Welcome to another exciting year at HKU!

**HEADLINE** 5 International GOALS for this year

1. Advance “HKU International and Mainland Strategy”
2. Strengthen “internationalization-at-home”
3. Augment global reputation and ranking
4. Enhance research & learning opportunities
5. Amplify global and local connectedness

HKU is “Asia’s Global University”. We are setting goals and moving steadily towards our targets to deliver impact “glocally”.

FROM VP (GLOBAL) “It’s the start of a new academic year as we welcome incoming students and new staff from HK and around the world. So glad to have you joining the HKU family as you extend your learning journey and professional career in one of the most respected institutions worldwide. We have been working hard on actualizing our strategic vision of “3+1 Is” (Internationalization, Innovation, and Interdisciplinarity converging on Impact). Stay tuned as we update you monthly on various exciting research and learning opportunities in HK and globally. Read our past issues on topics such as ranking, diversity and equity, benefits of international collaboration and experience, and much more at: http://www.global.hku.hk/around-world-newsletter

Have a fantastic year!”

**OPPORTUNITIES** Strategic Partnership Fund with U Chicago, U Sydney, UCL, SJTU, and KCL is a scheme to foster deep relationship with top-tier universities. **Global Partnership Seed Fund** facilitates new collaborations. Next deadline: 30 September 2017. http://www.global.hku.hk/funding-opportunities

**INFO SESSION**
Date: Sep 12 (Tue) Time: 12:30pm Venue: Multipurpose Zone (Main Library)

Come learn more about how Mainland engagement could enhance your teaching, research, scholarship and knowledge exchange.

Contact us at VPglobal@hku.hk. We support your global aspiration.
VOICES FROM ALUMNI

Now it goes without saying that if you want to succeed in today’s world, you need to have a global perspective. You need to know what is happening in the world, politically, economically, socially and most of all, technologically. You need to understand how your international peers think and behave as you figure out what your competitive edge might be.

“Interestingly, this is not something new. Even when I finished my first degree at HKU in the 1970s, I knew that if I wanted to make a worthwhile contribution in Hong Kong, I needed to have an international outlook. So, before the days of the internet, I had to make an effort to find opportunities where I could learn from overseas.

“I was very fortunate to go to the University of Toronto for my first Masters degree. This was extremely important for me, as a young person, to be able to go to Canada, a multicultural community, and to feel included. This experience opened me up and helped me to find myself intellectually, personally and professionally. It also developed my global perspective.

“In today’s globalised world, interconnected and interdependent, it is a lot easier for young people to acquire an international outlook and sometimes it is taken for granted. I find that a lot of people, not just the young, make the mistake of assuming that because they travel or read or even have foreign friends, then they have a global perspective.

“But to be frank, this is not enough. I believe that to gain a global perspective, you need to make a conscious effort to learn. Young people must take up the opportunities given to them to broaden their global perspectives through firsthand experiences, as well as learning and observing their peers and leaders in other countries.

“I believe that to have a global perspective means two things: the first is to have knowledge, not just superficial understanding. This means challenging one’s intellect by learning new things, examining contradictions, finding similarities and exploring differences, all the while learning where this fits into the comprehension of your own world.

“The second is to learn new competencies by experiencing how others behave and how they approach issues of similar concern or tackle challenges. It means understanding their methodology of leadership or service and not becoming complacent in accepting the ‘normal’ way of doing things.

“Young people today really do not have the option not to take up opportunities that will broaden their global knowledge and skills. To “not know” is simply to be left behind. So my advice to young people is to look at the world—rather than just a screen—with your eyes and mind open. To do anything less, I believe, is both negligent and untenable for future development, personal or otherwise.

“A global perspective nurtures leadership; it drives engagement and it is the tool that builds tomorrow.”

(Prof. Rosanna Wong, Executive Director, The HK Federation of Youth Groups, HKU and St. John’s College ‘75).

VOICES FROM STAFF

Conversations around equality and diversity in a world where individuals, collectives and nations continue to grapple with difference routinely raise questions about WHY? In a context where institutions seemingly recognize and advance people on the basis of merit, why are equality and equity issues relevant?

“In a global climate of unprecedented divisiveness, battle lines have formed around the rallying cry to foment hatred for racial, political, and ‘other’ identities resulting in distrust and irreparable divisions across age, class, social and geographical divides. The deterioration of our ability to dialogue through difference risks taking us back to our darkest moments in history. It is imperative that we be ever-vigilant against this rapid encroachment of our core values as a society and strengthen our solidarity as a collective humanity.

“As academics engaging with not only future leaders but the community within and beyond HKU, the Women’s Studies Research Centre considers it our foremost responsibility to raise awareness, further empirical research and develop rigorous tools and institutional mechanisms to help safeguard and lay a strong foundation for our shared values. Together we must guard against unconscious bias, break down implicit barriers that disempower marginalized groups and voices. Together we will contribute to HKU’s vision to inculcate a sense of civic responsibility towards social justice and equal respect for the rights of all individuals regardless of identity and political or other views.

“It is in times like these that the visible commitment to these values at the highest levels in society matter more than ever.”

(Profs. Puja Kapai (photo), Gina Marcheitti, Stacy Ford).
Voices from Students

August 17, 2015 ... I will never forget the day of my arrival in Hong Kong. If I had been told at the time that the Asia's world city would become my home, I would not have believed it. As I would not have imagined being able to do all the things I did.

"Indeed, after two years, Hong Kong has become for me synonymous with opportunity. The opportunity to live in a global city, well known for its modern and sharp skyline, but less for its subtle mix of British and Chinese heritage. The opportunity to access a high-quality education, promulgated by a set of professional educators and specialists, in modern infrastructures. The opportunity to participate in a diverse set of disciplines and to have access to a method of work and a theoretical approach different from those inculcated in the traditional Anglophone institutions. But also, the opportunity to collaborate professionally with various local and international partners.

"By applying to the dual BA program Sciences Po - University of Hong Kong, I was committed to pursuing an education in political and social sciences - in continuity with what I had started in France - without having, however, any precise vision for my future. After two years in Hong Kong, I am now about to begin a Master's degree in international security, specialization in crisis management and strategic analysis, with a focus on Asian, Middle Eastern and African regions.

"In two years (at HKU), I have participated in courses of theoretical approach in political philosophy and social sciences, but I was also able to make use of my knowledge by completing a 10-month internship. Indeed, in the last year of my program, I worked for the Asia Pacific Mission for Migrants (APMM), an organization that conducts a comprehensive advocacy program to help the establishment and strengthening of migrant workers’ movements worldwide. In addition to participating in international conferences and contributing to the writing of reports, this internship has enabled me to be in direct contact with migrants and thus, to acquire a more human and real understanding of the difficult conditions that face these communities.

"Apart from the compulsory modules, my program also allowed me to attend courses provided by other faculties - whether in Computer Sciences, Business and Economics, or Arts. It is in this way that I found myself a passion for Sino-African relations. In two years, I completed all the modules provided by the African Studies Department, but more importantly, I had the chance to participate in a research trip to Ethiopia, organized by the Faculty of Arts. This is by far one of my best experiences, both on the academic and personal levels. During that trip, I was able to carry out a case study on China’s presence and growing influence in Africa. I also discovered another culture and connected with local and international professionals.

"If these four years have taught me one thing, it is to know how to seize opportunities when they arise. As far as I am concerned, my luck came in the form of the double diploma between Sciences Po Paris and the University of Hong Kong. In four years of university life, I was able to develop my professional experience and build a solid knowledge base. But more importantly, I grew up and was able to take a fresh look at the current environment. In my opinion, this program indeed reflects the changing world of today. A world in which a reorganization of powers is taking place to include new players and visions from the East. A world which also calls for the development of new partnerships centered on a global evolution.

(Ms. Rachel Engazou, HKU-Sciences Po Dual Degree ‘17)

In Summer 2017, I joined the Ethiopian field trip organized by the Department of Linguistics. I never regret choosing Ethiopia as a destination to enhance my international experience. Ethiopia is a wonderful and beautiful country, which inspires me a lot. Talking with the locals and students there, I found them very proud and passionate of being an Ethiopian. Ethiopia is full of cultural and historical heritage that allow us to explore the world from a brand new perspective. The landscape there is magnificent. I love it SO MUCH! As everyone knows, Ethiopia is not a wealthy country. It is not hard to see people wandering on the street asking for food and water.

"One big message I got is that treasure the things we have right now. Guys, there are plenty of resources surrounding us. Stop complaining what we don’t have, and you will see the things that you always have. One last sentence. I am definitely gonna miss this lovely country.

(Ms. Kwepie Tang, Linguistics and Psychology, HKU ’18)