The University of Chicago Opens New Campus in Hong Kong
A research, education and collaboration hub for Hong Kong, China and Asia at historic Mount Davis site

Hong Kong, September 26, 2018 – The University of Chicago has opened the doors of its new Hong Kong campus, which is operating on a limited basis until the full opening scheduled for November 2018. Building upon the University’s rich history of scholarship and ongoing collaborations with research institutions and business organizations in the region, the new campus will enhance Hong Kong’s reputation as an international financial center and education hub.

The Hong Kong Jockey Club University of Chicago Academic Complex | The University of Chicago Francis and Rose Yuen Campus in Hong Kong is supported by a grant received from The Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust, as well as by gifts from alumni, parents and friends, led by University Trustee Francis Tin Fan Yuen, AB’75 and his wife, Rose Wai Man Lee Yuen.

Built on a historically important site at Mount Davis, the new facility also includes The Hong Kong Jockey Club University of Chicago Heritage Campus housing, amongst others, The Hong Kong Jockey Club University of Chicago Heritage Courtyard and Interpretation Centre. The Heritage Campus will be open to the public in December 2018.

The Hong Kong Jockey Club University of Chicago Academic Complex | The University of Chicago Francis and Rose Yuen Campus in Hong Kong is also home of The University of Chicago Booth School of Business’s Executive MBA degree program, Booth Executive Education non-degree courses for local professionals, as well as The Hong Kong Jockey Club Programme on Social Innovation (HKJC PSI). Operated by Chicago Booth, HKJC PSI aims to help Hong Kong’s NGOs and social entrepreneurs do their best work and to advance practices and educate leaders committed to social impact, with support from the Rustandy Center for Social Sector Innovation.

The Hong Kong Jockey Club University of Chicago Academic Complex | The University of Chicago Francis and Rose Yuen Campus in Hong Kong is a testament to the University’s commitment to research, education, entrepreneurship and heritage programs. Francis Yuen was the Chief Executive of The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited, and formerly served as Deputy Chairman (executive) of the Pacific Century Group, Deputy Chairman (executive) of PCCW Limited and Executive Chairman of Pacific Century Insurance Holdings Limited.

The Hong Kong Jockey Club University of Chicago Academic Complex | The University of Chicago Francis and Rose Yuen Campus in Hong Kong is poised to make vital intellectual contributions, community partnerships and social impact in Hong Kong and across greater Asia.
A New Intellectual Destination in the Region

The Hong Kong Jockey Club University of Chicago Academic Complex | The University of Chicago Francis and Rose Yuen Campus in Hong Kong joins the University’s Centers in Delhi, Beijing, Paris, and the University of Chicago Booth School of Business in London, in bringing together researchers and students from a wide array of institutions for interdisciplinary research and collaboration. A home for research and education for University of Chicago faculty, undergraduates and graduate students working in Hong Kong and Asia, as well as scholars from around the world, the new campus is an important addition to the University’s international presence, which extends to hundreds of programs and initiatives in more than 40 countries on all seven continents.

The new Hong Kong campus will facilitate academic and social collaborations among universities and institutions in Hong Kong and the region. Current programs include the Global Partnership Fund with the University of Hong Kong, and the Tripartite Collaboration for Advancing Social Work in China among the University of Chicago’s School of Social Service Administration, Peking University and the Hong Kong Polytechnic University, as well as University-supported academic activities across all disciplines.

“The University of Chicago has a rich history of scholarship in Hong Kong, China and Asia, and our new campus will greatly expand opportunities for academic collaboration, engagement and social impact in this vital region,” said President Robert J. Zimmer. “We look forward to celebrating this range of activities at the full opening of the campus later this fall.”

Bringing the “Chicago Approach” to Hong Kong

The Hong Kong Jockey Club University of Chicago Academic Complex | The University of Chicago Francis and Rose Yuen Campus in Hong Kong houses Chicago Booth’s Executive MBA degree program and its Executive Education non-degree courses for local professionals, as well as The Hong Kong Jockey Club Programme on Social Innovation. Students in Hong Kong are taught by the same faculty members as in Chicago and London and are required to fulfill the same degree requirements as students in Booth’s full-time program.

One of Booth’s distinctions is the “Chicago Approach” to learning and teaching, instilling a firm grounding in core principles and a rigorous multidisciplinary approach to problem solving, where students gain the tools and analytical frameworks to make sense of complex data and turn ideas into impact.

“We are very excited about all Chicago Booth will offer at this iconic campus while serving as the new home of our Executive MBA program Asia,” said Madhav Rajan, Booth Dean and George Pratt Shultz Professor of Accounting. “The campus will be a base for our world-renowned faculty and our students to work and study in Hong Kong as well as serve as a gathering space for alumni throughout Asia and an intellectual resource for the region.”
In addition to the Booth programs, the campuses will host activities from across the University of Chicago, including academic workshops, conferences, and public lectures, as well as the University’s first undergraduate study abroad program in Hong Kong. With the wide range of educational opportunities and dynamic urban environment in the heart of Hong Kong, the campus will become an exciting location for future study abroad programming opportunities for years to come.

“The Hong Kong Jockey Club University of Chicago Academic Complex | The University of Chicago Francis and Rose Yuen Campus in Hong Kong will offer a globally accessible destination for important academic, corporate, and government partners across the region at a time of continued growth in China’s economic and cultural importance,” said Bala Srinivasan, Vice President and Deputy Provost for Strategy and Innovation and Chief International Officer, and Chairman of the University of Chicago Foundation in Hong Kong Limited. “This will allow for new opportunities for our faculty and students to increase their contributions through new educational programs and research partnerships.”

Commitment to Hong Kong’s Social Sector

The Hong Kong Jockey Club Programme on Social Innovation (HKJC PSI) seeks to enhance Hong Kong’s social sector by combining the best of the University’s education, research and global perspective with social impact-specific programs and local collaborations. Operated by Chicago Booth, HKJC PSI aims to help Hong Kong’s NGOs and social entrepreneurs do their best work. It will be supported by Chicago Booth’s Rustandy Center for Social Sector Innovation, with a mission to advance practices and educate leaders committed to social impact. HKJC PSI offers scholarships to Booth’s Executive MBA degree program and Executive Education non-degree courses, as well as events and workshops in fields like impact investing, social entrepreneurship and NGO board governance.

Preservation and Adaptive Reuse of Hong Kong’s Heritage

The historic Mount Davis site where the campuses stand was originally part of the Jubilee Battery in the late 1930s and 1940s. After the Second World War, it was first used for providing makeshift housing for refugees, and was subsequently converted into a British Army Royal Engineers’ mess and quarters, before turning into the Victoria Road Detention Centre under the Royal Hong Kong Police Force.

The new campus design combines modern functionality with preservation of and respect for the site's history, featuring adaptive reuse of the existing heritage buildings on the site. The ribbon-shaped new building by Revery Architecture (formerly known as Bing Thom Architects) echoes the hilly contours of the seaside site and carefully integrates with the existing buildings. The public will be able to attend tours and exhibitions highlighting the history of the site as part of The Hong Kong Jockey Club Heritage Preservation Project. The revitalized historic buildings will become The Hong Kong Jockey Club University of Chicago Heritage Campus, which is now undergoing the final stage of development and will open in December.
“The University is committed to heritage preservation and conservation. We strive to respect and celebrate both the heritage buildings and the natural landscape of the site, while blending in aesthetic modern functionality. Through various facilities and activities, The Hong Kong Jockey Club University of Chicago Heritage Campus will share with the public the history of this previously closed site, and will now be open to all for many years to come,” said Ka Yee Lee, Professor of Chemistry and Vice Provost for Research, who also chairs the Faculty Advisory Board of The Hong Kong Jockey Club University of Chicago Academic Complex | The University of Chicago Francis and Rose Yuen Campus in Hong Kong.

About the University of Chicago

The University of Chicago is a leading academic and research institution that has driven new ways of thinking since its founding in 1890. As an intellectual destination, the University draws scholars and students from around the world to its campuses in Hyde Park and Hong Kong, and centers around the globe. The University provides a distinctive educational experience and research environment, empowering individuals to challenge conventional thinking and pursue research that produces new understanding and breakthroughs with global impact.

Ninety Nobel Prizes have been awarded to University of Chicago faculty members, students, or researchers at some point in their careers, including 29 who have received the Nobel Memorial Prize in Economics. There are six current members of the University faculty who have received a Nobel Prize, including James Heckman who has worked extensively in Asia and Richard H. Thaler, one of three Nobel Laureates currently on the Booth faculty. The first Chinese Nobel prize winners Chen-Ning Yang and Tsung-Dao Lee are University of Chicago alumni.

Founded in 1898, The University of Chicago Booth School of Business is the second-oldest business school in the United States. Chicago Booth consistently ranks among the top business schools in the world and its graduates include dozens of notable business leaders across the U.S. and worldwide. Nine faculty members have been named Nobel Prize winners, three of whom currently teach in the program.

The Hong Kong Jockey Club University of Chicago Academic Complex | The University of Chicago Francis and Rose Yuen Campus in Hong Kong is an important addition to the University’s international presence.

About The Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust

Founded in 1884, The Hong Kong Jockey Club is a world-class racing club that acts continuously for the betterment of our society. The Club has a unique integrated business model, comprising racing and racecourse entertainment, a membership club, responsible sports wagering and lottery, and charity and community contribution. Through this model, the Club generates economic and social value for the community and supports the Government in
combatting illegal gambling. The Club is Hong Kong’s largest single taxpayer, one of the city’s major employers, and its Charities Trust is also one of the world’s top ten charity donors. Working with the Government, non-governmental organizations and community partners, the Club’s Charities Trust proactively seeks out the root causes of social issues, bringing multiple and cross-sectoral parties together to address them through innovative approaches. While continuing to fund a wide range of projects, the Charities Trust is placing special emphasis on four areas of strategic focus – Youth; the Elderly; Sports; and Arts, Culture and Heritage.

About Francis Tin Fan Yuen

Francis Tin Fan Yuen is currently the Independent Non-Executive Deputy Chairman of Pacific Century Regional Developments Limited, a company listed in Singapore; an Independent Non-Executive Director of China Foods Limited and Shanghai Industrial Holdings Limited, both listed in Hong Kong; an Independent Non-Executive Director of Agricultural Bank of China Limited, a company listed in Shanghai and Hong Kong; and an Independent Non-Executive Director of China Chengxin International Credit Rating Co., Ltd.

He was Chief Executive of The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited from 1988 to 1991. He was formerly Deputy Chairman (executive) of the Pacific Century Group, Deputy Chairman (executive) of PCCW Limited and Executive Chairman of Pacific Century Insurance Holdings Limited. He holds a Bachelor’s Degree in Economics from the University of Chicago and is currently a member of the Board of Trustees of the University.

About Rose Wai Man Lee Yuen

Rose Wai Man Lee Yuen was Vice-Chairman and Chief Executive of Hang Seng Bank and Chairman of Hang Seng Bank (China), Hang Seng Life and Hang Seng Insurance Company. She was Chairman of the Hang Seng Index Advisory Committee of Hang Seng Indexes and a member of the Board of Trustees of the Ho Leung Ho Lee Foundation. She is also a Director of The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation (HSBC) and an independent non-executive Director of Swire Pacific and CK Hutchison Holdings. She joined the HSBC Group in 1977 and held various senior positions. She was appointed Chief Executive of Hang Seng Bank in 2012 and Group General Manager of the HSBC Group in 2013.

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