

PRESS RELEASE

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**The Council of the Hong Kong Laureate Forum Welcomes the Measures of
“Developing into an International Innovation and Technology Hub” and
“Attracting Talents” in the Chief Executive's 2021 Policy Address**

Regarding the “2021 Policy Address” announced by the Chief Executive, Mrs Carrie Lam yesterday, the Council of the Hong Kong Laureate Forum (“the HKLF”) welcomed the measures to develop Hong Kong into an international innovation and technology hub as well as to attract high-calibre talents.

Prof Timothy TONG Wai-cheung, BBS, JP, Chairman of the HKLF, said, “One of the missions of the HKLF is to foster the exchanges among scientists of different generations, cultures and disciplines, and to cooperate with and involve different sectors of the community in promoting education and exchanges in various disciplines in science and technology in Hong Kong. The measures announced in this year’s Policy Address, including further provision of land to the University of Hong Kong and The Chinese University of Hong Kong for research use, recruitment of talents from various parts of the world to be rooted in Hong Kong, expansion of scientific research infrastructures, allocation of additional funding under relevant funding schemes to researchers in Hong Kong, in this regard, are all in tandem with our missions. I am convinced that these measures will provide more development opportunities for scientific research in Hong Kong, thereby promoting high-level research and scientific excellence. This in turn will encourage young generation to join scientific research and technology industries and nurture talents.”

The Policy Address also notes that Hong Kong has a solid foundation to develop into a global research collaboration hub. As a flagship project, the InnoHK research clusters have already attracted world-class universities and research institutes to collaborate with local universities in setting up 28 research laboratories. Looking forward, life and health sciences development in Hong Kong would be further strengthened. In addition, the Policy Address has stated that

the government would double the annual quota under the Quality Migrant Admission Scheme from 2000 to 4000 in order to attract talents from all over the world to work in Hong Kong; together with the Global STEM Professorship Scheme proposed last year, Hong Kong will continue to attract more renowned I&T scholars and their research teams to come to Hong Kong, helping Hong Kong scale new heights in research and development activities.

Prof Timothy TONG Wai-cheung, BBS, JP, said, "I believe these schemes will help enhance Hong Kong's attractiveness to global talents and scientific research teams, thus fostering the exchanges among Hong Kong researchers and those from different parts of the world."

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About The Hong Kong Laureate Forum

The Hong Kong Laureate Forum (the Forum) is an annual scientific exchange event to be organised by the HKLF. It aspires to be a world-class academic exchange event to connect the current and next generations of leaders in scientific pursuit. The Forum also aims to promote understanding and interests of the young generation in Hong Kong and around the world in various disciplines in science and technology. The HKLF was launched in May 2019 and is fully sponsored by the Lee Shau Kee Foundation. The major partner of the HKLF is The Shaw Prize Foundation which organises the renowned international award, The Shaw Prize, annually.

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