

World-renowned researcher and expert in optics and nanotechnology, Professor Xiang Zhang took the helm at HKU in July 2018. Beforehand, he served as the Ernest S. Kuh Endowed Chair Professor and Director of the Nano-scale Science and Engineering Center at the University of California,

HAP

Berkeley.

## FRIENDS OF HKU BULLETIN WINTER 2018

November is a time to be thankful. I am most honored to have the opportunity to introduce myself after taking office as President and Vice-Chancellor of The University of Hong Kong this July. It is a privilege to serve this great institution.

THANKSGIVING

I envision HKU as a leading global university that not only inspires our next generation of leaders but will also lead in intellectual, economic and societal transformations in Greater China, Asia and the world. For that, we must be visionary, innovative and bold. We must aggressively recruit and retain the best faculty members from all over the world. We need to further enrich our student learning experiences. We will continue to build strategic partnerships with top universities around the world as well as industries. Having lived and worked in the U.S., it is a place of many happy memories. I would like to thank the President and the Board of Directors of Friends of HKU for dedicating their time and energy to the organization; the executive committees of the U.S. alumni chapters for expanding our overseas networks; and the alumni, benefactors, and friends in the U.S. for all their support. I wish to assure you that I am ready to listen; I welcome advice, and look forward to meeting you in person soon.

Professor Xiang Zhang President and Vice-Chancellor The University of Hong Kong

#### News @ HKU

#### FRIENDS OF HKU BULLETIN

**WINTER 2018** 

# OUANTUM INFORMATION SCIENCE EXPERT

With a grant of US\$113,850 from Silicon Valley Community Foundation, Professor Giulio Chiribella from the Department of Computer Science is conducting a research project on "The observer observed: A Bayesian route to the reconstruction of quantum theory".

As a leading expert on quantum information science and the foundations of quantum



mechanics, Professor Chiribella investigates the counterintuitive laws of the quantum world and how they can be turned into working principles for future information technologies. He also received the Senior Research Fellowship 2018-19 by the Croucher Foundation in Hong Kong.

Professor Chiribella has done pioneering research on quantum causal networks, the

replication of information at the microscopic scale, and the ultimate precision limits of clocks and gyroscopes, for which he was awarded the Hermann Weyl Prize in 2010. His work on the foundations of quantum mechanics is the subject of a recent book entitled *Quantum Theory from First Principles*, published in 2017 by Cambridge University Press.

# DENTISTRY<br/>RANKED<br/>BANKED'S #1<br/>BORRAGOSSEWORLD'S #1<br/>BORAGOSSEFORGOSSEFORGOSSEFORGOSSEVERSES



The HKU Faculty of Dentistry is once again honored to be ranked the top dental school in the world in the latest QS University Rankings by Subject 2018, following its 2016 and 2017 #1 rankings.

The outstanding result of the Faculty is an overall measurement of academic and research performance including citations per journal paper, the productivity and impact of works published, and academic and employer reputation.

Established in 1982 and the only dental school in Hong Kong, the Faculty celebrated its 35th anniversary last year. It engages outstanding teaching and research professionals from 17 countries, attracting talented local and international students from Hong Kong, the Chinese Mainland, Asia, and other parts of the world.

## A PROFESSORSHIP IN ETHICS FROM PROFESSOR IAN DAVIES

Professor Ian Davies was HKU's 13<sup>th</sup> Vice-Chancellor. He was the founding Chair of Periodontology and Public Health in 1980. He then served as Dean of Dentistry, Director of Prince Philip Dental Hospital, Pro-Vice-Chancellor, and Registrar, and was the University's Vice-Chancellor from 2000 to 2002. He passed away in London in 2014. In accordance with his bequest, the "Ian Davies Professorship in Ethics" was



established this year. His legacy shall continue in perpetuity and expound the three core values – professionalism, ethics, and governance – that he strictly upheld.



## **ASIA-PACIFIC UNIVERSITY STUDENT WORKSHOP**



With a grant of US\$50,000 from Broadcom Foundation, Dr. Tony Shien-Ping Feng and Dr. Wei-Ning Lee led seven students from the Faculty of Engineering to attend the Asia-Pacific University Student Workshop in May 2018 in Pasadena, California. The Workshop was hosted by Broadcom Foundation and the University of California, Irvine. Apart from the Workshop, the delegation also toured the cities of Pasadena, Los Angeles, and Compton.

## **GRAND CHALLENGE FOR ENGINEERING SYMPOSIUM**



Jointly organized by HKU and the U.S. National Academy of Engineering (NAE), the "HKU-NAE Grand Challenges for Engineering Symposium" connected Hong Kong and U.S. thought leaders and luminaries to address the role of engineering and science in solving global challenges.

The Symposium, held on the HKU campus on 16 August, 2018, brought together President and Vice-Chancellor of HKU Professor Xiang Zhang and the President of NAE Mr C D (Dan) Mote, Jr., along with Nobel Laureate Dr. Robert Grubbs and multiple NAE, Chinese Academy of Sciences and National Academy of Sciences members. The Symposium featured 18 speakers from academia, industry and government.

# **ALUMNI GATHERINGS**

#### HKU Alumni Association of Northern California



President Xiang Zhang attending the Spring Banquet in March 2018 before coming on board.

#### **HKU Central USA Alumni Network**



HKU delegation, led by Professor John Kao (Vice-President and Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Global)), were welcomed by alumni during their visit to Chicago in April 2018.

#### HKU Alumni Association of Boston-New England



Held in September 2018, this heart-warming fall dinner was well-attended by students, alumni and family members.

## ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

#### Faculty of Science Celebrating 80th Anniversary



As it celebrates its Oak anniversary in 2019, the Faculty holds its alumni as its roots, allowing branches to reach out far for sustenance as the new leaves, its present students, collect strength. A motto contest was held earlier and the winning motto "Science Founds Sapientia; Oak Sprouts Virtus" (明德於櫟;格物以理) has been adapted for its anniversary logo.

An Oak Anniversary Opening Ceremony-*cum*-Homecoming Day will be held on 9 March, 2019, and a Gala Dinner will be held on 17 November, 2019.

Stay tuned for details of the anniversary activities: www.scifac.hku.hk/alumni

#### Ricci Hall 90th Anniversary



Ricci Hall, founded in 1929, is heading towards its 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2019. One of the oldest residential halls at HKU, the Hall is male-only. Upholding its spirit of Unity, Loyalty and Sacrifice, boys old and new joined hands and produced a video to celebrate its coming anniversary: bit.ly/HKURicci90

The Hall recently renovated its library, which has been of utmost significance since the Hall first opened. When the renovation of the Hall began in 2015, the library holdings were properly catalogued and stored. The library was reopened in April 2018 in the presence of Rev. Fr. John Y. Tang, S. J., Warden of the Hall, and various donors.

# FRIENDS OF HKU SUMMER EXCHANGE SCHOLARSHIPS



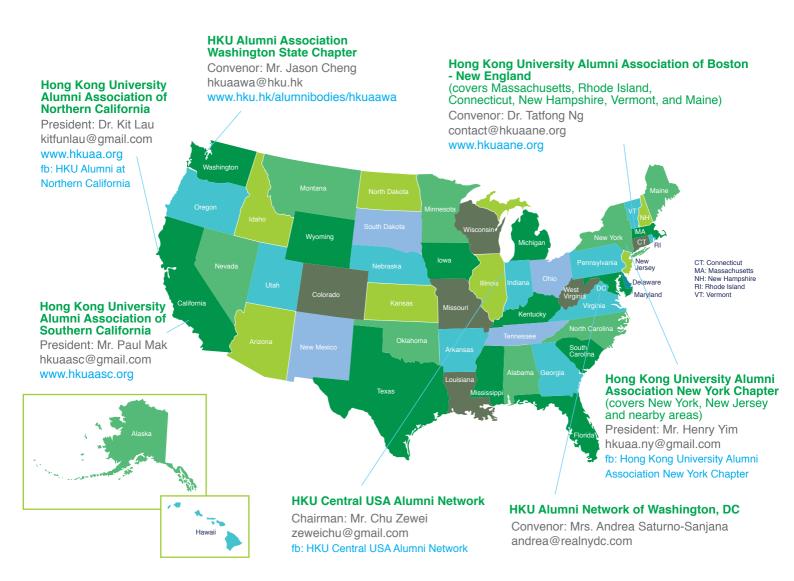
Would you like your children to participate in the rich variety of HKU programs during the next summer break? One of the missions of Friends of HKU is to foster connections between HKU and its alumni and friends in the U.S. It offers the **Friends of HKU Summer Exchange Scholarships** (\$1,000 each) for children of HKU alumni residing in the U.S. to participate in the summer programs of HKU. For details, please visit usfriends.hku.hk

For the wide array of HKU Summer programs for high school students and undergraduates, please visit www.hku.hk/summer

# HKU ALUMNI NETWORKS IN THE U.S.

Keep in touch with your respective alumni convenors! If you know of any alumni who may not be aware of the chapters/networks below, please reconnect them. Contact information can be updated at www.hku.hk/daao/oad

You can also visit the HKU alumni webpage to check the latest news of the alumni networks! http://www.alumni.hku.hk/whatson



#### **Be green & stay connected,** please send your email address to <u>usfriend@hku.hk</u>!

#### FRIENDS OF HKU OFFICE

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