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MEETING PROFESSIONALS INTERNATIONAL

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

Contact: Kristen Kouk  
Meeting Professionals International  
(972) 702-3060  
[KKouk@mpiweb.org](mailto:KKouk@mpiweb.org)

## **MPI ADDS GLOBAL TRAINING CENTER AT HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY**

DALLAS (October 16, 2009) Meeting Professionals International (MPI) is honoured to announce today the addition of Hong Kong Polytechnic University as an MPI Global Training Center. As business guidelines evolve, the Centers will deliver globally recognized skills and competencies on a local level for meeting and business event professionals. Over the next two years, MPI anticipates partnering with 14 – 15 educational institutions worldwide similar to the widely respected Hong Kong Polytechnic University.

“We are rapidly expanding our available locations for individuals in the meeting and business event industry to receive hands-on education at the local level,” said Didier Scaillet, Chief Development Officer for MPI. “Hong Kong Polytechnic University brings many years of hospitality and event management education experience to the table, meeting key selection criteria and making it a perfect fit as an MPI Global Training Center.”

“Hong Kong’s strategic location at the heart of the world’s fastest growing economies along with its sophisticated infrastructure, easy accessibility, business-friendly environment, professional expertise and vibrant lifestyle converge to become what is recognized as Asia’s premier destination for the MICE industry,” said Professor Kaye Chon, Chair Professor and Director of the School of Hotel and Tourism Management at Hong Kong Polytechnic University. “As a global centre of excellence for the 21st century, the School is naturally positioned to lead the development of the industry’s future leaders.”

Hong Kong Polytechnic University’s School of Hotel and Tourism Management is a leading provider of hospitality education in the Asia-Pacific Region. It is ranked No. 4 among the world’s top hotel and tourism schools based on research and scholarship, according to a study published in the Journal of Hospitality & Tourism Research in 2005.

One of the deciding factors for MPI, when choosing a Global Training Center, is the prevalence of a robust business or management school. The basis for this decision is based on meetings and events needing to be viewed as a business performance tool to enhance communication, motivation and learning. MPI partners with schools and organizations, such as Hong Kong Polytechnic University, to provide training programs that will enhance meeting professionals’ business skills at all levels.

The MPI Global Training Center for Meetings and Business Events at Hong Kong Polytechnic University will offer a series of certificates and certifications that will allow meeting professionals to accelerate their career development by learning new, relevant skills. The center will offer globally recognized skills and competencies delivered at the local level which will then increase transferability, employability, compensation and recognition for meetings and business event professionals.

Hong Kong Polytechnic University will be joining four previously announced Global Training Centers including, CERAM Business School in France, QMDI in Qatar, Ryerson University in Toronto and San Diego State University in the U.S. You can find more information at [www.mpiglobaltraining.org](http://www.mpiglobaltraining.org).

**About Hong Kong Polytechnic University:**

With 60 academic staff drawing from 18 countries, the School offers programs at levels ranging from PhD to Higher Diploma. It was awarded the 2003 International Society of Travel and Tourism Educators Institutional Achievement Award in recognition of its significant contribution to tourism education, and is the only training centre in the Education and Training Network in Asia recognized by the United Nations World Tourism Organization. For additional information, visit [www.polyu.edu.hk](http://www.polyu.edu.hk).

**About MPI:**

Meeting Professionals International (MPI), the meeting and event industry's largest and most vibrant global community, helps our members thrive by providing human connections to knowledge and ideas, relationships, and marketplaces. MPI membership is comprised of more than 24,000 members belonging to 71 chapters and clubs worldwide. For additional information, visit [www.mpiweb.org](http://www.mpiweb.org).

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