

Press Release (Immediate release)

14 October 2023

World-renowned Scientists Gather to share Knowledge at Science Symposium "2023 Future Science Prize Week" Launched

Co-organised by the Future Science Awards Foundation and the Hong Kong Academy of Sciences, the "2023 Future Science Prize Week" ("Prize Week") is scheduled to be held in Hong Kong for the first time from 14 to 17 October 2023. The kick-off event of the Prize Week, the Science Symposium, commenced today, with the opening ceremony held this morning (14 October) at the Hong Kong Science Park. **The Honourable John K C LEE**, Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, delivered a pre-recorded speech at the opening ceremony. He said he is delighted that Hong Kong is hosting activities of the Future Science Prize Week for the first time this year. The event, which brings together more than 100 scientists from across the world, will strengthen Hong Kong's position in its development into an international I&T center. He stresses that as the development of I&T is a key initiative among the government's policy priorities, the HKSAR Government is making every effort in promoting the strategies as proposed under the "Hong Kong Innovation and Technology Development Blueprint". An array of new measures to enhance Hong Kong's I&T capability are expected to be announced in the Policy Address later this month. **Professor SUN Dong**, Secretary for Innovation, Technology and Industry of the HKSAR, attended the ceremony and delivered a speech in support of the event.

Professor Dennis Yuk-Ming LO, Co-Chairman of the Program Committee of the 2023 Future Science Prize Week and President of the Hong Kong Academy of Sciences, gave a welcome speech. He said, "Today marks not only the 8th year since the inception of the Future Science Prize but also a historic moment as we host the Future Science Prize Week for the first time in Hong Kong. Hong Kong has a number of world-class research universities, with five ranked amongst the top 100 universities in the world. It also has outstanding scientific talents, and a supportive and rapidly developing environment of innovation. Out of the 35 laureates awarded the Future Science Prize so far, five of them are based in Hong Kong, which gives hosting this event in the city a special significance." He hopes that the event will ignite the spark of curiosity in people of all ages, especially the younger generation, to pursue scientific endeavors.

World-renowned scientists have been invited to attend the two-day Science Symposium, including Gregory WINTER and Michael LEVITT, Nobel Prize laureates in Chemistry, Shankar BALASUBRAMANIAN, winner of the 2022 Breakthrough Prize in Life Sciences, and Donghui ZHANG and Xiaoyun WANG, members of the Chinese Academy of Sciences. They will discuss cutting-edge scientific research and related topics such as life sciences, chemistry, mathematics and more. The Prize Week events will be live-streamed on the official website of the 2023 Future Science Prize Week and on the social media platforms of the Hong Kong Academy of Sciences.

Highlights of the Future Science Prize Week (Hong Kong)

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| 14 and 15 October | Science Symposium (Hong Kong Science Park) |
| 16 October | 2023 Asian Young Scientist Fellowship Annual Conference 2023 (The University of Hong Kong) |
| 17 October (AM) | Future Science Prize Laureate Dialogue with the Youth (Hong Kong Palace Museum) |
| 17 October (PM) | The 2023 Future Science Prize Award Ceremony (Hong Kong Palace Museum) |



Details: 2023 Future Science Prize Week's website (<http://www.fsp2023.org>)

Photo Caption:

001: The Science Symposium is the kick-off event of the "2023 Future Science Prize Week", which brings together world-renowned scientists to exchange ideas on cutting-edge scientific research and technologies. Professor SUN Dong, Secretary for Innovation, Technology and Industry of the HKSARG attended the opening ceremony and delivered a speech.

002: The Honourable John K C LEE, Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, delivered a pre-recorded speech at the opening ceremony of the Science Symposium to show his support for the development of scientific and technological innovation in Hong Kong and the Greater Bay Area.

003: Professor Dennis Yuk-Ming LO, Co-Chairman of the Program Committee of the 2023 Future Science Prize Week and President of the Hong Kong Academy of Sciences, said that, as an international city, Hong Kong has the potential to leverage its rich scientific resources from both local and international sources.

004: The first event of the Prize Week is the two-day Science Symposium, where a number of world-renowned scientists have been invited to participate in discussion sessions. The first session featured Gregory WINTER, the 2018 Nobel Prize laureate in Chemistry, Shankar BALASUBRAMANIAN, the winner of the 2022 Breakthrough Prize in Life Sciences, and Tak MAK, winner of the 1989 Canada Gairdner International Award.

About The Future Science Prize

The Future Science Prize is a privately funded science prize jointly established by scientists and entrepreneurs. It is established by the Future Science Awards Foundation Limited, which was incorporated in Hong Kong in 2016. Each prize carries a monetary award of one million US dollars, with three award categories: life science, physical science, and mathematics/computer science. The Prize aims to recognize scientific breakthroughs that are original, innovative, and have long-term significance. Regardless of the researcher's

nationality, the nominated work should be completed mainly in Mainland China, Hong Kong, Macao, and Taiwan.

Through awarding those who have made great contributions to society, the Future Science Prize expects to enlighten the spirit of science, to arouse enthusiasm for science, to influence social trends, and to attract more young people to pursue science as their own career.

Future Science Prize website : <http://www.futureprize.org/en/index.html>

2023 Future Science Prize Week website : <http://www.fsp2023.org>

About The Hong Kong Academy of Sciences (ASHK)

The Hong Kong Academy of Sciences (ASHK) was established by a group of most distinguished scientists in Hong Kong in 2015 to promote the development and advancement of science and technology in Hong Kong, and to raise Hong Kong's profile as a centre of scientific excellence. The Academy brings together leading scientists in Hong Kong as well as from overseas who have contributed significantly to promoting science and technology in Hong Kong. With the vision that "The Academy thrives to provide leadership in developing Hong Kong as a centre of scientific and technology excellence", the Academy and all its Members have worked unceasingly for the mission that "The Academy promotes the development and advancement of science and technology in Hong Kong and informs the public on relevant issues.

To recognise the indispensable contribution of young scientists in Hong Kong and to leverage their enthusiasm for promoting science and technology, the Academy set up the Hong Kong Young Academy of Sciences (YASHK) as an autonomous chapter in 2019. Members of ASHK and YASHK are now working together complementarily in science popularisation, deepening cooperation between scientists and industrialists, nurturing talents, advising the public and the authority on matters relating to science and technology, recognition of outstanding scientists and other aspects promoting and advancing science and technology.

The Hong Kong Academy of Sciences official website: <http://www.ashk.org.hk/>

The Hong Kong Academy of Sciences Facebook: [The Hong Kong Academy of Sciences](#)

The Hong Kong Young Academy of Sciences Facebook: [The Hong Kong Young Academy of Sciences](#)

*The above information is released by **AsiaNet Communications Limited** on behalf of ASHK.*

Media Enquiry:

AsiaNet Communications Limited.

Miss Tsz-Ching Chan

Tel: 2114 4967 / 6211 3433

Email: tcchan@asianet-sprg.com.hk