HKUST CIVL Outstanding Alumni Award

Industry Track



Ir Dr. Johnny CHEUK Chi Yin

MPhil in Civil Engineering and BEng in Civil and Structural Engineering
Senior Vice President and Hong Kong Executive Leader, AECOM
Adjunct Professor, HKUST

Citation

Ir Dr. Johnny Cheuk is one of Hong Kong's most distinguished engineering leaders, recognized for his outstanding contributions to infrastructure development, geotechnical engineering, professional leadership and engineering education. As Senior Vice President and Hong Kong Executive Leader of AECOM, he leads one of Hong Kong's largest multidisciplinary engineering organizations, guiding the delivery of major infrastructure, transportation, environmental and urban development projects. Through his leadership of landmark infrastructure projects, advancement of engineering practice, service to the profession and commitment to talent development, he has made a transformative impact on Hong Kong's built environment and the wider community.

A proud alumnus of the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST), Ir Dr. Cheuk received both his undergraduate and postgraduate education at HKUST before earning a PhD in Geotechnical Engineering from the University of Cambridge. Throughout his professional journey, he has exemplified the values of excellence, innovation and service that define HKUST, translating academic knowledge into impactful engineering solutions and nurturing future generations of engineers.

Over a distinguished career spanning academia, engineering consultancy and executive leadership, Ir Dr. Cheuk has played key roles in many of Hong Kong's most significant transport and infrastructure projects, including the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link, Shatin to Central Link, Tuen Mun-Chek Lap Kok Tunnel, Hong Kong International Airport Three-Runway System, strategic cavern development studies, and landslip prevention and mitigation projects. Through these projects, he has helped enhance connectivity, public safety, resilience, sustainability and economic development, creating lasting benefits for the community.

Among his most influential technical contributions is his work in advancing slope engineering practice in Hong Kong. Building on research undertaken at HKUST, he served as the principal author of the landmark joint GEO–HKIE guidance document, *Design of Soil Nails for Upgrading Loose Fill Slopes*. The publication established industry best practice and continues to influence slope upgrading projects across Hong Kong, demonstrating his ability to translate research into practical engineering solutions with tangible public safety benefits while strengthening professional standards.

Ir Dr. Cheuk's technical and professional achievements have earned him numerous distinctions, including the Hong Kong Institution of Engineers (HKIE) Young Engineer of the Year Award, the British Geotechnical Association Medal, the Fugro Prize, several HKIE Outstanding Paper Awards and the HKIE Geotechnical Paper Award. These honors reflect his sustained commitment to advancing geotechnical engineering through research, innovation and professional practice.

Beyond his technical achievements, Ir Dr. Cheuk has devoted significant effort to advancing the engineering profession and serving the wider community. He currently serves as Chairperson of the Institution of Civil Engineers Hong Kong Association and as an elected Council Member of the HKIE. He is also Senior Vice Chairman and Executive Committee

Member of the Dashun Foundation, supporting initiatives focused on education, youth development and community engagement. He previously served as Chairman of the HKIE Geotechnical Division and President of the Hong Kong Geotechnical Society. Through these leadership roles, he has championed professional excellence and innovation, strengthened engagement among industry, government and academia, and supported the development of future engineering leaders.

A passionate advocate for education and talent development, Ir Dr. Cheuk has maintained close ties with academia throughout his career. He currently serves as Adjunct Professor at The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, The University of Hong Kong and City University of Hong Kong, contributing to teaching, student mentoring, research collaboration and industry engagement.

His commitment to HKUST extends well beyond his academic appointments. As a Founding Member of the HKUST School of Engineering's Industry Engagement Committee, he has supported efforts to strengthen partnerships between the University and industry, enhance student employability, and ensure that engineering education remains relevant to emerging societal challenges and the evolving needs of the profession. Through these contributions, he continues to give back to his alma mater and help prepare the next generation of engineering leaders.

A career defined by leadership, innovation and service, Ir Dr. Cheuk exemplifies the qualities that the HKUST CIVL Outstanding Alumni Award seeks to recognize. Through landmark infrastructure projects, influential technical leadership, distinguished professional and community service, academic engagement and an enduring commitment to talent development, he has made a profound impact on the engineering profession and society while remaining deeply committed to his alma mater and the development of future generations. His achievements embody the spirit of HKUST and serve as an inspiration to students, alumni and the wider community. These accomplishments demonstrate how engineering excellence, leadership and lifelong service can create lasting value for society.