

Over \$200 Million Granted for Pushing Knowledge Frontier

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CUHK recently secured funding for four research projects in the fields of human health, energy and its sustainable development, as well as cell function from the Research Grants Council (RGC). The research projects will help to probe into the mysteries of the cosmos from the micro to the macro. RGC announced the funding results of the third round of the Theme-based Research Scheme (TRS) and the sixth round of the Areas of Excellence (AoE) Scheme. All six selected proposals have the participation of CUHK researchers, with four being led by them. Together CUHK received funding of over HK\$200 million.

One of the project “Smart Solar Energy Harvesting, Storage, and Utilization” (TRS, HK\$ 60.33M) is led by Prof. Wong Ching-ping, Dean of Engineering, and the participating institutions include CUHK, HKUST, POLYU.

Prof. Wong Ching-ping and his team members study the new technology in energy harvesting, storage and utilization in this project. They will develop high-performance vacuum deposited thin-film photovoltaics (PV) devices and modules which will make low-cost, high-throughput, and large-area PV production possible. They will explore new materials and processing approaches for high energy-density batteries and supercapacitors, so as to realize a hybrid storage system. They will also formulate strategies to integrate, manage, and control various subsystems to enhance the efficiency and security in energy utilization. Professor Wong believes the project will strengthen the competitive edge of Hong Kong in solar energy technologies and increase the penetration of solar energy utilization.

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