

**Speech by Dr. Elizabeth Quat
President of Internet Professional Association at the
HK ICT Award Kick Off Ceremony on 7 April 2006**

Mr. Ho, Mr. Dickson, Distinguish Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen, Good afternoon.

The Development of the Next Generation Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Professionals has always been one of iProA major concerns. We believe that the ability of our community, particularly from our younger generation, to master and exploit ICT in a creative way is essential for Hong Kong to stay competitive in a globalize economy.

That is why we have set up the iProA Junior Committee in 2001 which is led and Chaired by Students.

In the pass 3 years, the Junior Committee has successfully developed and organized their signature events named Intervarsity Internet Technologies Exposition and Conference (IiTec) which brings together elite tertiary ICT students in Hong Kong to showcase their top final year projects. Through participating in the event, students have various opportunities to exchange ideas, thoughts, skills and insights in the areas of innovation, entrepreneurial spirit, quality research & development, and social responsibility in ICT with other students as well as industry leaders.

We are grateful for the opportunity to collaborate with the HKSAR government this year and widen the spectrum of IiTec by organizing The Hong Kong ICT Award – eYouth Award. The Proposal of the award was written by students, and some of them are here with us. I would like them to stand up so you can recognize them when they contact you.

The programme will continue to be led and organized by student members of the iProA Junior Committee. Please lend your support and be ready to receive their call.

We are very happy that besides organizing the eYouth award, we are also co-organizing the Digital Inclusion Award with HKCSS and the eGovernment Award with HKIE IT Division.

We are looking forward to receive your support and we wish the Hong Kong ICT Award a great success.

Thank you.