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### **HKUST Admits First Batch of Chemical Engineering Undergraduates in Hong Kong**

The first Chemical Engineering Department in Hong Kong began classes with 45 undergraduate and 15 postgraduate students at the Hong Kong University of Science & Technology.

"The academic quality of our new students is very high," says Professor Po-Lock Yue, head of the Department at HKUST. "They all realise Hong Kong needs chemical engineers and are very enthusiastic about preparing themselves to contribute to the growth of Hong Kong."

The Department's 15 postgraduates will study for MSc, MPhil and PhD degrees. Their research will focus on four areas: environmental engineering, modelling and computing, advanced materials and bioprocess engineering.

According to Prof Yue, employment prospects are good for chemical engineering students. Graduates are currently in demand at petroleum-based industries, food companies and, particularly, the Government's Environmental Protection Department, as well as light industries such as plastics and textiles.

Prof Yue believes the demand for chemical engineering students will only increase as local industries diversify and shift to producing upmarket, high-value products.

*(For information please call the Office of Public Affairs at 3586307 or pager 1163388 call 2652)*