

6 March 2009

PolyU to host International Symposium on Forecasting to forecast the future in this age of uncertainties

The 29th International Symposium on Forecasting (ISF) will take place in Hong Kong, Asia's world city, from 21 to 24 June 2009. Taking the theme "Services Sector Forecasting", the Symposium will be organised by the International Institute of Forecasters and the School of Hotel and Tourism Management (SHTM) of The Hong Kong Polytechnic University (PolyU).

ISF is a premier forecasting conference attracting the world's leading forecasting researchers, practitioners and students to exchange new ideas on forecasting in the following areas:

- Time Series Models/Methods
- Econometrics
- Finance
- Data Mining
- Judgmental Forecasting
- Collaborative Forecasting
- Non-parametric Methods
- Neural Network Models
- Electricity Forecasting
- Telecommunication Forecasting
- Business and Marketing Applications
- Supply Chain Forecasting
- Travel and Tourism Forecasting
- Demographic and Social Applications
- Technology and Innovation Forecasting
- Environmental and Climate Applications
- Macro and Microeconomic Applications
- Other forecasting related topics

Professor Haiyan Song, Chair Professor and Associate Director of SHTM and the General Chair of ISF 2009, said, "The Symposium provides a platform for leading scholars to reveal their insights into cutting-edge forecasting research and practice, with a particular focus on the services sector." Professor Song would like to show his appreciation to all distinguished speakers who have confirmed to speak at the Symposium including the *Nobel Laureate in Economics 2003, Professor Clive W. J. Granger of the University of California*

The Symposium will offer three Keynote Sessions featuring prominent speakers, including:

- Professor Clive W. J. Granger – Nobel Laureate in Economics 2003; University of California, USA.
- Professor Robert Hyndman – Monash University, Australia.
- Professor Stephen F. Witt – The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong Kong.

Featured Speakers include:

- Professor J. Scott Armstrong – The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania, USA.
- Professor James Taylor – Oxford University, UK.
- Professor Lindsay Turner – Victoria University, Australia.

Three tailored Concurrent Workshops will also be offered at the Symposium:

- “Advanced Neural Networks in System Identification, Forecasting and Control Principles, Techniques and Applications” led by Dr Hans Georg Zimmermann, Principal Research Scientist, Siemens AG.
- “Seasonality Issues and Tourism Forecasting” led by Dr Kulendran Nada
- “Forecasting for Intermittent Demand” led by Hans Levenback, PhD, Delphus, Inc.

To find out more about the Symposium and for further information on registration, please visit the official ISF 2009 website: www.forecasters.org/isf.

The International Institute of Forecasters is a non-profit organisation founded in 1981. The objectives of the Institute are to stimulate the generation, distribution and use of knowledge on forecasting. The Institute, as an international institute for research and practice, holds annual symposia and workshops and edits The International Journal of Forecasting and the practitioner’s journal Foresight: The International Journal of Applied Forecasting.

PolyU’s School of Hotel and Tourism Management is a leading provider of hospitality education in the Asia-Pacific Region. It is ranked No. 4 among the world’s top hotel and tourism schools based on research and scholarship, according to a study published in the Journal of Hospitality & Tourism Research in 2005.

With 60 academic staff drawing from 18 countries, the School offers programmes at levels ranging from PhD to Higher Diploma. It was awarded the “2003 International Society of Travel and Tourism Educators Institutional Award” in recognition of its significant contribution to tourism education, and is the only training centre in the Education and Training Network in Asia recognised by the United Nations World Tourism Organisation.

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