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## Teaching Innovators Honored

A group of outstanding faculty members from the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST) were honored today (17 May 2004) with Excellence in Teaching Innovation Awards for successfully introducing a range of innovative and novel teaching concepts into the classroom.

HKUST President, Prof Paul Chu, presented the awards at the [Second Teaching and Learning Symposium](#), a biennial event that promotes novel teaching and learning practices at the University.

The four winners are:

### 1. Dr Rashmi Adaval, Department of Marketing

Dr Adaval combines a number of teaching techniques to construct innovative curricula, including mini-activities, reading techniques, a cognitive scaffold and simulation games. Students master skills in a step-by-step manner and learn to be more interactive.

### 2. Dr Rudolf Fleischer, Department of Computer Science

Dr Fleischer employs the "Just-in-Time Teaching" framework to challenge his students to take charge of their own learning. Student-instructor interaction is enhanced as he provides students with instant feedback and motivates them to help each other learn.

### 3. Dr John Milton, Language Center

Dr Milton has developed an online English learning platform that combines didactic instruction and discovery-based, problem-solving strategies with direct access to language learning. He incorporates various technical tools and some 500 original language activities to help students improve their oral and aural skills as well as their reading and writing in English.



Winners of the Excellence in Teaching Innovation Awards



President Chu (right) presented the award to the Physics teaching team

### 4. Dr K Y Michael Wong, Prof T K Ng, Dr Philip I K Sou and Dr Kwok Kwong Fung, Department of Physics

This teaching team encourages undergraduate students to conduct research on certain topics, and present their findings to local secondary students, thereby enhancing their understanding, analytical and communication skills.

At the Symposium, keynote speaker Prof Jim Boyle, Head of the Department of Mechanical Engineering at the University of Strathclyde, shared his experiences of managing the introduction of teaching innovations within a research-oriented institution. He discussed how teaching and learning innovations were implemented and disseminated at the

University of Strathclyde, and their impact on students and staff.

The Symposium was co-organized by HKUST's Senate Committee on Teaching and Learning, and the [Center for Enhanced Learning and Teaching](#).