WE ARE
HKUST
In 1989, the leaders of Hong Kong saw a need to build a new, research-focused university to support the city’s future ambitions—to become not just the financial hub of Asia, but also a center of knowledge advancement, economic growth and influence in the Pearl River Delta Region, leveraging Hong Kong’s unique status with China who just recently opened to reforms.

The herculean task—building an institution with global ambitions from the ground up—soon attracted a group of high-spirited scholars from around the globe, who embraced the challenge with open arms and started what would become The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology today.
Today, HKUST has risen through the ranks and become a global powerhouse in tertiary education as a result of our continuous pursuit of excellence in everything we do, leaving its mark in science, engineering, business and management, humanities and social science, and much more.

Innovation is in our DNA, and we welcome everyone to join our cause to change people’s lives for the better — as long as you are willing to defy the odds and push yourself beyond your limits to make a difference.
HKUST is in a prime position to assume a major role in addressing 21st-century problems with what we have been stressing since day one – innovation, adaptation, inclusivity and originality.
Since its establishment in 1991, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST) has been making strides progressively in education, research, knowledge transfer, and social services. As the world moves toward a new era where economic growth and societal development rely increasingly on more human-centered science, technology, new business innovation, and organizational frameworks, HKUST is in a prime position to assume a major role in addressing 21st-century problems with what we have been stressing since day one – innovation, adaptation, inclusivity and originality.

Today, Hong Kong is provided with a wide array of opportunities, many of which are available because of the city’s unique outlook: international, open-minded, and close proximity to China. The impending development of China’s innovation-driven Greater Bay Area, which is right at our doorstep, has set an even clearer scene for HKUST to play a more substantial role in our community and beyond. Our ambitious plan to establish a new campus in Guangzhou will strengthen HKUST’s capabilities to groom talents to meet the challenges ahead, and seize the opportunity to establish academic and research excellence. In particular, we aim at offering new degree programs focusing on cross-disciplinary frontiers to complement, not duplicate, those being offered in our Clear Water Bay campus and, more importantly, we are determined to realize this plan through new academic structures which are agile and less discipline-bound. Many key areas including information and data sciences, autonomous systems and robotics, advanced materials and smart fabrication and prototyping, sensing and actuation, and design and system thinking approaches will join force to help find answers in critical areas such as sustainability and environment; energy, city and population; ocean, space, and the planet; body, mind and aging; society, humanity and public policy.

As we continue our journey, we welcome partners from around the globe to advance our mission and shared interests together. We are indebted to the vision of our founders, generous contributions of our donors, support from the Hong Kong society, and contributions of our alumni and staff, without whom we would not be in the position we are at today.

Professor Wei Shyy
President, HKUST
EMPOWERING UNLIMITED POSSIBILITIES

HKUST is where possibilities begin. Here, you can explore, be inspired, and realize your full potential. Making your mark by creating a world of difference. In pursuit of your dreams.

As a research university, innovation lies at the heart of who we are, drawing on HKUST’s inner drive and passion to advance the future. This continuous momentum is born of our core belief that knowledge empowers and research delivers, leading to fresh discoveries and productive social change.

At HKUST, we always strive to scale the challenging heights of the unknown. We foster a can-do mindset that uncovers novel perspectives, transfers knowledge into applications, and forges new pathways to improve people’s lives.

Working together in an environment embracing diversity in all its forms, our students, faculty, alumni, and staff generate a dynamic community of global leaders, inventors, original thinkers, and contributing citizens.

Here, we empower infinite possibilities and transform vision into reality.
WE CELEBRATE
#1
World’s Top 350 Young Universities 2019 in Times Higher Education

#16
Global University Employability Ranking 2018 (No. 1 in Greater China)

#1
Global EMBA Ranking in Financial Times for 9 times from 2007-2018

#32
World’s Top 1000 Universities 2020 in QS World University Rankings

250+
Partnerships including academic and research collaborations
HKUST is an intellectual powerhouse leading the advancement of science, engineering, business and management, humanities and social science in a rapidly changing world. We have always been committed to fostering academic originality, innovative spirit, open-mindedness, and a can-do attitude, in addition to our dedication to the pursuit of excellence.

Our strong research infrastructure supports world-class scholars in advancing research that addresses key global challenges and priorities as part of our strategic vision.
Our major areas of research strength include:

- Data Science
- Ocean Science
- Healthy Aging
- Public Policy
- Fintech
- Design Thinking & Entrepreneurship
- Autonomous Systems & Robotics
- Sustainability
Our experiential pedagogy cultivates students’ critical thinking and problem-solving skills, and nurtures future global citizens with strong creative and innovation capabilities. Our learning-by-doing teaching method empowers students to apply their theoretical knowledge to practical situations, thereby stimulating and igniting their creative potential and entrepreneurial spirit and better preparing them for future careers. Moreover, to facilitate our students’ effective communication with their counterparts from around the world and to boost their career prospects with international exchange and internship opportunities. Our lessons are taught in English as a global language.

Undergraduate Student-initiated Experiential Learning (USEL) Program
Students have the freedom to design their own projects and work on their creative ideas under the guidance of faculty members of the School of Engineering.

Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program (UROP) and International Research Opportunities Program (IROP)
The two programs offer students opportunities to gain early research exposure under the supervision of world-class scholars in an academic environment at HKUST and outside Hong Kong.

HeadStart@HKUST
The program enables freshmen and sophomores to gain real-world business experience through internship, mentorship and fellowship opportunities with leading local and global corporations.
International Student Competitions

HKUST students participate in various competitions to enrich their learning. The Marshall International Case Competition helps students develop critical thinking and leadership skills pertinent to business issues, while the award-winning Robotics Team has been participating in a variety of competitions to foster innovation and hands-on experience in the field of robotics. Moreover, the synthetic biology competition iGEM allows students to design and steer their own projects from development to implementation.

Intimacy of Creativity

The first-of-its-kind program in creative arts and music education. Renowned global composers and performers would be invited to participate in open discussions, lectures, and concerts which provide our students with a unique learning experience to be developed into innovative and imaginative thinkers.
WE CREATE
WE NURTURE TOMORROW’S ENTREPRENEURS

HKUST is a breeding ground for nascent entrepreneurs who aspire to become the global leaders of tomorrow and make a positive impact in the world.

We work closely with businesses and the community to foster an entrepreneurial spirit in our students and help them build startups by ensuring a smooth transition from ideation to execution.

Our students, faculty, and alumni have received international accolades over the years for their innovative products designed to make our lives better and easier.

2,808* PATENTS
180+ # START-UP AND SPIN-OFF COMPANIES
1,678^ INVENTION DISCLOSURE

* Cumulative number of new patent application processed as of 30 June 2018
# Number of economically active start-up and spin-off companies affiliated with HKUST as of 31 July 2018
^ Total number of invention disclosure as of 30 June 2018
One Million Dollar Entrepreneurship Competition

This annual competition, hosted in multiple cities in the region, enables our faculty, staff, students, and alumni located in Hong Kong, and aspiring entrepreneurs from Beijing and five other cities in the Greater Bay Area to form teams to pitch big business ideas. Winning teams will be rewarded with seed money to kick-start their businesses.

hackUST + hardUST

Asia’s largest student-driven hackathon is an annual event attracting programmers, designers, engineers, and industry experts to develop prototypes and exchange new ideas within 24 to 48 hours.
SUSTAINABILITY

At HKUST our research aims to help create socially, environmentally and economically sustainable cities. Modern cities have become increasingly complex in design and interacting systems require special solutions given how quickly change occurs. We approach this through various avenues that marry technology, social sciences, public policy, and the initiatives that allow for change to be implemented.

Develop a sense of responsibility for the environment and a strong commitment to sustainable development in our community. Think sustainable in our education, be sensitive to our environment, and contribute to a high quality of life.

Public Policy

We produce rigorous policy research for our future by applying evidence-based approaches to policy formation and fostering collaboration among scholars across disciplines such as science, engineering, business and management, humanities and social science on key challenges confronting the region.

Health

We aim to address global health needs through technology and innovation for the betterment of all citizens of the world. Frontier research projects conducted across our laboratories include Alzheimer’s disease, Parkinson’s disease, autism, and other complex health issues facing mankind today.

Smart Cities

Nurturing the people, infrastructure, policies, and platforms for interdisciplinary collaborations that will establish world-class cities of the future, while providing a broad platform to develop these initiatives.
We contribute to fostering global citizenship.

One Belt One Road

The OBOR initiative has created new possibilities for the business community around the globe. HKUST Business School is undertaking research work and building relationships to help businesses seize these new opportunities with the belt-and-road countries.

Big Data

Based on the requirements from both industry and society, Big Data Institute strives to provide a strong leadership role by setting up education programs, develop cross-institutional and research projects using big data.

HKUST Connect

We aim to build civic awareness and develop sustainable partnerships with the wider community, deepening student learning while promoting a benevolent world. Students will connect their service with academic experiences. An internship program, offered to HKUST students by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), is the latest example of our efforts to expand our students’ global vision through humanitarian work.

Living Lab

We provide a unique opportunity to bring real-world experiences into our campus by transforming it into a “living laboratory”, mirroring the outside community, testing ideas, investigating social problems, and piloting technologies.

Redbird Leadership Community

The leadership development program brings out leadership qualities in our students through training, mentoring, and community engagement projects, helping them become the best leaders of tomorrow.

Student Innovation for Global Health Technology (SIGHT)

Students coming from different cultural backgrounds work together to create practical solutions to healthcare problems in resource-poor communities.

One Belt One Road

The OBOR initiative has created new possibilities for the business community around the globe. HKUST Business School is undertaking research work and building relationships to help businesses seize these new opportunities with the belt-and-road countries.
WE ENJOY LIFE@HKUST

A vibrant and colorful student life goes far beyond classrooms and textbooks. At HKUST, we endeavor to help our students make the most of the entire university experience by devoting a lot of resources to enhance campus facilities and infrastructure, meet students’ well-being needs, and organize different types of activities to broaden their horizons and help them develop global and sustainable mindsets.
For Frank, flying is a dream he had always had since he was a kid. During his time at HKUST, he developed the embryonic drone with his friends, and later on he found DJI, which has since been grown into the no.1 drone company in the world.

Frank Wang
2006 Bachelor of Engineering in Electronic Engineering
2011 Master of Philosophy in Electronic and Computer Engineering
Founder and CEO, DJI

“\nI received tremendous support from professors who believed in my dreams. I want to give back and help the University grow into the best engineering university in the world.\n”

Emile Chan
2016 Master of Business Administration
Co-founder, Origami Labs

“\nThe HKUST MBA program has unified a group of professionals with a like-minded entrepreneurial spirit, where ideas foster and teams forged to turn innovative ideas into a commercial reality.\n”

Emile is a marketer who blurs the line between creativity, tech, and business. With his deep understanding of consumer insights and expertise in campaign strategy for tech and lifestyle products, he can connect customers at every level of ORII’s brand experience.
Grace graduated with an MPhil in Humanities and proceeded to pursue a career in literature research. Today, she is an assistant professor at the CUHK Department of Chinese Language and Literature, meeting and cultivating young minds who are as passionate as she is in the subject.

Grace Mak
2002 Master of Philosophy in Humanities
Filmmaker

“My study at HKUST has paved the way for me to meet the different challenges in my diversified career as both an academician and a filmmaker.”

Kimberley Vanessa Cheung
2016 Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry and Cell Biology
Professional Fencer

It was a challenge for Kimberley to get things done across different fronts. On one end, she is an adept fencer, representing Hong Kong in international games. On the other, she wanted to pursue her passion in Biochemistry. She did not disappoint in either, delivering victories for the city and graduating with honors in ’16.

“Thanks to the great support from HKUST, I was able to strike a perfect balance between fencing and study so to live my university life to the fullest.”
FIGURES AT A GLANCE

10 Research Institutes

Student Enrollment 15,555*

680+ Faculty Members and Teaching Staff Members

52 Research Centers

*Data as of September 2018
**STUDENT NUMBERS**  
(AS OF SEP 2018)

- **Science**  
  Total: 3,246  
  Undergraduate: 2,223  
  Postgraduate: 1,023

- **Engineering**  
  Total: 5,612  
  Undergraduate: 3,356  
  Postgraduate: 2,256

- **Business & Management**  
  Total: 5,048  
  Undergraduate: 3,396  
  Postgraduate: 1,652

- **Humanities & Social Science**  
  Total: 507  
  Undergraduate: 228  
  Postgraduate: 279

- **Interdisciplinary Programs**  
  Total: 1,142  
  Undergraduate: 792  
  Postgraduate: 350

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**SCHOOLS, PROGRAMS OFFICE, INSTITUTES**

- School of Science
- School of Engineering
- School of Business and Management
- School of Humanities and Social Science
- Interdisciplinary Programs Office
- HKUST Fok Ying Tung Graduate School/ Guangzhou HKUST Fok Ying Tung Research Institute
- HKUST Jockey Club Institute for Advanced Study (IAS)
- HKUST Institute for Public Policy

View more
STUDENT NUMBERS
ACADEMIC YEAR 18-19

9,558 / 5,997
LOCAL NON-LOCAL

Rest of the world
Mainland China
Other Asian countries

414 (6.9%) 1,353 (22.6%) 4,230 (70.5%)

SCHOOL RANKINGS

WORLD’S TOP 18
Global MBA Ranking in Financial Times in 2019
(Top 20 for 10 consecutive years)

WORLD’S TOP 18
in Engineering and Technology in QS 2019

WORLD’S TOP 23
in Materials Science in QS 2019

WORLD’S TOP 26
in Social Sciences in QS 2019

80+
NATIONALITIES

Photo credit: Joe Traipattanakul
A HUB OF GREAT MINDS

The University attracts globally acclaimed scholars from leading universities of different regions. Our diverse faculty members are engaged in many emerging and dynamic fields. 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.
Fully 100% of our university faculty team* holds doctoral degrees, mostly from top-notch universities.

FACULTY

Boston
Brown
Cambridge
Carnegie-Mellon
Chicago
Columbia
Cornell
Duke
Harvard
Illinois

London
Maryland
Michigan
MIT
New York
Northwestern
Oxford
Pennsylvania
Princeton
Purdue

Southern California
Stanford
Toronto
UBC
UC Berkeley
UCLA
Washington
Yale

* Tenure track faculty – Assistant Professor or above
WE ARE PROUD OF OUR ACCLAIMED FACULTY
Local, national and international awards and recognition exemplify our scholars’ combined efforts to make a difference through science and technology. Scan the QR code below to view more award-winning faculty members over the years.

2017 IEEE Electron Devices Society Education Award
2017 Michael G. Gale Medal for Distinguished Teaching
2017 Prize for Scientific and Technological Progress of the Ho Leung Ho Lee Foundation
2017 Research Article of the Year in the Journal of Agricultural and Food Chemistry
2017 Telford Premium Award
2017 Prix R M Quigley Award (Honorable mention)
2018 Chemical Research in Toxicology Young Investigator Award
2018 Doctor of Science honoris causa
2018 Rolf Landauer Medal
2018 University Grants Committee (UGC) Teaching Award
2019 IEEE Robotics and Automation Technical Field Award
Croucher Innovation Awards 2018
Croucher Senior Research Fellowship Award for 2018-19
Fellow of the Society for Financial Econometrics
First Prize of 2017 Hong Kong Construction Industry Council (CIC] Innovation Award
First-class State Natural Science Award 2017
Inaugural President of the International Chinese Sociological Association
Invisible Silent Superheroes by the Institution of Civil Engineers Hong Kong Association
President of Association of Asia-Pacific Business Schools
President of the International Society for Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (ISSMGE)
US National Inventors Hall of Fame

View more
Grooming well-rounded students goes beyond the classroom, therefore our multi-purpose Shaw Auditorium, expected to be completed in 2021, will be a central and important space for many teaching and cultural programs that will nurture aptitudes for creativity, critical thinking, and problem-solving, the skills required for success in the increasingly globalized yet challenging society.

Regionally, the University’s new branch campus in Guangzhou will serve as an important foothold for HKUST to assume a pivotal role in boosting innovation and technology development in the Greater Bay Area, as we continue to nurture talent to tackle the dire challenges of the 21st century, such as wealth inequality, unequal opportunities, and aging in multiple communities.

From its home base, HKUST has been cultivating changes in thinking and behavior. Starting with sustainability, HKUST will turn its campus into a living laboratory for anyone who can identify and come up with solutions to problems around them, complementing the University’s strategy of advancing research excellence to solve today’s biggest problems through its alliances of more than 250 academic, research, and industry partners globally.