

THE UNIVERSITY'S HISTORY AND ORGANISATION



The Chinese University of Hong Kong was established on 17 October 1963 when the government combined three private science and arts colleges — New Asia College (founded in 1949), Chung Chi College (founded in 1951) and United College (founded in 1956) — on the recommendation of the Fulton Report. The fourth constituent College, Shaw College, was founded in 1986. To further strengthen the collegiate system and to cater for the expected growth of the student population in 2012 as a result of the implementation of the new secondary school curriculum, five new Colleges, namely, Morningside College, S.H. Ho College, CW Chu College, Wu Yee Sun College and Lee Woo Sing College, have been established.

At the time of the University's foundation, the three constituent Colleges were dispersed throughout Hong Kong Island, Kowloon and the New Territories, which was inconvenient for both teaching and administration. Later, the University was allocated a 110-hectare plot of land that was connected to Chung Chi College. After seven to eight years of development, the buildings on the main campus and of New Asia College and United College were completed. Today, the Chinese University boasts a scenic campus set against a luxuriant mountain range and facing the sea.

To prepare for future development, the University underwent reform in 1977 based on the second Fulton Report. The departments of the constituent Colleges were combined to form academic departments that were responsible for all subject-oriented teaching, whilst the Colleges themselves became responsible for all student-oriented teaching. The

other functions of the Colleges were to implement general education and to promote extra-curricular activities. The new system also increased the participation of senior academics in the University's administration and management.

The University has been expanding continuously since 1963. In addition to the original Science and Arts Faculties, a Graduate School was established. Other milestones in the University's development include the Faculty of Medicine, established in 1981, and the Faculty of Engineering, established in 1991. The University currently has eight Faculties – Arts, Business Administration, Education, Engineering, Law, Medicine, Science and Social Science – providing 59 full-time and one part-time undergraduate programmes. The 61 divisions of the Graduate School provide 41 doctoral programmes, 28 MPhil–PhD programmes, 160 Master's programmes and 26 Postgraduate Diploma programmes.

Since 1965, a number of research centres and units have been established for teachers and students to conduct basic and applied research. In 1968, the Publications Office (renamed The Chinese University Press in 1977) was set up to publish specialised books and journals of great academic merit to disseminate the valuable insights and research results of academics and experts.

The University's governance structure is modelled on that of British Commonwealth universities, with a Vice-Chancellor as the head of the institution, a Senate as the highest academic authority and a University Council as the governing body.



MAJOR EVENTS IN THE HISTORY OF THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

- 1949 New Asia College was founded.
- 1951 Chung Chi College was founded.
- 1956 United College was founded.
- 1963 The Chinese University of Hong Kong was officially inaugurated with Chung Chi College, New Asia College, and United College as the foundation Colleges.
- 1964 Dr. Choh-ming Li was installed as the first Vice-Chancellor.
'博文約禮' (or 'Through Learning and Temperance to Virtue' in English) was adopted as the University motto.
- 1966 The Graduate School was established to introduce higher degree programmes.
- 1967 The Institute of Chinese Studies was founded.
The University conferred its first Master's degrees.
- 1974 The Faculty of Business Administration was established.
- 1978 The first Vice-Chancellor Dr. Choh-ming Li retired. He was succeeded by Prof. Ma Lin.
- 1980 Doctoral programmes were launched.
- 1981 Part-time undergraduate programmes of study were launched.
The Faculty of Medicine admitted its first batch of students.
- 1982 The University conferred its first Ph.D. degrees.
- 1986 Shaw College was established as the University's fourth constituent College.
- 1987 The second Vice-Chancellor Prof. Ma Lin retired. He was succeeded by Prof. Charles Kao.
- 1991 The Faculty of Engineering was established.
- 1996 The third Vice-Chancellor Prof. Charles Kao retired. He was succeeded by Prof. Arthur K. C. Li.
- 2002 The fourth Vice-Chancellor Prof. Arthur K. C. Li resigned from the University from 1 August, to assume office as the then Secretary for Education and Manpower of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region. He was succeeded by Prof. Ambrose Y. C. King.
- 2003 The University celebrated its 40th anniversary.
- 2004 The fifth Vice-Chancellor Prof. Ambrose Y. C. King retired. He was succeeded by Prof. Lawrence J. Lau.
- 2005 The School of Law* was established.
- 2006 The School of Law admitted its first batch of students.
The University Council approved the establishment of Morningside College and S.H. Ho College.
- 2007 The University Council approved the establishment of CW Chu College, Wu Yee Sun College and Lee Woo Sing College.
- 2008 The University's teaching and learning quality was commended by the Quality Audit Council of the University Grants Committee.
- 2009 School of Biomedical Sciences, School of Architecture, and School of Public Health and Primary Care established.
Prof. Charles K. Kao, former CUHK Vice-Chancellor, awarded the 2009 Nobel Prize in Physics.
- 2010 The sixth Vice-Chancellor Prof. Lawrence J. Lau retired. He was succeeded by Prof. Joseph J. Y. Sung.

* The School of Law was upgraded to the Faculty of Law with effect from 1 August 2008.