Four New Staff Members Join the Department in September 2012

The Department of Land Surveying and Geo-Informatics Department (LSGI) is pleased to welcome FOUR new academic staff from Semester 1 of the new academic year.

Ir Dr Wai Lok LAI, Wallace, Assistant Professor

Ir Dr. Lai obtained his Ph.D. in 2006 and his B.Sc. in Building Technology and Management in 1999 from the Department of Building and Real Estate (BRE) of The Hong Kong Polytechnic University.

Dr Lai worked for a main contractor and an engineering consultant for six years. He then served as a Project and Research Fellow in the Department of Civil and Structural Engineering (CSE) of The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, and later as the Adolf Martens Postdoctoral Fellow at the Federal Institute of Materials Research and Testing (BAM), Berlin, Germany. He is now a Visiting Scientist in BAM, a corporate member of Hong Kong Institute of Engineers (HKIE) (Materials Division), and is a Technical Assessor for the Hong Kong Laboratory Accreditation Scheme (HOKLAS) administered by the Hong Kong Government.

Seeing the unseen is truly Dr. Lai’s cup of tea. His research interests include condition survey and diagnosis of engineering structures, underground utilities, construction materials, hydro-geophysics, and sites of archaeological value, via nondestructive evaluation (NDE), near-surface geophysical techniques and advanced signal processing. These techniques include ground penetrating radar, infrared thermography, electrical resistivity, etc. His main teaching duties will be with the Department’s innovative and world-leading Utility Surveying stream of the B.Sc. (Hons) in Geomatics programme.
**Dr. Man Sing WONG, Charles - Assistant Professor**

Dr. Wong received his Ph.D. in Remote Sensing and GIS in 2009, M.Phil. in Remote Sensing and GIS in 2005, and B.Sc. in Land Surveying and Geo-Informatics in 2003, all from LSGI.

Dr. Wong had been a part-time Research Fellow and Senior Research Fellow in LSGI since 2005 until taking this new post. In 2006, Dr. Wong became Hong Kong’s first Fulbright Student awardee and visited the Earth System Science Interdisciplinary Center, University of Maryland, College Park, U.S.A., until 2007.

Dr. Wong is involved in various research projects, including the use of remote sensing to study the urban heat island effect, urban environmental quality, landslides, vegetation and ecosystems, spectral mixture analysis, aerosol retrieval and air quality monitoring. He has published over 30 refereed journal papers, 2 book chapters, and over 50 conference papers over the past 7 years. Dr. Wong is currently the official site manager for the two AERONET stations in Hong Kong.

**Dr. Lei ZHANG - Research Assistant Professor**

Dr. Zhang obtained his Ph.D. in Geodesy and Geodynamics from LSGI in 2011, M.E. in Geodesy from Tongji University (Shanghai) in 2007 and B.E. in Civil Engineering from Shandong University of Science and technology in 2004.

Dr. Zhang had been a Research Assistant, Research Associate and then Postdoctoral Fellow in LSGI since 2007. He was a visiting researcher at the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) from March to August 2010.

His research interests focus on the techniques and development of synthetic aperture radar (SAR), interferometric SAR (InSAR) and multiple-temporal InSAR processing, cross-platform InSAR processing, design of automated SAR/InSAR processing systems,
and application of InSAR technologies to image ground surface deformation related to the study of volcanic, seismic, tectonic and hydrologic processes. He has published more than 15 refereed journal papers and 2 book chapters in the past 5 years.

Mr. Kent LAM, Teaching Fellow

Mr. Kent Lam received his M.Sc.E. degree in Surveying Engineering in 1991 from the University of Calgary, Canada, and B.Sc.E. in Surveying Engineering, in 1985 from the University of New Brunswick, Canada.

Mr. Lam had over twenty years of working experience in both the tertiary institutions and the GIS industry. Mr. Lam was with LSGI from 1991 to 2000 where he helped the Department successfully grow into a renowned academic department in Geomatics. He is also a visiting lecturer and M.Phil. supervisor for the Master of Arts in Transport Policy & Planning, the University of Hong Kong. He is an experienced GIS expert in the areas of vehicle navigation and intelligent transportation system. Mr. Lam was the GIS consultant/service provider for many major projects in Hong Kong including TGMS, CCIII, TIMS, etc. He is a Fellow and council member of the Association of Intelligent Transportation Systems Hong Kong.

For their contact details, please visit
http://www.lsgi.polyu.edu.hk/people/academic/index.asp