



## Technological Integration of Engineering and Medical Science

Prof Britton Chance

University Professor Emeritus of Biophysics

University of Pennsylvania, USA

*US National Medal of Science Recipient 1974*

*Olympic Gold Medalist in Sailing 1952*

Date: November 5, 2008 (Wednesday)

Time: 4:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Venue: Theatre B, Chow Yei Ching Building, HKU

Language: English

**Prof Britton Chance** started his career as an engineer at 13 years old by inventing an auto-steering device for ships using servo optoelectronic control. At 28, he led the Precision Group at the Radiation Laboratory located in MIT to develop analog computers for radar-guided missiles. After WWII, Prof Chance became a biophysicist and searched for “the energy house of life” by studying mitochondrial function. Later, he became interested in developing non-invasive imaging technology (i.e., NMR/MRI and NIR) for study of biological systems. He is presently the Eldridge Reeves Johnson University Professor Emeritus of Biophysics, Physical Chemistry and Radiologic Physics at the University of Pennsylvania, where his research interest is human tissue mapping using optical imaging technology.

Prof Chance, now over 90 years of age, has a highly decorated career as a scientist. He has won the ScD of Cambridge University and numerous awards and honorary degrees, including the US National Medal of Science, an Honorary Degree from Karolinska Institutes (Sweden) and, at a young age, elected memberships in many academies (the Royal Society of London, US National Academy of Sciences, Royal Swedish Academy and the American Philosophical Society). Prof Chance received his PhD in 1940 from University of Pennsylvania in Physical Chemistry, a second PhD in 1942 from Cambridge University. Prof Chance was a member of the US yachting team that won the Olympic Gold in 5.5m Class Sailing in 1952, Helsinki.