ASIA’S GLOBAL UNIVERSITY

THE NEXT DECADE
Our vision for 2016-2025
Ours is a simple but ambitious vision: it is to build on our internationally recognised accomplishments and become Asia’s Global University.

To achieve this, we will focus on what we call the ‘3+1 Is’: Internationalisation, Innovation and Interdisciplinarity, all converging on Impact. These themes will guide all the teaching and learning, research and knowledge exchange components of our work. Ultimately, impact must be the aim of everything we do; we all want our efforts to make a difference to society and humanity.

The vision document is deliberately high level, and implementation will be the key. We are already well-advanced with reforms which will underpin our ability to deliver the Vision.

We are grateful for your belief in the University and trust that we can continue to rely on your support as we endeavour to establish HKU as one of the greatest universities in the world.

Professor Peter Mathieson  
President and Vice-Chancellor
FUTURE VISION

In today’s world of new technologies and globalisation, modern universities have fantastic opportunities to contribute knowledge and know-how and make an impact. But if they are to succeed in this, they must be fit for purpose. At the University of Hong Kong, we revisited our overarching goals in 2016 to consider how we can best harness our talents to take advantage of the opportunities. While HKU has done very well to date, it now faces a more competitive and dynamic global academic environment. To continue to be Asia’s leading global university, we need a sharper, more strategic focus: we must be more nimble and adaptable, more ambitious and ‘can-do’, more solution-orientated and more proactive.

The 2016–2025 blueprint outlines how we will achieve these aims, centred around the ‘3+1 Is’ – internationalisation, innovation and interdisciplinarity, all converging on impact. This strategic approach will ensure HKU, already one of the world’s finest universities, remains a strong, vibrant and relevant leader in the global academic community, today and for the foreseeable future.

INTERNATIONALISATION

HKU is already one of the world’s most international universities. In the 2016 Times Higher Education rankings, it scored 99.4 out of 100 on the measure ‘international outlook’. The University regards this not as an endpoint but an excellent platform from which to create education, research and cultural opportunities for students to become global leaders, professionals and thinkers, to amplify our global engagement with public and private partners, and to diversify our portfolio internationally and on campus. This will in turn strengthen HKU’s ability to tackle grand challenges such as the United Nations sustainable development goals and through that, find solutions to serve local Hong Kong challenges.

INNOVATION

Innovation is at the heart of academic research, but in order to have impact, universities must set their sights beyond the scholarly world. They must seek novel ways to translate their knowledge into outcomes that meet societal needs; to identify and work with new partners outside the university sector and beyond Hong Kong; and to develop new paths and ways of teaching and learning. Innovation is also the main driver for productivity growth and economic development. For HKU to stay at the forefront in talent development in a knowledge-based economy, it must play a primary role in the modern world of open innovation.

HKU has adopted these aims and introduced programmes and units that will advance not only innovation, but an innovation mindset.

INTERDISCIPLINARITY

The complexity of the modern world requires new ideas and solutions that are frequently beyond the scope of a single discipline. Research around the world is increasingly focussed on bringing ideas and fields together that were once distinct entities, and creating new knowledge and impact from that. Other fields, such as industries and professions, are also putting a premium on interconnectedness and want graduates who can swiftly adapt to new and often unpredictable situations.

The University has promoted interdisciplinarity for some years through Strategic Research Themes and the Common Core Curriculum, and we are stepping up our focus in this area.

The Review 2016: www.hku.hk/publications/review.html
Connected Across the Globe

9,718 international students on campus (as of October 2016)
3,733 outbound HKU students in 2015–16
30,740 alumni living outside Hong Kong
2,284 active research collaborations (to the year ending November 30, 2015)

World’s Best*

#1 dentistry school in the world: HKU Faculty of Dentistry
* QS World Universities Rankings by Subject 2016

Asia’s Best*

#1 for Social Sciences (31st in the world)
#2 for Arts and Humanities (30th in the world)
#3 for Clinical, Pre-clinical and Health (39th in the world)
#4 for Business and Economics (29th in the world)
* Times Higher Education World University Rankings by Subject 2016–17