



香港恒生大學
THE HANG SENG UNIVERSITY
OF HONG KONG

2023/24

CAMPUS SUSTAINABILITY

HIGHLIGHTS



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PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Sustainability is at the heart of the wide range of activities that The Hang Seng University of Hong Kong (HSUHK) and its community undertaking. We have been putting emphasis on providing a sustainable built campus environment for our research, teaching and learning activities. The principle of sustainability is manifested by HSUHK being the first higher education institution in Hong Kong awarded the BEAM Plus (version 1.1) ‘Platinum’ rating for five of our newer buildings, i.e. S H Ho Academic Building, Lee Shau Kee Complex, Lee Quo Wei Academic Building, the BEAM Plus (version 1.2) ‘Platinum’ Rating for the HSUHK Jockey Club Residential Colleges and the BEAM Plus (version 2.0) Provisional ‘Platinum’ rating for Creative Humanities Hub. This and other recognitions and achievements affirm the University’s leading role in promoting green initiatives in the region.

In January 2024, to align the University with international sustainability standards with socially responsible campus services, procurement and other operations, the Sustainability and Social Responsibility Committee (SUSRC) was established. The Working Group on Energy Conservation and Sustainable Campus was formed under the Committee to continue the mission of the former group, “Working Group on Energy Conservation and Sustainability”, to identify and facilitate the implementation of practical measures on resources conservation and anti-pollution by engaging staff and students.

We believe that our efforts on sustainability should be from “ground-up”, involving each and every one of YOU, as part of the HSUHK Community. Tell us how we may collectively, continuously and creatively steer towards a more sustainable campus life and culture. You can also join us in our future green initiatives and share with us your ideas. A small step from you, a big step for HSUHK – Let’s “**Think Green · Act Green** at HSUHK”!

Professor Simon HO
President
The Hang Seng University of Hong Kong

GREEN HIGHLIGHTS

5



New building projects since 2012 have been certified by BEAM Plus for New Buildings, **4** awarded with Platinum as the final rating and **1** awarded with Platinum as the provisional rating.



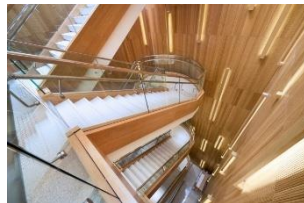
Echoing the Low Carbon Charter, the University has started to conduct carbon audit and has set target to reduce **15%** of our energy consumption by 2029/30 with 2018/19 as the baseline year.



Participated in the 2021 UI GreenMetric World University Rankings, being at

out of **1477** universities from 95 countries and HSUHK was the only **1** university in Hong Kong ranked.

1st university in Hong Kong to widely adopt bamboo as building material and plantation of over **8** species of bamboo.



Received **14** awards and certificates in recognition of the community contributions by the University and our staff since 2012.



1 academic building was completed, Creative Humanities Hub, to provide teaching and learning facilities and offices in 2024. The new building is targeted to achieve final Platinum award in BEAM Plus (2.0).



112 & 86 PV panels installed on roof floors of 3 blocks at Residential Colleges & roofs of Creative Humanities Hub, to generate around **34,000 & 30,000** units of electricity annually.

ABOUT THE HANG SENG UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

The roots of The Hang Seng University of Hong Kong (HSUHK) stretch back to 1980 when Hang Seng School of Commerce (HSSC) was established, with funding from the S H Ho Foundation, the Ho Tim Charitable Foundation, Dah Chong Hong Limited, several Hang Seng Bank founding directors and Hang Seng Bank Limited. The institution was incorporated as a limited company by guarantee and has been operating independently of any other organisation. From 1980 to 2009, HSSC was a pioneering and leading provider of post-secondary programmes in business and related areas.

In response to the Chief Executive’s Policy Address in 2009 which highlighted the growing significance of quality private universities in Hong Kong, HSSC was re-structured in 2010 and became Hang Seng Management College (HSMC), a non-profit private university-level institution registered under the Post Secondary Colleges Ordinance (Cap. 320) to offer bachelor’s and above degree programmes in diversified disciplines.

After a rigorous international accreditation process, on 30 October 2018, HSMC was granted approval by the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) to change its title from “Hang Seng Management College” to “The Hang Seng University of Hong Kong”.

HSUHK aspires to be a leading non-profit private liberal-arts-oriented university in the region, recognised for excellence in teaching, learning and research, and for contributions to advancing our society and the world. HSUHK has five Schools (Business, Communication, Decision Sciences, Humanities and Social Science, and Translation and Foreign Languages), with around 6,000 full-time students and over 200 full-time academic staff members at present.

HSUHK offers a wide range of 4-year bachelor's (honours) degree programmes and master's degree programmes. Many of these programmes are unique and the first of its kind in the region. All programmes were accredited by the Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications (HKCAAVQ) and recognised by the Governments of the HKSAR, Mainland China and Taiwan.

The “Liberal + Professional” Education Model

Adopting a unique “Liberal + Professional” education model, The Hang Seng University of Hong Kong (HSUHK) places its highest priorities on quality teaching and students’ all-round development. HSUHK believes the purpose of undergraduate education is not mainly to help students acquire more knowledge and better job prospects after graduation, but also to cultivate their personal values, interests, and competencies. The transformative power of this educational model will facilitate students’ realisation of their full potential.

In our educational model, drawing inspiration from Amartya Sen’s Capability Approach, the “Liberal” education at HSUHK is committed to nurturing students’ freedom to think and thrive in the global village of the 21st century. Our aim is to empower students to pursue their aspirations by fostering core transferrable competencies such as critical thinking, creativity, interpersonal communication/collaboration, human caring attitude, moral reasoning, and social responsibility. “Liberal” also represents a broad and cross-disciplinary approach to connect knowledge domains, facilitate thinking, and solve problems, especially in the University-wide common core curriculum. This enables our students to tackle the complex challenges of their future life/work with confidence and fulfilment.

Unlike most fresh graduates of liberal arts colleges in the West who continue to pursue postgraduate studies, fresh graduates in Hong Kong mostly seek full-time jobs. “Professional” in this model represents the incorporation of professional subject elements in many of our major programmes, which equip students with transferrable professional competencies, professionalism and ethics that are required in future careers options.

Additionally, subjects such as business management, sustainability and information technology are essentially seen as liberal arts disciplines, centred on human values.

In our curriculum design, there is a good balance of major studies, common core curriculum and free electives with measurable learning outcomes, with ample development opportunities and experiential activities which form students' holistic educational experience. These opportunities and activities include residential college experience, internship, service-learning projects, leadership training, global exchange programmes and independent research, among others.

HSUHK adopts many core liberal arts education elements in its education process. Some distinctive features include:

- A primary focus on undergraduate education.
- Platinum award-winning campus facilities with extensive bamboo features.
- Innovative degree programmes.
- A cross-disciplinary Common Core Curriculum.
- A Residential College System combining living with learning.
- Interactive small-class teaching.
- Close student-teacher relationships.
- Teachers' guidance and mentorship for individual students in and outside classrooms.
- An Honours Academy, the first of its kind in Hong Kong, dedicated to the incubation of future public leaders.
- Extensive outreaching and experiential learning opportunities.
- The "One Student One Internship" scheme, which provides every student full-time internship opportunities local or overseas.

Desired Graduate Attributes (iGPS)

The University aims to nurture students possessing the following 'desired graduate attributes: iGPS':

1. **Intellectual Competence (i)**: a solid foundation in relevant academic disciplines, and the ability to think critically, to solve problems analytically and proactively, and to engage in lifelong learning.
2. **Generic Skills (G)**: mastery of skills in:
 - languages in both English and Chinese (Cantonese and Putonghua);
 - the use of information technology and data analysis tools;
 - interpersonal communication;
 - teamwork and leadership.
3. **Personal Development (P)**: development of self-awareness, ethical values, emotion management, personal effectiveness, work attitude and character.
4. **Social Engagement (S)**: willingness to serve the community and a commitment to acting for the betterment of society.

The acronym iGPS also carries the symbolic meaning of 'I' and the 'GPS'; with 'I' referring to the individual student and 'GPS' taking on the metaphor of 'Global Positioning System', which can guide the development of the student through the diverse educational experience at HSUHK.

Recognitions and Awards

With the concerted efforts of the University community, HSUHK has achieved a number of important accomplishments.

HSUHK obtained the ISO 9001 Certification in Quality Management System (QMS) on its degree programmes, as well as a full score of 5.0 in the CSR Index assessment on the University, both issued by the Hong Kong Quality Assurance Agency.

HSUHK was the first higher education institution in Hong Kong to receive the highest BEAM Plus Platinum recognition from the Hong Kong Green Building Council, with all of its four new buildings then having received such recognition, which affirmed the University's commitment to environmental protection and campus sustainability. With its deliberate and extensive bamboo planting and use of bamboo building materials and furniture, the University is being fondly recognised as 'Junzi University' (literally "University of Noble Character"), reflecting its aspiration to realise the virtues that bamboo personifies: integrity, humility, grace and resilience.

The HSUHK campus is among the 55 buildings in Hong Kong to receive the 'GBA Low Carbon Buildings TOP 100 Award' in 2022, showing the University's effort in promoting low-carbon development in the region.

From 2014 to 2024, HSUHK has secured HK\$367.64 million for implementing 267 projects from different external funding schemes or bodies. In the nine-year cumulative period since 2014/15, HSUHK received the highest funding amount and recorded the highest number of awarded research projects under the Research Grants Council's 'Competitive Research Funding Schemes for the Local Self-financing Degree Sector'.

HSMC/HSUHK is also the first and the only local higher education institution having received the "Outstanding School Social Responsibility Award" (university category) 2018 and 2019 from the Mirror Post, and the "Asia Excellence Brand Award 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023" from Yazhou Zhoukan.

HSUHK was listed among the top 200 universities globally for 'Quality Education' and 'Decent Work and Economic Growth' in the 2021 Times Higher Education Impact Rankings, which reflected that the University was recognised as a pioneer in responsible management and sustainability education in the region.

HSUHK is listed the 7th (overall) in the ASEAN+ region, the 1st in the Greater China region, and the 1st in Employability as per the 2023 AppliedHE ASEAN+ private university assessment by the Singapore-based AppliedHE.

Additionally, HSUHK is also listed 18th in the 'Best Business and Management Universities in China 2023' assessment, as announced by Research.com, a leading academic research portal.

