

## Appendix

### PolyU Honorary Graduates



#### **Mr HAN Bicheng**

Mr Han Bicheng is the Founder and CEO of Qiangnao Technology, a global leader in non-invasive brain-computer interface (BCI) technologies. He serves as a member of the Science and Technology Innovation Advisory Committee of the Shanghai Stock Exchange. In 2025, Mr Han was appointed to the Hong Kong Chief Executive’s Council of Advisers, a high-level advisory body to the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People’s Republic of China.

Mr Han founded Qiangnao Technology in 2015 while pursuing his Ph.D. at Harvard’s Center for Brain Science. Under his leadership, the company has grown into China’s first BCI unicorn and one of the world’s foremost innovators in non-invasive neurotechnology, and now stands alongside Elon Musk’s Neuralink as one of the two largest companies by R&D investment in the global BCI field.

Qiangnao Technology is dedicated to equipping tens of millions of physically impaired individuals worldwide with brain-controlled prosthetic limbs. Additionally, the company is deeply engaged in the rehabilitation of neurological disorders, providing tailored solutions for conditions such as ADHD, ASD, Alzheimer’s disease, and sleep disorders.

Mr Han was selected as one of MIT Technology Review’s “Innovators Under 35,” recognised as a World Economic Forum “Young Global Leader,” was listed among Fortune China’s “40 Under 40”, and was named AI Person of the Year 2025.



## **Professor Barry James MARSHALL**

Professor Barry James Marshall is a world-renowned medical scientist whose pioneering work on *Helicobacter pylori* (*H. pylori*) revolutionised the global understanding and treatment of gastric diseases. His monumental discovery, made in collaboration with Professor Robin Warren, established that the bacterium *H. pylori* is the primary cause of chronic gastritis and peptic ulcers. This breakthrough fundamentally overturned decades of medical dogma, charting an entirely new course for the effective treatment of these widespread conditions. For this landmark achievement, Professor Marshall was jointly awarded the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine in 2005, a recognition that marked his research as a scientific milestone that brought hope and cure to millions of patients.

Professor Marshall's exceptional contribution extends well beyond the laboratory. He is a steadfast advocate for translating innovative science into clinical practice, particularly in addressing major global public health challenges, most notably the escalating issue of Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR). His philosophy is clear: the ultimate value of scientific research lies in its capacity to solve real-world human health problems. Guided by this principle, he has championed the development and application of cutting-edge diagnostic and therapeutic methods, effectively enhancing cure rates and mitigating the risks associated with the overuse of antibiotics.

In his talks, such as those titled "Theory and Practice", Professor Marshall shares the extraordinary journey of the *H. pylori* discovery and the bacterium's crucial role in the development of gastritis and gastric cancer. He candidly addresses the contemporary threat of AMR, which is increasingly compromising formerly effective treatment protocols. As a practical solution to this crisis, he highlights his team's innovative diagnostic tool: the "string test". This simple, non-invasive, and cost-effective method collects gastric samples to directly analyse the bacterial strain's genotype and its sensitivity to antibiotics. This technology enables precision medicine, allowing doctors to create highly tailored, individualised treatment plans, thereby boosting

success rates and helping to curb the spread of antibiotic resistance.

Professor Marshall has also forged an enduring and highly productive relationship with China in the field of medical research. He recognised the immense potential for collaboration and technological exchange between Australia and China, dedicating himself to fostering this partnership. In acknowledgement of his efforts, he received the prestigious Chinese Government Friendship Award in 2015, one of the nation's highest honours for foreigners. He was later bestowed the esteemed International Science and Technology Cooperation Award of the People's Republic of China in 2023, a prize honouring his outstanding contribution to promoting medical exchange and collaboration between Australia and China, particularly in the prevention and control of H. pylori-related gastric cancer.

Currently, Professor Marshall serves as a Professor at Shenzhen University, bringing his invaluable knowledge and experience to China's research and educational landscape. His presence has significantly elevated the university's research standards and international influence, providing vital guidance and inspiration to the next generation of Chinese scientists.

Professor Marshall's story is a compelling testament to the spirit of science without borders. Through his practical actions, he has fostered international scientific cooperation and friendship, committing himself to the continuous betterment of human health worldwide. His research and personal dedication undoubtedly encourage more scientists to delve into medical exploration, collectively tackling future health challenges, especially in the crucial field of H. pylori and gastric cancer prevention.

(1 November 2025)