

British Council

**Forum - Women in
leadership: opportunities
and challenges in Higher
Education sector**

Supported by:



**UK Research
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英国国家科研与创新署

Forum – Women in leadership: opportunities and challenges in leadership careers Higher Education sector

According to the Hong Kong Government Census and Statistics Department, women have made greater gains in higher education and are now earning more bachelor's degrees than men in Hong Kong. In the 2022, over 52 per cent of UGC funded bachelor's degrees were conferred to women. While acknowledging gains made in numbers of women, it is equally important to address the challenges women continue to confront in academia with only one in five senior academic positions held by women; women also hold the least senior administrative positions and are the lowest paid among higher education administrators as gender biases and stereotypes frequently occur, consciously or unconsciously.

To address the challenges of the gender gap in the Higher Education sector in Hong Kong, British Council is planning to organise a Forum entitled **Women in leadership: opportunities and challenges in leadership careers Higher Education sector** on March 6 2024. Our guest speakers will discuss the current status of women academics in leadership, the opportunities and challenges they face in advancing into leadership positions, and how to empower them to overcome the obstacles to professional advancement and to bring greater influence in their professional arena. The Forum will also celebrate the launch of the British Council's first-ever Postgraduate Scholarship for Women, which will provide opportunities for beneficiaries to continue with their studies and research in specific subjects.

The Forum

Through a series of of keynote speeches and panel discussions the Forum will support delegates to explore the following questions:

- What are the opportunities and challenges for women in advancing into leadership positions in Higher Education in Hong Kong?
- How to empower women to overcome the obstacles to professional advancement?
- How to drive changes in gender equality in the Higher Education sector?
- How can Higher Education Institutions support women to advance their careers?
- What more can be done to support women to enter and stay in the Higher Education sector?

Partners:

UK Research and Innovation, University of Newcastle; Hong Kong Higher Education Institutions

Event details

Date: 6 March 2024

Time: 2.00pm – 7.00pm

Venue: 8/F, Shanghai room, Cordis Hotel, Hong Kong

Address: 555 Shanghai Street, Mongkok, Kowloon, Hong Kong

Target audience

HE professionals, recent graduates, UK alumni, women aged 21 -30

Programme

Time	Programme
14.00	Opening and welcome by Ms Susannah Morley, Director Hong Kong British Council
	The Launch of Women Postgraduate Scholarship – short speech by Ms. Victoria Tang Owen
14.20	Keynote speech By Prof Susanne Choi, Co-Director of the Gender Research Centre, The Chinese University of Hong Kong.
14.40	Panel discussion on Opportunities and challenges women academics experience in leadership careers Speakers – <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ms. Shalini Mahtani, MBE, Founder and CEO, The Zubin Foundation• Dr Daniel Brooker, China Director, UK Research and Innovation• Dr Cristina Neesham, Associate Professor of Business Ethics and CSR/Associate Dean Ethics, Responsibility & Sustainability (ERS), Newcastle University Business School• Prof Vivian Kwang-wen Lin, Executive Associate Dean, Professor of Practice (Public Health), The University of Hong Kong.
15.40	Tea break and networking
16.10	Case study and sharing Speakers – <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prof Alice Hughes, Associate Professor, School of Biological Sciences, Faculty of Science, The University of Hong Kong University

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prof Christina Wong, School of Fashion and Textiles, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University • Prof. Yi-Chun Lu, Department of Mechanic and Automation Engineering, The Chinese University of Hong Kong (TBC)
16.50	To wrap-up and Thank you by Ms Susannah Morley, Director Hong Kong, British Council
17.00	Networking reception (sponsored by UK Research and Innovation) Opening remarks, Dr Daniel Brooker, China Director, UK Research and Innovation
19.00	Event ends

Event registration

Register for the event by 29 February at: <https://forms.office.com/e/0bstTgGzLe>.

The event is free of charge.