# Curriculum Vitae of Prof. Samuel S.M. Sun

Sun received his BSc cum laude from The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) in 1966, his BSc Special Honour and MSc from the University of Hong Kong in 1968 and 1970 respectively, and his PhD from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA in 1974. While conducting research at the University of Wisconsin from 1975 to1980, he cloned the first plant gene and discovered plant gene introns. He subsequently joined the ARCO Plant Cell Research Institute in California (1980–1987) as senior scientist, principal scientist and Director of Molecular Biology. There he demonstrated for the first time that an essential amino acid can be increased in plants through biotechnology.

Sun was Professor at the University of Hawaii from 1987 to 1995, working on tropical germplasms and biotechnology before joining CUHK in 1996, as Professor of Biology and Department Chair (1996–2004). He is now Research Professor of Biology, while serving concurrently as Master of S.H. Ho College and director of the Area of Excellence Centre for Plant and Agricultural Biotechnology, Institute of Plant Molecular Biology and Agricultural Biotechnology, and the State Key Laboratory of Agrobiotechnology (CUHK). He also serves as an honorary, adjunct and visiting professor at 12 universities in China including Tsinghua University, China Agricultural University, Zhejiang University, Nankai University, and Wuhan University. Sun received ARCO Distinguished Research Award in 1984, Friendship Medal from the State Government of China in 1996, Greatwall Friendship Award from the Beijing Municipal Government in 2000, Leader of the Year Award in Education/Research in Hong Kong in 2005, Distinguished Alumnus Award of Science Faculty at the University of Hong Kong in 2009, and Honorary Fellowship of The Chinese University of Hong Kong in 2010. He was elected a member of the Chinese Academy of Engineering in 2003.

Since returning to Hong Kong, Sun has been working on rice improvement, including on the yield and nutritional quality of hybrid rice, in collaboration with Professor Yuan Longping, ‘Father of Hybrid Rice’ and on engineering nutrient-rich rice as a member of the international ProVitaMin Rice Consortium supported by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. He has also continued his research interest since 1970s in improving the nutritional quality of soybean protein and in using soybean seed as bioreactor for high value therapeutic protein production.