



The Hong Kong Web Symposium Consortium Limited

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An announcement concerning The Seventh Hong Kong Web Symposium (Sym7) for school educators and administrators

As many school teachers are aware, the Quality Education Fund (QEF) supported school teachers to attend the Sixth Hong Kong Web Symposium (Sym6) held in The City University last June. This year, it will do so again for teachers' attendance at The Seventh Hong Kong Web Symposium (Sym7) from 2-3 May, on a first-come, first-served basis. The Education Department has kindly agreed, again, to inform, Heads by mid March of this opportunity for nominated, free participation. A nomination form is also downloadable from this website and teachers interested in participating should ask their Heads to endorse their nomination and have the form faxed to the Education Department as soon as possible, but **no later than Wednesday 18 April 2001**.

This year, Sym 7 will be incorporated into a premier international conference as the education track. This conference is the Tenth International World Wide Web (WWW10). The WWWn series tend to be highly technical and research oriented, as it is the endorsed conference of the International World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) chaired by the inventor of the Web, Tim Berners-Lee. Because it is the first time that it has incorporated education, the emphasis is still oriented towards research and global development, as it can be seen from the preliminary programme of the WWW10, which is available at this URL: <http://www10.org.hk/>. But it contains enough variety and challenging topics for all sectors in the applications of the web for lifelong learning.

Our reasons for urging you to attend are these:

- Many of the WWW10/Sym7 presentations are on global issues and developments which are going to have an impact in Hong Kong & China mainland.
- Educators can benefit by networking with all kinds of people to share experience and aspirations, and conferences are the best way to meet and make friends to continue the dialogue long after the face-to-face meetings.
- Education involves trying out different methods of teaching and learning and it will help if you understand what the problems are with the current IT software and what new developments are on the horizon, by listening to other people reporting on their work and their future plans.
- Education involves certain members of the school staff who need to understand the technologies involved, so that the system and the network can be better administered and managed to serve all teachers and students, and WWW10 provides a good opportunity for them to meet the experts and learn from them.
- Good presenters have a way of making a difficult, technical subject clear and comprehensible even for the layman and novices, so you should find that you can still learn from them.

Therefore, this sharing and meeting with the world's best minds on Web and Internet technologies will help open up new possibilities and opportunities to accelerate Hong Kong's already rapid deployment of IT in schooling, link up education with business and industry; and provide fresh impetus to the use of IT in staff development.

Most of the Sym7 programme details are already on the Web Sym Consortium site:

<http://www.hkwebsym.org.hk/2001/>. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact Angela Castro or her Secretary Annie Cheng on tel no: 2249-1871; fax no. 2547-4442. Or you can email any

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