CAREER AND EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN THE EARTH SCIENCES

http://www.hku.hk/earthsci

We make the effort for our students!

Earth Science graduates are needed in general geological and geophysical surveys, engineering geology (to conduct site investigation, slope stability assessment, hydrogeology studies etc.), environmental assessment, natural resources and parks management, petroleum, material and mineral exploration, research, natural hazard monitoring and mitigation, gemology, and as teachers.

Po Shan Road Landslide 1972

Most Earth Science Graduates Get Earth Science Jobs

- 70% of our Graduates over a 7 year period (1996-2003) directly got jobs in Earth Science. Most geological jobs are engineering, government and environmental.
- **Work overseas:** During the last 2 years, 4 of our graduates have been employed by geotechnical firms in the United Kingdom. One of them is now on a training scheme leading to chartered engineer status.
- Over 95% of geological jobs obtained by our graduates are in Hong Kong.
- Many jobs are in Engineering – Contracting & Consulting, Civil Service, Materials Supply and Testing, Geographical Information Systems, Gemology, Geophysics Consultants, Environmental Consulting, Academic & Applied Research

Internship Programme

Undergraduate Summer Placement and Resident Internship Programme

Geological Mapping

The Department of Earth Sciences is proactive in finding summer jobs and internship positions for its students. These positions help students understand the nature of various employment sectors, help make useful contacts for graduation, and are an opportunity to earn money during the vacation periods. Many students eventually get jobs with the companies where they have worked as interns. Summer job employment sectors include the Civil Service, construction contractors and consultants, materials supply and testing, environmental consultants and jewelry. DES third year students may also apply to participate in a **Resident Internship Programme** organized by the Department in collaboration with local contracting firms to provide for the students opportunities to learn about the typical work of the engineering geologist. The mentoring firm arranges for the students to undertake ground investigation work at site under the supervision of their in-house geologists, generally during weekends, reading week, or other times to be arranged by the mentoring firm and the students.

Earth Scientists in Professional Bodies

Engineering Geology Site Investigation

Earth Science undergraduates can become members of professional bodies, providing for them the opportunity to be recognized as a professional geoscientist. With an earth sciences degree and several years of relevant work experience, our graduates can apply to become a chartered geologist with the Geological Society of the UK. Building Department and the Geotechnical Engineering Office of HKSAR also have registration schemes for geologists and competent persons. Other professional accreditation agencies include the Institute of Materials, Minerals and Mining, Institution of Quarrying and the Hong Kong Waste Management Association. Establishment of a **Certified Professional Geologist** scheme is being actively pursued by the Geological Society of China in China and the Geological Society of Hong Kong independently.

Earth Sciences Education

The Hong Kong Education Reform Consultancy Report has called for the strengthening of the earth science components in the school curriculum. The demand for teachers with earth science knowledge will likely increase in the near future. Also, it is now possible for students to take major and minor, or double major in earth science and education at HKU. The proposal of a **Post-graduate Certificate in Earth Science Teaching** is also being studied.