



## News from Princeton University School of Engineering and Applied Science

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### Asian Entrepreneur Named First Distinguished Lecturer for the School of Engineering and Applied Science

PRINCETON, N.J.—Gordon Wu, a successful entrepreneur who built a multimillion dollar business in the Asia-Pacific region, has been named the first Distinguished Lecturer of Princeton University's School of Engineering and Applied Science. Mr. Wu, a graduate of the class of 1958 with a bachelor's degree in civil engineering, will be on campus to speak Feb. 3 and 4.

Mr. Wu founded his business, Hopewell Construction, in 1962 with a \$500,000 investment from his father. Today, Hopewell Holdings Ltd., headquartered in Hong Kong, is one of the leading civil engineering and construction firms in East Asia. Named in remembrance of a town near Princeton, Hopewell Holding's 1992 profits are estimated to be about \$200 million, twice the previous year's profits. Mr. Wu serves as managing director of the international conglomerate.

One of the company's most important construction projects, the Canton-Hong Kong Superhighway, was inspired by the New Jersey Turnpike. The 76-mile superhighway will connect the cities of Guangzhou (Canton) and Shenshen in the Pearl River Delta in China's southern Guangdong province. Shenshen, located just across the boarder from Hong Kong, leads China in industrial output, economic growth, and per capita income. The superhighway will reduce driving time from Hong Kong to Guangzhou from seven hours to 75 minutes, effectively eliminating a major obstacle to future economic growth in the Delta. Construction should be complete this year. Mr. Wu, noted for his grand ideas and his ability to work with the government of the People's Republic of China, also hold the rights to develop shopping centers at 13 intersections on either side of the super highway. By using land under the elevated sections of the highway, Mr. Wu plans to develop gas stations, snack bars, hotels, offices, convention halls, and discount stores.

Hopewell Holdings recently negotiated an agreement to build a second section of the superhighway to connect Canton to Zhuhai. This 68-mile section is expected to open in 1996 and will make Macau more accessible to commercial trade. Hopewell Holdings is entitled to collect tolls on both roadways for a period of 10 to 12 years, but the company will ultimately have to relinquish ownership to the Chinese government.

As the inaugural presenter of the School of Engineering and Applied Science Distinguished Lecture Series, Mr. Wu will deliver two open lectures. The first lecture, titled "Asian Boom and U.S. Stagnation—as Seen by an Asian Alumnus," will be at 4 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 3, 1993, in Room C207 in the Engineering Quadrangle. The second lecture, titled "Engineers as Entrepreneurs of Tomorrow," is scheduled for 4 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 4, in the same location. Mr. Wu is the second most generous living Princeton alumnus. To date, he has given and pledged more than \$14 million to the University.

The Distinguished Lecturer award was created by the School of Engineering and Applied Science to honor outstanding achievements and accomplishments by alumni and friends.