



Press Release – For Immediate Release

To: Assignment Editor/Editor of Education and Local News Sections

10 May 2026

HSUHK scholar’s AI animated short film receives multiple international festival recognitions

An AI animated short film, *Sushi Party*, directed by Dr Sobel Chan, Senior Lecturer at the School of Communication (SCOM) of The Hang Seng University of Hong Kong (HSUHK), has garnered a series of international recognitions across art-tech, AI cinema and animation film festivals. The film has been invited to participate in the Miami Art-Tech Summit 2025, AI Film Awards Cannes 2025, AI Short Film Festival Larissa Lumina 2025, and the Brighton International Animation Festival (BIAF) 2026. It has also been shortlisted for the finals of the Neu Wave AI Film Festival 2025, demonstrating strong international recognition from the professional film festival community.

Sushi Party was selected for the “You’ve Got to Laugh” comedy animation programme of BIAF 2026, and was screened at the Brighton Dome Studio Theatre in the UK on 25 April 2026. This selection is particularly meaningful as BIAF is a British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA)-qualifying animation festival, further affirming the film’s international exposure and professional acclaim.

Dr Chan said that *Sushi Party* incorporates a wide range of AI technologies, with AI tools used throughout the creative process — from content development and visual design to sound production. The short film’s songs, transition effects and some layered visual sequences were also generated with AI assistance, showcasing the vast potential of AI in audiovisual creation. He noted that the project is not only a technical experiment, but also an exploration of storytelling, animation and comedic expression through generative AI. Looking ahead, he plans to adopt an even broader range of AI tools in future short film production, while inspiring students to broaden their creative horizons, experiment boldly with diverse short film formats, and explore more possibilities in the integration of AI and creative media.

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Photo:



Photo caption: *Sushi Party* is selected for the “You’ve Got to Laugh” comedy animation programme at Brighton International Animation Festival 2026.

Photo Download: [Link](#)

About The Hang Seng University of Hong Kong

The Hang Seng University of Hong Kong (HSUHK) is a non-profit private liberal-arts-oriented university with six Schools (Business, Communication, Decision Sciences, Humanities and Social Science, Translation and Foreign Languages, and Transdisciplinary Studies), and over 7,000 full-time undergraduate and postgraduate students. With its unique “Liberal + Professional” education model, HSUHK nurtures young talent with critical thinking, innovative minds, caring attitudes, moral values and social responsibility.

Aspiring to be a leading private university in the region, HSUHK prioritises stellar undergraduate education, top-quality faculty members, award-winning green campus facilities, innovative degree programmes, a unique residential college system that combines living and learning, interactive small-class teaching, close student-teacher relationships, impactful research, and excellent student development and support services.

HSUHK has earned various international recognitions. In the AppliedHE’s ALL ASIA Private University Ranking 2026, it secured 7th place in China. HSUHK ranked 22nd in Social Sciences and Humanities and 23rd in both Business and Management and Economics and Finance among China’s top universities in the Research.com Top Universities and Top Scientists Rankings 2026. The MSc in Global Supply Chain Management programme achieved 84th place globally in the QS International Trade Rankings 2025. Additionally, HSUHK’s School of Business obtained AACSB International accreditation in 2023, a mark of excellence held by only 6% of the world’s leading business schools.



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HSUHK was also ranked among the top 200 worldwide on “Quality Education” and “Decent Work and Economic Growth” in the Times Higher Education University Impact Rankings 2021.