/study
Programme Code: 05002
Enquiry
Professor Chao Lu / Miss Carol Yuen
Telephone: 2766 6281 / 2766 4184
Email: enluchao@polyu.edu.hk / encarol@polyu.edu.hk

EIE Alumni Scholarship
EIE graduates fulfilling the Scholarship selection criteria will be awarded a Scholarship in an amount equivalent to 15% of the tuition fee paid for the relevant subject.

http://www.eie.polyu.edu.hk/alumni/aaeie_msc.htm

Programme Aims
This programme aims at providing graduates of electronic and information engineering, electrical engineering, telecommunications engineering, computer science and other related disciplines an opportunity for further study at postgraduate level. Students will embark on a broad choice of core subjects in multimedia technologies, telecommunications and electronic engineering that enable them to meet new challenges and tap new opportunities in relevant fields. Students can also acquire the latest technical know-how by registering for specialized subjects in a chosen area that focus on the cutting edge issues facing the engineering profession today. Students who have managerial responsibilities can take electives on business or management according to their interest and career needs.

The primary aim of the specialism study in Multimedia Signal Processing and Communications is to provide postgraduate-level professional and technical training to practitioners in the area in order to enable them to tap the ever-growing market needs and business opportunities related to multimedia technology.

Giving to EIE
Your support is essential to the Department's long-term development. Please make your donation by completing the following form and send it back to us by fax to 2362 6412 or by post.

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To ensure that you are informed of PolyU’s latest news, we will deliver announcement of our University (including its internal departments and constituent units) and other information, including activities, benefits & services, education programmes and solicitation of donations, to you through various communication channels by using your personal data provided (including email address, correspondence address, contact telephone number and fax number). If you want to have access to or change your personal data, please contact the Alumni Affairs and Development Office of PolyU at Tel: 2766 4101 / Fax: 2364 5467 / Email: almail@polyu.edu.hk.

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Thank you very much for your generous support to EIE!

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Key Characteristics of PolyU EngD programme

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- Graduates can use the title “Dr” upon successful completion of the programme;
- Details of the programme: www.polyu.edu.hk/study

Enquiries: ☏ 2766 5042  denquiry@polyu.edu.hk

* Statistics obtained from the survey conducted in Dec 2012

Enquiries: ☏ 2766 6281 / 2766 4184  Email: enluchao@polyu.edu.hk / encarol@polyu.edu.hk

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