

香港中文大學
THE
CHINESE
UNIVERSITY
OF
HONG
KONG

查詢電話
ENQUIRY
TELEPHONE
NUMBER
6035592



新聞 PRESS RELEASE

TO NEWS EDITOR
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 23, 1994

HONG KONG PIONEER IN TELECOMMUNICATIONS
HONOURED BY BRITISH UNIVERSITY

The Vice-Chancellor of The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Professor Charles K Kao, who spearheaded optic fibre technology, received recognition again from the international academic community. The Vice-Chancellor of the University of Durham, United Kingdom, is in Hong Kong to honour the innovator in telecommunications with an honorary degree of Doctor of Science at a special ceremony on May 21.

Famed for his pioneering work on optical fibres for communication purposes, Professor Kao has reshaped the whole of the world's communications network and optical fibres now dominate all new communications cable installation.

Incidentally Hong Kong boasts the highest density of optical fibres beneath its ground. "With an installed fibre density of around 50Km per square kilometer, Hong Kong is in the best position for developing new information services such as latest price list of supermarkets, stock exchange rates and automatic transactions for merchandise and services, etc. through connected personal computers or cable TV made possible by optical fibre networks," Professor Kao said.

"How new and successful information services can be designed and introduced are open market-driven issues. The specific additional hardwares and softwares represent opportunities for manufacturers and system integrators to work together to help launch this market," he added.

Professor Kao is a member of the National Academy of Engineering of USA, a Fellow of the Royal Academy of Engineering of UK and the Academia Sinica in Taiwan. He is also a Fellow of the Institution of Electrical Engineers (FIEE), the Institute of Electrical & Electronic Engineers (FIEEE), and the Honorary Fellow of Hong Kong Institution of Engineers (FHKIE). Over the years, he has received highly prestigious honours for his many scientific achievements, including the 1989 Faraday Medal Awarded by IEE, the L M Ericsson International Prize presented by His Majesty King Carl Gustav of Sweden, the IEEE Alexander Graham Bell Medal, the Eleventh Marconi International Fellowship, the International Prize for New Materials presented by the American Physical Society.

Photograph attached: Professor Charles Kao receiving his honorary degree from University of Durham

* * * * *

The photograph will be distributed through GIS. For further information, please contact Mr Ali Li of the Information & Public Relations Office at 6098895.