

# Structural engineering academic earns prestigious Australian honour

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Chair Professor Sritawat Kitipornchai, Head of the Department of Building and Construction at City University of Hong Kong (CityU), has been elected Fellow of the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering (ATSE). The accolade goes to Professor Kitipornchai in recognition of his outstanding research and world-renowned publications in structural engineering and solid mechanics.

The ATSE, an independent body of 800 eminent Australian technologists, commended Professor Kitipornchai for his pioneering research into structural engineering and mechanics, which has found widespread practical application.

An accomplished structural engineer with more than 30 years of experience in teaching, research and consulting, Professor Kitipornchai is a leading global expert in the fields of structural stability, thin-walled structures and transmission towers. In recent years he has gained a substantial reputation for research into the modelling of structures made of smart materials and novel inhomogeneous functionally graded materials.

The author or co-author of six books, Professor Kitipornchai has published over 250 journal papers and holds two patents. Since 1993 he has been Asia-Pacific

Regional Editor for *Engineering Structures*, the most prestigious journal in its field.

Professor Kitipornchai said he was honoured to accept the ATSE Fellowship and considered it a highlight of a rewarding career as a structural engineering academic that has spanned almost four decades. "I'm pleased and excited that my work has helped promote the application of scientific and engineering knowledge for practical uses", he continued.

Since his appointment as Head in 2005, Professor Kitipornchai has developed the Department of Building and Construction into a very professionally oriented department.

"There is a need to strike a balance between practical expertise and research in our teaching, as both are important for the development of the building industry", he noted. "I'm proud that we have been able to excel in both".

A significant departmental achievement under Professor Kitipornchai's leadership is the establishment of one of the most advanced wind tunnel facilities in the region, which has enhanced CityU's research in the important areas of wind engineering, urban development planning and the environment.

His broader service to the University has included, amongst other roles, as Chairman of the College Research Committee for seven years and the Teaching Excellence Awards Selection Panel for three years.

Professor Kitipornchai is also involved in promoting exchanges with academic institutions around the world, particularly with those in Australia, a country with which he has had a long association.

After graduating from Monash University in 1968 with first class honours in civil engineering, Professor Kitipornchai completed his PhD on the stability of steel structures at the University of Sydney in 1973. He then worked as Senior Design Engineer at Rankine and Hill, a leading structural consultancy in Sydney, before joining the Department of Civil Engineering at the University of Queensland in 1976. Promotion to professor followed in 1993.

Professor Kitipornchai took the Chair Professorship at CityU's Department of Building and Construction in 2000. Further recognition came in 2004 with an appointment as Professor Emeritus by the University of Queensland. In 2007 he was awarded Monash University's Civil Engineering Alumnus of the Year.

Professor Kitipornchai's election as ATSE Fellow is fitting recognition of an exceptional career.





# 結構工程學者獲得 澳洲殊榮

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香港城市大學（城大）建築系系主任陳錦順講座教授獲澳洲技術科學及工程學院選為院士。這一榮銜旨在表彰他在結構工程及固體力學領域的卓越研究及論著。

澳洲技術科學及工程學院是一個擁有800位傑出澳洲技術專業人士為會員的獨立組織。學院讚揚陳教授在結構工程及力學方面的卓越創新研究，這些研究獲得廣泛實際應用。

陳教授從事教學、研究及顧問工作逾30年，是結構穩定性、薄壁結構及高壓輸電塔等領域的國際權威及傑出結構工程師。近年他研究以智能及功能梯度材料製作建模結構，並因此贏得極高榮譽。

陳教授以獨著或合著形式出版了六本著作，發表過逾250篇期刊論文，並擁有兩項專利。自1993年以來，陳教授擔任世界著名期刊《工程結構》的亞洲區主編。

陳教授對獲選為澳洲技術及工程學院院士感到榮幸，認為這是對他近40年的結構工程學術事業的肯定。他說：「我很高興自己的工作能夠協助推廣科學及工程知識的實際應用。」

陳教授2005年出任建築系系主任，在他的帶領下，建築系已發展成為專業導向的學系。「我們的教學須平衡和兼顧實際專門技術和研究，因為兩者對建築業的發展均有重要影響。我感到自豪的是，我們在這兩方面均表現超卓，」陳教授說。

陳教授任內的重大成就之一，是設立了亞太區最先進的風洞設施。這一設施將提升城大在風力工程、市區發展規劃及環境等重要領域的研究。

此外，他為大學貢獻良多，包括擔任學院研究委員會主席七年以及傑出教學獎評審小組主席三年。

陳教授亦致力推動與海外學府的學術交流，特別是與他有深厚淵緣的澳洲學府。

陳教授於1968年在澳洲莫納什大學獲一級榮譽土木工程學位，1973年在悉尼大學以研究鋼結構的穩定性獲博士學位。他曾於悉尼著名的結構顧問公司Rankine and Hill任高級設計工程師，後於1976年受聘於昆士蘭大學土木工程系，並於1993年晉升為教授。他於2000年獲委任為城大建築系講座教授，2004年獲昆士蘭大學委任為榮譽教授，並於2007年獲選為莫納什大學土木工程系年度傑出校友。

陳教授在事業上成就超卓，獲選為澳洲技術科學及工程學院院士乃實至名歸。

## Media coverage 媒體報導：

### Newspaper 報章

19-12-2009 *Ta Kung Pao* 《大公報》

### Website 網頁

16-11-2009 *CityU NewsCentre* 《城大新聞網》