



新聞稿 PRESS RELEASE

\$800,000 Hong Kong Telecom Foundation Donation

The Chinese University of Hong Kong's Faculty of Engineering has received an \$800,000 grant from the Hong Kong Telecom Foundation being the first part of a three-year grant.

The donation was presented to the university's Vice-Chancellor, Professor Charles K Kao by the Finance Director of Hong Kong Telecom, Mr John Tonroe, last Wednesday (April 15).

The donation is earmarked for the faculty's computer and telecommunications applied research activities. It will be applied to augment funding for research programmes covering development in image processing, graphics databases, multimedia applications, intelligent software tools for sophisticated computer networks, broadband communication networks and opto-electronics.

Results of these research efforts will benefit various businesses and industries, social and health services as well as educational institutions.

One of the research projects is a medical imaging network system for transmitting magnetic resonance imaging and computer tomographic scans between hospitals.

The medical images will be carried over a high-speed optical communication network. Hospital patients will be the direct beneficiaries of this advanced transmission technology.

Another project is the development of a Chinese Computing System for electronic data interchange. The system will not only be capable of intelligent processing of Chinese texts but also multi-lingual information processing.

The third research programme is the development of a local capability to produce state-of-the-art opto-electronic devices and systems for telecommunications and the electronics industry.

The Hong Kong Telecom Foundation was established just over a year ago to demonstrate Hong Kong Telecom's commitment to Hong Kong by the support of education-related developments, projects and activities.

In the presentation ceremony, Mr Tonroe noted that modern telecommunications are transforming our lives nearly every day.

"Hong Kong Telecom prides itself on its modern infrastructure and advanced technology providing sophisticated services and a world-class system," he said.

"However, to maintain and improve our leadership position in Asia, we need to ensure the industry is constantly moving forward. This grant to the Chinese University in support of practical, applied research programmes, such as high-speed transmission projects and further research into optical fibre technology, will support this aim."

In reply, Professor Kao welcomed the timely contribution which would enable the faculty to expand its scope of applied research.

"The faculty is committed to accommodate the largest electronic/computer based engineering student body in Hong Kong," he said.

Professor Kao also referred to the long list of research projects that the faculty had been working on.

Research on computer architecture and software aside, the faculty is also exploring a wide spectrum of activities including information and signal processing, biomedical engineering, integrated optics, integrated circuit design and solid state electronics.

Communication networks, communication systems, microwave and millimetre wave communications and data compression techniques are also among its topics for research.

The faculty now comprises four departments -- Computer Science, Electronic Engineering, Information Engineering and Systems Engineering.

Headed by Professor Omar Wing, the faculty currently has about 50 lecturing staff with some 1,000 undergraduates and close to 100 post-graduate research students.

The strength of the faculty members is scheduled to expand to 80 by 1994, while the numbers of undergraduate and research students will reach about 1,500 and 300 respectively.

The faculty is served by the largest computer workstations network in Southeast Asia, composed of over 100 advanced workstations installed by Digital Equipment Corporation.

The network provides a total computer power of more than 2,000 MIPS (million instructions per second) and a total disk storage exceeding 60 gigabytes.

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