

## Department of Chemical Pathology 化學病理學系

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Reference Letter for Dr. FUNG Cheuk Wang For the 2nd Hong Kong Laureate Forum 2025 Programme

To the Selection Committee of the 2nd Hong Kong Laureate Forum,

It is with great enthusiasm that I support Dr. FUNG Cheuk Wang for participation in the Hong Kong Laureate Forum 2025. Having closely followed his academic and professional trajectory, I am confident that his interdisciplinary expertise, leadership acumen, and commitment to advancing scientific discourse align seamlessly with the Forum's mission to foster global collaboration and fruitful discussion and promote HK research excellence among young scientists and distinguished laureates.

Dr. Fung holds a Ph.D. in Life Science from the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST), where his research focused on single-cell genomics, developmental biology, and marine ecology. His groundbreaking work on cell fate determination in somitic mesoderm (published in *Cell Discovery*, 2022) and single-embryo sequencing under environmental stress (*Molecular Ecology*, 2023) exemplifies his ability to integrate cutting-edge technologies like microfluidics and RNA-seq to address complex biological questions. His recent co-authorship in *Science Advances* (2024) on deep-sea chemosynthetic symbiosis further underscores his versatility in bridging molecular biology with ecological systems.

As a Project Manager at the Chinese University of Hong Kong's Department of Chemical Pathology, Dr. Fung spearheads interdisciplinary initiatives, demonstrating exceptional organizational skills and a knack for translating research into actionable insights. His prior roles as a Postdoctoral Fellow and Research Assistant at HKUST highlight his proficiency in mentoring junior researchers and coordinating large-scale projects, such as his work on viral polymerase mapping (presented at the Collaborative Research Fund Symposium, 2023). These experiences position him as an ideal candidate to engage in the Forum's workshops and discussion groups, where collaborative problem-solving is paramount.

Dr. Fung is a seasoned communicator, having delivered talks at international forums such as the International Symposium on Marine Science and Technology and the Frontiers in Single Cell Genomics conference. His award-winning presentation on ocean acidification's impact on gene expression (2022) reflects his ability to distill complex data into accessible narratives—a skill critical for the Forum's cross-cultural and interdisciplinary dialogues. His poster presentations on droplet-based gene enrichment (2021/22) and viral polymerase dynamics (2023) further attest to his capacity to engage diverse audiences, from technologists to ecologists.

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Dr. Fung's research spans molecular biology, environmental science, and biomedical engineering, mirroring the Forum's multidisciplinary ethos. His work on host-symbiont interactions and viral transcription mechanisms resonates with themes in sustainability and public health, which are likely to be highlighted by Shaw Laureates. Moreover, his familiarity with Hong Kong's scientific infrastructure, from HKUST's laboratories to CUHK's clinical networks, equips him to contribute meaningfully to site visits and discussions on local innovation.

Dr. FUNG Cheuk Wang embodies the curiosity, rigor, and collaborative spirit that the Hong Kong Laureate Forum seeks to nurture. His participation would not only enrich the event's intellectual tapestry but also inspire peers through his insights into single-cell technologies and ecological resilience. I am confident he will leverage this opportunity to forge lasting connections with global leaders, further amplifying Hong Kong's role in advancing science for humanity.

Please feel free to contact me for further details.

Sincerely,



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