

Hong Kong PhD Fellowship Scheme (2021/22 Exercise): Repeated Success

In April 2021, our highly acclaimed Accounting Doctoral Programme earned additional recognition when a new student, Ms Li Cao, was awarded a 2021 PhD Fellowship by the Hong Kong PhD Fellowship Scheme (HKPFS). This is the latest addition to our programme's string of remarkable achievements in the Fellowship Scheme.

Ms Cao obtained her Bachelor's degree *summa cum laude* (with first-class honors) and her Master's degree in Accounting from W. P. Carey School of Business, Arizona State University (ASU). In the U.S. News Ranking, ASU undergraduate and graduate Accounting are ranked #13 and #20, respectively (<https://wpcarey.asu.edu/about/rankings>). Ms Cao is also an ASU Barrett Honors College graduate (ranked #1 among honors colleges in the U.S.).

Ms Cao worked as a project manager with Jianghai Securities in Shanghai. She co-worked on a research project that was awarded the JunDing (君鼎) Award, the highest prize in the securities industry in China. She was a facilitator/instructor of a course (WPC 101), a peer programmer, and a summer conference assistant at ASU. She was also involved in various organizations and communities such as the ASU business community.

Several of our Accounting doctoral students have been successful in applications for the HKPFS in recent years, highlighting the strong commitment of our programme to continuous improvement. Three Fellowship recipients from Hong Kong and Ghana with excellent records of academic achievement are currently in the programme.

The PhD programme aims to place our graduates in academic positions at top research institutions. For example, in 2019, HKPFS recipient and PhD graduate Mr Albert Kwame Mensah was appointed as an Assistant Professor at HEC Paris, which is the top business school in Europe (ranked No.1 by the *Financial Times* in 2019). In 2021, HKPFS recipient and PhD graduate Mr Bright Gershion Godigbe was appointed to a post-doctoral position at Olin Business School, Washington University in St. Louis, which is a leading business school in the U.S.

Our continual success in the HKPFS is a testament to AC's unwavering commitment to excellence. Our sustained ability to attract talented international students has contributed significantly to the academic excellence and cultural diversity of the PhD programme and has further enhanced the programme's longstanding international reputation.

About the Hong Kong PhD Fellowship Scheme

The HKPFS, established by the Hong Kong Research Grants Council, aims to bring talented students from around the world to Hong Kong to undertake PhD studies. Fellowship applicants, who are also PhD programme applicants, should demonstrate outstanding qualities in

- (1) academic performance,
- (2) research ability and potential,
- (3) communication and interpersonal skills, and
- (4) leadership ability.

Each Fellowship awardee receives a financial award consisting of a CYC SGS Entrance Scholarship (covering tuition and on-campus hostel fees for their first year of research study), a monthly stipend, and a conference and research-related travel allowance. For more details on the HKPFS, please see <http://www.sgs.cityu.edu.hk/prospective/RPg/HKPhD>.