

Season's Message 2022 from the President

23 December 2022

Dear Members of the HSUHK Family,

As we are approaching the end of 2022 and Christmas is on our doorstep, I would like to take this opportune time to send my appreciation and season's greetings to the HSUHK community.

The first semester of 2022/23 has been a fruitful one. The University, our faculty and students have been recognized for their achievements on various fronts. Apart from the developments I mentioned in my New Academic Year Message (2022-23) in early September 2022, I would like to share with you some recent major advancements highlighted below.

1. New Programmes

The Chief Executive-in-Council has just granted approval this week for the University to award degrees for the retitling of an undergraduate programme and two new taught postgraduate programmes:

- BBA in Financial Analysis and FinTech (retitled from BBA in Financial Analysis);
- MA in Cultural Heritage Management;
- MSocSc in Public Policy and Risk Governance.

The University will keep reviewing and enhancing our programme offering to nurture talents with the competencies needed for the sustainable development of society.

2. Increase in Mainland, Macao and Taiwan Student Admission Quotas

With the approval from the Ministry of Education of the People's Republic of China, starting from 2023-24, the quota of maximum enrolment of Mainland, Macao, and Taiwan (MMT) undergraduate students (including top-up degree) in a particular

year would be raised from 10% to 20% of the total student enrolment in the preceding academic year.

The raise in the quota will help increase the cultural diversity of the University community and enhance exchanges between our local students and MMT students.

3. Collaboration with The Sports Federation & Olympic Committee (SF&OC) of Hong Kong

HSUHK and SF&OC signed a MOU on Hong Kong Athletes Education Programme on 11 November 2022 to support athletes in dual academic and sports development. HSUHK will provide flexible study arrangements for the retired or to be retiring athletes recommended by SF&OC and provide them with designated support in academic and career planning.

4. Teaching and Learning

Summer study programmes at overseas renowned institutions

To support students to widen their international and intercultural exposure, the University has recently secured a number of summer non-credit-bearing study places for our high-achieving students at the University of Oxford, Harvard University, University of California, Berkeley, and University of Vienna. Some of these study places will be made exclusive for our Honours Academy students while some places will be open to all students. These finely-selected students will be granted a subsidy to complete the programme, and upon return from study, they will have to present their learning experience with their peers and/ or the HSUHK community.

Enhancement and Start-up Grant Scheme (ESGS)

In October 2022, HSUHK was awarded over HK\$17 million under the Education Bureau's ESGS for Self-financing Post-secondary Education for a project named "Teaching Smart Decision Analytics for Supply Chain and Information Management Programme Enhancement". Led by the School of Decision Sciences, the project aims to enhance two undergraduate programmes, namely Bachelor of Management Science and Information Management and BBA in Supply Chain

Management programmes, through incorporating new knowledge of smart decision analytics into the curriculum and upgrading the teaching infrastructure.

5. Research

Research Grants Council's (RGC) Competitive Research Funding Scheme

In the RGC's 2022/23 Competitive Research Funding Schemes for the Local Self-financing Degree Sector, HSUHK continued to perform well in the Faculty Development Scheme by securing a total funding of over \$12.41 million for 13 projects. In the nine-year cumulative period since 2014-15, HSUHK has received the highest total funding amount and recorded the highest total number of awarded research projects among all the eligible self-financing institutions. The above funding results demonstrate our academic staff's commitment to conduct impactful research that contributes to academic enhancement and the advancement of the society.

HSUHK Student Independent Research Grant

To encourage HSUHK students to conduct interdisciplinary research, the University approved a total funding of \$66,300 under the Student Independent Research Grant to support five student-led interdisciplinary independent research projects, with a maximum support of \$20,000 per project application. The sponsorship provided support for student research activities such as data collection, dissemination of research findings, publication of research outputs and paper presentation at local conferences.

Strategic Development Grant

With an aim to support Schools and Departments to undertake projects or initiatives that will contribute to the strategic development of the University at different levels, the University approved \$197,000 for the 2022/23 exercise to support the project "From Retro to the Metaverse Games: Imagining Asia and Creative Industries from the Past, the Present, to the Future" co-led by the Department of Art and Design and the Department of Social Science. The 2-year project aims to promote inter-departmental teaching pedagogy innovation, cross-programme academic-industry collaboration, student-led learning for social impact and knowledge transfer in the creative economy within the Asian context.

6. HSUHK Development in Greater Bay Area (GBA)

HSUHK has recently stepped up its footholds in GBA with the aim to enhance its marketing, admissions, teaching, research and public engagement activities in the area. Due to financial and manpower restraints, the University Management, supported by the Council, agreed not to establish a physical branch campus in GBA for the time being. Nonetheless, the Management has explored collaboration opportunities with various potential academic partners in GBA. Two University-wide Agreements were signed on 15 November 2022 on the establishment of the HSUHK Mainland Centre (Qianhai) and (Nansha) respectively. Free rental and management fees were offered by the respective sponsor for an initial period of two/ three years with effect from January 2023.

A MoU was also signed on 3 September 2022 with Shanghai University about academic collaborations including double degree programmes, research centres, and student and faculty exchanges in GBA and Shanghai. Similar MoUs have also been signed with a few other institutions including Guangxi University of Foreign Languages and Guangdong University of Finance & Economics (GDUFE). Schools, Centres and other units of the University are encouraged to leverage on the above new GBA venues as well as to explore academic collaboration with these institutions.

The University Management has also been working proactively on other initiatives, such as student visits, internships, employment and start-ups, etc, in GBA. Furthermore, the HSUHK Wu Jieh Yee Centre for Innovation and Entrepreneurship entered into a partnership with G-Rocket Accelerator in November 2022, a community that aims at providing opportunities, mentorship and networking opportunities for student start-ups and facilitating knowledge transfer activities in the GBA.

7. A New Milestone of HSUHK's Residential Colleges System

In recognition of the generous contribution from Wei Lun Foundation, The S. H. Ho Foundation, and Fung Yiu King Charitable Foundation in support of the University's strategic initiatives and development, the University has named its three Colleges under its Jockey Club Residential Colleges (RCs) system as Lee Yick Hoi Lun Mosaic College, S H Ho Wellness College and Fung Yiu King Evergreen College. The joint appreciation and naming ceremony was held on 3 November 2022, with the presence of over 140 guests and friends of HSUHK.

Together with the Patrick S C Poon Amity College which was funded and named after Dr Patrick Poon Sun Cheong, all the four Colleges have established their respective development endowment fund, symbolising a new chapter of HSUHK's RCs system.

8. Public Recognitions/ Awards Received by HSUHK

- HSUHK was awarded the GBA Low Carbon Buildings Top 100 Award (2022) by the GBA Carbon Neutrality Association; and
- HSUHK received the Gold Award in the QS Awards 2022 (Innovation) for the New Academic Building Project at the West Lane from the Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors.

9. Some Recent Student Achievements

During the period our students continue to perform very well in various open competitions including the following awards:

- Winner of the Best in News Page Design (Chinese) and 2nd Runner-ups in four other categories in the 2022 Campus Newspaper Awards organized by *China Daily Hong Kong*;
- Champion (Tertiary Team) in the Hong Kong Creative PR Competition 2022 organised by the Committee of Hong Kong Creative PR Competition (HKCPRC);
- Bronze medal (out of several hundred teams from all around the world) in the World Asian Business Case Competition 2022 organised by The Academy of Asian Business;
- Third Prize in The 8th Hong Kong University Innovation and Entrepreneurship Competition organised by the Hong Kong New Generation Cultural Association;
- 2nd Runner-up in The Hong Kong Logistics Case Competition 2022 organised by the Hong Kong Logistics Association ; and
- 1st Runner-up in the Plate Tournament of Cricket Hong Kong Joint-U Tapeball Cricket Sixes 2022-23 (Season 4) organised by the Cricket Hong Kong.

Words of Blessings

All that we have achieved today was attested to the dedication and concerted efforts of the University community. As we approach the end of 2022, I would like to take this

opportunity to express my gratitude to our Governors and Council Members for your stewardship and wise counsel, our committed faculty, staff and students for your hard work, and our alumni, donors and friends for your trust and support.

Looking forward, the University will formulate the *Strategic Plan 2023-2028* in early 2023. We will also capitalize on the opportunities brought about by the development of the Greater Bay Area and other new initiatives in the pipeline. I am confident that the HSUHK spirit and capability to turn challenges into opportunities, to work out solutions to problems, and to always push forward to the next level of growth will continue.

I wish you all a restful winter break full of love and blessings. Meanwhile, please stay vigilant and healthy.

Truly,



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