Press Releases

Professor Paul Ching-Wu Chu, pioneer in superconductivity and world-renowned scientist, was formally installed as the second President of the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST) today (9th November).

The Installation Ceremony was conducted by the Pro-Chancellor, Dr the Hon Sze-Yuen Chung, from whom Prof Chu received the copy of the University Ordinance. The University Seal was also handed over to Prof Chu at the Ceremony by the Council Chairman, Dr Vincent HS Lo.

Prof Chu, who assumed his presidency on 1 July this year, is praised in the citation as an eminent scientist with perseverance and vision, a caring academic administrator and teacher, as well as an all-round leader.

Speaking at the Ceremony, Prof Chu says he is honored to take over the helm of HKUST at a crucial time in the University's and Hong Kong's development.

Declaring what he describes as a vision tied to the times we now face, he says: "Hong Kong appears to stand at the crossroads in its development as a high-tech society. But now is definitely not the time to waver. While the dotcom bubble has burst, the technological revolution goes on and we must not be left behind."

He asserts that the economic challenge Hong Kong is facing can only be met with the development of high-value added products and services through high-tech development, the very area HKUST excels in as the only research university in Hong Kong.

Prof Chu vows that HKUST will help propel Hong Kong through the economic transition and continue to nurture well-rounded leaders for tomorrow.

Describing himself as the University's chief coach and cheerleader, he calls on faculty, staff and students to

discovered stable superconductivity above the boiling point of liquid nitrogen, an epoch-making breakthrough which opened the door to subsequent developments in high temperature superconductivity. His discovery has been called one of the most significant advancements in modern physics.

Prof Chu has won some of the highest awards in science, including the World Congress on SuperConductivity's Award for Excellence, the National Medal of Science of the US, the Bernd Matthias Prize, and the John Fritz Medal, which he shares with such great names as Alexander Graham Bell, Thomas Edison and Erico Fermi.