

## **A Seminar on Professional Written Communication for Engineers and Utility Specialists**

N001, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University  
2008 December 11 (Thursday), 18:30 to 20:30

### **Event Report**

The Seminar, jointly organized by the Control, Automations & Instrumentation Division and the Safety Specialist Committee of the Hong Kong Institution of Engineers, Research Centre for Professional Communication in English, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University (RCPEC, HKPolyU), Hong Kong Institute of Utility Specialist (HKIUS), was held successfully on 11 December 2008 in The Hong Kong Polytechnic University which nearly 120 participants had attended the talk.

Before the seminar started, Ir Dr. Vincent Ho, chairman of safety committee, HKIUS introduced and presented souvenir to the speaker, Professor Winnie Cheng, the Director of the RCPEC, in the Department of English of HKPolyU. Her main research interests include corpus linguistics, intercultural professional communication, discourse analysis, discourse intonation, intercultural pragmatics, and outcome-based education. Then, Prof. Winnie Cheng started the seminar by introducing the RCPEC, which aimed at pursuing applied research and consultancy so as to deepen people understanding of professional communication in English and better serve the communication needs of professional communities. This seminar offers engineers and utility specialists the opportunity to enhance their English language and communicative competencies and gain a competitive edge in professional communication in English. This is achieved by understanding and applying a number of practical writing strategies when planning, organizing and writing different text-types in English in the professional world. For instance, how to choose the right words, finding the right preposition, how to write less and cohesively and choosing the right rhetorical functions, etc.

The seminar was interesting and informative. Prof. Cheng also prepared some exercises for attendees. It successfully delivered the knowledge on professional English to the attendees. The seminar ended with a round of loud applause.

Event managed by UTI



Presentation of souvenir from Ir Dr. Vincent Ho to the speaker, Prof. Winnie Cheng



120 participants had attended the seminar.