

***e-Bulletin of the Working Group on Development of
Campus Facilities & Environment for Learning & Teaching
(WG DEFELT)***

Welcome to the 5th issue of the *e-bulletin* of the WG.

These e-bulletins intend to update you on the latest learning space plans, design and developments at PolyU - and we are happy to receive your feedback and suggestions.

◆ **Symposium on “Effective Use of Technology to Promote Active and Collaborative Learning and Teaching”**

The Symposium on “Effective Use of Technology to Promote Active and Collaborative Learning and Teaching” was held on 8th January 2016 at the newly upgraded and refitted lecture theatre TU201. This is part of PolyU’s strategic endeavour to revitalize our space, facilities, tools and support systems for more effective learning and to enhance the PolyU student experience. The Symposium featured local and overseas speakers who shared their insights, expertise and experience in developments and trends in educational technology, learning space design, and the support systems needed for their effective use. The event also included the soft opening of “*The Zone*”, an innovative multi-media learning space for interactive and collaborative learning at Z105/106, PolyU. Almost 200 participants joined the Symposium, which was opened by PolyU President Professor Timothy Tong and the Secretary General of the University Grants Committee, Dr Richard Armour. Positive and constructive feedback was received on the renovated lecture theatre.



Dr Richard Armour, Secretary General of UGC



Keynote speaker Dr Gordon Howell of QUT



Dr Samuel Kwan of HKUST



Dr Paul Lam of CUHK



Keynote speaker Dr Kenn Fisher of U Melbourne and Woods Bagot



Prof Chetwyn Chan, AVP (L&T) (Left) and Dr Gordon Howell (Right)



Prof Chetwyn Chan, AVP (L&T) (Left) and Dr Kenn Fisher (Right)



Mr Indie Chung of EDC (Left), Prof Chetwyn Chan, AVP(L&T) (Middle) and Mr David Watson of EDC (Right)



Prof Chetwyn Chan, AVP(L&T) (Left) and Ms Toni Kelly of HKU (Right)



Mr Adam Forrester of ELC (Left), Prof Chetwyn Chan, AVP(L&T) (Middle) and Prof Eric Tsui of ISE (Right)

◆ Pre-Symposium Seminar and Workshop on learning space design and planning

In order to facilitate in-depth exchange of learning space design and planning between the speakers and our colleagues, a seminar and a workshop were held on 6th and 7th January 2016 respectively, conducted by the two keynote speakers of the 8th January Symposium. The seminar entitled “Transforming Learning Spaces, Now and Into the Future” was delivered by Dr Gordon Howell, Director of Learning Environments & Technology Services, Division of Technology, Information and Learning Support, Queensland University of Technology. The workshop on “Disruptive Socio-spatial Pedagogies: An Evidence-based Approach to the Planning, Design and Occupation of New Generation Learning Environments” was conducted by Dr Kenn Fisher, Associate Professor in Learning Environments, University of Melbourne, Director of Education, Woods Bagot.

◆ Upgrading of lecture theatres and general classrooms in Summer 2016

Around 20 classrooms will be refurbished and revitalized in summer 2016, including TU107, U208, W208/209, N lecture rooms, the BC 4/F rooms. These rooms will be transformed into modern technology-enhanced rooms designed to facilitate interactive, student-centered learning. The rooms will be expected to be ready for use in Semester 1, 2016-17.

◆ Identifying open/communal spaces on campus to create more informal learning spaces

We are now looking for open/communal spaces at PolyU and try to fit them out and promote their use as informal student learning spaces and “hot desks”. Please let us know if you find such potential spots for these purposes around campus.

We look forward to receiving your feedback and suggestions for improving our learning spaces.

Please send these to Ms Iris Leung, WG Project Associate, Room 1402, Li Ka Shing Tower, PolyU or e-mail <cyileung@polyu.edu.hk>