

Alumni Newsletter

Department of Biology

Hong Kong Baptist University

Message from Head of Department, Prof. Yiji Xia

Greetings to all alumni of the Department of Biology! To continue connecting you to the recent news and development of our Department, we are pleased to publish a new edition of the alumni newsletter for year 2022-23, where we will share the remarkable stories of our colleagues and students. Our Department strives to deliver high-quality and impactful research and a strong and positive influence in scientific education and research. This year, we have secured an unprecedented level of research grant funding from the University Grants Committee, Research Grants Council, as well as from other external funding sources. These achievements will continue to support the Department to conduct frontline research in many areas related to our lives and environment and to enhance training of our students to be next generation scientists.

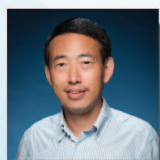


Additionally, we are dedicated to providing the best teaching and learning environment for our students and equip them for their rewarding careers. In recent years, we have successfully developed a Double Degree Programme with University of Lincoln, UK, whereby student can earn two bachelor's degrees in just four years and a Summer Internship Programme. The internship programme attains a high participation rate every year and students can enhance their industrial and research experience to meet the market and society needs.

We hope to establish a strong connection with our alumni and build a vibrant community. The Department of Biology is proud of its alumni who are doing great things around the world. Please share your stories and news with us and join our community! We look forward to hearing from you.

Professor XIA Yiji
Chair Professor and Head of Department

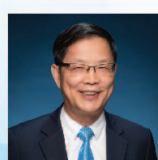
Academic Staff, Academic Year 2022-23



Prof. ZHAO,
Zhongying
趙中應教授
Professor



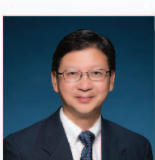
Prof. YUNG,
Ken Kin Lam
翁建霖教授
Professor
Executive Associate Dean,
Graduate School



Prof. ZHANG,
Jianhua
張建華教授
Chair Professor
Associate Vice-President
(Global Research Collaboration)



Prof. XIA,
Yiji
夏亦齊教授
Head of Department
Chair Professor



Prof. QIU,
Jianwen
邱建文教授
Associate Head
of Department
Professor



Prof. WONG,
Chris Kong Chu
黃港住教授
Professor
Associate Dean,
Faculty of Science



Prof. WONG,
Jonathan Woon Chung
黃煥忠教授
Professor



Prof. XIONG,
Liming
熊禮明教授
Professor



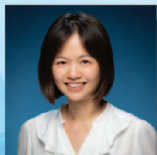
Dr. IP,
Chi Ho
葉志豪博士
Research Assistant
Professor



Dr. PRADHAN,
Nirakar
Assistant Professor



Dr. KIM,
Pan Jun
金判俊博士
Assistant Professor



Dr. CHIU,
Jill Man Ying
招文瑛博士
Associate Professor



Dr. CHEUNG,
Allen Ka Loon
張嘉龍博士
Assistant Professor



Dr. LIAO,
Pan
廖攀博士
Assistant Professor



Dr. ZHAO,
Jun
趙峻博士
Assistant Professor



Dr. WU,
Haoxiang
吳浩翔博士
Lecturer II



Dr. YUE,
Patrick Ying Kit
余英傑博士
Senior Lecturer



Dr. CHUNG,
Shan Shan
鍾嫻嫻博士
Senior Lecturer



Dr. LEUNG,
Anna Oi Wah
梁愛華博士
Lecturer I



Dr. CHAN,
Veronica Wai Yee
陳慧儀博士
Lecturer II

Department of Biology

New Academic Staff, Academic Year 2022-23

Dr. Liao Pan, Assistant Professor

Dr. Pan Liao is currently an assistant professor of the Department of Biology at the Hong Kong Baptist University. He received his Ph.D. in Molecular Biology from the University of Hong Kong (HKU), Hong Kong. Dr. Liao obtained postdoctoral training in Wilson and Amelia Wong Professor in Plant Biotechnology Mee-Len Chye's team from School of Biological Sciences, Faculty of Science at HKU, distinguished Professor Natalia Dudareva's laboratory in the Department of Biochemistry, College of Agriculture at Purdue University in the USA and Prof. John L. Harwood's group in School of Biosciences at Cardiff University in the UK. Dr. Liao's research areas include plant biotechnology, biochemistry, specialized metabolism, lipid metabolism, pathway discovery and pathway "crosstalk".



Research Achievements

Prof. Yiji Xia awarded NSFC/RGC Collaborative Research Scheme (CRS) [\(more\)](#)



CONGRATULATIONS

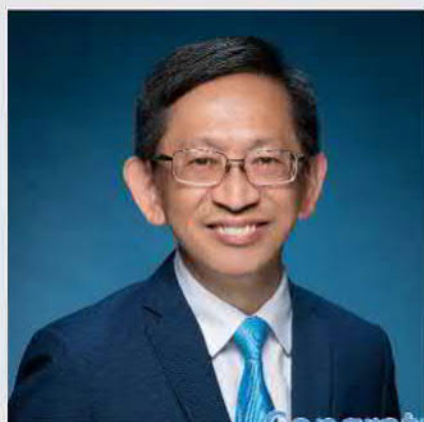
TO PROFESSOR ZHANG JIANHUA ON BEING NAMED

HIGHLY CITED RESEARCHER 2022
BY CLARIVATE™



Prof. Zhang Jianhua Named Highly Cited Researcher in 2022 by Clarivate [\(more\)](#)

Prof Ken KL Yung appointed Ma Pak Leung Endowed Professor in Innovative Neuromedicine in 2022 [\(more\)](#)



Prof. Jonathan Wong awarded BBS in recognition of his notable contributions to our sustainable development [\(more\)](#)

Congratulations!

Research Achievements

2022-23 General Research Fund (GRF) grant SIX funded projects captured by the Department of Biology



Prof Wong, Jonathan WC

Hydrogen production in two-phase food waste anaerobic digestion with acidogenic gas diversion: mechanism and control

HK\$746,635



Prof Qiu, Jianwen

Shell DNA as an archive of phylogenetics, population genetics, and symbiosis in deep-sea clams

HK\$1,075,474



Dr. Kim Pan Jun

Constraint-based genome-scale computational modeling of human enterotype-associated gut commensal metabolism: Focus on the systems metabolic picture of bacterium *Prevotella copri*

HK\$964,025

Prof Zhang, Jianhua

Role of OsABA8ox2 in the regulation of seedling establishment and grain filling in rice

HK\$1,578,700



Prof Zhao, Zhongying

Mapping, molecular cloning and functional characterization of an autosomal-linked locus that leads to 100% lethality of the hybrid embryos between two closely related nematodes

HK\$1,531,700



Prof Xia, Yiji

NAD-capped RNAs in *Arabidopsis* may link gene regulation and energy metabolism

HK\$1,464,337



SIX colleagues have been awarded General Research Fund (more)

Prof. Yiji Xia and Prof. Jianwen Qiu awarded Collaborative Research Fund (CRF) (more) 2022/23 (more)

香港中文大學
The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Department of Biology 生物系

TWO BIOLOGY SCIENTISTS

HAVE BEEN AWARDED

COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH FUND 2022/23



Professor XIA Yiji

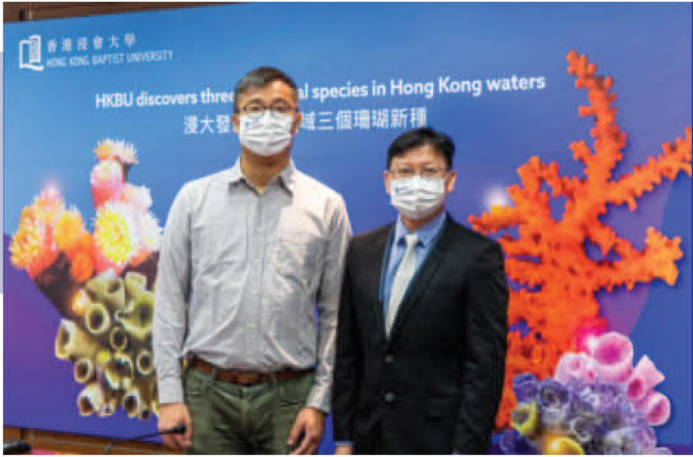
"NAP capping of RNA: mechanism and functions"
HK\$8,100,000 in grants covering a period of 36 months



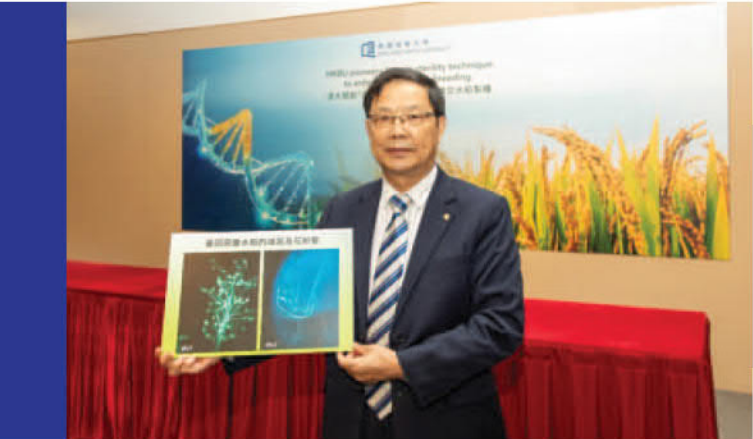
Professor QIU Jianwen

"Genomic Insights into Environmental Adaptation and Diversity of Deep-sea Siboglinidae"
HK\$3,058,128 in grants covering a period of 36 months

Research Team led by Prof. Jianwen Qiu discovers three new coral species in Hong Kong waters [\(more\)](#)



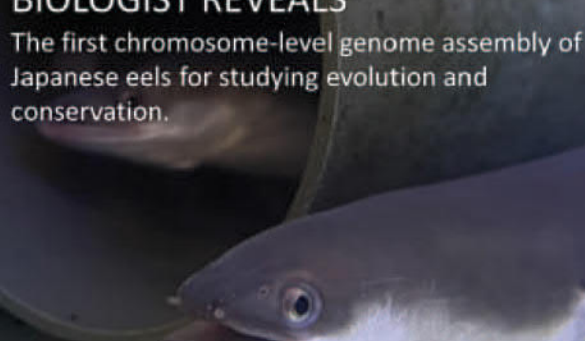
A research team led by Prof. Zhang Jianhua explores female sterility technique for hybrid rice breeding ([more](#))



Innovative environmental project by Prof. Jonathan WC Wong receives Award of excellence ([more](#))



Research study led by Prof. Chris Wong reveals the first chromosome-level assembly of the Japanese eel genome for studying evolution and conservation [\(more\)](#)

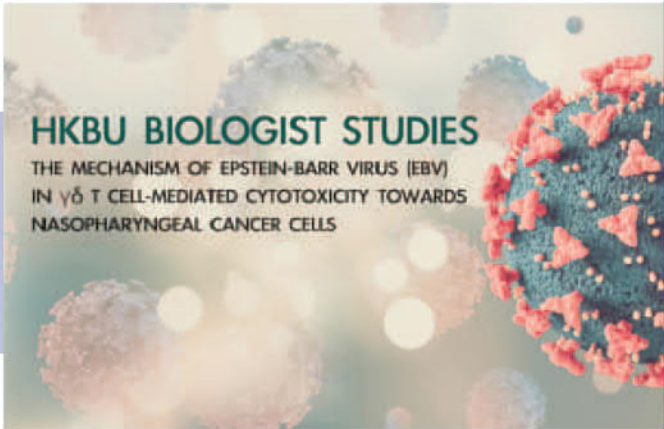


BIOLOGIST REVEALS

The first chromosome-level genome assembly of Japanese eels for studying evolution and conservation.

The first chromosome-level genome assembly of Japanese eels for studying evolution and conservation.

Research team led by Dr. Allen KL Cheung studies the mechanism of Epstein-Barr Virus (EBV) in γ T cell-mediated cytotoxicity towards nasopharyngeal cancer cells ([more](#))



Department and Programmes Highlights

HKBU-University of Lincoln (UoL) Double Degree Programme in Bachelor of Science (Hons) in Applied Biology (HKBU) and Bachelor of Science (Hons) in Ecology and Conservation (UoL)



In this “3+1” Double Degree programme, students studying in the Environmental Science concentration of the Applied Biology programme will study the first three years at HKBU to gain fundamental and advanced knowledge and skills in environmental science and management to address current and topical environmental and human health-related issues and problems, and study Year 4 at the University of Lincoln in its Ecology and Conservation programme. Two students in year 2022 have successfully enrolled in this programme and went to the University of Lincoln for study. ([more](#))

Summer Internship Programme

In order to enhance student's learning and industrial experience, Summer Internship programme is arranged by the Department of Biology every year. Our Partner Organizations include government departments, international and local corporations and companies, NGOs and green groups. Our students have been offered precious opportunities to work in prestigious organisations in the field of agricultural science, biotechnology and environmental science to prepare their job readiness to meet the market needs. Over 80 students participated in the programme in 2022. Please join us by being one of our Partners Organizations to provide invaluable internship opportunities for the students, your support is very important and much appreciated. ([more](#))



Alumni and Student Sharing



Ms. Michelle AU - Alumni of Master of Science (MSc) in Environmental and Public Health Management

Michelle was appointed as Political Assistant to serve the Secretary for the Environment (Mr. Wong Kam Sing, GBS, JP) for 10 years from 2013 to 2022. Currently, she has begun her new career journey in the private sector of construction industry as Sustainability Director. [\(more\)](#)

Ms. WANG Ke - Alumni of Master of Science (MSc) in Environmental and Public Health Management

Wang Ke currently is a medical doctor in the Guangdong Province Hospital for Women and Children Healthcare. For addition, she was a member of the COVID-19 Prevention and Control Command Office of Guangdong Province. [\(more\)](#)



Manoj CHAMLAGAIN (Major in Biotechnology) joined the Overseas Research Programme at the University of Minnesota, USA.

‘I am glad that I stepped out to pursue this research abroad opportunity’

CHIU Wan Shu (Bioresource and Agricultural Science) carried her summer nternship at Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) in summer 2022.

‘This internship programme brings me lots of practical experiences, which are very valuable and unforgettable’



Past Events



2022 August
Science Festival 2022

2022 June
HKIQEP Youth Summit



2022 Sep
MSc in EPHM Orientation

2022 Nov
Farming at TLES



2023 Feb
Community Outreach: Farming for Charity

More activities...

INVITATIONS TO OFFER SUMMER INTERNSHIP FOR OUR STUDENTS

The Department endeavours to establish a strong connection with alumni and enhance the competitive edge of HKBU students. We are eager to provide students with internship positions at renowned corporations located in Hong Kong and the region.

Alumni are now invited to offer internship positions to Year 2 students studying BSc (Hons) Bioresource and Agricultural Science (BAS), BSc (Hons) Applied Biology (AB) and studying in the MSc in Environmental and Public Health Management programme. If you are interested, please contact Dr. Veronica Chan (veronica_chan@hkbu.edu.hk).

Update Your Information

By signing up to our alumni network, you will receive alumni relations email communications, news and event invitations from the Department.

Stay in touch and please update your details [HERE](#)

Share Your News

Share Your Precious Moments of Life and Send Us a Class Note...

Fill in an [online form](#) to update us on your success stories, happy moments (from engagement, marriage or new baby, to a new business or career move), or recent activities. We will send you a special gift!

Department updates

You are invited to subscribe or follow our social media for our latest updates!



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biol@hkbu.edu.hk



HKBU Biology

