

WELCOME MESSAGE

On behalf of the Industrial Liaison Office (ILO) at the Technological and Higher Education Institute (THEi) of Hong Kong, I would like to extend the warmest welcome to you all to our Inaugural Educational Research Symposium.

As you are probably aware, the VTC celebrates its 30th Anniversary this year. Over this 30-year period, the VTC has been at the forefront of vocational education and training in Hong Kong. We are proud that many of our graduates have gone on to lead successful careers in industry and have, sometimes, spearheaded innovation which has contributed greatly to Hong Kong industrial and commercial development.

Throughout our 30 years of operation we have also accumulated a rich repository of valuable data in a variety of areas associated with vocational education and training. Consequently, there is ample scope for extensive analysis and research to help improve our operation, particularly in terms of learning and teaching effectiveness. Furthermore, rapid advances in technology in recent years have seen many new theories and practices in learning and teaching techniques enter the realm of education. As educators, we should continuously strive to keep abreast of these latest developments.

The main aim of the Symposium is to provide a regular platform for researchers and practitioners in vocational education and training to share and exchange their knowledge and experience. The theme of this Inaugural Symposium is Learning and Teaching in Practice. We are pleasantly surprised that contributions have been received from various faculties, disciplines and operational units. The papers come under three main themes: Teaching and Learning, Curriculum Design and Development, and Assessment for Learning.

We are pleased to have Professor David Lim, President of THEi to give the keynote address of the Symposium.

We have also arranged a discussion panel bringing together recent DEd graduates, current and prospective students pursuing part time graduate studies in education to share their experiences and identify ways in which their studies can be supported.

Through the Symposium, we anticipate that new ideas for educational research in vocational education and training will be generated. At the same time, we hope to rekindle staff interest in educational research and to facilitate collaboration among staff from different operational units within the VTC and THEi.

We trust you will find the Symposium both enjoyable and valuable.

Dr. LEUNG Ying Keung

Director

Industrial Liaison Office

Technological and Higher Education Institute of Hong Kong