



Prizes and Awards

The HKIE Gold Medal 2006 - Ir Prof Charles K Kao



The HKIE Gold Medal 2006 has been presented at the 31st Annual Dinner of the Institution which was successfully held on 14 March 2006. Ir Prof Charles K Kao was the winner of the HKIE Gold Medal Award this year. The selection criteria were precise and rigorous. The Panel of Judges considered all candidates' achievements in as well as their contributions to the profession and to the community. The most

distinguished person was selected for the Award in recognition for his commendable achievement.

Recognised as the "Father of Fibre Optics", Ir Prof Kao's outstanding achievement has received a worldwide recognition. Among his many international honours and awards are the Stewart Ballantine Medal, Rank Prize, L M Ericsson International Prize, Alexander Graham Bell Medal, Marconi International Fellowship, Faraday Medal of IEE, and the Japan Prize.

Ir Prof Kao has devoted his utmost for the betterment of the society and has contributed greatly to engineering profession in practical works. In 1966, Ir Prof Kao published paper outlining key features of fiber-optic telecommunications technology. His pioneering research on fibre optic to the swift communication system used in creating worldwide networks of voice and data transmission has changed the way the world communicates.

Besides concentrating on his practical works, Ir Prof Kao is striving hard for nourishing talents in engineering field. From 1987-1996, he was the Vice-Chancellor of the Chinese University of Hong Kong.

Over the years, Ir Prof Kao has been playing an active role in several professional institutions. He is a Member of National Academy of Engineering (USA), Fellow of the Academia Sinica (Taiwan), Foreign Member of the Royal Swedish Academy of Engineering Sciences IVA (Sweden), Fellow of the Royal Society (UK), Academician of the Chinese Academy of Sciences.