

PolyU 85th Anniversary

Forum on Integrating I&T into GBA and the National System cum Launch Ceremony of Policy Research Centre for Innovation and Technology

24 November 2022

4: 00 pm – 6: 15 pm

Jockey Club Auditorium, PolyU

About the Keynote Speaker

Mr Charles Li

Charles is Co-Founder and Chairman of Micro Connect. He was the Chief Executive of Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Limited ("HKEX") from January 2010 to December 2020. During this time, he orchestrated some of the most significant strategic initiatives in HKEX's history, including the acquisition of the London Metal Exchange in 2012, the launch of the Shanghai-Hong Kong Stock Connect cross-border trading scheme in 2014, Shenzhen-Hong Kong Stock Connect in 2016, Bond Connect in 2017, and the Listing Reforms in 2018. Prior to joining HKEX in 2009, Charles served as Chairman of JP Morgan China from 2003 to 2009 and worked at Merrill Lynch from 1994 to 2003, where he served as President of Merrill Lynch China from 1999 to 2003. Earlier in his career, Charles practiced law at Brown & Wood and Davis Polk & Wardwell in New York.

Charles also serves on the Board of MarketAxess Holdings Inc. and the Board of Trustees of Asia Business Council.

Charles received a BA in English Literature from Xiamen University, an MA in Journalism from the University of Alabama and a JD from Columbia Law School.

Topic:

Leveraging fintech and digitization to accelerate the development of the Greater Bay Area

Abstract:

Hong Kong is core to the development of the Greater Bay Area (GBA) and the gateway to investing in China. Following his retirement as Chief Executive of HKEX, Charles Li started Micro Connect in early 2021 with an aim to connect global capital with millions of micro and small businesses in China's vibrant consumer economy. Using the GBA as the base and with a team of 160+ professionals in Hong Kong and Shenzhen, Micro Connect has channelled hundreds of millions of RMB to more than 1,600 stores nationwide. Charles will discuss how the GBA's strengths in innovation and wealth of talents, together with Hong Kong's global connectivity, will support his pursuit of offering efficiency in small business investing for global professional investors and a new alternative to impact investing.



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About the Panelists

Prof. C.C. Chan

Dubbed the “Father of Asian electric vehicles”, Professor C.C. Chan is Hong Kong’s first academician of the Chinese Academy of Engineering, and he is currently an Honorary Professor of the University of Hong Kong.

Professor Chan actively serves as Senior Advisor or Consultant to government agencies, academic institutions and industries worldwide. He founded the International Academicians Science & Technology Innovation Center in China, Germany, Sweden, Israel, Turkey, Canada and Korea. The aim of the Centre is to uphold the spirit of Science and Technology Olympic, namely the Integration of Technology, Market, Finance, Culture and Policy for the welfare of humankind.



Dr Otto Poon

Dr. Poon is a Chartered Engineer, and the Founder and Chairman of ATAL Engineering Group. He is the President of Hong Kong Academy of Engineering Sciences, Past President of Hong Kong Institution of Engineers and Life President of Hong Kong Federation of Electrical and Mechanical Contractors.

Over the years, he served on a number of government advisory bodies which included Energy Advisory Committee, Advisory Council on the Environment, Council for Sustainable Development, Solicitors Disciplinary Tribunal Panel, and Lift and Escalator Safety Advisory Committee, as well as in various engineering institutions. Currently, he is a member of several advisory committees of universities in Hong Kong.

Dr. Poon was conferred University Fellowship by PolyU, Honorary Fellowship by University of Central Lancashire, UK. He was also awarded Honorary Fellowship by Energy Institute, UK and elected as a PolyU Outstanding Alumni and Honorary Member of The Chinese Mechanical Engineering Society, PRC.

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Dr Sunny Chai

Dr Sunny Chai was elected as the Chairman of the Federation of Hong Kong Industries in July 2021. Dr Chai joined his family's company for over 30 years and successfully developed it from a small lighting and general merchandise factory into the world's leading scale manufacturer, earning himself the "King of Scale" title. In his early years, he was committed to reforming the company's business by promoting computerisation, professional management, and shifting the business focus to scale manufacturing to develop a range of medical, industrial and automotive scales. He is dedicated to transforming the company by developing information technology business, further investing in R&D, big data, artificial intelligence applications and resource planning technology, etc.

Dr Chai is devoted to the innovation and technology development and industrial advancement in Hong Kong. He also holds a number of other public offices, such as Chairman of Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation and Council Member of Hong Kong Trade Development Council.



Dr Stephen Wong

Dr. Stephen Wong received his Bachelor's and Master's degrees from the University of Chicago and Yale University respectively. He completed his Doctorate degree in Public Administration (DPA) from the University of Hong Kong.

He began his career as an investment banker and held regional management positions with several global financial institutions, including as Executive Director at UBS in London and Managing Director at RBS.

Dr. Wong is currently the Senior Vice President of Our Hong Kong Foundation, and he is also a Legislative Council member. He also serves in various social and public organizations, including the Financial Services Development Council's Board Member, and the Urban Renewal Authority Board Member.

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