

For Immediate Release
31 October 1994

The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology presents its Second Congregation

A total of 789 students, comprising 576 undergraduates and 213 postgraduates, will receive their degrees in the Second Congregation of the the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology on 4 November 1994 (Friday). The event marks a significant milestone in the history of HKUST as the University celebrates its first bachelor-degree candidates. Chancellor of the University, the Governor, the Right Honourable Christopher Patten, will officiate at the ceremony.

The graduation of more than 200 postgraduates this year coincides with the objective of the University "to advance learning and knowledge through teaching and research, particularly in science, technology, engineering, management and business studies; and at the postgraduate level."

Professor Yuan-cheng Fung, world-renowned biotechnology expert, and Sir David Ford, ex-Chief Secretary and current Commissioner for Hong Kong in London, will receive honorary degrees.

Three new medals to commend distinguished teaching, contribution to student service and outstanding academic performance also will be presented at the University's congregation. The three medals are the Michael G. Gale Medal for Distinguished Teaching, the Stephen Cheong Kam-Chuen Medal for Distinguished Service to the Student Body and the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology Academic Achievement Medal.

With the combined effort of faculty members and students, HKUST students performed outstandingly in many territory-wide competitions. For example, a team of Computer Science undergraduates took first place in the 4th Scholastic Programming Contest held by ACM Hong Kong Chapter in early July this year. The team will represent Hong Kong in an international contest to be held in the United States next March. Championship of another team of third-year students in a recent Advertising Design Contest is another indication of the high quality of the students at this new university.

As a research university, all faculty members at HKUST are actively involved in research. This year, Hong Kong Research Grant Council (RGC) has awarded \$50.1 million to 106 projects submitted by HKUST faculty members. This represents a 250% increase over the previous year in both the number of projects supported and total funding - categories in which HKUST now leads all other Hong Kong tertiary institutions.

Note to Editors:

You are welcome to send your representative(s) to cover the event. Please arrive at the atrium by 2:45 p.m.

Please direct enquiries to the Office of Public Affairs: 358 6305, 358 6306 and 358 6320.