In the Distinguished Chinese Visiting Scholars Scheme 2014, we are honoured that Prof. Xu Guanhua accepted our invitation to be one of the six distinguished scholars to participate in the Scheme.

The six distinguished scholars are the experts from different fields. Prof. Xu is an expert in remote sensing and geographic information and was elected as a Member of the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) in 1991. From 1994 to 1995, he served as the Vice President of the CAS. He became the Minister of the MOST from 2001 to 2007. From 2011 onwards, he has acted as the leader of Expert Advisory Group of the National Basic Research Programme (973 Programme). He has also been conferred honorary doctoral degrees by the Chinese University of Hong Kong, City University of Hong Kong and the Asian Institute of Technology, and Honorary Doctor of Public Service by the University of Maryland.

During the visit to PolyU and LSGI from 24-27 November 2014, Prof. Xu shared his valuable knowledge and inspiring experience with our staff and students through public lectures and seminars in the topic of “Global Change and Sustainable Development” and “The Future Development of Geoscience in China” respectively. The talks were well received by more than 150 participants. On 25 November 2014, Prof. Xu received the Distinguished Scholar Award from Prof. Timothy W. Tong, President of The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, in the Presentation Ceremony.

Distinguished Chinese Visiting Scholars Scheme was first established in 1994. PolyU has invited over 100 renowned scholars to take part in this annual event. Besides fostering
exchange among distinguished scholars, the Scheme also plays a pivotal role in enhancing inter-institutional collaborations.

Presentation of Souvenir to Prof. Xu by Prof. Shi Wen-Zhong, Head of LSGI

Public Lecture on the “Global Change and Sustainable Development”