

28 December 2018

S T Yau High School Science Award (Asia) establishes foothold In Hong Kong

The Academy of Sciences of Hong Kong (ASHK) has been entrusted to help establish an inspirational science award for high school students in Hong Kong and Asian countries other than Mainland China.

The S T Yau High School Science Award (Asia) (the Award) was founded by internationally renowned mathematician Professor Shing-tung Yau, the Director of Yau Mathematical Sciences Center at Tsinghua University (YMSC), in Beijing. It aims to promote science and technology to the younger generation.

ASHK and YMSC signed a memorandum of understanding on **20 December 2018**, regarding the Award which will be bestowed annually on outstanding secondary school students in six subject categories: Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Computer Science and Economic & Financial Modelling.

ASHK's Founding President, Professor Lap-chee Tsui, and Professor Yau said they were pleased to bring the Award to Hong Kong and the region, which represents efforts to widely disseminate and enhance public education on science and technology.

ASHK will set up an Advisory Board and assessment panels for the six subject categories to work out details of the Award. Experts in relevant aspects from overseas, representatives from tertiary education sector and local secondary schools will be invited.

ASHK was established in 2015 to promote the development and advancement of science and technology in Hong Kong, and to raise the city's profile as a centre of scientific excellence. "Promote and advance the teaching of science and technology in Hong Kong" is one of ASHK's key functions. Throughout the years, it has engaged itself in various events in relation to public education about science and technology. In 2017, ASHK launched a report on "Science, Technology and Mathematics Education" and organised two events – "Science, The Way to My Future" exhibition and a series of public talks, "Scientists, Science Road" – to echo the InnoCarnival initiated by the Innovation and Technology Commission of the Government of HKSAR.

In January this year, ASHK co-organised with Hong Kong Academy of Engineering Sciences (HKAES) and Hong Kong Institution of Science (HKIS), the first "Distinguished Master Accomplished Students Mentorship Programme" in which 33 internationally renowned scientists and engineers volunteered to be mentors of 128 secondary school students to encourage youngsters to get on with their interests in science and technology. The second round of the Programme will be launched in the first quarter of 2019.

In November 2018, ASHK convened "The Second International Summit on Human Genome Editing" with the Royal Society, the US National Academy of Sciences and the US National Academy of Medicine. More than 500 top scientists, experts and stakeholders from all over the world gathered in Hong Kong for this event.