New strategic plan sets CityU on path to further excellence

By Longgen Chen

The new five-year strategic plan for 2010–2015, entitled “Excellence in Research and Professional Education” (the Strategic Plan), was endorsed by the Council at its meeting on 26 November 2009. This forward-looking and action-oriented plan positions CityU as a leading global university in the Asia-Pacific region, renowned for its excellence in research and professional education and ready to anticipate and respond to unique 21st century challenges presented by a fast-changing, knowledge-driven global environment.

Six strategic areas form the core of the Strategic Plan:
A: Student Learning and Career Development;
B: Research and Technology Transfer;
C: Faculty and Staff Recruitment, Reward and Retention;
D: Campus Planning & Development;
E: Globalisation;
F: Branding, Image, and Culture.

(continued on next page)
The Strategic Plan was unveiled in the Library on 14 January, together with the university history book launch ceremony, during which Professor Way Kuo, University President, expressed his thanks to the colleagues involved in drafting the plan and the support of the university community as a whole for providing valuable views and constructive comments. He also called on colleagues to get involved in defining the specific benchmarks, targets and action steps of each individual unit over the next six months, on the basis of the goals and strategies set out in the Strategic Plan.

"While the Strategic Plan has mapped out the general direction, colleagues at the unit level possess first-hand knowledge of where they want to go and how to achieve individual goals. Your input guarantees the realisation of the overall Strategic Plan," said Professor Kuo. "With clearer positioning of CityU as a leading global university excelling in research and professional education, we will continue to educate a new breed of professionals for our knowledge-based society."

For complete details of the new five-year strategic plan, please visit: http://www.cityu.edu.hk/provost/strategic_plan/

By Scarlett Leung

Upholding the principle that everyone should have an equal opportunity to participate in exchange activities, Dr Elaine Au Liu Suk-ching, Associate Professor, and Mr Mak Hoi-wah, Assistant Professor of the Department of Applied Social Studies, have attracted sponsorship from more than 30 staff in their department to help students with disabilities.

"It is hoped the donations can benefit CityU students with disabilities by providing them with the financial support to match their passion for study. At CityU, we believe in whole-person development so we encourage students’ participation in both overseas and local exchange activities to develop their talents," said Dr Au.

The donations were contributed as part of the Staff Giving Club (SGC) Awards. The SGC offers a distinctive platform for CityU staff members to express their commitment to the University and to contribute funds for University development through regular voluntary donations. Since its establishment in 2005, the SGC has generated HK$7.7 million (including matching grants) through the generous donations of more than 1,700 staff members. There are 38 SGC Ambassadors, including Dr Au and Mr Mak, who promote a culture of giving and caring on campus. Extra funds have been offered by Mr Herman Hu Shao-ming, Council member, in support of student development. Each donation made by colleagues will be multiplied to the great benefit of CityU.

To make a contribution to the SGC or learn more about their activities, please visit http://www.cityu.edu.hk/do/sgc/
Work hand in hand for a green campus

By Jenny Kwan

Campus Development and Facilities Office (CDFO)’s service scope is wide and diversified, ranging from facilities maintenance, security, mail delivery, health and safety and transport service to teaching audio-visual equipment and landscape maintenance. However, on its performance pledge leaflet, you will find the mission statement: “Enable energy and material conservation; establish effective, efficient and quality practices in logistics operation; repair and maintain university facilities”. CDFO adds value to its services by actually acting as CityU’s environmental protection ambassador.

Mr K Y Wong, Director of Campus Development and Facilities, is keen on building CityU’s environmental credentials.

As the head of this environmentally aware team, Mr Wong said his ideals were based on the Taoist philosophy of Laozi and Zhuangzi that emphasises nature and the integration of mankind and the environment. CDFO recognises that protecting the environment means far more than just following procedures and instructions. Staff members of CDFO commit to promoting and adopting, as far as practically possible, environmentally friendly practices in the course of discharging their duties. “We have pursued social advancement, but in the process we have polluted the earth. Although we may not be able to fully restore the earth to its original state, we should at least try our best to minimise our impact on it in accordance with the essential principles of environmental protection.” Mr Wong said.

Mr Wong described the buildings on campus as the living “eco-laboratory” because there are many interesting green measures that we might not be aware of. One of the highlights is the waterless toilet flushing system installed in some of the gentlemen’s washrooms that can save water and energy by using microbacteria produced from a biochemical process to clean the urinals. Consequently, maintenance costs relating to calcified and clogged drain pipes can also be reduced. Another example is the collection and treatment of effluent water from cooling equipment used for watering plants.

Our Hu Fa Kuang Sports Centre has also been equipped with many eco-devices. One of them is the energy efficiency T-5 fluorescent tubes in the Winling Practice Gymnasium, which can save more than 30% of energy compared to high-bay lighting. Also, the hot water in the bathrooms is heated by solar energy.

In 2008, CityU signed the Carbon Reduction Charter with the Environmental Protection Department and became a member of the “Green Hong Kong—Carbon Audit” initiative. To realise the three-year plan for carbon reduction on campus, CityU has implemented measures that include replacing air-cooled chillers with water-cooled units, using LED lighting with photo-sensors in semi-open staircases, planting green roofs, using environmentally friendly hybrid vehicles, carrying out carbon audit and reporting, and adopting green building performance and green design in the construction of new buildings. All of these initiatives exemplify how our campus supports the environmental protection commitment recommended by the United Nations Climate Change Conference held in Copenhagen in December 2009.

CityU’s environmental protection efforts over the years have been recognised by the many awards received by CDFO. These include the ISO 14001 accreditation for seven consecutive years, the Gold Award in the Hong Kong Awards for Environmental Excellence, the Pioneer Award in the school category of the Hong Kong Energy Efficiency Awards, and the Certificate of Source Separation of Commercial and Industrial Source Programme from the Environmental Protection Department.

To record CityU’s achievements in environmental protection, CDFO has since 1999 compiled an annual report, which is accessible on its homepage. The report was nicknamed the “Waste Collectors’ Report” by Mr Wong in 2008. “Devoted to building a green campus, CDFO’s colleagues are like ‘waste collectors’ who collect and reuse materials disposed of by others,” said Mr Wong.
A Million Tomorrows Shall All Pass Away Ere We Forget All The Joy That Is Ours Today

More than 150 staff gathered to bid farewell to Dr Jerry Yu Jer-tsang at the Retirement Party on 11 December 2009, in recognition of his contribution to CityU.

In addressing the party during an occasion filled with mirth and merriment, Professor Way Kuo, President, paid homage to Dr Yu’s popularity. “Jerry has been with CityU for more than 15 years. He has contributed much in his time, from his services as Registrar through to Chief Information Officer. I never imagined Jerry would retire, but we’re going to miss you. Stay in touch,” said Professor Kuo. In recognition of Dr Yu’s commitment to CityU, Professor Kuo presented him with a long-service souvenir, a retirement gift, a photo album prepared by the Management Board Secretariat and the guest book signed by the party’s guests.

Dr Louis Ma Chee-keung, Associate Professor of the Department of Information Systems, and Dr Eva Wong Chow Yee-wah, Director of Education Development Office, were invited to share their experience of working with Dr Yu. Both have known him since the 1980s. Dr Ma praised Dr Yu’s pioneering contribution to Hong Kong’s IT development and the launch of a web-based registration system that allowed students to add and drop courses. Dr Wong acclaimed Dr Yu for his extensive knowledge, quick thinking, and creative ideas. He was described as being accepting of others and unafraid of making prompt decisions. “Bright people do not really retire; they just switch their attention to different things,” Dr Wong said.

At the party, a slide show of special occasions was prepared by Library staff recalling Dr Yu’s career at CityU. Staff from the Library, Computing Services Centre, Enterprise Solutions Office and Education Development Office dedicated two songs to Dr Yu, with the Computing Services Centre’s Acting Director Mr Raymond Poon Kin-chung providing the guitar accompaniment.

Dr Yu has more than 40 years experience in computing. CityU was his fourth job. “The years at CityU were the most enjoyable. I’d like to give credit to everybody who worked with me, and the tributes paid to me today are really owned by all staff and administrative offices who work for us,” Dr Yu said in his retirement speech.

Although the party is over, colleagues will always remember Dr Yu’s resonant voice and laughter.
Phishing for clues on internet security

By Fiona Lo

Always wearing a smile, Dr Kwok Lam-for, Associate Professor of the Department of Computer Science, doesn’t look at all like a calculating computer expert, but perhaps more of a warm-hearted and noble medieval knight.

“The internet world has completely changed our life! Adults and kids alike all go on the net. With all kinds of websites abounding in this virtual world, it is easy to connect with different people, even strangers, without the physical constraints of distance. The world is becoming smaller,” said Dr Kwok.

The old Chinese saying “All men can be brothers in every corner of the world” has been crystallised into reality by the internet. A simple click on the desktop enables an individual to search the whole world and make friends in every country. It’s just that simple.

“Many children of my friends and colleagues enjoy using convenient and efficient communication tools such as Facebook or blogs. However, without proper instructions and controls, they may easily fall into traps that reveal their personal data to the entire online world. Many youngsters are not aware of such threats and have private family data stolen,” added Dr Kwok.

Dr Kwok warned personal bloggers to be particularly cautious about the use of texts and music. There was once a 14-year-old who faced legal charges for posting copyrighted music for free download. Tracking the most updated developments on the net,

Below are website links provided by Dr Kwok on computer crime and copyright laws, for readers’ reference:

**Computer crimes ordinance:**

**Electronic transactions ordinance:**

**Personal data (privacy) ordinance:**

**Amendments to the copyright ordinance:**

**Copyright ordinance:**

Phishers can pose as a bank or shopping portal and send mass emails to people around the world. By using excuses such as a need to verify user data, password expirations or offering the chance to win prizes, they obtain personal data from recipients that click on the dummy website links.

Dr Kwok understands the tremendous impact of internet technologies on our lives and reminds us to be extremely wary of phishing, the most advanced method of stealing personal identity data.

Dr Kwok pointed out that the internet world evolves at an amazing pace. In the past, many hackers only wanted to forge a reputation or show off their skills by hacking internet websites. Many now break the law for tangible profits.

“Internet security is a daily topic I cannot avoid. But in my leisure time, I prefer to get close to nature. Hiking the Sir Cecil’s Ride trail is my favourite activity. Compared with the virtual world, the beautiful real-world scenery is very cheering,” said Dr Kwok.
Just Curious

Christmas and New Year

“我問你答”
聖誕及新年

1 How did you spend your Christmas holiday this year?
你是如何度過今年的聖誕假期的？

2 Can you share with us the most memorable holiday you’ve ever spent?
可以分享你最難忘的一個假期嗎?

3 What are your New Year resolutions for 2010?
你的2010年新年願望是甚麼?

Ms Rita
Yeung Siu-lan
楊小蘭女士
Department of Building and Construction
建築系

1 As the chef at the Christmas parties with my family and friends.
做親朋好友聖誕派對的廚師。

2 Won a lucky draw at a party, where the prize was a Christmas Eve dinner at a 5-star hotel with my
husband.
在派對中贏了幸運抽獎，獎品是與外子在五星級酒店吃平安夜晚餐。

3 Live my dream.
活出夢想。

Dr Jackie
Lou Jia
樓佳博士
Department of English
英文系

1 “Mmm, get high with a little help from my friends” (Beatles: “With a little help from my friends”)
（與友共聚，其樂無窮）

2 “I wake up to the sound of music, mother Mary comes to me, speaking words of wisdom, let it be.”
(Beatles: “Let it be”)
（在音樂聲中醒來，看到聖母瑪利亞向我走來，輕聲道出智慧之言，隨緣吧。）

3 "Well, you know, we all want to change the world." (Beatles: "Revolution")
「你也知道的，我們都想改變世界。」

P.S. My wish for everyone in 2010: A very merry Christmas and happy new year! Let’s hope it’s a good one without any fear!*
附註：我在2010年向大家祝願：「聖誕及新年快樂！希望來年美好，無懼無恐！」
*以上四句均為披頭四樂隊歌曲的歌詞。

Miss Catherine Ng
吳嘉宜小姐
Chinese Civilisation Centre
中國文化中心

1 As Christmas is close to my birthday, I had lots of celebrations with friends during the holidays. We
ate a lot, took many photos, and chatted a lot about our recent life.
由於聖誕節和我的生日相差無幾，所以我與朋友有很多慶祝活動。我們分享近況之餘，也吃喝
玩樂、拍合照等。

2 To me, Christmas is a time to be grateful, share, recap, enjoy and have fun with family and friends,
while I am still expecting a most memorable Christmas holiday to come in the near future!
對我來說，聖誕節是感恩、分享、回顧、與家人和朋友共聚的愉快日子，我仍在期待一個最難
忘的聖誕節日呢！

3 My resolution for 2010 will be to change for the better, since 2009 was so full of changes that I do
not fear changes any more. Rather, I look forward to facing more changes and the challenge that
comes with the changes.
我對2010年的新年願望是有更好的變化，因為2009年充滿改變，使我不再懼怕，反而期待面對
生命裏更多的改變和挑戰。

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玩樂、拍合照等。

2 My most unforgettable Christmas holiday was the one spent in New Zealand with my husband.
我們在紐西蘭度過的聖誕節是我最難忘的。我們在紐西蘭度過聖誕節時，全家人都在一起，
度過了一個難忘的聖誕節。

3 My New Year wish is of course to have my baby born safely and grow up healthily.
新一年最大的願望當然是寶寶平安出生，健康成長。

Ms Sharon
Yau Suet-ching
邱雪貞女士
Academic Regulations and Records Office
教務處
1. Visited my friends who have moved to the mainland and experienced the Christmas atmosphere there.

2. Got an unexpected gift in the lucky draw at a Christmas party.

3. To hope that global warming can be alleviated and influenza will not cause widespread destruction.

1. Every year, there is a simple yet lively Christmas party held in our Centre. This year was no exception. We ate, played games and enjoyed the lucky draw. A rare treat was that this year I won the grand prize (a new-model iPod) in the lucky draw. It was fabulous.

2. The most memorable Christmas and New Year holiday was the one at the turn of the century when my whole family went to Xi’an and Beijing, the two ancient capitals in mainland China. We learnt a lot about Chinese history during that trip, and were “heroes” climbing the Great Wall during severely cold weather.

3. Wishing everyone good health, a happy work-life and peace to society.

Linkage Quiz

What is the title of CityU’s new five-year strategic plan for 2010–2015?

截止日期為2月10日。每人只限提交一份參加表格影印本,參加者將有機會獲得價值HK$50的禮券,幸運兒由抽籤決定。

Winners should redeem the voucher on or before 20 February. Late redemption will not be accepted.

Ms Sue Tong Hing-yu
唐慶瑜女士
Council Secretariat
校董會秘書處

Mr Tsoi Wing-fu
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