2nd International Symposium on Energy and Environment

An Introduction to HKU

The University of Hong Kong
Tuesday, December 9, 2008
Founded in 1911,
The HK College of Medicine (established 1887)
One of the oldest higher education institutions in Asia

The Hong Kong University.
Welcome to HKU
A Brief introduction

• Founded in 1911
• 10 Faculties: Architecture, Arts, Business & Economics, Dentistry, Education, Engineering, Law, Medicine, Science, and Social Sciences
• Academic and language centres
• 12,000 undergraduates
• 8,800 postgraduates (RPg, TPg)
• HKU School of Professional and Continuing Education (SPACE, including Community College)
Institutions funded by the UGC

- CityPoly 1984
- CityU 1994
- Lingnan College 1967
- Lingnan U 1999
- HKIEd established 1994
- Self-accredit 2004
- HKUST established 1991
- Baptist College 1956
- HKBU 1994
- CUHK established 1963
- HK Poly 1972
- PolyU 1994
- HKU origins date back 1887
- Founded 1911
UGC’s traditional role

- Buffer and Broker between institutions and Government, responsible for
  - Advising on academic development
  - Advising on funding allocations (recurrent and capital)
  - Monitoring performance against targets
  - Quality assurance and improvement
Expansion of higher education

Academic Year

% of Relevant Age Group (17-20)
Provided with FYFD Places

FYFD Students (FTE)

65/66 67/68 69/70 71/72 73/74 75/76 77/78 79/80 81/82 83/84 85/86 87/88 89/90 91/92 93/94 95/96 97/98 99/00 01/02 03/04

0 2 4 6 8 10 12 14 16 18 20

0 2,000 4,000 6,000 8,000 10,000 12,000 14,000 16,000 18,000 20,000

Academic Year
Research Postgraduate (RPg) Students numbers (1979-2003)
## Institutions’ Differentiated Roles

(according to the UGC)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>First Degree Work</th>
<th>Higher Degrees</th>
<th>Research</th>
<th>Professional Schools</th>
<th>Sub-/Associate Degree Work</th>
<th>Links with Industry or Community</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HKU/CUHK</td>
<td>Substantial</td>
<td>Substantial</td>
<td>all areas</td>
<td>many</td>
<td></td>
<td>high level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HKUST</td>
<td>Substantial</td>
<td>Substantial</td>
<td>all relevant areas</td>
<td>some</td>
<td></td>
<td>high level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CityU/PolyU</td>
<td>Substantial</td>
<td>some</td>
<td>some areas</td>
<td>some</td>
<td>Substantial</td>
<td>strong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HKBU</td>
<td>Predominant</td>
<td>some</td>
<td>some areas</td>
<td>some</td>
<td></td>
<td>strong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lingnan</td>
<td>Predominant</td>
<td>minimal</td>
<td>some areas</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>strong</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
HKU’s Differentiated Role

- Comprehensive
- Research-led
- English-medium
- Interdisciplinarity
- Holistic/whole-person education
- Hall education
- Lifelong Learning
Higher Education for the Knowledge Economy

- Development of talents and leaders
  - selection and nurture
  - employability

- Advancement of scholarship
  - research and discovery
  - academic excellence

- Knowledge transfer/exchange
  - engagement
  - sharing
Quality Students – Local and Non-local

• Admitting top-performing students
• Growing interest of outstanding students from outside Hong Kong
  • 12,000+ Mainland applicants for 264 places in the 2008 admission exercise
  • 21% increase in non-local student enrolment (from 1,597 to 1,939) in UGC-funded programmes in 2007/08, representing 15% of total headcount enrolment
• Keen competition for RPg places
  • 688 admitted vs 3,572 applied in 2007/08 (1 in 5)
Research Strategies

- Consolidated to 5 Areas and 19 Themes in 2008
HKU’s good work on SARS is recognized
Identification and isolation of SARS coronavirus
Our mainland partners

• Teaching and research collaborations with the leading universities
  – Peking, Tsinghua, Fudan, Zhejiang, Shanghai Jiaotong, Nanjing, Xian Jiaotong, Wuhan, Harbin, Zhongshan, …

• 10 joint laboratories in mainland with Chinese Academy of Sciences & leading universities in China

• State Key Laboratories at HKU:
  – Emerging Infectious Diseases
  – Brain and Cognitive Sciences

• MBA programme with Fudan University
Internationalization (1)

• At present the only English-medium university in Hong Kong

• International academic staff
  • 40% expatriates

• International student body
  • Non-local students on HKU campus (2008/09)
    • 6,532 – including 2,436 outside of Mainland
  • Exchange programmes with >180 non-local institutions
    • 817 incoming exchange students in 2008/09

• Fostering inter-cultural tolerance, understanding and appreciation

• Emphasis on English language support in 4-year curriculum
Internationalization (2)

Our global partners

• Collaboration with >300 universities & academic or research institutes

• Exchange of students with >180 universities in 25 countries (including the Mainland)

• Joint laboratories and research institutes
  – e.g. Influenza Centre (WHO), Pasteur Institute (Paris), Aaron Diamond AIDS Institute (New York), The Centre for Applied Genomics (Toronto), East-West Alliance (Cambridge, UC Berkeley, UToronto)

• eMBA programmes with London Business School, and Columbia University

• Asia/Pacific Regional Centre for WTO Trade Policy Course
Range and Breadth (1)

- Comprehensive university with 10 Faculties
- Broad curriculum
  - Disciplinary/Interdisciplinary curriculum, broadening/elective courses, language courses, IT courses
  - 4-year curriculum – strengthened common core and language support courses under an enabling structure
- Co-curriculum
  - Whole-person education: non-credit bearing general education courses, hall education, extra-curricular activities
Range and Breadth (2)

- Employability of graduates
  - graduates from a flexible curriculum
  - personal fulfilment and intellectual growth
  - generic skills
  - learning outcomes
  - student-oriented learning
  - whole person education
  - responsible global citizens

- Curriculum reform in 2012
  - implementation of core curriculum in 2010
HKU’s Strengths and Commitment

- High quality students from both local and non-local sources
- Whole-person education and leadership training
- High quality, research-active academic staff
- Internationalization
- Range of disciplines + breadth of curriculum
- Active engagement in knowledge transfer/exchange and interaction with the community
- Conducive environment
Conducive Environment (1)

- Campus renewal
  - Centennial Campus development
- Successful governance and management reform, plus HRM and budget allocation reforms
- Supportive alumni locally and overseas
  - Convocation and 93 alumni bodies (including 19 non-local chapters)
    - e.g. mentorship programme
- Philanthropy and community endorsement
  - Donations received in 2007/08 >$1 billion (made possible by Stanley Ho Alumni Challenge and Government matching)
  - 37 endowed professorships @ ≥$20M each
Environmental & Sustainability Reporting

• Our reporting work commenced in 2002
• Staff from our academic centres, Estates Office, Registry, Sustainability Officer
• We now produce an annual Sustainability Report which is widely circulated in the University and wider community
• We follow best practice in the field and since 2004 we have worked with the reporting framework for public sector bodies promoted through the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI)
HKU’s major developments in the next five years

• 4-year curriculum (2012)
  • First stage of implementation by 2010
• Recruitment of top academics
  • Centenary Recruitment Plan (200 more by 2012)
• Campus, staff and student hostels
  • Centennial campus +42,100 sq M (net)
  • New student residence +1,800 places by 2011
• Internationalization
  • Including recruitment of non-local students to 20% of student population
Dr Sun Yat-sen, a graduate of Hong Kong College of Medicine (the forerunner of the University), with students after addressing Congregation in 1923.
THANK YOU