WHO WE ARE

- A focused elite research university with a global reputation of excelling in science, technology and business, complemented by humanities and social science
- An international university with strong ties to global thought leaders, whilst having wide-ranging connections with Mainland China
- A university that promotes interdisciplinary studies, dedicated to educating well-rounded students to acquire a strong entrepreneurial spirit and innovative thinking – the necessary foundation and skills for the changing world
- A university with an Institute for Advanced Study which aims to become a global premier knowledge hub, center of research breakthroughs, and incubator of top scientific leaders
- A university with a spectacular physical setting, providing an environment conducive to the pursuit of intellectual and academic excellence
KUST was founded in 1991. Twenty years later, it was declared the number 1 university in Asia by a reputable university ranking survey. No one could have predicted this storyline. And no one can predict how far it will go. But I can tell you that we are hard at work making sure that the miracle will continue. In these pages you will see evidence of our efforts to that end.

For us, the next miracle takes shape one student at a time, one research project at a time — with students unafraid to lead, and scholars ready to challenge orthodoxy and push the knowledge envelope.

I invite you to browse through these pages. Or better still, come pay us a visit. Be prepared to be charmed by our physical beauty and a multicultural community that is hospitable to new ideas.

Tony F Chan
President
The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology
HKUST was founded with a specific mission: to develop science and technology to help drive and diversify Hong Kong’s economy.

From the start, HKUST has pursued excellence in education and research, a drive that has propelled the University forward to cutting-edge achievements. Our carefully chosen areas of expertise in science, engineering, and business and management, enhanced by humanities and social science, anticipated the key areas that would provide the insight and leadership to tackle the grand challenges of the 21st century. At the heart of our pursuit of excellence is our uncompromising effort to hire the best faculty locally and internationally. All this was possible because of government funding and a foundation donation by The Hong Kong Jockey Club.

Going forward, the University will continue to train future innovators, cross new frontiers, and contribute to the betterment of society.

Setting the pace, inspiring changes, energizing world-class minds in an environment that appreciates originality and recognizes excellence. This is the spirit that fuels HKUST.

Breaking New Ground in Education and Research

“To make HKUST a world-class university, we must continuously push forward to deliver excellence in education for our students, excellence in research and innovation, and excellence in our contribution to society.”

Dr the Hon Marvin Cheung
Chairman of the Council, HKUST
Fully 100% of our faculty are doctorate holders, mostly from leading institutions around the globe.

From life science and telecommunications to business, our academics set their sights high, working in areas that will have major impacts on people’s lives and constantly seeking to make their mark locally, nationally and globally.

Their success at turning HKUST into a hub of intellectual achievement helps to attract not only the top global talents among faculty, but also first-rate students who will become the inventors and discoverers of the decades ahead.

Building on our strengths, we have made a careful selection of research priorities, to achieve a greater social and economic impact on Hong Kong and humanity. Among the priorities of our research are: nano-science and nano-technology; life science and biotechnology; electronics, wireless and information technology; environment and sustainable development; energy; and management education and research.

This thoughtful focus has resulted in our consistently achieving the highest success rate in Hong Kong Research Grants Council (RGC) General Research Fund Competitions among all universities in Hong Kong, reaching 45% in 2011.

Our location in Hong Kong at the edge of booming China further offers openings for advances in these fields. Strong infrastructural support is also provided. Numerous Research Centers create an interdisciplinary environment, helping to generate fresh ideas, while leading facilities allow these ideas to be tested and realized.

Our faculty and students are passionate about their scholarly work and are motivated to succeed as individuals and as a team. This is what drives excellence at HKUST.
As Hong Kong restructures its undergraduate education from three to four years, we have seized this opportunity to totally redesign our curriculum starting in 2012, so as to provide a holistic student experience and breadth of vision that are unique to an education at HKUST.

In addition to the strong and discipline-based programs, we offer interdisciplinary opportunities and double major and minor programs making it possible to explore different capabilities, opening the way to critical thinking, and lifelong intellectual curiosity as part of our all-round education. Our internationally oriented campus community and a host of co-curricular and extra-curricular activities help to develop soft skills, values, and character.

HKUST’s aspiration to excellence enables students, including undergraduates, to learn from those working at the forefront of their field and to utilize the knowledge, international awareness and high professional standards they have gained to join top companies and organizations, ranging from global institutions to leading universities.

That’s why the innovative spirit thrives at HKUST.

“Nurturing Creative Thinkers and Contributing Citizens”

“The Hon Starry Lee Alumna, Hong Kong Legislative Councilor”

“...What I treasure most is the learning-to-learn mindset which helped me develop the critical thinking skills that are invaluable as a Legislative Councilor.”

Degrees with an Expanded View

Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program
A signature option that provides early training in research, enabling students to enhance their problem-solving skills and creative thinking by working with the University’s world-class academics.

International Exchanges
The chance to study outside Hong Kong is an integral part of the HKUST experience, with one-third of our undergraduates taking part in exchanges for a semester and a target of 50% in the future. We have more than 150 university partners across four continents in one of Asia’s most comprehensive programs.

Co-op Program
Work experience before graduation in Hong Kong, Mainland China and internationally to gain practical insight and establish networks to enhance career prospects.

Community Engagement
Credit-bearing service programs and major University-wide activities including the dynamic HKUST Connect and the REDbird Award Program, which help students to initiate projects with social impact, encourage volunteering and facilitate NGO internships.
There is much more than in-classroom studying to being a student. HKUST sets out to make everyone feel at home within the campus community by providing the supportive environment to discover hidden talents, generate lasting friendships, and open up wider awareness of different perspectives and ways of life.

An international mix of students, superb facilities, lively halls of residence, the chance to try a huge range of activities to explore potential and capabilities, and exciting opportunities to meet up with peers from other institutions around the world — this is the dynamic lifestyle that awaits those who join HKUST.

Boosting Active Living and Learning

“Studying in Hong Kong has immersed me in eastern culture. My education at HKUST has been the experience of a lifetime.”

Jeffrey Iqbal (Germany)
International student

“I have enjoyed the internationalization and diversity of HKUST campus life, as well as the freedom to choose the curriculum that interested me.”

Yu Yue (Mainland China)
HKUST’s youngest undergraduate when he was admitted at the age of 14, and a current PhD student at Stanford University

“The University is young, energetic and growing fast. I cannot be more impressed by HKUST’s overall accomplishments given its relatively short history.”

Liu Sing-cheong (Hong Kong)
MBA alumnus,
Chairman, My Top Home (China) Holdings Limited

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HUST’s mission recognizes the University’s unique role in advancing economic and social development, in Hong Kong and beyond.

Locally, the University’s successful emphasis on discovery has led the way to a globally recognized research culture in universities throughout Hong Kong. It has helped to refocus the city’s attention on this essential driver of economic progress. It has inspired the transfer of new knowledge from campus to company.

Embracing interdisciplinary studies that help to spark the innovative thinking that can foster the entrepreneurial spirit, the phenomenal output achieved at HKUST has seen the University file over 1,200 patents through its Technology Transfer Center and engage in the commercialization of technologies through its HKUST R & D Corporation Ltd.

Another key way of boosting enterprise is through the HKUST Entrepreneurship Program and Entrepreneurship Center. Over 40 spin-off companies have been set up under the program, which nurtures start-up businesses established by faculty, students and alumni.

A hi-tech electronics company now listed in Hong Kong, a leading LED developer producing pioneering lighting technology, and a successful regional e-marketing solutions provider are just some of the HKUST success stories to drive forward the knowledge society.

Curious minds, original thinkers, and the far-sighted individuals who see the world as it could not only as it is, all find themselves at home at HKUST.
Contributing to Global Connectivity

HKUST has actively set out to contribute internationally and our achievements have been widely acknowledged. International recognition is demonstrated by HKUST’s consistently high rankings in world and regional surveys. Overseas partnerships span innovative joint programs and collaborations with top universities and leading industries, while our extensive exchange program includes over 150 partners across the world.

Drawing on HKUST’s global reach and world-class reputation, our academics participate on the international stage, by organizing major conferences, intellectual retreats and workshops, and bringing top thinkers and corporate leaders to Hong Kong.

Our international faculty members and a proactive approach to internationalization facilitate links. Further connections are forged through HKUST’s strong reputation overseas, which draws numerous delegations from academia, government and other sectors to our campus each year.

Demonstrating the extent of our global connections, recent collaborations have involved a joint education and research project with UC RUSAL, the world’s largest aluminum producer, to strengthen education ties with Russia and Hong Kong; undergraduate summer research exchange programs with leading US universities; and academic and student exchange programs in UK, USA, Canada, Switzerland, the Netherlands, Germany, Australia, Japan and Singapore. HKUST has also been a guide for other new science and technology universities around the world.

Reaching out to the world and welcoming the world to Hong Kong — that is the outlook of HKUST.

“We are very pleased to have HKUST as our partner. The long-term cooperation between HKUST and leading Russian education institutions will enlarge communications between our young and experienced scientists and thus ensure a more comprehensive approach and new ideas in different fields of applied science”

Oleg Deripaska
Founder & CEO, UC RUSAL

They came to share...
A
long with overseas links, HKUST is actively engaging opportunities for mutually beneficial collaborations created by the pioneering “one country, two systems” concept that defines Hong Kong’s relationship with Mainland China.

The University is doing so through a number of exciting partnerships with selected Mainland institutions and cities. These ventures are assisting basic research, widening the scope for research and development activities, boosting postgraduate education, and keeping HKUST at the forefront at the national level.

Examples in the Pearl River Delta include an early collaborative venture with Peking University and the Shenzhen Municipal Government, leading to the establishment of the Shenzhen Industry, Education and Research Base with its HKUST Shenzhen IER Building completed in 2011, the Shenzhen PKU-HKUST Medical Center and its Biomedical Institute, and the HKUST Fok Ying Tung Graduate School in Nansha.

Further north, the Zhejiang Institute for Advanced Materials of HKUST has established a platform for research, innovation, and technology transfer, along with training for local entrepreneurs.

In another major development, the Chinese government has recognized HKUST’s leading research work by approving the setting-up of the State Key Laboratory of Molecular Neuroscience at HKUST in Hong Kong.

For our undergraduates, student exchange agreements with major Mainland institutions are building up greater knowledge and awareness of Mainland China’s rapid development and the issues it brings. Experience in the Mainland also helps to improve language skills, and to develop friendships and networks to boost social understanding and career prospects. Internship in Mainland enterprises is also a very useful opportunity for our undergraduate students.

Fostering these different linkages is an important part of our strategic vision at HKUST.
Heightening Our Impact Through Community Engagement

HKUST continuously strives to ensure that it is an integral part of the community and an active global citizen. As part of the two-way flow between town and gown, faculty and students frequently make visits to secondary and international schools to share their insights and engage in many other voluntary activities in Hong Kong, Mainland China, and beyond.

To expand our outreach to the local community, our students from all schools are encouraged to apply their academic knowledge to contribute to society through project participating, planning and managing. At the same time, our faculty make their presence felt by constantly publishing their research and insights in public journals, including in the media.

Meanwhile, HKUST gains guidance and advice from our dedicated Court and Council members. And we fully recognize our alumni’s invaluable support as our ambassadors at large and seek to inspire and keep them involved in the University’s ongoing development.

HKUST has also done well in garnering support for its endeavors from government funding, generous donations from different sectors of the community, and even organizations beyond Hong Kong.

A university can only become truly great when it is recognized by its own and the wider community. Working closely with its stakeholders is how HKUST has succeeded in the past and will be vital in the future.

“I invest in education because its return is huge and can benefit the whole society. I trust HKUST is a good investment for our society.”

Dr The Hon Lee Shau Kee
Chairman, Henderson Land Development Company Limited

Partnering with HKUST to

- Attract and retain the best scholars through Endowed Professorships
- Nurture future global leaders through Student Scholarships and sponsorship for International Exchange, Internship and Service Learning Programs
- Cultivate new ideas and promote innovation through Research Donation or Collaboration
- Put Hong Kong on the world map through financing programs for the unique HKUST Institute for Advanced Study
What was the motivation for the 5-Year Strategic Plan?

Amplifying an earlier strategic vision, the University wanted to clearly define the direction we intend to take in six key developmental areas: education, research development, faculty development, community engagement, international and Mainland China strategy, and organization and resources.

Our objectives are to keep striving for excellence as a focused elite research university through training future innovators and entrepreneurs who are not only brilliant academics but also ethically responsible leaders; and to go beyond current frontiers and contribute to making a better world.

The student experience at HKUST has always been based on an all-round educational outlook. How does HKUST plan to build further on this?

With Hong Kong’s move to a four-year bachelor degree, we have embraced the opportunity to move our undergraduate program to an exciting new level. Minors, interdisciplinary work, joint degrees, expansion of our already extensive exchange program, further build-up of our signature Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program, more internships and mentoring, participation in international competitions and forums, community engagement… the range of opportunities is truly exhilarating.

Students will receive a holistic education experience that should see them become outstanding, contributing members of society. We intend to grow our research postgraduate education to foster an entrepreneurial spirit and personal development skills. All students also benefit from our special scholar-teacher culture by learning from the academics who are leading and participating in the research breakthroughs that will power the future.

“A visionary course of action is set to advance HKUST to fresh heights of achievement”

Prof Tony F Chan
President, HKUST
Faculty members are the driving force behind a university’s teaching and research success. How will you attract and retain leading faculty members to ensure HKUST’s position as a world-class university?

We are recruiting close to 100 new and replacement faculty between 2011 and 2016, looking to keep a diverse international mix of motivated high achievers. Equally important, we need to raise additional resources for a restructured faculty compensation system, to make us internationally competitive.

Also, there will be central equipment and research funding and strengthened support for our strategic research themes to ensure HKUST’s famous research vitality remains fully charged.

Hong Kong stands in the unique position of being an international city with strong East-West elements, and a strategic gateway to Mainland China. How does HKUST intend to leverage these advantages?

Our understanding and knowledge of China and Asia perspectives and high global rankings give us an enviable edge as a rising thought leader in a region that is set to play an increasingly influential role in the global economy.

We will be looking at undertaking more collaborations with institutions in different geographical regions and enhancing internationalization through forward-looking academic agreements and exchanges, including bilateral and also trilateral arrangements involving HKUST, the Mainland and institutions from overseas. We believe this approach can bring more scope for our researchers and students, and draw the best international students and faculty to HKUST.

Furthermore, we will be raising HKUST’s profile with people outside academia. Promoting faculty achievements and insights to overseas business and venture capitalists, and organizing entrepreneur showcases are just some of the ways that more people can get to know what makes HKUST special.

How does HKUST expect to extend its impact in Mainland China?

We are planning to continue to develop our presence through partnerships with selected universities and cities, particularly in Shenzhen and Pearl River Delta region. We will be building on the University’s reputation to increase awareness of HKUST with the government, businesses, media and the public.

“We understand and knowledge of China and Asia perspectives and high global rankings give us an enviable edge as a rising thought leader in a region that is set to play an increasingly influential role in the global economy.”

HKUST’s alumni base is relatively small given your short history. How will you build stronger ties with alumni?

Although our alumni base is still at a relatively young stage, it is growing steadily in Hong Kong, China, and Overseas every year, and we are tremendously proud of their achievements as entrepreneurs, educators, professionals, innovators and community contributors. The strategic plan intends to build stronger alumni connections with the University, and between alumni and current students, to help each learn about the other and foster the distinctive HKUST spirit of endeavor, enterprise and achievement.

How is the 5-Year Strategic Plan going to be put into action?

We have coined the concept “1-HKUST” to help to bring everyone together to achieve these goals. The entire HKUST family including the Council and Court, students, alumni, faculty, staff, and supporters will work together as an integrated and holistic team. This will enable us to rapidly move forward to higher accomplishments.
Working individually, working together across disciplines in education and research, to fuel innovation and creative minds

School of Science
School of Engineering
School of Business and Management
School of Humanities and Social Science
Institute for Advanced Study
HKUST Fok Ying Tung Graduate School
Interdisciplinary Programs Office
First-rate minds that shape the future

With its focus on a range of pioneering scientific fields, the School of Science has achieved global renown for its outstanding achievements and significant breakthroughs. A broad spectrum of programs in the biological science, physics, chemistry and mathematics are available for undergraduates and postgraduates, and special emphasis is placed on developing innovative curricula in areas of technological importance.

The School also strives to undertake cutting-edge research. Our diverse faculty is engaged in advanced R&D in many emerging and dynamic fields which include nanoscience and new functional materials, neuroscience, marine and environmental science, drug design and synthesis, number theory, and financial mathematics, among others.

To enhance academic and research excellence, a new Division of Life Science was recently established by integrating the former Departments of Biochemistry and Biology. The re-organization is expected to promote collaborations within the Division and create synergism with other Departments and Schools at HKUST.

The establishment of the State Key Laboratory of Molecular Neuroscience at HKUST in 2010 further builds upon the School's existing foundation of excellence. State-of-the-art central facilities and institutes are also available to provide specialized research support. These include the Biotechnology Research Institute, the William Mong Institute of Nano Science and Technology, the Animal and Plant Care Facility, the Biosciences Central Research Facility, the Coastal Marine Laboratory, and the Materials Characterization and Preparation Facility.

- Fabrication of the smallest single-walled carbon nanotube in the world, with a diameter of 0.4nm (nanometer)
- Breakthroughs in unraveling novel signaling mechanisms in the brain, providing insights into potential therapeutic treatments for neurodegenerative diseases such as Alzheimer's disease and Parkinson's disease, and neuromuscular disorders
- Nano-electrorheological fluids, which set a world record for transformation from a liquid to a solid within one-hundredth of a second and vice versa, plus the world’s first application of ER fluids to microfluidics
- Milestone discovery on the action mechanisms of animal visual systems, contributing to understanding of human disorders such as retinitis pigmentosa and night blindness
- HKUST was the only institution from Hong Kong invited to speak at the International Congress for Mathematicians (ICM) in 2010
Contributions on a global scale

At the School of Engineering, our wide-ranging research and education opportunities have created the most comprehensive engineering school in Hong Kong.

Computer science, industrial engineering, logistics management, mechanical engineering, civil and environmental engineering, electronic and computer engineering, and Hong Kong’s only chemical engineering department, all are undertaken at HKUST.

Dynamic and enterprising, our researchers have achieved multiple world-class breakthroughs in areas ranging from wireless communications to advanced materials, geomatics to vision and graphics. The development of useful applications and the launch of start-up companies are another constant feature of life at the School.

State-of-the-art facilities include the world’s first Geotechnical Centrifuge Facility equipped with biaxial shaking table, which is widely recognized internationally, and the Wind-Wave Tunnel Facility, providing specialist wind engineering expertise and services. A Huawei-HKUST Innovative Laboratory was also established to explore cutting-edge telecom networks, wireless technologies and other relevant emerging technologies.

The School is also home to the Ministry of Education/Microsoft Research Asia Information Technology Key Laboratory, a highly effective model for collaboration between university, industry and government.

Another exciting advance is the Center for Engineering Education Innovation (E²I), now helping to propel the School to the forefront of engineering education scholarship and student development.

• Fostering start-up companies, such as consumer electronics solutions provider Perception Digital, the first company from HKUST’s Entrepreneurship Program to gain a public listing
• Pioneering 4G standards and wireless technologies, including a fast motion estimation technique for effective video compression recognized as part of the MPEG-4 standard and a wireless sensor network surveillance system to better protect the lives of coal miners
• The launch of Hong Kong SuperNet to provide low-cost Internet services for individuals, organizations, and businesses in Hong Kong
• Development of the world’s first smart anti-microbial coating which can kill 99.9% of bacteria within one minute
• HKUST ranked #28 in the World’s Top 50 Universities in Engineering and Technology (#1 in Greater China) by Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2011
Training inspirational leaders in Asia for the world

HKUST Business School has rapidly acquired global prominence, with its outstanding programs and research excellence. Recognized as one of the youngest and most respected business schools in Asia, the School’s programs are consistently ranked among the best in the world. It was also the first business school in Asia to be awarded accreditation by both the US-based Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB International) and European Quality Improvement System (EQUIS).

Global perspectives are assisted by the School’s 140-strong international faculty whose diverse national, cultural and ethnic background provides a stimulating environment for research, teaching and learning as well as informal interaction.

Always innovative in approach, the School ensures that its degree programs – undergraduate, MBA, EMBA, and PhD – and range of executive education, keep students at the forefront of developments while signature programs such as the much sought-after BBA in Global Business have helped break new ground in Hong Kong.

With 11 research centers devoted to areas from business case studies and investing to Asian Financial Markets and China Business & Management, the School is also superbly placed to leverage its international and regional knowledge base as Asia rises in significance in the global economy.

Never content to rest on its many achievements, a new purpose-built campus at HKUST is set to enable the School to develop further, offering state-of-the-art facilities and a cohesive environment from which to generate the business pioneers of the future.

• Kellogg-HKUST EMBA Program ranked #1 in the world by the Financial Times in 2011, for the third year in a row
• MBA Program ranked #10 in the world by the Financial Times in 2012
• Research consistently ranks top 20 in the world by the Financial Times
• Network of over 110 undergraduate exchange partners and around 60 MBA exchange partners with leading business schools in the world
The School of Humanities and Social Science supports interdisciplinary academic training and research in such diverse fields as anthropology, economics, geography, history, innovation studies, languages, linguistics, literature, music, philosophy, political science, psychology, sociology, and visual art.

Our geographic focus on China, including Hong Kong, and our disciplinary emphases on the comparative, the interdisciplinary, and the quantitative are reflected in our graduate training programs as well as by our new undergraduate major on Global China Studies. We have strong graduate programs in Chinese historical linguistics and in economic and social history, and one of the largest interdisciplinary programs anywhere in humanities and social science.

For the new four-year degree program, the Divisions of Humanities and Social Science together with the Language Center have developed a new curriculum as part of the HKUST Common Core Education including language training in Chinese and English, selected signature courses in Humanities and Social Analysis, as well as innovative programs in creative arts education including music and visual art.

The School is also developing collaborative undergraduate and postgraduate programs with strategic high-impact university partners in China, Europe, and North America.

The School is also developing collaborative undergraduate and postgraduate programs with strategic high-impact university partners in China, Europe, and North America.

Humanities and Social Science are a vital part of HKUST’s campus life and learning experience. In addition to our teaching and research, we organize talks, workshops, and conferences, engage in competitive external projects, and provide knowledge transfer to the local community.

- Division of Social Science ranked #1 in Greater China in 2010
- Offers the largest interdisciplinary program in humanities and social science in Greater China
- A highlighted event of the creative arts education program entitled The Intimacy of Creativity - The Bright Sheng Partnership: Composers Meet Performers in Hong Kong was hailed by the Financial Times as “the city’s most innovative music experience” for its inaugural season in 2011
- The School launched its first bachelor degree offering elite program focused on Global China Studies in 2011, utilizing the expertise of both of its divisions
Igniting interaction and thought leadership

A beacon drawing the most brilliant minds, the pioneering HKUST Institute for Advanced Study (IAS) is creating a powerful interdisciplinary academic hub and research base to stimulate creative thinking, attract gifted students, and serve as Asia’s premier intellectual center.

Established in 2006 through the generous support of community patrons, and integrated with our Schools and Departments, HKUST IAS has set out to foster scientific breakthroughs and innovation, and develop intellectual leaders.

Guided by an eminent International Advisory Board, most of whom are Nobel Prize recipients, the Institute seeks to cross the knowledge frontiers and raise community interest in the impact of science and technology.

HKUST IAS has attracted a distinguished group of more than 20 Visiting Professors, including two Nobel Laureates, while Permanent Members will hold joint appointments in a HKUST department to foster collaboration and interaction and to drive forward academic endeavor at the highest levels.

To encourage a wider free flow of knowledge and ideas, HKUST IAS also sponsors numerous events featuring leading thinkers. Guest speakers include Nobel Laureates, national academy members, world-renowned researchers, senior government officials, business leaders and artists.

A new hilltop home is being built at HKUST for the visionary Institute. When completed in 2012, the facility will provide the space for additional activities, including running topical research programs, and will offer a spectacular view that echoes its vision and broad inclusiveness.
Established in 2007, HKUST Fok Ying Tung Graduate School in Nansha, a district of Guangzhou, provides HKUST a strong base in Mainland China for research, postgraduate education, technology transfer and commercialization. Situated in the attractive Nansha IT Park in a new building, the School is focused on boosting technology transfer and innovation in the region. It seeks to use its expertise to contribute in the nation’s research and technology advancements, to assist in upgrading industry and the education and training of human capital.

Our research centers are focused in 4 technology areas – Internet of Things, Advanced Manufacturing and Automation, Advanced Engineering Materials, and Environment and Sustainable Development – in which HKUST has a leading edge and in which it could contribute to businesses and society in the Pearl River Delta and Hong Kong.

The School is a platform for HKUST faculty and students to participate in the Mainland’s prestigious research schemes including the 973 and 863 programs, State Key Labs and National Key Projects. Its participation in such research programs, collaborations with industry, and unique position in the Pearl River Delta have led the School to offer interdisciplinary postgraduate programs, tailored with a focus to meet today’s technology challenges.

Given that the Chinese government has identified Nansha as a key area for development in its 12th Five-Year Plan, the School’s contribution is set to be recognized nationally.
Beyond conventional boundaries

Working across Schools, the Interdisciplinary Programs Office (IPO) answers the demand for graduates and researchers who can tackle the increasingly complex issues of our times through a special combination of knowledge and skills.

Bringing together two or more different fields of study, the IPO also opens the door for a different type of educational experience for those interested in integrating their capabilities and developing original approaches to solution-building.

Capitalizing on HKUST’s focused academic strengths, the IPO’s undergraduate programs work synergistically to foster fresh insight in areas such as technology and management, risk management and business intelligence, and environmental management and technology.

Characterized by their small multicultural intake, high-powered curricula and wide-ranging personal and professional enrichment activities, these programs focus not only on academic skills but character-building to foster top achievers who are responsible and caring citizens.

The Division of Environment and the recently established Division of Biomedical Engineering, which come under the IPO, assist with undergraduate and postgraduate programs and place emphasis on interdisciplinary research, drawing in HKUST academics from different fields. They also serve as platforms to reach out to the community, raising public awareness on sustainability, fostering technology transfer and working with industry on applications with positive impact for society.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

- A flagship both inside and outside the University for the new dimensions and advances brought by interdisciplinary education and research
- The Division of Environment seeks to minimize and manage environmental challenges, involving academics, policy-makers and the public in this essential endeavor
- The Division of Biomedical Engineering is set to coordinate and promote academic research initiatives, nurture commercial applications with industrial partnership, and serve both the healthcare sector and the general community
Our First 20 Years

1988
Prof Chia-wei Woo takes up appointment as Founding President

1990
Biotechnology Research Institute inaugurated

1991
HKUST officially recruits the first cohort of undergraduates

1993
Confers first Master’s degree
Launches Hong Kong SuperNet, the first licensed Internet service provider in Hong Kong, to provide low-cost Internet services to individuals, organizations, and businesses in Hong Kong

A HK$118.7M contract, believed to be the largest ever awarded to a tertiary institution in Hong Kong, is signed with the Hong Kong Government to build an information technology park in Nansha, Guangzhou

1994
HKUST is invited by the Innovation and Technology Commission to host the Nano and Advanced Materials Institute Limited, one of the five Hong Kong R&D Centers funded by the Commission

Conferences first Bachelor degrees, first Master’s degree, and gains first US patent

HKUST computer scientists develop machine vision technology

1996
The Hong Kong SuperNet is sold by the University to a business consortium and the proceeds go to support R&D activities at the University proving that an academic research project can become commercially successful

Joint research laboratory in nanotechnology materials and technology with Chinese Academy of Sciences

First World Wide Web Consortium Office in the Chinese-speaking world inaugurated at HKUST

1997
HKUST and the Fok Ying Tung Foundation Limited sign a cooperation agreement to build an information technology park in Nansha, Guangzhou

Kaloggi-HKUST Executive MBA program launched

Entrepreneurship Program initiated

HKUST, Peking University and the Shenzhen Municipal Government sign a tripartite agreement on the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Industrial, Educational and Research Institution and its initial projects

1998
Kaloggi-HKUST Executive MBA program launched

Inaugurated at HKUST

1999
Researches fabricate the smallest single-walled carbon nanotube in the world, with a diameter of 0.4nm (nanometer)

First World Wide Web Consortium Office in the Chinese-speaking world inaugurated at HKUST

HKUST and the Fok Ying Tung Foundation Limited sign a cooperation agreement to build an information technology park in Nansha, Guangzhou

Kaloggi-HKUST Executive MBA program launched

Entrepreneurship Program initiated

HKUST, Peking University and the Shenzhen Municipal Government sign a tripartite agreement on the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Industrial, Educational and Research Institution and its initial projects

2000
HKIST Institute of NanoMaterials and Nanotechnology launched

Achieves new advances in electrochemical fluids

HKUST finance research ranks #1 in Asia Pacific

2001
Prof Paul Ching-wu Chu becomes the University’s second President

Becomes the first to discover the structure and biological function of a protein that plays a central role in ensuring the normal operation of cells

Discovers key signaling mechanism in the brain, shedding new light on treating neuromuscular disorders

HKUST leads project on Molecular Neuroscience: Basic Research and Drug Discovery selected by the Area of Excellence Scheme of the University Grants Committee

Discovers superconductivity in the smallest single-walled carbon nanotube

2002
State-of-the-Art Coastal Marine Laboratory opened

HKUST Institute of NanoMaterials and Nanotechnology launched

Achieves new advances in electrochemical fluids

HKUST finance research ranks #1 in Asia Pacific

Ranks worlds #1 in mechanical engineering research output

HKUST Institute for Advanced Study founded to foster international academic exchange at the highest levels

2003
HKUST is invited by the Innovation and Technology Commission to host the Nano and Advanced Materials Institute Limited, one of the five Hong Kong R&D Centers supported by the Commission

Anti-malarial drug discovery hits the cover of top chemistry journal

Kaloggi-HKUST Executive MBA program launched

Entrepreneurship Program initiated

HKUST, Peking University and the Shenzhen Municipal Government sign a tripartite agreement on the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Industrial, Educational and Research Institution and its initial projects

2004
HKUST Department of Medical Research and Drug Discovery selected by the Area of Excellence Scheme of the University Grants Committee

Discovers key signaling mechanism in the brain, shedding new light on treating neuromuscular disorders

HKUST leads project on Molecular Neuroscience: Basic Research and Drug Discovery selected by the Area of Excellence Scheme of the University Grants Committee

Discovers superconductivity in the smallest single-walled carbon nanotube

2005
HKIST Institute of NanoMaterials and Nanotechnology launched

Achieves new advances in electrochemical fluids

HKUST finance research ranks #1 in Asia Pacific

Ranks worlds #1 in mechanical engineering research output

HKUST Institute for Advanced Study founded to foster international academic exchange at the highest levels

2006
HKUST is invited by the Innovation and Technology Commission to host the Nano and Advanced Materials Institute Limited, one of the five Hong Kong R&D Centers supported by the Commission

Anti-malarial drug discovery hits the cover of top chemistry journal

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2010
HKUST ranks #2 in Asia (QS Asian University Rankings)

State Key Laboratory of Molecular Neuroscience established

HKUST management research and marketing research both rank #3 in the world

Develops the world’s largest digital photograph with a resolution of 150 billion pixels

HKUST professor achieves breakthrough in analyzing data from first Chinese lunar satellite Chang’e-1

2011
HKUST ranks #1 in Asia (QS Asian University Rankings)

MBA program ranks #6 in the world (Financial Times MBA Ranking)

Perception Digital, the first company from HKUST Entrepreneurship Program, transfers its listing from the GEM Board of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange to the Main Board

HKUST professors prove single photons do not exceed the speed of light which has important implications for communication technology

Breakthrough discovery on mechanisms for animal visual system

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