Faculty of Science
Five-year Plan
Addressing Strategic Moves 2017-2022

Augment Student Experience
Enhance Research Leadership
Revitalise Equipment & Infrastructure
Grow Academic Staff
We strive to be pre-eminent in Hong Kong, leading in Asia and highly competitive globally.

Message from the Dean

The University of Hong Kong is one of the world’s top universities, it aims to be Asia’s global university. What does this mean for the Faculty of Science? That was the question that we set out to answer in 2016. The Faculty agreed that it wanted to be pre-eminent locally, leading in Asia and competitive globally. This is an ambitious vision, one that sets a high standard for all our activities. We have spent time deliberating on what we should do to meet our aspirations. This has culminated in the development of this five year plan. In 2017 we will start to take action on this plan. The Faculty is close to 80 years old, and we have achieved much in that time. This plan is designed to build on those eight decades and to aid our development for the next eight. We are not complacent, the world is a competitive and fast-moving place. We need to adapt what we do, and how we do it to remain in our leading position.

‘Only the wisest and stupidest men never change.’

Professor Matthew R Evans
Dean of Science
The University of Hong Kong
The Five-year Plan Aligns with HKU’s vision of being ‘Asia’s global university’ by realising ‘3+1’ Is

**INTERNATIONALISATION**
Engage global elite, both staff and students

**IMPACT**
Make a positive impact on society

**INNOVATION**
Create innovative research division structure to maximise research performance
Ensure our students have the best experience at HKU

**INTERDISCIPLINARITY**
Develop central research and PhD facilities to foster interdisciplinary research

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Where We Are
World Class Rankings

#2
QS World University Rankings by Subject 2017 – Natural Science by Quacquarelli Symonds

#21
QS University Rankings: Asia 2016 by Quacquarelli Symonds

#5
Asia University Rankings 2017 by Times Higher Education

International Environment ~ 60%
academic staff are from outside Hong Kong

Diverse origins and cultures of students
International collaborations

~60%
International Environment

Top-ranked Scientists 14%
Top-ranked Scientists of professoriate staff are the world’s top 1% scholars according to Clarivate Analytics’ Essential Science Indicators 2016

#21
Top-ranked Scientists of professoriate staff are the world’s top 1% scholars according to Clarivate Analytics’ Essential Science Indicators 2016

14 %
Top-ranked Scientists of professoriate staff are the world’s top 1% scholars according to Clarivate Analytics’ Essential Science Indicators 2016
What We Aspire to be

A world leader in research and teaching, we will know we are achieving this when:

• Research performance improves
• Popularity among quality local and international students increases
• High quality staff are attracted from around the world
• National and international funders show greater interest

How We Get There

4 Strategic Moves:

GEAR
• We have created 80th Anniversary positions and are launching a global recruitment of Assistant/Associate Professors
• We will increase the academic staff population by 20% with competitive remuneration and start-up packages

Expected outcome:
We will bring in the highest quality academic staff with diverse profiles and make a significant advance in research

Grow Academic Staff

Enhance Research Leadership

• We have created an entirely new research division structure and are establishing our research foci
• There are six new research divisions:
  » Molecular and Cell Biology
  » Ecology and Biodiversity
  » Chemistry
  » Earth and Planetary Science
  » Physics and Astronomy
  » Mathematical and Statistical Science
• We will appoint new Research Division Directors recruited globally to be facilitators, champions and mentors to enhance research performance in each Division
• Academic staff may join more than one research division
• We will foster interdisciplinary research within and between divisions

Expected outcomes:
Maximised research performance, the identification and nurturing of research strengths, and incentivised research activity
We will enhance the experience of students and remain the choice of the best students to study science.

We are reviewing our curriculum to ensure that the best quality teaching programmes are delivered.

We will encourage innovation in teaching and emphasise quality of provision over quantity.

**Expected outcome:**
The highest quality of teaching is conducted, providing students with the best possible learning experience.

We will modernise aging equipment.

We are developing plans for a new Science Building that will house:

- At least one academic department
- A central Science Faculty Research Facility
- Centralised Science undergraduate teaching laboratories
- An interdisciplinary PhD student space

**Expected outcome:**
Improved research environment and facilitation of interdisciplinary research work.