THE HONG KONG UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
Excellence, Integrity, and Academic Freedom

Global Vision and Local Commitment

Can-do Spirit

Inclusiveness, Diversity, and Respect

1-HKUST
WHO WE ARE

- An elite research university with a global reputation for excelling in science, technology and business, complemented by humanities and social science.
- An international university with strong ties to global thought leaders, and wide-ranging connections with Mainland China.
- A university that promotes interdisciplinary studies, dedicated to educating well-rounded students with a strong entrepreneurial spirit and innovative thinking.
- A university with an Institute for Advanced Study which seeks to become a global premier knowledge hub and incubator of top scientific leaders.
- A university with a spectacular physical setting, conducive to the pursuit of intellectual and academic excellence.
HKUST was founded in 1991. Twenty years later, it was declared the No.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 effort 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. You will surely 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
“The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology has made rapid strides in academic excellence and scientific research and is now counted among the leading universities in the world despite a relatively short history. At HKUST, we have been striving to promote technological innovation, groom leaders of tomorrow and open up vast opportunities for our students.”

Mr Andrew Liao Cheung-Sing, GBS, SC, JP
Chairman of the Council, HKUST
HKUST was founded with a specific mission: to advance research, teaching and learning at the highest levels and drive and develop science and technology to help diversify Hong Kong’s economy.

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 and leaders, cross new frontiers, and contribute to the betterment of society. One example is our pioneering partnerships with University of Oxford and Smith College to provide executive education programs in Asia.

Setting the pace, inspiring change, energizing minds in an environment that appreciates originality and recognizes excellence. This is the spirit that fuels HKUST.
FOSTERING FRONTIER RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

All of our faculty hold doctorates, mostly from leading institutions around the globe.

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

To continue to strengthen our impact, we have carefully considered the significant sectors where we could contribute substantially to future society. In addition to our on-going research goals, we have identified five further strategic areas:

- Data science
- Sustainability
- Autonomous systems and robotics
- Public policy
- Design thinking and entrepreneurship
“HKUST’s vision and enthusiasm have made a great impression on me”

Prof Stephen Hawking
University of Cambridge

Such 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 2017-2018. Our location in Hong Kong at the edge of booming China offers further openings for advances in these fields.

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

Along with strong, disciplined-based programs, we offer interdisciplinary opportunities, including designing your own individualized major, and double major and minor programs. This makes it possible to explore different capabilities, opening the way to critical thinking and lifelong intellectual curiosity.

Blended learning, combining online and face-to-face teaching, is being introduced while soft skills, values, and character development are fostered through a host of co-curricular activities and our internationally oriented campus community.

That’s why the innovative spirit thrives at HKUST.
“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.”

The Hon Starry Lee  
Alumna,  
Hong Kong Legislative Councilor
“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, MyTop Home (China) Holdings Limited

“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

“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
There is much more than in-classroom studying at HKUST.

Enjoy our signature Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program to gain early training with top-class academics. Take up internship openings. Learn more about society through credit-bearing community service and voluntary activities. Study outside Hong Kong via our vast global network which features 250 exchange partners.

Such activities are complemented by our outstanding campus life, encompassing an international mix of students, superb facilities, lively halls of residence and a breathtaking seascape setting.

This is the dynamic lifestyle that awaits those who join HKUST.
INCUBATING ENTREPRENEURS, INVENTORS AND INNOVATORS

HKUST’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 driver of economic progress. It new knowledge from campus to company.

The phenomenal output achieved at HKUST has seen the University file over 2,470 patents* through its Technology Transfer Center and engage in the commercialization of technologies through its HKUST R and D Corporation Ltd.

In addition, 51 spin-off companies* have been set up through the HKUST Entrepreneurship Program and Entrepreneurship Center, which nurture start-up businesses established by faculty, students and alumni.

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

*As of Aug 2017
“HKUST has pioneered the way in Hong Kong for training innovative entrepreneurial professionals and developing new technologies that can benefit the development of the city and beyond”

Dr William Fung
Group Managing Director, Li & Fung Limited
CONTRIBUTING TO GLOBAL CONNECTIVITY

With internationalization a HKUST strategic goal, initiatives range from strategic partnerships with selected leading universities to academic exchange and research collaborations for faculty and students and enhancement of overseas alumni connections.

Purpose-driven overseas delegations led by senior University management facilitate face-to-face interaction with top universities and institutions; shared science, technology and education insights; and pioneering agreements. Our extensive global connections span a network of more than 250 partners.

Our collaborations with other leading institutions include an undergraduate International Research Opportunities Program involving MIT, the European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN), University of Cambridge and Tokyo Institute of Technology; and joint programs with Oxford University and Smith College respectively to provide execution education in Asia. The Visiting Associates

They came to share...
“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

Program with Caltech was recently introduced to help to foster long-term research collaborations and professional relationships between the two institutions. Partnerships with both Coursera and edX Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) platforms also enable our education to be globally accessible.

Regional alliances are nurtured through organizations such as China’s C9 League and the Association of East Asian Research Universities (AEARU). In 2016, the Association of Pacific Rim Universities (APRU), an alliance of 45 leading research universities in the Pacific Rim region, located its Secretariat on our campus.

The University also serves as a global thought leader through participation in major international assemblies, including the World Economic Forum.

Reaching out to the world and welcoming the world to Hong Kong – that is the outlook of HKUST.
Along with overseas links, HKUST is actively engaged in developing mutually beneficial collaborations with selected institutions and cities in Mainland China.

Examples in the Pearl River Delta include a collaborative venture with Peking University and the Shenzhen Municipal Government, on-going since the 1990s and leading to the establishment of the Shenzhen Industry, Education and Research Base, Shenzhen PKU-HKUST Medical Center and its Biomedical Institute.

The HKUST Fok Ying Tung Research Institute in Nansha and HKUST LED-FPD Technology R&D Center at Foshan enhance our ability to contribute to innovation and technology in the region and Hong Kong. Partnerships have also been developed with leading enterprises, such as Huawei, Tencent, Lenovo and Digital China.

They came to share...

Prof Wan Gang  
Vice-Chairman,  
Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference Minister, Ministry of Science and Technology

Prof Yang Wei  
President,  
National Natural Science Foundation of China

Prof Zhang Jie  
Vice President,  
Chinese Academy of Sciences Chairman of University Council, University of Chinese Academy of Sciences

Prof Chen Xu  
Chairperson of University Council
“This young university continues its contribution to the development of Hong Kong and the region, and to building a gateway to China and the world”

Dr Vincent Lo
Chairman, Shui On Group

In addition, the Chinese government has approved the setting up of the State Key Laboratory of Molecular Neuroscience and State Key Laboratory on Advanced Displays and Optoelectronics Technologies, two Hong Kong branches of Chinese National Engineering Research Centers (CNERC), namely the Hong Kong Branch of CNERC for Tissue Restoration and Reconstruction, and the Hong Kong Branch of CNERC for Control and Treatment of Heavy Metal Pollution at HKUST.

Given the multiple prospects presented by Mainland China’s rapid development, such links form an important part of our strategic vision at HKUST.
HEIGHTENING OUR IMPACT THROUGH COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
“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

HKUST continuously strives to be an integral part of the community and an active global citizen.

To expand our outreach to the local community, students from all our Schools are encouraged to apply their academic knowledge and innovative outlook to contribute to society through a range of projects and other activities. At the same time, our faculty make their presence felt by publishing their research and insights in journals and the media.

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 keep them involved in the University’s ongoing development.

PARTNERING WITH HKUST

• Attract and retain the best scholars through Endowed Professorships
• Nurture future global leaders through Student Scholarships and sponsorship for Exchange, Internship and Service Learning Programs
• Promote innovation through Research Donations or Collaborations
• Put Hong Kong on the world map through financing programs for the unique HKUST Jockey Club Institute for Advanced Study

HKUST has also done well in garnering support for its endeavors from government funding, generous donations from different sectors of the community, and organizations beyond Hong Kong. Working closely with our stakeholders is how HKUST has succeeded in the past and will be vital in the future.
GOING FORWARD:
A DIALOGUE WITH PRESIDENT TONY F CHAN
VISIONARY COURSE OF ACTION SET TO ADVANCE HKUST TO FRESH HEIGHTS OF ACHIEVEMENT
“The vibrant academic capital built up at HKUST can lead the way to developments you can only dream of right now. For this University really can make dreams come true.”

Prof Tony F Chan
President, HKUST

WHAT IS HKUST’S STRATEGIC VISION?

During the University’s 25th Anniversary year in 2016, we set out a further five-year plan, which represents our collective aspirations and includes five strategic objectives. We want to be recognized as a hub for the best global minds; for setting the trends through our transformative education and research leadership; as a powerhouse for innovation and entrepreneurship; for our best-in-class organizational and sustainability practices; and as a champion of diversity, fostering an inclusive, collaborative community.

WHY FOCUS ON THESE OBJECTIVES?

As higher education institutions deepen their input and impact on economic and social development locally and globally, HKUST wants to continue to lead this move. Knowledge generation and transfer, technology innovation, as well as employability of graduates, appropriately equipped to succeed in today’s rapidly changing world, are part of this endeavor.
WILL YOU BE TARGETING ANY SPECIFIC RESEARCH AREAS?

Yes. Following intensive consultations between faculty and senior management, our five targeted areas are: data science; sustainability; public policy; autonomous systems and robotics; and design thinking and entrepreneurship. All will be significant in shaping the direction of global society in the decades ahead. We will also be exploring how HKUST can contribute to China’s key One Belt One Road development initiative for Asia.

HOW IS EDUCATION PROVISION MOVING AHEAD AT HKUST?

Many exciting developments are underway or on the drawing board. Recent strides forward include more experiential learning, Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs), research enrichment at undergraduate level, interdisciplinary programs including a customized individualized undergraduate major, entrepreneurship know-how, and professional development skills for postgraduates. We recognize our students as individuals with different aspirations and talents and hope that during their time at HKUST they uncover their true passion and area of interest as well as develop into self-motivated, contributive citizens.
HOW IS HKUST EXTENDING ITS IMPACT GLOBALLY AND IN MAINLAND CHINA?

In many ways. As a leading research university in Asia, we forge strategic partnerships with world-renowned universities and participate in global leadership events such as the World Economic Forum (WEF) meetings at Davos and in Mainland China. We have several platforms in Mainland China focused on innovation as well as collaborations with top Chinese enterprises. Our senior management also makes it a point to go with faculty to visit elite institutions and global industrial players in North America, the Middle East, Europe and Latin America to explore academic and research collaborations and enhance the visibility of HKUST.

HOW IS HKUST LEVERAGING HONG KONG’S UNIQUE POSITION AS A GATEWAY TO AND FROM MAINLAND CHINA?

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 are proactively developing more collaborations with institutions in different geographical regions to provide more scope for our researchers and students, and to draw the best students and faculty from around the world to HKUST.
1-HKUST

WORKING INDIVIDUALLY AND 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
HKUST Jockey Club Institute for Advanced Study
HKUST Fok Ying Tung Graduate School
Interdisciplinary Programs Office
INNOVATIVE MINDS THAT SHAPE THE FUTURE

Comprised of one division and three departments in life science, chemistry, mathematics and physics, the School of Science offers a wide spectrum of programs and opportunities in these four core disciplines, with emphasis on developing innovative curricula in areas of technological importance.

The School is also committed to advancing cutting-edge research. Our diverse faculty members are engaged in many emerging and dynamic fields, which include nano-science and new functional materials, neuroscience, marine and environmental science, drug design and synthesis, big data science, and financial mathematics, among others.

The establishment of the State Key Laboratory of Molecular Neuroscience and the Hong Kong Branch of Chinese National Engineering Research Centers (CNERC) for Tissue Restoration and Reconstruction at HKUST further builds on the School’s existing foundation of research excellence.

State-of-the-art central facilities and institutes are available to provide specialized research support. These include the Biotechnology Research Institute, Coastal Marine Laboratory, Materials Characterization and Preparation Facility, SSCI-IAS Super-Resolution Imaging Center and William Mong Institute of Nano Science and Technology.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

- Groundbreaking discovery on the aberrant activation of the protein EphA4, which triggers a signaling pathway leading to cognitive impairment observed in Alzheimer’s disease (AD), offering a novel strategy for possible therapeutic intervention and drug development for AD

- Development of AIE bio-probes for bacterial imaging and differentiation between living and dead bacteria, contributing to photodynamic therapy, quality control in food and drugs, and cancer cell identification

- An efficiency world record for single-junction organic solar cells saw Hong Kong researchers included in the renowned “Best Research-Cell Efficiencies Chart” for the first time. The Chart is compiled by the US National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL), which has recorded significant advances in solar cell efficiency for the past 40 years
CONTRIBUTIONS ON A GLOBAL SCALE

As the most comprehensive engineering school in Hong Kong, the School of Engineering encompasses computer science, industrial engineering, mechanical engineering, aerospace engineering, civil and environmental engineering, electronic and computer engineering, and Hong Kong’s only chemical engineering department.

A pioneering educator, the School provides an all-round education which emphasizes experiential learning, multidisciplinary courses, international exposure, online and blended learning, and entrepreneurship. This is well-supported by the School’s Center for Engineering Education Innovation (E2I) and Center for Global and Community Engagement (GCE).

Our faculty engage in multidisciplinary research and have achieved breakthroughs in areas ranging from robotics to advanced materials, energy technologies to artificial intelligence. The School also endeavors to facilitate knowledge transfer and make a meaningful impact on society.

State-of-the-art facilities include the world’s first Geotechnical Centrifuge Facility equipped with biaxial shaking table, the world-class Wind/Wave Tunnel Facility, as well as the Nanosystem Fabrication Facility, the most advanced at a tertiary institution in Hong Kong.

The School is also home to the State Key Laboratory on Advanced Displays and Optoelectronics Technologies and the Hong Kong Branch of Chinese National Engineering Research Center for Control and Treatment of Heavy Metal Pollution, and has set up joint research centers with leading industry partners such as DJI, Microsoft, Huawei and WeChat.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

- Pioneering 4G standards and wireless technologies, including a fast motion estimation technique for effective video compression recognized as part of the MPEG-4 standard
- Development of the world’s first smart anti-microbial coating, which can kill 99.9% of bacteria within one minute
- HKUST ranked No.15 in the World’s Top 500 Universities in Engineering and Technology (No.1 in Hong Kong seven times in a row) by QS World University Rankings 2017
SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT

“Asia's youngest but most respected Business School”
Financial Times
Recognized as one of the most respected business schools in Asia, the HKUST Business School’s programs are consistently ranked among the best in the world.

We were 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 strong international faculty, whose diverse national, cultural and ethnic backgrounds provide a stimulating environment for research, teaching and learning as well as informal interaction.

Always innovative in approach, our degree programs - undergraduate, MBA, EMBA, and PhD - and executive education keep students at the forefront of developments. Meanwhile, signature programs such as the BBA in Global Business have helped to break new ground in Hong Kong.

With research centers ranging from business case studies and investing to Asian financial markets and China business and management, the School is superbly placed to leverage its international and regional knowledge base as Asia rises in significance in the global economy.

A purpose-built campus at HKUST is enabling 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.
A PASSION FOR MULTIDISCIPLINARY PERSPECTIVES

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, literature, history, and creative writing.

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 our undergraduate major on Global China Studies.

We have one of the largest interdisciplinary programs anywhere in humanities and social science. The School is also developing collaborative undergraduate and postgraduate programs with strategic high-impact university partners in China, Europe, and North America.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

• Ranked No. 7 in Asia’s Top 100 Universities in Social Science and Management 2013 by QS Asian University Rankings in 2013

• Offers the largest number of interdisciplinary programs in humanities and social science in Greater China

• The Intimacy of Creativity - The Bright Sheng Partnership: Composers Meet Performers in Hong Kong, a creative arts program highlight, has been hailed by the Financial Times as “the city’s most innovative music experience”

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

The pioneering HKUST Jockey Club Institute for Advanced Study (IAS) is creating a powerful interdisciplinary academic hub and research base to stimulate creative thinking, draw gifted students and eminent faculty, and serve as Asia’s premier intellectual center.

The Institute attracts globally acclaimed scholars from different disciplines to its IAS faculty team. These include Nobel Laureate in Economic Sciences Prof Sir Christopher Pissarides; Nobel Laureate in Physics Prof George Smoot; Prof Ching W Tang, the first Chinese recipient of the Wolf Prize in Chemistry; Prof Henry Tye, distinguished physicist and cosmologist; and Prof Gunther Uhlmann, world-renowned mathematician.

IAS fosters collaboration, interaction and academic endeavor at the highest levels of intellectual inquiry. To encourage a wider free flow of knowledge and ideas, and to raise community interest in the impact of science and technology, the Institute also sponsors numerous events featuring leading thinkers.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

- The Institute’s inaugural lecture was given by theoretical physicist Prof Stephen Hawking, drawing tremendous public interest.
- More than 950 distinguished lectures, seminars, conferences and workshops have been held since the founding of the Institute in 2006.

Located atop the Lee Shau Kee Campus, the iconic five-story IAS Lo Ka Chung Building encompasses a 200-seat lecture theater, an open auditorium, seminar rooms and offices, providing space for conferences, workshops and IAS Distinguished Lectures during term times, and topical research programs in summer and winter.
SPRINGBOARD TO DEVELOPMENT

The HKUST Fok Ying Tung Graduate School coordinates and integrates the University’s knowledge transfer endeavors at various HKUST Mainland platforms. These include Guangzhou HKUST Fok Ying Tung Research Institute (FYTRI), HKUST Shenzhen Research Institute (SRI), HKUST R and D Corporation (Shenzhen) Limited (RDCSZ) and HKUST LED-FPD Technology R&D Center at Foshan (FSC).

Each of the four has its own focus but all work together to increase HKUST’s presence and brand in Mainland China. FYTRI’s open-innovation operational model seeks to provide technological solutions to local industry through its 200 researchers and staff as well as its newly launched International Smart Manufacturing Platform while SRI secures research projects, provides training, and engages with local industry and government. RDCSZ propels forward the Blue Bay Incubator, delivering entrepreneurship services to HKUST affiliated startups. FSC focuses on research and development, technology transfer and testing services for the solid-state lighting industry.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

• Expansion of HKUST’s One Million Dollar Entrepreneurship Competition from Hong Kong Clear Water Bay Campus to include cities of Shenzhen, Guangzhou, Beijing and Macau. A total of 945 startup teams participated in 2017

• Setting up of the Guangzhou Supercomputer Nansha Branch Center at FYTRI to link Tianhe-2 Supercomputer power to HKUST users

• Commercialization of cutting-edge technologies, including an intelligent control system for precision injection molding machines and super light-weight and high strength new composite materials

• Driving the Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macau (International) Youth Entrepreneur Hub to serve as an incubator of talent and technology innovation in the Pearl River Delta region
INTERDISCIPLINARY PROGRAMS OFFICE
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, IPO also opens the door for a different type of educational experience for those interested in integrating their capabilities and innovative ideas to develop original approaches to problem identification and solution-building.

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

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, contributive and caring members in the 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 and Sustainability seeks to minimize and manage environmental challenges, involving academics, policy-makers and the public in this essential endeavor

• The Division of Public Policy seeks to contribute to key policy areas locally and globally, with strong support from quantitative and qualitative analysis

All two divisions under IPO offer postgraduate programs and place emphasis on interdisciplinary research, drawing on HKUST faculty from different fields. They also serve as platforms to reach out to the community, raising public awareness on sustainability, advancing evidence-based policy making in science and technology areas, fostering technology transfer and working with industry on applications with positive impact for society.
1988 Prof Chia-wei Woo took up appointment as Founding President

1990 Biotechnology Research Institute inaugurated

1991 HKUST officially recruited the first cohort of undergraduates

1993 Launched Hong Kong SuperNet, the first licensed internet service provider in Hong Kong, to provide low-cost internet services for individuals, organizations, and businesses in Hong Kong

1994 A HK$118.7M contract, believed to be the largest ever awarded to a tertiary institution in Hong Kong, was signed with the Hong Kong Government to develop an Operational Windshear Warning System for the new airport at Chek Lap Kok

1994 HKUST was granted first patent in U.S. for a technique of producing diamond film from polymer sources through laser deposition

1994 HKUST computer scientists developed machine vision technology

1996 The Hong Kong SuperNet was 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

1996 Joint research laboratory in nanostructure materials and technology with Chinese Academy of Sciences

1997 Kellogg-HKUST Executive MBA program launched
1998  First World Wide Web Consortium Office in the Chinese-speaking world inaugurated at HKUST

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

1999  HKUST, Peking University and the Shenzhen Municipal Government signed a tripartite agreement on the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Industrial, Educational and Research Institution and its initial projects

2000  Researchers fabricated the smallest single-walled carbon nanotube in the world, with a diameter of 0.4nm (nanometer)

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

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

Discovered key signaling mechanism in the brain, shedding new light on treating nerve-muscle disorders

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

Discovered superconductivity in world’s smallest single-carbon nanotubes

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

2003  HKUST Institute of NanoMaterials and NanoTechnology launched

Achieved new advances in electrorheological fluids
2005  HKUST finance research ranked #1 in Asia-Pacific

2006  HKUST Institute for Advanced Study founded to foster international academic exchange at the highest levels
       HKUST was 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 hit the cover of top chemistry journal

2008  HKUST Fok Ying Tung Graduate School in Nansha established
       Hong Kong Jockey Club Enterprise Center officially opened
       Made breakthrough that decodes the secret of schizophrenia

2009  HKUST Fok Ying Tung Graduate School awarded the status of International Science and Technology Cooperation Base by the Chinese government to promote collaborations between Mainland, HKUST and international partners
       Prof Tony F Chan appointed third President

2010  Ground-breaking for Lee Shau Kee Campus, which includes new buildings for HKUST Business School and the Institute for Advanced Study
       Helped Boeing to develop wireless system for higher efficiency in aircraft maintenance
       State Key Laboratory of Molecular Neuroscience established
       Developed the world’s largest digital photograph with a resolution of 150 billion pixels
       HKUST professor achieved breakthrough in analyzing data from first Chinese lunar satellite Chang’ e-1
2011 HKUST was first ranked #1 in Asia (QS Asian University Rankings)
MBA program ranked #6 in the world (Financial Times Global MBA Rankings)
Perception Digital, the first company from HKUST Entrepreneurship Program, transferred its listing from the GEM Board of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange to the Main Board
HKUST professors proved single photons do not exceed the speed of light which has important implications for communication technology
Breakthrough discovery on mechanisms for animal visual system

2012 “Stem Cell Strategy for Nervous System Disorders” and “Cost-effective and eco-friendly LED system-on-a-chip” were funded by the Theme-based Research Scheme under the Research Grants Council
The Kellogg-HKUST EMBA Program was ranked world’s No. 1 by the Financial Times for fourth straight year
2013 HKUST was ranked Asia No. 1 for third straight year
“Photonic and Phononic Advanced Materials Research” and “Signaling Mechanisms Research in Neurodisorders” were awarded as HKUST’s Area of Excellence by the University Grants Committee
Opening ceremony of Lee Shau Kee Campus

2014 Opening Ceremony of the Fok Ying Tung Research Institute Building

2015 HKUST attained the highest proportion of internationally excellent research work in the University Grants Committee (UGC) Research Assessment Exercise 2014
Two Hong Kong branches of Chinese National Engineering Research Centers (CNERC), namely the Hong Kong Branch of CNERC for Tissue Restoration and Reconstruction, and the Hong Kong Branch of CNERC for Control and Treatment of Heavy Metal Pollution, were established

2016 Opening ceremony of Cheng Yu Tung Building