

## Opening of China Europa Centre on PolyU campus

Jointly founded by the China-Europa Forum Foundation and PolyU Faculty of Humanities, the China Europa Centre is opened today (22 May 2012) by Ms Maria Castillo Fernandez, Head of Office of the European Union (EU) to Hong Kong and Macao; Dr Chen Yan, Founder and Executive President of China Europa Forum Foundation; Mr Nicholas Yang, PolyU Executive Vice President; Professor Huang Chu-ren, Dean of PolyU's Faculty of Humanities. Many distinguished European and mainland guests also extended their warm congratulations on the auspicious occasion of Centre's opening.



Group photo of most participants

At the beginning, Dr YU Shuo, Director of the Centre, expressed her gratitude to all guest. She said that the Centre is a beautiful baby of mixed Chinese and European “bloods”, an inheritor of the virtues of the two great civilizations, and also a pioneer and adventurer with the mission of DIALOGUE.

Ms Maria Castillo Fernandez shared her opinion about the Centre which is an initiative with all these ingredients: it would serve as a forum for dialogue and discussion on matters that are of concern to both European and Chinese societies; it would help to better understand Europe in Hong Kong and China and Hong Kong in Europe; it will increase contacts and exchanges between academics, students and civil society.

Academician Marianne Batid-Brugiere, President of Académie de Sciences Morale et Politique et Institut de France (ASMPIF), emphasize that ASMPIF has established good tie with the China-Europa Forum from 2007. She said that we have high hopes on the research on a Catholic village in China (215 years old), a coming project of the Centre, and wish it would cause a great sensation in the fields of humanity, culture and history between China and Europe.

“This is the first research center in China which is committed to the mission of DIALOGUE. I believe the dialogue between China and Europa will play an indispensable part in this interdependent world.” said Professor WANG Zhenyao, Dean of China Philanthropy Research Institute, Beijing

Normal University.

Dr CHEN Yan rated the Center highly on deepening cooperation between China-Europa Forum and the Hong Kong Polytechnic University. It is an important milestone in development process of China-Europa Forum.

The Centre will be committed to enhancing exchanges of experiences and traditional wisdom, jointly conducting academic researches, facilitating direct contacts between scholars, students, social actors and opinion leaders of both sides in order to explore new human relations. Books will be published and edited in a transcultural way, new media and network carrier to jointly built and spread common knowledge. It will try to be a laboratory for models of living-together in the transcultural reality of the world and to form joint efforts to tackle common challenges in the current historical transition.