

P R E S S R E L E A S E

Where Europe Trains Talent

The European Union Academic Programme Hong Kong cordially invites you to the following talk + discussion:

“The College of Europe and the European Integration Process - a Parallel Perspective”

Speaker: Prof. Paul Demaret, Rector of the College of Europe

Date/Time: 27 November 2012, 5.00 - 7:00 pm

Venue: Hong Kong Baptist University, Wing Lung Bank Building, WLB 205 (location map attached)

Language: English

If you would like to participate, **please register at euaphk@hkbu.edu.hk**.

‘Over the past 63 years the College of Europe has built an extensive reputation in the field of European Studies, and is thus the leading institution for those wishing to study, understand and literally “live” Europe’ (Paul Demaret)

‘A university known for bringing together the brightest minds of Europe and producing leaders with a distinctly transnational understanding of the world’ (Europe & Me Magazine 9/2012)

The **College of Europe** in Brügge/Belgium and Natolin/Poland: UK Deputy Prime Minister Nick Clegg studied here, as did Helle Thorning-Schmidt, Prime Minister of Denmark and Stephen Kinnock, a Director of the World Economic Forum, Juan Manuel Lopez-Nadal, current Spanish Consul General in Hong Kong, but also graduates of local European Studies programmes. Dubbed by the *Economist* as "an elite finishing school for aspiring Eurocrats", the College awards postgraduate degrees in European International Relations and Diplomacy, Political and Administrative, Economic, Legal or Interdisciplinary Studies. Its teaching/learning quality is renowned worldwide, as is the network of alumni, many of whom have reached senior positions in politics, public administration or business.

The European Union Academic Programme (EUAP) is a consortium of four universities in Hong Kong (Hong Kong Baptist University, The University of Hong Kong, The Chinese University of Hong Kong and Lingnan University), co-financed by the European Union. It is designed to strengthen EU-Hong Kong relations through academic work and enhance the understanding of the EU.



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Many of Europe's most influential public figures have taught or spoken here, from Presidents of National Banks and former Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Prime Ministers, Chancellors to Presidents and Presidents of the European Commission. Even King Juan Carlos I of Spain spoke at the College of Europe.

Founded in 1949 by leading European figures like Winston Churchill, Paul-Henri Spaak and Alcide de Gasperi, the College was the world's first university institute of postgraduate studies and training in European affairs. Its origins date back to the 1948 Hague Congress when Salvador de Madariaga, a Spanish statesman, thinker and writer in exile, proposed the establishment of a College where university graduates from many different countries could study and live together. 63 years on, it remains a unique institution dedicated exclusively to European Studies, and a major think tank for the European Union itself. Since 1993, it has a second campus at Natolin (Warsaw, Poland), a symbol of the end of Europe's unnatural divisions after 1989. In recent years, the College has dedicated considerable resources to the field of European Union – China Relations and the development of EU-China partnerships.

The history of the College and its current academic practice mirror Europe's progress from a war-torn and divided continent to its present form – the highly successful (though ever controversial) European Union and its efforts to engage neighbors far and wide in the development of constructive economic, political and cultural ties.

Links

The College of Europe: <http://www.coleurope.eu/>

College of Europe – Brochure 2012-2013 (pdf): <http://www.coleurope.eu/content/publications/pdf/brochure2012-2013.pdf>

This event is organized by the **European Union Academic Programme Hong Kong**, with additional support from the European Union Office to Hong Kong and Macao and the Department of Government and International Studies / HKBU.

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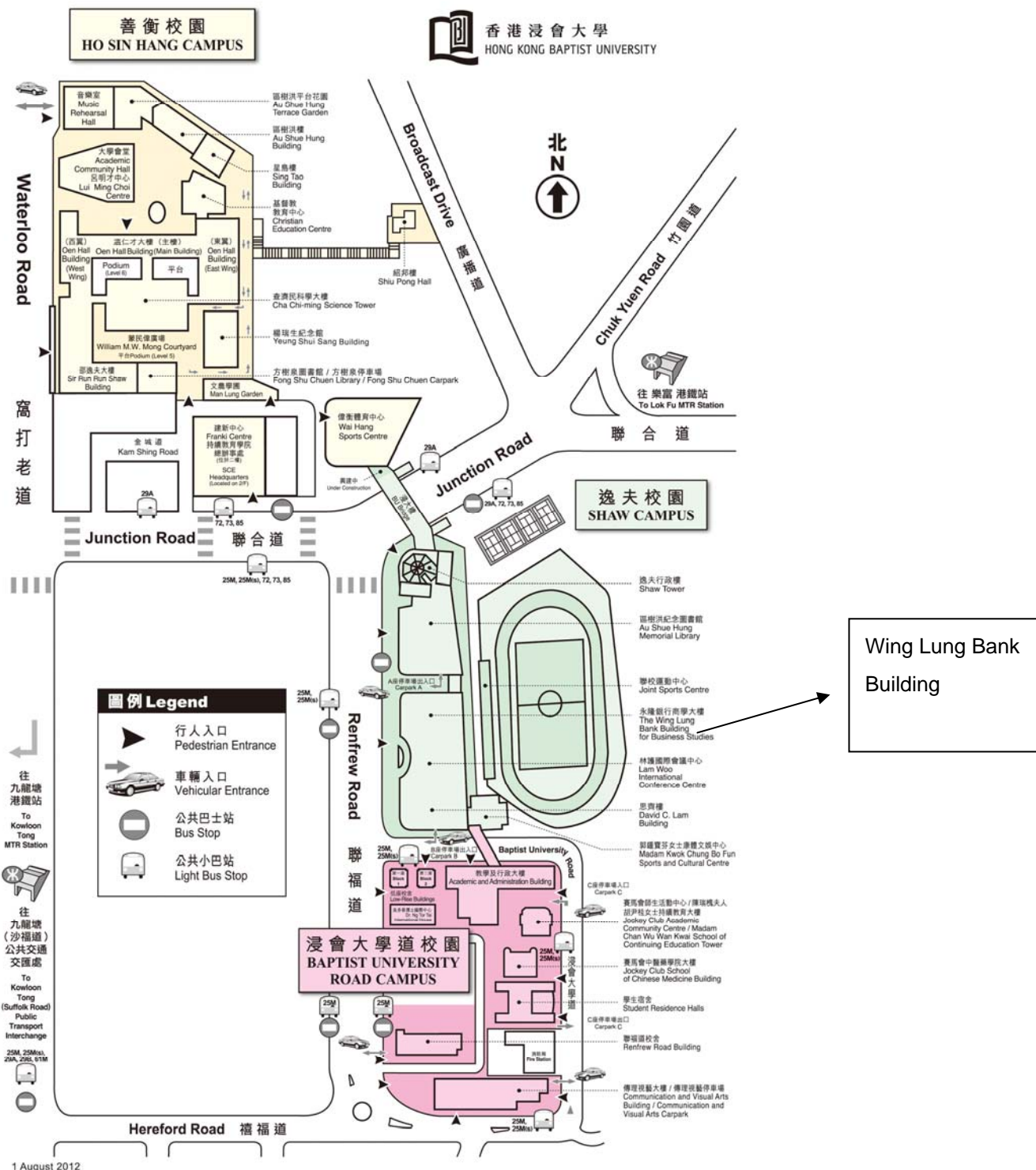


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EUROPEAN UNION ACADEMIC PROGRAMME HONG KONG

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PRESS RELEASE



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