

President's Overview 校長報告

# SHOWING RESOLVE IN THE FACE OF UNPRECEDENTED CHALLENGES

## 迎难昭志 自強不息

### The importance of positive social values has never been clearer

It has been one year since I assumed duty as President of PolyU. Over the past year, we have faced a variety of profound challenges, from social incidents at a local level, to the COVID-19 pandemic and economic downturn at a global level.

This environment has reinforced my belief that it is of fundamental importance for the University to continue providing a holistic education that not only imparts professional and academic knowledge, but also nurtures within our students a strong sense of social responsibility, conscientiousness and integrity, as well as deep affection for our Nation and the wider international community. To solve the most pressing issues facing our world, professional expertise alone is not enough; the next generation must also have a strong passion to employ their professional expertise in a way that makes a positive contribution to our society.

### 正面社會價值觀的重要性

轉眼間，本人擔任香港理工大學校長一職已有一年多。回顧過去一年，我們經歷了一連串重大挑戰：先是本地社會事件，然後是席捲全球的新冠病毒疫情，環球經濟更因此陷入衰退。

嚴峻的局勢進一步堅定了我的信念：大學必須為學生提供全人教育。大學除了要傳授給學生專業和學術知識，還須培養他們的社會責任感，讓他們具備勇於承擔的高尚品格，進而建立起對國家以至國際社會的深切關懷。單憑專業知識，並不足以解決現今世界所面臨的最迫切問題。我們的下一代必須懷著熱誠，善用其專業知識，積極回饋社會。

### Social responsibility in action: combating the pandemic

I would like to share some powerful examples of how combining professional knowledge with social responsibility has resulted in positive societal outcomes. They relate to how PolyU researchers, students and alumni have demonstrated their care by harnessing their expertise to help the public cope with COVID-19.

For instance, University researchers developed a rapid automated multiplex diagnostic system that can identify COVID-19 and other infectious respiratory pathogens in a single test within one hour, enabling rapid screening. Other PolyU researchers responded to an urgent request from the local Hospital Authority to produce face shields, since this Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) was in critically short supply for frontline medical personnel at the beginning of the epidemic. The researchers deployed state-of-the-art 3D printing technology to produce the initial batch of face shields. The University then leveraged its network of local manufacturers to mass-produce the shields to help meet Hong Kong's PPE needs.

Our students and alumni have also played an inspiring role in helping to combat the virus. PolyU alumnus Li Haijian travelled to Leishenshan Hospital in Wuhan in January 2020. He supported the work of the hospital by designing a negative pressure isolation ward and establishing a medical waste incineration facility. At the same time, students and graduates of the MSc in Disaster Nursing at The Hong Kong Polytechnic University–Sichuan University Institute for Disaster Management and Reconstruction assisted frontline medical staff at hospitals in Wuhan, other cities in Hubei province, and Sichuan province.

*PolyU academics, students and alumni leverage their research expertise and strengths to help fight the pandemic.*

理大師生和校友同心協力，運用科研實力和專長，攜手抗疫。



### 回饋社會 同心抗疫

在此，我想分享一些有力的例子，說明如何將專業知識與社會責任相結合，為社會帶來正向影響。這些故事的主角是理大的研究人員、學生和校友，他們本著對社會的責任心，並憑藉其專業知識，在應對新冠肺炎疫情上出心出力。

我們的研究人員開發出全自動快速多重診斷系統，能夠在一小時內同時檢測出新冠病毒及其他傳染性呼吸道疾病的病原體；這項技術有助於快速篩查出新冠病毒感染者。此外，疫情初期，為了解決本港前線醫護人員個人防護裝備嚴重短缺的困難，我們的另一個研究團隊應醫院管理局的緊急請託，設計並趕製防護面罩。研究人員採用了先進的三維列印技術，在極短時間內成功研製出新型防護面罩，並立即聯繫本地廠家進行批量生產，紓解了前線醫護人員的燃眉之急。

本校學生及校友亦在抗疫中發揮了令人鼓舞的作用。理大校友李海建於2020年1月遠赴武漢雷神山醫院，設計負壓隔離病房，又協助醫院建立醫療廢棄物焚燒設施。同時，「理大——四川大學災後重建與管理學院」災害護理碩士課程的在讀學生和畢業生，也分赴武漢、湖北省其他城市和四川省的多間醫院，投入前線醫療救援工作。



### Embracing online learning and working

The operations of the University have been affected in various ways by the COVID-19 outbreak. We have been unable to continue most of our face-to-face teaching activities, and colleagues have had to shift to working from home for a sustained period to help curb the spread of COVID-19, adopting a remote mode of learning and teaching on an unprecedented scale. As we have transformed PolyU from a physical to an online campus, we have been guided by three principles. The first was to safeguard the health of students and staff. The second was to ensure students' learning outcomes would not be compromised. Finally, we wanted to minimise the impact on students' academic progress.

To achieve these goals, we adopted measures that included conducting meetings online, enhancing campus hygiene protocols and maintaining strict social distancing on campus. We also developed our online learning and teaching capabilities by adopting digital tools that enable students and teachers to exchange ideas in an online environment.

Notwithstanding the invaluable role of face-to-face classroom interaction, I am delighted by the positive feedback from our students about their online learning experience. Students have shared the view that online teaching has been beneficial because it has enabled them to learn at their own pace, and has increased their engagement as they can participate in anonymous polls and ask questions anonymously during classes.

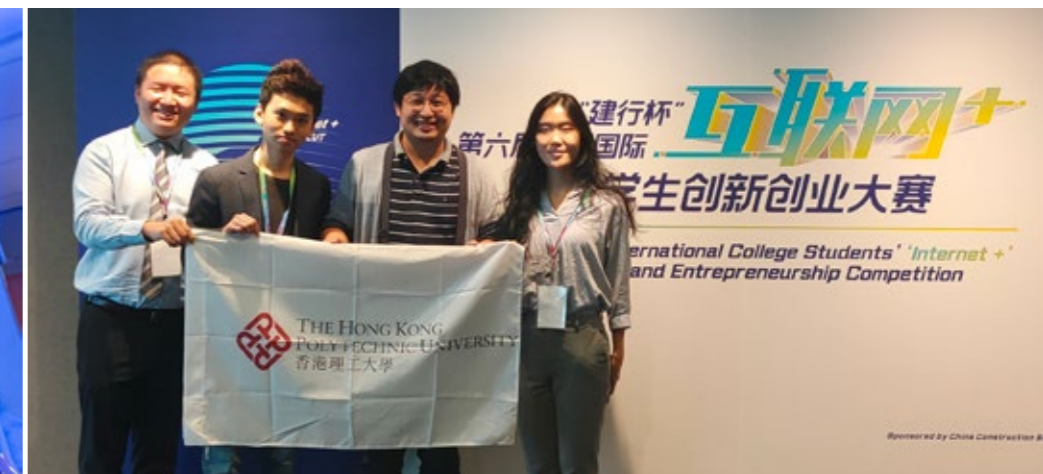


### 推行網上學習及在線工作

新冠病毒疫情肆虐，大學的運作受到多方面的影響。為了遏止病毒傳播，大部分的面授教學活動必須暫停，同事亦有一段時間轉為在家工作，全校以空前的規模推行遠程教學。由校園授課轉為網上教學，我們竭力恪守三大原則：第一是保障學生和教職員的健康；第二是確保學生的學習成效；最後是盡力避免學生的學業進度受影響。

基於以上的原則，我們推出了各種措施，包括舉行網上會議、提高校園的衛生標準，以及在校園內嚴格實施社交距離。我們亦透過各種數碼工具，為理大師生提供多元化的溝通管道，進一步提升網上學習和授課的效率。

儘管在面授課堂中師生的面對面互動非常重要，但學生對網上學習的體驗反應仍然正面，令人欣慰。學生認為網上教學讓他們可按照自己的步伐學習；而網上課堂的投票表決及提問活動都可以不記名方式進行，這也有助提升他們的參與度。



### Pursuing research excellence for societal impact

In addition to our developments in online learning, over the last year the University has made important progress in bolstering its research efforts. I am proud that PolyU secured HK\$32.6 million from the 2019/20 Research Impact Fund of the University Grants Committee, the largest share allocated to a local university by the Fund. The funding will help us deliver more impactful research projects.

We have also established a new Graduate School to enhance the research culture at PolyU. The School will nurture a pool of high-potential research talent who will help drive knowledge creation and technological advancement in Hong Kong.

In addition, we have set up the PolyU Academy for Interdisciplinary Research that will host a significant number of mission-driven interdisciplinary research institutes (RIs) to address key societal challenges. The RIs are intended to cover a variety of emerging technologies including Artificial Intelligence, Smart Cities, Smart Energy and Robotics.

It is also a strategic objective of the University to deepen university-industry partnerships and collaborations in order to drive knowledge transfer and entrepreneurship. To that end, we have enhanced our support framework for students, staff and alumni, including providing training and funds to foster "Do Well Do Good" entrepreneurship that benefits society.

### 追求卓越科研 推動社會進步

除了網上學習方面的發展，年內理大在加強研究工作方面，也取得顯著的進展。理大獲教資會「研究影響基金」在2019/20年度批出最大份額的撥款，合共3,260萬港元，有助我們開展更多具影響力的研究項目。

理大亦新設「研究生院」，以推動大學的研究文化。該學院將培育高潛力的研究人才，好讓他們日後能致力創造知識，促進香港的科技發展。

我們也成立了「香港理工大學高等研究院」，轄下設有多個以使命為導向的跨學科研究院，以回應重要的社會議題。研究院將集中研發多項新興科技，包括人工智能、智慧城市、智慧能源和機械人技術等。

大學的其中一個策略目標，就是深化與業界之間的夥伴關係和協作，以促進知識轉移和發揮創業精神。為此，我們持續提升對學生、教職員和校友的創業支援，包括提供培訓和資金，以推動「創富創善」的創業精神，造福社會。





An artist's impression of the academic building and hostel building at the Ho Man Tin Slope.

理大於何文田斜坡興建教學大樓和學生宿舍的構思圖。



President Jin-Guang Teng hosts sharing sessions with staff, students and alumni to strengthen the shared vision and common understanding of the PolyU community.

滕錦光校長通過分享會與教職員、學生和校友加強溝通，以促進理大社群的互相理解，實踐共同的願景。

### Enhancing our educational capabilities through campus development

Beyond these important achievements, we have been working hard to push forward our campus expansion plan and we are pleased to have received funding approval from LegCo's Finance Committee for several of our campus development projects.

We recently started construction work at Ho Man Tin Slope, where we will build world-class healthcare-related facilities to advance our education and research programmes in Rehabilitation Sciences and Optometry. The facilities will support the government's efforts to increase the training of allied health professionals in Hong Kong.

We have also commenced our Library Extension and Revitalisation project, which will see additional and modernised library space created. In particular, we will provide more areas for collaborative learning and group discussion, to provide our students with a more engaging learning experience.

Finally, we plan to expand residential spaces for both our local and non-local students by building new student halls at Ho Man Tin Slope and in Kowloon Tong, which will together add around 3,000 hostel places. The halls will facilitate the personal development of students by providing an environment in which they can live together, and is conducive to studying together and learning from each other.

### 擴建校園 加強教育實力

除了上述的重要發展，我們也一直努力推動校園擴展計劃，當中部分校園發展項目已獲立法會財務委員會撥款支持。

我們在何文田斜坡已開展一項工程，將在該地興建世界級醫療領域的設施，以推動本校在康復治療科學和眼科視光學方面的教研項目。這些設施落成後，將加強香港醫療專業人員的培訓，以配合政府相關的醫療發展政策。

其次，圖書館擴建及翻新工程亦已經展開，日後將新增更多現代化圖書館空間，尤其是用於協作學習及小組討論的空間，以便學生更積極投入學習。

另外，我們計劃於何文田斜坡及九龍塘興建新的學生宿舍，為本地及非本地學生增加合共約3,000個宿位。宿舍為學生提供一個共同生活的環境，既可促進學生個人的全面發展，又可加強同儕間的交流與學習。



### Recognition of our achievements inspires us to do even better

As President, I have been encouraged to see that our efforts in the pursuit of academic excellence have been recognised in world university rankings. PolyU was placed 25th in the QS Asia University Rankings 2021, and 75th in the QS World University Rankings 2021.

While I am proud that the University is being acknowledged for its achievements, we must not be complacent. We will make reference to such rankings and other forms of evaluation to identify areas for improvement so as to further elevate our performance in education and research. We must be inspired to excel even further to ensure PolyU remains competitive with other leading academic institutions.

Therefore, in order to raise our standards even higher, as President, I expect the University to achieve the following milestones over the coming years:

- Strengthen the leadership of our central management team in order to enhance our focus on education, research and knowledge transfer.
- Strategically and proactively hire top scholars and academics to further elevate our academic capacity.
- Upgrade our curriculum to place a greater emphasis on emerging Industry 4.0 technologies (such as AI, Robotics and Data Science).
- Continuously innovate our teaching methodologies, including our development of online learning tools that have become critical in the post COVID-19 world.
- Develop a strong culture of inter-disciplinary research for societal impact through the establishment of a significant number of mission-driven research institutes.
- Extend our reach and facilities in the Greater Bay Area to amplify our impact in the region.

### 成就備受肯定 矢志更上層樓

一直以來，理大在學術上追求卓越，這方面的努力在世界大學排名中獲得充分肯定，我為此深感鼓舞。理大在「2021年QS亞洲大學排行榜」中排名第25位，在「2021年QS世界大學排行榜」中名列第75位。

我們雖為理大的成就自豪，但決不會因此自滿。我們將參考這些排名及其他評估機制，找出仍需改善的地方，務求在教研方面更上一層樓。理大必須自強不息，才能在一眾領先學府中保持競爭力。

因此，為了讓理大達到更高的水準，我期望大學可於未來數年內實現以下的目標：

- 提高管理層的領導力，並聚焦教育、研究和知識轉移的重點發展。
- 積極而有策略地延攬頂尖學者，進一步提升理大的學術實力。
- 更新課程以涵蓋工業4.0的新興技術（例如人工智能、機械人技術和數據科學等）。
- 持續創新教學方法，包括開發網上學習工具，以期在後疫情時代繼續發揮重要作用。
- 成立多個以使命為導向的研究院，以加強跨學科研究文化，為社會帶來裨益。
- 拓展在大灣區的網絡和設施，以擴大並深化理大在區內的影响力。



Preparations are also currently underway for the Planning Exercise Proposals (PEP) to the University Grants Committee covering broader and longer-term strategic plans made on a "3+3" basis, i.e. for the 2022-25 and 2025-28 triennia. We are mobilising our academic departments to fully participate in the PEP preparations to ensure that their strategic priorities are met in the coming years, enabling them to scale new heights.

We have also embarked on a university-wide initiative to enhance administrative efficiency in non-academic, as well as academic, units over the next three years. The overall goal is to create a culture of empowerment and accountability by re-prioritising and streamlining on-going activities for better alignment with the core functions of the University.

#### A message of gratitude

In closing, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Council and Court members for their invaluable advice and support to the University. Furthermore, I wish to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the untiring support shown by the senior management team, staff, students, alumni and friends of PolyU over this difficult year. I have been inspired by their positive attitude during this period of uncertainty and by their willingness to turn challenges into opportunities.

I would also like to extend my heartfelt thanks to our former Deputy President and Provost, Professor Philip Chan Ching-ho, who retired at the end of February 2020, and Ir Professor Alexander Wai Ping-kong, who left his post as Deputy President and Provost of PolyU on 1 December 2020, for their leadership and dedication to the University. I look forward to working with Professor Wing-tak Wong, who takes over the role of Deputy President and Provost. I am confident that Professor Wong will make invaluable contributions to PolyU in its continued pursuit of excellence in education, research and knowledge transfer for the benefit of mankind.



Professor Jin-Guang Teng  
President

目前，我們正在草擬涵蓋2022-25年和2025-28年兩個三年期("3+3")內更廣泛和更長期的學術發展策略計劃，稍後將提交予教資會。大學現正推動各個學系積極參與學術發展建議的準備工作，以確保在未來數年可以配合各個學系的策略優次，助其長足發展。

我們還在學校開展了一項計劃，期望在未來三年內提高非學術及學術部門的行政效率。計劃的整體目標，是根據大學的核心職能，重整各部門現行工作的優次順序，同時精簡流程，以建立賦權和問責的工作文化。

#### 感激之言

最後，我在此感謝理大校董會與大學顧問委員會給予大學寶貴的指導和支持；同時我也感激我的領導團隊、教職員、學生、校友和各界友好，在這充滿挑戰的一年堅定地支持大學。他們在逆境中的正向思想，以及積極化危為機的精神，令我深受感動。

此外，我特別要向在2020年2月底退休的陳正豪教授，以及在2020年12月1日離任的前常務及學務副校長衛炳江教授致意，衷心感謝他們的領導工作及對理大的貢獻。我期望與接任常務及學務副校長一職的黃永德教授衷誠合作。我深信黃教授將為理大作出貢獻，協助大學繼續在教育、研究和知識轉移方面爭取卓越成就，造福社群。



校長  
滕錦光教授

## Central Management Team 中央管理團隊



Professor Wing-tak Wong  
Deputy President and  
Provost  
常務及學務副校長  
黃永德教授



Professor Jin-Guang Teng  
President  
校長  
滕錦光教授



Dr Miranda Lou  
Executive Vice President  
行政副校長  
盧麗華博士



Mr Andy Tong  
Vice President  
(Campus Development  
and Facilities)  
副校長(校園發展及  
設施管理)  
唐仕恒先生



Professor Wong Kwok-yin  
Vice President  
(Education)  
副校長(教學)  
黃國賢教授



Professor Ben Young  
Vice President  
(Student and International  
Affairs)  
副校長(學生及國際事務)  
楊立偉教授



Professor Daniel T. L. Shek  
Interim Vice President  
(Research and Innovation)  
暫任副校長(研究及創新)  
石丹理教授

