Beach System Response to Extreme Weather Events

Presented by Dr. Chiu Hon Chim

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Time: 19:00 – 20:00
Venue: Seminar Room, Craigengower Cricket Club, Happy Valley
Fee: Free of Charge

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Synopsis:

Coastal response to extreme weather events has received attention recently due to the extensive damage caused by Typhoon Mangkhut, as well as increasing pressure to develop new land in the territory. While extensive erosion was apparent immediately after the passing of exceptional storms such as Mangkhut and Hato, the contribution of such rare events to the overall geomorphological evolution of the coast remain debated.

The response and recovery of natural and urban beach systems in Hong Kong during Typhoon Hagupit (2008), Hato (2017) and Mangkhut (2018) were studied. These three storms had the highest storm surge levels in the half century since Typhoon Wanda (1962). The field work characterised (1) the erosive effect of Typhoon Mangkhut; (2) beach recovery processes in sandy beach systems both urban and natural; and (3) the evolution of coastal dunes in response to beach erosion. Recognising various styles of sediment erosion and recovery helped improve understanding in seasonal change of beach systems in storm moderated landscapes. The studies also provided valuable information in identifying coastal vulnerabilities and provide insight for coastal management strategies.

About the Speaker:

Dr Chiu Hon Chim is a lecturer at the Department of Geography at the Hong Kong Baptist University. He obtained his PhD in Earth Sciences from the University of Hong Kong. His research interests are in sedimentology and geomorphology. His work in coastal processes in Hong Kong stemmed from an MSc project at HKU, and has since been published in various conference proceedings and Quaternary International paper published in 2013.