護理學院成立香港創意學院鼓勵業界勇於創新
Hong Kong Innovation Academy Established to Promote Local Health Care Inventions

即使你未必是專業工程師，其實亦能發揮創意潛能，改善人類的生活。不少健康護理界專業人員都會於照料病患者時，獲得啟發，從而注入創意新思維，發明新穎及別具創意的器具及概念，讓病患者獲得更佳的照料。這些創新成果，很多時只用於發明者的工作間，往往未能供其他醫護人員普及使用。有見及此，護理學院成立香港創意學院，期望聯合本地醫療健康護理界的科研發明人員，展示及推廣其嶄新發明及概念，吸引及推動商界注資發展，將方案生產並推出市場，惠及更多病患者及有需要人士。

香港創意學院的首項重要的大型活動，為於2013年12月11日在理大校園舉行的香港創意日（醫療及健康護理），同日並舉辦香港創意大獎比賽。醫療及社會科學院院長葉健雄教授致辭時強調，嶄新發明及概念未必是成本昂貴，但卻成效顯著。葉院長說：「即使很少的改動，卻可帶來明顯的分別。」

護理學院講座教授兼學院主任莫禮士教授致開幕辭時表示，要表揚及宣傳健康護理界的嶄新發明及概念，就要透過舉辦公開比賽，正如香港創意學院舉辦是次香港創意大獎比賽。

首屆香港創意大獎比賽獲得業界大力支持，大會共收到四十六份參賽方案，參賽者分別來自學術界、醫院及醫療器材組織。大會甄選出十份最傑出的方案進入決賽，發明者於香港創意日當日即場向大會評審團闡述其概念及回答提問，評審團以其專業知識及經驗，就參賽作品對於解決醫療問題及商品化的可能性作出評價，選出比賽的優勝者。

冠軍得獎者為理大紡織及製衣學系李翼教授團隊，其得獎作品是 “A Novel Drug-loaded Biodegradable Weft-knitted Stent for the Treatment of Colorectal Cancers”；理大護理學院的蔡及時博士團隊以 “An Innovative Rehabilitation Simulation System for Learning Activities of Daily Living”獲得亞軍；季軍則為瑪麗醫院心臟暨胸肺外科的黃莉圓小姐團隊，其得獎作品是“Create An Infusion Trolley for Enhancing the Effectiveness, Efficiency and Safety in Post Open Heart Surgery Patient Transportation”。此外，理大眼科視光學院胡志城教授團隊以 “Instant Vision Assessment Device: A Stenopaic Slit Refraction System with a

You don’t need to be a professional engineer to invent something that could improve people’s lives. Many health practitioners have created novel devices to make their delivery of care and their patients’ lives safer and easier. However, the inventions are often only used in their immediate workplaces, even though the innovations have the potential to help patients and health practitioners elsewhere. To address this, PolyU’s School of Nursing (SN) set up the Hong Kong Innovation Academy (HKIA) last year to highlight such inventions that have been created in Hong Kong, to promote the adoption and commercialisation of them, and to encourage a culture of technological innovation in health care in general.

The HKIA’s inaugural event was the 1st Hong Kong Innovation Day on 11 December 2013, which included the final on campus of its inaugural Innovation Award Competition. Prof Maurice Yap, Dean of FHSS, gave the welcome address in which he emphasised that inventions need not always be expensive to be effective. “Even small changes can make a big difference,” he observed.

In the opening speech, Prof Alex Molasiotis, Chair Professor of Nursing and Head of SN, said one way to give recognition to and publicise good inventions in health care was to hold a contest, like HKIA’s Innovation Award Competition.

Open to people from health care institutions, post-secondary educational institutes and the health care device industry, the 1st Innovation Award Competition attracted 46 entries, of which 10 made it to the final. They were assessed by a jury of experts from PolyU and the commercial sector for scientific, technological, intellectual property, and business potential. The winning project was a novel drug-loaded biodegradable weft-knitted stent for colorectal cancer treatment by a team led by Prof Henry Li from PolyU’s Institute of Textiles and Clothing. Second place went to a rehabilitation simulation system for children with upper-limb disabilities to learn activities of daily living, which was developed by a team led by SN Associate Professor Dr Thomas Choi. Third place was awarded to a team led by Wong Lee-yuen from Queen Mary Hospital’s Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery for their infusion trolley that was enhanced for increased effectiveness, efficiency and safety for transporting patients who have just undergone open-heart surgery. Meanwhile, audience

Binocular Telescopic Optometer”獲得現場觀眾最喜愛大獎。三甲得主獲頒發現金獎作進一步深化其創新意念，而香港創意大獎的冠軍方案更會代表香港參加2014年於瑞士日內瓦舉行的世界創意日，與世界各地的創意大獎的得獎作品一較高下，競逐全球創意大獎。

其他入圍作品包括：理大康復治療科學系學生曾婉玲(譯音)團隊的“Package Opener, Easy way to improve QoL”；理大護理學院蔡及時博士團隊的“Tremor Measurement and Assessment Using Smartphone”；理大護理學院蔡及時博士及香港紅十字會雅麗珊郡主學校陳德賢(譯音)的“Accessibility-friendly Mathematics Input System for Disabled Students”；沈詠文(譯音)及三名康復治療科學系學生的“U Hold, I Hold”；瑪麗醫院心臟暨胸肺外科李惠清(譯音)團隊的“An Innovative Wheelable Chest Drain Stand to Enhance Patient Empowerment on Early Mobilization”；以及ACE Communications Ltd Andrew van Hassell 教授團隊的“ACEHearing”。

大會請得理大創新及科技發展總監劉樂庭博士分享各種形式的嶄新發明及概念、如何保護有關發明、如何成功地將發明及概念轉化為商品、以及創新及科技發展處如何在不同過程中協助理大教職員。

此外，大會亦請得評審團之一的香港醫療及保健器材行業協會副主席陳偉傑先生分享出色的發明及概念的要素。陳先生強調：「首先，發明方案必需是全新的方程式，只按現有的產品作出改動，只會很快被取代。第二，發明者有時可運用逆向思考去解決難題。第三，就是組成跨界別的團隊參與創意發明，因為創意產品及概念具備越多特性、該項方案便越具持續性及更能吸引投資者。」

莫禮士教授總結香港創意日活動時表示，所有香港創意大獎比賽的參賽方案均具意義及影響力。他特別鳴謝ACE Communications Ltd的參與，其作品ACEHearing方案獲得高度評價，但因方案已跟製造商進行商談生產，其性質在大會評審範圍以外。

members at the final voted the Instant Vision Assessment Device, a stenopaic slit refraction system with a binocular telescopic optometer, by a team led by Prof George Woo, Emeritus Professor at PolyU's School of Optometry, as their favourite. The top 3 projects were awarded with cash prizes for their further development, and the winner also received free airplane tickets to represent Hong Kong at the 2014 World Innovation Day in Geneva, Switzerland.

The other projects that made it to the final were the Easy Package Opener by a team led by Tsang Yuen-ling, a student from PolyU's Department of Rehabilitation Sciences (RS); a smartphone app created by a team led by SN's Dr Choi to measure and assess tremor movements in patients; a mathematics input system for computers for disabled students by SN's Dr Choi and Chan Tak-yin of Hong Kong Red Cross Princess Alexandra School; “U Hold, I Hold” assistive devices for people who have difficulty feeding themselves by Sham Wing-man and 3 other RS students; an enhanced wheelable chest drain stand that improves patient empowerment and recovery by enabling their early mobility, which was devised by a team led by Rita Li Wai-ching from Queen Mary Hospital's Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery; and the ACEHearing app that assesses and compensates for hearing loss, which was designed by Prof Andrew van Hassell and his team from ACE Communications Ltd.

In the keynote speech, Dr Terence Lau, Director of PolyU's Innovation and Technology Development Office (ITDO), described different types of innovations, how to protect them, how to make them commercially successful, and how ITDO can help PolyU staff in this process.

The next speaker was one of the jury members, Mr Benjamin Chan, who is Vice Chairman of the Hong Kong Medical and Healthcare Device Industries Association. He suggested to budding inventors that there are 3 keys to a good innovation. “First, you need to set a new formula and not just create a variation or an example of an existing formula, otherwise your innovation could be replaced very quickly. Second, sometimes you need to tackle a problem from the reverse direction in order to get at the solution. And, third, work in interdisciplinary teams because the more attributes you include in your innovation, the more sustainable and attractive it will be for investors from different sectors,” he advised.

In his closing remarks, Prof Molasiotis said all of the projects were very meaningful and impactful. He also acknowledged the merit of the ACEHearing project, which the jury scored very highly but in the end was judged to be perhaps outside the scope of the competition since the inventors were now in talks with manufacturers about it.