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To Editors
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CUHK Organizes Workshop on Geographic Information Systems

Town planners, government officials and academics have to handle a great deal of data carefully and precisely when they are devising development strategies or researching on geographical issues such as migration, urbanization and environmental changes. The workshop on Geographic Information Systems (GIS) in Spatial Population Analysis and Economic Development organized by The Chinese University of Hong Kong during 24-25 March, 1997 will be able to provide a solution for them.

GIS is a computerized system for collecting geographic data and information from various sources such as satellite or aerial pictures. These data can be used to study landscape, analyze population changes, develop social and economic policies and even work out marketing strategies.

The Hong Kong Government has started to use GIS recently. The Department of Geography of The Chinese University of Hong Kong is currently working on various projects in environmental protection, population analysis, and economic development using GIS. The University is also developing an intelligent GIS for such purposes.

The workshop will provide chances for researchers from Hong Kong, China and overseas to discuss the great advances in using GIS worldwide. Professor Hui Lin of the Department of Geography will present at the workshop the economic implications of the Bejing-Kowloon Railway in China using Web-GIS approach. Other speakers include Professor Zeng Yi from the Institute of Population Research of Peking University, who will talk about "Major Population Problems and Strategy of China". Professor Chu Kim Yee and Professor Shen Jianfa of the Chinese University will present a report entitled "Developing a Census Data System in China: Specification of a Working Framework".

Professor Ambrose Y.C. King, Pro-Vice-Chancellor, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Professor Lam Kin Che, Head of the Department of Geography of CUHK, and Professor Leung Yee of CUHK will officiate at the opening ceremony of the workshop.