WHO WE ARE

- A **focused 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, whilst having 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 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
“Despite a relatively short history, 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 top in the world. At HKUST, we have been striving to promote technological innovation, groom leaders of tomorrow and open up vast opportunities for our students.”

The Hon Andrew Liao Cheung-Sing, GBS, SC, JP
Chairman of the Council, HKUST
HKUST was founded with a specific mission: to develop science and technology to help drive and 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

Fully 100% of our faculty are doctorate holders, 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 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 these priorities are:

- Nano-science and nano-technology
- Life science and biotechnology
- Electronics, wireless and information technology
- Environment and sustainable development
- Energy
- Management education and research
“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 47% in 2016-2017. Our location in Hong Kong at the edge of booming China further offers 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.
NURTURING CREATIVE THINKERS AND CONTRIBUTING CITIZENS

In 2012, Hong Kong restructured its undergraduate education from three to four years. We seized this opportunity to totally redesign our curriculum, so as to provide a holistic student experience and breadth of vision that are unique to an education at HKUST.

In addition to strong, discipline-based programs, we offer interdisciplinary opportunities and double major and minor programs making it possible to explore different capabilities, and opening the way to critical thinking and lifelong intellectual curiosity.

Our internationally oriented campus community and a host of co-curricular activities also help to develop soft skills, values and character.

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, My Top 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
BOOSTING ACTIVE LEARNING AND LIVING

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 global network of around 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 reframe the city’s driver of economic progress. It has inspired the transfer of new knowledge from campus to company.

The phenomenal output achieved at HKUST has seen the University file over 2,240 patents through its Technology Transfer Center and engage in the commercialization of technologies through its HKUST R and D Corporation Ltd.

In addition, 50 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.
“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...*

**Prof Stephen Hawking**  
University of Cambridge

**Bill Gates**  
Chairman, Microsoft

**Dr Thomas F. Rosenbaum**  
President  
California Institute of Technology

**Prof Steven Chu**  
Nobel Laureate in Physics 1997  
Former US Secretary of Energy
“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.”

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—it is the outlook of HKUST. 

---

Oleg Deripaska  
Founder & CEO, UC RUSAL  

---

Prof Dan Shechtman  
Philip Tobias Professor of Materials Science, Technion – Israel Institute of Technology  
2011 Nobel Laureate in Chemistry

Dr France A. Córdova  
Director, National Science Foundation, US

Prof John Ellis  
King’s College London & European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN)

Prof David Gross  
Nobel Laureate in Physics
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

Mr Zhang Xinguo  
Vice President, 
Aviation Industry Corporation of China

Dr Fu Zhenbang  
Member of the Secretariat, 
Central Committee Communist Youth League of China

Mr Liu Chuanzhi  
Chairman of the Board of Legend Holdings Corporation 
Founder of Lenovo Group Limited
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
HKUST continuously strives to ensure that it is 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.

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
A VISIONARY COURSE OF ACTION IS 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 THE STRATEGIC VISION FOR HKUST?

The University community set out a five-year Strategic Plan in 2011, which defined our direction in six developmental areas: education, research development, faculty development, community engagement, international and Mainland China strategy, and organization and resources. Through building on these key areas, we are extending student diversity and our holistic education programs, developing research clusters to advance areas of global imperative, and driving forward knowledge transfer and entrepreneurship.

HOW IS HKUST REALIZING ITS EDUCATION VISION?

With Hong Kong’s move to a four-year bachelor degree system, our undergraduate experience provides a truly exhilarating education. Minors, interdisciplinary work, joint degrees, exchanges and our signature Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program, along with internships and mentoring, community service, international competitions, and sportsmanship are all offered. In this way, we nurture globally aware and caring graduates with wide-ranging perspectives and highly competitive employability.
**AS A RESEARCH-INTENSIVE UNIVERSITY, HOW DO YOU APPROACH POSTGRADUATE EDUCATION?**

An innovative experience awaits our research postgraduates. In addition to involvement in exciting projects and studies, and interaction with top faculty, we pay special attention to fostering an entrepreneurial spirit and personal development in areas such as communication skills. This broadens our graduates’ prospects beyond the academic sector, providing business and industry with innovative talent and further boosting economic development through the creation of start-ups.

**HOW WILL YOU ATTRACT AND RETAIN LEADING FACULTY MEMBERS?**

We are implementing a faculty hiring plan across departments and an internationally competitive compensation system to keep a diverse global mix of high-achievers. Faculty members already include a Nobel Laureate and other top awardees; academicians and fellows; researchers-turned-entrepreneurs; and artists.
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 develop more scope for our researchers and students, and to draw the best students and faculty from around the world to HKUST.

HOW IS HKUST EXTENDING ITS IMPACT IN MAINLAND CHINA?

We are enhancing our presence through selected partnerships with cities and locations, such as neighboring Shenzhen and the Pearl River Delta, and institutional alliances. We are also generating greater awareness of HKUST among the business sector, government, and media through participation in major forums.
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
FIRST-RATE MINDS THAT SHAPE THE FUTURE

The School of Science offers a broad spectrum of programs in biological sciences, physics, chemistry and mathematics for undergraduates and postgraduates, with emphasis on developing innovative curricula in areas of technological importance.

The School also undertakes cutting-edge research. Our diverse faculty members are engaged 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.

The establishment of the State Key Laboratory of Molecular Neuroscience at HKUST further builds on the School’s existing foundation of excellence.

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

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

- 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 neuromuscular disorders
- Milestone discovery on the action mechanisms of animal visual systems, contributing to understanding of human disorders such as retinilis pigmentosa and night blindness
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, aerospace 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, geomaterials to vision and graphics.

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.

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 (E³I), now helping to propel the School to the forefront of engineering education scholarship and student development.

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 #14 in the World’s Top 400 Universities in Engineering and Technology (#1 in Hong Kong for 6 years in a row) by QS World University Rankings 2015
SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT

“Asia’s youngest but most respected Business School”

Financial Times
TRAINING INSPIRATIONAL LEADERS IN ASIA FOR THE WORLD

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 background provides 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 while signature programs such as the BBA in Global Business have helped to break new ground in Hong Kong.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

- Kellogg-HKUST Executive MBA Program ranked #1 in the world by the Financial Times from 2009-2013, for the fifth year in a row
- MBA Program ranked #8 in the world by the Financial Times in 2013
- Network of around 130 undergraduate exchange partners and around 80 postgraduate exchange partners with leading business schools in the world

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, 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 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 #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.
IGNITING INTERACTION AND THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

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 is attracting 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; and Prof Gunther Uhlmann, world-renowned mathematician.

The Institute 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, IAS 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 700 distinguished lectures, seminars, conferences and workshops have been held since the founding of the Institute in 2006

Located on 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 an IAS Commons during term times, and topical research programs in summer and winter.
HKUST FOK YING TUNG GRADUATE SCHOOL
SPRINGBOARD TO DEVELOPMENT

In January 2007, Fok Ying Tung Graduate School was established to be HKUST’s base and springboard in the Mainland for knowledge transfer, applied researches, and technology commercialization with economic and social impacts. Located in the Nansha IT Park, the School’s building has a floor area of 36,000 sqm and contains advanced laboratories and facilities including 16 wet labs. To support “Public Entrepreneurship and Mass Innovation (大眾創業; 萬眾創新)*, with focus on Internet of Things; Advanced Manufacturing and Automation; Advanced Materials; and Green Buildings and Environment, the School is building an international entrepreneurship platform to foster technology innovation and start-up incubation, and a smart manufacturing platform for local industries’ transformation under “Made in China 2025” initiative.

In addition to the base at Nansha, there are two other Mainland platforms of HKUST in the PRD region. The HKUST Shenzhen Research Institute (SRI) is situated in the HKUST SZ IER Building at the Nanshan Hi-tech Park of Shenzhen. The SZ IER Building has a floor area of 15,000 sqm. SRI currently is the host of two National 973 Projects and one Shenzhen Peacock team. SRI also accommodates the MBA Program at Shenzhen and promotes the entrepreneurship of HKUST in the Shenzhen area. The HKUST LED-FPD Technology R&D Center at Foshan is a joint venture between HKUST and the Municipal Government of Nanhai District at Foshan. The Center has a total area of 2,000 sqm, focusing on the R&D, technology transfer, and testing services for the solid-state lighting industries.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

- Commercializing a cutting edge technology of intelligent control system for precision injection molding machines with industry partners in optimizing the production yield rate of plastic component manufacturing
- Leading to big data applications by smart tourism technology integrated with various data platforms to bring interactive touring experience to end users and embrace traditional industry with Internet of Things (IoT) for new growth
- Advancing new materials for market-driven innovation on super-light weight & high strength properties and value propositions along with nano-based composite technology for the major industries of South China
- Pioneering to be a unique incubation platform at Nansha, Guangdong. HK & Macao (International) Youth Entrepreneur Hub is positioned as an international entrepreneurship platform for talents in PRD region with technology innovation focus
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.

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 coordinates and promotes academic research, nurtures commercial applications with industrial partners, and serves both the healthcare sector and general community

The Division of Environment and the 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.
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

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

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

1997 Joint research laboratory in nanostructure materials and technology with Chinese Academy of Sciences

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 a 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

Became 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

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

2003  HKUST Institute of NanoMaterials and NanoTechnology launched

Achieved new advances in electro rheological fluids

Discovered superconductivity in world’s smallest single-carbon nanotubes
MILESTONES

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 awarded the status of International Science and Technology Cooperation Base by the Chinese government to promote collaborations between Mainland, HKUST and international partners
Made breakthrough that decodes the secret of schizophrenia

2009 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

2007 Kellogg-HKUST Executive MBA ranked #1 in the world (Financial Times Global EMBA Rankings)
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 
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