

PRESS RELEASE

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**【Two-day “Prelude to the Hong Kong Laureate Forum: The Beacons of Research Journey”
serves as a Guiding Light for Young Scientists】**

Organised by the Council of the Hong Kong Laureate Forum (the HKLF), the two-day programme “Prelude to the Hong Kong Laureate Forum: The Beacons of Research Journey” concluded successfully today. The programme brought together over 100 participants, including postdocs, PhD graduates, postgraduates and undergraduates in science-related disciplines as well as the HKLF Alumni – the young scientists and forum ambassadors who participated in the inaugural Forum. These participants engaged with nine renowned scientists, legal professional, and industry experts from various institutions and organisations for in-depth discussions on topics including “Exploring Interdisciplinary Trends and Innovations”, “Research Career Development”, and “Tips for Intellectual Property in Scientific Research”. Conducted through seminars and panel discussions, the programme covered innovative techniques, navigating career transitions, securing research funding, and building effective research teams, offering participants fresh perspectives and inspiration for their research journeys.

Prof Timothy Tong, SBS, BBS, JP, Chairman of the HKLF, delivered the welcoming remarks, marking the start of the programme. He said, “the concept of The Beacons of Research Journey is to delve into the critical and common challenges scientists encounter in the areas of interdisciplinary collaboration, research career development and the complexities of intellectual property in scientific research. By addressing these topics, we aim to equip young scientists with the knowledge and tools necessary to navigate their careers beyond their scientific research.” In addition, he conveyed deep condolences over the passing of Dr Lee Shau Kee, praising Dr Lee’s remarkable contributions to scientific research and academia. Prof Tong expressed heartfelt gratitude to Dr Lee for his generous full sponsorship to the HKLF, stating all members’ sincere appreciation and ongoing commitment to his vision to promote academic exchanges and scientific research development. Following this, the guest of honour, Ms Michelle Li, JP, Permanent Secretary for Education of the HKSAR Government, delivered

her remarks and stated, “we will remain steadfast in building Hong Kong into an international hub for high-calibre talents, and will step up promotion of the “Study in Hong Kong” brand to foster more international collaboration and exchange, and attract more students and scholars to pursue studies and conduct research in Hong Kong.”

The first seminar and panel discussion featured keynotes delivered by Prof Philip Chiu, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, Shun Hing Education and Charity Fund Professor of Robotic Surgery of The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK), Prof Raymond Chan, Vice-President (Academics) cum Provost and Lam Man Tsan Chair Professor of Scientific Computing of Lingnan University (LingU), and Prof Christopher Chao, Vice-President (Research and Innovation) and Chair Professor of Thermal and Environmental Engineering of The Hong Kong Polytechnic University (PolyU). They explored how interdisciplinary collaboration drives innovation and real-world applications. The discussion also addressed the challenges encountered in interdisciplinary collaborations and identified emerging research development trends. In panel discussion, the speakers encouraged participants to maintain an open mind, nurture curiosity, and embrace humility—qualities that are instrumental in fostering successful interdisciplinary collaboration.

The second and third seminars and panel discussions were held on the second day of the programme. Prof Rick Wong, Senior Advisor to the President and Vice-Chancellor and Chair Professor in Chemistry of Hong Kong Baptist University (HKBU), who was the guest of honour of the second session, remarked, “this session is designed with you in mind. The journey from academia to industry, or from early-stage researcher to principal investigator, today, our speakers will help you navigate this journey with confidence. The pursuit of knowledge is not just a personal endeavour—it is a collective effort that has the power to transform societies and improve lives.” Subsequently, Prof Alice Wong, Associate Vice-President (Research), Interim Director and Chair Professor, School of Biological Sciences of Faculty of Science of The University of Hong Kong (HKU), and Member of Research Grants Council, Dr Ricky Chiu, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Phase Scientific International Limited, and Prof Anderson Shum, Vice-President (Research) and Chair Professor of Chemical and Biomedical Engineering of City University of Hong Kong (CityU), shared their experiences spanning from early stages of research to pivotal career milestones, delving into decision-making strategies at different phases of a research career. Their insights offered participants inspiration and guidance as they plan their own scientific journeys. During the panel discussion, the guest speakers exchanged views with participants on tackling challenges, sharing firsthand examples and practical tactics to help navigate a successful scientific career. They also provided advice for those considering a transition from research to entrepreneurship.

The third session of seminar and panel discussion were opened by Mr Hendrick Sin, Chairman of China Prosperity Capital, who stressed the importance of intellectual protection (IP), “IP is

a cornerstone of progress; it plays vital role in scientific research. Science and innovation are the engines of economic growth and societal advancement. Without IP protection, these ideas risk being lost, underutilised, or exploited without benefit to their creators.” Keynotes from Prof Dennis Lo, Vice-Chancellor and President, and Li Ka Shing Professor of Medicine of CUHK, Dr Ricky Chiu, Mr Kelvin Wong, Director of Knowledge Transfer and Entrepreneurship Office of PolyU, and Ms Jennifer Che, President and Managing Director of Eagle IP focused on strategies for effectively protecting research innovations and outcomes. They examined related case studies, addressed challenges in intellectual property management, and explored pathways for collaboration with industry leaders. During the panel discussion, participants raised questions about the factors to consider before publishing research findings, as well as effective strategies on IP applications. The guest speakers shared their insights and past experiences on that.

Through these seminars and discussions, the programme not only provided participants with new perspectives to enrich their research journeys, but also fostered valuable connections among them. The HKLF looks ahead to the second Forum this November, aiming for more robust exchanges and groundbreaking ideas.

For high resolution photos, please [click here](#).



Ms Michelle Li, JP, Permanent Secretary for Education, **Prof Timothy Tong**, SBS, BBS, JP, Chairman of the Council of the Hong Kong Laureate Forum, **Prof Kenneth Young**, Council Member of the Hong Kong Laureate Forum, **Prof Philip Chiu**, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, Shun Hing Education and Charity Fund Professor of Robotic Surgery, CUHK, **Prof Raymond Chan**, Vice-President of Academics cum Provost, Lam Man Tsan Chair Professor of Scientific Computing, LingU, and **Prof Christopher Chao**, Vice-President of Research and Innovation, Chair Professor of Thermal and Environmental Engineering, PolyU, gathered on stage for a group photo before delving into the discussion of the first session.



All participants of the first session of the 2-day event.



Chaired by **Prof Rick Wong**, Senior Advisor to the President and Vice-chancellor, Chair Professor in Chemistry at HKBU, the second session featured three distinguished speakers: **Dr Ricky Chiu**, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, PHASE Scientific International Limited, **Prof Alice Wong**, Associate Vice-President of Research & Interim Director and Chair Professor, School of Biological Sciences, Faculty of Science, HKU; and Member of Research Grants Council, and **Prof Anderson Shum**, Vice-President of Research, Chair Professor of Chemical and Biomedical Engineering, CityU. Together, they shared their invaluable experiences and insights on **Research Career Development**, offering a wealth of knowledge to the audience.



Prof Timothy Tong, SBS, BBS, JP, Chairman of the Council of the Hong Kong Laureate Forum, **Mr Hendrick Sin**, Chairman of China Prosperity Capital, **Prof Dennis Lo**, Vice-Chancellor and President, Li Ka Shing Professor of Medicine, CUHK, **Dr Ricky Chiu**, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, PHASE Scientific International Limited, **Mr Kelvin Wong**, Director, Knowledge Transfer and Entrepreneurship Office, PolyU, and **Ms Jennifer Che**, President and Managing Director, Eagle IP, gathered on stage for a group photo before engaging in the discussion of the third session.



The event provides networking and direct communication for young scientist to exchange ideas across disciplines.

About the Hong Kong Laureate Forum

The Hong Kong Laureate Forum (the Forum) is a world-class scientific exchange and networking event to be organised by the HKLF to aspire and connect the current and future leaders in scientific pursuit. The Forum also aims to promote understanding and interests of the young generation in Hong Kong and beyond in various disciplines in science and technology, in particular Astronomy, Life Science and Medicine, and Mathematical Sciences.

The HKLF was established in May 2019 and is fully sponsored by the Lee Shau Kee Foundation. Driven by a commitment to advance its mission far and wide, the Lee Shau Kee Foundation has, over the years, offered boundless support for education and talent development in Hong Kong, mainland China, and abroad. Additionally, the Foundation is dedicated to poverty relief and promoting social well-being, thereby benefiting countless individuals. The Shaw Prize Foundation, which organises the annual renowned international award, namely The Shaw Prize, is the major partner of the HKLF. Since its launch, the HKLF has been putting every effort to promote science in the community and around the world.

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