

RESEARCH POSTGRADUATE STUDIES



**HKU
Med**

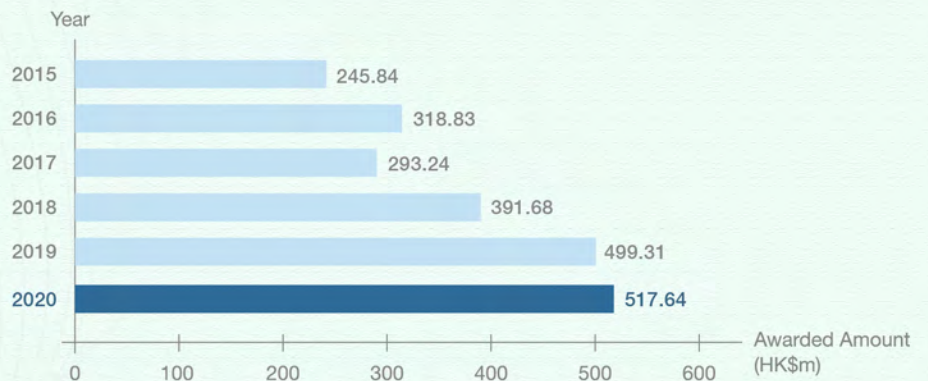
LKS Faculty of Medicine
The University of Hong Kong
香港大學李嘉誠醫學院

WHY HKUMed?

LKS Faculty of Medicine, The University of Hong Kong (HKUMed) is the oldest faculty of higher education in Hong Kong. For 135 years, HKUMed has been at the forefront of medical research and the development of new clinical services that benefit mankind.



External Grants



You can help us solve research questions and address healthcare concerns

- How do cancer cells evade attacks from the immune system?
- Can the use of modern feature extraction and artificial intelligence help advance imaging?
- How can we use genetics, genomics and analysis of big data to understand disease genes and mechanisms?
- Where do different types of stem cells come from and how can they be harnessed to treat human diseases?
- How does our immune system react to pathogens?
- Why are some people more prone to developing cancers?
- What are the health, social, and economic effects of the COVID-19 pandemic?
- How does a virus evolve and transmit in different hosts?



HOW WE SUPPORT YOU?

Hong Kong PhD Fellowships (HKPF)

Stipend:

HK\$26,900 monthly

Travel allowance:

HK\$13,500 annually

Composition fees:

Waived

Accommodation:

Guaranteed hall place for the
1st year with possibility of renewal

HKU Presidential PhD Scholar Programme (HKU-PS)

Cash award:

HK\$40,000 in 1st year;
HK\$20,000 per year in the remaining
normative study period

Composition fee:

Waived

Stipend:

HK\$26,900 monthly

Travel allowance:

HK\$13,500 annually

Accommodation:

Guaranteed hall place for the
1st year with possibility of renewal

Postgraduate Scholarships (PGS)

HK\$18,030 per month

Tuition Waiver Scheme

Awarded to all full-time local MPhil and PhD students

Conference and Travel Grants

One and two grants of up to HK\$13,500 each to MPhil and PhD candidates
respectively within their candidature

Research Postgraduate Student Exchange/ Bau Tsu Zung Bau Kwan Yeu Hing Research Fellowship

Subsidy of up to HK\$5,000 per month in addition to PGS
Allowance for airfare, accommodation, course and bench fees

Other Scholarships

The Faculty has ample scholarship opportunities and applications will be invited from
eligible students throughout their engagement years



RESEARCH EXPOSURE

HKUMed has supported more than 200 students with subsidies amounting to HK\$10m for exchanges at leading institutions around the world since 2007. In an average year before COVID-19, 40 candidates were provided with a total of HK\$1.6m in subsidies.



ANNUAL RESEARCH POSTGRADUATE SYMPOSIUM (RPS)

Organised by students for students, RPS is the Faculty's research postgraduate annual flagship event since 1996.

The symposium is an important platform for our budding researchers in different fields and departments to exchange knowledge, be connected to the myriad of fascinating work and spark interdisciplinary collaboration within the Faculty.





INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE

HKUMed encourages students to share their research work through different activities and gain international experience by undertaking academic exchange and attending courses at world-renowned institutions.

“The research visit offered a great opportunity to work with experts from medical physics, neuroradiology, clinical neurology, neuroscience and biostatistics on exploring the development and potential mechanism of cerebral small vessel disease. This research exchange enriched my knowledge on cerebral small vessel disease and established international collaboration on relevant research projects.”



Miss Dillys Xiaodi Liu

PhD candidate
Department of Medicine

*Research visit to Centre of Clinical Brain Sciences,
University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, UK, January to March,
2020 (under the HKU Research Postgraduate Exchange Scheme)*

“The course provided an effective platform for us to network and learn from the speakers and participants. The combination of lectures and hands-on practice helped enhance our understanding of the function and purpose of different software and research methods. The knowledge I acquired is very beneficial for my studies.”



Miss Hwei Huih LEE

PhD graduate
Department of Microbiology

*Microbial Metagenomics: A360 Approach Course, EMBL,
Heidelberg, June 12-19, 2019*

OUR STAFF & SUPERVISORS

Staff Profile (as of February 2021)

Professoriate staff (Clinical & Non-Clinical Assistant Professor/ Associate Professor/Professor)	340
Academic-related staff	474
Research-support staff	997
Administrative/Clerical/Technical staff	1,344
Honorary and visiting staff	2,197
Total	5,352

Dr Jasper FW Chan

Department of Microbiology

Research Interest:

Diagnosis, treatment, and control of (1) emerging viral infections with pandemic potential, and (2) emerging infectious diseases with special relevance to Hong Kong and China

- General Research Fund 2019-2021 **over HK\$3.2m**
- Health and Medical Research Fund 2013-2021 **over HK\$4.5m**
- National Key Research & Development Programme 2021 **HK\$2.5m**
- Commissioned Research on the Novel Coronavirus Disease 2020 **HK\$4.0m**
- State Scientific and Technological Progress Award (2nd class award), PRC 2019

Dr Lydia WT Cheung

School of Biomedical Sciences

Research Interest:

(1) Functional genomics for translational cancer medicine, (2) cancer signalling, and (3) drug sensitivity and resistance mechanisms

- General Research Fund / Early Career Scheme 2016-2021 **over HK\$5.1m**
- Health and Medical Research Fund 2020 **over HK\$1.4m**
- National Natural Science Foundation of China 2017-2020 **over HK\$1.8m**

Dr Michael YX Ni

School of Public Health

Research Interest:

(1) Chronic disease epidemiology, (2) psychiatric epidemiology, and (3) lifestyle and lifecourse epidemiology

- COVID-19 Studies under the Food and Health Bureau 2021 **HK\$10.0m**
- Johnson Ng Family Trust 2020 **HK\$8.0m**
- Commissioned Research to Support Local Cohorts and Follow-up Studies 2019 **HK\$10.0m**
- General Research Fund / Early Career Scheme 2015-2018 **over HK\$1.5m**
- Michele Tansella Award - World Psychiatric Association 2020

Dr Carmen CL Wong

Department of Pathology

Research Interest:

(1) Tumor microenvironment formation, (2) cancer metabolism, and (3) roles of hypoxia in cancer development

- General Research Fund 2013-2020 **over HK\$9.0m**
- National Natural Science Foundation of China 2017-2019 **over HK\$1.3m**
- Health and Medical Research Fund 2013-2019 **over HK\$8.2m**
- Croucher Innovation Award 2017 **HK\$5.0m**
- HKU Outstanding Young Researcher Award 2016-17

FACILITIES & SERVICES FOR RESEARCH STUDIES

HKUMed provides research postgraduate students with cutting-edge technological support/services and state-of-art core facilities for their research projects

- Biosafety Level 3 Laboratories
- Centre for Comparative Medicine Research
- Centre for PanorOmic Sciences
 - Biobank Core
 - Bioinformatics Core
 - Bio-reagent Core
 - Cryo-EM Core (coming soon)
 - Genomic Core
 - Imaging and Flow Cytometry Core
 - Laboratory of Cellular Therapeutics (coming soon)
 - Proteomics and Metabolomics Core
- Clinical Trials Centre
- Consultation Services on Bioinformatics & Biostatistics and Clinical Research Methodology

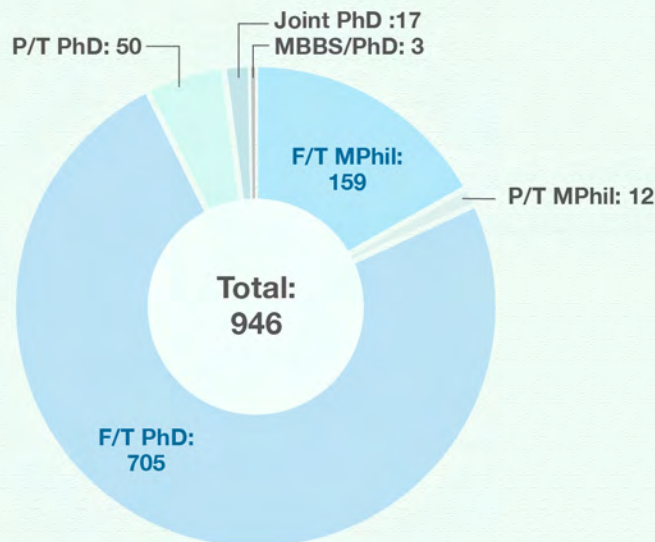
STATE KEY LABORATORIES & WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION COLLABORATIONS

- State Key Laboratory of Pharmaceutical Biotechnology
- State Key Laboratory of Brain and Cognitive Sciences (co-host with HKU Faculty of Social Sciences)
- State Key Laboratory of Emerging Infectious Diseases
- State Key Laboratory of Liver Research
- WHO Collaborating Centre for Infectious Disease Epidemiology and Control
- WHO H5 Reference Laboratory



OUR STUDENTS

Research Postgraduate Student Profile (as of September 2021)



MEET OUR STUDENTS



Mr Joseph Bias (Canada)
PhD candidate
Department of Pharmacology and Pharmacy

"Since my supervisor works closely with the Hong Kong Hospital Authority, our lab has access to high-quality electronic health data. By analysing different sources of real-world data we have a clearer understanding of how patients use cholesterol drugs in Hong Kong and internationally."

Reflecting on his research journey, Joe advises prospective applicants to get in touch with the lab and its current students to learn more about their projects, "I was lucky to work with my team for about 6 months before committing to a PhD...I realised I enjoyed research and decided to take advantage of the opportunity to do a PhD at HKU."

"I want to contribute to a better vaccine approach against the influenza virus; a vaccine that would be long-lasting and more broadly protective... I certainly hope I'm contributing to that direction". Speaking on her aspirations, Pavithra, a PhD graduate in virology from Sri Lanka, cites her supervisor Prof Malik Peiris as a huge source of inspiration and motivation, "He is very well-known for his work on the influenza virus, and someone I've looked up to my entire postgraduate career".

"It's been very interesting being a part of a team that's dedicated to working on coronavirus...you recognise the importance of the surveillance work after seeing how the pandemic has progressed around the world, and has definitely affected how I approach my current work".



Dr Pavithra Daulagela (Sri Lanka)
PhD graduate
School of Public Health



Miss Daisy Tan (Philippines)
PhD candidate
School of Biomedical Sciences

Daisy, a PhD student from the Philippines, reckons that working in a diverse group of passionate researchers at her lab has been an asset to her research experience here, not only because they get to trade stories and anecdotes, but also because there's such diversity in their skillsets too.

"We have individual meetings with each other to catch up on our respective projects, so even though we're working on separate tasks, we can always seek the individual expertise of one another [...] part of the culture here is to troubleshoot together, and learn from your fellow lab mate who may have stronger foundations in other areas of academia."

APPLICATION DEADLINES

(HONG KONG TIME)



HK PhD Fellowships	December 1, 2021 (noon)
Main round	December 1, 2021
1st clearing round	April 30, 2022
2nd clearing round	August 31, 2022

FURTHER INFORMATION

Projects Inviting Application
hkumed.hk/rpg-projects



More Details on
Research Postgraduate Studies
hkumed.hk/rpg



HKUMed
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Graduate School
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