

17 PARTNERSHIPS
FOR THE GOALS



Research & Innovation

Supporting High-Impact Translational Research and Development in Chinese Mainland

PolyU is expanding its research impact by establishing translational research institutes in more than ten cities in Chinese Mainland. These institutes serve as platforms to strengthen collaboration with leading universities, research institutions, and industry partners, leveraging their respective expertise to drive high-impact research and development. By focusing on addressing the industrial and societal needs unique to each city, the institutes aim to translate cutting-edge research into practical solutions that benefit communities and industries alike.

The University's existing regional bases in Beijing, Chengdu, Hangzhou, Shanghai, Shenzhen, and Xi'an continue to play a pivotal role in facilitating partnerships and knowledge exchange, providing platforms for innovation, technology transfer, and applied research. Through these collaborative efforts, the institutes not only enhance the quality and relevance of PolyU's research but also integrate the University into the national innovation ecosystem, contributing directly to Chinese Mainland's scientific and technological advancement.



Pursuing Aerospace Innovation through Satellite Partnerships

PolyU has strengthened its collaboration with the Hong Kong Aerospace Technology Group (HKATG) to advance satellite technologies for navigation, communication, and smart city applications. Through a Memorandum of Understanding, HKATG will provide PolyU with access to conventional optical remote sensing and synthetic aperture radar observation data covering Hong Kong and the Greater Bay Area. The collaboration also includes support for low-Earth orbit satellite payload space, payload testing, and satellite measurement and control services for research and educational purposes. In a notable contribution, HKATG has donated the naming rights of a multispectral optical remote sensing satellite, valued at approximately HK\$20 million.

This initiative not only strengthens PolyU's aerospace research capabilities but also creates new opportunities for smart city development. By leveraging HKATG's satellite capabilities, the partnership advances remote sensing research projects related to multispectral features, including carbon neutrality research, tree health monitoring, land cover classification, marine water quality monitoring, and the study of urban surface characteristics.



Teaching & Learning

Learning through Collaboration on Sustainable Development Initiatives

The SDG Youth Programme, co-organised with Peking University, provided PolyU students from the disciplines of social work, social policy, entrepreneurship, and social development as well as students from Yonsei University Institute of Global Engagement and Empowerment, and Ewha Woman's University with an immersive experience in sustainable development. Participants engaged with agencies and corporations dedicated to advancing the UN Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDGs) in the company visits and conducted group research projects, presenting comparative analyses of how UNSDGs are implemented in Hong Kong, Chinese

Mainland, and South Korea. This collaborative learning environment encouraged students to reflect on the practical applications of sustainable development within social work.

Through the programme, students developed the skills to integrate principles of UNSDGs into professional practices, enhancing their competence in addressing social and environmental challenges. They gained awareness of cross-cultural approaches to sustainability, while the interaction with peers and professionals fostered collaboration and networks for future initiatives. Moreover, real-world discussions and research empowered students to advocate for sustainable practices in their future careers.

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External Engagement

Shaping the Future of Healthy Ageing through Global Partnerships

Co-organised by PolyU and the Department of Health of the Government of the HKSAR, the Healthy Ageing Conference brought together **over 250 participants** from around 20 fastest-ageing Western Pacific countries. The event provided a platform for stakeholders to exchange ideas on clinical, social, cultural, and technological innovations that can promote healthy ageing. Case studies and policy discussions highlighted strategies for improving health and social care delivery, addressing psychosocial and environmental factors, and leveraging technological advances to enhance the lives of older adults. Importantly, the conference laid a foundation for implementing action plans aligned with the United Nations Decade of Healthy Ageing (2021-2030), aiming to create more inclusive and supportive communities for older individuals.

Besides, the University and the International Society of Radiographers and Radiological Technologists (ISRRT) hosted the "ISRRT World Congress cum Hong Kong Radiographers and Radiation Therapists Conference", which drew **over 600 participants** from around 30 countries. Bearing the theme "Personalised Care in Medical Imaging and Radiotherapy", the congress showcased global expertise in integrating technology and AI into healthcare practices. Having explored how innovations can improve diagnostic accuracy, treatment precision, and patient-centred outcomes, the event offered professional development opportunities for the radiography and radiotherapy community, highlighting how cross-border knowledge exchange and collaboration can elevate healthcare standards worldwide.



ISRRT World Congress 2024 cum Hong Kong Radiographers and Radiation Therapists Conference

Fostering Cross-Sector Partnerships in the AI Era

PolyU co-hosted the THE Global AI Forum with Times Higher Education, bringing together **around 300 participants** from around 110 organisations across more than 20 countries. The event featured **about 40 leading scholars and thought leaders** from more than 10 countries and regions, fostering rich dialogue on the transformative role of artificial intelligence in academia and society. The event centred on exploring how AI is reshaping higher education, research, and social impact. Presidential discussions highlighted how universities can harness AI to foster innovation and inclusion, overcome barriers to learning, and support students from underprivileged backgrounds. Participants also explored the importance of balancing opportunities and ethical considerations, integrating AI into academic strategies, and strengthening partnerships across education sectors, industry, and government.

Panel sessions explored AI's transformative role in redefining education, empowering research collaboration, and advancing global sustainable development, while case studies showcased AI's applications in renewable energy, sustainable agriculture, and urban planning to combat climate change, addressing the specific needs of marginalised communities. The event also featured an education and innovation showcase led by PolyU scholars, presenting pioneering AI projects in fields such as food safety, robotics, drone delivery, sustainable fashion design, and intelligent tutoring systems. Delegates visited PolyU's advanced research facilities, including the Hybrid Immersive Virtual Environment and the Research Centre for Deep Space Explorations, which underline the University's leadership in AI-driven innovation and global collaboration.



Governance & Operations

Advancing Sustainability through Strategic Global Partnerships

PolyU actively participates in local and international sustainability networks to advance climate action and sustainable development. Locally, the University collaborates with other higher education institutions through the Hong Kong Sustainable Campus Consortium, sharing insights and best practices on sustainability-related issues. PolyU co-chaired the Sustainability Performance Working Group to submit a proposal for a Joint Commitment to Carbon Neutrality by 2050 to the Heads of Universities Committee.

Globally, PolyU co-founded the University Social Responsibility Network and currently chairs its Executive Committee, collaborating with **nearly 20 member institutions worldwide** to address economic, social, cultural, and environmental challenges. The network facilitates open dialogues among thought leaders and organises summits, webinars, and student engagement events, promoting justice, inclusivity, peace, and sustainability.

Moreover, PolyU is a member of the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN), a global knowledge network mobilising universities and research institutes to implement the Sustainable Development Goals and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change. Through SDSN, the University engages in knowledge sharing, international collaboration, and the promotion of practical solutions for sustainable development.



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