9th PhD Student Workshop 2015 (Suzhou) cum 10th Anniversary of USTC-CityU Joint PhD Collaboration Scheme
6 – 7 June, 2015
Suzhou, China

FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT AND CALL FOR PAPERS

Organized by: Chow Yei Ching School of Graduate Studies (SGS), City University of Hong Kong (CityU) in conjunction with Graduate School, University of Science and Technology of China (USTC)

INTRODUCTION

The 9th PhD Student Workshop 2015 (Suzhou) cum 10th Anniversary of USTC-CityU Joint PhD Collaboration Scheme [第九届博士生学术论坛暨中科大－香港城大联合培养博士生项目十周年] will be organized at USTC-CityU Joint Advanced Research Centre (Suzhou), China in Suzhou from 6 to 7 June 2015. It aims to provide a platform for Hong Kong and Mainland students of project teams under the Mainland Collaboration Schemes to meet and discuss their research findings and the latest advancements in their own disciplines. The Workshop also aims to advance the participants’ understanding of important issues and frontier research in their own research areas.

KEY AREAS

The Workshop will primarily focus on the following 9 key areas:

1. Applied Mathematics
2. Business and Management
3. Control and Mechatronics
4. Fire Safety and Nanomechanics
5. Web Services
6. Environmental Science
7. Information Engineering
8. Computational and Theoretical Materials Physics
9. Communications, Linguistics and Public Policy

REGISTRATION

Interested students/alumni should complete the Registration Form and return it to the Workshop Secretariat on or before 31 March 2015 for registration.

WORKSHOP FORMAT AND CALL FOR PAPERS

The Workshop will consist of oral presentations given by Hong Kong and Mainland student participants and other academic activities. English will be the official language for the entire event. Participants should submit an abstract of about 200 words (including abstract’s title, authors’ names and their affiliations) to the Workshop Secretariat on or before 15 April 2015 via e-mail (sgworkshop@cityu.edu.hk).

ELIGIBILITY

- Students under all CityU’s Mainland Collaboration Schemes
- Alumni under USTC-CityU Joint PhD Collaboration Scheme
- PhD students of CityU and USTC who are not under the Mainland Collaboration Schemes
SPONSORSHIP

Sponsorship will only be provided to support travel and accommodation expenses for students and alumni, who will present a paper in the Workshop.

For CityU regular PhD students, sponsorship could be obtained by applying for the Conference Grant (applicable to UGC-funded students only) to cover only the cost of an economy-class return air ticket to travel between Hong Kong and Shanghai. The grant so awarded will not be counted towards the quota of Conference Grant. Reimbursement will be made upon the presentation of original receipt(s) and boarding passes after the Workshop on actual expense incurred up to a maximum amount of 1) HK$4,000 (for flying from Hong Kong airport) or 2) ¥2,900 (for flying from Shenzhen airport) plus HK$200 (for traveling between Hong Kong and Shenzhen airport). In applying for conference grant and reimbursement, students are advised to observe “Guidelines for the Award of Conference Grant” as detailed in the Guidebook for Research Degree Studies.

For PhD students under CityU’s Mainland Collaboration Schemes, funding support will be provided for (i) a round-trip economy class air ticket between Hong Kong/Shenzhen/partner university and Shanghai, or (ii) a round-trip economy class ticket by train between partner university and Suzhou. The following table illustrates the funding support for students stationed in various study locations:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student’s Location</th>
<th>Study Means of Transportation</th>
<th>Approximate Travel Time</th>
<th>Financial Allowance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hefei</td>
<td>By Train/ Bus</td>
<td>2.5 hours</td>
<td>¥ 330</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wuhan</td>
<td>By Train</td>
<td>5.5 hours</td>
<td>¥ 530</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Xian</td>
<td>By Air</td>
<td>3 hours</td>
<td>¥ 2900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shenzhen</td>
<td>By Air</td>
<td>2.5 hours</td>
<td>¥ 2900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hong Kong</td>
<td>By Air</td>
<td>3 hours</td>
<td>HK$ 4,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For alumni under USTC-CityU Collaboration Scheme, they will need to pay for their own travel and accommodation expenses, as well as the Alumni Dinner scheduled on 5 June 2015. Meanwhile, the Workshop lunch and dinner will be sponsored by SGS. All alumni are encouraged to give an oral presentation on their latest work in academic/research field or in the industry. As an incentive, SGS will provide free hotel accommodation (maximum 3 nights) for those alumni who give an oral presentation at the Workshop.

Reimbursement will be made upon presentation of two written quotations (applicable to air transportation only), original receipt(s), boarding passes and a copy of presentation paper, after the Workshop on actual expense. The air/train/bus ticket must have a travel date within the valid period from 3 June to 10 June 2015. Tickets with travel dates outside the valid period will not be reimbursed.

Maximum 3 night accommodation will be provided for eligible student and alumni participants from 5 June to 8 June 2015 (inclusive). Please fill out the Registration Form and return it to the Workshop Secretariat on or before 31 March 2015.

The sponsorship is conditional upon the fact that the speaker is a registered student at CityU at the time the Workshop is held or an alumnus of the USTC-CityU Scheme. The sponsorship approved only applies to this specific Workshop and cannot be used for other purposes.
ABSTRACT PREPARATION
Please refer to the attached “Abstract Guidelines” for details.

WORKSHOP SCHEDULE (TENTATIVE)

**June 5**
- Arrival at Suzhou
- Alumni Dinner

**June 6**
- **Morning:** Opening Ceremony cum Presentation of Peter Ho Conference Scholarships
  - Oral Presentations by Alumni and PhD students
- **Noon:** Workshop Lunch
- **Afternoon:** Oral Presentations by Alumni and PhD students

**June 7**
- **Morning:** Oral Presentations by PhD students
- **Afternoon:** Tour Activity / Oral Presentation (TBC)
- **Evening:** Workshop Dinner

**June 8**
- Departure

WEBSITE
Workshop website address will be announced in the Second Announcement.

REMARKS
Upon completion of this Workshop, the student’s participation may be counted as part of his/her coursework. The credit unit of this Workshop shall be determined by the department in which the student is registered.