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One-World-Fountain Unveiled at HKUST

A fountain representing the harmony of man and the world was opened today (3 October) at the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST), adding another cultural dimension to the campus.

Entitled One-World-Fountain, the sculpture was commissioned by Dr Helmut Sohmen, a University Court member and Chairman of World-Wide Shipping Agency Ltd and donated to the University.

The water-light-stone-space sculpture was created by Prof Hans Muhr, an Austrian sculptor who is famous for his design of water fountains and sculptures, now found in major cities around the world including Vienna, Berlin, Budapest, Chicago and Leipzig. The One-World-Fountain at HKUST is his first symbolic water sculpture in Asia.



In celebration of the University's 10th anniversary, the fountain was officially opened by Dr Sepp Rieder, Vice Mayor of the City of Vienna; Senator KR Walter Nettig, Chairman of the Vienna Chamber of Commerce and Industry; Dr Sohmen; Prof Muhr; Prof Paul C W Chu, President of HKUST; and Prof Chia-Wei Woo, President Emeritus and Director of HKUST's Europe Institute.

The fountain is composed of five stones each from a different continent. The stone Asia is

located in the center of the sculpture, communicating with other continents through the ever-flowing water. "One world, one water. The fountain represents a harmony of nature with man, and a synergy of technology and worldwide communication," says Prof Muhr. "The stones in harmony with the rushing water, and in combination with the play of light and space become an emotional and meditative experience," he explains.

Prof Hans Muhr was born in Graz, Austria in 1934. He began his career as an educator and teacher, before turning to water sculpture in 1972. In March 2001, Prof Muhr had his Viennese Drinking Fountain installed at Hong Kong Park.

