



For release
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New Center Enhances Research On South China

A new research center to promote the study of the history, culture and societies of South China is established today by the Division of Humanities at the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology.

"The South China Research Center, the first of its kind in Hong Kong, will be a forum for international academic exchanges. It will also expand our network of academic partners in the Chinese Mainland, Taiwan, Japan, Europe and North America," said Dr C. C. Choi, Director of the Center.

The research interests of the Center are not limited to the social and cultural activities of the Chinese people in Guangdong and Guangxi provinces, but extend to other areas in the Chinese Mainland, South East Asia, Europe and even the US, where their presence is prominent.

The Center is currently studying the history and structure of old buildings in Sai Kung and Kowloon East, a two-year project funded by the Antiquities and Monuments Office.

The survey data will help the Center establish a database on Hong Kong. It has already set up a South China Research Resource Station to collect, edit and publish first-hand source materials, such as genealogy, land deeds, account books and oral history. The Center is seeking sponsorship to publish its collection of Hong Kong and South China archives.

"Teaching and learning will be enhanced as our faculty members and students use these primary sources for their research. Public consultation is also welcome," said Dr Choi.

The Center will offer seminars, workshops and site visits to Hong Kong and South China. A seminar on Lingnan in the eighteenth century will open on 13 December in Zhongshan, China. The Center also organizes an international workshop on social history and cultural anthropology annually.

Note for Editors:

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