The first articulation arrangement of SHAPE was signed with the Leeds Metropolitan University in 1999/00. Since then, significant number of topup degree programmes catered for internal Higher Diploma graduates have been offered in collaboration with 12 university partners leading to their awards. These partners include universities from the United Kingdom, Australia, Chinese Mainland and Hong Kong. These topups cover areas of professional Accounting, Finance, Business Management, Applied Science, Chinese Medicinal Pharmaceutics, Early Childhood Education, Computer Science, IT, Engineering, Multimedia Entertainment Technology, Design (Interior), Visual Communication, Hospitality, Tourism, Leisure and Sports. It is our plan to ultimately have articulation arrangements for every HD that we offer in order to provide an internal through-train ladder. We are planning for 7 teaching sites for the September semester – namely, SBI, and IVE’s of Chai Wan, Lee Wai Lee, Tsing Yi, , Shatin, Kwun Tong and Morrison Hill. In the coming summer months, we shall be busy with promotions and student registrations. Last but not least, we are planning for a central SHAPE website in order to provide a one-stop-shop information platform for prospective students, and enquirers. May I wish everybody a pleasant summer.
ACCA Charity Rickshaw Race

A team of our Leeds Metropolitan University (Leeds Met) Business students participated again this year in the Charity Rickshaw Race of the 9th Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA) Charity Fun Day on Sunday, 22 January 2006 at the Central District. This is the third year in a row that the Leeds Met students participated in the fundraising event. Altogether there were 30 teams from local institutions, accounting firms and professional bodies, and the Leeds Met team came 6th in the competition.

Student Exchange

3 Singaporean students joined the Hong Kong programme of University of Manchester’s BSc (Hons) in Management. They took the local module “International Human Resource Management” which was conducted by a professor from Manchester. To welcome the students, Dr Anthony Tam (Director of SHAPE) and Ms Irene Wong (Course Coordinator) invited the students for dinner on 11 January 2006. Students said, “We are very excited to visit Hong Kong and share experiences with local students. Thanks SHAPE for organizing the logistics, and make the exchange possible.”

A total of 515 new graduates attended the congregation ceremonies held in October and November 2005, as well as in March 2006. They came from three of our partner universities --- Leeds Metropolitan University, University of London (Queen Mary), and University of Northumbria at Newcastle.
We have 3 new university partners joining our “big” family – Sheffield Hallam University, Nottingham Trent University and University of South Australia. 8 new topup programmes will be available to our related higher diploma graduates in tourism and leisure related discipline and child care discipline. The following programmes have already been approved by the EMB, and will be offered in September 2006.

**Sheffield Hallam University – to be offered in Chai Wan campus**
- BSc (Hons) Tourism Management
- BSc (Hons) Leisure Events Management
- BSc (Hons) Sport Management
- BSc (Hons) Hospitality Business Management

**Nottingham Trent University – to be offered in Kwai Chung campus**
- BA (Hons) Fashion Design
- BA (Hons) International Fashion Business

**University of South Australia – to be offered in Lee Wai Lee campus**
- Bachelor of education (Early Childhood Education)
- Bachelor of Education (Early Childhood Education) (with honours)
**Leeds Met Scholarship to Outstanding Students in BA (Hons) Marketing**

Two BA(Hons) Marketing students, Miss Chan Yu Fan Florence and Miss Wong Sau Lan Katy, have been awarded a scholarship of $6,000 each from the Leeds Metropolitan University for their outstanding academic performance. They both expressed that the top-up degree enabled them to equip with relevant knowledge and skills suitable for employment and, at the same time, enhance their personal and problem solving skills.

**Leeds Met Scholarship to SBI needy students**

Leeds Met again donates 10 scholarships to outstanding students from the School of Business and Information Systems (SBI). The ceremony was officiated by the Executive Director, VTC and attended by Council member Mr. Clement Chen, JP, on 10th May. According to the SBI Director, Dr Anthony Tam, the “Scholarship” campaign facilitates the awareness of SBI within the community.

**VTC and Leeds Met Re-recognition Exercise**

Vocational Training Council first signed a partnership agreement with the Leeds Metropolitan University and had gone through the “recognition” event in 1999. The current round of “re-recognition” took place from 21st-22nd March 2006 with the Leeds Met Panel visiting VTC in Hong Kong. This is part and parcel of the Leeds Met’s quality assurance process. SHAPE has been given the approval again to offer Leeds Met programmes for another 5 years. On 21st March 2006, the Panel visited several IVE campuses at Morrison Hill, Tsing Yi and SBI, and members were impressed by the quality of the facilities available to both staff and students.
Information Seminars
Literally hundred of information seminars were being held throughout the various IVE/SBI campuses. Final year students of HD, or our alumni came to listen to these seminars, and discover the opportunities made available to them. In some of these programmes, both full-time and part-time modes of study are available to suit the needs of the learners. Please visit our websites for programme details.

Alistair Harvey Foundation
Mr. John Ruddy, Trust Protector of the Alistair Harvey Foundation came to Hong Kong on 14th June, and joined the IVE Screening Panel in short-listing candidates for the Foundation scholarships. Eight scholarships per year each worth 15,000 to 20,000 pound sterling are made available to IVE HD graduates from Engineering, and related areas to pursue their conversion (topup) degrees in the UK.

University of Alberta, Canada
President Indira Samerasekera of University of Alberta visited her Hong Kong alumni on 4th March 2006, and had a casual time with the Chair of its HK alumni association, Dr. Anthony Tam.

Ministerial Visit
A team of UK academics led by their Minister of Education visited VTC on 14 May, and held discussions with senior colleagues including Dr. Carrie Willis, Dr. K.K. Lo, and Evon Ying.
Hertfordshire University
A team of academics from the Hertfordshire University visited SHAPE offices in Chai Wan, and Tsing Yi on 7 April. They were particularly interested in the toy design and video games laboratories at Tsing Yi.