大學教育資助委員會
University Grants Committee

HKRFA
HK RGC Research Fellow Alliance
香港研資局傑出研究學者協會

The HK RGC Research Fellow Alliance Symposium

AI & DIGITAL HEALTH

AI is transforming healthcare.
Be part of it.

The inaugural HKRFA Symposium on AI & Digital Health brings together leading minds from medicine, engineering, and data science to explore AI's impact on clinical medicine, biomedical imaging, diagnostics, and drug discovery. Join us to discover how interdisciplinary research is shaping the future of digital health.

16 May 2026 (Sat) | 09:00 - 17:00 (GMT +8)
The Park Lane Hong Kong, Causeway Bay, Hong Kong SAR, China

大學教育資助委員會
University Grants Committee

The HK RGC Research Fellow Alliance Symposium
AI & DIGITAL HEALTH

University Grants Committee

The University Grants Committee (UGC) is the non statutory body which advises the Government of the SAR on the funding and strategic development of higher education in Hong Kong. In this role, the UGC works with Institutions, the Administration and the Community to promote excellence in the higher education sector, with a view to establishing Hong Kong as the education hub of the region and to nurturing high quality people to promote the economic and social development of Hong Kong.

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HK RGC Research Fellow Alliance

As endorsed by the Research Grants Council (RGC), HKRFA was established in 2025 to consolidate the strengths of RGC research fellowship awardees for the better development of Hong Kong's higher education sector. It serves as a platform to facilitate collaboration, innovation and sharing of successful experience and research accomplishments to generate greater impact. It also helps promote the visibility and identity of RGC research fellows, and foster the culture to nurture the next generation of researchers in Hong Kong for excellence and innovation.

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TABLE OF CONTENT

UGC 大學教育資助委員會 University Grants Committee

HKRFA HK RGC Research Fellow Alliance 香港研資局傑出研究學者協會

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Programme Rundown

Time	Programme
09:00 – 09:15	Registration & Refreshment
09:15 – 09:20	**Opening Remarks by HKRFA Chairperson** **Prof. Alice Wong** - The HK Research Grants Council Research Fellow Alliance
09:20 – 09:30	**Opening Remarks by Honourable Guest** **Prof. James Tang** - Secretary-General - The University Grants Committee
09:30 – 09:35	Group Photo
Moderator: Prof. Anderson Shum - City University of Hong Kong	
09:35 – 10:20	***AI and Ultrasound – towards humans and AI working together*** **Keynote Speaker - Prof. Alison Noble** - University of Oxford
10:20 – 11:05	***The Future of Healthcare in the Era of Digital Health*** **Keynote Speaker - Prof. Joseph Sung** - Nanyang Technological University
11:05 – 11:25	**Tea Break**
11:25 – 11:45	**Flash Talk 1 - Junior Fellows**
11:45 – 12:15	***AI-assisted Peptide Drug Discovery*** **Session Speaker - Prof. Xuechen Li** - The University of Hong Kong
12:15 – 13:45	**Lunch**
Moderator: Prof. Renjie Zhou - The Chinese University of Hong Kong	
13:45 – 14:30	***Mastering the Code of Life: Towards Native Biological LLMs*** **Keynote Speaker - Prof. Wei-Ying Ma** - City University of Hong Kong
14:30 – 15:00	***Minimally Invasive Brain Computer Interface (BCI) Devices and Applications*** **Session Speaker - Prof. Paddy Chan** - The University of Hong Kong
15:00 – 15:30	***Seeing The Future of Autonomous Surgical Robots Through Embodied AI*** **Session Speaker - Prof. Qi Dou** - The Chinese University of Hong Kong
15:30 – 15:50	**Tea Break**
15:50 - 16:10	**Flash Talk 2 - Junior Fellows**
16:10 - 16:40	***AI and Big Data: Decoding the Complex Linkages Between Climate, Environment, and Human Health*** **Session Speaker - Prof. Feng Xu** - Shandong First Medical University
16:40 - 16:50	**Closing Remarks** **Prof. Yu Huang** - City University of Hong Kong **Prof. Li Zhang** - The Chinese University of Hong Kong

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Flash Talk 1

Moderator: Prof. Anderson Shum - City University of Hong Kong

11:25 - 11:30 ***Impacts of Multidimensional Greenness on Lipid Health in Adults***
Prof. Cui Guo - The University of Hong Kong

11:30 - 11:35 ***Trustworthy AI-assisted magnetic microcatheter (AI-M2) system for superselective endoluminal interventions***
Prof. Lidong Yang - The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

11:35 - 11:40 ***AI-driven magnetic tracking for closed-loop navigation of miniature robots***
Dr. Delin Hu - The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Flash Talk 2

Moderator: Prof. Renjie Zhou - The Chinese University of Hong Kong

15:50 - 15:55 ***TracePatch: Generative Optimization of Code-Based World Models from Trajectories for LLM-Agent Environments.***
Prof. Jiaxin Bai - Hong Kong Baptist University

15:55 - 16:00 ***LUMOS: A cross-attentional histopathology-language foundation model for clinically transparent staging-independent prognosis and immunotherapy biomarker prediction***
Prof. Bonan Chen - The Chinese University of Hong Kong

16:00 - 16:05 ***Large-scale Multi-sequence Pretraining for Generalizable MRI Analysis***
Prof. Xi Wang - The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

16:05 - 16:10 ***Navigating AI in Higher Education: A Constructivist Approach to Shaping Future Professionals***
Dr. Natalie Wong - The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Executive Committee

Prof. Alice Wong

Chairperson - The HK RGC Research Fellow Alliance
Associate Vice-President (Research)
Interim Director, Dr. Li Dak-Sum Research Centre
Chair Professor of Cancer Biology, School of Biological Sciences
The University of Hong Kong

Professor Wong is internationally renowned for her work in signal transduction in cancer, focusing on cell adhesion molecules vital for physiological processes that, when deregulated, contribute to cancer progression. She has made numerous ground-breaking contributions with significant translational applications, supported by innovation and technology awards. Recognised for her academic excellence, she is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Biology. Her numerous prestigious awards include the Women in Cancer Research - Brigid G. Leventhal Scholar Award, AACR Bristol-Myers Squibb Oncology Young Investigator Award, HKU Outstanding Young Researcher Award, Croucher Senior Research Fellowship, and the RGC Senior Research Fellowship.

Executive Committee

Prof. Yu Huang

Vice-Chairperson - The HK RGC Research Fellow Alliance
Head, Department of Biomedical Sciences
Chair Professor of Biomedical Sciences and Vascular Biology
Jeanie Hu Professor in Biomedical Sciences
City University of Hong Kong

Professor Huang received his PhD from University of Cambridge. He was Chair Professor at The Chinese University of Hong Kong and currently Jeanie Hu Professor of Biomedical Sciences and Chair Professor at CityUHK. He is a foreign member of Academia Europaea. He is Vice President of the Chinese Section of International Society for Heart Research (ISHR) and Chinese Association for Physiological Sciences, a Fellow of ISHR, International Union for Physiological Sciences and British Pharmacological Society, and recipient of the inaugural RGC Senior Research Fellowship and 2024 ISHR Peter Harris Distinguished Scientist Award. He is also Associate Editor of Circulation Research.

Organising Committee

Prof. Li Zhang

Convenor - The HK RGC Research Fellow Alliance Symposium
Professor, Department of Mechanical and Automation Engineering
Department of Surgery (Professor by Courtesy),
The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Professor Zhang is Professor at the Department of Mechanical and Automation Engineering and Professor by Courtesy at the Department of Surgery at CUHK. His primary research focuses on multi-scale robotics and intelligent systems for translational biomedicine. His work on artificial bacterial flagella was recognised by the Guinness World Records in 2012 as the “Most Advanced Mini Robot for Medical Use”. Professor Zhang has been elected as AAIA/AIMBE/ASME/HKIE/IEEE/RSC Fellow, and an Outstanding Fellow of the Faculty of Engineering at CUHK. He serves as Senior Editor for IEEE T-ASE and IEEE T-RO, and as Associate Editor for Science Advances (AAAS).

Organising Committee

Prof. Tony Kai Fung Chan

The Chow Yuk Ho Technology Centre for Innovative Medicine
The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Prof. Kai Fung Chan is a Research Assistant Professor in Chow Yuk Ho Technology Centre for Innovative Medicine, The Chinese University of Hong Kong. He also serves as a Team Investigator at the Multi-scale Medical Robotics Centre (MRC)@InnoHK, located in Hong Kong Science Park. His research interests are (1) Micro-/nanorobotics for biomedical applications, including minimally invasive intervention and in vitro diagnosis; (2) Miniature devices for diagnosis and treatment of gastrointestinal diseases; (3) Soft implantable electronics for in vivo real-time monitoring and therapy; (4) Flexible robotic surgical tools for endoluminal intervention and (5) Translational research on robotics, medical devices, and stem-cell-related therapy.

Organising Committee

Prof. Christy Cheung

Honorary Secretary - The HK RGC Research Fellow Alliance
Department of Management, Marketing and Information Systems
School of Business
Hong Kong Baptist University

Professor Cheung is a Chair Professor in Information Systems and Digital Innovation Management and Director of the Research Office at Hong Kong Baptist University. A prolific scholar, she has authored over 250 refereed articles in premier journals, with citations exceeding 40,000. Recognised among the world's top 2% of scientists, her impactful work is evidenced by this high citation count. Professor Cheung also provides significant editorial leadership as the Editor-in-Chief of Internet Research and holds senior editorial roles at other major MIS journals. Her distinguished career includes receiving the President's Award for Outstanding Performance in both Scholarly Work and Research Supervision.

Organising Committee

Prof. Vic Law

Executive Committee - The HK RGC Research Fellow Alliance
Department of Physics
The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

Professor Law is a condensed matter theorist and a Chair Professor of Physics at HKUST. He received his BSc degree from HKUST in 2003 and completed his PhD degree at Brown University in 2008. He then worked as a Croucher Postdoctoral Fellow at MIT. His research interests are topological materials and unconventional superconductors and their applications in quantum computing devices.

Organising Committee

Prof. Yang Lu

Materials Engineering
Department of Mechanical Engineering
The University of Hong Kong

Professor Lu Yang is Chair Professor of Nanomechanics in the Department of Mechanical Engineering, and Kingboard Professor in Materials Engineering at the University of Hong Kong. He received his bachelor's degree in Physics (Microelectronics) from Nanjing University and Ph.D. degree in Mechanical Engineering from Rice University. He conducted postdoctoral research in the Nanomechanics Lab at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Prior to joining HKU in 2022 as HKU-100 Scholar, he worked at City University of Hong Kong where he rose through the academic ranks to full Professor. In his current role, Professor Lu serves as Associate Dean (Mainland Affairs) in the Faculty of Engineering. Professor Lu was elected as a Fellow of the Hong Kong Young Academy of Sciences in 2022 and as a Young Fellow of the Hong Kong Academy of Engineering in 2025.

Organising Committee

Prof. Anderson Shum

Vice-President (Research)
Chair Professor of Chemical and Biomedical Engineering
Department of Biomedical Engineering
Chair Professor of Department of Materials Science and Engineering
City University of Hong Kong

Ir Prof. Anderson Ho Cheung SHUM received his Ph.D. and S.M. degrees in Applied Physics from Harvard University and B.S.E. degree (summa cum laude) in Chemical Engineering from Princeton University. He is currently Vice-President (Research) of City University of Hong Kong (CityUHK). He also serves as the Chair Professor of Chemical and Biomedical Engineering in the Department of Chemistry and Department of Biomedical Engineering of CityUHK. Previously, he served as Associate Vice-President (Research and Innovation) (2021-2024), Full Professor (Tenured) (2019-2024), Associate Head (2020-2021) in the Department of Mechanical Engineering, and Assistant Dean (2018-2020) in the Faculty of Engineering at University of Hong Kong (HKU). His research interests include aqueous two-phase systems, emulsions, biomicrofluidics, biomedical engineering, and soft matter.

Organising Committee

Prof. Xin Song

Department of Biomedical Engineering
City University of Hong Kong

Dr. Xin Song received his bachelor's and master's degrees from Sichuan University in Prof. Changsheng Zhao's group. He then obtained his Ph.D. at Imperial College London under the supervision of Prof. Molly Stevens DBE FRS FREng. Before joining CityU, he was a Research Assistant Professor in the Department of Mechanical and Automation Engineering at The Chinese University of Hong Kong, working with Prof. Li Zhang. Since 2025, he has been an Assistant Professor in the Department of Biomedical Engineering at City University of Hong Kong. Dr. Song's research focuses on the development of advanced intelligent materials and systems for therapeutic, purification, and diagnostic applications in blood environments, including blood purification devices, micro/nano robotic systems, and blood-contacting biomaterials.

Organising Committee

Prof. Zijian Zheng

Vice President (Knowledge Transfer), ADoRI-IWEAR, ADoUMF
& Chair Professor of Soft Materials and Devices
The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

Professor Zijian Zheng is Vice President (Knowledge Transfer), Chair Professor of Soft Materials and Devices, and Director of the PolyU–Daya Bay Technology and Innovation Research Institute at The Hong Kong Polytechnic University (PolyU). He is responsible for steering the planning and implementation of the University's strategic development in translational research, knowledge transfer, technology commercialisation, entrepreneurship, and stakeholder engagement.

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Keynote Speaker

Prof. Alison Noble

Biomedical Engineering in Department of Engineering Science
University of Oxford
Oxford, UK

Professor Alison Noble CBE FRS FREng is the Technikos Professor of Biomedical Engineering at the University of Oxford. Her research interests are at the inter-disciplinary interface of artificial intelligence (computer vision) and healthcare with her group internationally recognized for its methodology and translational work on ultrasound AI. She chaired the working group for the Royal Society data policy report “Science in the age of AI” (2024). Professor Noble is a Fellow of the Royal Society and Royal Academy of Engineering and a current Vice President and a Foreign Secretary of the Royal Society.

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Keynote Speaker

Prof. Joseph Sung

Distinguished University Professor
Senior Vice President (Health & Life Sciences)
Dean, Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine
Director, Centre of AI in Medicine
Nanyang Technological University, Singapore

Professor Sung is currently a Distinguished University Professor, Senior Vice President (Health & Life Sciences), Dean of the Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine and Director of AI in Medicine at Nanyang Technological University, Singapore.

He obtained his medical degree (MBBS) from The University of Hong Kong and was awarded a PhD in Biomedical Sciences by the University of Calgary and an MD by The Chinese University of Hong Kong. From 2010 to 2017, he served as the Vice-Chancellor and President of The Chinese University of Hong Kong.

Professor Sung's research interests include intestinal bleeding, Helicobacter pylori, peptic ulcers, hepatitis B, colorectal cancer, and other cancers of the digestive system. In recent years, his work has expanded to studies on the gut microbiome, digestive diseases, and the application of artificial intelligence in clinical medicine. He has authored over 1,000 scientific articles published in leading medical and scientific journals. His most recent book, “Artificial Intelligence in Medicine: From Ethical, Social, and Legal Perspectives”, was published in 2024.

Professor Sung has been recognized as a "Highly Cited Researcher" by Clarivate Analytics for 8 consecutive years from 2018 to 2025.

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Keynote Speaker

Prof. Wei-Ying Ma

Office of the Provost and Deputy President, Department of Computer Science
City University of Hong Kong
Hong Kong, China

Professor Wei-Ying Ma is the Chief of AI, Lee Shau Kee Chair Professor of Information Engineering, and Chair Professor of Computer Science at City University of Hong Kong. He also serves as Director of the Hong Kong Institute of AI for Science. Beyond CityUHK, he is the Huiyan Chair Professor at Tsinghua University and Chief Scientist at the Institute for AI Industry Research. As a Fellow of both IEEE and ACM, Professor Ma has held leadership roles in research and industry. He was the Vice President and Head of the AI Lab at ByteDance (2017 – 2020), where he led the development of multiple AI-driven content creation and distribution technologies which were successfully implemented in products such as TikTok, Douyin, Toutiao, CapCut and Lark. He was previously Assistant Managing Director of Microsoft Research Asia (2010-2017), where he led research and development for web search and data mining and successfully transferred many technologies to Microsoft products such as Bing. Professor Ma has published over 350 papers in top-tier conferences and journals and holds more than 160 technical patents.

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Session Speaker

Prof. Xuechen Li
Department of Chemistry
University of Hong Kong
Hong Kong, China

Prof. Xuechen Li obtained his Ph.D from Harvard University in 2017. After his Post-doctoral training at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center New York, he joined the Department of Chemistry of University of Hong Kong (HKU) as an Assistant Professor in 2009. He was promoted to Associate Professor in 2014 and full Professor in 2018. He became Morningside Professor in Chemical Biology in 2024, and Chair Professor in Chemical Biology and Medicinal Chemistry in 2025. He is now serving as the associate Dean (Research and Graduate Studies) of Faculty of Science at HKU. He is the recipient SRF of 2023/2024.

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AI & DIGITAL HEALTH

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Session Speaker

Prof. Paddy K.L. CHAN
Department of Mechanical Engineering
Faculty of Engineering
University of Hong Kong
Hong Kong, China

Prof. Chan obtained his bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering from The University of Hong Kong and his PhD in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Michigan. He is currently an Associate Professor at The University of Hong Kong, and Managing Director and Co-director of the Inno HK, Advanced Biomedical Instrumentation Center. Prof. Chan has received the Outstanding Young Researcher Award and the Research Output Award from HKU. He is also a recipient of the PCCP Emerging Investigators Themed Issue from the Royal Society of Chemistry. He is the founder of Brainsmart Technology Limited, a BCI startup company focusing on speech recovery for the stroke patients. The company has secured 10M USD from venture capitals and has initiated research clinical trials.

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Session Speaker

Prof. Qi Dou

Department of Computer Science and Engineering
Faculty of Engineering
The Chinese University of Hong Kong
Hong Kong, China

Prof. Qi Dou is currently an Associate Professor at the Department of Computer Science and Engineering at The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK). She is an affiliated member of CUHK T-Stone Robotics Institute, CUHK Institute of Medical Intelligence and XR, and Hong Kong Multi-scale Medical Robotics Center. Her research is at the interdisciplinary field of AI and robotics technologies for healthcare applications including autonomous surgical robot, medical imaging, safe embodied AI, etc. She has received a number of prestigious awards, including CUHK Young Researcher Award (2024), IEEE EMBS Early Career Achievement Award (2023), China Ministry of Education Outstanding Scientific Research Output Award — Second-class Award in Natural Sciences (2022), MICCAI Young Scientist Publication Award (2022), IEEE ICRA Best Paper Award in Medical Robotics (2021), HKIS Young Scientist Award (2018). Her Google Scholar has over 40k citations with H-index of 80. She serves as Associate Editor for IEEE Transactions on Medical Imaging and General Co-Chair for MICCAI 2026.

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AI & DIGITAL HEALTH

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Session Speaker

Prof. Feng Xu

College of Medical Information and Artifical Intelligence,Shandong Provincial Hospital, Shandong First Medical University.

Professor Xu's research focuses on the application of artificial intelligence, medical big data analytics, and computational biology. To date, Professor Xu has published 27 SCI-indexed papers in internationally renowned journals, including the European Respiratory Journal (IF: 33.3), The Lancet Respiratory Medicine (IF: 102.6), and Nature Communications (IF: 17.7), reflecting a strong record of research output and scholarly impact.

Professor Xu has also received a number of distinguished honours and awards. Selected recognitions include the National Excellent Young Scholar (Overseas), the Excellent Young Scholar (Overseas) of Shandong Province, and the Top-Tier Class A Talent award of Shandong First Medical University. In addition, Professor Xu has been honoured with the UBC Excellent Young Scholar Award (Canada), National University of Singapore Fellowship (Singapore), and the Y. S. and Christabel Lung Scholarships (Hong Kong, China).

Flash Talk Speaker

Prof. Cui Guo
Urban Planning and Design
The University of Hong Kong
Hong Kong, China

This is a longitudinal cohort study based on general adults in Hong Kong. We assessed aerial, street-level, and three-dimensional greenness for each participant using satellite-based, street-view and Lidar data. Electronic health record was used to assess individual lipid health. The health benefits were evaluated using a series of statistical models.

Prof. Lidong Yang
Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering
The Hong Kong Polytechnic University
Hong Kong, China

This project develops an AI-assisted magnetic microcatheter system for superselective endoluminal interventions. It integrates advanced magnetic catheters with a trustworthy AI navigation core that embeds safety rules into neural networks, enabling autonomous and safe targeting in complex anatomy. Potentional applications include stroke, liver cancer, and reproductive medicine therapies.

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Flash Talk Speaker

Dr. Delin Hu

Mechanical and Automation Engineering
The Chinese University of Hong Kong
Hong Kong, China

My research develops an AI-driven magnetic tracking system for real-time 3D localization of miniature wireless magnetic robots. By combining a tunnel magnetoresistance sensor array with transformer-based algorithms, the system filters strong actuation-induced interference and extracts weak robot magnetic signals, enabling accurate tracking and closed-loop navigation of millimeter-scale wireless magnetic robots.

Prof. Jiaxin Bai

Computer Science
Hong Kong Baptist University
Hong Kong, China

We teach AI to write its own simulation code of the world by watching how environments respond to actions. Our system, TracePatch, builds transparent, self-correcting programs that capture the rules of games, science labs, and websites, letting AI agents reason about consequences through executable, inspectable models of reality.

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Flash Talk Speaker

Prof. Bonan Chen
Anatomical and Cellular Pathology
The Chinese University of Hong Kong
Hong Kong, China

In this study, we introduce a novel prediction platform “LUMOS”, which unifies multi-scale H&E image encoding with a professionally refined pathology language (PathoL) through token-level cross-attention. This design aligns visual patches with linguistic tokens, grounding predictions in features recognizable to pathologists.

Dr. Natalie Wong
Educational Psychology
The Chinese University of Hong Kong
Hong Kong, China

As AI transforms human-centric services and knowledge generation, ensuring academic integrity in higher education is vital. Our cross-cultural research investigates how students and educators ethically navigate generative AI. Understanding these moral judgments helps develop sustainable AI policies, ensuring future academics and health professionals use AI responsibly in their training and practice.

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AI & DIGITAL HEALTH

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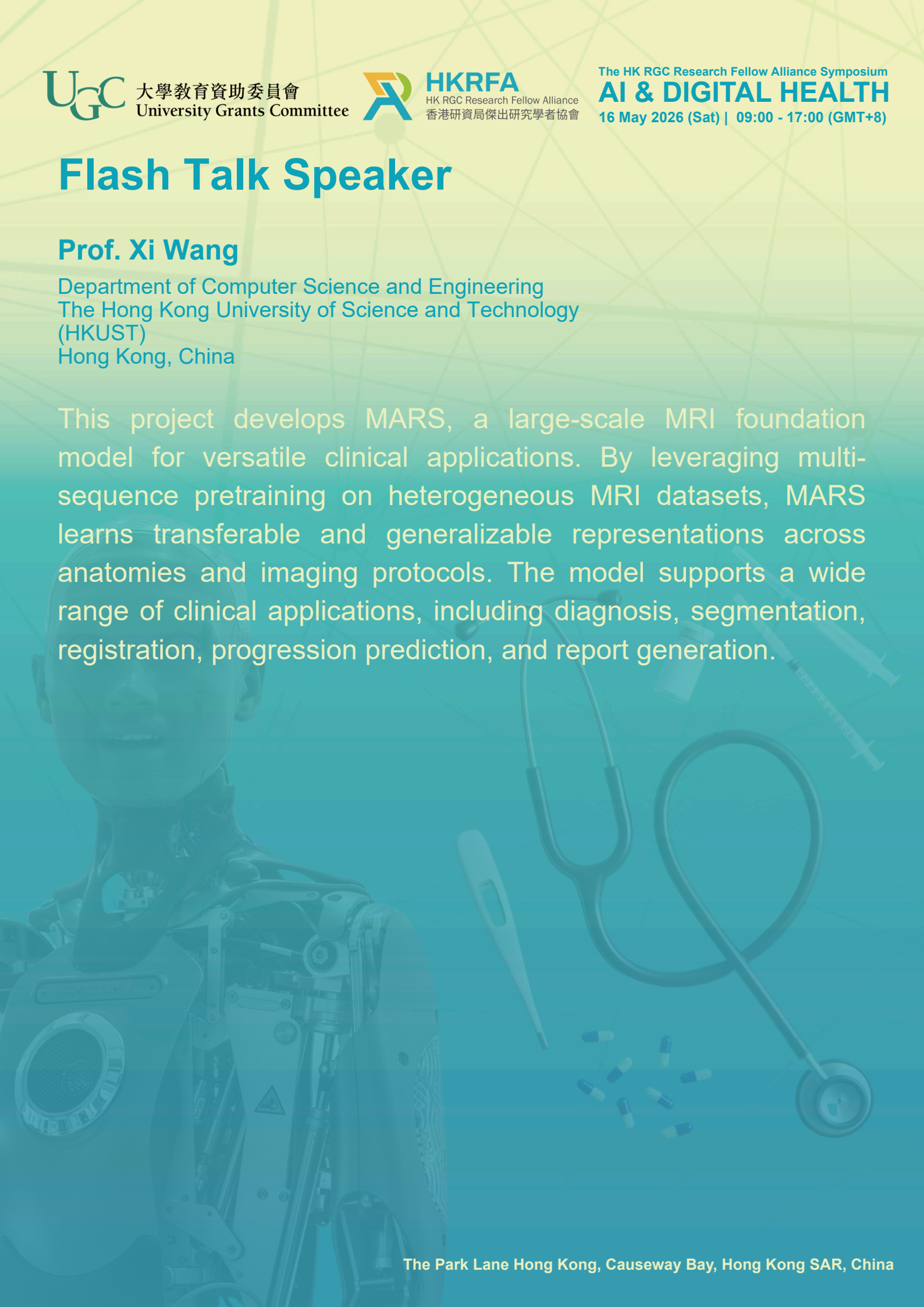
Flash Talk Speaker

Prof. Xi Wang

Department of Computer Science and Engineering
The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST)
Hong Kong, China

This project develops MARS, a large-scale MRI foundation model for versatile clinical applications. By leveraging multi-sequence pretraining on heterogeneous MRI datasets, MARS learns transferable and generalizable representations across anatomies and imaging protocols. The model supports a wide range of clinical applications, including diagnosis, segmentation, registration, progression prediction, and report generation.



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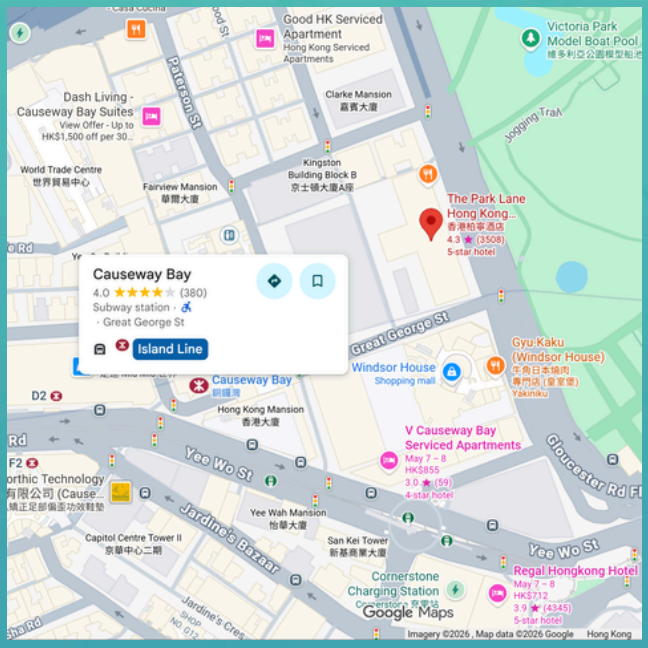
Venue Information

The Park Lane Hong Kong

Level 27 The Park Lane Room
The Park Lane Hong Kong
310 Gloucester Road
Causeway Bay
Hong Kong SAR, China



Getting access to the Venue

- 3-minute walking distance from Exit D of Causeway Bay MTR Station.
- Please present your confirmation email to the reception on Level 27 The Park Lane Room, The Park Lane Hong Kong

NOTE

NOTE

Thank you for attending

HK RGC Research Fellow Alliance Symposium 2026

AI & DIGITAL HEALTH

Scanning the QR code to share
your thoughts or comments