$30M Scholarships Benefit 675 Students

A wide range of scholarships have been awarded to outstanding students at HKUST through the generous donations of public-spirited individuals, caring alumni, philanthropic foundations, and corporations.

In the 2007/08 academic year, over 980 scholarships and prizes were awarded through HKUST to 675 outstanding students, with the total scholarships value amounting to approximately HK$29.76 million.

In recognition of the donors’ generosity, scholarship recipients today (Wednesday) expressed their personal warm regards to the generous donors in a tea reception at HKUST. Some awardees went on stage to share their happiness and exciting experience in overseas exchange activities sponsored by scholarship programs.

HKUST President Prof Paul Chu and donors were present at the ceremony. President Chu expressed his wholehearted gratitude to donors for their generosity. "Every academically able student should be able to attend university. Money should not be the deciding factor. I wish to thank our scholarship donors sincerely for their generosity. They help give many of our students a well-rounded education and experience," President Chu said.

Over the past five years, generous donors have contributed nearly HK$100 million in establishing scholarship awards for HKUST students. The number of scholarship awards has increased 2.5 times from 393 scholarships in the 2003/04 academic year to 984 in the 2007/08 academic year. During the same period, the total awarded amount has also more than doubled, from HK$13.26 million to HK$29.76 million.

The number of scholarship recipients also rose significantly from 391 students in the 2003/04 academic year to 675 in the 2007/08 academic year, representing an increase of 72.6%. For the 2007/08 academic year, one in ten full-time students at HKUST received a scholarship.

HKUST offers different scholarship programs to new undergraduate students, continuing undergraduate students, exchange-in/out students, and postgraduate students. Scholarships were awarded on the basis of academic merit as well as other attributes such as leadership quality, community service, and performance in extra-curricular activities. The amount of scholarships ranged from HK$1,000 to HK$120,000 per year, covering tuition fees and living expenses.

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