



*For immediate release (For information call Louis Ting, 3586307)*

23/2/93

**Gareth Thomas Appointed Director of  
HKUST's Technology Transfer Centre**

The Hong Kong University of Science & Technology announces the appointment of Professor Gareth Thomas as director of its Technology Transfer Centre. Professor Thomas assumes his position immediately and will lead the University's efforts to establish partnerships with private and public sector organizations in Hong Kong and the surrounding region.

"We hope to improve the quality of life in Hong Kong through technology transfer," says Professor Thomas, "and that will involve educating the community about technology as well as providing the research and development activities from which the community can benefit."

Professor Thomas is distinguished as one of the few active scientists to have been elected to both the U.S. National Academy of Sciences and the National Academy of Engineering. Prior to joining HKUST, he was the creator of the National Center for Electron Microscopy at Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory and professor of materials science at the University of California, Berkeley, where he also served as graduate dean and vice chancellor of academic affairs. Recently he was appointed to the Board of Electors for the Goldsmiths Professorship at his alma mater, Cambridge University, where he received his PhD and subsequent ScD.

He is an honorary professor at the Beijing University of Science & Technology as well as a recipient of the Confucius Memorial Teaching Award, conferred by the government of the Republic of China. He was for twelve years a member of Taiwan's Science and Technology Advisory Group and played a key role in the creation of its Materials Research Laboratory, which he continues to serve as a technical advisor.

Professor Thomas's ongoing research is in the design of new materials such as high-strength steels, aluminium alloys, ceramics, and high-energy magnets.

He is Welsh and a keen sportsman.