21st ICDE World Conference on Open Learning & Distance Education

Lifelong Learning in the Networked World

18–21 February 2004
Hong Kong

Hosted by:
THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

www.ouhk.edu.hk/hk2004
This brochure constitutes the final announcement for the 21st ICDE World Conference on Open Learning and Distance Education. The information covered here, along with further details, is also available on the Conference website at http://www.ouhk.edu.hk/hk2004/ and via the ICDE website at http://www.icde.org/.

If you plan to attend, you should visit the Conference website regularly, as supplementary and updated information will be added as appropriate. Note that while English will be the official language of the Conference, the website is available in English, Chinese, Spanish and French versions.

ICDE (International Council for Open and Distance Education)

The ICDE, founded in 1938, is the global membership organisation of educational institutions, national and regional associations, corporations, educational authorities and agencies in the fields of open learning, distance education, virtual learning, and flexible, lifelong learning.

ICDE facilitates international cooperation in distance education and open learning throughout the world. Through the ICDE membership and partnership structure, 145 countries are represented.

ICDE has its permanent international headquarters in Oslo, Norway, where the ICDE Head Office is located. Connected to the International Head Office are a number of local ICDE offices around the world, which offer local administrative capacity and services.

ICDE is officially recognised by the United Nations as the global non-governmental organisation responsible for the field of open and distance learning, and is affiliated with the United Nations through UNESCO.

For further information on ICDE, please visit http://www.icde.org/.

The Open University of Hong Kong

The Open University of Hong Kong (formerly the Open Learning Institute of Hong Kong) was established in 1989 by the Government of Hong Kong. Through an open access policy, it provides higher education opportunities for all adults regardless of previous qualifications, gender or race. To date some 130,000 adults have studied a wide range of courses leading to sub-degree, degree and postgraduate qualifications, in a variety of disciplines such as arts, social sciences, business and administration, education, languages, science and technology. Over 27,000 students have graduated with one or more awards. Recent enrolment has exceeded 22,000 students per semester, over 90% of whom are full-time workers, with a mean age of 33. Since 1997, the University has extended its education and training services to many parts of Mainland China.

Courses are offered in Chinese or English (and in some cases both). Learning materials are presented using a mixture of appropriate media from print to web-based, and learner support is provided via face to face tutorials and an online environment backed by an award-winning electronic library. A rigorous quality assurance mechanism with extensive external peer involvement ensures that high exit standards are maintained.

Despite being self-financing, the University has set up a centre for research in distance and adult learning to inform its practice. The University actively promotes excellence in teaching and research through international exchanges and collaboration. Its efforts have received international recognition via a number of awards of excellence conferred by the Commonwealth of Learning and the International Council for Open and Distance Education.

For further information on the OUHK, please visit http://www.ouhk.edu.hk/.
Welcome and invitation

On behalf of the International Council for Open and Distance Education (ICDE) and the Open University of Hong Kong, we have great pleasure in inviting you to the 21st ICDE World Conference on Open Learning and Distance Education, to take place in Hong Kong from 18 to 21 February 2004.

Since 1938, ICDE has organised periodic world conferences, bringing together the world’s leaders in open learning and distance education. ICDE world conferences are the most established and prestigious events in a field that is in the forefront of global educational development.

The ICDE organisation includes 145 countries, as well as an increasing number of education and training systems. This is a reflection of the convergence of the paradigms of open, distance and virtual learning, and traditional education.

On behalf of the organisers of the Conference, we invite everyone who is involved in education and training in universities, schools, companies, governments, intergovernmental organisations, NGOs etc. to participate in it.

The Conference Organising Committee is chaired by Professor S W Tam, President Emeritus of the Open University of Hong Kong. The programme is being developed by an International Programme Committee chaired by Professor James Taylor, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, University of Southern Queensland, Australia and the newly elected President of ICDE.

The Coordinating Committee is chaired by Reidar Roll, Secretary General and CEO of ICDE.

The Conference is structured into core events (plenary, parallel and poster sessions) and extension events (workshops, discussion groups and special interest events, as well as meetings, special concurrent sessions and media presentations).

Five keynote speakers, all distinguished academics, will combine to provide a penetrating and incisive overview of the principal issues facing open and distance education early in this new century. Current issues related to the seven streams will also be discussed in expert panel sessions, where leaders in the field will present their views and answer questions from delegates. A final panel session will highlight the challenges and opportunities facing universities in our increasingly networked world.

The Conference will bring together a large number of people from diverse backgrounds who are interested in open learning and distance education. Participants from more than 50 countries are expected to participate in this conference.

The Call for Papers in the First Announcement resulted in a very positive response. After rigorous review by members of the International Programme Committee, more than 400 submissions have been selected for paper and poster presentations and special sessions. The result is a particularly rich and stimulating programme, with ample choice of events and presentations for the participants.

Coupled with the special social programme featuring the many delights of Hong Kong in terms of its culture, food, entertainment, spectacular harbour and world-famous shopping, this will be a conference not to be missed.

So do join us at the 21st ICDE World Conference on Open Learning and Distance Education. We look forward to welcoming you to Hong Kong in February 2004.

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Message from the HKSAR Chief Executive

I am very pleased to see that the Open University of Hong Kong will be hosting the 21st ICDE World Conference on Open Learning and Distance Education.

I extend a very warm welcome to all our overseas visitors and wish you all a successful and productive conference as well as a most enjoyable stay in Hong Kong.

Tung Chee Hwa
Chief Executive, Hong Kong SAR

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Prof. James Taylor
ICDE President
Deputy Vice-Chancellor,
University of Southern Queensland
International Programme Committee Chair

Prof. S W Tam
President Emeritus,
The Open University of Hong Kong
Organising Committee Chair

Reidar Roll
ICDE Secretary General and CEO,
Coordinating Committee Chair

Prof. John C Y Leong
President,
The Open University of Hong Kong
Organising Committee Co-chair
The Conference aims to document achievements and investigate the challenges facing those seeking to provide open and distance education for persons of all ages in a world that is becoming increasingly networked.

The use of the term ‘networked’ is not restricted to a technological sense. Our world is becoming increasingly networked in a variety of ways: socially, economically, politically, educationally and technologically. The resultant positive pressure for collaboration instead of competition is forging new alliances and creating new opportunities for both individuals and organisations, particularly among educational providers. It is in this spirit that the Conference is offered, providing the means to showcase developments in ideas and practice with respect to lifelong learning for those seeking educational opportunities through distance and open learning.

Of course, there will be many contributions on technologically enhanced learning, as it is primarily the new and emerging technologies that are enabling distance education students to become increasingly networked. This networking can be with an institution, with a tutor and, perhaps most significantly, with other students, enabling forms of collaborative and cooperative learning not previously possible. The consequences of such networking, particularly the cultural implications, will be addressed in some sessions of the Conference.

Along with the current changes are the concurrent challenges that confront those seeking to enhance educational opportunity for all. Lifelong learning is a laudable concept and a lofty goal, not easily achieved even in so-called developed countries. Resources are inequitably dispersed, access varies widely and many people in the world are still focused on the provision of the basic necessities of life, enabling little attention to be given to education. This Conference provides a forum for sharing problems, prospects and possible solutions to the multitude of questions that arise from these issues.

Based on this theme, the Conference will explore the challenges for open learning and distance education under the following seven main streams:

1. Philosophy, policies and strategies
2. Content and skills
3. Pedagogies and technologies
4. Support and services
5. Management
6. Research and evaluation
7. Quality assurance and accreditation.

The streams will be organised within the three main areas of the programme, which are:

1. Basic education
2. Higher education
3. Continuing education.*

* inclusive of company and workforce training

The final programme for the Conference will be built around these main streams and areas.
The 21st ICDE World Conference on Open Learning and Distance Education will comprise an enticing array of events and presentations.

Core events

The formal Conference programme will consist of the following core events: plenary sessions, plenary panel discussion, parallel sessions, poster sessions, expert panel discussions and special sessions.

Official opening ceremony

The official opening will take place on Wednesday morning (18 February 2004) at 9:00am. The Secretary of Education and Manpower, HK Special Administrative Region Government, China, will officiate.

Plenary sessions

A number of plenary keynotes will be delivered by distinguished academic leaders. They include:

Sir John Daniel
Assistant Director-General for Education,
UNESCO

Title: Achieving Education for All: The Contribution of Open and Distance Learning

The successful introduction of distance learning at university level ... breaks open education’s traditional straitjacket by making it possible to increase access, cut cost, and improve quality — all at the same time ... A much greater effort is now required because the world will need between ten and thirty million new teachers in the next ten years. Training teachers using technology-based distance learning systems will also lay the foundation for the next major development, namely the use of information and communication technology in the schools.

Prof. Wei Yu
Vice President,
China Association for Science and Technology

Title: Reshaping Destiny

The People’s Republic of China ... aims at providing equal opportunities for all through distance education in order to reduce the disparities between the different regions. The Ministry of Education has set up a network infrastructure - known popularly as ‘heaven and earth combined’, due to its combination of satellite and terrestrial technologies ... Expert evaluation has indicated that the effects have been very positive.

Prof. Tony Bates
Director,
Distance Education & Technology,
University of British Columbia

Title: Technology and Lifelong Learning: Myths and Realities

This presentation, using examples, explores the likely impact of new technologies ... current wisdom about the likely impact of new technologies on global lifelong learning is questioned and challenged.

Prof. Brenda Gourley
Vice-Chancellor,
The UK Open University

Title: The Digital Divide as a Development Issue

This presentation examines such questions as: can we create a more just and equitable global society through the appropriate application of modern technologies, or are they much more likely to divide us yet more ruthlessly than in the past? Are we locked in some tragic struggle which has no fundamental hope of resolution or will we be uplifted by the possibilities that such technologies present? ... we do indeed have the opportunity to create a more just and equitable global society through the appropriate application of modern technology, but there are serious qualifications.

Prof. H. Ian Macdonald
President Emeritus,
York University


... Education for All ... raised a whole host of questions about the purposes of education as well as about the best means of fulfilling the mandate... The consequent need for lifelong learning has resulted in an enlarged demand for education as well as producing various questions about the appropriate delivery system ... an attempt will be made to evaluate these issues and to suggest answers to the questions.

Grand Welcome Banquet

On Wednesday evening (18 February 2004), there will be a Grand Welcome Banquet featuring a sumptuous Chinese dinner accompanied by cultural shows and the presentation of the 21st ICDE World Conference Prize of Excellence. Delegates are encouraged to attend in their national attire to add colour to the occasion.

Parallel sessions

Multiple parallel sessions will be held for the presentation of conference papers. Presenters will have the opportunity to discuss their papers and answer questions from participants.

Poster sessions

Posters will be presented at special sessions scheduled throughout the Conference. Authors will be available at the poster walls during scheduled periods to discuss their work and respond to questions and comments.

Plenary and closing sessions

The highlight of this session, on Saturday (21 February 2004), will be a plenary panel discussion on the topic ‘Will Universities Become Extinct in the Networked World?’

Chair: James Taylor
University of Southern Queensland, Australia

Members: Cheng Kai Ming (The University of Hong Kong, HKSAR), Terry Hilsberg (NextEd, Australia), Kay Kohl (University Continuing Education Association, USA), Fredric Litto (Brazilian Association for Distance Education, Brazil), Barney Pityana (University of South Africa, South Africa)
Expert panel sessions

For each of the seven streams, there will be a panel of experts discussing major issues and challenges. These will run in conjunction with some of the parallel sessions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stream</th>
<th>Chair</th>
<th>Members</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Philosophy, policies and</td>
<td>Geoff Peters (The Open University, UK)</td>
<td>Brian Corb (Deakin University, Australia)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>strategies</td>
<td></td>
<td>Suresh Garg (Indira Gandhi National Open University, India)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Berit Johnsen (University of Oslo, Norway)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Eugene Rubin (University of Maryland University College, USA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Content and skills</td>
<td>Bruce King (University of South Australia, Australia)</td>
<td>Mohamed Ally (Athabasca University, Canada)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Abtar Kaur (Open University of Malaysia, Malaysia)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Fred Percival (Napier University, UK)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pedagogies and technologies</td>
<td>Lani Gunawardena (University of New Mexico, USA)</td>
<td>Insung Jung (International Christian University, Japan)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Carlos Paldia (Inter-American Agency for Cooperation and Development, USA)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Torstein Rekkedal (NUI Distance Education, Norway)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Martyn Wild (Adult Multicultural Education Services, Australia)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support and services</td>
<td>David Sewart (The Open University, UK)</td>
<td>Jannette Kirkwood (University of Southern Queensland, Australia)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Marta Mena (University of Buenos Aires, Argentina)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Inge Sonnekus (University of South Africa, South Africa)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Tong-In Wongsothorn (Sukhothy Thammathirat Open University, Thailand)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management</td>
<td>H P Dikshit (Indira Gandhi National Open University, India)</td>
<td>Dominique Abrioux (Athabasca University, Canada)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Lennart Badersten (Lund University, Sweden)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Barney Pityana (University of South Africa, South Africa)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sue McKnight (Deakin University, Australia)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research and evaluation</td>
<td>David Murphy (The Open University of Hong Kong, HK)</td>
<td>Terry Anderson (Athabasca University, Canada)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Denise Kirkpatrick (University of New England, Australia)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Alfredo Matta (Brazilian Association for Distance Education, Brazil)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mike Osborne (Stirling University, UK)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quality assurance and</td>
<td>John C Y Leong (The Open University of Hong Kong, HK)</td>
<td>Ann Floyd (The Open University, UK)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>accreditation</td>
<td></td>
<td>Anne Forster (The University of Sydney, Australia)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ricardo Mercado del Collado (Veracruzana Virtual University, Mexico)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Louis Molamu (University of South Africa, South Africa)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Extension events

In addition to the core events, there will be a number of extension events of different types coordinated by the ICDE headquarters. These will be organised independently by working groups, institutions, associations, companies, etc.

Regional meetings and ICDE events

Regional and professional associations, and socio-cultural and language groupings, are organising their own meetings in conjunction with the Conference; the ICDE will present its regional and global activities and will invite participation.

Workshop

In response to requests from several institutions, the OUHK will offer a one day pre-conference experience-sharing workshop at its Homantin Campus on Tuesday, 17 February 2004.

Aim: The main aim of the workshop is to provide an overview of the OUHK system and the processes for various institutional operations, such as:

- Programme development
- Course development and presentation
- Registry functions and student records
- Student support services
- Assessment strategies
- Quality assurance.

Format: The workshop will take the form of detailed briefings (and/or demonstrations) followed by ample opportunities for discussion and experience-sharing.

Institutions’ video and powerpoint presentations

A number of institutions will be offering multimedia presentations on a variety of topics, and the final programme will show their location and timing.

Exhibition

Due to space constraints, the exhibition is now cancelled. However, an Education and Careers Expo will take place at the same venue from 19–22 February 2004. For more information, please visit the website at [www.hkeducationexpo.com/previous/report.htm](http://www.hkeducationexpo.com/previous/report.htm) or contact exhibitions@tdc.org.hk.
Please complete in BLOCK LETTERS and return by fax or by post to Swire Travel Ltd or visit www.ouhk.edu.hk/hk2004 for online registration.

Delegate

☐ Title: Prof./ Dr/ Ms/ Mr* Others ____________________________

☐ Family Name ____________________________

☐ First Name ____________________________

☐ Position ____________________________

☐ Institution/Organisation ____________________________

Street ____________________________

Zip ____________________________ City ____________________________ Country ____________________________

☐ Phone ____________________________ ☐ Fax ____________________________ ☐ E-mail ____________________________

Note: A contact list of participants may be published. Kindly circle those items that you do not wish to be included for publications.

* delete as appropriate

Pre Conference Workshop

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date/Duration</th>
<th>Venue</th>
<th>Cost per person</th>
<th>Total amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, 17 February 2004 9:00am – 5:00pm</td>
<td>The Open University of Hong Kong Campus, Homantin, Kowloon</td>
<td>HK$390.00 / US$50.00</td>
<td>Sub-total 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Special Meal Requirement ☐ Vegetarian ☐ Others: Please specify ____________________________

Social Programme (For delegates only)

Welcome Dinner

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Will attend</th>
<th>Will not attend</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Wednesday, 18 February 2004 Grand Welcome Dinner

Special Meal Requirement ☐ Vegetarian ☐ Others: Please specify ____________________________

Dinner Cruise

A dinner cruise has been arranged for all delegates on Friday, 20 February at no extra charge. Please indicate whether you will attend and which evening you prefer.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Will attend</th>
<th>Will not attend</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Dinner cruise

Please return to: Swire Travel Ltd, 6/F., East Wing, Warwick House, Taikoo Place, 979 King’s Road, Quarry Bay, Hong Kong
Tel: (852) 2579 6818/2579 6699 Fax: (852) 2590 0099 Email: icde2004@swiretravel.com
### Registration Fee (Indicative approximate rate in US$)

(Please √ the appropriate)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>HK$</th>
<th>US$</th>
<th>Total amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ICDE Members only</td>
<td>$4,680.00</td>
<td>$600.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Registration</td>
<td>$5,070.00</td>
<td>$650.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students</td>
<td>$1,600.00</td>
<td>$200.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sub-total 2

### Cancellation Policy

1. Cancellations received by 15 December 2003 will be refunded in full less a HK$234.00 / US$30.00 administrative charge.
2. Cancellations received by 15 January 2004 will receive a 50% refund.
3. Cancellations received after 15 January 2004 will not qualify for any refund. However, substitutions may be permitted.

### Accompanying Persons

Please note that an accompanying person cannot be a paper presenter.

Family Name: Prof./ Dr/ Mr/ Mrs/ Ms __________________________  First Name __________________________

### Registration Fee (Indicative approximate rate in US$)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Registration fee includes:</th>
<th>HK$</th>
<th>US$</th>
<th>Total amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Invitation to Grand Welcome Dinner</td>
<td>$1,600.00</td>
<td>$200.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dinner cruise</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Admission to all sessions</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sub-total 3

### Social Programme (Applicable to students and guests)

**Welcome Dinner** (Indicative approximate rate in US$)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Will attend</th>
<th>Will not attend</th>
<th>Cost per person</th>
<th>No. of persons</th>
<th>Total amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grand Welcome Dinner</td>
<td>HK$625.00 / US$80.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sub-total 4

**Special Meal Requirement**

- Vegetarian
- Others: Please specify __________________________

### Dinner Cruise (Indicative approximate rate in US$)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Will attend</th>
<th>Will not attend</th>
<th>Cost per person</th>
<th>No. of persons</th>
<th>Total amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dinner cruise</td>
<td>HK$360.00 / US$45.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sub-total 5
Hotels

(Room rates are inclusive of service charge, tax and one-way arrival airport-hotel shuttle bus transfer)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hotel</th>
<th>Room Type</th>
<th>Single &amp; Twin Per room per night rate</th>
<th>Travel time to HKCEC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>5 star</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>HKS / US$</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Hyatt Hong Kong</td>
<td>Garden View</td>
<td>$1,470.00 / 190.00</td>
<td>5 mins. on foot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Harbour View</td>
<td>$1,680.00 / 217.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renaissance Harbour View</td>
<td>Garden View</td>
<td>$1,155.00 / 149.00</td>
<td>5 mins. on foot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Harbour View</td>
<td>$1,370.00 / 177.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Novotel Century Hong Kong</td>
<td>Standard</td>
<td>$750.00 / 97.00</td>
<td>12 mins. on foot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metropark Hotel</td>
<td>Standard</td>
<td>$500.00 / 65.00</td>
<td>10 mins. by taxi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>4 star</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>HKS / US$</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Empire Hong Kong Hotel</td>
<td>Superior</td>
<td>$670.00 / 87.00</td>
<td>10 mins. on foot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Pacific Hotel</td>
<td>Standard</td>
<td>$520.00 / 67.00</td>
<td>10 mins. by taxi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harbour View International House</td>
<td>Standard</td>
<td>$450.00 / 58.00</td>
<td>5 mins. on foot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charterhouse Hotel</td>
<td>Standard</td>
<td>$480.00 / 62.00</td>
<td>10-15 mins. on foot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3 star</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>HKS / US$</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Pacific Hotel</td>
<td>Standard</td>
<td>$520.00 / 67.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harbour View International House</td>
<td>Standard</td>
<td>$450.00 / 58.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charterhouse Hotel</td>
<td>Standard</td>
<td>$480.00 / 62.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Budget/Guest House</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>HKS / US$</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ibis North Point Hotel (breakfast included)</td>
<td>Standard</td>
<td>$460.00 / 59.00</td>
<td>10 mins. by taxi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Kowloon</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>HKS / US$</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marco Polo Hong Kong Hotel</td>
<td>Superior</td>
<td>$730.00 / 95.00</td>
<td>30 mins. via ferry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Park Hotel</td>
<td>Standard</td>
<td>$500.00 / 65.00</td>
<td>30 mins. via MTR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Budget/Guest House</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>HKS / US$</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YMCA International House</td>
<td>Standard</td>
<td>$400.00 / 52.00</td>
<td>30 mins. via MTR</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- 1st night non-refundable deposit is required upon reservation, and the balance payment is to be settled two weeks prior to arrival.

Hotel Reservation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of hotel</th>
<th>Check-in date</th>
<th>Check-out date</th>
<th>Total amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st choice</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd choice</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Please fill in the deposit to be paid.) Sub-total 6

Arrival Flight Date: ___________________ Arrival Flight no.: ___________________ Time: ___________________
Room Request: [ ] Single [ ] Double [ ] Twin Special Request: [ ] Smoking Room [ ] Non-smoking Room
- I will arrange my own accommodation.
- I will be sharing the room with Prof./ Dr/ Mr/ Mrs/ Ms ___________________
- I am willing to share with any other [ ] male delegate [ ] female delegate.
### Optional Local Tours (Indicative approximate rate in US$)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tour</th>
<th>Cost per person</th>
<th>Tour date</th>
<th>No of persons</th>
<th>Total amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>HK$</td>
<td>US$</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hong Kong City Tour</td>
<td>$200.00</td>
<td>$26.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Night Tour to the Peak (transportation only)</td>
<td>$100.00</td>
<td>$13.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Walking Tour of Old Hong Kong</td>
<td>$160.00</td>
<td>$20.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fascinating Kowloon</td>
<td>$280.00</td>
<td>$33.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morning Tai Chi and Cooking Class</td>
<td>$420.00</td>
<td>$54.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seafood Galore Tour with dinner</td>
<td>$400.00</td>
<td>$52.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heritage Tour</td>
<td>$320.00</td>
<td>$41.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lantau Island Tour with vegetarian lunch</td>
<td>$580.00</td>
<td>$75.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land Between New Territories Tour</td>
<td>$290.00</td>
<td>$38.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Macau Tour with lunch</td>
<td>$790.00</td>
<td>$102.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horseracing Tour with lunch</td>
<td>$440.00</td>
<td>$57.00</td>
<td>22 February 2004</td>
<td>$75.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sub-total 7

- Tour details are available on the Conference website under ‘Hotels & Tours’.

### Post-Conference Tours to Mainland China (Indicative approximate rate in US$)

(Please √ the appropriate)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tour</th>
<th>Cost per person</th>
<th>No of persons</th>
<th>Total amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>HK$</td>
<td>US$</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Twin sharing</td>
<td>Single room</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shenzhen Tour (22 February 2004)</td>
<td>$780.00</td>
<td>$100.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Nights/ 3 Days Guilin Scenic Tour (22–24 February 2004)</td>
<td>$3,870.00</td>
<td>$499.00</td>
<td>$4,380.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Nights/ 4 Days Beijing Tour (22–25 February 2004)</td>
<td>$6,165.00</td>
<td>$795.00</td>
<td>$7,440.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Nights/ 6 Days Xian &amp; Beijing Historical Tour (22–27 February 2004)</td>
<td>$9,265.00</td>
<td>$1,195.00</td>
<td>$11,140.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Please fill in the deposit to be paid.) Sub-total 8

- Tour details are available on Conference website under ‘Hotels & Tours’.
- A non-refundable deposit of HK$1,600.00 / US$200.00 is required upon reservation.

☐ Please send me information on the selected tour.
☐ Please send me information about other tours ________________________________

### Form of Payment (please √ which form of payment you are using)

**Grand-total Payment**

- By Credit Card (please fax the front and back of the credit card)
  - Name of Card Holder: __________________________ Type of Card: ☐ AMEX ☐ Diners ☐ Visa ☐ Master
  - Credit Card Number: __________________________ Expiry Date: __________________________
  - Approved Amount: __________________________ Approved Signature: __________________________

- By Bank Transfer
  - A/C Payee: Swire Travel Ltd.  
  - Bank Name: Hong Kong & Shanghai Banking Corporation  
  - A/C No: 111-016275-002  
  - Bank Address: No. 1 Queen’s Road, Central, Hong Kong  
  - Please forward a copy of the remittance receipt together with the Registration Form to Swire Travel Ltd. All charges on bank transfers must be borne by the delegate.

- By Bank Draft
  - Payable to ‘Swire Travel Ltd’
  - Bank Draft No. __________________________

* Indicative exchange rate: US$1.00=HK$7.80
Pre-registration counters will be opened between 4:00pm and 6:00pm on Tuesday, 17 February 2004, in the Concourse of the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre.

**Publication of papers and posters**

The full versions of accepted papers for the parallel and poster sessions will be available on CD-ROM at the Conference, together with the keynote papers. Presenters of papers which have missed the deadline for submission will make multiple copies available in their sessions.

**Conference languages**

The official working language of the Conference will be English. Translation from and into Putonghua will be provided for all plenary sessions. Some sessions or events may be held in a language other than English. For such sessions, no translation will be provided.

**Cyber Café**

Internet access will be made available to participants. During the Conference, participants will be provided with complimentary access to broadband Internet service via a 20-station Cyber Café. Additional network ports for notebooks will also be made available.

**Registration fee**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Fee</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ICDE Members only</td>
<td>HK$4,680</td>
<td>US$600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Registration</td>
<td>HK$5,070</td>
<td>US$650</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students**</td>
<td>HK$1,600</td>
<td>US$200</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Cancellation policy**

- Cancellations received by 15 December 2003 will be refunded in full less a HK$234.00/US$30.00 administrative charge.
- Cancellations received by 15 January 2004 will receive a 50% refund.
- Cancellations received after 15 January 2004 will not qualify for any refund.

The organiser reserves the right to amend the programme as and when necessary.

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### Schedule of events

#### Wednesday, 18 February 2004

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0800</td>
<td>Registration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0900</td>
<td>Opening Ceremony</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1000</td>
<td>Coffee/Tea Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1030</td>
<td>Plenary Session I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1140</td>
<td>Plenary Session II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1240</td>
<td>Lunch Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1400</td>
<td>Parallel Sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1500</td>
<td>Coffee/Tea Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1530</td>
<td>Parallel Sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1800</td>
<td>Grand Welcome Banquet</td>
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#### Thursday, 19 February 2004

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0800</td>
<td>Late Registration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0900</td>
<td>Plenary Session III</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1000</td>
<td>Coffee/Tea Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1030</td>
<td>Parallel Sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1210</td>
<td>Lunch Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1345</td>
<td>Plenary Session IV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1450</td>
<td>Parallel Sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1630</td>
<td>Coffee/Tea Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1650</td>
<td>Parallel Sessions</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Friday, 20 February 2004

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0900</td>
<td>Plenary Session V</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1000</td>
<td>Coffee/Tea Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1030</td>
<td>Parallel Sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1210</td>
<td>Lunch Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1400</td>
<td>Parallel Sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1530</td>
<td>Coffee/Tea Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1830</td>
<td>Dinner Cruise</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Saturday, 21 February 2004

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0900</td>
<td>Parallel Sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1020</td>
<td>Institutions' Presentations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1050</td>
<td>Coffee/Tea Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1230</td>
<td>Plenary Panel Session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1300</td>
<td>Closing Ceremony</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Registration fee**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ICDE Members only</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students**</td>
<td>HK$1,600</td>
<td>US$200</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Please provide verification and a copy of your student ID card.**
The ICDE Prize of Excellence was inaugurated in 1999 as the Global Prize of Excellence in distance and virtual learning. The ICDE Prize of Excellence will be awarded in February 2004 to deserving entities such as educational institutions, organisations, governments, companies and individuals for excellence in the fields of distance and virtual learning. Decisions to award the ICDE Prize of Excellence are based on merit alone, and no political or cultural consideration is given in connection with awarding the Prize.

The winners of the ICDE Prize of Excellence will receive the Prize at the 21st ICDE World Conference in Hong Kong Special Administration Region, China, during the Grand Welcome Banquet. By accepting the Prize, the recipients also accept the commitment to travel to Oslo in Norway in the same year that they receive the Prize, where they will deliver their ICDE Prize of Excellence Lecture to an international audience.

The ICDE Prize of Excellence will be awarded in the following areas:

1. **The Institutional Prize.** This Prize will be awarded to entities such as educational institutions, organisations, governments and companies for outstanding contributions to the field particularly in terms of innovation, quality and leadership. These achievements should have made very significant contributions, across cultural and linguistic barriers, to the international community of distance and virtual learning during the last five years. Previous winners of this Prize are the Open University of Hong Kong (China), the University of Southern Queensland (Australia) and the Open University of Catalonia (Spain).

2. **The Individual Prize.** This Prize will be awarded for very significant contributions to the field of distance and virtual learning over the last five years. The Prize will focus on rewarding innovation, quality and leadership in the field of education and training, as well as very significant contributions in this respect to the international community of distance and virtual learning during the last five years. Previous winners of the Individual Prize are James Taylor (Australia), S W Tam (Hong Kong, China) and Gabriel Ferraté i Pascual (Spain).

3. **The Prize for Lifelong Contribution to the field.** This Prize will be awarded for very significant lifelong contributions to the field. These lifelong achievements should have made a major contribution to the international community of open and distance learning. Previous winners of this Prize have been Börje Holmberg (Germany), Otto Peters (Germany) and Torstein Rekkedal (Norway).

The Prizes are awarded in the form of the ICDE Prize of Excellence Statuette and Diploma. The Jury for the ICDE Prize of Excellence is the ICDE Executive Committee. The ICDE reserves the right not to award the Prize should it feel that the nominations are not in keeping with the standards that the ICDE wishes to set for the Prize.
Local Tours

Hong Kong City Tour
Drive through Causeway Bay, the Sze figures district of Wan Chai, and Happy Valley where the horse-racing tracks are located. Drive through the Aberdeen Tunnel and cross to the south side of the island to the Deep Water Bay area, and Repulse Bay with its splendid beaches. Then explore Aberdeen where fishermen and their families live on thousands of junks and sampans. An optional sampan ride at an additional charge is available in Aberdeen. Go up Victoria Peak which is 1,808 ft above sea level for a panoramic view of the city and harbour. As an extra attraction, a visit will be made to a jewellery workshop for a behind-the-scenes look at the fine craftsmanship of the Orient.

Duration of tour: Approximately 5 hours
Tour cost: HK$200.00 / US$26.00 per person

Night Tour to the Peak (transportation only)
Any visit to Hong Kong would be incomplete without a trip to Victoria Peak which provides a stunning panoramic view of the harbour and the southern tip of Kowloon.

Duration of tour: Approximately 2 hours
Tour cost: HK$100.00 / US$13.00 per person
(minimum 15 persons)

A Walking Tour of Old Hong Kong
It is Hong Kong’s winding little side-streets, teeming market places and magical curio shops that make it such a compelling and unique place to visit. Bring your spirit of adventure as your guide escorts you through the older section of the city to explore some of these delightful places. As you walk, you will be able to stop and make purchases from street vendors or just take a few minutes to people-watch. Looking for some unusual souvenirs? Your guide can tell you which stores sell 100-year-old eggs and which sell snake wine! Step back in time with a visit to the oldest temple in Hong Kong — Man Po Temple. A respite from the bustling streets, this spiritual enclave will restore serenity to a lively and enjoyable day.

Duration of tour: Approximately 4 hours
Tour cost: HK$160.00 / US$20.00 per person
(minimum 15 persons)

Fascinating Kowloon
A trip to Kowloon must include a visit to the Jade Market. A beautiful green stone, jade carries great meaning for the Chinese, and they believe it has spiritual value. Time is allowed for browsing and purchasing here before you continue to the bird market, where there are hundreds of songbirds for sale. The next stop is the Wong Tai Sin Temple. This crowded Taoist temple is named after a local ‘medicine man’ who is credited with concocting a cure-all potion and, therefore, is worshipped by those with health worries. You’ll find fortune-tellers here who will gladly tell your future for a nominal fee. You can’t leave Hong Kong without trying dim sum (light snack, touch the heart), with its bite-size offerings in steaming bamboo baskets. Abandon yourself to the delicious moment and enjoy!

Duration of tour: Approximately 4.5 hours
Tour cost: HK$280.00 / US$36.00 per person
(minimum 15 persons)

Morning Tai Chi and Cooking Class
Begin your day the traditional Chinese way. Learn the ancient Chinese exercise of Tai Chi (shadow boxing) under the tutelage of a bona fide Tai Chi master. Also a form of martial art, Tai Chi, with its slow, graceful movements, is suitable for all ages and promotes improved balance, muscle tone, breathing and digestion. Next, learn the ways of authentic Chinese cooking under the supervision of one of Hong Kong’s award-winning chefs. Set in a famous local restaurant, the morning’s cooking session will end with a food sampling and light lunch.

Duration of tour: Approximately 4 hours
Tour cost: HK$420.00 / US$54.00 per person
(minimum 10 persons and maximum 60 persons)

Seafood Galore Tour with dinner
One of the ‘must-do’ activities when visiting Hong Kong is to have a seafood dinner. Various fishing communities around Hong Kong provide some of the best backdrops in the world when tucking into the finest seafood fare. Enjoy a delicious seafood dinner in Lei Yue Mun, a famous fishing village and visit the Temple Street night market before returning to your hotel.

Duration of tour: Approximately 4 hours
Tour cost: HK$400.00 / US$52.00 per person
(minimum 15 persons and maximum 50 persons)

Heritage Tour
Take a fascinating tour of the New Territories — home to some of Hong Kong’s most relevant cultural and historical sites. Highlights of this tour include visits to the Hong Kong Heritage Museum, the typical rural market of Tai Po, Lam Tsuen Wishing Tree (where you can write your wishes on bundles of colourful paper and throw them in the air. It is believed that if the paper gets strung on a branch of this famous tree, your wish will be granted) and Lian Man Shek Tong Ancestral Hall, a fine example of a traditional Chinese building dating back to 1751 and built by the Lian Clan.

Duration of tour: Approximately 5.5 hours (AM)
Tour cost: HK$320.00 / US$41.00 per person

Lantau Island Tour with vegetarian lunch
Board a ferry for an hour’s ride to Silvermine Bay on Lantau Island, which is twice the size of Hong Kong Island. On arrival, disembark for a 5-hour coach tour of the island including a visit to Chiu Chau, Tai-O fishing village and the world’s tallest outdoor seated bronze buddha on the top of Lantau Peak. After a Chinese vegetarian lunch, return to Hong Kong by ferry and coach transfer back to hotel.

Duration of tour: Approximately 8 hours
Tour cost: HK$580.00 / US$75.00 per person

Land Between New Territories Tour
Away from the maddening pace of the city, this tour offers a glimpse of the rural and traditional Hong Kong. Visit the Chuk Lam Sim Yuen in Tsuen Wan. Go up to the highest mountain, Tai Mo Shan, for a panoramic view of Hong Kong Island. Stop at Tai Po Rural Market to explore and absorb the atmosphere of this traditional community. For the next stop you need binoculars. In the distance lies the border village of Sha Tau Kok and nearby a protected bird sanctuary where Chinese Pond Herons, Night Herons and even the rare Swinhoe’s Egrets are known to nest. Return via the Plover Cove Reserve, Tai Po and the Chinese University on to Sha Tin to visit the state-of-the-art Sha Tin race course.

Duration of tour: Approximately 5 hours
Tour cost: HK$290.00 / US$38.00 per person

Macau Tour with lunch
Travel by speedy jetfoil to Macau over the South China Sea. You will skirt the Chinese Mainland and pass coastal islands, arriving in Macau, which was the oldest European settlement in the Far East, and is famous for its casinos. Tour highlights cover the Temple of Goddess of Mercy, and the imposing ruined façade of Sao Paulo Church. Drive up Penha Hill for a bird’s eye view of the inner harbour and the city. Lunch with a glass of red wine will be served at one of the well-known local restaurants.

Duration of tour: Approximately 11 hours
Tour cost: HK$790.00 / US$102.00 per person
Horseracing Tour with lunch
Experience one of Hong Kong’s most popular activities in style. Nothing sets Hong Kong abuzz with excitement quite like the thrill of horseracing. The atmosphere is exhilarating, betting is feverish and there are potentially huge rewards.

Giant colour-display screens face the stands, so you never lose track of the horses. Picking your favourite could not be easier — simply place your bets at the Jockey Club’s fully computerized on-course betting terminals.

Welcome drink and a buffet meal will be served.

Tour date: 22 February 2004
Duration of tour: Approximately 5 hours
Tour cost: HK$440.00 / US$57.00 per person

China Tours

Shenzhen Tour
Travel by coach from Hong Kong to Shenzhen. After crossing the border, visit to the Terracotta Warriors and Horses Exhibition from Xian and then the China Folk Culture Village. The 180,000 square metre ‘Village’ includes typical homes of 21 national minority groups and illustrates the diverse forms of ethnic folk art in China. After dinner, enjoy a wonderful performance which blends modern technology with traditional Chinese dance, acrobatics and opera.

Tour date: : 2 February 2004
Duration of tour: Approximately 8 hours (on join-in basis)
Tour cost: HK$780.00 / US$100.00 per person

2 Nights/3 Days Guilin Scenic Tour
Leave Hong Kong by evening flight to the most scenic landscape of China — Guilin. Its unique and wondrous scenery has inspired artists and poets for centuries. The highlight of your visit includes the famous Li-River cruise — giving you the sensation of being carried backwards in time through a traditional Chinese painting — and the Reed Flute Cave.

Tour dates: 22–24 February 2004
Tour cost: Twin sharing: HK$3,870.00 / US$499.00 per person
Single room: HK$4,380.00 / US$565.00 per person
Hotel accommodation: Guilin: Sheraton Hotel Guilin

3 Nights/4 Days Beijing Tour
Beijing is the capital city of the People’s Republic of China and the designated Olympic City for 2008! To enjoy the beauty and grandeur of this magnificent city, visits to the famous Imperial Palace, historic Tian’anmen Square, the beautiful Summer Palace, the Temple of Heaven and the Great Wall — reportedly the only man-made structure visible from the moon — are a must. Of course, no trip to Beijing would be complete without sampling Peking Duck!

Tour dates: 22–25 February 2004
Tour cost: Twin sharing: HK$6,165.00 / US$795.00 per person
Single room: HK$7,440.00 / US$960.00 per person
Hotel accommodation: Beijing: The Kerry Centre Hotel Beijing

5 Nights/6 Days Xi’an & Beijing Historical Tour
Visit majestic Xi’an by morning flight. Xi’an was the capital city of eleven dynasties and is one of the most important cradles of Chinese civilization. Sightseeing includes a visit to the world-famous Terracotta Warriors & Figures, the neolithic Banpo Village, Big Wild Goose Pagoda and City Wall. Then fly to Beijing, the capital city of the People’s Republic of China on day 3, and see the famous Imperial Palace, Tian’anmen Square, the beautiful Summer Palace, the Temple of Heaven and the Great Wall — the only man-made object visible from the moon — and sample delectable Peking Duck.

Tour dates: 22–27 February 2004
Tour cost: Twin sharing: HK$9,265.00 / US$1,195.00 per person
Single room: HK$11,140.00 / US$1,430.00 per person
Hotel accommodation: Xian: Hyatt Regency Xian
Beijing: The Kerry Centre Hotel Beijing

About Hong Kong

The Conference venue
The Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre
HKCEC, voted ‘Asia Pacific’s Leading Conference Centre 2002’ at the 9th World Travel Awards, is located on the waterfront of the world famous Victoria Harbour. This magnificent state-of-the-art venue is well-connected by public transport, and within 15 minutes’ travel from all designated conference hotels on Hong Kong Island. There are seven restaurants located inside the HKCEC building to cater for your lunch needs. Each offers its own special theme and cuisine. A set lunch can be enjoyed for about US$10. In addition, an amazing array of eateries, coffee houses, international fast food chains, restaurants and pubs (over 500!!) can be found within 10 minutes’ walk from the HKCEC. The cost of lunch in these places is between US$3 and $10 per head.

Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre
1 Expo Drive, Wanchai, Hong Kong
Tel: (852) 2582 8888; Fax: (852) 2802 7284;
Website: www.hkcec.com.hk

The city
Hong Kong, located on the southern coast of China, is a Special Administrative Region of China with a population of 7 million people. It is one of the safest cities in the world by day and night. In addition to being an ultra-modern business centre, the city is a cultural melting pot where East meets West: ancient Chinese temples stand next to towering corporate skyscrapers of glass and steel; and local dai pai dongs (hawker stalls) thrive alongside the finest international restaurants. Visitors to this bustling city of life will be able to dine on a variety of exotic cuisines, shop till they drop, and enjoy non-stop nightlife.

Arriving in Hong Kong
If you have booked your hotel accommodation through our handling agent, Swire Travel Ltd., you will be greeted by the representative at Arrival Hall B after you have cleared customs. Airport transfer to your hotel will be provided (please see map of Airport Arrival Hall on page 15).

Other delegates are also welcome to use the hotel transfer service offered by Swire Travel (counter opening hours from 6:30am until midnight). The transfer will take you directly to the hotel and the charge is HK$100.

If you prefer to find your own way to the city, there is a choice of:

1. Airport Express
Operated by the MTR Corporation, the high-speed Airport Express rail service takes passengers to Hong Kong Station in Central, via Tsing Yi and Kowloon, in about 23 minutes. The one-way adult fare from the airport to Hong Kong Island is HK$100. Trains run every 15 minutes from 5.50am – 1:00am daily and free shuttle-bus services to major hotels are available for users of the Airport Express. For more information, please visit the website at http://www.hongkongairport.com/eng/ague/airportex.html.

2. City Flyer bus services
The City Flyer provides an efficient bus service from the airport to most of the major hotels in the city. The A11 (HK$40) has drop-off points near the Empire Hotel (Stop 9), Charterhouse Hotel and South Pacific Hotel (Stop 12) while the A12 (HK$45) serves the Grand Hyatt, Harbour View International House and the Renaissance Harbour View Hotel (Stop 7). For those staying on the Kowloon side, the A21 (HK$33) serves the Marco Polo Hong Kong Hotel (Stop 14) and the Park Hotel (Stop 18). All these buses depart at 10 to 15 minute intervals. From midnight to 5:00 am, the A11 and A21
The HK dollar is pegged to the US dollar at a rate of HK$7.8 to US$1 though the rate does vary slightly from time to time.

**Visa requirements**

Visitors to Hong Kong must hold a valid passport, which should be valid for at least one month after your planned departure date from Hong Kong. For some nationalities, this condition extends to six months. Nationals from over 170 countries require no pre-arrival visa to enter Hong Kong for short visits. Please visit the HKSAR Immigration Department’s homepage at [http://www.info.gov.hk/immd/english/topical/5.htm](http://www.info.gov.hk/immd/english/topical/5.htm) for more details.

**Accommodation**

The Secretariat has negotiated a range of hotels for your selection, all of which are easily accessible by foot or public transport. For reservation or details, please visit the conference website at [http://www.ouhk.edu.hk/hk2004/](http://www.ouhk.edu.hk/hk2004/).

If you prefer to make your own accommodation arrangements, you may wish to visit [www.hotels.scmp.com](http://www.hotels.scmp.com).

**Electricity and water**

The voltage in Hong Kong is 220 volts (50 cycles). All tap water direct from government mains in Hong Kong satisfies the United Nations World Health Organization standards. Bottled water is widely available.

**Travel guide**

Hong Kong Tourism Board provides comprehensive information regarding visitor guides, maps and related travel information. Please visit their homepage at [http://www.discoverhongkong.com](http://www.discoverhongkong.com).

Credit cards are widely accepted in hotels, supermarkets, major restaurants and retail outlets, though a minimum purchase may be required in some shops.

**For assistance in planning your travel, including flight, accommodation and visa arrangements, please feel free to contact our handling agent, Swire Travel Ltd, at Tel: (852) 2579 6818; Fax: (852) 2590 0099; or Email: icde2004@swiretravel.com.**

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**General**


**Weather**

Hong Kong is cool in the month of February. Daytime temperatures average about 19 degrees and the evenings are a few degrees cooler. To obtain a five-day weather forecast around the Conference period, please visit the Hong Kong Observatory website at [http://www.info.gov.hk/hko](http://www.info.gov.hk/hko).

**Currency**

The unit of currency is the Hong Kong dollar (HK$). Notes are issued by the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited, the Standard Chartered Bank and the Bank of China. Most foreign currencies and travellers’ cheques are easily changed in Hong Kong either at banks, hotels or money changers. American Express cardholders have access to Jetco automated teller machines (ATMs) and can withdraw local currency and travellers’ cheques at Express Cash ATMs. Holders of Visa and MasterCard can also obtain local currency from the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation ‘Electronic Money’ ATM at convenient locations in town.