

# First Inauguration Ceremony of Named Professorships

February 7, 2013

## PARTNERSHIP FOR EXCELLENCE

"The University has established the Named Professorship Program to recognize outstanding faculty members who are driving our mission for academic greatness. The 13 professors receiving the honor today are both innovative scholars and inspirational teachers. But excellence does not exist in isolation. The generous support of our donors is therefore most important in helping the University and our faculty realize our dreams. This historic ceremony is therefore a tribute to the achievers both in academia and industry, one for their dedication and innovation, the other for their benevolence and friendship."

Professor Tony F Chan  
HKUST President



Prof Kalok Chan



Prof Ping Sheng



Prof Hoi Sing Kwok



Prof Bright Sheng



Prof Jaideep Sengupta



Prof Albert Ha



Prof Mingjie Zhang



Prof Benzhong Tang



Prof Nancy Ip



Prof James Kung



Prof Chung Yee Lee



Prof Tongyi Zhang



Prof Matthew McKay

### Existing professorship holders

#### Synergis-Geoffrey YEH Professorship in Business

"Education is the foundation of a successful life, no matter what one decides to pursue. I am lucky enough to have benefitted from the generosity of others and be nurtured by inspiring and supportive mentors during my college years. The professorship is an opportunity for me to give back and to help HKUST attract the best and brightest to teach its talented students."

Dr Geoffrey Yeh

Dr Geoffrey Yeh and Synergis Management Services Ltd

#### Prof Kalok Chan, Department of Finance Synergis-Geoffrey YEH Professor of Business

Prof Chan's current research interests include liquidity and trading costs, trading strategies, and international finance.

#### Dr William M W Mong Professorship in Nanoscience

"We believe that the transformation of society relies on technological advancement. We hope our donation to the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology will not only enhance its search for excellence in nanoscience and nanotechnology, but also expand Hong Kong's horizons in scientific discovery beyond the local community."

Mr David Mong

Shun Hing Education and Charity Fund

#### Prof Ping Sheng, Department of Physics Dr William M W Mong Professor of Nanoscience

Prof Sheng's research is in the area of condensed matter physics.

#### Dr William M W Mong Professorship in Nanotechnology

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#### Prof Hoi-Sing Kwok, Department of Electronic and Computer Engineering Dr William M W Mong Professor of Nanotechnology

Prof Kwok's research interests include display technologies, light emitting thin film materials.

### Visiting professorship holder

#### Y K Pao Visiting Professorship in Cultural Studies

"The University, as its name implies, was conceived as an institution to focus principally on scientific research and technological advancement. Engineering schools often have the dubious distinction of being too specialised, too wrapped up in themselves, too lost in data. In other words, short on imagination and joie de vivre, and without a broader vision.

To ensure that this image would not apply to UST, this first visiting professorship was established to address culture in its broadest sense with the aim to expose students to literature as well as to music, to visual and performing arts in order to provide them with a well-rounded education.

The chair is named after Sir Yue-Kong Pao (1918-91), a leading Hong Kong industrialist and arts benefactor."

Dr Helmut and Mrs Anna Sohmen

#### Prof Bright Sheng, School of Humanities and Social Science Y K Pao Distinguished Visiting Professor of Cultural Studies

Prof Sheng is an active conductor, composer and pianist. He is the Founder and Artistic Director of The Intimacy of Creativity.

### Newly appointed professorship holders

#### Joseph Lau Professorship in Business

"High quality tertiary education is more important than ever in this increasingly knowledge-driven global economy. It is my honor to support the HKUST Named Professorship Program which recognizes individuals for their academic excellence. I am so glad about Professor Jaideep Sengupta's and other professors' academic commitment and contribution to the future of Hong Kong. I have faith that the Joseph Lau Professorship in Business will continue to inspire others through learning and in this, HKUST will always have my utmost support."

Mr Joseph Lau Luen Hung

The Joseph Lau Luen Hung Charitable Trust

#### Prof Jaideep Sengupta, Department of Marketing Joseph Lau Professor of Business

Prof Sengupta's research interest lies in the area of customer psychology.

#### Wei Lun Foundation Professorship in Business

"For the past two decades, the Wei Lun Foundation has been privileged to be part of the rise of HKUST to international prominence and is proud of its association with the School of Business and Management through the Wei Lun Fellowships program. As the landscape of tertiary education evolves, priorities are re-evaluated and objectives changed to ensure academic and teaching excellence are upheld. Therefore, it is our intention to establish the Wei Lun Foundation Professorship in Business to enable the Business School to stay at the forefront and to continue to bring new insights to the field of business studies. We sincerely look forward to this new chapter of our partnership with the University."

Dr and Mrs Quo-Wei Lee

Wei Lun Foundation

#### Prof Albert Ha, Department of Information Systems, Business Statistics and Operations Wei Lun Foundation Professor of Business

Prof Ha's research interests are in the areas of supply chain management.

#### Kerry Holdings Professorship in Business

"We are very happy to support HKUST as it continues to uphold its standards of world class research and teaching.

As Asia develops, and in particular as China's economic growth accelerates, we need to continue unraveling the mysteries of the human body to create new innovations in medical treatment. An aging population will also present additional challenges for medicine. It is in this context that we believe the life sciences, through ongoing research and development, can help to ensure that even as our societies develop, quality of life for human beings is sustained.

We believe that Hong Kong needs to continue playing its role in the advancement of medical knowledge and treatment, to better serve her own population as well as those in China and other parts of Asia. We wish HKUST much success in its endeavors to excel in the life sciences."

Mr Robert Kuok

Kerry Holdings Limited

#### Prof Mingjie Zhang, Division of Life Science Kerry Holdings Professor of Science

Prof Zhang's research area embraces molecular mechanism governing the neuronal signal transduction and molecular basis of protein complexes regulating cell polarity establishment and maintenance.

#### Stephen Kam Chuen Cheong Professorship in Science

"The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology has always held a dear place in my family's heart and cherish our longstanding partnership with the University. We are tremendously proud of the establishments of the Stephen Kam Chuen Cheong Professorship in Science and the Cheong Ying Chan Professorship in Engineering, named in honor of my late husband, Stephen Kam Chuen Cheong and his father, respectively. It is my personal and my family's hope that the University could continue to create breakthroughs in the realms of science and engineering which would ultimately lead to the betterment of humankind."

Mrs Joan Cheong

Stephen Kam Chuen Cheong Education Fund

#### Prof Benzhong Tang, Department of Chemistry Stephen Kam Chuen Cheong Professor of Science

Prof Tang's research interests include polymer chemistry, materials science, and biomedical engineering.

### The Morningside Professorship in Life Science

"The twentieth century saw an explosive growth in man's knowledge of physics and chemistry. By applying this knowledge to living organisms, man in the twenty-first century is poised to reap prodigious new understanding of how biological life functions, and with that, the prospect of correcting malfunctions in disease states. The Morningside Professorship in Life Science affirms this human endeavor."

Dr Gerald Chan and Mr Ronnie Chan  
Morningside Foundation

#### Prof Nancy Ip, Division of Life Science The Morningside Professor of Life Science

Prof Ip's research interests lie in the area of neuroscience and drug discovery for neurodegenerative diseases.

### Yan Ai Foundation Professorship in Social Science

"At Yan Ai, our core focus and contribution have been in education and investing in our future generations. We believe in providing the same opportunities to those children living in the rural areas in our own country so that they may have the chance to participate on a level playing field in the global society that you and I are part of today. Social Sciences open a window and draws society's attention to our socio-economic issues. We will together, need to make every effort to tackle our humanitarian issues today."

Mr Michael Ying  
Yan Ai Foundation

#### Prof James Kung, Division of Social Science Yan Ai Foundation Professor of Social Science

Prof Kung's research interest is strongly steeped in the history, institutions, and development of China.

### Cheong Ying Chan Professorship in Engineering

"The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology has always held a dear place in my family's heart and cherish our longstanding partnership with the University. We are tremendously proud of the establishments of the Stephen Kam Chuen Cheong Professorship in Science and the Cheong Ying Chan Professorship in Engineering, named in honor of my late husband, Stephen Kam Chuen Cheong and his father, respectively. It is my personal and my family's hope that the University could continue to create breakthroughs in the realms of science and engineering which would ultimately lead to the betterment of humankind."

Mrs Joan Cheong  
Stephen Kam Chuen Cheong Education Fund

#### Prof Chung-Yee Lee, Department of Industrial Engineering and Logistics Management Cheong Ying Chan Professor of Engineering

Prof Lee's research areas are in logistics and supply chain management, scheduling and inventory management.

### Fang Professorship in Engineering

"Since its inception 22 years ago, HKUST has long been a model of academic excellence. HKUST provides promising students exceptional opportunities to learn, grow and lead. I feel very proud and fortunate to be in a position where I can offer a token of my great admiration and appreciation. This professorship will help in strengthening our commitment in sustainability and our passion for the environment."

Mr Kenneth Fang  
Fang Brothers Group

#### Prof Tongyi Zhang, Department of Mechanical Engineering Fang Professor of Engineering

Prof Zhang's research focuses on mechanical properties of materials, micro/nanomechanics and environmental degradation of materials.

### Hari Harilela Professorship

"I have been associated with the Hong Kong University of Science & Technology since 1994 as a Court Member. It is a matter of pride that within a short period it is now recognized as one of the world's top 50 universities and Asia's No.1. HKUST is known as a research university for achieving research breakthrough in a number of areas. Education has always been very close to my heart and therefore, on my 90th birthday, I decide to give support to HKUST."

Dr Hari Harilela and Mrs Padma Harilela

Prof Matthew McKay, Department of Electronic and Computer Engineering  
Hari Harilela Associate Professor of Electronic & Computer Engineering  
Prof McKay's research interests include in particular the analysis and design of multiple-input multiple-output (MIMO) systems, signal processing, random matrix theory, information theory, wireless ad-hoc networks, and physical layer security.