The establishment of the Hong Kong Branch of National Precious Metals Material Engineering Research Center (NPMM) at CityU was approved by the Ministry of Science and Technology of China in November 2015. The core objective of setting up the branch is to strengthen the national center's overall capacity by developing the research of precious metals and nanomaterials, as well as the relevant devices.

Precious metal elements, such as gold, silver, platinum, palladium, rhodium, iridium, osmium and ruthenium, have a wide range of applications in different industries because of their particular atomic structures, and physical and chemical properties. NPMM positions itself to carry out fundamental and applied research to develop new precious metallic materials, upgrade the conventional ones, and to fulfill the need of precious materials for the development of national economy, high-tech industrial development and national defense.

Major Research Areas:
- New generation basic metallic materials
- Precious metal nanomaterials
- New materials simulation

The establishment of the State Key Laboratory of Millimeter Waves at CityU was approved by the Ministry of Science and Technology of China in March 2008. It is the first laboratory of its kind in the engineering discipline in Hong Kong. Research activities in the Laboratory focus on the advancements and applications of millimeter wave and terahertz technologies.

Key mission areas include antenna design, RFIC design and fast computational technique. The Laboratory works closely with its strategic partner at the Southeast University for promoting collaboration between Hong Kong and the mainland. Its long-term goal is to carry out fundamental and applied research for the advancements of communication technologies in China.

Research Areas:
- Antenna
- Passive Microwave Circuits
- Active Microwave Circuits
- Nonlinear Laser Dynamics for Microwave Photonics

The State Key Laboratory in Marine Pollution (SKLMP), in collaboration with local universities and in partnership with the State Key Laboratory of Marine Environmental Science at Xiamen University, responds to China's pressing and important needs in protecting its marine ecosystems and bioresources, and helps address complex environmental issues.

Specifically, SKLMP aims to foster professional partnerships and research collaboration among marine environmental scientists, oceanographers and engineers to design, develop and deploy innovative approaches and state-of-the-art technologies for exploring and managing the complex marine environment.

The SKLMP organizes its research into four major themes:
- Research Approaches
  - Pollution Monitoring
  - Marine Ecosystem
  - Risk Assessment
  - Pollution Control and Bioremediation
- Research Scope
  - Polymer ligand
  - Bacteria
  - Algal bioreactor
  - Mangroves
  - Clay application

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Centre for Research Excellence

City University of Hong Kong (CityU) aspires to become a leading global university in research and professional education. It has established itself as one of the most innovative universities in Asia, pioneering research in diverse fields that are of high relevance on pressing issues.

Research Highlights

Recent research breakthroughs and discoveries include but not limited to:
- Ultrasound elasticity in tumor diagnosis;
- Antibacterial effect on capacitive materials;
- Artificial leaves for tackling carbon dioxide emissions;
- Impact of martial arts learning on preventing children with aggressive attributes.

CityU publications in top journals

The success of CityU's research programme is reflected in both the amount of funding received and the number of projects funded, as well as the quality of its research output. The official assessment of research conducted by the University Grants Committee (UGC), Research Assessment Exercise 2014, found that CityU achieved the highest proportion of research output graded at world-leading and internationally excellent among the UGC-funded institutions in Hong Kong in the following areas:
- Balancing technology
- Chemical engineering
- Civil engineering
- Communications and media studies
- Materials science
- Mathematics & Statistics

CityU is particularly well regarded for its many highly cited researchers. Seven faculty members from CityU were honored as Highly Cited Researchers in 2017 announced by Clarivate Analytics, ranging from the fields of mathematics, engineering, materials science to computer science. And CityU has the second highest number of researchers among universities in Hong Kong on the 2017 list.

The CityU research team's discovery of dual-phase nanostructuring to develop the strongest magnesium alloy was published in top academic journal Nature as cover story.

Three Overarching Research Themes

CityU believes research should not be conducted in isolation and should only be enriched by small professional circles. Rather, it should be seen by the public and have a positive impact on the world. The following are the innovative research themes, were identified specifically for this purpose to enhance our capacity to respond to the academic and societal challenges in our highly interconnected world.

One Health

To develop and integrate interdisciplinary problem-based research collaborations and to enhance the potential use of research findings in the health sector.

Smart City

To address global concerns about sustainable economic development, high-quality living standards and the harmony of the built environment with nature.

Digital Society

To advance our economy, culture and society with the potential use of digital technologies.

City University of Hong Kong

Applied Strategic Development Centres

- Centre for Innovative Applications of Internet and Multimedia Technologies (Alimtech Centre)
- Centre for Smart Energy Conversion and Utilization Research (CSCUR)
- Centre for Solar Energy Conversion and Utilization Research Centre (SECR)
- Centre for Applied One Health Research and Policy Advice (OHRP)
- Centre for Social Media Marketing and Business Communication (ACIM)
- Centre for Computing and Business Intelligence (CCBI)
- Centre for Robotics and Automation (CRA)
- Centre for East Asian and Comparative Philosophy (DEACP)
- Centre for Communication Research (CCR)
- Centre for Chinese and Comparative Law (RCCL)
- Centre for Chaos and Complex Networks (CCCN)
- Centre for Applied Computing and Interactive Multimedia Technologies (AIMtech Centre)
- Centre for Communication Research (CCR)
- Centre for Chinese and Comparative Law (RCCL)
- Centre for Functional Photonics (CFP)
- Centre for Advanced Nuclear Safety and Sustainability (GCCC)
- Centre for Social Media Marketing and Business Communication (CCBI)
- Centre for Robotics and Automation (CRA)
- Centre for East Asian and Comparative Philosophy (DEACP)
- Research Centre on One-Belt-One-Road (OBOR)

College/School Research Centres

- Multimedia Software Engineering Research Centre (MSEC)
- Cyber Security Asia Pacific Climate Impact Centre (SCOPC)
- Centre for Applied Computer and Interactive Media (ACIM)
- Centre for Chaos and Complex Networks (CCCN)
- Centre for Nanofunctional Photonics (CNP)
- Centre for Chinese and Comparative Law (RCCL)
- Centre for Communication Research (CCR)
- Centre for Intelligent Applications of Language Studies (CILS)
- Southwest Asia Research Centre (SWARC)
- Centre for Advanced Structural Materials (CASM)
- Centre for System Informatics Engineering (CISE)
- Mobility and Energy Research Centre (MERC)
- Centre for Social Media Marketing and Business Communication (CCBI)
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The Halliday Centre for Intelligent Applications of Language Studies (CILS)
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- University Research Centres
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