The University conferred the honorary title of University Fellowship to Dr. Humphrey Leung, Departmental Advisory Committee Chairman, in the University Fellowship Conferment Ceremony 2014/2015 at the Jockey Club Auditorium on 8 January to pay tribute to his significant contributions to PolyU and the community. Dr. Leung is the Founder and Group Chief Executive Officer of Solomon Systech Limited. He has been actively involved in the activities of the University and the Chair of the Departmental Advisory Committee for many years. Congratulations to Dr. Leung!

Congratulations to Prof. P.K. Alex Wai on receiving the Faculty of Engineering Research Grant Achievement Award 2013! The Award is to recognize Prof. Wai’s outstanding performance in securing external competitive research grants. Prof. Wai is Chair Professor of Optical Communications of the Department and currently serves as the Vice President (Research Development) of PolyU. He is a Fellow of Hong Kong Institution of Engineers, a Fellow of Optical Society of America, and a Fellow of IEEE. His research interests include theory of solitons, nonlinear optics, fiber lasers, simulations of integrated optical devices, fiber optic communications, and network theory.

Congratulations to Mr. Lee Kai Fung, our recent graduate of the Double Degree Programme in Electronic and Information Engineering and Engineering Physics, for winning the 1st Runner-up in the 2013-2014 Best Final Year Energy Project Competition (Individual) organized by the Energy Institute (Hong Kong Branch). The winning project "A Dual-Axis Sun Tracking System Integrated with Maximum-Power Harvesting Function" was supervised by Dr. K.H. Loo. Mr. Lee developed a sun tracking system capable of dual-axis motion covering 90 degree and 360 degree in vertical and horizontal direction, respectively. The prototype was built with a set of four-quadrant photosensitive resistors for accurate positioning of the solar panel with respect to the sun’s illumination angle. In addition, a digital maximum-power point tracking algorithm was implemented for maximizing the energy harvested from the sun. The compact size and light weight of the system makes it suitable for various outdoor applications such as street lights and weather stations.
Dr Peter Chong
Nanyang Technological University, Singapore

Dr Peter Han Joo Chong from the Nanyang Technological University (NTU), Singapore, gave a talk to introduce a flagship IoT R&D project under the Infocomm Centre of Excellence (INFINITUS) entitled “NTU Campus-Wide V2X Test-bed R&D Program for Future Intelligent Transportation System” on 8 January. The talk shared the experience and knowledge of setting up a large-scale live vehicle-to-anything (V2X) test-bed and to discuss about the challenges of the R&D for future intelligent transportation systems. Dr Chong is the Director of INFINITUS of the School of Electrical and Electronic Engineering. His research interests are in the areas of mobile communications systems including radio resource management, multiple access, MANETS, multi-hop cellular networks and green radio networks.

Dr Ignacio Llamas-Garro
Centre Tecnològic de Telecomunicacions de Catalunya, Spain

A seminar entitled “Reconfigurable Microwave Devices” was conducted by Dr Ignacio Llamas-Garro from the Centre Tecnològic de Telecomunicacions de Catalunya (CTTC), Spain, on 14 January. Dr Llamas-Garro is a senior researcher at the CTTC and a senior member of the IEEE. He presented a series of reconfigurable frequency measurement (RFM) devices operating from 1 to 4 GHz, simulated, fabricated and tested in this seminar. The RFM devices are made using PIN diodes and other surface mounted components, integrated on the same dielectric substrate in microstrip technology.

Information Sessions of Undergraduate Degree Programmes

Six information sessions to introduce the EIE undergraduate degree programme were held by the programme leaders, Dr Daniel Lun, Dr C.K. Leung, Dr Frank Leung, Dr Bonnie Law and Dr K.H. Loo in PolyU, HKCC, HKIVE and HKUSPACE CC in January. Besides the BEng in EIE programme and the BSc in IMT programme, a new BSc in Information Security programme which will be offered starting from 2015/2016 academic year was also introduced in these occasions. The BSc in Information Security programme is a 2-year government-funded top-up degree programme jointly offered by the Department and the Department of Computing which aims at producing graduates with professional knowledge and skills in Information Security. The talks attracted an audience of over 300. The participants were keen to know about the admission requirements and the curricula of our programmes.
Visit from Shatin Kiangsu-Chekiang College

31 students and teachers from the Shatin Kiangsu-Chekiang College paid a visit to the PolyU and the Department on 23 January. They toured the House of Innovation, the Virtual Reality Laboratory and the Robotics and Control Laboratory to learn more about the expertise and facilities of the University. The students who came from the Computer Society of their Secondary School showed great interest in the 3D motion capture and robot demonstrations in the EIE laboratories.

Meeting with Industrialists from Hong Kong Electronics & Technologies Association

Four members from the Hong Kong Electronics & Technologies Association, including Mr Eric Chan, General Manager of the Contech Global Company Limited; Mr Derek Lee, CEO of the Cell Technology Limited, Mr Andrew Ip, Managing Director of Cwlinux Limited, and Mr Victor Ng, Managing Director of Micom Tech Limited, visited the Department on 10 February. During the focus group meeting convened by Dr Daniel Lun, Associate Head and DLTC Chairman, and Dr C.K. Leung, Acting Associate Head and BEng in EIE Programme Leader, the industrialists shared some valuable views with us on the competence and work attitude of recent graduates as well as their expectations of their employees. Thanks for their input which are very useful to our programme planning and curriculum development.

Outstanding Student Award of Faculty 2014

The University organizes the Outstanding Students Award Scheme annually to award full-time final-year students who excel in both academic and non-academic pursuits during their studies. This year, the Outstanding Student Award of Faculty of Engineering went to Nie Ni, our Year-4 BEng in EIE student, in recognition of her outstanding academic performance and active involvement in extra-curricular activities and community services. Congratulations to Ni! She received the award from President Prof. Timothy W. Tong in the Outstanding Student Awards Presentation Ceremony on 12 February.
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Academic Advising Spring Dinner
To provide a chance for Academic Advisors and students to mingle with each other and to discuss study experience in a relaxed atmosphere, two Academic Advising Spring Dinners were organized for our undergraduate students on 24 and 26 February at a campus restaurant. Prof. Michael Somekh, Head of Department, gave a welcome address encouraging students to actively take part in the academic advising activities. Both students and their Advisors had a good time at the event.

Career Talk by Mr Peter Lam, Managing Director of HKT
A career talk conducted by Mr Peter Lam, Managing Director, Engineering, Hong Kong Telecommunications Limited (HKT), was held on 27 February for over 80 EIE students. Mr Lam introduced the ICT Elite Incubation Programme organized by the Communications Association of Hong Kong and the HKT Engineering Graduate Trainee Programme organized by the HKT. These two programmes offer great job opportunities for our students and graduates in the fast growing ICT and engineering Industries.

Industrial Visit to Hong Kong Telecommunications Limited
In order to promote the awareness and understanding about the ICT industry to our first-year engineering students, an industrial visit to the Hong Kong Telecommunications Limited (HKT) was guided by our staff members, Dr Ben Cheng, Dr K.H. Loo and Mr Zer0 Fok, for 24 students on 14 March. Thanks for the HKT’s arrangements, we were allowed to visit their cable chamber and data switching rooms, the HKT Engineering e.Center, at Lai Chi Kok. The e.Center is where HKT’s ICT resource provisioning takes place. Besides introducing the daily workflow, engineers from HKT had given an enlightening and inspiring sharing session to our students. All the participants found the visit very interesting and meaningful as they could relate what they had learned in lectures to real life practice in industry.
Delegation from Ngee Ann Polytechnic, Singapore

A delegation of 14 students led by Dr Tin Fat Hui from the Ngee Ann Polytechnic, Singapore, visited the Department between 19 and 24 March. The delegates were welcomed by Dr Daniel Lun, Associate Head, before touring to different laboratories of EIE on the first day of visit. The Singapore students then met with our students in a student exchange activity organized by the EIE Student Society. In the following few days, the delegates attended a 3D Model Development Project Workshop was conducted by Dr Bonnie Law. Dr Paull Lal and Mr Ivan Lau also guided the students to visit the Engineering Division of Television Broadcasts Limited (TVB), the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation and the Solomon Systech Limited. The students were able to get to know more about the IT and engineering fields in Hong Kong.

Merit Award for Innovation in Global Student Challenge: PolyU Pre-Challenge

Lyu Yetao, our Year-3 BEng in EIE student, teamed up with three other students from different departments, won the Merit Award for Innovation in the Global Student Challenge: PolyU Pre-Challenge 2014/2015 with their business plan “Caress Milk Bottle”. Supervised by Dr W.Y. Tam, the project proposed a milk bottle which helps working parents to detect and monitor the milk volume consumed by babies through a mobile app. The award presentation ceremony was held on 19 March in the campus.

Poster Competition for EIE Research Students

To provide our students with a good chance to think through their research direction more rigorously and to present their preliminary research results, the Department has introduced a Poster Competition for our research students starting from 2015. We have received 15 entries for the competition this year. A Poster Display and Q&A Session was held on 27 March. Three finalists will be selected to enter the Poster Presentation Session to be held in April to compete for the Champion by giving a presentation on the poster content to EIE academic staff, research students and postdoctoral fellows.

Chiang Chen Overseas Fellowship 2015-16

Congratulations to Lau Kwun Fung, our Year-4 BSc in IMT student, on being awarded the Chiang Chen Overseas Fellowship 2015-16 offered by the Chiang Chen Industrial Charity Foundation for pursuing postgraduate study in the engineering discipline in the USA! Established in 2006, the Chiang Chen Overseas Fellowship Programme aims to encourage outstanding students to pursue advanced studies at top-grade universities overseas so that the students can expand their horizon and make contributions to the society in future.